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History of  
Shelby County, Ohio

AND

Representative Citizens

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BY

A. B. C. HITCHCOCK  
SIDNEY, OHIO

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“History is Philosophy Teaching by Example”

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## PREFACE

The aim of the publishers of this volume and of the author of the history has been to secure for the historical portion thereof full and accurate data respecting the history of the county from the time of its early settlement and to condense it into a clear and interesting narrative. All topics and occurrences have been included that were essential to this object.

The reviews of resolute and strenuous lives that make up the biographical part of the volume are admirably calculated to foster local ties, to inculcate patriotism and to emphasize the rewards of industry dominated by intelligent purpose. They constitute a most appropriate medium for perpetuating personal annals and will be of incalculable value to the descendants of those commemorated. These sketches are replete with stirring incidents and intense experiences and are flavored with a strong human interest that will naturally prove to a large portion of the readers of the book one of its most attractive features. In the aggregate of personal memoirs thus collated will be found a vivid epitome of the growth of Shelby county, which will fully supplement the historical statement, for its development is identical with that of the men and women to whom it is attributable. Sketches unrevised by subscribers are marked by a small asterisk placed after the name of the subscriber.

The publishers have avoided slighting any part of the work, and to the best of their ability have supplemented the editor's labors by exercising care over the minutest details of publication, in order to give the volume the three-fold value of a readable narrative, a useful work of reference and a tasteful ornament to the library.

Special prominence has been given to the portraits of many representative citizens, which appear throughout the volume, and we believe that they will prove not its least interesting feature. We have sought in this department to illustrate the different spheres of industrial and professional achievement as conspicuously as possible.

To all who have kindly interested themselves in the preparation of this work, and who have voluntarily contributed most useful information or rendered any other assistance, we hereby tender our grateful acknowledgments.

THE PUBLISHERS.

CHICAGO, ILL., February, 1913.

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A. B. C. HITCHCOCK

# History of Shelby County

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTORY

*Geographical Location of Shelby County—Its Origin and Area—Loramie Trading Post and Its Founder—The French and Indians—Naming of the County—The Pioneers and Their Hardships—The Mound Builders—The Largest Glacier.*

By way of preface I hasten to assure the reader that while I have the prime qualification for a historian of a hoary head I have not that of being indigenous to the soil and may often have to say "I read that" or "I was told that" instead of "I recall that." I have been here since 1861, a period of more than fifty years and less than one hundred years will cover the marvelous changes in our brief history.

We are all interested in first things—in the oldest things—whether they be the work of man or of nature. In the founding of a great state, a county or a city, the interest is just as intense, and we of today love to read the names and recall the deeds of those who felled the primeval forest, bridged the stream, and made the valley blossom like the rose. We are interested in them because they made possible the comforts and refinements of today and it is not only a duty but a pleasure to recall the names and deeds of those who were truly pioneers.

A little more than a century ago Shelby in common with all western Ohio was swamp and forest, the battle ground of Shawnees, Delawares, Wyandottes, Pottawattomies, Ottawas, Miamis, Chippewas and the Wabash tribes. In 1794, only one hundred and eighteen years ago, a council of the big chiefs met in Greenville and discussed scalps and wampun and boundary lines instead of electric light plants, armories, water works, and street paving.

These momentous questions were not settled by Messrs. Brown, Smith and Jones from the first, second, and third wards, but by Little Turtle, New Corn, Tetaboskke, Agoosshaway and Mashipansiwish. The French and the English both claimed this land. In 1749 Celeron de Bienville was sent from Quebec to bury plates in Ohio and claim it for the French. The same year the English under direction of the Ohio company built Pickawillamy as a trading post with Indians. The exact location is disputed. Some say it was at the junction of Loramie creek with the Miami. Pickawillamy is important as it was the first British settlement in Ohio. Marietta, 1788, the first permanent settlement. There were often as many as fifty traders here at once, among them, Christopher Gist, Trent, Platt, Weiser, Chartier. The Twig tree branch of the

Miamis was friendly to the English. Pickawillamy did not endure long, but was destroyed by the French, Chippewas, and Ottawas in 1752. Peter Loramie, in 1769, was sent as a missionary to the Wyandottes and Shawnees but Loramie did not long perform the function of priest for the Jesuit order was suppressed by Pope Clement XIV in 1773. He then became a trader at the place that bears his name. In 1782 Gen. George Rogers Clark was sent to punish these Wyandottes and Shawnees, friends of Loramie's, and Clark burned Loramie's store.

Peter Loramie escaped and made arrangement with Colonel Johnston, Indian commissioner, to emigrate with several hundred Shawnees to a reservation west of the Mississippi. In 1791 St. Clair and Col. Parke were defeated at Fort Recovery in Mercer county. In 1792, General Harmar with Col John Hardin, proceeded against the Indian towns at St. Joseph.

Miami embracing Shelby was at first a part of Montgomery when Miami was detached in 1807. In 1819 Shelby was detached and named after Gen. Thomas Shelby, of Kentucky, who had much to do in wresting Ohio from the Indians. It had at first jurisdiction over Auglaize and Allen which formed the original Auglaize and Amunda townships of Shelby county. Hardin was treacherously killed by the Indians, where the village of Hardin now stands. In 1794 Gen. Anthony Wayne went north to the Indian village of Maumee, which he captured. He built Fort Wayne and on his return he visited the site of Loramie's store and old Pickawillamy. He rebuilt Fort Loramie, which was occupied till 1812.

Those pioneers who migrated to a forest-encumbered country a century ago to carve a home confronted a most serious proposition which can hardly be realized by those of the present day.

The implements to perform the life-work were clumsy and crude when the struggle for the necessities of life commenced. The luxuries, now so seemingly essential to comfort, were not thought of or were scrupulously eliminated from their thoughts. They faced untiring work no matter which way they looked and were every inch heroes, and not the less were their helpmeets in the brave encounter. When one contrasts what these mothers fared in raising their children in their meager households as compared with the present time he feels that each one deserves a lasting monument of gratitude.

The mound builders, which left traces of their existence in the southern and southeastern part of the state, never invaded this county. This strange people whose origin is unknown, were swept from the earth by a fatal epidemic more universal than the cruel edict of Herod—as it spared neither young nor old—or were exterminated by the ravages of a superior foe, or perhaps smothered under a blanket of mephitic vapor that issued from the earth's gaseous interior. In any event their advent and their fate are alike unknown and unknowable mysteries, but the strange mounds they built defy the corroding tooth of time and are gazed upon with ever increasing interest and are the fruitless source of the wildest and most conflicting conjecture.



Sometime in the dark ages of the past a huge glacier sauntered through here from the frozen north and with irresistible force plowed the groove through which the Miami river courses to the Ohio, rounding the cobble stones and grinding rocks to sand and depositing it along the river in numerous banks. In its leisurely travel this glacier loosened its grip upon a huge cubical rock, containing over 1,200 cubic feet and weighing over 100 tons, and left it about one mile east of Sidney. This rock, antedating in antiquity the pyramids of Egypt or even profane or sacred history, has been visited by many archaeologists and geologists of note. It is said to be by far the largest rock deposited by a glacier in Ohio.

From the fragments of history that have come down to us from tradition it is learned that this territory was formerly occupied at different periods by the Twigtees, Miamis and Shawnee Indian tribes, but which of these tribes exercised sovereignty over this section is not known. The first white men to visit within the limits of the county were the early French traders. In 1749 a band of English traders settled at a place they named Pickawillany, within or near the southern line of the county. Three years later the French from Canada broke up this settlement and carried the traders off to Canada where they were held as prisoners for several years. A French trader named Loramie established himself here and built up an extensive trade with the Indians. His place became the headquarters of the Indian tribes, who so continuously made war on the Kentucky settlers. In 1792 George Rodger Clark marched an army of Kentucky militia into this territory, defeated the Indians and destroyed Loramie's trading post. Of this post Clark says: "The property destroyed was of great amount and the provisions surpassed all idea we had of Indian stores."

White settlers began coming into the county in 1805, among whom were the Wilsons, Cannons, Marshalls, Mellingers, Careys and McClures—names familiar to every one in the county. These settlers selected for their homes either the river bottoms or the highest portions of the country on account of much of the other parts being swampy. They came from Kentucky, Virginia and New Jersey principally, brought little of this world's goods, but they possessed that hardy industry, good sense and high character so necessary to the pioneers who have builded beyond their fondest anticipations. From 1830 to 1850 there was a large immigration from Germany to the county, of those who came here for political freedom. They and the French settlers in the west part of the county have been a valuable acquisition to our citizenship and the wealth and prosperity of Shelby county.

Shelby county was detached from Miami county in 1819, and was named after General Shelby, a stern patriot and brave soldier in the Revolution, after whom nine counties have been named. He was afterward governor of Kentucky. The southern part of the county is undulating, rising in places along the Miami into verdure-clad hills. The northern portion is flat table-land, forming part of Loramie's Summit, 378 feet above Lake Erie, the highest elevation in this part of the state. The soil is based

on clay, with some fine bottom land along the streams. The southern part is best for grain and the northern for grass.

The principal stream in the county is the Great Miami river, which enters the county on the east side and runs southwest, affording a large amount of water-power, by which many mills and other industrial establishments are propelled. There are some creeks of importance, among them the Muchinippi, Tawawa, and Nine Mile creek.

The Miami canal and one of its feeders traverses the county, having direct connection, through the Miami river, with the Lewistown reservoir, located in the townships of Stokes, Washington, and McArthur, in Logan county, and which covers an area of some sixteen thousand acres, including the Indian or Miami lake. This reservoir was built, according to act of Congress, for the purpose of supplying an inexhaustible water-power for the canals.

There are two lines of railroads running through the county: the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis, and the Dayton and Michigan railway, a description of which will be found elsewhere in this work.

The county seat was originally located at Hardin, and the first court was held there, in a log cabin, May 13 and 14, 1819. Honorable Joseph H. Crane, of Dayton, was the presiding judge; Samuel Marshall, Robert Houston, and William Cecil, associates; Harvey B. Foot, clerk; Daniel V. Dingman, sheriff; and Harvey Brown, of Dayton, prosecutor. In 1820 the county seat was moved to Sidney, where the courts were at first held in the residences of the citizens, until some two years afterwards, when the first court house was erected. It was a small frame structure, twenty-four by thirty feet. The jail was sixteen by eighteen feet, and built of logs; and on the occasion of a prisoner escaping the commissioners were compelled to pay the fine for the nonpayment of which the prisoner was incarcerated.

Shelby county is situated not far from the intersection of the fortieth parallel of latitude and the eighty-fourth meridian of longitude and midway between Lake Erie and the Ohio river, one hundred miles, in round numbers, from each.

At one time, when counties were much larger than now, it was embraced by Montgomery county, then was a part of Miami county and subsequently was detached from it and included Auglaize and Allen counties. They were eventually sliced off and Shelby county was pared down to its present area of 407 square miles, about the exact size of Miami county.

As early as the year 1752 there existed on the banks of the Miami a trading post. It was located at the mouth of Loramie creek and was the first place settled by the English in Ohio. The French having heard of this trading post which they designated as the "English trading house of the Miami," detached a party of soldiers to demand a surrender of the store, which was probably a block house. This place was known as Loramie's store and was used to mark one of the boundaries of the Greenville treaty line. The house was inhabited by a number of friendly Indians and some English traders. On the demand of the French for the surrender of the

place they refused to deliver up their friends. At attack was made and after a severe fight in which fourteen natives were killed, the remainder were taken prisoners and marched to Canada. The fort and trading house were called Pickawillany. Loramie, who was a French Canadian, was a founder of the trading post and was a bitter enemy of the Americans.

Howe in his early history of Ohio says of Loramie :

"The French had the faculty of endearing themselves to the Indians; and no doubt Loramie was in this respect fully equal to any of his countrymen, and gained great influence over them. They formed with the natives an attachment of the most tender and abiding kind. 'I have,' says Colonel Johnson, 'seen the Indians burst into tears when speaking of the time when their French father had dominion over them; and their attachment to this day remains unabated.'

"So much influence had Loramie with the Indians that when General Clarke, of Kentucky, invaded the Miami Valley in the autumn of 1782 his attention was attracted to the spot. He came on and burnt the Indian settlement here, and plundered and burnt the store of the Frenchman. The store contained a large quantity of goods and peltry, which were sold by auction afterwards among the men, by the general's orders. Among the soldiers was an Irishman, named Burke, considered a half-witted fellow, and the general butt of the whole army. While searching the store he found done up in a rag twenty-five half-joes, worth about two hundred dollars, which he secreted in a hole he cut in an old saddle. At the auction no one bid for the saddle, it being judged worthless, except Burke, to whom it was struck off for a trifling sum, amid roars of laughter for his folly. But a moment elapsed before Burke commenced to search, and found and drew forth the money as if by accident. Then shaking it in the eyes of the men, exclaimed, 'An' it's not so had a bargain after all.' Soon after, Loramie emigrated, with a party of Shawnees, to the Spanish territories west of the Mississippi.

"In 1794 a fort was built at the place occupied by Loramie's store, by Wayne, and named Fort Loramie."

There are many evidences of the former presence of the Indians still remaining. Frequently, during excavations, skeletons are found bearing an unmistakable resemblance to the gigantic and well-formed aborigine. In Turtle Creek Township there remain to this day several graves, wherein repose the dust of some noble red men, whose spirits have departed to the "happy hunting-grounds." The Indians in this vicinity were generally of a peaceful disposition, after the appearance of the white settlers among them. In 1792, however, Colonel John Hardin was murdered in this county, while on a mission of peace to the Indians. The town of Hardin was laid out on the spot whereon occurred the tragedy. This, and that of a man named Boyler, were the only murders by the Indians from 1792 to 1811.

According to the same authority, the first white family who settled in the county was that of James Thatcher, in 1804, who settled in the west part, in Painter's Run. Samuel Marshall, John Wilson, and John Kennard came soon after.

Thus we see that Shelby county was once the theatre of Indian wars, Indian massacres, and sanguinary conflicts.

## CHAPTER II

### DISCOVERY OF AMERICA

#### *An Account of the Early Explorers and the First Settlements Made in America*

Columbus discovered America and landed on October 12, 1492. The country was named after Americus Vesputius, who discovered South America seven years later, and North America itself had been discovered five hundred years prior to Columbus' discovery. Yet Columbus was given credit for the discovery, as it was his voyage, followed up, which settled the country: Toward the close of the ninth century Naddod, a Norwegian, while attempting to reach the Faroe Islands, 200 miles northwest of the British Isles, was driven by storm to Iceland, and he found the land had already been visited by the Irish. The Norsemen made a settlement there in 875 by Ingolf. The colonization at Iceland was carried in a southwesterly direction, through Greenland to the New Continent. Notwithstanding these Icelandic explorations westward, one hundred and twenty-five years elapsed when Lief, a Norwegian, the son of Eric the Red, in one of his voyages landed on the American coast, between Boston and New York, in the year 1,000. He called the new land Vinland, on account of the grapes growing there, and he was naturally delighted with the fruitfulness of the soil and the mildness of the climate as compared with Iceland and Greenland. Later a settlement was made here, and when the white people came to Rhode Island in 1638 they discovered a tower of unhewn stone made from gravel of the soil around, and oyster-shell lime. It was circular in form, 23 feet in diameter and 24 feet high. The Narragansett Indians knew nothing of its origin. The Icelandic chronicles state that besides Lief the Red, Thorfinn Karlsefne visited the point and settled here with his wife Gudrida, and that a son was born to them, Snorre Thorbrandsson. These historic chronicles seem to have been written in Greenland as early as the twelfth century and partly by descendants of settlers born in Vinland, so others besides Snorre were born there. The care with which the genealogical tables are kept was so great that that of Thorfinn Karlsefne, whose son Snorre Thorbrandsson, was born in America, has been brought down from 1007, the date of Snorre's birth, to the present, and Lossing states this genealogical tree shows that Thorwaldsen, the great Danish sculptor, was a descendant of this first known white child born on American soil. The Icelandic history also shows that explorers erected three

boundary pillars on the eastern shore of Baffin's Bay, bearing a date of 1135. When these were found in 1824 there were also discovered the ruins of a number of buildings, showing there had been a settlement there, and the records further show frequent fishing trips to this and other localities along Baffin's Bay.

At this time Iceland was an important place. It had in 1100 a population of 50,000 people, had a government and records, and poets and writers, and was farther advanced in literature at that time than any European nation.\* Ships from Bistol, England, kept up a constant trade with Iceland, and Christopher Columbus himself, in a work on "The Five Habitable Zones of the Earth," says that in the month of February, 1477, he visited Iceland, "where the sea was not at that time covered with ice, and which had been resorted to by many traders from Bristol." Columbus, in the same work, mentions a more southern island, Frislanda, a name which was not on the maps published in 1436 by Andrea Bianco, or those in 1457 and 1470 published by Fra Mauro. The island is dwelt upon at length in the travels of the brothers Zeni, of Venice, in 1388 to 1404. But Columbus could not have been acquainted with the travels of the Zeni brothers, as they were unknown to Zeni's own Venetian family until 1558, when they were first published, fifty-two years after the death of Columbus. Therefore Columbus knew there was land southwest of Iceland. He could easily have reached this land by taking the beaten track to Iceland, and then southwest, but his genius told him he could find it by taking a westerly course from Spain, which he did, and became the discoverer of a new world.

The landing of Columbus was on what is now San Salvador, latitude 24 north, longitude 76 west, one of the Bahamas, about 300 miles east of the Florida coast. On this trip he cruised south as far as 20 degrees north latitude and discovered Cuba and San Domingo. In March, 1493, he returned to Spain with plants, birds, animals and Indians of the new world, and his journey overland from Palos to Barcelona, to meet Ferdinand and Isabella, was the march of a conqueror. At Barcelona the throne of the rulers was erected in a public square and Columbus was received with royal honors. The counselors of Spain believed it advisable to keep the wonderful discovery quiet, as Columbus reported fabulous wealth in the new world. That same year he returned again to America, taking with him several horses, a bull and some cows, the first European animals taken to the new world. He made two other voyages. In 1498 he discovered the Orinoco, on the north coast of South America. On his third voyage he was returned to Spain in chains, owing to misrepresentations made to Queen Isabella. Matters were easily explained and he made his fourth and last trip, in 1502, but on his return in 1504 the Queen was dead, and his enemies were in power, and he who had given Spain a new nation and a glory that would last for all time, died in poverty and obscurity at Valladolid on the 20th of May, 1506.

In the meantime Americus Vespucius in 1499 visited the Orinoco, one year after Columbus had discovered it, and returning gave a glowing account of the new world and it was named America.

\* Encyclopædia Britannica.

Immediately after the first discovery of Columbus, Spain made settlements in the islands of the West Indies and reduced the Indians to slavery, and Spanish cruelty and wrong broke the spirit and lowered the standard of the Indians. The Spanish colonists married the Indian women, and from this union came the mixed race of the West Indies. The Pope recognized the discoveries of Spain, and by an edict granted Spain the ownership of the new world; that there might be no future doubt of what Spain owned he gave them control of "the whole region westward, beyond an imaginary line 300 miles west of the Azores."

Notwithstanding Spain made no public announcement of the discoveries of Columbus, the most extravagant stories drifted through Europe of the fabulous wealth of a new world, and Sebastian Cabot, of Bristol, England, on March 16, 1497, was granted a commission of discovery by Henry VIII. Bristol was the port which years previous had done most of the trading with Iceland, and when Cabot started, he took the well-known route towards the northwest, and on July 3, 1497, discovered the rugged coast of Labrador. He skirted along the coast southward, past Newfoundland, touched at several points, and returning to England announced the discovery of what was undoubtedly a new continent. The next year, 1498, he fitted out another expedition, and, like Columbus, his main object was to discover a passage to India. Again he reached Labrador, and cruised north, but the ice stopped his progress, and he abandoned his search for a northwest passage and went south, exploring the coast from Labrador to North Carolina.

On March 27, 1512, Ponce de Leon landed in Florida, and took possession in the name of the King of Spain—the first appearance of Spain on United States soil. Years later, in 1539, Ferdinand de Soto landed in Florida with six hundred men, all warriors, and proceeded inland through Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi, crossing the Mississippi river somewhere below Memphis in May, 1541, taking possession of the land he passed over, and the land beyond that river in the name of the King of Spain. During the entire trip he had much trouble with the Indians, men died of sickness, and when he reached Florida on September 20, 1543, of the six hundred men who started but sixty returned, but they had made a trip of three thousand miles, through an unbroken wilderness, wandering on and on in a vain search for the fabulous gold they dreamed was somewhere in the interior.

In 1534 Jacques Cartier, a Frenchman, went up the St. Lawrence river with his ships as far as where Quebec now stands, and learning the Huron (Wyandotte) King had his capital at a point called Hochelaga he paid him a visit. The Wyandotte King entertained his guest with the greatest hospitality and showed by every means possible that the visitors were welcome. Cartier remained the guest of the King for several days and climbed the large mountain, saw the magnificent St. Lawrence stretching above and below him, the rich country as far as the eye could see in every direction, and he named it Mount Real, which is its name today, the Metropolis of Canada with a population of half a million. Cartier returned the King's hospitality by a dinner on board his vessel in which he made him a prisoner

and took him to France, exhibiting him to that civilized nation as one of the barbarian curiosities of the new world. In 1542 Cartier returned to the St. Lawrence, and had intended taking the King back with him, but the unfortunate savage, pining for his home and people, had died of a broken heart. On Cartier's arriving at Quebec with a force of men to make a settlement, he found the Indians so unfriendly that he was compelled to build a fort at Quebec for his protection. This was the first experience of the Wyandotte Indians with the newer and higher order of civilization.

Practically the same thing occurred in South Carolina. D'Ayllon, a French navigator, who had founded a colony at San Domingo, started for the Bermudas to capture a few slaves to work the Domingo sugar and tobacco plantations. Bad weather drove him to the coast of South Carolina where he was furnished water and provisions by the natives, and treated with the greatest hospitality. He entertained them in return on his boats, showed them over the vessels, and when a hundred savages were below fastened down the hatches, and sailed for San Domingo. One vessel was lost, and on the other the savages stubbornly refused food, and nearly all died of starvation. A few years later D'Ayllon returned for more slaves. He landed on the same coast, and was again hospitably received by the ignorant natives. They gave him feasts and banquets, and arranged a magnificent feast at their capital, thirty miles from the (?) for the feast, and when in the wilderness, miles from help, they were led into an ambush, and the entire party massacred. Thus early were the Indians learning the higher order of civilization. Cortoreal of Portugal obtained a permit from King John to make discoveries. He reached Canada, captured fifty natives, took them back to Portugal and sold them for slaves. The investment was so profitable that he immediately started for a second cargo, but he was never heard of afterward.

In 1523, Francis I, of France, sent out John Verrazini with four vessels to make discoveries. In March 1524 he reached the Cape Fear river in North Carolina, and explored the coast, anchoring in Delaware Bay and New York harbor, and landed where New York now is. He treated the Indians to liquor, and not being used to it, many became very drunk, from which fact the Indians then called the place Manna-ha-ta, "place of drunkenness." He continued his trip north and named Canada New France.

The entire coast had now been discovered; Spain had Florida and the southern part of the United States and beyond the Mississippi; England from the Carolinas north, and France had Canada, all this within half a century after Columbus' great discovery. Settlements had been established by the Spanish and French in the West Indies and by the Portugese in Newfoundland, but no permanent settlement had yet been made in the United States.

The era had now arrived when John Calvin in England, Martin Luther in Germany, and the Huguenots in France were bitter in their opposition to the Catholic church, and Admiral Coligny, the advisor of the weak Charles IX of France, decided to establish a place of refuge for the Protestants in

the new world. The King granted him a commission for that purpose, and on February 28, 1562, a squadron under command of John Ribault sailed for America. The fleet first touched near the harbor of St. Augustine, Florida, sailed north past the St. John's river to Port Royal, the southeastern part of South Carolina, where they established their colony, calling it Carolina, in honor of Charles of France. The colony did not prosper and additional settlers were sent.

In the meantime Philip II of Spain, who claimed the territory by virtue of Columbus' discovery, and the edict of the Pope giving Spain everything west of the Azores, was highly incensed at this invasion of his territory, and sent Pedro Menendez to Florida as governor with strict instructions to drive out the French and establish a Spanish colony. He had a strong force and landed at St. Augustine, founding a town there, the first in the United States, and proclaimed the King of Spain as monarch of all of North America. Ribault, learning of the landing of Menendez, started down the coast to attack him, but his ships were wrecked, many of his men drowned, and those who reached the shore were either killed, or were murdered by the Spaniards. In the meantime Menendez marched overland to Port Royal surprised the settlement, and murdered all of them, about nine hundred in number. He erected a cross on the site of the wholesale butchery and on it placed an inscription that these men were slain, "not because they were Frenchmen but Lutherans." And being in a particularly pious frame of mind he laid the foundation for a church to commemorate the deed.

When Charles of France learned of the murder of his subjects, matters at home were in such shape that he could not avenge the insult, but a wealthy Frenchman, Dominic de Gourges, fitted out a ship at his own expense, and landed at Port Royal with 150 warriors, captured the 200 men left in charge there, and hanged the whole party, he, too, erecting a cross with the inscription: "I do not this as unto Spaniards or Moors, but unto traitors, robbers and murderers." His force was too small to risk an attack on Ft. Augustine, and being in danger of being attacked by the Spaniards at any moment, he had no time to even lay the foundation of a church, but sailed immediately for home, leaving the placarded Spaniards hanging to the trees as an object lesson to the Indians of the new and higher order of civilization.

From 1579 to 1585 settlements were made by the English in Virginia and North Carolina, but they were not permanent. In 1585 Sir Richard Grenville landed at the island of Roanoke in Albemarle Sound. He treated the Indians very badly and they returned the compliment with interest. He was finally compelled to return to England, which he did, leaving fifteen men in charge. Two years later, in 1587, John White went over with reinforcements, and found the colony abandoned, the men having been murdered by the Indians.

White re-established the colony, and reversed the policy of Grenville, treating the Indians kindly and cultivating their friendship. He induced Manteo, their chief, to become a Christian, and baptized him. White further pleased the Indians, and their chief by investing him with the title of Lord



of Roanoke, with great formality and display, followed by a feast to the Indians and presents. This was the first—as well as the last—peeraage ever created in America. When White returned to England he left behind his daughter, Eleanor Dare, wife of Lieutenant Dare, one of his officers. On August 18, 1587, there was born to Lieutenant and Mrs. Dare, a daughter, and she was named Virginia Dare, the first English child born in what is now the United States. In 1589 White again started for America but was driven back by the Spaniards; however in 1590 he returned to the colony only to find it abandoned and all traces of the colonists lost, and it was not until eighty years later the English learned that their lost kindred had been adopted by the Hatteras tribe, and become amalgamated with the children of the wilderness.\*

In April, 1607, a settlement was made at Jamestown, Virginia, composed almost entirely of English "gentlemen" whose profligate lives had left them in destitute circumstances in England, and who only came to America in a spirit of adventure, and the hope of realizing a fortune in the new world without work. The colony was an absolute failure, dependent on the Indians for the necessaries of life. Capt. John Smith, a man of great force, later took charge of the colony and endeavored to instill a spirit of industry into the men. He urged the cultivation of the soil, but at the end of two years the two hundred settlers had only forty acres under cultivation, and but for the Indians would have starved. It was not until June, 1610, on the arrival of Lord De La Warr, with a different class of colonists, that a permanent and lasting settlement was established in Virginia.

In 1613 the Dutch from Holland settled in New York City, calling it New Amsterdam, honestly buying the land from the Indians for \$24. On December 22, 1620, the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock, with forty-three men and their families. In 1629 a colony was founded in New Hampshire; in 1633 in Connecticut; in 1634 in Maryland; in 1636 in Rhode Island; and in 1638 in Delaware, all by the English. In 1623 the Swedes founded a colony in New Jersey.

This settled the entire coast; New England being English; New York, Holland; New Jersey, Sweden; Delaware, Maryland and the Carolinas, English; Georgia and Florida, Spanish. The Dutch claimed New Jersey as their territory, and forced the Swedes to acknowledge their claims. But in 1682, when William Penn made his settlement in Pennsylvania, the Swedes preferred English rule to that of Holland, and in time they came under the control of the English. Still later the English took possession of New Amsterdam calling it New York, which gave them the entire coast, excepting Florida and Southern Georgia. The French were in undisturbed possession of Canada.

While the English were colonizing and securing possession of the coast line, the French, through Canada, were exploring the interior, passing through the state of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin, establishing forts and trading posts, exploring the Mississippi, and by virtue of

\* Ellis.—People's Standard History of the United States.

their discoveries, all the land west of the Alleghenies and north of the Ohio river was under the control of the French; and beyond the Mississippi France owned all the Mississippi Valley to the Rocky Mountains; Spain owned Texas and all west of the Rockies up to the northern boundaries of California.

In 1763, after a long war between England and France, the American colonies being English assisting the mother country, France was driven from the United States and Canada, all east of the Mississippi being ceded to England; all her possessions west of the Mississippi being ceded to Spain, and in this treaty Spain ceded Florida to England. In 1783, at the close of the Revolutionary war, England secretly ceded Florida to Spain, and the United States bought it in 1819. In 1801 Spain ceded her territory beyond the Mississippi to France, and in 1803, Napoleon needing money, and to prevent England ever securing it, sold it to the United States. The war with Mexico gave the United States all west of the Rocky Mountains, that part west of the Rockies and north of California being claimed by the United States by right of the discoveries of Lewis and Clarke, a claim disputed, but conceded later by England and Spain in the settlement of the northern boundary between the United States and Canada.

When Spain first discovered America she claimed the entire continent, north and west to the Pacific ocean. The rulers of England in granting charters, followed the same liberal policy, and their charters were for land between certain degrees of latitude on the coast, extending to the Pacific ocean owing to their ignorance of American geography or to carelessness, some of the boundaries as defined in the several colonial charters, overlapped, which subsequently led to disputes between the states and these were only settled by the final cession of the disputed territory to the general government.

## CHAPTER III

### THE INDIAN TRIBES

*Character of the Indians, With An Account of the Principal Indian Tribes East of the Mississippi River Subsequent to the Discovery of America by the Whites—Their Wars and Treaties.*

The Indians of the United States were a race who had no written history. They were principally forest wanderers, living on game and fish, and what little grain the Indian women cultivated, for no Indian warrior would demean himself by labor. In the early history of the country a brisk trade existed by adventurers bringing colored men from Africa and selling them to the early settlers as slaves. The thrifty pioneers endeavored to secure slave labor cheaper by capturing Indians, but in all the colonies where it was attempted it proved a failure. The Indians would not work, and although cruel and brutal punishment was inflicted it was useless. The Indians died under the lash rather than degrade themselves by manual labor. They had, as stated, no written language, the Iroquois being regarded as the most intelligent, as they could count up to one hundred, many of the tribes being unable to definitely express numbers above ten.

Long before the hunter and trapper wandered through the great Northwest, the Jesuit and Moravian missionaries, following on the heels of the early discoveries, became very friendly with the Indians. These missionaries were told by the older men of the Lenni Lenape (Delawares) that centuries previous their ancestors dwelt in the far west, and slowly drifted toward the east, arriving at a great stream, called the Namoesi Sipee (Mississippi) or "river of fish." Here they met the Mangwes (Iroquois) who had drifted westward to the Mississippi, far to the north, the Delawares having come east about the center of the United States. The country east of the Mississippi was reported as being inhabited by a very large race of men, who dwelt in large towns along the shores of the streams. These people were called the Allegewi, and it was their name that was given to the Allegheny river and mountains. Their towns were strongly fortified by earth embankments. The Delawares requested permission of the Allegewi to establish themselves in their territory, but the request was refused, although permission was given them to cross the river, and go through their country to the east. When the Delawares commenced crossing the river the Allegewi became alarmed at their numbers, and fell upon them in force and killed those who had crossed, threatening the others with a like fate should they attempt to pass the stream.

The legend indicates the Allegewi were not of the Indian race but the the Iroquois were. The Delawares were indignant at the murder of their braves and the treachery of the Allegewi, so they took counsel with their Iroquois brethren, and formed a compact to unite and drive the Allegewi beyond the Mississippi, and divide the country. The war lasted for years and great was the slaughter on both sides, until finally the Indians conquered, and the Allegewi fled down the Mississippi, never more to return. The Iroquois then took the country along the great lakes, and the Delawares the country to the south. The two nations remained peaceful for many years, and the Delawares wandered further to the east, until finally they established their principal headquarters along the Delaware and Susquehanna rivers. The Iroquois covered the territory north of the Delawares and along both shores of the St. Lawrence. The Delawares, occupying land from the Atlantic to beyond the Mississippi river, became divided into various tribes, but they had grown in strength as the years passed and far outnumbered the Iroquois. Trouble arose between the two nations, and they went to war. To overcome the superiority in numbers of the Delawares the Iroquois resorted to stratagem. An Indian tribe is one family, and an injury done to one member is avenged by the entire tribe. Each tribe had its war instruments marked with some peculiar design, or totem. The Iroquois murdered an Indian of one of the Delaware tribes and left at the scene of the murder the war club bearing the mark of another branch of the Delawares. This caused war between the two branches of the Delaware tribes. The shrewd Iroquois soon had the Delawares hopelessly divided, fighting and killing each other.

The treachery of the Iroquois was discovered and the Delawares called a grand council, summoning their warriors from the Atlantic to the Mississippi, with the intention of utterly exterminating the Iroquois. Then was formed by the Iroquois the Five Nations, organized by Thannawaga, an aged Mohawk chief. It was an absolute alliance of the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas, and Senecas, a form of republic in which the leaders of the five nations consulted and acted as one. Under this powerful organization the Delawares were forced back to their own lands.

The Five Nations, having driven back the Delawares, turned their attention to the French, who were forcing them south from their hunting grounds on the St. Lawrence. North of this river were the Hurons (Wyandottes) and although of the Iroquois branch of the Indians, yet they were now a separate nation and at enmity. Although Cartier had treacherously taken their chief to France on his first visit, Champlain, nearly a century later, had made friends with the Hurons and when the Iroquois began resisting the French inroads on their territory, Champlain organized the Hurons and made a raid on the Iroquois in 1609, administering a crushing defeat, the Hurons returning to Quebec with fifty scalps. In 1610 another attack was made on the Iroquois by Champlain and his Huron allies, but they were driven back by the Iroquois. The French now abandoned further extensions to the south, and the Iroquois made an onslaught on their ancient enemies, the Delawares, and drove them from the Atlantic westward to the Alleghenies.

It was land the Five Nations had taken from the Delawares that they sold to William Penn in 1682. The Iroquois as early as 1609 became the inveterate enemy of the French, an enmity which continued with undiminished hatred for a century and a half. So when the French created this hatred by their attacks on the Iroquois, this, and an admiration the western and northern Indians had for the French, made them allies. The Hurons were not as warlike as the Iroquois, but like all Indians they took up the cause of any insult to any member of their tribe. As a result the battles between the Iroquois and the Hurons were frequent, and they were ever inveterate enemies. To balance the Five Nation league of the Iroquois, the Hurons also united all that branch of the Algonquins in the north and west who were opposed to the Iroquois, the principal nation of the confederation being the Wyandottes.

After the French and Hurons had defeated the Five Nations on Lake Champlain, they remained quiet for some time. The Franciscan friars had done much missionary work among the Hurons and many had adopted the Catholic faith, and with religion came a less warlike spirit, and more cultivation of the soil. With the Iroquois the missionaries could do nothing, many losing their lives in the attempt.

The Jesuits followed the Franciscans, and found a fruitful field of labor among the Hurons. This was from 1625 on, and the energetic Jesuits soon supplanted all over the west the quieter and less religiously aggressive Franciscans. The Jesuits established missions and schools all along the northern border of the lakes, at Detroit, through Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin, and along the Mississippi from its source to New Orleans. It is to be noted, however, that even these zealous Jesuits in going from Quebec, on the St. Lawrence, to Detroit, kept north of the lakes, as the more convenient route by way of the Niagara river and Lake Erie was controlled by the ferocious Iroquois, whose implacable hatred of everything French had been started by Champlain. It is but just to the Jesuits to say some did visit the Iroquois, only to be horribly treated, sometimes tortured and burned at the stake; or, if allowed to return, maimed for life.

For nearly forty years the warlike Iroquois remained quiet, except occasional marauding expeditions against neighboring tribes and treacherous attacks on the white settlers. They had made a treaty of peace with the New England settlers, and in 1648 made a treaty with the Dutch of New Amsterdam. Under this treaty the Dutch sold them arms and ammunition, which, prior to this time, they had scrupulously refused to do. After two-score years of rest a new generation had sprung up, equally warlike and equally fearless, and they concluded to try their new weapons on the Eries, another of the tribes of the Huron combination. The Eries then occupied the southern shore of Lake Erie, including the territory now embraced by Crawford and adjoining counties. The Eries were entirely unprepared and the victory was so complete that the Eries never again became prominent. This led to a war between the Hurons and the Iroquois, and it raged with undiminished fury for several years, until in 1659, the Iroquois crossed into Canada in great force, above the French settlements, and marched through the Huron terri-

tory, massacring their enemies, burning their towns, destroying the missions and murdering the priests. The Hurons fled through lower Canada, across the river at Detroit, and into upper Michigan, and only found final refuge from their insatiable foes on the southern shores of Lake Superior, where the Chippewas came to their defense and drove the Iroquois back. The Iroquois were now in undisputed control from the Atlantic to the Mississippi and from the Lakes to the Ohio river.

In the Lake Superior region the bulk of the Wyandottes and Ottawas (another of the Huron branch) made their home for many years, until two French priests arrived among them, Jacques Marquette and Claude Deblon, and began organizing them in the interest of the French, and establishing a headquarters for all the Indian allies of the French at Mackinac. This was in 1671, and here they remained for thirty years. In 1701 Cadillac, who had been in command of the French forth at Mackinac, established a new post at Detroit, which was called Fort Ponchartrain, later changed to Detroit, a name it ever after retained. When Cadillac moved to Detroit, at his request most of the Indian allies accompanied him; they were joined by other Indians, and new tribal relations established, and the Hurons took the name of their leading tribe, the Wyandots,\* the name meaning "Traders of the West."

The Wyandots were frequently attacked by their old enemies, the Iroquois, but the Indians around Detroit were all united; they received arms and ammunition from the French, and when necessary the French soldiers fought with them, and at the end of six years the Iroquois were compelled to give up the struggle and leave the French and Wyandots in control of lower Michigan and Canada north of Lake Erie and Ontario.

But the shrewd Iroquois were not idle. They instigated the Fox nation to make an attack on the Detroit settlement. They chose a time when the Wyandots were away on a hunting expedition, early in May, 1712. Du Buisson was then in command of Fort Ponchartrain, with only twenty-one men. He sent runners out to notify the Indians to return. On the 13th an assault was made on the Fort, but the Foxes and their allies were held at bay. While the fight was going on the Wyandots returned, and drove the Foxes into the fort they had erected when they came to capture the French settlement. The French and Wyandots in turn attacked the enemy's fort, but were unsuccessful. For nineteen days the fighting continued, when the Foxes were compelled to flee, and hurriedly built a fortification a few miles north of Detroit. Here they were attacked by the French and their allies, the French bringing two small cannon to bear on the enemy. The fighting lasted three days more, when the Foxes were utterly routed, the Wyandots, and their allies, the Ottawas and Pottawatomies massacring 800 men, women and children, and nearly wiping out the Fox nation, a few of those remaining joining their friends, the Iroquois, and the remainder removing to Wisconsin and the south shore of Lake Superior, where they became as bitter enemies of the French as were the Iroquois in the east. It was this same year the Tuscaroras, driven from North Carolina, came north and united with the Iroquois and the con-

\* The correct name was Wyandotte, but from this date the name is given according to the modern spelling.

federation became the Six Nations. While the battles at Detroit intensified the anger of the Six Nations and the Foxes against the French, it gave the latter the strong friendship of the Wyandots and all those Indians who surrounded the French settlement, a friendship which, to the credit of the Wyandots, they faithfully maintained through all the varying fortunes of war for the next half century, and when, in 1763, the flag of France fell before the meteor flag of England, and the French retired from American soil, for some years after the treaty of peace between England and France was signed the Wyandots with their western allies were at war against the British.

The Wyandots now gradually extended their hunting grounds along the southern shore of Lake Erie, the nearly half a century of war of the Iroquois with the French having left that nation in so crippled a condition that they never again appeared west of the Alleghenies on a warlike expedition. The Wyandots, extending their territory, were soon in control from Lake Erie to the Ohio river. In 1740 the remnant of the once famous Delawares was driven from Pennsylvania by the Six Nations and by the advance of the Pennsylvania colonists, and the Wyandots gave them permission to occupy the Muskingum Valley. A number of the Shawanese also made their home along the Scioto, and the Ottawas had land between the Sandusky and the Maumee rivers, and from here, as allies of the French, they frequently made warlike excursions into Pennsylvania and Virginia, surprising the settlers at dead of night, and massacring entire families, men, women and children, and when the expedition was in retaliation for some real or fancied wrong, capturing with the prisoners and holding a war dance while the unfortunate captives were horribly tortured until death relieved them of their suffering.

In 1755 all of the coast states were British colonies; the French were in control of all west of the Alleghenies and north of the Ohio, they had fortifications all along Lake Erie; one at Fort Duquesne (Pittsburg) another at Erie, Pennsylvania; at Detroit; two at the mouth of the Sandusky, others in Indiana and Illinois, and the Indians in all this great Northwest were their friends and allies. The French claimed the territory, and justly, by right of discovery; the English claimed through charters of British rulers, granted to companies for so many miles along the Atlantic "and extending west to the Pacific ocean."

In 1744, when the war occurred between France and England, practically all the Indians of the northwest gave their services to the French. They attacked the frontiers of Pennsylvania and Virginia; some went down the St. Lawrence, reported at Montreal, where they were given arms and ammunition, and attacked the settlers of New York, and even extended their depredations across the Hudson to massacre settlers in far-off New England. They were as loyal to their French friends as they were bitter and implacable in their hatred of the English and the Iroquois, who after a hundred years, were still the loyal friends of the English. In 1745 a French commandant's record in Canada shows the number of Indians reporting for duty in the war against England, among them the Wyandots. Other records show that in one year at least twenty of these blood-thirsty murdering bands were sent out

by the French, frequent mention being made of the part taken by the Wyandots in the wholesale butcheries which followed in these bloody raids.

In 1748 a treaty was patched up between England and France and comparative quiet was maintained until 1754, but as the French still remained in possession of the great Northwest, and England was determined to have the territory, war again broke out. In the spring of 1754 a company of French soldiers from Fort Duquesne, while extending their explorations southward, were attacked by some Virginia rangers under Lieut. Col. George Washington. A fight for the ownership of the great Northwest between the French and English was so inevitable that during the winter of 1754-55 England and the colonies on the one side and the French on the other organized for the coming struggle, which commenced in 1755, and lasted for seven long years, England and the extreme eastern colonies marching to Canada, and the Virginia and Pennsylvania militia joining with the English soldiers in the battles in the northwest.

In this section the war commenced with the attempt of Gen. Braddock in command of the English, and Col. George Washington in command of the militia, to capture Fort Duquesne, situated at the point where the Allegheny and Monongahela unite to form the Ohio. The French sent an army from Detroit, and they were joined in their march by the Wyandots, who were then the leading nation of the northwest, the most numerous, and in bravery the equals of the Iroquois. They were among the Indian troops who were secreted in the woods and poured the deadly fire on the ambuscaded Americans and English. The French loss was four killed, and the American and English 300. Among the slain was General Braddock, who had refused advice as to Indian warfare, and who paid the penalty with his life, leaving Washington in command to save what he could from the slaughter.

The victory at Fort Dequesne excited the Indians' thirst for blood, and nearly every Wyandot warrior took to the war path. Along the borders of Pennsylvania they left a trail of death and desolation; they were with Montcalm in Canada, where the French were defeated; then on to Ottawa, which fell into the hands of the British; returning to Fort Niagara they received another repulse; everywhere the English and Americans were slowly but surely driving back the French. Bravery, endurance and fortitude were characteristic of the Wyandots, but adversity they could not stand. Their belief in French superiority was becoming shattered, and by degrees they drifted back to the banks of the Sandusky, disappointed and discouraged, and took no further hand in the struggle. It ended in 1763 when France relinquished Canada, and all her possessions in the United States east of the Mississippi to the English.

While the French were receiving their reverses, Pontiac an Ottawa chief (Huron branch of the Indians) organized practically all of the Indians of the northwest to seize every English outpost, probably twelve in number. In the great Northwest they failed only at Detroit, where the siege lasted for many months, by which time the English had regained their forts and relieved Detroit, and peace was declared. In this peace Pontiac refused to join, but





OHIO AVENUE HOMES, SIDNEY, O.



LAKE TAWAWA AND CLUB HOUSE, SIDNEY, O.



RESIDENCE OF JOSEPH ALTENBACH, SIDNEY, O.



MIAMI RIVER EAST FROM TWO MILE BRIDGE, SIDNEY, O.



retired with his Ottawas to Illinois. The capture of the different forts was arranged for May 7, 1763. The Wyandots captured the fort near the mouth of the Sandusky. Here Ensign Paully was in command, and on May 16 he was approached by seven Indians with a request for a conference. He admitted them without hesitation, when he was seized, bound and the fort captured, the garrison being taken unawares. Nearly all the garrison, eleven in number, were massacred and the fort was burned. Ensign Paully being reserved for torture. He was tied to the stake, and just as the fagots were about to be fired an Indian squaw, whose husband had been killed, claimed the prisoner to take the place of her dead husband. Paully consented, and was liberated, but at the first opportunity made his escape, leaving the widow doubly bereaved.

Pontiac in Illinois remained the inveterate foe of the English, and in 1769 he was murdered by an Illinois Indian. The Wyandots, who had for some years been living quietly, on learning the news, accompanied by the Ottawas and other tribes marched to Illinois and avenged the chief's death by almost wiping out the Illinois tribe.

In 1764 General Bradstreet, who was in command at Detroit, with a force of men "ascended the Sandusky river as far as it was navigable by boats." The point reached was probably the old Indian town of Upper Sandusky on the river about three miles southeast of the present town of Upper Sandusky. Here a treaty of peace was made with the chiefs and leading men of the Wyandots.

This peace was fairly observed until in 1774, the Wyandots, Shawanese, Delawares and Mingoes made an attack on Point Pleasant, where the Kanawha joins the Ohio. They had a force of over a thousand warriors, under command of Cornstalk. General Lewis was in command of Point Pleasant with 1,100 men. The fight continued all day the English loss being two colonels, five captains, three lieutenants and 100 soldiers, besides 140 wounded. The Indian loss must have been severe, as during the night they retreated across the Ohio river and returned to their homes. Just before the battle they were joined by Simon Girty, who had been a scout for the English. He was an efficient scout, but in some altercation with General Lewis, the latter struck him with a cane over the head, inflicting a deep gash. Girty threatened vengeance, and escaped from the fort, joining the Indians, and in the attack on the fort was as savage and bitter and cruel as any Indian warrior could desire. He remained with his new friends and ever after made his home with the Shawanese, Delawares and Wyandots. He declared he had foresworn his white blood and assumed the garb of the Indians with their painted flesh and feathered headdress.

After the Americans and English had succeeded in driving out the French in 1763, England for years pursued an unjust policy toward the colonies, which eventually culminated in the Revolutionary war. In the east all manufactures which interfered with England were prohibited or crippled by severe laws. All goods must be bought in England; all products raised in America must be sold to England alone, and forwarded on English vessels. The English commercial policy also affected the great Northwest. The French, by their

explorations, and by their trading posts all over this great territory had built up a large business in furs, of which they had a monopoly. The English merchants secured this trade, and it was so vast and profitable they wanted it continued. As a result they petitioned the King and Parliament: "It does appear to us that the extension of the fur trade depends entirely on the Indians being undisturbed in the possession of their hunting grounds, and that all colonizing does, in its nature, and must in its consequences, operate to the prejudice of that branch of commerce." So George Third issued a proclamation declaring the new territory, the Great Northwest from the Ohio to the Lakes and from the Alleghenies to the Mississippi, royal domain, and prohibited further settlement in this vast territory, or the purchase of any part of it from the Indians. This was in 1774, and the English statesmen, foreseeing a coming contest, attached this territory to the Province of Quebec, and Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin were a part of Canada.

Eight years later the Province of Quebec was the danger point in the treaty of peace between England and the United States. The American commissioners were Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, John Jay and Henry Laurens. Their imperative instructions were that the independence of the United States must be recognized. Other matters were minor. France had been the ally of the United States and the treaty must be satisfactory to that nation. France had received from Spain practically all west of the Mississippi river, and desired to have her rights recognized by England. Spain was with France, and the two secretly arranged with England that the north boundary of the United States should be the Ohio river, basing the claim on the ground that the Great Northwest was a part of the Province of Quebec, and there was no question that Canada was to remain English territory. In the early part of the treaty, while this agreement was not definitely reached, matters were tending that way. Franklin, as minister to France, conducted the earlier negotiations, and later, when John Adams and John Jay arrived, the boundary came up. The English were insistent; Vergennes, the French minister, favored the English, until finally Adams and Jay positively declared they would submit to no boundary except the lakes. Laurens and Franklin stood by them solidly, and it was over a year before England finally yielded the point, and Ohio and the Great Northwest became a part of the United States. England probably thought the territory of far less importance than it was, having relegated all that vast region to a great hunting ground, with no higher conception of its future use than the protecting and raising of fur-bearing animals. How different the views of John Jay, who speaking of this territory in congress in 1777, prophetically said: "Extensive wildernesses, now scarcely known or explored, remain yet to be cultivated; and vast lakes and rivers, whose waters have for ages rolled in silence to the ocean, are yet to hear the din of industry, become subservient to commerce, and boast delightful villas, gilded spires, and spacious cities rising on their banks."

On the breaking out of the Revolutionary war, the Wyandots and their neighbors at first saw no reason to take any hand in the contest. In the east the British had secured the assistance of the Six Nationals, the Mohawks being

then the chief tribe, but by 1777 the English had succeeded in enlisting the Wyandots and other Ohio tribes on their side, and under British pay they made onslaughts on the western borders of the colony, attacking the settlers in Pennsylvania and Virginia. Many joined the British army, and a number of Wyandots joined the army of General Burgoyne, in New York state, but did little beyond burning a few houses of settlers, stealing their stock and murdering a number of the pioneers. In an excursion with Burgoyne into New Hampshire, a number of Wyandots were killed, and they blamed the British general for the loss, claiming the warriors were needlessly sacrificed. This, and the fact that Burgoyne endeavored to restrain their ferocity and cruelty, disgusted the Wyandots, and most of them returned to their home on the Sandusky; but still under the pay of the English, continued to harass the frontier, destroying, burning and murdering. The English had a trading-post at the Indian village of Sandusky, where settlement was made, and at this point nearly all the Indian tribes were paid for the scalps taken.

Their first expedition was in 1777. The renegade Girty was thoroughly conversant with affairs along the Ohio river, and at his suggestion 500 warriors, Delawares, Wyandots and Shawanese, started on an expedition against Fort Henry, near where Wheeling now is, on the Ohio river. The British had supplied them with arms and ammunition, and the Indians made their way through the dense forests, along their trails, crossed the Ohio and surrounded the fort with its garrison of forty men, and a number of women and children. Col. David Sheppard was in command, and rumors had reached the fort that 500 warriors had started from the Sandusky region on some murdering expedition, destination unknown. On the evening of September 26, 1771, settlers reported Indians in war paint had been seen lurking in the neighborhood. Cabins were abandoned, and all sought safety in the fort. Colonel Sheppard sent out two men to reconnoitre; one was killed and the other returned to the fort wounded; the colonel then sent out 14 men, and as they were proceeding cautiously down the river they fell into an ambush, and 11 were instantly killed, the others escaping in the dense forest. Hearing the firing, the colonel sent 12 more men to relieve the imperiled party; eight of these were promptly killed. The fighting force in the fort was now reduced to a dozen men. The Indians made constant attacks, but were as constantly driven back. It was during this engagement that, when the powder gave out, Elizabeth Zane bravely went to the storehouse, sixty yards away, and brought back the powder in safety. She volunteered for this service, saying that no man could be spared for this perilous trip under the direct fire of the enemy. Night coming on, the Indians retired until morning. During the night a dozen men arrived from a neighboring settlement, and succeeded in gaining entrance to the fort. In the morning 40 more rangers arrived, and the Indians now regarded it as useless to continue their assault on the fort. They therefore destroyed everything they could, set fire to the houses, and killed or carried off 300 head of cattle. They had killed 21 men, with several others wounded. Their own loss, however, was over a hundred. They returned to Sandusky with 21 scalps for which cash was paid by the British agent.

While the Wyandots were allies of the English, as well as the other tribes of Ohio, on an eastern branch of the Muskingum in Tuscarawas county were several hundred Moravian Indians, of the Delaware tribe, who constantly refused to take part in the war; they had become Christian Indians, had three settlements in Tuscarawas county, and had cleared considerable land, devoted their time mostly to farming and kept up constant business relations with the Americans at Pittsburg, about 60 miles distant, which was the headquarters of the American forces in the west. They refused all the overtures and bribes of the British. Finally, in the fall of 1781, Colonel Elliott, of the British forces, who was stationed at Upper Sandusky, took with him two chiefs and 300 warriors, and marched to the Moravian settlements, their route being through Crawford, crossing the Sandusky at a point one mile south of the Tod township line, and passing through Bucyrus township in the direction of New Winchester and in a southeasterly direction toward the Kilbuck in Holmes county and on to the Tuscarawas settlements. The three Moravian towns, all on the Tuscarawas river, were Schönbrunn, two miles south of the present town of New Philadelphia, seven miles further south was Gnadenhütten and five miles further Salem.

On reaching the Moravians the Indians urged their brethren to stand by them in their war against the Americans; the English colonel offered them presents, but the Moravians stood firm. Failing in peaceful persuasions the Indians insisted they should accompany them to the banks of the Sandusky, claiming they were too near Pittsburg, and the Wyandots were afraid they might ally themselves with the detested Americans. Expostulations were useless and the peaceful Moravians were forced to leave their crops ungathered, and accompany their captors in the long and weary march to the banks of the Sandusky. The Moravians were taken to Sandusky and from there their missionaries were sent to Detroit as prisoners. Some writers place the Moravian winter quarters on the river southwest of Bucyrus, but Butterfield fixes it near the old Indian town, three miles southeast of the present town of Upper Sandusky. Here they passed the winter, suffering great hardships, as the Indians make no provision for the future, and the addition of several hundred to the Indian villages along the Sandusky was beyond their means of support. After a severe winter a number were allowed to return to their villages to gather the crops of the fall previous. About 150 of them, men with their wives and children, made the journey to their former homes, and resumed their work on the clearings, dividing their force so as to look after all three of the villages.

While the Moravians had spent the winter suffering on the banks of the Sandusky the Wyandots had not been idle, but had made marauding expeditions on the settlers of Pennsylvania and Virginia, with their usual burning and killing.

The settlers of the upper Ohio and the Monongahela determined to administer a lesson that would be a warning to the Indians, and a corps of 100 mounted men was organized, and under command of Colonel Williamson started for the Moravian towns. They knew the Moravians had spent the

winter on the Sandusky, the point where all the brutal, murdering expeditions were organized; they knew they had again returned to their villages on the Tuscarawas. In what follows, the most lenient might concede they did not know the peaceful Indians had been taken there against their will, but this is not borne out by history. The rangers under Williamson reached Gnadenhütten after a forced march of two days, and at this village found the Indians gathering corn on the west bank of the Tuscarawas. A boat was secured and sixteen of the men crossed the river, but found more Indians there than they had expected. Then the rangers certainly learned that their visit to Sandusky had been an enforced one, for they sympathized with them for the cruel treatment they had received and were assured of their friendship and that they had come to see in what way they could protect the Moravians. They further assured them that another expedition would come from the Sandusky region, and they would again receive the same cruel treatment, and that their friends at Pittsburg had advised them to go to that place where they would receive protection. Knowing the settlers of Pittsburg had always treated them with the greatest friendship, and being Christian Indians, they did not doubt what the men told them, and placed themselves under their protection. The trusting Indians also sent a messenger down the river to the village of Salem to notify the Indians there of the kindness of their new-found friends, urging them to join them at Gnadenhütten. They crossed the river with the rangers and gave their guns into their hands, after which they were ordered into houses and a guard placed around them. Colonel Williamson sent a party of men down the river to the village of Salem, but on the way they met the Salem Moravians coming up the river to join their brethren at Gnadenhütten. The Salem Indians arrived and they, too, were deceived into giving up their arms after which they were imprisoned. Colonel Williamson then called a council of war, and put the question for the men to decide, as to whether the Indians should be taken as prisoners to Fort Pitt (Pittsburg) or whether they should be put to death. There were 18 who favored the minor outrage of carrying them away as prisoners and 82 voted for immediate death.

No sympathy was manifested by the majority. They resolved to murder the whole of the Christian Indians in their custody. They were ordered to prepare for death. But the warning had been anticipated. Their firm belief in their new creed was shown forth in this sad hour of their tribulation, by religious exercises of preparation. The orisons of these devout people were already ascending to the throne of the Most High. The sound of the Christian's hymn and the Christian's prayer found an echo in the surrounding woods, but no responsive feeling in the bosoms of their executioners. With gun, and spear, and tomahawk and scalping knife, the work of death progressed in these slaughterhouses, till not a sigh or moan was heard to proclaim the existence of human life within. All perished save two. Two Indian boys escaped as by a miracle, to be witnesses in after times of the savage cruelty of the white man toward their unfortunate race.

After committing this cruel and cowardly act, the buildings containing

the mutilated bodies of the murdered Indians were set on fire, and the flames of the heavy logs soon reduced to crumbling ashes all that remained of the Christian Indians.

Having thus removed all traces of their inhuman act, the men started up the river for Schönbrunn to murder the Moravians there, but the Christian savages had learned of the sad fate of their companions and fled to the forest, and were beyond pursuit. The number murdered was 96; of these 62 were grown persons, about 42 men and 20 women; the remaining 34 were children.

It was only a part of the Moravians who had been murdered; the larger number were still on the banks of the Sandusky, and to this same retreat fled the 50 Christian Moravians who had escaped from Schönbrunn. Immediately on Williamson's return, arrangements were made for a new expedition to go to the fountain-head of all the trouble—the headquarters on the Sandusky—and administer a blow that would leave the settlers in peace. The massacre of the Moravians took place May 3, 1702, and on May 7 the decision was reached to attack Upper Sandusky, the seat of the Wyandots, not that the Wyandots alone were guilty of all the murdering and massacring, butchering and scalping of the unfortunate settlers and their families, but because Upper Sandusky was the headquarters of the Wyandots, Ottawas, Delawares, and Shawanese, and here was their rendezvous, where they gathered to start on their raids. Volunteers to the number of 480 were secured, all mounted and well armed, all from two or three counties south of Fort Pitt. Monday, May 20, was the time set for their assembling and the place chosen was Mingo Bottom, on the west bank of the Ohio, about seventy-five miles below Pittsburg, and about two miles below the present city of Steubenville. They began assembling on the 21st, and on the 24th the last man had reported. A vote was taken as to who should command the expedition, and Col. William Crawford received 235 votes, and Col. David Williamson, who had commanded the expedition against the Moravians, 230. Colonel Crawford was therefore selected as commander with Colonel Williams as senior major, and second in command. Besides the two commanding officers there were three other majors: Gladdis, McClelland and Bunton, with Daniel Leet as brigade major, and Dr. John Knight as surgeon. John Slover and Jonathan Zane accompanied the expedition as guides. There were 18 companies, the captains, as far as known, being McGeehan, Hoagland, Beeson, Munn, Ross, Ogle, Briggs, Craig, Ritchie, Miller, Bean, and Hood.

The Williamson expedition against the Moravians was a private affair of the settlers. The expedition against the Wyandots was a government affair, under direction of General Irvine, who commanded the western department of the United States, and Lieutenant Rose, a member of his staff, accompanied as his representative.

Saturday morning, May 25, 1782, the expedition started for the Sandusky Plains, about 150 miles distant, but to avoid the Indian trails, so the savages would have no knowledge of the attack, their course was through the unbroken forest, to the Tuscarawas, on the banks of which were the destroyed Moravian towns, and it took them four days to cover the 60 miles, although Williamson's



men, over the traveled route, had made it in two days when on their mission of murder. They encamped at the ruined town of Schönbrunn, and two officers, reconnoitering, saw in the distance two Indian warriors, who had been spying on their movements. After a forced march through the wilderness of Holmes county, they encamped May 30, about ten miles south of the present site of Wooster, just south of the Wayne county line. From here they went almost due west, passing north of Odell's lake, and on to the Mohican, following up the river until near where Mansfield now is they turned west and encamped on June 1st at Spring Mills, eight miles east of Crestline. The next day, June 2, about one o'clock, they entered Crawford county and continued west to the Sandusky river at the mouth of a small creek called Allen's Run, near the present town of Leesville. They reached the Sandusky river south of the Wyandot trail, which the Indians used on their excursions from the Sandusky towns east to Pittsburg. In the last five days they had made 85 miles, and were now about 25 miles due east of the Indian town. A little to the southwest were extensive plains reaching to their destination. Early on the morning of June 3d they entered the plains, and the open sunlight, after the long and dreary march through the dense woods, was a pleasing relief to all. Passing about four miles south of Bucyrus, they journeyed west to an Indian trail skirting the west side of the Sandusky which they followed into Wyandot county, and made their final encampment near the present town of Wyandot, within ten miles of their destination.

On reaching the old Indian town of Sandusky, on the east bank of the river, about three miles southeast of the present town of Upper Sandusky, they found it deserted. The officers and guides were astonished and a halt was called. The volunteers feared a mistake had been made and that there was no village short of Lower Sandusky (Fremont) 40 miles down the river, through a section known to be covered by roving bands of Indians, for they were now in the heart of the Indian country. The army had but five days' of provisions left, but it was decided to move forward in search of the Indians. They crossed the river to the west side, continuing along the trail up the west bank to the site of the present town of Upper Sandusky; they continued a mile further, with no sign of Indians and the troops became anxious, and for the first time expressed a desire to return home. Crawford promptly called a halt and a council of war. Colonel Crawford and Guide Zane both favored an immediate return, as further progress was dangerous, and the final decision was made to continue that day and if no Indians were discovered they would return. The march was continued, and the troops had gone but a short distance, when one of the light-horse scouts, who in the open prairie were generally a mile in advance, returned at full speed announcing the Indians were in front of them. The Volunteers were now enthusiastic and the whole army moved forward rapidly.

The Indians had kept trace of the army ever since it had left Mingo Bottom, and had sent warriors to the Shawanese, in the Miami valley, and to the Wyandots and Delawares on the Sandusky to preparè for an attack. The various tribes gathered and when Crawford left the Tuscarawas in a north-

westerly direction, it was known the Sandusky Indians were the objective point. Pomoacan, Wyandot chief, sent special messengers to Detroit, notifying DePeyster, the English commandant at that point, of the intended attack. DePeyster acted promptly, and started Butler's rangers, a mounted troop, to Lower Sandusky (Fremont) by boats to assist their allies; special messengers were also sent by the Wyandots to the Shawanese on the Miami, and 200 warriors started on their march of 40 miles from Logan county to help their brethren. In the meantime the Delawares, under Pipe, had assembled 300 warriors at his town on both sides of the Tymochtee, about one and a half miles northeast of the present town of Crawfordsville, Wyandot county, near the place now marked by the monument erected on the site where Colonel Crawford was burned at the stake. Zhaus-sho-toh was the Wyandot war chief, and the village of Pomoacan, the "Half King," was five miles northeast of Upper Sandusky, in Crane township, on the Sandusky river. Here he had 400 warriors.

The Americans had advanced about two miles north of Upper Sandusky, and were one mile west of the river, when they met the enemy, the Delawares, being in the front line of battle, under Pipe, his assistants being the renegade Simon Girty and Chief Wingenund, the latter having joined the Delawares from his village about two and a half miles northwest of the present site of Crestline, Crawford county. The Delawares had taken possession of a small grove called an "island," and from this they were promptly driven by the Americans. The Wyandots under Zhaus-sho-toh, with whom was the British Captain Elliott, came to the support of the Delawares. Elliott took command of both tribes, and the Delawares occupied the west and south sides of the grove, and the Wyandots the north and east. The firing began at four o'clock, and the battle lasted until dark. As the Indians exposed themselves when skulking through the grass they were picked off by the American sharpshooters. The day closed decidedly favorable to the Americans; their loss was five killed and 19 wounded. Indian losses were never known, but their killed and wounded far exceeded the Americans. Although the Americans were in full possession of the field, the Indians were not dispirited. Desultory firing was resumed at six o'clock in the morning and continued until noon, the Americans believing the Indians had not recovered from their defeat of the day previous, and plans were discussed by the Americans to attack the enemy in force; the Delawares were drawn up south of them and the Wyandots north.

Before the plan of attack was matured, a sentinel reported mounted troops coming from the north; they proved to be Butler's rangers, sent by DePeyster from Detroit, and a few minutes later another sentinel reported the arrival of 200 Shawanese from the south; during the late afternoon additional small detachments of Indians were continually arriving. The council of war now unanimously decided on a retreat that night. About nine o'clock the retreat started and by a circuitous march to the west passed around the Delawares and Shawanese south of them, reaching the old town of Upper Sandusky just before daylight. Here a halt was called and stragglers kept

constantly arriving, but Colonel Crawford, Doctor Knight and John Slover the guide, and many others were missing.

The command now devolved on Williamson, and his force numbered 300. After a short rest the army went south along the east bank of the Sandusky, crossed the river at the mouth of the Little Sandusky, and then east, skirting the southern bank of the river. They were again on the Sandusky Plains, and when they reached where the town of Wyandot now is, they saw in the distance a large force of mounted Indians and Butler's rangers following in pursuit. They were a dozen miles from the woods on the eastern boundary of the plains, where alone lay safety. Their horses had had two days' rest at Sandusky during the battle, but the eleven days previous marching, and the long night ride had left both man and horses in a jaded condition. They were also hampered by their wounded. Yet Colonel Williamson urged his troops forward with all possible speed and was ably assisted by Lieutenant Rose, the military genius of the expedition.

The retreating column left the Sandusky at Wyandot, and started northeast across the plains. Their route lay through Crawford county and they passed the site of the present city of Bucyrus about three miles to the south. The enemy followed them closely, harrassing them with occasional shots, and it required all the courage and skill of Colonel Williamson and Lieutenant Rose to prevent the demoralization of the troops. The woods and safety were still six miles away, and they were in an open prairie, being almost surrounded by double their number of infuriated savages, from whom they could expect no mercy. When within a mile of the woods it was found necessary to make a stand, and the little army was reversed and, facing to the west, hurriedly formed ranks to resist the attacking foe. Fortunately the British allies of the Indians had left their artillery behind. The first attack was repulsed with unbroken lines and the second was also a failure. The Indians then sought the protection of the high grass and continued their attack until a heavy storm came on which drenched both armies to the skin and rendered the fire-arms useless, finally causing a cessation of hostilities. The Americans had lost three killed and eight wounded, the loss of the enemy being much greater.

Hurriedly burying their dead and making their wounded as comfortable as possible for transportation, the army resumed its retreat, pursued by the foe, who fired on the Americans from a respectful distance, different companies taking turns in protecting the rear. In this way the tired troops finally reached the shelter of the woods. They passed the night in camp at Leesville and next morning resumed the retreat, the last shots of the enemy being heard as they passed the borders of Crawford county, just north of the site of the present town of Crestline.

When the retreat was started Colonel Crawford missed his son John Crawford, his son-in-law, William Harrison, and his nephew, William Crawford. While looking for these relatives, Doctor Knight joined him. A little before midnight they reached the Sandusky which they crossed less than a mile south of the village of the Wyandot chief Pomoacan. At daylight Craw-

ford, Knight and a boy entered Crawford county, their progress being slow on account of the darkness and the jaded condition of the horses. Near Osceola, Crawford and the young man were compelled to abandon their horses, and on foot they continued their journey and about two o'clock fell in with Captain Biggs, who had carried Lieutenant Ashley from the battle, the latter being badly wounded. After reaching the point on the Sandusky, where the troops had left the river on their outward march, discussion arose as to the future course and it was decided to follow the course of the army. They followed the south bank of the Sandusky, through the site of the present town of Leesville and just east of that place several Indians started up less than fifty feet from Crawford and Knight. The doctor jumped behind a tree and was about to fire, when Crawford, observing how many Indians there were, advised him not. An Indian who knew them came forward and shook hands; Captain Biggs in the meantime had fired on the savages, but missed, and he and his companion, Lieutenant Ashley took to the dense woods as did the two young men. The party that captured Crawford and Knight, were Delaware Indians, who under their chief, Wingenund, had followed the retreating army as far as their camp, which was only half a mile distant from the place where they captured Crawford, about a mile and a half northwest of Crestline.

The details of Crawford's subsequent death at the stake are too harrowing to make pleasant reading and will be omitted. The renegade Simon Girty was present at the awful scene and either could not or would not interfere. Doctor Knight escaped from his captors, thereby avoiding a similar fate, and after a toilsome journey and much suffering, reached home in safety. The Wyandots had nothing to do with Crawford's death. He was a Delaware prisoner. The Wyandots for some years had ceased the burning of prisoners at the stake. The Delawares and Shawanese still adhered to the custom.

The British general, Cornwallis, had surrendered at Yorktown on October 19, 1781, which practically ended the war of the Revolution, although the treaty of peace was not signed until a year later, November 30, 1782. The British still retained possession of Detroit, and kept the Indians of the northwest hostile to the Americans, and the depredations still continued. The Americans, however, were now more free to protect their border, and expeditions were sent against them in the Miami valley and up toward the Maumee and Detroit, the Wyandots sending all their warriors to oppose the Americans on these expeditions.

On January 27, 1785, a treaty was signed at Fort McIntosh, a fort on the Ohio, 30 miles below Pittsburg, at the mouth of the Beaver river, where the town of Beaver, Pennsylvania, now is. This treaty was made between the Americans and the Wyandots, Delawares, Chippewas and Ottawas. The boundary line between the United States and the Wyandots and Delawares was declared to begin "at the mouth of the river Cuyahoga, and to extend up said river to the portage between that and the Tuscarawas branch of the Muskingum, thence down that branch to the crossing place above Fort

Laurens (on the border line of Stark and Tuscarawas counties, near where the town of Bolivar now is) thence westerly to the portage of the Big Miami, which runs into the Ohio (its western point being Fort Recovery in Mercer county) at the mouth of which branch was Fort Slovel which was taken by the French in 1752; then along said portage to the Great Miami or Omee river (Maumee) and down the south side of the same to its mouth, then along the south shores of Lake Erie to the mouth of the Cuyahoga river, where it began." All of the territory inside this boundary (all of northwestern Ohio), was assigned to the Indians, with a few trading-posts reserved, six miles square at the mouth of the Sandusky, and a tract two miles square at Fremont.

Sha-tay-ya-ron-yah, or Leather Lips, who signed this treaty and kept it, was afterward murdered under Indian law on account of his friendship for the Americans. In 1810 Tecumseh commenced his organization of the Indians against the whites, but found the Wyandots, led by Tar-hé and Leather Lips, were bitterly opposed to the plan. General Harrison was of the opinion the chief's death was the result of the direct command of Tecumseh.

January 9, 1789, another treaty was made by Gov. St. Clair at Fort Harmar (Marietta), with the Wyandots and others, confirming the treaty of 1785. It was not kept and the Indians, supplied with arms and ammunition by the British at Detroit, continued their depredations, and several expeditions sent against them were disastrous to the Americans. Finally, in 1794, Gen. Anthony Wayne, "Mad Anthony," led the expedition against them, and at the battle of Fallen Timbers he gained a complete and decisive victory, and on August 3, 1795, the Greenville treaty was signed, making the Indian reservation about as before.

On July 4, 1805, another treaty was signed at Fort Industry between the United States and the Wyandots and other tribes, by which the eastern boundary of their reservation was a meridian line, starting at a point on Lake Erie, 120 miles west of the western boundary of Pennsylvania, thence south to the Greenville treaty line. This line was the present west boundary of Erie and Huron counties; it passed through Crawford county, giving the present eastern seven miles to the United States, the western thirteen miles being reserved to the Indians. It touched the Greenville treaty line about two miles east of what is now Cardington, in Marrow county. All east of this north and south line, north of the Greenville treaty line, extending to the Cuyahoga river was now open to settlement. For this territory the Indians were given goods to the amount of \$20,000, and were to receive in addition \$7,500 in goods annually. From this new territory Richland county was created in 1807. For some years the Indians remained peaceful, their severe losses in their constant wars having so greatly reduced their numbers that they realized without help, all further opposition to the Americans was hopeless.

This peace would have continued but for the actions of the British in forcing the war of 1812. England for several years had been stopping American ships on the high seas, seizing seamen on those vessels and impressing them into the British navy on the claim they were British seamen. Many American born sailors were thus seized, and to all protests the British gov-

ernment turned a deaf ear. The British also instigated the Indians in the northwest to recommence their depredations against the Americans, and Tecumseh organized the savage tribes, and when war was declared by the United States Tecumseh and nearly all the northwestern Indians joined their forces with the British, with headquarters at Detroit. Tarhé "The Crane," was chief of the Wyandots at that time, and assisted by Between-the-Logs, another Wyandot chief, urged their tribe to remain neutral, which the majority of them did, very few Wyandots following the lead of Tecumseh. At the breaking out of the war, the first year in the northwest, the Americans met with a constant succession of reverses.

In July, 1812, Gen. William Hull, in command at Detroit, surrendered that post to the British and Indians, without firing a gun. The allied army consisted of 1,000 British and 600 Indians. The force surrendered was 2,500 men, with thirty-three cannon, arms and ammunition. Just prior to the surrender a detachment of 500 had been sent south to guard some supplies coming from Ohio. These were a part of Hull's army and were surrendered also, and as they were returning they were met by a company of British soldiers who astonished them with the statement that they, too, were included in the capitulation. The American troops were released on parole. A number started home on foot, others were transported in boats across Lake Erie to the mouths of the Sandusky, Huron and Cuyahoga rivers, and left at those points to go overland the nearest route to their homes, many passing through Crawford as the nearest way home.

Gen. William Henry Harrison was placed in command of the army in the northwest in September of 1812, the objective point of this campaign being to regain Detroit from the British. General Harrison immediately established a line of defense across the state from Wooster through Crawford county, to Upper Sandusky and St. Mary's to Fort Wayne. The army was divided into three divisions, the left composed of the Kentucky troops and the Seventeenth and Eighteenth United States regulars under Brigadier-General Winchester; their route was up the Miami, with the base of supplies at St. Mary's, Auglaize county. The central division was composed of 1,200 of the Ohio militia and 800 mounted infantry under Brigadier-General Tupper, with their base of supplies at Fort McArthur (Kenton, Hardin county). The right was composed of three brigades of militia from Pennsylvania, Virginia and Ohio, and were to assemble at Fort Ferree, a fort erected at Upper Sandusky, where General Harrison had his headquarters. On October 22d, General Harrison wrote to the war department: "I am not able to fix any period for the advance of the troops to Detroit. It is pretty evident that it cannot be done, on proper principles, until the frost shall have become so severe as to enable us to use the rivers and the margin of the lake for the transportation of our baggage on the ice." During November and December General Harrison did what he could toward improving the roads.

While at his headquarters on the Sandusky, Tarhé, the Wyandot chief, called on General Harrison, and suggested that a meeting of the Indians be held, as it was his opinion many of the Indians had been deceived into join-

ing the British forces. In response to this, a council of Indians, both friendly and unfriendly, was held on the American side of the Detroit river at Brownstown. The Wyandots were then the leading and most powerful Indian nation, and Tarhé, their chief, sent a strong message urging them to remain neutral. Tarhé's message was received in sullen silence, and Round Head, a Canadian chief, and a Wyandot, made a bitter speech against the Americans, which was endorsed by practically all present. The British were represented at the council by two agents, Elliott and McKee, and Elliott, seeing the spirit of the Indians, made a very insulting speech, boasting of the victories already achieved, and alluding to the president of the United States as a squaw, and saying: "If she receives this as an insult and feels disposed to fight, tell her to bring more men than she ever brought before. If she wishes to fight me and my children she must not burrow in the earth like a ground hog\* where she is inaccessible. She must come out and fight fairly." The leading chief of the Wyandots present was Between-the-Logs, the chief orator of that nation, and to the insulting speech of Elliott he made a dignified reply.

This closed the council, the Canadian Indians remaining with the British, while the Ohio Wyandots followed the advice of Between-the-Logs. Tarhé made another attempt and sent another message to his Canadian Wyandot kinsman: "Let all the Wyandots abandon the British. They are liars and have always deceived the Indians. They built Fort Miami, as they said, to be a refuge to the Indians. When wounded and bleeding, after our defeat by General Wayne, we fled to their fort for protection, they shut the gates against us." Later in the campaign Tecumseh threw this same treacherous act up to General Procter. It referred to a campaign when "Mad Anthony" Wayne defeated the British and Indians, and the British sought refuge in Fort Miami, and closed its gates against their fleeing Indian allies. He called attention to several other acts of perfidy of the British but it had no effect on his Canadian people, although nearly all the Wyandots in Ohio remained on the side of the Americans; only a very few joining the British.

During the War of 1812 General Harrison had his headquarters much of the time along the Sandusky river. He established Fort Ferree, the present site of Upper Sandusky; Fort Ball at Tiffin and Fort Seneca half way between Tiffin and Fremont. This latter place had been a trading-post over a century, established by the French, and here was Fort Stevenson.

On December 17, 1812, Governor Meigs sent a message to the state legislature appealing for aid for the Ohio militia at Sandusky, in which he said: "The situation of the men as to clothing is really distressing. You will see many of them wading through the snow and mud almost barefooted and half naked. Not half the men have a change of pantaloons, and those linen."

In January, 1813, General Harrison marched from Upper Sandusky to the Maumee and about January 20th erected Fort Meigs, on the south side of the river just above where Perrysburg now is, and for the balance of the winter supplies and troops were sent forward and the fort strengthened.

\* Alluding to the Americans having pits in the embankments to shelter them from cannon balls thrown into their forts.

Toward the last of April the fort was besieged by General Procter and Tecumseh with 2,000 British and Indians, but the small force there made so determined a resistance until re-inforcements arrived under General Clay, that on May 5th, the allies gave up the siege and retired. General Harrison sent word to Governor Meigs that more troops were needed, and they were soon on their way to the different posts. On May 8th the commander at Fort Ferree wrote that 500 men had arrived that day and 1,000 more would be there the next day.

On July 21st General Procter and Tecumseh again laid siege to Fort Meigs with 4,000 British and Indians, General Clay being in command of the fort. The British general, Procter, left Tecumseh to watch the fort, while he, with 500 British troops and 800 Indians, marched to Lower Sandusky (Fremont) to capture Fort Stevenson, which was garrisoned by 150 men under Major Crogan, a young man of twenty-one. They arrived before the fort on August 1, 1813, and Procter demanded its surrender under the threat that its defense against his superior force was hopeless, and if they were compelled to capture the place, it would be impossible for him to restrain the savagery of the Indians, and the entire garrison would be massacred. The demand was refused and on August 2d the attack commenced, and after several hours of fighting the enemy endeavored to take it by assault but were repulsed with great slaughter. General Harrison was at the time at Fort Seneca, nine miles up the river, with a large force of troops, and Procter fearing an attack in return gave up the attempt and returned to Detroit. The American loss was one killed and seven wounded.

The Ohio militia continued pouring into Fort Ferree until in August there were from 5,000 to 6,000 men there under command of Governor Meigs. It was impossible to care for so many, besides the enemy had abandoned their attempt to capture Fort Meigs and retired to Detroit, and the pressing need for the militia had passed, so all but 2,000 were disbanded and sent home, an order which was received with the greatest disapproval by the disbanded troops, and led to indignation meetings in which severe resolutions were passed against General Harrison.

On September 10, 1813, Perry gained his signal victory on Lake Erie and General Harrison pushed forward into Michigan to retake the fort. Reaching Detroit he found the place deserted, the British and Indians having retired across the river into Canada. On October 2d, Generals Harrison and Shelby, with 3,500 Ohio and Kentucky troops, started after the retreating army and overtook the allied forces at the river Thames, 80 miles from Detroit. A battle followed on October 5th, in which Tecumseh was slain, which so demoralized his Indian followers that they immediately took flight. A large number of the British were killed or captured and the rest fled. This was the final battle of the northwest, and from that time the settlers of northwestern Ohio were no longer disturbed by the British or Indians. The war, however, continued in the east and south, until the last battle was fought at New Orleans, on January 8, 1815, by General Jackson, who, with 6,000 men, behind entrenchments, administered a crushing defeat to General Pack-



enham's attacking force of 12,000. The troops of Pakenham were the pick of the British army, the survivors returning to Europe in time to take part in the battle of Waterloo, while the troops of Jackson were the raw militia of Kentucky, Tennessee and the northwest, but every man a fine marksman. During the war of 1812, in the battles along the Maunee, the brutal murders by the Indians of the soldiers after they had surrendered, were of frequent occurrence. In this war the English endeavored to curb the cruelties of their Indian allies, but it was generally useless, and it was only on a few occasions that Tecumseh himself was able to restrain the ferocity of the savages.

## CHAPTER IV

### THE OLD NORTHWEST

*The Northwest Territory as Defined in the Ordinance of 1787—State of Ohio Formed—Character of Its Citizenship—Indian Inhabitants—Prohibition of Slavery—Provision for Education—Settlement of Marietta—Appointment of Governor St. Clair—Law and Order Established—George Rogers Clark and His Work—Conflicting State Claims—Their Settlement—Treatment of the Indians—Story of Black Hawk—The Last of the Indians—The Greenville Treaty.*

Shelby county, Ohio, formed a part of the old Northwest. By the celebrated ordinance of 1787 the territory "northwest of the river Ohio" was to be divided into not less than three nor more than five sections or states. By the same law it was provided that "whenever any of the said states shall have 60,000 free inhabitants therein, such state shall be admitted, by its delegates, into the congress of the United States, on equal footing with the original states, in all respects whatever; and shall be at liberty to form a permanent constitution and state government." (Article V. Ordinance of 1787.)

Acting under this provision of our organic law, Ohio became a state, by act of congress, February 19, 1803, and Shelby county, as part of Ohio, entered upon her history-making career, although the county had been organized in 1800, by proclamation of territorial governor, General Arthur St. Clair.

There were five states carved out of the old Northwest—Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin making a total area of 250,000 square miles. At the time of the passage of the ordinance of 1787 it is probable that there were not more than 60,000 "free inhabitants" in the entire five states. Today there are more than 17,000,000. In this section—the old Northwest—we find now the largest lakes, joined by silvery rivers and canals, the richest mine deposits, and the most fertile soil in North America, if not in the world. Here are the longest rivers—and upon their banks sit in pride and majesty, the noble cities from whose factories and mills come the clothing and food that help to feed and to protect the hungry millions of earth.

The citizenship of this section is among the most enlightened and progressive, Ohio alone having furnished seven presidents of the United States, one vice-president, three presidents of the senate, one speaker of the house, two chief justices, five associate judges and 22 cabinet officers. In addition there is a long list of distinguished senators, representatives, inventors, authors and scholars.

For many years after the coming of the white men, the American Indians—the original owners of the soil—made life a burden for these white men, who were often forced to bare their breasts upon “upland glade or glen” to the tomahawk, the poisoned arrow and the faggot. The soil was redeemed for the white men by the veterans of three wars. It was reddened by the blood of the Indian, the French, the English and the American. It was consecrated by the death of many a noble son.

But the great ordinance did more than to provide for the admission of states—it had strong provisions in regard to slavery and education. “There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in said territory, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.” No such expression had yet been seen in any document; and this is all the more wonderful and noble, when we recall the fact that, at that time, all the original states had slaves. From this can be traced the liberty-loving sentiment ever afterward found in the people of the northwest. But this is not all. The great document resounded throughout the wilderness, as with a Titan’s voice, the cause of religion and education. “Religion, morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged.”

The sixteenth section of every township of 36 sections was set aside for maintenance of common schools in each of these five states. This generous grant on the part of the general government gave to these five states 5,000,000 acres. From the sale of this land the schools have realized more than \$20,000,000. The spirit of this section of the ordinance spread to all the western states and they now have magnificent school funds. The ordinance also gave to each state one township entire for the maintenance of a university. In Ohio this township is located in Athens county, and this grand old Ohio University, at Athens, originated and is, in part, sustained today. It is the oldest university west of the Allegheny Mountains. Thus was the fund for education in Shelby county begun. In 1905 the entire United States expended \$307,000,000 for elementary and secondary schools alone.

In 1787 Rev. Manasseh Cutler led a band of 48 intrepid pioneers into the wilderness, and they formed the first colony or settlement in what is now Ohio, at Marietta, April 7, 1788. They named their camp “Marietta” after the beautiful French Queen, Marie Antoinette. Before the first year had passed Marietta had 132 men and 15 families. The first Fourth of July, 1788, was right royally celebrated in this new home of liberty. On the 15th of that month, the first governor of the northwest territory, Gen. Arthur St. Clair, arrived and took charge of affairs. He was well received by the people and most heartily supported by them. Governor St. Clair soon began the work of organization and he laid out Ohio’s first county (1788), which embraced about all of the eastern half of Ohio, and which he named Washington county. A sheriff, judges and other officers were appointed, and on Campus Martius, the first court in Ohio was opened in the block house.

This was a great event, for on that day law and order began in the wilderness. The beginnings of great things are always of great interest, and this interest grows with each decade. This beginning of established law was announced from the door of the log cabin court house, on Campus Martius, in the fall of 1788, by the newly appointed sheriff in these words: "Oyez! Oyez! A court is now opened for the administration of even-handed justice, to the poor and to the rich, to the guilty and to the innocent, without respect of persons; none to be punished without trial by their peers, and then in pursuance of the laws and evidence in the case." From this first county of Ohio, the number has grown to 88, and courts of justice are established in each county.

The history of the old Northwest cannot be told without relating the great work of George Rogers Clark. It would really be the play of "Hamlet" with Hamlet omitted. He was born in Virginia in 1752, and was a brother of Capt. William Clark, whose great journey of 8,000 miles into the Oregon country, 1804-06, in company with Capt. Meriweather Lewis, a grateful nation in the year (1905) commemorated by a World's Fair at Portland, Oregon. George Rogers Clark was made a brigadier general in 1781, but is generally known in history, especially during the campaign in the old Northwest, as Colonel Clark. He was only 20 years old when he plunged into the unbroken wilderness of Ohio, as a soldier and surveyor of Lord Dunmore's expedition. He was as fine a rifleman as ever entered a forest, and he was skilled in all the knowledge of woodcraft. As a soldier he was brave and manly; as a commander he was sagacious, patient and fearless. The Indians respected and feared him alike, and gave him and his men the name of "The Long Knives."

In 1775, at the close of Dunmore's war, Clark went to Kentucky, where he assisted Daniel Boone to fight Indians and to build a new commonwealth in the wilderness. On his return to his old home in Virginia he learned that the war for liberty had actually begun between the colonies and England—the mother country. One year later we again find him in Kentucky, aiding the settlers on the border in many ways. He is chosen by them to command the rude militia of this country, and it proved a wise choice. Every settlement was in constant danger of attack by the blood-thirsty Indians, and Clark knew full well how to resist them. But Virginia was claiming ownership of this country of Kentucky—"the dark and bloody ground"—and the hardy settlers thought they should have some protection from Virginia.

At last two delegates, Clark being one, were chosen to go to Virginia and see the governor—then the noted Patrick Henry—and very forcefully showed him their needs and the necessity of immediate action. They petitioned for the formation of their country into an independent county, and that they might be allowed to assist the colonies in their struggle against the tyranny of England. They also asked for 500 pounds of gunpowder and a supply of rifles. The governor was at first inclined to refuse these requests on the ground that Virginia had all she could manage in the defense

of the colonies. But Colonel Clark told him plainly that a country that was not worth defending was not worth claiming. The delegates obtained their desired arms and ammunition, and when the legislature next met, the county of Kentucky was formed with almost the identical boundaries that now mark the state of Kentucky.

General Hamilton, the British commander at Detroit, had set a price upon every settler's scalp in the Ohio valley, and in the spring of 1777 the Indians had been so incited to cruelty and bloodshed by the promise of pay on the part of the British, that they made constant raids upon the settlements across the Ohio. Hiding in the dense forest, they boldly attacked the unprotected and helpless pioneer while at work in his field, burned his cabin, destroyed his cattle and his crops, and carried his wife and children into hellish captivity. Not a single life was safe, for there was always a hidden dusky foe on every hand. Unless relief could be obtained soon, all the whites in the valley would be destroyed. Relief came—and under the guiding hand of the brave young Clark. He conceived the plan of not only protecting the settlements but of saving the Great Northwest. But to carry out his plans he must have more men, and he therefore hurried back to Virginia and laid his plans fully before Governor Patrick Henry. He was duly commissioned to raise seven companies of 40 men each among the settlers west of the Allegheny mountains. As an incentive each soldier was promised 300 acres of land, to be selected from the richest valleys of the conquered territory. Thus originated the Virginia Military Reservation, between the Scioto and Miami rivers in Ohio, and the reservation, now in the state of Indiana, for Clark and his soldiers.

In May, 1778, he started on the famous expedition from Redstone Old Fort—Brownsville, Pennsylvania—with only about 150 men. 'But the band increased in size as it marched on to old Fort Pitt, where it embarked upon the Ohio. When Colonel Clark left the governor of Virginia he was entrusted with two specific commands. One was to protect the settlers in Kentucky, and the other—not yet to be made public—authorized him to attack Kaskaskia, a British post on the Kaskaskia river, one mile east of the Mississippi. Governor Henry also gave him \$1,200 and an order on the commandant at Fort Pitt for all the powder he might need.

From this fort the little band of men, without uniforms, fresh from the cabin, the forest, and the mountains, began their perilous journey to conquer what has proved to be as rich a country as can be found upon the globe. A motley crowd they were! Clad only in the garb of the hunter, and armed with the clumsy flint-lock rifle, the tomahawk and the long knife. But each man felt that he had a mission to perform, and under the leadership of the "Hannibal of the West," he knew not defeat.

At the falls of the Ohio the army of backwoodsmen halted and camped on "Corn Island" opposite the present site of Louisville. Here the settlers who had accompanied the expedition decided to remain and build their homes. Colonel Clark drilled his soldiers here, then boldly informed them of his secret commission from Governor Henry to attack the British post

at Kaskaskia. Cheers from the soldiers followed the announcement. Clark wisely decided to make the journey by land, and therefore hid his little flotilla near the mouth of the Tennessee and began his journey through the tangled forest. This journey was filled with dangers and difficulties, but on the night of July 4, 1778, he surprised the garrison and captured the fort and the town. By a masterful management he brought all the inhabitants to take the oath of allegiance to the United States—and that without shedding blood. The British colors were lowered, and in their place the "Old Blue Flag" of Virginia was hoisted. Without fighting, the garrison of Cahokia, a few miles up the Mississippi, also surrendered. Then quickly followed the surrender of Vincennes, on the Wabash, 240 miles distant.

Vincennes at this time was deserted by most of the British, as the governor-general, Hamilton, had returned to Detroit. But on learning of its capture by Colonel Clark and his backwoodsmen, and also that Kaskaskia and Cahokia were in his possession, Hamilton hastened to Vincennes with a large body of British regulars and Indian allies. He found the fort in possession of just two men—Captain Helm and a soldier. The captain placed a cannon at the open gate and demanded the honors of war if the fort was to be surrendered. The request was granted and two men marched out between rows of British soldiers and Indians.

Hamilton again took command of the fort, but as it was now the dead of winter, decided to await the coming of spring before attacking Kaskaskia. But Clark was informed by his faithful Spanish friend, Colonel Vigo, who loaned Clark nearly \$20,000 to aid in this campaign, that Hamilton had sent most of his men home for the winter, with the intention of recalling them early in the spring for an attack on Kaskaskia. Clark at once marched against Hamilton, a long and dangerous journey. The streams were filled with floating ice, the meadows and valleys were full of water and the ground was swampy and irregular. Often the men had to wade four or five miles at a stretch, through water to their waists. Food became scarce and the men were falling from sickness. But fortunately for them they captured a canoe from some squaws, and in it they found a goodly quantity of buffalo meat, corn, tallow and kettles. This revived the weak and gave them all added courage to press on to the attack.

At last they camped on a small area of dry ground within sight of Vincennes. Hamilton was not aware of the approach of any enemy, and consequently felt secure in his stronghold. When night fell upon the camp, Colonel Clark led his men in a bold rush upon the town. The people of Vincennes were most heartily tired of British rule, and they welcomed the Americans. After some sharp fighting Hamilton agreed to meet Clark in a church and arrange terms. The valiant Clark would listen to no proposition from this "murderer of defenseless women and children" but unconditional surrender. The next day Hamilton's men, 79 in number, marched out and laid down their arms. The American colors were again hoisted over "Old Vincennes," and the fort was rebaptized with a new name, "Fort Patrick Henry." To the good name of George Rogers Clark also belongs

the great work of the invasion of the rich country of the Shawnees, and the defeat of the Miamis. This successful campaign gave to Clark undisputed control of all the Illinois country and the rich valley of the Wabash. In fact he was the unquestioned master of the country from Pennsylvania to the "Father of Waters," and from the Ohio to the Great Lakes.

By the treaty of Paris, 1783, at the close of the Revolutionary war, this great area, now consisting of five states, was transferred from Great Britain to the United States. To the hero of this expedition America owes an enduring monument. But we have not always rewarded our great men in due measure. It is said that George Rogers Clark was allowed to pass his last years in poverty and neglect. His death came in 1818.

For a long time it was doubtful to what state this newly acquired region belonged. Virginia claimed nearly all of it—and certainly her claim was a strong one. Massachusetts, New York and Connecticut each laid claim also to parts of this territory. But Delaware, New Jersey and Maryland absolutely refused to enter the Union unless all the other states gave up their claims to congress. Their contention was this: Should Virginia, or any other state, be given the whole or even a great part of this vast area, she would then have too much power. Therefore, all claims, they said, should be surrendered by these states to congress for the general good. This firm stand on the part of these three small states finally prevailed, and all claims, save certain reservations, were given up to the general government. It was many years, however, before the Indian tribes gave up their rich hunting grounds to the white men. We cannot find heart to censure them for this, for it was no small matter for the savage son of the forest to yield the land of his birth and the bones of his fathers to the encroachments of alien foes. The treatment given these original owners of the soil of God's broad footstool will ever bring the blush of shame to every honest American for these lands were taken from them by misrepresentation, dishonesty and overwhelming force.

Senator John Sherman—Ohio's great senator—always claimed that the government never kept a single treaty made with the Indian. Is it any wonder, then, that we find the Sacs, the Foxes, the Ottawas, the Winnebagoes, the Wyandottes, the Shawnees and the Kickapoos making a last desperate struggle to retain their happy hunting grounds?

The story of this last long effort by these tribes centers around the one chief who towers above all others in this country, as Mt. Blanc towers among the foothills of the plains, viz: Black Hawk, a chief of the Sacs and Foxes. He was born in 1767, in the Indian village of Saukenuk, on the north bank of the Rock river, about a mile above its mouth. At the age of nineteen, upon the death of his father, who was killed in battle, he "fell heir to the medicine bag of his forefathers," and for fifty years was the only leader of his people—the last savage patriot to defend his land against the irresistible force of civilization. Black Hawk was a born warrior and leader of warriors. His great grandfather was a mighty chief before him—the celebrated old Thunder, who more than a hundred years before had

led his fierce people—the Sacs—from the northern shores of the St. Lawrence to the rich valleys of Rock river and the Wisconsin.

Black Hawk taught his people a rude form of agriculture, and they made a garden of Rock Island. Until the unfair and one-sided treaty was made by the authorities at St. Louis in 1804 for a narrow strip of land along the great river, in order to work the mines of lead there, he was a friend of the Americans. But he never would acknowledge the rights of this treaty by which the valuable lands of his people were filched from them. This had been accomplished by loading the four chiefs who had been sent to St. Louis to secure the honorable release of a Sac warrior imprisoned for killing a vicious backwoodsman in a quarrel, with gaudy presents, and filling them with whiskey. In addition, they were made flattering promises, and under these various influences they finally consented to give the American commander—the representative of the American—certain parts of their country on two rivers—the Illinois and the Mississippi. It was also promised, on the part of the president of the United States to pay the Sacs \$1,000 per year for his valuable grant. These chiefs had no right to make any treaty, though they thought by thus complying with the wishes of the white chief they would gain his good will, and save the life of the Sac warrior whom they had been sent to aid. Instead, however, they saw him led out and shot to death—murdered without a trial—in the very land over which the ordinance of 1787 had expressly stipulated: "The utmost good faith shall always be observed toward the Indians; their lands and their property shall never be taken from them without their consent; and in their property, rights and liberty they shall never be invaded or disturbed, unless in just and lawful wars authorized by congress, but laws founded in justice and humanity shall from time to time be made for preventing wrongs being done them and for preserving peace and friendship with them.

From this one abuse originated the Black Hawk war. But it was augmented by many other causes of even greater fragrance and dishonor. False reports about this great chief were spread far and wide, and the government sent an army against him. Our own great Lincoln formed, when a mere youth, a militia company, and marched to the supposed scene of "the great Indian uprising." Black Hawk, who never really meant to fight the Americans, but had long borne in silence his deep wrongs, was captured, through the treachery of the Winnebagoes, and imprisoned. His tribes—men, helpless women and children—were ruthlessly shot down or drowned in the Mississippi, the very river upon whose banks they had so long hunted, lived and loved. After a long imprisonment in Jefferson barracks in Missouri, he was taken to Washington, where President Andrew Jackson held an interview with him. When asked by the President why he had attempted to make war against the Americans, he answered: "I am a man and you are another. I took up the hatchet to avenge injuries which could no longer be borne." The great President sent him back to live in peace with the few remaining people of his race, upon the plains of Iowa, where he died in



1838. Thus was closed forever, in the old northwest, the efforts of the Red Man to retain the lands and hunting grounds of his fathers.

The Greenville treaty between the United States and the Wyandots, Miamis, Delawares, Shawnees, Chippewas, Weas, Pottawatomies, Eel Rivers, Kickapoos, Plankinshaws and Kaskaskias was made Aug. 3, 1795, and virtually ended the sanguinary troubles between the whites and the Indians in this part of Ohio. It was in substance as follows:

The boundary line established May 3, 1895, between the United States and the Indians began at the mouth of Cuyahoga river, and thence up the same to the portage, between that and the Tuscarawas branch of the Muskingum; thence down the branch to the crossing place above Fort Lawrence; thence westerly to a fork of that branch of the Great Miami river running into the Ohio at or near which fork stood Loramie's store, and where commences the portage between the Miami of the Ohio and St. Marys river, which is a branch of the Miami which runs into Lake Erie; thence a westerly course to Fort Recovery, which stands on a branch of the Wabash; thence southwesterly in a direct line to the Ohio so as to intersect that river opposite the mouth of Kentucky or Cuttawa river.

As an evidence of good faith the Indian tribes ceded lands along the treaty line one tract six miles square at or near Loramie's store in Shelby county. The tribes were to receive \$20,000 and a perpetual annuity of \$9,500. This treaty had more to do with the abandonment of Ohio by the Indians for lands and reservations beyond the Mississippi than anything else. The only one left in Shelby county who still survives is a wooden aborigine in front of a cigar store somewhat weather beaten and disfigured but still in the ring.

## CHAPTER V

### GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

*Situation and Boundaries of Shelby County—Its Elevation—Topography—Drainage and Soil—Rainfall—The Loramie Reservoir—The Drift—Boulders—Remains of Human Art—Extinct Animals—Bedded Stone—The Niagara Formation—Physical Features.*

This county is situated in the second tier of counties from the boundary line between Indiana and Ohio, and about half-way of the state from north to south. It is bounded on the north by Auglaize county, on the east by Logan and Champaign, on the south by Miami, and on the west by Darke and Auglaize. The county seat is Sidney. The water-shed between the Maumee and Miami river systems is partly in the northern part of this county. The road known as the Kettler turnpike, in a general way, may be regarded as marking the line of the water-shed, at least for some miles of its course, nearest the Loramie reservoir. The water-shed bears to the northeast, after leaving this county, into Hardin and Wyandot counties.

ELEVATION OF THE COUNTY—At Cincinnati, low water in the Ohio river is 432 feet above tide-water, and the water in the Sidney feeder is 512 feet above low water in the Ohio, or 945 feet above tide-water. The greatest elevation yet measured in the county is 134 feet, on the Tawawa turnpike, east of the Miami river. The line between this county and Champaign, on this turnpike, is 121 feet above the water in the feeder. The greatest elevation on the line of the Stewart turnpike is 121 feet, and on the line between Shelby and Logan counties 111 feet above the water in the canal. On the Infirmary turnpike the greatest elevation is 87 feet, and at the end of this road, on the line between this county and Miami, it is 40 feet below the level of the canal. On the St. Marys turnpike, about two miles from Sidney, the highest point is reached at 112 feet above the water in the canal. The bottom of the reservoir is about eight feet above the water in the canal. The main canal extends entirely across the county, running in a northwesterly direction from a point on the southern boundary line about midway of the county, from east to west. The Sidney feeder is twelve miles in length, and extends from Port Jefferson to Lockington, and is the channel through which the water from the great reservoir at Lewistown reaches the summit level of the canal. The Sidney feeder and the main canal above Lockington are on the same level, and the water from the Lewistown reservoir flows indifferently north or south. The summit-

level of the Miami and Erie canal is, therefore, the same as that of the Sidney feeder—944 feet above the level of the sea. The highest land in the county (so far as any measurements have extended) is 1,078 feet above tide-water, and 646 feet above low water in the Ohio river at Cincinnati. To aid in the comparison of the elevations in this county with other portions of the state, I will here give a few measurements taken from Prof. Orton's Report of the Geology of Highland county, in the volume for 1870, p. 258. At the head-waters of the Scioto and Miami rivers, in Logan county, an elevation is given, on the authority of Colonel C. Whittlesey, of 1,344 feet, which is 266 feet greater than any in Shelby county. A measurement still greater is given of a summit in Richland county, 1,389 feet above the level of the sea. The highest land in the state, so far as known, is a point about three miles northeast of Bellefontaine. Its elevation above the sea, as determined by Prof. F. C. Hill, for the Geological Survey, is 1,544 feet. The summit-level of the canal in this county is 400 feet lower than the watershed between the Miami and Scioto rivers in Logan county. This statement will show the resources of the canal for water supply in this direction. The surface drainage and spring-water of a surface of about 900 square miles, must be available at the head-waters of the Miami as a supply for the canal above the summit-level—one-half of which, with other resources, would float a tonnage greater than was ever floated in the canal.

Topography of the County—From the preceding statements it will be seen that the surface of the county is little diversified in regard to elevation. There are no hills or deep valleys giving variety to the climate or the productions, or producing picturesqueness of scenery. While the surface is everywhere rolling and well drained, the difference in level from the lowest to the highest point within the limits of the county is but little over 200 feet. The water from the summit-level is locked down southward from Lockington altogether by six locks, an aggregate of 67 feet, in detail as follows, commencing at the lowest lock: No. 48, from the Ohio river, the lift is ten feet; passing over the Loranmie by an aqueduct, Lock 49 has a lift of eleven feet; the 50th and 51st have each a lift of eleven feet; the 52d and 53d each twelve feet—in all 67 feet. If the water in the bed of the river at the county line is twelve feet below the level of the canal, that would make the lowest point in the county 79 feet below the highest level of the canal; add 134 feet for the greatest elevation of any point in the county above the canal, and we have the difference in level between the lowest and highest points in the county, which is 213 feet. This calculation includes the valley of the Miami. If we leave this out of the calculation, the variation in level of the upland, the larger part of the county by far, would not be more than about 125 feet.

The surface of the county, excluding the valley of the Miami, would average about 75 feet above the water in the canal. Before the water-courses had worn their channels in the drift, the surface, nearly level, sloped gently toward the south from the dividing ridge; north of that line still less toward the north.

The drainage is very simple. The water which falls on the surface of the county is drained off by the Miami river and its tributaries, with the exception of a strip north of the Kettler turnpike, of a width of about two miles, and but little greater in the other dimension. This is drained into the Maumee. The Miami flows from the county on the south at a point about midway from east to west. Near this point it receives its most important tributary, the Loramie, coming from the northwest, along whose course in the county the Miami canal is conducted. This tributary, besides performing an important part in the drainage of the county, is immensely valuable in relation to the canal, the Loramie reservoir being formed in this stream. Coming into the county about centrally on the north, a small stream, it moves sluggishly over the flat district which forms the dividing ridge, and gradually moving its course to the west, reaches a point in its journey far to the western part of the county, where its course is turned to the south in connection with important accessions to its volume of water; cutting a decided channel and receiving important accessions from both sides, it gradually returns eastward to midway of the county, where it debouches into the Miami. It is in the upper part of its course, just where it leaves its sluggish meanderings on the high land of the water-shed, that the important reservoir which receives its name from the creek is situated. There is a descent of 75 or 80 feet from the bottom of the reservoir to the mouth of the Loramie. The eastern part of the county is drained by other tributaries of the Miami. The Tawawa, formed by the junction of the Leatherwood and Mosquito creeks, is an excellent mill stream, and drains the principal part of the county east of the Miami river. From the appearance of this stream in the dry months of July and August, I conclude it is largely fed by springs, as the volume of water was kept up to a good stage when many other streams had failed. There are some copious springs in the county, but they do not form such a feature as they do in some other counties situated at a lower level. As might be expected, the high land west of the Miami has fewer and less copious springs than are found in less elevated localities in the county. In conclusion of this subject, the drainage of the county by natural channels is ample.

The character of the soil out of the river and creek bottoms depends upon the nature of the underlying drift. The drift will be spoken of more particularly further on. The soil in the river bottoms is composed largely of partially decomposed vegetable matter. There is nothing peculiar about this class of soils in this county, except that on some of the tributaries of the Miami, as Plum creek, there is an unusual body of it compared with the size of the creek. The explanation of this seems to be that in the upper course of this stream especially, the fall in the bed of the creek is often very slight, and the drainage was very imperfect. Before the country was cleared the water was still more impeded by rubbish and undergrowth, and it stood on the ground for at least a portion of the year. Large accumulations of vegetable mould took place, which the size of the streams, as seen today, do not seem adequate to produce. This mould is not alluvium, but the result of

vegetable growth on the spot. It has not been washed thither by the water, but the vegetation which made it, grew up in the swamps which existed along this sluggish watercourse. The upland soil in the county is naturally divided into two classes, one called *black soil*, composed of the clay of the drift, mixed with a greater or less proportion of vegetable mould; the other is *light-colored*, "thin" soil, with little vegetable matter. The dark-colored soil is related in origin to that of the creek bottoms or flats, just referred to. Wherever the water formed swampy districts, there accumulated vegetable matter. Some of these places were yet swampy at the first settlement of the country, and were shunned as unhealthy localities; but others, often extensive, were no longer swampy, but from channels being worn through them or out of them, were dry, and invited, not in vain, the early settler. The face of the country may have changed so that the land is readily drained at present and this still be the true explanation of these black lands in this and adjoining counties. Moisture made rank and abundant vegetation, while it also impeded its entire decay. The partially decayed vegetable products accumulated, and mingling with the clay below, formed that rich, dark-brown loam. But there is unfortunately a large area of thin and light-colored soil in the county than of the soil just described. This thin soil is not peculiar to this county, but is found in other counties situated in like manner. Its color shows it to be quite destitute of the products of vegetation. It differs equally from the yellow clay soils of the uplands of Butler, Warren and Hamilton counties, and seems less capable of being made productive. The clay of this class of soils is impermeable to water, and is so situated that water has drained off readily, and has not stood upon it in natural swamps. The soil is composed of a fine-grained material and is compact, and sheds water like a roof. How the circumstances in which the fine-grained material was deposited differed from those in which other drift deposits were made, I will not undertake to state. This soil seems to have been exhausted rather than enriched by ages of primeval vegetation. What chemical analysis would show it to lack of fertilizing material, I cannot say, but the deficiency of limestone pebbles in it would indicate that it might be lacking in lime, and it has not had the advantage of being overspread with decaying boulders, which add to a soil potash and other fertilizing ingredients. It seems to have been the least fine sediment deposited from receding water—lifeless water.

This soil, lying so as to drain away water, and not of a nature to absorb and retain it, became covered slowly with vegetation. But it always lacked that rankness and exuberance of vegetation which lower and moister places possessed. Still many, countless generations of plants and unknown crops of trees have grown and decayed here without leaving behind them much vegetable matter commingled with the soil. What has become of the substance of plants that it has not accumulated in the soil? The answer must be that the growth upon this soil have passed back to their original elements—have gone as they came—in the form of water and gases. The bulk of vegetation is composed of water (oxygen and hydrogen), carbonic acid

(carbon and oxygen), and nitrogen. When vegetation decays these materials are evolved, and pass off into the atmosphere. It is when decay is impeded that vegetable matter accumulates in the soil. Mould is partially decayed vegetation. When vegetable products are protected from the atmosphere by water their decay is retarded and impeded, and certain compounds are formed of a complex character, which do not so readily undergo decomposition. This is what we call vegetable mould, mixed with clay—loam. In dry situations, exposed to the action of the atmosphere, logs, grass, leaves, straw, utterly disappear and leave no trace behind. The same material heaped together, in wet situations, does not entirely decay, as every one must have observed, but gradually disintegrates, and becomes a uniform mass of dark-colored matter. A cool situation makes this process more sure and complete. Partially decayed vegetation becomes mould, muck or peat, according to the material, the location and extent of the process of decay. These vegetable compounds do not decay readily, but do gradually, and hence results a common experience in the use of muck as manure. Until a dissolution of the muck occurs, it will not nurture vegetation, hence it is often necessary for it to be exposed a season or two to the action of the atmosphere before it becomes sufficiently advanced in decomposition to give up its elements of fertility to vegetation. My conclusion is that this light-colored soil, not being a good absorber of water, and being so situated as to drain it off readily, the vast amount of vegetation, in different forms, which has grown upon it has entirely decayed and passed off in the forms in which its elements first came to it, namely, as gases.

Here is the place to speak of one of the most interesting features of this upland soil in the county—the fine beds of peat which mark the line of the water-shed. Peat is a vegetable product—it is an accumulation of vegetable matter in circumstances in which decay is arrested. A cool climate and a moist situation are the conditions in which peat is formed. On the scarcely sloping tract, lying just where the drainage, being both ways, was effective neither way, and where the surface was formed of a soil quite impermeable to water, we find to-day several extensive beds of peat of good quality. They lie in Van Buren township, and near the line of the new Kettler turnpike. Mr. William Kettler owns about 140 acres of peat; in section ten of the same township are 140 acres more; in section fourteen, ten acres; in section twenty-two, about thirty acres, and smaller quantities in one or two other places, being over 300 acres in all. It is not certainly known how deep these beds are; it is supposed they will average at least ten feet. I did not learn the facts upon which this belief rests, but, from the character of the men from whom I obtained the information, I feel that the statement can be relied upon. Where I examined the peat, on Mr. Kettler's farm, although large ditches had been conducted through it to drain it, there was no place where the bottom could be seen, nor the distance to it from the bottom of the ditch be ascertained, by such explorations as we could make with a fence-stake.

On this water-shed the effect of continued washing is seen in a slight

furrowing of the surface into broad and shallow troughs, leading toward the drainage of Loramic creek. Suppose that at a time when all the region was densely covered with forest and protected from the sun's rays, the falling of a tree, or the erection of a dam by beavers should have cut off the passage of the water, bogs of greater or less extent and depth would have been formed. In these vegetation would soon flourish suited to such localities—plants which flourish in and near moisture—coarse grasses and vines, luxuriant ferns, and particularly the sphagnous mosses which are known to compose so large a proportion of peat-beds. We can hardly conceive of the rapidity with which the accumulation of vegetable material takes place in such circumstances. The remains of beaver dams are still confidently pointed out by residents there, and the traditions of the county are numerous, and corroborative in regard to the existence of these ingenious animals at a time not long antedating the memory of the "oldest inhabitant." In complete confirmation of this general conviction, I have in my possession teeth of the beaver found in the county.

The peat is of a uniform consistence and of a drab color, where freshly exposed. On the surface, where it has been drained, it is sufficiently decomposed to nourish the most luxuriant vegetation which I saw in the county—vines, grasses, briars, bushes, and ferns, and, where under cultivation, the finest of corn crops. The beds are purely vegetable; neither on the surface, nor beneath it, could there be distinguished a particle of earth mixed with the peat. Being about at the Summit, there was no source from which earth could have been washed into the forming peat. When dry it burns readily with a cheerful blaze and rather strong odor, glowing like the embers of leaves in a draft. It is not, however, used as fuel, on account of the great abundance of wood in that region and its distance from any market, and doubtless the day is remote when it will be in demand as fuel on account of the abundance of coal even more convenient to the great markets than these beds of peat. The great productiveness of the porous, friable upper crust, where the beds have been drained, suggests a use for this material of great interest. It is contiguous to these great beds of peat that the thin, light-colored soils, so destitute of vegetable mould, abound. Here is a supply, not easily exhausted, of the very material which that soil needs. If these beds average ten feet in thickness, there is enough vegetable matter in them to cover, to the depth of one-half a foot, nearly ten square miles of land. I pointed out to Mr. William Kettler a danger which threatens the destruction of those beds which are perfectly drained. He has dug large trenches through his extensive beds for the purpose of drying them to bring them into cultivation. Where the peat becomes dry it is porous, light, and friable. It requires no breaking up to receive the crop, but is only furrowed out to secure precision in the rows of corn that it may be worked with the plough. The process of drying must continue from year to year where the system of drainage is complete. The result may be disastrous if such a bed of inflammable matter is exposed, as it must be, to the malice or carelessness of any one who might set fire to it in the extremely dry

weather of our late summer seasons. Already, imperfectly dried out as the beds are yet, where persons have carelessly allowed fire to catch in the surface of the peat, deep holes have been burned, extending, doubtless, to the undried substratum. No means that could be brought to bear in those regions would be effectual in quenching a fire in one of those peat beds if they are once thoroughly dried out. The remedy I would suggest is one of prevention—it is to close up the system of drains during the winter, allowing the water to stand in them, saturating the beds completely. The drains being opened in the spring, the beds of peat would not become fully dried out during summer. By retaining moisture they will bring better crops and be safe from conflagration.

The Rain-fall—This county is near the border of the area marked in the "Rain-Chart" of the Smithsonian institution in which the average of rain-fall is forty inches. In the absence of other reliable data, any indefinite impressions that the amount is less than this must be disregarded. We are apt to judge by the effects; for example, the state of the crops, whereas the larger portion of the rain-fall is at a season when no visible influence can reach the crops from it. Plainly, all the rain and snow-water, which runs off the frozen crust of the ground in the winter does not affect, one way or the other, the crops of the ensuing summer. The same can be said of the most of the rain, which runs off as soon as it falls, at any season.

An interest attaches to the amount of water which falls, in various forms, in this and the adjoining counties, particularly to the northeast, on account of the requirements of the canal. Data are wanting for determining the amount of water carried off by the canal and the river from the area above the summit-level of the canal in this and the adjoining counties on the northeast. The nature of the soil is such that it will shed as large a proportion of the water which falls upon it as any other soil in the state. An immense quantity flows from above the highest level of the canal without any advantage to the canal. It is equally true that a much greater proportion of it could be utilized than actually finds its way into the canal—enough, certainly, to remove the question of the supply of water out of the discussion concerning the abandonment of the canal.

The Loramie Reservoir—This body of water, covering at present but little over 2,000 acres of land, lies wholly in Shelby county, and although not one of the largest of the state reservoirs, nor the most important, still it is exceedingly valuable to successful navigation in the summer and early fall. The bottom of the reservoir is about eight feet above the summit-level of the canal. It is supplied by the drainage of about 65 or 70 square miles. Being near the water-shed, the surface from which water can be collected into the reservoir is limited, and less water comes from springs than would be the case in many other localities not so high. While the main reliance is on drainage from a limited surface, still such is the nature of the surface-soil, that a much larger proportion of the water falls upon the surface runs off at once than would run from soil of a more porous character, or one underlaid by large beds of clean gravel, or sand, or porous rock. The



construction of roads, drains, and ditches, as well as the clearing away of the timber and the cultivation of the soil, cause a more rapid flowing away of the water which falls upon the surface. Formerly the reservoir received more water from the gradual draining of the surface; this maintained it at a good stage for a longer time, and enabled it to furnish a greater supply during those months of the dry season when water is usually low in the canal. If the capacity of the reservoir could be increased so as to hold more of the water which falls in the winter months, its usefulness might be greatly increased, for instead of being maintained in good stage until late in the summer by the gradual running out of the water from the extensive swamps of an early day, it is now filled up by the rapid surface drainage, and to furnish as much water when most wanted, must have a capacity to hold at once all that comes into it in the winter and spring. In 2,000 acres of land there are 87,120,000 square feet. If it is filled, during the year, with eight feet in depth of water, there would be 696,960,000 cubic feet; allowing that one-half is lost by evaporation, soakage, and waste from imperfect bulkheads, there would remain 348,480,000 cubic feet for the uses of the canal—enough to lock down, with the present size of locks, 80 boats from the summit level every day of the year. With 65 square miles of drainage, from which the reservoir must receive its supply, how much of the forty inches annual rain-fall would be necessary to furnish this amount? Less than five inches. A much larger proportion of the 40 inches than this certainly flows from the surface of the ground.

It is but justice to the people of the county to call attention to some facts connected with the history and present condition of Loramie reservoir. As it is, the people of the county do not feel kindly disposed toward it. The ground covered by the water of this reservoir was covered in part by the original forest when it was constructed. The forest was not removed, but the trees surrounded by water died, and in the course of time fell down, and now lie in great numbers beneath the water when the water is high, and partly out of it when the water is low. This exposure of the timber to the air in the late summer and the autumn months causes, it is believed, the generation of a miasm which pervades the whole region, rendering it unhealthy. The exposure of the logs to the atmosphere, it is believed, also, has been the cause of the destruction of many tons of fine fish during the past two seasons. It seems, and who will not say with justice, to the people of the county, that the state should do something to remedy the evils which they suffer from the causes just mentioned. They think that the reservoir should be an attractive rather than a repulsive body of water, that it should be a benefit rather than an injury to the interests of the county. Now, when it is borne in mind that there are hundreds of thousands of cubic feet of logs and other sediment in the reservoir, and that all displaces as many cubic feet of water, it is after all a question worthy to be considered, whether it would not be economy to remove all this rubbish to have its room occupied by water every year. How many hundred, perhaps thousand, times would the water-soaked forest which lies beneath the reser-

voir, with the other vast accumulations of vegetable matter and mud, fill one of the locks of the canal? This would be the measure of gain each year resulting from the removal of all this material from the reservoir—for every lock-full of logs a lock-full of water would be gained. This would remove a nuisance from the county, and in some degree compensate for the withdrawal of so large an area of land from cultivation, from improvement, from tax paying. The importance of the reservoirs of the state as sources of supply of fish, deserves to be mentioned here; not only the actual amount of fish for the table to be procured from them, but as sources from which the waters of the state may be restocked and kept supplied with young fish. The reservoirs are at the head-waters of our principal rivers, and, with the present knowledge of artificial fish-breeding, could be made of immense value to the state as sources of supply of fish for the rivers of the state.

The amount of water which could be made available for the canal depends upon the area of land which is above the level of the canal. All that part of the county, embracing about nine townships, which lies on the east and northeast of the main canal, and west and northwest of the Sidney feeder, is above the highest "level" of the canal—it will average about 75 feet above the canal. Of course it would be possible to gather many times more water from this area than could be contained in Loramie reservoir. While all this area could not be made available, yet there must be much of it which could be, were it considered a matter of sufficient importance to have it done. Considering, then, alone, the great area, both in this county and in the counties above this, about the head-waters of the Miami river, there should be no question as to the abundance of the supply of water above the summit-level of the canal to continue it as one of the most important avenues of commerce of the state.

The Drift—The level of the canal at Sidney is about 30 feet above the rock surface. Add to this distance the ascertained elevation above the canal of any point in the county, and it will give approximately the thickness of the drift or clay, gravel, and bowlder deposits. This would make the greatest thickness of the drift on the Tawawa turnpike 164 feet above bedded rock. Within about two miles of Sidney, on the turnpike to St. Marys, the elevation measures 112 feet above the canal at Sidney. Add to this 30 feet and we have 142, which may be very confidently considered the depth of the drift at this place. It is true these figures may not be the exact measure of the distance from the surface down to the solid rock. Other formations which are known to occur north of this county, and which overlie the formation which occurs here, may underlie the deep drift of the northern part of this county, but this not not certainly known to be the case. On the south, at the line between this and Miami county, on the Infirmary turnpike, the grade falls 40 feet below the level of the canal, which is ten feet lower than the top of the rock near Sidney. By the course of the river it will be seen that there is a dip on the surface of the rock as we go southward. The canal rises 152 feet from Tippecanoe (below Lock

39) to the feeder at Sidney. While accurate measurements were not taken of the difference in elevation of the top of the Clinton stone in the neighborhood of Tippecanoe, and the surface of the canal, yet some measurements which I recorded make the distance about 60 feet. Taking this from 152 makes this formation about 92 feet at Tippecanoe below the level of the Sidney feeder; whereas the top of the Clinton, where this formation is last seen above Bogg's mill-seat, near the end of the bridge over the river, as before stated, is near 60 feet below the canal, these figures would give to the Clinton a rise in level with the horizon of about 30 feet in that distance.

The surface of bedded rock underlying the drift in Shelby county is doubtless worn unevenly, in some places rising above the level indicated by the top rock, on the Miami, below Sidney, in others sinking more or less below that level—perhaps, in places, greatly below.

Rising sometimes to 164 feet, maintained generally at a level ranging from figures but a little lower than this, down to 75 feet (seldom going lower), we may conclude that there is an average depth of drift in the county of 100 feet. This depth of drift is not equaled in any of the counties which lie south of this. We are here on the line which bounds the deep drift on the south.

The opportunities to ascertain the nature of the drift are numerous in the excavations made in constructing the canal and railroads, especially the Indianapolis and Bellefontaine branch of the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati, and Indianapolis railroad, which runs at a considerably lower level than the Dayton and Michigan road, which runs through the county in a north and south direction. At the point where the east and west road runs below the track of the Dayton and Michigan, on the western border of Sidney, a good opportunity is afforded of seeing the nature of the drift for a distance of 30 or 40 feet below the surface. About one mile east of the bridge over the river, on this road, is a still deeper cut. There is little stratification observed in the deposit as seen through these deep cuts. Sand and gravel largely predominate in the composition of the drift as seen here, mixed with clay and numerous granitic or quartz bowlders, varying in size from mere pebbles to masses containing from 10 to 20 cubic feet. The gravel, sand, and bowlders are distributed through the clay, and all are lying in confusion. It seems to me safe to say that fully 25 feet in thickness of clear gravel, were it separated from the clay, would be found in the drift throughout this county—a quantity so inconceivably great that I will not undertake to express it in figures, more than to say that it would yield 25,000,000 cubic yards to the square mile. But this gravel is too much commingled with clay to make it available, in general, for ballasting or road-making, and with all this the county is not abundantly supplied with good gravel for such uses, well distributed in different localities. Enough has, however, been found to construct a system of free turnpikes not surpassed, in extent or excellence, by those of any county of similar size and situation in the state, although the material has had to be hauled, in some instances, for inconvenient distances. I will make special mention of one of the roads,

constructed by Mr. D. W. Pampell as engineer—I refer to the one called at Sidney “the St. Marys road,” on the line of an old road formerly projected to connect Sidney with the town of St. Marys. This road, of excellent width, careful and full grading, and well graveled, is carried on a *perfectly straight line* for a distance which falls short by but a few rods of 13 miles, wholly in this county. The numerous excellent roads which have been recently constructed through all portions of the county must have an important influence on its future development.

The total number of miles of turnpike roads in Shelby county, at the present time is 159, of which only 18 miles are toll-roads. The free turnpikes extend to all parts of the county and intersect nearly every important neighborhood, and are the means of the development now seen in progress of the material, moral, and intellectual interests of the county. The cost of these roads I ascertained, from the county auditor, Mr. Guthrie, who kindly furnished me with the statement, to be about \$4,000 per mile, or an aggregate of \$564,000 for the 141 miles of free turnpike road within the county. While there has been found an abundance of gravel for these roads, it has not always been convenient, and the distance it has been necessary to haul it has enhanced the cost considerably. But for this expense the people of the county have obtained good roads, carefully laid out, and well graded and drained.

Washed Gravel—Wherever the drift has been washed into troughs or valleys, more or less gravel has been deposited in beds, generally at the junction of two such valleys. Usually these depressions are far from any water-course that could in the least affect them at present. They are on the higher levels where no streams of water exist now, and show the effect of the washing of the water which once covered over the whole surface as it ebbed and flowed when it was gradually subsiding, or they are more visibly related to the water-course of to-day and serve to mark the stations where the water stood successively during the time in which the deep valleys, in which the streams now flow, were being excavated. In this county, the gravel of the higher beds is less abundant, is not so coarse or so free from clay. This must have resulted from the condition of the higher deposits of the drift, in which a gravel of a smaller grain was found; as if there had been coarser gravel in this portion of the drift, not it, but the finer, would have been the sooner washed onward, and the coarser would have been left in the higher beds. Above and separated from the portion of the valleys of the water-courses, particularly of the river, affected by the action of the water at any stage, at the present time, are some fine beds of washed gravel, showing the effect of moving water in varying circumstances of force and velocity. Near Port Jefferson is the best example of gravel beds of this description in the county. It occurs at the junction of two valleys now threaded by two brooks, the shrunken successors of broad streams of former remote ages. Here are the wide channels which they cut, wide compared with the small paths of the creeks which now meander by a struggling course to reach the river channel. At the point of land where these two waters joined, and

where their streams mingled with that of the Miami, is a grand deposit of alternating layers of gravel and sand, heaped up 30 or 40 feet deep and exposed now, by the removal of the extreme point to a width of about 100 feet. When one or the other, or both, the streams which excavated the unequal channels (for one greatly exceeds the other in magnitude) which join at this point, were swollen and were carrying onward a load of sand and gravel, as well as clay, and meeting here, and one spreading over the valley of the other, if unswollen, or both widening as they entered the broad valley of the river and losing a part of their momentum and carrying power, they deposited a portion of their freight at the point of junction where the rapidity of the current was first checked. In these strata can be read the history of the currents which flowed here, and left their records, not in rocks, but in sands. There is first, in nearly horizontal layers, a succession of strata composed of clean gravel (the lowest exposed at the time of my visit, the lower had been covered previously), then one of coarse, gray sand; another next of fine sand; then ten feet of sand finely stratified; then to the top alternating layers of gravel and sand. After these layers now referred to were deposited, another deposit of clean gravel was made, not parallel with these, but covering the ends of all of them from the highest to the lowest. I will simply refer to another deposit of gravel, near the south end of the iron bridge over the river south of Sidney. This large accumulation is less available for road-making than it would have been had it not become so cemented together by a deposit of carbonate of lime. I distinguished from these beds of gravel that large accumulation, at a lower level, and underlying the "river bottom," or the "second bottom," exemplified by an accumulation of clean sand, used for building purposes, just below the west end of the railroad bridge, east of Sidney, over the Miami river, and perhaps underlying more or less the town of Sidney.

The broad excavation made by the Miami river through the drift of this county and the counties above, has exposed to the transporting action of water countless thousands of perches of sand and gravel which have been removed down the course of this river, and even into the Ohio and far down it, strewing its beaches with these materials so useful to man. Perhaps no water-course in the state has borne so much sand and gravel along its course and lodged it in places where it is accessible to man. This is a striking peculiarity of the Miami river; its broad terraces are underlain with a bed of the cleanest, finest gravel for road-making in quantities practically inexhaustible. I have but to cite the immense deposits beneath the alluvium at Middletown, on both sides of the river at Hamilton, and indeed along its whole course, culminating in that bed at Harrison junction, cut and exposed by the Indianapolis and Cincinnati railroad.

Boulders—while the transported rocks do not constitute a marked feature in Shelby county, still there are many of them. The largest boulder, however, that has yet come under my observation in the state lies near the

railroad, one mile east of Sidney. It contains 1,250 cubic feet, and weighs about 103 tons.

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Remains of Human Art—I did not see as many flint and stone implements among the people in this county as I have in some others, though such articles are not uncommon even here. There may be ancient mounds in the county, though I did not see any. Along the Miami river and other water-courses are localities where a variety of flint arrow-points and spear-points in considerable numbers have from time to time been found, though but few seem to have been preserved. Other classes of implements, as stone hammers and pestles, seem not to be common, and I did not see any place where indications were found which would lead any one to suppose that these or other implements had been manufactured there. The most favored localities for arrow-points are along the water-courses and on the highest points in the county. But the larger number are found on the river and its tributaries. It is worth remark that the indications in the position of the flints do not point to an extreme antiquity as the time of their manufacture. There are many places along our larger water-courses in the west where extensive manufactories of arrow-points, stone axes, and pestles, etc., have existed, and where pottery ware has been manufactured and burned. These localities have never before been disturbed by the inroads of the rivers, but are now being undermined and washed down for the first time. The implements in all stages of manufacture are found in great numbers; old bark peelers and pestles, which had been injured by use, or from some fault in original construction did not give satisfaction, were undergoing repair or remodeling; heaps of chips are found, and great numbers of lap-stones, hammers in connection with heartls, and remains of fire together with crockery, are found in these localities at no great depth below the present surface of the soil, where overflows are still a common occurrence. A very remote antiquity could not be ascribed to these remains of human art and industry from anything in their situation. In the course of a few centuries the rivers in the secular oscillations which they execute from bank to bank, a result of laws in constant operation, must disturb and redistribute, by the constant eating away of the bank, the whole of the alluvial deposit near its own level. Nothing is more constant, nothing more certain than the wear of an abrupt alluvial bank during high water, with a regularity which admits of calculation. The great number of such stone-tool manufactories, which are now disclosed along the course of the Ohio river, afford evidence that their age was not far back in gray antiquity. A few banks that are now crumbling might have escaped the erosion of the surging waters for a very long period; but it is incredible that so many as are now delivering up their relics of human art, their evidences of human industry and ingenuity, places in which for the first time since the ancient workman finally laid down his tools or kindled his fire upon his well-made hearth of bowlder pebbles, for the last time, should have escaped for indefinite ages just such action of the water as they are now yielding to.

Remains of Extinct Animals—A few bones of animals not now found in the state—as a few teeth of the beaver, and portions of the antlers of one or two elk, and some reports of discoveries of mammoth or mastodon remains—were all that came to my knowledge of fossils of this character. We may be prepared to hear of the discovery of such fossils in the peat beds, if they are ever much worked. Peat seems to possess the property of preserving the bodies of animals which become mired in it.

Bedded Stone—We come now to speak of the underlying consolidated strata which are exposed within the county. The only bedded stone found within Shelby county, lies in a narrow strip bordering the river, extending from the southern boundary of the county to within a mile of the town of Sidney. From the county line to a locality known as Boggs' Mill, wherever stone is seen *in situ*, it belongs to the formation called by geologists the Clinton. It is the stone which immediately underlies the building stone in the suburbs of Piqua, in Miami county, and which is burned into lime so extensively just south of that town. It possesses, in the locality in Shelby county referred to, all the characteristics by which the stone of this formation is so surely detected. The physical characteristics of being unevenly bedded, highly crystallized, of sandy texture, and of a rust color from the presence of iron, and withal a hard stone, here show themselves. The fossils common to the Clinton in the vicinity of Piqua, are here abundantly seen—*Halysites catenulata*, *Stromatopora*, *Asyringipora*, and some species of *Fovosites*. These were exposed on the surface. No fossil shells were to be seen. Fragments of crinoid stems seemed to compose a considerable portion of the rock, and several species of *Fenestella* abounded. This formation has never been quarried here, apparently, for any economical purpose. It is in the neighborhood of an excellent limestone belonging higher up, and which furnishes lime of the first quality. The Clinton formation furnishes no good building stone in this part of the state, and, while it makes the strongest kind of lime, it is hard to burn, and heats greatly in slaking, and sets rapidly when mixed. It is highly esteemed in paper-mills, where a strong lime is desired, as it more readily softens the material used in the manufacture of paper.

The next formation ascending, is that known as the Niagara. It is not seen here in actual contact with the preceding, as the exposure is not continuous; but within about a mile of the river, an outcrop of stone is observed on and near the banks of the river. A casual examination shows that a great change has taken place in the character of the stone. We have not only passed to a new formation, but into the upper strata of it. The stone is neither well stratified nor compact, and not suitable for building purposes. It is porous, comparatively soft, and very fossiliferous, and of a light blue color. It is burned here into an excellent lime, known locally as the Pontiac lime. The strata of the Niagara, so much prized for building purposes, found at Piqua, and also those found at Covington, Miami county, belong below this horizon. The superposition of this quality of stone upon that of the Covington quarries, is ocularly demonstrated on the Stillwater.

This river rises gradually up to the level of and above the stone of the Covington quarries above Covington. At the village of Clayton, on the Stillwater, about two miles north of Covington, the banks of the river are formed of the same strata as those from which the Pontiac lime is made, within about a mile of the last exposure of the Clinton, on the Great Miami. The last exposure of the Clinton on the Stillwater, is several miles south of Covington; and a familiar example of the Clinton stone may be given in the falls of the Panther creek. It will be seen that all that thickness of building stone about the town of Covington, and exhibited so well at the falls of Greenville creek, as well as that of the Piqua quarries, belongs above the Clinton and below the strata which first appear above it on the Miami, near where the "Pontiac" lime-kilns are situated. The inference follows, that if there is any good building stone within Shelby county, it will be found somewhere between Bogg's mill-seat and the Pontiac lime-kilns. The shortness of the distance, together with the slight fall in the river, would preclude the existence of any extensive strata in this locality. There may exist here a few feet of evenly layered rock, corresponding with the upper layers of the Covington stone; but the hope of very much good stone, even if any is found, is too slight to encourage much expense in searching for it. It will be thus seen that the Niagara thins out in this direction, especially the lower strata, while the upper strata maintain a considerable thickness. Indeed, it is possible that the upper strata of the Niagara lie here immediately upon the Clinton. The thickness of the strata is not known with certainty, but can be approximately made out. The Pontiac limestone is but little, if any, above the surface of water in the river in its lower layers, and a mile south of Sidney the top of it is about 25 feet above the water. With a fall of 50 feet in that distance, there would be a thickness of 75 feet of this quality of limestone. I think there is as much as this. We do not know that this is its greatest thickness, for it may rise higher under the drift in some places. It is a soft stone, and has, no doubt, been ploughed down by the forces which deposited the drift. It would not retain any marks of wearing forces on its surface. Although not valuable for building purposes, it contains an inexhaustible store of the best quality of lime. The lime manufactured from this stone is of a pure white when slaked, and is suitable for all purposes for which lime is used. From a previous volume of this Survey (1870, p. 449) I make an extract, showing the composition of the limestone taken from one of the quarries of this county. I will add the remark, that the locality from which the specimen submitted to examination was taken, is about midway between the lowest and the highest strata. I will say also, that from the appearance of the weathered surfaces of the stone at Dugan's quarries, I concluded that there was a larger quantity of oxide of iron in the stone of this locality, than would be found either above or below, especially below. The rusty color indicated the presence of iron. From the porous nature of the stone, I supposed the iron may have been filtered out of



water which has run through it. There was an entire absence of that rust color in the Pontiac quarry, and the same might be said of the quarries near Sidney.

	Silicious matter	Alumina and sesquioxide of iron	Carbonate of lime	Carbonate of magnesia	Total
Niagara, Sidney, Dugan's,	trace.	1.60	55.00	42.92	99.52
Niagara, Sidney, Dugan's	.20	.50	54.40	44.58	99.68
Holcomb's limestone, Spg'fl'd	.10	1.70	55.10	43.05	99.95
Frey's limestone, Springfield	.10	.20	54.70	44.93	99.93

It will be seen that there is little to choose between the best Springfield lime and the Shelby county lime. The former is a little nearer the best markets in Ohio, and enjoys the additional advantage of the competition of several independent lines of railroads leading to the best markets. The Shelby county lime could perhaps be burned a little cheaper on account of the lower price of fuel, but not enough so to overcome the disadvantage before referred to. When it shall be burned more extensively, which will be done when it can find a market at less expense of freight, it will become an important article of commerce between this county and other places.

#### PHYSICAL FEATURES

The county comprises an area of 413 square miles, or more than 256,000 acres. The soil is varied in character, but extremely fertile throughout the county. The county is bounded north by Auglaize, east by Logan and Champaign, south by Miami, and west by Darke and Auglaize counties. For the most part the surface may be called level, although the southern part and the lands adjacent to the Miami river and Loramie creek partake of a rolling character, sometimes deserving to be called hilly. The altitude is such that Lockington, within the county, marks the summit of the Miami and Erie canal, the waters from the Miami feeder being here diverted to both the north and south. The natural water-shed, however, is deflected southward for the whole county, for all natural streams find a final outlet through the Great Miami, which enters the county from the east and flowing to the southwest, crosses the line to immediately receive the waters of Loramie creek, which carries the drainage of the whole west side of the county. Owing to these larger streams and their smaller tributaries the drainage of the county is effected without great difficulty, although necessarily extensive. That artificial drainage is still carrying forward, but is so far complete as to reduce that which is yet to do to the level of mere auxiliary work. This is viewing the county as a whole, for when viewed by localities there will be found sections still calling for not the spade and tile alone, but for the axe as well. This applies perhaps more particularly to the northeast corner of the county, comprising a large fraction of Jackson township. Still a few years more will develop a system of drainage for the whole area, not only comprehensive, but also perfect. Of the streams, the Great Miami river and Loramie creek are the most important. In addition to these as contributing to the drain-

age must be mentioned Muchanippi, Turtle, Tawawa, Rush, Nine Mile, Brush, and Turkey Foot creeks, as well as Panther Run and Count's Run.

The Miami and Erie canal crosses the county from south to north, and affords shipping facilities to several inland towns. The soil throughout the county, although diversified in character, may be classed as fertile, as will be shown by agricultural statistics.

In 1911 the acres owned were 215,224; the numbers of acres cultivated, 140,208; acres in pasture, 45,744; in woodland, 20,305; lying waste, 8,957.

Wheat produced in 1911, 36,503 bushels; rye, 6,213; oats, 1,334,780; winter barley, 2,420; spring barley, 2,341; shelled corn, 1,677,630; broom corn, 3,000; sugar corn, 47 tons; tomatoes, 810 bushels; Irish potatoes, 55,765 bushels; sweet potatoes, 140; hay, 10,480 tons; clover, 8,726 tons; Alfalfa, 281 tons; tobacco, 133,650 pounds; butter, 29,229 pounds; eggs, 1,099,109 dozens; eggs shipped out of state, 83,570 dozens; sorghum, 1,964 gallons; maple syrup, 463 gallons; honey, 1,848 pounds; apples, 176,078 bushels; peaches, 1,885 bushels; pears, 6,660 bushels; cherries, 954 bushels; plums, 1,683 bushels; number of horses owned, 8,509; beef cattle, 135; milch cows, 8,513; all other, 4,856; sheep, 5,120; hogs, 18,231; wool, pounds shorn, 28,934. In 1825 the number of horses in the county were 535, cattle 1,004, owned by 493 individuals.

## CHAPTER VI

### ORGANIZATION OF SHELBY COUNTY

*Date of Organization—Naming of the County—Selection of County Seat—Organization of Townships—Extracts from Commissioners' Journal—Court Minutes—Early Marriages—Pioneer Conditions—Land Entries—Population—Political Parties—County Officials.*

Shelby county was formed from Miami in 1819, and was named for Gen. Isaac Shelby, an officer of the Revolution, who, in 1792, when Kentucky was admitted into the Union, was almost unanimously elected its first governor. Miami county, including Shelby, was a part of Montgomery county until January 16, 1807. When Shelby was formed from Miami county, it included Auglaize and Allen counties, which were subsequently detached, Allen county in 1831, and Auglaize in 1848. The population increased rapidly and on May 17, 1819, a court of common pleas convened in Hardin,\* which was conducted by the Hon. Joseph H. Crane, of Dayton, as presiding judge, and Robert Houston, Samuel Marshall and William Cecil, associate judges. Harvey B. Foote was appointed clerk of court and Henry Bacon, prosecuting attorney and, at this time, the first grand jury was called and reported. The term adjourned December 14th, and this sealed the doom of Hardin as a seat of justice, for the next term of court was held in Sidney, with the same judicial executive and clerical officers, on April 24, 1820.

A board of commissioners convened at Hardin on June 17, 1819, consisting of Robert McClure, William Berry and John Wilson, with David Henry as clerk of board, and James Lenox, treasurer of the county. They entered at once upon their respective duties. Archibald Defreer was appointed collector. On June 12th the bonds of John Craig, as coroner, and Daniel V. Dingman, as sheriff, were accepted and after some routine business the board adjourned to September 2d, and Shelby county, armed and equipped, started on its full-fledged career and has been in motion ever since. The epitaph on a day-old baby's tombstone might appropriately be applied to Hardin:

"Since so soon I am done for,  
I wonder what I was begun for;"

but everything has to have a beginning and Hardin, the peaceful hamlet on the Indian trail portage, between the Miami and Maumee rivers, was a suitable place as a starter.

\* Named for Col. Hardin, of Kentucky, who was killed by Indians there.

A permanent location for the county seat was sought and the general assembly of Ohio appointed Thomas Van Horn and James Steele to view the different sites and make a report. After an extensive looking-over of sites, they settled upon Sidney, five miles east of Hardin, on the beautiful Miami, and named in honor of Sir Philip Sidney. Their report was as follows:

To the Honorable the Court of Common Pleas of Shelby County.

The undersigned commissioners appointed by the legislature of Ohio at their last session, to fix on the most eligible site for the seat of justice for the county of Shelby, met at the town of Hardin, in said county, on the 22d inst., agreeable to appointment—previous notice having been given as the law directs, said notice being acknowledged and having been duly qualified—proceeded to examine the different sites pointed out by the inhabitants of said county; and after traversing the county to ascertain the most proper place, have selected part of a fraction number 36 in township 8, range 6, west of the Great Miami river, belonging to Charles Sterrett; commencing at a creek or run of water southeastwardly of a house in said fraction, occupied by a Mr. Cannon, running east of north with the bank, and westwardly for the quantity of seventy acres, offered as a donation by the said Charles Sterrett, as will appear by the inclosed bond, proposal, etc.

Signed, THOMAS B. VAN HORN,  
JAMES STEELE.

Dayton, September 26, 1819.

The donation referred to in this report is fully explained by the subjoined article of agreement, made by Charles Sterrett, proprietor of the plat chosen as the site of the county seat:

I, the undersigned subscriber, proprietor of fraction No. 36, in township eight, range six, east of the meridian line, and on the west bank of the Great Miami river, do make a donation to the commissioners of Shelby county of seventy acres of land, for the use and benefit of said county, on any part of the above-named tract of land that the commissioners appointed by the legislature see proper to locate the seat of justice for said county; provided the commissioners for fixing the said seat of justice see proper to fix said seat permanently in said fraction; provided that I do receive one-half of the proceeds of the sales of the lots after the said county commissioners locate, lay off, and sell the lots which may be laid off on said donation.

September 24, 1819.

CHARLES STERRETT.

N. B. I also bind myself to give the privilege of *all* the springs within the bounds of said fraction as above described, for the *use* of the town, and the privilege of conveyance to the town.

C. S.

#### Reserve Clause

I, the said Charles Sterrett, do make the following reserves out of the seventy acres proposed to the commissioners for the seat of justice for the

county of Shelby to wit: One acre for the public square; two half acres for two different denominations of religious societies; one acre for each of two different denominations of religious societies for graveyards; and one acre for use of schools.

CHARLES STERRETT.

ROBERT McCLURE,  
JOHN WILSON,  
WM. BERRY,  
*Commissioners.*

In accordance with the provisions of the articles of donation, Charles Sterrett executed to the commissioners a bond in the sum of \$3,000, dated September 25, 1819.

In consideration of securing the seat of justice at Sidney other donations than that of the proprietor were made by several citizens, who were favorable to the project. These are exhibited by the following certified agreement:

We the undersigned bind ourselves to the county commissioners of Shelby county, to pay the several sums annexed to our names, provided the seat of justice for the county of Shelby is established on the above tract of land as described, and the conditions as above are complied with:

D. Henry .....	\$20 00
Wm. Richardson .....	20 00
Peter Musselman, in plank.....	50 00
George Chiles, in plank.....	20 00
Wm. Robinson .....	10 00
✓ Samuel Marrs, in carpenter work.....	20 00
Francis Rorack, one barrel of whiskey.....	
Otho White .....	10 00
Charles Johnson .....	25 00
John Johnson .....	20 00
John Gilbert .....	10 00
Arch. Defrees .....	30 00
Thomas W. Ruckman, in sawing.....	50 00
Isaac Parks .....	50 00
Benj. Brandon .....	50 00
Alex. McClintock .....	100 00
Edward Jackson .....	50 00
Wm. Marrs subscribes his big bull, price untold.....	
Rodham Talbott .....	20 00
George Pool .....	10 00
Wm. Johnston .....	50 00
John Lenox .....	75 00

State of Ohio, Shelby County, ss. December Term, 1819.✓

The court appoints David Henry director of the town of Sidney, to be laid off upon the ground selected by the commissioners, for the seat of

justice of Shelby county, who gave bond with Rodham Talbott, Edward Jackson, and Thomas W. Ruckman, his sureties, in the sum of \$6,000. The court further order that the director proceed to lay off a town upon the premises aforesaid in lots of five rods by ten, in blocks of eight lots each, with alleys one rod in width, running through the center of each block at right angles with each other and with the streets; the alleys to divide the blocks into four equal parts. The streets be laid out six rods in width, and that a public square be laid out in said town by striking out the center block of lots.

That the director, as soon as the said town shall be laid out, shall, after giving one month's notice thereof, in six of the most public places in this county, and in the *Gazette*, printed in Dayton, shall proceed to sell at public sale one-third of said lots upon the following terms, to wit:

One-fourth in ninety days; one-fourth in nine months; and one-fourth in fifteen months, and the residue in two years; to be secured by a lien upon the lots, until the whole shall be paid; reserving one lot upon or adjacent to the public square, to be selected by the commissioners, for the purpose of erecting temporary buildings for the county.

I certify that the above is a true copy of the minutes of the court.

HARVEY B. FOOTE, *Clerk*.

In accordance with the instructions of the court, the director of the town procured the survey of the plat by Benjamin S. Cox, who, after making the survey, submitted the following report:

#### Survey of Sidney.

I do hereby certify that, being called on by David Henry, Esq., director of the town of Sidney, to survey said town plat, I executed the same under his directions, by running the exterior boundaries agreeably to the following courses and distance, to wit:

Beginning at a stake—the northwest corner of said town—standing four rods due south of the northern boundary line of the fraction witnessed by a small white oak standing north  $7^{\circ}$  east, 7 links distant; then south  $5^{\circ}$  east, 27 poles, to a stake in the cornfield; then south  $85^{\circ}$  west,  $26\frac{1}{2}$  poles, to a stake witnessed by two small buckeyes; one bearing due north, at 6 links distance; the other south  $47\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  west, 6 links also; thence south  $5^{\circ}$  east, 108 poles, to a stake—the southwest corner of said town plat—witnessed by a large blue ash tree standing north  $64^{\circ}$  west, 8 poles and  $16\frac{1}{2}$  links distant; thence north  $85^{\circ}$  east, 80 poles, passing Abraham Cannon's house and cornering at a stake, the southeast corner of said town; said stake standing a few rods south of a run, and witnessed by a large blue ash standing south  $58\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  east,  $18\frac{1}{2}$  links distant; thence north  $5^{\circ}$  west, 81 poles, to a stake at the upper end of the cornfield; thence north  $85^{\circ}$  east,  $14\frac{1}{2}$  poles, to a stake standing 22 links north of a large beech, and 34 links east of a smaller one; thence north  $5^{\circ}$  west, 27 poles, to a stake having for witnesses a blue ash, standing north  $68^{\circ}$  east, 21 links and a small buckeye, south  $55^{\circ}$  west, 12 links distant;



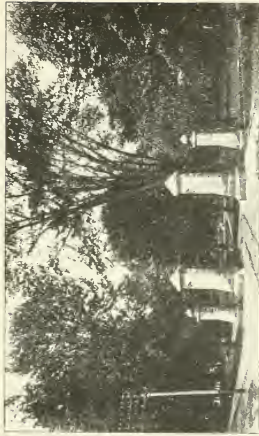
VIEW SOUTH FROM WELLS HILL, SIDNEY, O.



SCENE IN WAGNER CONSERVATORY PARK, SIDNEY, O.



WAGNER PARK CONSERVATORIES, SIDNEY, O.



ENTRANCE TO CEMETERY, SIDNEY, O.





thence north  $85^{\circ}$  east,  $13\frac{1}{4}$  poles, to a stake witnessed by a large white oak standing south  $75^{\circ}$  east, 4 links and a blue ash north  $82^{\circ}$  west, 17 links distant; thence north  $5^{\circ}$  west, 27 poles, to a stake—the northeast corner of said town—witnessed by a beech standing south  $40^{\circ}$  west,  $27\frac{1}{2}$  links distant; thence south  $85^{\circ}$  west,  $81\frac{1}{4}$  poles, to the beginning: containing by calculation 70 acres and  $25\frac{1}{4}$  poles. The above courses were run for a supposed true meridian, and at right angles to the same; believing the true meridian, when running north, to be five degrees west of the magnetic one.

In testimony of which, and for the truth of the above certificate, I heretofore affix my signature, this 24th day of February, 1820.

BENJAMIN S. COX, *Surveyor*.

State of Ohio, Shelby County, ss.:

Personally appeared before me, a justice of the peace for said county, the above-named Benjamin S. Cox, who qualified the above town plat of the town of Sidney to be a true survey made to the best of his ability.

Given under my hand and seal the 24th day of February, 1820.

[SEAL]

D. HENRY, J. P.

The next action was an order of sale directed by the court to David Henry, director of Sidney, and providing as follows:

State of Ohio, Shelby County, ss. Court of Common Pleas, April Term, 1820:

It is ordered by the court that the director of Sidney offer for sale at public vendue, giving one month's previous notice in six public places in the county and in the newspapers published at Troy, one-third of the lots now remaining unsold in Sidney, on the following terms, viz.: One-fourth of the purchase-money in hand; one-fourth in nine months; one-fourth in fifteen months; and the remaining fourth in two years; the purchaser giving bond and approved security for the payment of the last three instalments, and to receive from the director a certificate for the lot or lots purchased, stipulating that a deed shall be executed on the completion of the payments; and the director is further authorized to dispose of at private sale any lots remaining unsold at the public sale hereby ordered in the terms prescribed by this order.

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy from the minutes of the court.

April 24, 1820.

HARVEY B. FOOTE, *Clerk C. C. P. S. C.*

The State of Ohio, Shelby County, ss. September Term, 1820.

The director of Sidney having represented to the court that certain lots in said town, ordered to be sold in December term last, have reverted to the county, in consequence of the failure of the purchasers to comply with the terms of sale, it is, therefore, ordered by the court that the director sell the said lots which have so reverted on the following terms, viz.: One-fourth of the purchase-money in hand; one-fourth thereof in nine months; one-fourth in fifteen months; and the remaining fourth part in two years from the day of sale. The purchaser giving bond and approved security for the

payment of the last three instalments, and to receive from the director a certificate for the lot or lots purchased, stipulating that a deed shall be executed to the purchaser, his heirs, or assigns, on the completion of the payments. The said sale to take place on the 6th instant, public notice having been given thereof heretofore in the newspapers printed at Piqua; and the director is further authorized to dispose of at private sale any of the said lots remaining unsold at the public sale hereby ordered in the terms prescribed by this order.

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the minutes in my office this sixth day of September, 1820.

H. B. FOOTE, *Clerk, C. C. P. S. C.*

To the director of the town of Sidney.

In pursuance of these instructions, the director offered the designated lots for sale; after which he submitted the subjoined statement in account with the county:

David Henry, Director of Sidney, in Account with Shelby County:

1820	Dr.	Cr.
March, June and September sales:		By receipts in bundle
To his receipts for moneys		No. 1 . . . . . \$2,437 69
received for lots sold at		By lots 13, 88, and 91,
different times, and to		forfeited . . . . . 185 06¼
different persons . . . . .	\$3,094 25	By notes due . . . . . 538 96¼
To lot No. 57 . . . . .	25 00	By accounts not due,
To lot No. 68 . . . . .	50 00	Wm. Felding . . . . . 60 00
To lot No. 98 . . . . .	23 69½	E. Evans . . . . . 137 50
To lot No. 104 . . . . .	25 00	B. Mapes . . . . . 25 00
To lot No. 77 . . . . .	50 00	Daniel Hopkins . . . . . 36 50
To lot No. 81 . . . . .	100 00	T. W. Ruckman . . . . . 37 50
To lot No. 32 . . . . .	110 00	By orders . . . . . 101 85½
To lot No. 53 . . . . .	36 50	
To lot No. 93 . . . . .	37 50	
	\$3,551 94½	\$3,560 07
		Balance . . . . . \$8 12½

Conditions of a Supplemental Sale of Lots in the Town of Sidney.

The conditions of the sale of lots to be sold this day in Sidney, agreeable to an order of the court of common pleas for Shelby county, last term:

Article 1st. The highest bidder is to be the buyer.

Article 2d. The purchaser agrees to pay one-third of the purchase-money in hand; one other third part in six months; and the residue in one year from this date.

Article 3d. On payment of the first third part, the purchaser will be entitled to a certificate, conditioned to make a deed, on completing the above payments, at the end of one year, as aforesaid: still it is fairly understood and agreed that if the purchaser, or his assigns, fails to make payment at the end of one year, as aforesaid, then the lots thus sold is to revert back to the county, and money paid to forfeit.

Any person buying a lot, and not making the first payment on this day, shall forfeit ten per cent. for disappointment, and lose their bid.

June 1, 1820.

DAVID HENRY, *Director*.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE TOWNSHIPS

Four townships in Shelby county retained the name and area when a part of Miami county. They are Clinton, Turtle creek, Cynthian and Loramie.

Clinton, in which Sidney, the county seat, is situated, was reorganized by the commissioners in 1825. It is irregular in outline, being bounded on the south by the tortuous Miami river.

Turtle creek township, named after a creek which traverses it, was reorganized in 1825. The Big Four railway is its southern boundary. Its center is the hamlet of Hardin, the seat of Justice in 1819, one year, and named after Mr. Hardin, who was killed by the Indians.

Washington township was organized in 1825 under the name of Grayson, but the name was soon changed. It was watered by the Loramie, Turtle creek and by the canal feeder. Its principal town is the village of Lockington through which runs the Western Ohio electric line.

Loramie township was reorganized in 1825. It was named after Loramie, the French trader, who had a store at the mouth of the creek at Lockington as early as 1752. It contains four villages—Mt. Jefferson, Houston, North Houston and Russia. The last two are Big Four railway stations. The principal streams are the Loramie, the Nine-Mile run and the Miami and Erie canal.

Cynthian township was reorganized in 1825. Newport is the only village. Its streams are the Loramie, Lick run and Lawrence run and the Miami canal.

Orange township was organized in the year 1820 and is very fertile. It is bounded on the north by the Miami river. It has one village, Kirkwood, which is a station on the Dayton and Michigan railway.

Green township has two small villages, Palestine and Plattsville, which were laid out in the early thirties. The name of Palestine has been changed to Tawawa. It is watered by Mosquito creek and the Leatherwood.

Perry township was organized about 1824 and has a very productive soil. Pemberton, a small village, which is a station on the Big Four railway, seven miles east of Sidney, is its largest town. It is bounded on the north by the Miami river.

The township of Salem was stricken from Perry in 1826. Port Jefferson, a pretty village, and being at the head of the feeder, nine miles in length, of the Miami and Erie canal, had brilliant prospects before the day of railways, but collapsed upon their advent. The Miami river runs through the town. The township has one other village, Maplewood, a station on the Lima and Northern railway.

Dinsmore township was organized in 1832 and the board of commissioners ordered the election to be held in the house of Joseph Green on Christmas day. The township contains the village of Botkins and one-half of

Anna, both flourishing towns on the Cincinnati and Dayton railway. The water courses are the Loramie and Hull's creeks.

Jackson township was organized in 1833 and is one of the most fertile in the county. It contains the thriving village of Jackson Center, a railway station and the hamlet of Montra.

McLean township was organized in 1834. It has a large German element of excellent farmers who vote wet when local option is before the people. McLean is watered by the Loramie which heads in Dinsmore township and contains Loramie reservoir of 6,000 acres. Being on the summit it is a feeder to the Miami and Erie canal. It also contains Mile creek and Second run. The land is very fertile.

Van Buren township was organized in 1834. Rumley was settled by a colony of negroes but is now owned by white people. The land is very fertile and productive.

Franklin township was organized in 1835 and contains one-half of the village of Anna. The principal streams are Turtle creek and Plum creek.

#### COURT HOUSE AND JAIL

As soon as the first court of justice was established at Hardin in 1819 in an old block house it was evident that a provision must be made for a suitable building. As the county seat was removed to Sidney after one year the county commissioners held a session February 1, 1820, and action was taken for the erection of a court house and jail, the latter being necessary when the court found culprits guilty of criminal misdemeanors.

The following plans were adopted and recorded: The court house to be of frame, 24 by 30 feet, roofed with joint shingles, and weatherboarded; two doors through the middle of the first story; four eighteen-pane windows; the story ten feet between floors; a place for two fireplaces six feet wide; second story eight feet high with six fifteen-light windows; window frames and doors underpinned with stone eighteen inches above the ground.

The jail was to be 16 by 18 feet, with two stories of seven feet between the floors, and to be built of timber 12 inches square, laid completely close.

The first and second floors to be made of square timber, laid close, the same as the wall; one window, 18 inches square in each story, well grated with iron bars; one door in each story sufficiently ironed and locked; third floor to be of hewed timber; roof of joint shingles; a chimney at one end with a fireplace in each room.

These building contracts were ordered to be sold in Sidney on the 22d of February. On June 16, 1821, an additional contract was sold to John Snyder for \$130.

On March 4, 1822, the commissioners convened at the new court house on Ohio avenue, west of the public square.

This building served its purpose until 1831, when, on June 22, the commissioners met for the purpose of adopting a plan for a new court house, to be built in the center of the public square. The building was to be of

brick 44 feet square and two stories high, and a belfry. The foundation was to be of stone, the lower story to have 16 windows of 15 lights each and the upper story 20 windows of 12 lights each, 12 by 16 inches in size. It was further ordered that the old court house be sold in May, 1832 and the proceeds be applied to the new building. On July 25, 1831, the contract was let to Charles Bush, William Dock and George D. Leckey. The building was completed and accepted March 30, 1833.

The building, viewed in the light of the present day, as it was neither Ionic, Doric, Corinthian nor Composite, had all the artistic beauty of a store box, but it served for 50 years and the ablest legal arguments and most eloquent appeals and stirring political speeches ever made in Sidney were echoed from its walls.

#### THE NEW COURT HOUSE

For fifty years the squatty and inconvenient building in the public square had withstood storm and fire and flood and seemed to have a charmed hold on life unless human hands should remove the monstrosity which was devoid alike of beauty or utility.

At the April election in 1880 the question of building a new court house was submitted to the people of the county and resulted in a vote of 2,024 for it and 1,786 against the same. The old court house was then sold to the highest bidder, which was \$295, he to remove the building by March 10, 1881.

On August 14, 1880, the board of commissioners, consisting of John E. Bush, Christian Kingseed and John Linker entered into a contract with G. H. Maetzel, architect, of Columbus, to furnish plans, specifications, details and working designs for the contemplated building, Maetzel to have sole superintendency of the work and to see that all the materials used were according to specifications. Maetzel's compensation was to be five per cent of the cost, estimated at \$140,000.

The original contracts for materials and work were let as follows: Cast and wrought iron work to H. P. Clough & Co., of Middleton, Ohio, for \$30,050; brick work to Henry Gucker, \$13,623; carpenter work to John Houser, \$10,086.30; cut stone work to Wittenmeir Bros., \$35,500; tin, galvanized iron and slating to W. R. Kinnear & Co., \$9,998; painting and glazing to Philip Knopf, \$4,977; plastering and stucco work to Michael Hayes, \$2,900; gas-piping to Andrew Shwartz, \$330; plumbing, same, \$998; drainage, same, \$392.

The building is located in the center of the public square, which was enlarged from its original donation of one acre, made by Charles Sterrett, to a little less than three acres. The site is a beautiful one, and is richly ornamented by forest trees, while delicate, flowering shrubs of many hardy varieties are massed around the walks, with the four sides of the building furnishing the background, thus making the situation for a public building one of the best in the state.

The court house being centrally located in the square, fronts all the cardinal points, is substantially built, very commodious and elegantly finished and furnished. It is heated by air, conducted in pipes from the heating building in the rear of the jail, and is practically fireproof. The four corners rise into towers, while the center tower, about 150 feet in height, looks down upon all other buildings within the city, there being no 55-story sky-scrapers within its limits. It is furnished with a clock which presents a dial on four faces. The contour of the public square was uneven as in a state of nature, requiring over 5,000 loads of dirt to make it perfectly level as it is to-day.

The celebration of July 4, 1881, was made more imposing in Sidney than ever before by the laying of the corner stone and brought a large crowd from the county and surrounding towns, though the death of President Garfield cast a gloom over the occasion. No fewer than 5,000 people were present. The display of flags and bunting all over the city was very fine. The arrival of the train and band over the Big Four from Union City was met by Tappe's band and the band from Anna came. The hotels were crowded and a large number took dinner at the Methodist church. Orders of Knights of Pythias and Masons came from Lima, Bellefontaine and other points. They appointed their own marshals, but all were under the direction of Chief Marshal E. M. Green and his assistants, J. S. Laughlin, W. H. Taylor, E. E. Nutt, J. B. Edgar and H. M. Lehman, and the order of procession was as follows: The Anna band; county and city officials in carriages; pioneers and citizens in carriages; Martial band; Grand Army of the Republic; Piqua band; Knights of Pythias; Union City band; fire department; Odd Fellows; Lima band; Shawnee and Coleman commanderies; Bellefontaine Lodge of Masons, with band; Tappe's band; and Sidney Lodge of Masons No. 73, which included Stokes Lodge of Port Jefferson and Epler Lodge of Jackson Center. The grand marshal proclaimed as follows: "By authority of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in the state of Ohio, and in obedience to his order, I do now command and require all persons here assembled, to preserve silence and to observe due order and decorum during the performance of the ceremonies of this occasion."

This was followed with prayer by Grand Chaplain Rev. O. Kennedy, and singing by the choir.

The following articles were deposited in a receptacle made in the cornerstone: A list of the present officers of the county; a copy of the Constitution and By-laws, and a list of the present members and officers of Temperance Lodge No. 73, F. & A. Masons; a list of the officers and members of Stokes Lodge No. 305, F. & A. Masons; a list of the members of Summit Lodge No. 50, Knights of Pythias; and the name of the architect, and a list of the names of the contractors and workmen employed on the stone and brickwork of the new court house; a list of the members of Tappe's cornet band; a copy of the Shelby county Democrat; a copy of the Sidney

Journal; a copy of the Sentinel; a copy of the record of the three first sessions of the court of common pleas of Shelby county in 1819.

The following is a copy of the report of the first three courts in the county: The first court of common pleas for Shelby county met in the village of Hardin, in Turtle Creek township, on the 16th day of May, 1819: President, Judge Jos. H. Crane, of Dayton; Robert Houston, Samuel Marshal, William M. Cecil, associates; Harvey B. Foote, clerk. The term lasted only one day. The journal of the court mentions no one as sheriff. Henry Bacon, of Dayton, was appointed by the court as prosecuting attorney. The next term was held September 13 and 14, 1819, at same place, by the foregoing named judges and officers. The third term was held at the same place, beginning December 13, 1819, same judges and officers, and also Daniel V. Dingman as sheriff. At the close of the December term, 1819, the court ordered the next term to be held at the then newly situated county seat, viz., the village of Sidney, where the courts have all been held ever since.

The covering was then lowered to its place with appropriate ceremonies by Past Grand Master of the State, A. H. Newcomb, and the ceremonies closed with prayer by Grand Chaplain O. Kennedy.

The oration was delivered from the stand erected by A. L. McKinney, of Troy, and was a brilliant, eloquent address. The ceremonies closed about half-past four o'clock.

#### COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS AND COMMON PLEAS COURT MINUTES

These journals, replete with information touching the development and growth of the county, as well as the course of justice, are submitted in their entirety for the formative period, or first years of the organization. They will both be found to differ widely from the board and court records of to-day, and although lacking system will be found possessing breadth enough to embrace almost everything of a public nature. The two journals comprised very largely the scope now embraced by the board of commissioners, common pleas court, probate court, recorder's office, and sheriff's office. Possessing this comprehensiveness the records of the board and the court are reproduced for that period with a completeness which will show not only the business transacted, but also the methods of transaction.

#### COMMISSIONERS' JOURNAL

June 17, 1819. The board of commissioners for Shelby met at Hardin. Present, Robert McClure, William Berry, and John Wilson. David Henry is appointed clerk of the board, who appeared and took the oath of office.

Order No. 1. Ordered that the county treasurer pay Samuel McClure for four days' service as lister for Loramie township for this year, \$4.00.

Order No. 2. Ordered that the county treasurer pay Charles Botkin for his service as lister and appraiser of property, for Perry township and the fractional part of Essex township this year, \$9.00.

Order No. 3. Ordered that the county treasurer pay John Francis for

one day's service as clerk of election for Perry and fractional part of Essex township on the 5th of April last, \$1.00.

Order No. 4. Ordered that the county treasurer pay Richard Defrees for six days' service as lister and appraiser of property for Turtle Creek township this year, \$6.00.

Order No. 5. Ordered that the county treasurer pay John Francis for one day's service as clerk of election for Perry and fractional part of Essex township on 1st of May last, \$1.00.

Order No. 6. Ordered that the county treasurer pay Peter Musselman for one day's service as judge of election for Perry and fractional part of Essex township on the 1st of May last, \$1.00.

Order No. 7. Ordered that the county treasurer pay William Berry, Jr., for one day's service as judge of election, and one day's service taking returns to Hardin for Perry and fractional part of Essex township on the 1st of May last, \$2.00.

Order No. 8. Ordered that the county treasurer pay George Berry for one day's service as appraiser of property for Perry and fractional part of Essex township for this year, \$1.00.

Order No. 9. Ordered that the county treasurer pay David Henry for one day's service as clerk of election for Perry and fractional part of Essex township on the 6th of April last, \$1.00.

James Lenox is appointed county treasurer, and appeared and gave bonds and took the oath of office according to law.

Samuel McClure, lister and appraiser of property in Loramie township, appeared and made return of his duplicate for said township.

Charles Botkin, lister and appraiser of property for Perry and fractional part of Essex township, appeared and made return of his duplicate for said township.

Archibald Defrees, lister and appraiser of property for Turtle Creek township, appeared and made return of his duplicate for said township.

Archibald Defrees is appointed collector of the tax for Shelby county at ten per cent on the county levy.

The board adjourned until the 11th instant.

Attest, D HENRY, *Clerk.*

ROBERT McCLURE,  
WM. BERRY.

June 11, 1819. The board of commissioners met pursuant to adjournment. Present: Robert McClure, William Berry, John Wilson, and David Henry, clerk.

Archibald Defrees, collector of Shelby county, appeared and gave bond with legal security, and took the oath of office.

On the petition of Alexander Jackson, Caleb Goble, Joseph Donaldson, Elisha Kirtland, and Jesse Jackson, accompanied with the consent of a majority of the inhabitants of town. 1, range 7 east: Ordered that John Lenox, Philip Coleman, and Edward Jackson, taking to their assistance a skilful surveyor, two chainmen, and one blazer, proceed on Monuay, the



28th inst., to view and lay out into convenient lots (agreeable to the laws in such cases made and provided) the school section in township No. 1, range 7 east, and carefully value the same, and make report of your proceedings to the board of commissioners at their next meeting.

Adjourned until the 12th inst.

June 12, 1819. The board met agreeable to adjournment. Present: Robert McClure, William Berry, John Wilson, and David Henry, clerk.

Ordered that the county treasurer pay Abraham Davenport for one day's service as judge of election for Turtle Creek township on the 1st day of May last, \$1.00.

Ordered that the county treasurer pay Jeremiah White for one day's service as judge of election for Turtle Creek township on the 1st day of May last, \$1.00.

Ordered that the county treasurer pay Wm. Herrald for one day's service as appraiser of property for Turtle Creek township this year, \$1.00.

Ordered that the county treasurer pay Daniel Vandemark for one day's service as judge of election for Perry and fractional part of Essex township on the 1st of May last, \$1.00.

Ordered that the county treasurer pay Harvey B. Foote for one day's service as clerk of election on the 1st of May last for Turtle Creek township, \$1.00.

Ordered that the county treasurer pay Samuel Stewart for one day's service as judge of election for Turtle Creek township on the 1st of May last, \$1.00.

Ordered that all the fractional part of Essex township that falls in Shelby county be attached to and incorporated into Perry township, and is in future to be considered as composing a part of the said township of Perry.

The commissioners have made out the duplicate for the county levy. Ordered that the same be entered on their records.

Know all men by these presents that we, John Craig, Robert Aldrich, and John McClure, of Shelby county, are held and firmly bound unto Robert McClure, Wm. Berry, and John Wilson, commissioners of Shelby county, or their successors in office, in the sum of two thousand dollars, current money of the United States, to the payment of which we bind ourselves, our heirs, and assigns, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents; sealed with our seal, and dated the 12th day of June, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen.

The condition of the above obligation is such that the above named John Craig shall faithfully discharge all the duties enjoined on him by law as coroner for the aforesaid Shelby county; then this obligation to be void and of no effect; otherwise to remain in full force and virtue in law.

Given under our hand and seals the day and year above written.

JOHN CRAIG, [SEAL.]  
 ROBERT ALDRICH, [SEAL.]  
 JOHN MCCLURE. [SEAL.]

Attest, D. HENRY, *Clerk.*

Know all men by these presents that we, Daniel V. Dingman and James Dingman, of the county of Shelby and state of Ohio, are held and firmly bound unto Robert McClure, William Berry, and John Wilson, commissioners of Shelby county, and their successors in office, in the sum of four thousand dollars, lawful money, to the payment of which we bind ourselves, our heirs, and assigns, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents; sealed with our seals, and dated the 12th day of June, 1819.

The condition of the above obligation is such that whereas the above bound Daniel V. Dingman has been duly elected and commissioned sheriff for Shelby county; now if the said Daniel V. Dingman does well and truly collect, and pay over all moneys that the law makes it his duty to collect to the proper person to receive it, and perform all the duties of sheriff of said county faithfully; then this obligation to be void and of no effect; else to remain in full force and virtue.

DANIEL V. DINGMAN, [L. S]  
 JAMES DINGMAN, [L. S]

Attest, D. HENRY, *Clerk.*

Adjourned till the 2d Monday in September next.

ROBERT MCCLURE,  
 WM. BERRY,  
 JOHN WILSON,  
*Commissioners.*

Hardin, Ohio, September 13, 1819. The board of commissioners met per adjournment. Present: Robert McClure, Wm. Berry, John Wilson, and David Henry, clerk.

Alexander Jackson applied for a permanent lease for lot No. 1 of the school section in township 1, range 7 east.

Jesse Jackson applied for a lease for lot No. 2 in said section.

Joseph Donaldson applied for a lease for lot No. 4 of same section.

Elisha Kirtland applied for a lease for lot No. 5 of same section.

John Manning applied for a lease for lot No. 6 in said section.

The report of the freeholders appointed the 11th of June last to lay out and appraise the school section in township 1, range 7 east, is received and ordered to be recorded.

A petition of part of the inhabitants of Shelby county praying to vacate part of the county road through Turtle Creek township was read and laid over until the next meeting of the board.

It is ordered that Perry township be divided as follows: Running through the middle of the 13th range, and that the south part of said township be organized into a new township by the name of Orange, and that the election for township officers be held at the house of Wm. Minnear, on the 23d inst.

Ordered that David Henry have an order on the county treasurer for four days' service as clerk of the board, and \$1.00 for extra service, in all, \$10.00.

Ordered that Robert McClure have an order for book and paper furnished, \$3.62½.

Ordered that David Henry have an order for one book for the clerk of commissioners, 50 cents.

Adjourned to the last Friday in October next.

ROBERT MCCLURE,  
JOHN WILSON,  
WM. BERRY,  
*Commissioners.*

Attest, D. HENRY, *Clerk.*

Hardin, October 29, 1819. The board of commissioners met as per adjournment. President: Robert McClure, Wm. Berry, Joseph Mellinger, and David Henry, clerk.

The board of commissioners proceeded to draw their allotments for their terms of service. Robert McClure is for one year, Wm. Berry for two years, and Joseph Mellinger for three years, who each took the several oaths required by law to qualify them for the duties of their said offices.

Cable Goble applied for a lease on lot No. 3 in the school section in township 1, range 7 east.

Ordered that John Francis, John Manning, James Lenox, Joseph Mellinger, Conrad Pouches, Zebediah Richardson, Joseph Steinberger, Henry Hershaw, John Stevens, Archibald Defrees, Cephaz Carey, Peter Musselman, John Bryan, R. Lenox, and Abraham Davenport each have \$1.50 for services as grand jurors; and that George Carey, constable, have 75 cents for one day's service at last September term.

Ordered that Thomas Hurley, Wm. Cecil, Wm. Berry, Nathan Coleman, Jacob Wise, Alexander Miller, John Miller, Benjamin Blankinship, John Craig, Robert Aldrich, James Crossman, Elisha Kirkland each have 50 cents for services as petit jurors; and that James Moore, constable, have 25 cents for attendance at one trial at last September term.

Ordered that John Manning have for one day's service as judge of election for Orange township, and one day for taking in the returns of the same at last October election, \$2.00.

Ordered that John Hathaway, Jacob Lemasters, Rodham Talbot, judges, and Peter Musselman and George Morrison, clerks, each have \$1.00, for judge and clerk's fees for one day's service at the last annual election for Perry township.

On petition of sundry inhabitants of township 7, range 6 east, it is ordered that Daniel Vandemark, John Stewart, and Robert Hurley, taking to their assistance a skilful surveyor, two chainmen, and one blazer, proceed, on the 10th day of October next, to view and lay out into convenient lots—agreeable to law in that case made and provided—the school section in township 7, range 6 east, and carefully value the same, and make report of your proceedings to the board of commissioners at their next meeting.

Ordered that Abraham Davenport have \$1.00 for one day's service as judge of election October 12, for Turtle Creek township.

Ordered that James Marshall for one day's service at May term and associate judge two days' service at September term, \$9.00.

The board adjourned.

ROBERT McCLURE,  
WM. BERRY,  
JOSEPH MELLINGER,  
*Commissioners.*

Attest, D. HENRY, *Clerk.*

Hardin, December 13, 1819. The board met. Present: Robert McClure, Wm. Berry, Joseph Mellinger, and David Henry, clerk.

Ordered that Harvey B. Foote have for one book for records and six quires of paper, \$6.25.

That R. Bush have for one day's service as judge of election for Orange township on the 12th of October, 1819, \$1.00.

That John Francis have for one day's service as clerk of the annual election for Orange township on the 12th of October last, \$1.00.

That Wm. Minnear have for one day's service as clerk of last annual election for Orange township the 12th of October last, \$1.00.

That Henry Bacon have for his service as prosecuting attorney at September term, \$15.00.

That Wm. Johnston, John Francis, and Dan Dingeman proceed to view a part of the road from Dingmansburg on the division of Wapakoneta that leads through Rodham Talbot's land, as he wishes, and make report agreeable to law to the board at their next meeting.

Ordered that Abraham Cannon, John Lenox, and Daniel V. Dingman, together with Benjamin S. Cox, taking to their assistance two chainmen and one blazer, proceed on the 22d inst. to view and lay out a road as follows: Beginning on the state road from Piqua to Wapakoneta where it crosses Mill creek in Turtle Creek township, running northwesterly to Abraham Cannon's, and make report of their proceedings to the next board of commissioners.

James Barnett applied for a permanent lease on school section in township 6, range 7 east, lot No. 1. Lease made.

Henry L. Jackson applied for lot 3, same section. Granted.

Henry Jackson applied for lot 4, same section. Granted.

Jacob Jackson applied for lot 5, same section. Granted.

Joseph Porfuelt applied for lot 6, same section. Granted.

Adjourned till tomorrow.

December 14, 1819. Board met in full session.

Ordered that Peter Princehouse, John Medaris and Thaddeus Tuttle, together with Benjamin S. Cox, surveyor, taking with them two chairmen and one blazer, proceed on the 29th inst. to view and lay out a road as follows: Beginning at or near the 5-mile-tree on the Mosquito creek road, thence to the county line on the east side of section 5, township 2, range 13, at the most proper point for a road to the seat of justice of Logan county, and make report of your proceedings to the next board of commissioners.

The report of the board of viewers appointed by the last board of commissioners to view the school section in township 7, range 6 east, was received and ordered to be recorded.

Ordered that all that part of the county of Shelby situate north of a base line that crosses the Big Auglaize at or near the mouth of Hog creek, east and west, be incorporated into a separate township, to be known by the name of Auglaize, and that the electors of said township assemble at the house of Moses Rice on the first Monday in April, to elect township officers.

Ordered that Archibald Defrees have for his service as collector of the county levy for this year, \$17.50.

Ordered that the next board meet at this place the first Monday in March. Adjourned.

ROBERT McCLURE,  
WM. BERRY,  
JOSEPH MELLINGER.

Attest, D. HENRY, *Clerk*.

Sidney, February 1, 1820. The board met. Present: Wm. Berry, Joseph Mellinger, and David Henry, Clerk.

Know all men by these presents that we, Thomas W. Ruckman, John Lenox, Archibald Defrees, and Wm. Johnston, are held and firmly bound unto Robert McClure, Wm. Berry, and Joseph Mellinger, commissioners of Shelby county, and their successors in office, in the just sum of \$4,000, lawful money of the United States, and for the true performance of which payment we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents, sealed with our seals and dated the 14th day of January, 1820.

The condition of the above obligation is such that whereas the above bound Thomas W. Ruckman has been duly elected and commissioned sheriff of Shelby county; now if the said Thomas W. Ruckman does well and truly collect and pay over all money that the law makes it his duty to collect, to the proper person to receive the same, and perform all the other lawful duties of sheriff of Shelby county, faithfully and honestly, then this obligation to be void and of no effect; else to remain in full force and virtue in law.

THOMAS W. RUCKMAN,  
JOHN LENOX,  
ARCHIBALD DEFREES,  
his  
WM. X JOHNSTON.  
mark

Attest, D. HENRY, *Clerk*.

Plan of the jail to be erected for the county: To be 16 by 18 feet; two stories, each seven feet between the floors; built of timber twelve inches square, laid completely close; the first and second floors to be made of

square timber laid close, the same as the wall; one window eighteen inches square; in each story, well grated with iron bars; one door in each story sufficiently ironed and locks; third floor to be of hewed timber; roof of joint shingles; a chimney in one end, with a fireplace in each room.

The house for the court to be a frame, 24 by 30 feet, roofed with joint shingles and weatherboarded; two doors through the middle of the first story; four 18-light windows; the story ten feet between the floors; a place for two fireplaces six feet wide; second story eight feet high; six 15-light windows; window-frames and doors underpinned with stone eighteen inches above ground. The above buildings are ordered to be sold on the 22d inst. at Sidney.

Sidney, February 22, 1820. Commissioners met; full board present.

Then proceeded to sell the contract for erection of court house and jail, with alterations agreeable to the bond taken in that case.

Adjourned.

ROBERT McCLURE,  
WM. BERRY,  
JOSEPH MELLINGER.

Attest, D. HENRY, *Clerk*.

Hardin, Ohio, March 6, 1820. The board met. Present: The full board. The report of the viewers appointed to view the road through Rodham Talbot's land is received and ordered to be recorded.

Ordered that the following bills be allowed: William Minnear, James Bryan, Daniel Vandemark, Joseph Bennett, John Mellinger, Zachariah Hurley, John Wilson, Robert Aldrich, Wm. Bush, David Crow, John Shennard, Gideon Wright, Charles Weeks, John Hathaway, each have \$1.50 for one day's service as grand jurors at December term, and that James Moore have 75 cents for services as constable.

Ordered that John Johnston, Joseph Aldrich, James Buchanan, David Mellinger, Aaron Cecil, Isaac Robins, William Robinson, Wm. Marrs, James Green, John Hathaway, Joseph Bennett, have each 50 cents for attending a trial at December term, and that James Moore, constable, have 25 cents for attending same trial.

Ordered that Samuel Marshall, Esq., have for two days' service as associate judge, \$6.00.

Ordered that Benjamin S. Cox have for his service as surveyor of a road from Mill creek to Sidney, two days and plat, \$4.50; for chairmen and blazers, same time, \$4.50.

Ordered that Benjamin S. Cox have for his service in surveying a road from the 5-mile-tree in the Mosquito creek to the county line, two days and plat, \$4.50; for chainmen and blazers, \$4.50.

Ordered that John Lenox, Abraham Cannon, Daniel V. Dingman, each

have \$2.00 for two days' service as viewers of a road from Mill creek to Sidney.

Ordered that John Medaris, Thaddeus Tuttle, and Peter Princehouse each have \$2.00 for two days' service viewing road from 5-mile-tree, on the Mosquito creek road, to the line of Logan county.

Ordered that Jacob Wise, Samuel Marshall, and Daniel V. Dingman, viewers, and Benjamin S. Cox, surveyor, and assistants, proceed and lay out a road from Dingman's through Sidney and Hardin, to Cynthian, on the 20th instant, and report to the next board.

Ordered that Robert Aldrich, John Mellinger, and Samuel McClure, viewers, and Benjamin S. Cox, surveyor, and assistants, proceed on the fourth Monday of this instant to view and lay out a road from the state road at or near William Morrow's; thence to Steinberger's mill; thence a northeasterly course to intersect the road from Mill creek to Sidney, and report to the next board.

Ordered that Abraham Cannon, James Thatcher, and Samuel Stewart, viewers, and Benjamin S. Cox, surveyor, and assistants, proceed on the first Tuesday in April to view and lay out a road, beginning at or near Hardin; thence to the state road at or near the Nine-mile creek, in Loramie township, and report to the next board.

Ordered that David Larue, Charles Johnston, John Ellsworth, Aquilla Ellsworth, William Ellsworth, viewers, and Benjamin S. Cox, surveyor, and assistants, proceed on the second Monday in April next to review the following part of the road from Honey creek to Mosquito creek, to wit: Beginning at the county line, thence to Peter Princehouse's, and make such alteration as may be necessary, and report to the next board.

Adjourned till tomorrow.

Hardin, March 7, 1820. The commissioners met pursuant to adjournment. Present: Robert McClure, William Berry, Joseph Mellinger, and David Henry, Clerk.

The viewers appointed by the commissioners, on the 14th of December last, to lay out and view a road from the 5-mile-tree, on the Mosquito creek road, to the county line of Logan county, with the surveyor of said road, have made their reports, which, being openly read yesterday and today at the board, and no objections being made, the said road is ordered to be recorded a public highway.

Ordered that Jeremiah White have for one day's service as judge of the last annual election for Turtle Creek township, \$1.00.

Ordered that Samuel Stewart have for one day's service as judge of last annual election for Turtle Creek township, \$1.00.

Ordered that Hezekiah Stout have for his service for selling property at Sidney, \$1.00.

Ordered that all that part of Orange township that is east of the west tier of sections in the second township of Bath, 12th and 13th range, be erected

into a new township, by the name of Green township and that the qualified electors of said township meet at the house of John Medaris, on the first Monday in April next, to elect township officers.

Adjourned *sine die*.

ROBERT McCLURE,  
WM. BERRY,  
JOSEPH MELLINGER.

Attest, D. HENRY, *Clerk*.

State of Ohio, Shelby county, ss.:

We, John Lenox, Philip Coleman, and Edward Jackson, viewers appointed by the board of commissioners of Shelby county to view and appraise section No. 16, township 1, range 7 east, being first duly sworn according to law, have proceeded to view and lay out the same into lots, and appraised the same as follows, to-wit: Lot No. 1, 52½ acres at \$3.25 per acre; lot No. 2, 46½ acres at \$2.75 per acre; lot No. 3, 99 3/100 acres at \$4.90 per acre; lot No. 4, 60 98/100 acres at \$2.50 per acre; lot No. 5, 104 acres at \$4.50 per acre; lot No. 6, 78 18/100 acres at \$2.00 per acre. All of which we have viewed and appraised to the best of our skill and ability. Given under our hands and seals the 11th day of September, 1819. The plat herewith annexed made by James Crugan, surveyor of Miami county, September 11, 1819.

JOHN LENOX, [SEAL.]  
EDWARD JACKSON, [SEAL.]  
PHILIP COLEMAN, [SEAL.]

Shelby county:

We, the undersigned, do hereby certify that we did, by order of the commissioners of Shelby county, go, on the 10th day of November, 1819, with a surveyor and two chainmen and one blazer, and divided section 16, in range 3, township 7, into six lots, containing as follows: No. 1, 98¾ acres; No. 2 and No. 3, each 102½ acres; No. 4 and No. 5, each 106½ acres; and No. 6, 102½ acres; which lots we valued at \$2.00 per acre, each lot separately.

JOHN STEWART,  
ROBERT HURLEY,  
*Appraisers.*

Sidney, Ohio, April 24, 1820.

The board of commissioners met. Present: Robert McClure, William Berry, Joseph Mellinger, and David Henry, clerk.

Ordered that James Thatcher, John Wilson, and William Davis, together with Benjamin S. Cox, taking to his assistance two chainmen and one blazer, proceed on the first Wednesday in May to view and lay out a road, beginning at Cynthian, thence to intersect the road leading from Greenville to said town, at the Darke county line, and make report to the next board of commissioners.

The commissioners granted a permanent lease to Thomas Kysar for lot



No. 2, in school section of township 7, range 6 east. Granted as above lease for lot No. 3, in same section, to Henry Jackson.

Adjourned till tomorrow.

April 25, 1820. The commissioners met pursuant to adjournment. Present: Robert McClure, William Berry, and David Henry, clerk.

The report of the reviewers, appointed the 6th of March last, to review the road from Honey creek to Mosquito creek, beginning at the county line to Peter Princehouse, is received; and being read in open meeting yesterday and today, and no objections being made, the same is established a public highway, agreeable to survey made and returned with said report.

The report of the viewers, appointed in March last, to view and lay out a road from Hardin to the state road, at or near Nine-mile creek, is received; and being read in open meeting yesterday and today, and no objections being made, the same is established a public highway, agreeable to survey therewith returned.

The report of the viewers, appointed in March last, to view and lay out a road from Dingmansburg, through Sidney and Hardin, to Cynthia, is received; and being read yesterday and today in open meeting, and no objections being made, the same is established a public highway agreeable to survey therewith returned.

The report of the viewers, appointed in March last, to view and lay out a road from the state road, at or near William Morrow's, past Steinberger's mill, thence northeasterly to intersect the new road to Sidney, is received; and being read in open session yesterday and today, and no objections being made to the same, it is established a public highway, according to survey therewith returned.

Ordered that William Herrald have for making a table and jury-box for the clerk, \$8.00.

That Henry Hershaw have for one day taking in the poll-book for justice in April last for Turtle Creek township, \$1.00.

That Henry Bacon, Esq., have for his service as prosecuting attorney, \$30.00.

That Robert Aldrich, Samuel McClure, and John Mellinger have each for two and one-half days' services in viewing road from William Morrow's to Sidney, \$2.50.

That James Thatcher and Samuel Stewart have each for two days' services in viewing the road from Hardin to the state road at nine mile, \$2.00.

That Benjamin S. Cox have for his service in surveying the road from Hardin to the state road at nine mile, two days' and plat, \$4.50. For chainmen and blazer for same, \$4.50. Surveying the road from Dingmansburg to Cynthia, three days and plat, \$6.25. For chainmen and blazer for same, \$6.75. For a road from Morrow's to Sidney, two and one-third and plat, \$5.37½. For chainmen for same, \$5.12½. For surveying a road from Honey creek, two days and plat, \$4.50. Chainmen for same, one and one-half days, \$3.37½.

That Samuel Marshall, Daniel Dingman, and Jacob Wise have each \$3.00 for services in viewing the road from Dingmansburg to Cynthian.

That John Ellsworth, Aquilla Ellsworth, and William Ellsworth have each for one and one-half days' services for reviewing a road, \$1.50.

That William Berry have for money he paid for getting duplicate at Troy, \$4.50. For one quire of paper for commissioners, 37½ cents.

That David Henry have for twelve days' service as clerk of commissioners and writing at home up to this time inclusive, \$1 00 per quire of paper, \$27.37½.

Adjourned till the first Monday in June.

ROBERT MCCLURE,  
WM. BERRY.

Attest, D. HENRY, *Clerk*.

Sidney, June 5, 1820. The board met. Present: William Berry, Joseph Mellinger, and David Henry, clerk.

Henry Sturm, lister of property for Green township, appeared and returned his list of property for said township.

Samuel McClure, lister of property for Loramie township, appeared and returned his list of property for said township.

George Berry, lister of property for Orange township, appeared and made his returns for said township.

Rodham Talbott, lister of property for Perry township, appeared and made returns of taxable property for said township.

Robert Aldrich, lister of property for Turtle Creek township, appeared and made return of taxable property for said township.

The collector of the county levy appeared and made final settlement for the year 1819.

Ordered that Benjamin Beeden have for the balance for building jail, \$275.85.

Ordered that Edward Dwire have for a part of his contract building court house, \$50.00.

Ordered that Edward Jackson have on account of Edward Dwire in part of his contract, \$6.25.

Ordered that Edward Jackson have on account of E. Williams in part of Dwire's contract, \$4.69.

Ordered that Robert Aldrich have for listing and appraising property for Turtle Creek township, \$4.00.

Ordered that Thomas W. Ruckman have on Dwire's order in part of contract, \$24.25.

Ordered that Thomas W. Ruckman have on account of Beeden's order in part of contract, \$9.25.

Ordered that Thomas W. Ruckman have for plank furnished, \$4.82½.

Ordered that Edward Jackson have on account of Benjamin Beeden, \$4.40.

Ordered that George Berry have for lister and appraiser for Orange township, \$4.00.

Ordered that Samuel McClure have for lister and appraisers for Loramie township, \$5.00.

Ordered that William W. Cecil have for his service as associate judge at May term, 1819, one day; at September term, two days; at December term, two days; and at April term, one day, \$18.00.

Ordered that Henry Sturm have for listing Green township, \$3.00.

Ordered that Rodham Talbot have on account of Dwire's contract, \$13.00.

Ordered that William Mellinger have for attending one trial at December term, 50 cents.

Ordered that Benjamin S. Cox have for surveying and platting road from Cynthian to Darke county line, \$4.50.

Ordered that John Wilson have for viewing same road, two days, \$2.00.

Ordered that James Thatcher have for viewing same road, \$2.00.

Ordered that William Davis have for viewing same road, two days, \$2.00.

Ordered that William Montgomery have for chaining on same road, 75 cents.

Ordered that Thomas McClish have for chaining same road, 75 cents.

Ordered that William Jerome have for marking same, one day, 75 cents.

Ordered that Jonathan Nichols, appraiser of property for Green township, have for one day, \$1.00.

Ordered that Abraham Cannon have for keeping, \$2.00.

Ordered that Harvey Foote have for his extra fees as clerk of the court of common pleas up to May 16, \$25.00. For copies furnished the April term inclusive, \$2.93.

Ordered that William Robinson have for his taking poll book for Green township at June election for justice of peace, \$1.00.

Ordered that John Lenox, foreman, Samuel Stewart, Richard Lenox, Jacob Wise, John Houston, Henry Hershaw, John Bryan, Archibald Defrees, George Barker, John Underwood, John Manning, John Stewart, Philip Coleman, William Johnston, and William Cecil have each \$1.50 for services as grand jurors at April term; and Samuel Marrs for attending same, 75 cents. ✓

Lessees of school land lots: James Barnett, lot No. 1, Thomas Kyser, lot No. 2, Henry L. Jackson, lot No. 3, Henry Jackson, lot No. 4, Jacob Jackson, lot No. 5, and Joseph Porquetts, lot No. 6. Above all in school section township 7, range 6. They have each received leases; rent to commence from this date.

The report of the viewers appointed to view the road from Cynthian to Darke county line is received, and being read in open meeting yesterday and today, and no objections being made, the same is established a public highway agreeable to survey to be opened forty feet wide.

James Lenox, county treasurer, appeared and settled up his official account in his said office.

Jonathan Beatty is appointed county treasurer; he appeared, gave bond, and took the oath of office according to law. The duplicate of the county levy is made out and ordered to be recorded.

John Lenox is appointed collector of county levy and state tax.

Adjourned *sine die*.

JOSEPH MELLINGER,  
WM. BERRY.

Attest, D. HENRY, *Clerk*.

Commissioners' office, June 7, 1820. Alexander Jackson took lease for lot No. 1, in school section township 1, range 7; interest from 13th of September. Joseph Donaldson took lease for lot No. 4, same set, and interest same time as above. Elisha Kirtland paid his quota of expense for surveying, etc., of the above section for lot No. 5; interest from same time.

Bond.—Know all men by these presents that we, John Stephens, Abraham Davenport, William Davis, and Ebenezer D. Stephens, all of Shelby county and state of Ohio, are held and firmly bound unto Robert McClure, Joseph Mellinger, and William Berry, commissioners of said county, in the sum of \$2,000, lawful money of the United States, to be paid to said commissioners or their successors in office, to which payment well and truly to be made we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, and administrators firmly by these presents, sealed with our seals this tenth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty.

The condition of the above obligation is such that if the above bound John Stephens—who has been duly elected coroner of Shelby county—shall well and truly execute the duties of said office, then this obligation to be null and void; otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

JOHN STEPHENS, [SEAL.]  
ABRAHAM DAVENPORT, [SEAL.]  
WILLIAM DAVIS, [SEAL.]  
EBENEZER STEPHENS. [SEAL.]

Signed and sealed in the presence of

JAMES WELLS,  
THOMAS McCLURE,  
JAMES MOORE,

Recorded June 15, 1820.

Commissioners' office, July 31, 1820. John Lenox, collector for this year of the county levy, gave bond agreeable to law for the faithful discharge of the duties of his said office, together with Daniel V. Dingman and William Drake his surety, in the sum of \$445.62, and took the oath of office, and received the duplicate of levy.

September 5, 1820. Commissioners met. Present: Robert McClure, William Berry, Joseph Millinger, and D. Henry, Clerk.

Ordered that Matthias Sturm, Henry Princehouse, and William Bothel, together with Benjamin S. Cox, surveyor, taking to his assistance two chain-

men and one blazer, proceed on the 16th inst. to view and lay out a road, beginning at or near the southwest corner of section 2, township 2, range 13; thence east to the county line, and make report to the board at the next meeting.

Jesse Jackson received his lease for lot No. 2, in school section township 1, range 7, and paid his first year's rent.

On application of James Botkin, Levi Johnston, William Botkin, John Carpenter *et al.*, it is ordered that William W. Cecil, Henry Levalley, and Jacob Wise, taking to their assistance a skillful surveyor, two chainmen, and one blazer, proceed on the 13th inst. to lay off the school section in township 9, range 5, into convenient lots, and appraise the same agreeable to law, and make report of proceedings to the board at next meeting.

Ordered that Benjamin Manning, Philip Coleman, and Edward Dwire, viewers, together with Benjamin S. Cox, surveyor, taking to his assistance two chainmen and one blazer, proceed on the 20th inst. to view and lay out a road as follows, towit: Beginning at the north end of Main street of Sidney; thence up the river to the road from Dingmansburg to Wapakoneta, near Rodham Talbott's; thence with said road to the hill near Elisha Kirtland's; thence an easterly course to William Hathaway's; thence to the ford of Miami above George Morrison's; thence the nearest and best way to the county line between Logan and Shelby counties to intersect the road from Mosquito creek to Bellefontaine and make report to next meeting of the board.

Ordered that Robert Houston, Sr., William Morrison, Charles Johnston, together with Benjamin S. Cox, surveyor, taking to his assistance two chainmen and one blazer, proceed on the 29th inst. to view and lay out a road to Sidney; to begin at the bridge on the road from Ruckman's; thence north to the south end of Main street of Sidney, and make report at the next meeting of the board.

Ordered that Robert Houston, William Morris, and Charles Johnston, together with Benjamin S. Cox, surveyor, and assistants, proceed on the 29th inst. to view and lay out a road from the southward of Ohio street, in Sidney; thence south to the Muddy run; thence down the run to the new bridge on the road to Ruckman's mill, and make report to the commissioners at the next regular meeting.

Ordered that the collector of the county levy may receive current paper in payment for the county levy.

John Lenox, collector of the state tax, gave bond, with Daniel Vandemark and Rodham Talbott, his sureties, for the faithful discharge of the duty of his office in the sum of \$4,000, and took the oath of office according to law.

Samuel McClure, road commissioner, deposited a bond in this office for the faithful discharge of his duties, with Samuel Stewart and Eleazer Hathaway as securities, in the sum of \$1,000.

Ordered that Edward Dwire have, in part of his contract for court house, \$26.36.

Ordered that John Lenox have, in part of Dwire's contract, \$23.97.

Ordered that Elisha Williams have, in part of Dwire's contract, \$77.33.

Ordered that Rodham Talbott have, for listing Perry township this year, \$4.00.

Ordered that Michael Young, a judge of election for Orange township, October 12, 1819, have for one day, \$1.00.

Ordered that John Francis, appraiser of property for Orange township, 1820, have for one day, \$1.00.

Ordered that Thomas W. Ruckman, sheriff, have for summoning grand jury April and September terms, \$2.00 each, \$4.00.

Ordered that Henry Bacon, Esq., have for his fee as prosecuting attorney September or present term, \$15.00.

Ordered that Aaron Harkness, Henry Levalley, Gideon Wright, Cephas Carey, Jeremiah White, Abraham Minnear, Alexander Miller, William Gibson, Thomas Hurley, Samuel McClure, William Morrow, Collin Aldrich, Isaac Robins, Hezekiah Hubble, Philip Coleman, have each, for one day's service as grand jurors for September term, 1820, \$1.50.

Samuel Marshall, road commissioner, deposited his bond in this office, with Robert Aldrich and Thomas McClish as sureties, in the sum of \$1.000 for the faithful discharge of his official duties.

Adjourned to the first Saturday of November next.

ROBERT MCCLURE,  
WM. BERRY,  
JOSEPH MELLINGER.

Attest, D. HENRY, *Clerk*.

November 4, 1820. The board of commissioners met. Present: William Berry, Joseph Mellinger, and David Henry, clerk.

David Henry appeared and produced a certificate of his election as commissioner in this board, and of his qualification, and accordingly took his seat.

Adjourned without day.

WM. BERRY,  
JOSEPH MELLINGER.

December 10, 1820. The board of commissioners met. Present: William Berry, Joseph Mellinger, and David Henry, the latter acting as clerk.

Ordered that the qualified electors in the second township in range 13 west, meet on the second Saturday in January next, to elect three trustees and a treasurer for the school section in said township.

The report of the viewers appointed to view and lay out a road from the south end of Ohio street, in Sidney, to Frenchman bridge, is received; they have performed their service and, the same being read in open meeting yesterday and today, and no objection being made, the same is established a public highway and made sixty feet wide.

The report of the viewers appointed to view a road from Sidney, up

the river to the Logan county line, is received and, the same being read in open meeting yesterday and today, and no objection made, the same is established a public highway, to be opened forty feet wide.

The report of the viewers appointed to lay out a road from the Mosquito creek road to West Liberty is received and, the same being read in open session yesterday and today, and no objection being made, the same is established a public highway, forty feet wide.

Adjourned *sine die*.

WM. BERRY,  
ROBERT McCLURE,  
JOSEPH MELLINGER.

Attest, D. HENRY, *Clerk*.

March 31, 1821. The board of commissioners met. Present: William Berry and D. Henry. Settled in full with Samuel Marshall, road commissioner on the road from Piqua to Wapakoneta, and find that he has judiciously filled his obligations of office.

Adjourned.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of Loramie and Turtle Creek townships, praying to alter the road from William Morrow's, by way of Steinberger's mill to Sidney, was read and laid over until the next meeting. Record of Rodham Talbott's road, between Miami river and Plumb creek, as altered by William Johnston, John Francis, and Daniel Dingman, on the 3d of March, 1820. Established under date of March 3, 1821.

June 4, 1821. The board of commissioners met. Present: William Berry, Joseph Mellinger, David Henry, and J. Wells, clerk.

Received the list for county levy for Perry, Green, Orange, Turtle Creek, and Loramie townships. Settled with Robert Aldrich, late county auditor, and allowed his final amount of \$12,12½, and direct the present auditor to draw an order on the treasurer for the same.

Received a petition, signed by Jesse Jackson, for an alteration of the road near his house, leading from Sidney to Bellefontaine, which being granted, ordered that Daniel Vandemark, James Dingman, and John Francis, together with Benjamin S. Cox, surveyor, and assistants, proceed on the 9th instant to alter said road, beginning at the corner of George Morrison's fence; thence northwesterly to the top of the bank; thence along the bank to or near said Jackson's house, an easterly course across the run and river above the road and usual place of crossing.

Settled with John Lenox, collector for 1820, and find he has fulfilled the duties of his office, and is entitled to lift his bond.

Settled with Samuel McClure, road commissioner for the state road from Piqua to Fort Loramie, and find that he has faithfully performed the duties assigned him.

Allowed Samuel McClure \$45.00 for his services as road commissioner for above-named road, and direct the auditor to draw an order for the same on the county treasurer.

June 5. The rate of the county levy is established at the highest allowed by law.

Allowed Elisha Williams for work on the court house as per bill, \$57.25 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; and ordered that the county auditor draw on the treasurer for the same.

Allowed Alexander McKee for work on the jail, \$3.00, as per bill; and ordered that the county auditor draw on the treasurer for the same.

The board appoints Jonathan Beatty county treasurer, and directs the clerk to take security according to law.

Appoints Thomas W. Ruckman collector of the state and county tax. The county levy at 8 per cent., and the state tax at 4 per cent.; and directs the auditor to take security, agreeable to law, in \$2,000, for the state tax; and \$1,000 for the county levy.

Allowed William Beatty \$2.00 for work on the jail as per bill, and ordered that the county auditor draw on the treasurer for the same.

Jonathan Beatty appeared and gave bond as treasurer, and was duly sworn as the law directs.

Adjourned to June 16th.

June 9, 1821. This day Gideon Wright appeared and gave bond on his appeal from the decision of the board of commissioners, rejecting the petition for an alteration of the county road leading from Steinberger's mill to Sidney.

*J. WELLS, Clerk of Board.*

June 16, 1821. The board met pursuant to adjournment from the 5th instant, for the purpose of contracting for the building of a chimney and filling the walls of the court house. Present: William Berry, David Henry, and James Wells, clerk.

Contracted with John Snider for the above at \$130. The work to be completed by the last of October next.

Adjourned without day.

December 3, 1821. The board convened at the court house, in Sidney. William Berry's time of service having expired, and David Henry having resigned, an election for two commissioners was held in October last. John Wilson appeared, presented his certificate of election, and, being duly sworn, took his seat. Present: Joseph Mellinger, John Wilson, and James Wells, clerk.

Received a petition of sundry inhabitants of Clinton, Green and Orange townships for a county road from Ruckman's, by John Francis to the east line of the county.

Ordered that William Berry, Matthias Sturns, Jr., and Isaac Parks, taking to their assistance a skillful surveyor, two chainmen, and one marker, proceed on the 13th inst. to view and locate a road from Ruckman's saw mill easterly through John Francis's land; thence to Bush creek, below Sycamore bottom; thence to or near Jonathan Nichols; thence to John Medaris'



mill; thence to the east boundary line of this county, in section No. 6, township 2, range 12, at or near the center of said section line.

Ordered that the clerk grant receipts, one to George Childs for plank furnished for public buildings, to offset against donation to the county seat; one to Peter Musselman for the same. George Childs, \$20.00. Peter Musselman, \$12.25.

Ordered that David Henry have a receipt for \$11.25, for five days' service as clerk of board, to offset against his donation to the county.

Ordered that John Snider be allowed \$130 for work on the court house, and direct the auditor to draw on the treasurer for the same, \$130.00.

Ordered that Elisha Williams have \$14.40 for 144 lights of sash, and direct the auditor to draw an order for the same, \$14.40.

An order of court having been served on the board: Ordered that the clerk certify the records appertaining to the alteration of the road petitioned for by Gideon Wright and others.

A report was received, submitted by James Dingman, Daniel Vandemark, and John Francis, viewers, for the location of a road from Sidney to Bellefontaine, which report was duly considered, and the viewed and platted road established a public highway.

The following report was also received and ordered to be recorded:

Upper Piqua, November 30, 1821.

Gentlemen: In pursuance of an act of the last general assembly authorizing the establishment of a state road from Wapakoneta to Fort Meigs, the undersigned, commissioners appointed for the purpose, have discharged the duties imposed on them by law. An account of their proceedings will be found in the *Piqua Gazette* of the 18th of October, 1821, which was communicated for public information, a paper containing their report is herewith transmitted, and to which we beg leave to refer as forming a part of this our official return as required by law.

A report was made from Fort Meigs to the commissioners of Wood county, and a plat of the road has since been forwarded to them in obedience to the law.

Mr. Benjamin S. Cox will hand to your board a plat of the road, which with their communication will constitute our report to the commissioners of Shelby county. An account of the expenses will be furnished to your board hereafter.

JOHN JOHNSTON, of Miami county,  
SAMUEL MARSHALL, of Shelby county,  
*Commissioners.*

A true copy.

Attest, J. WELLS,

*Clerk of board of commissioners of Shelby county.*

March 4, 1822. The board convened at the court house in Sidney. Major John Lenox appeared and produced a certificate of his election to

this board, and being duly sworn to discharge the duties of the office, took his seat. Present: John Wilson, John Lenox, and James Wells, clerk.

Ordered that the auditor draw an order in favor of William Johnston for \$1.00 for hauling plank for court house floor.

Received the report of the road viewers appointed at the last session, which was read.

Received of William Johnson the treasurer's receipt for \$54.37½, in payment of his donation to the county.

Received of George Pool the treasurer's receipt for \$1.00, in part payment of his donation to the county.

Received the petition of sundry inhabitants of Perry and Clinton townships, praying for a road beginning at the east end of South street in Sidney, and thence to Water street in Dingmansburg.

Ordered that Abraham Dingman, Elisha Williams, and Robert McClure, viewers, with legal assistance, proceed to view said road on the 9th inst., and make report at next session of the board.

Ordered that the auditor draw an order in favor of David Henry for furnishing glass and whiting for the court house, \$10.62½.

The board settled with Thomas W. Ruckman, collector of the state tax for 1821, and find he has performed the duties, and is discharged from his bond for the same. Also settled with said Ruckman as collector of county levy for 1821, and discharge him from his bond for same.

Adjourned till tomorrow.

March 5, 1822. Present: John Wilson and James Wells, clerk. No other commissioner appearing, adjourned *sine die*.

JAMES WELLS, Clerk.

June 3, 1822. The board convened at the court house. Present: Joseph Mellinger, John Wilson, John Lenox, and James Wells, clerk.

Allowed John Francis for four days' service as lister and appraiser of property for Orange township in 1822, \$4.00.

Allowed Henry Sturm for serving as lister and appraiser of property for Green township in 1822, \$3.50.

Allowed Mathias Sturm as appraiser of property for Green township in 1822, 50 cents.

Allowed James Lenox as lister and appraiser of property for Turtle Creek township in 1822, \$5.00.

Allowed Conrad Funk as lister and appraiser of property for Loramie township for 1822, \$5.00.

Allowed Alexander Miller as appraiser of property for Loramie township for 1822, \$1.00.

Allowed Frederic Steinberger as appraiser of property in Turtle Creek township for 1822, \$1.00.

Allowed Samuel McKean as appraiser of property for Orange township for 1822, \$1.00.

Allowed George Pool as lister and appraiser of property for Clinton township in 1822, \$5.00.

Allowed John Johnston appraiser of property for Clinton township for 1822, \$2.00.

Allowed Samuel Wilkinson lister and appraiser of Perry township for 1822, \$4.00.

Allowed Elijah Monterey as appraiser of property for Perry township for 1822, \$1.00.

Received the petition of sundry inhabitants of Loramie township praying for a division of said township, and said petition being granted: Ordered that a record be made thereof agreeable to the prayer of the petition, and an election for township officers be held at the house of Alexander Miller in said township, on the 4th day of July next.

Allowed Daniel Vandemark for furnishing wood for court term, of December, 1821, \$1.87½.

The board appoints Alexander McKee collector of the county levy and state tax, and allowed him two per cent on each.

Ordered that the county levy be established at the highest rate allowed by law.

Adjourned until to-morrow.

June 4, 1822. The board met pursuant to adjournment, the full board present.

The report of the viewers appointed to locate a road from Ruckman's saw-mill to the east line of the county was read yesterday and to-day, and no objection being made the same is declared a public highway to be opened forty feet wide, and so recorded.

John Wilson and John Lenox determined the term of their service as commissioners by lot resulting in Wilson holding for three and Lenox for two years from date of election.

The report of the viewers appointed to view and locate a road from South street in Sidney to Water street in Dingmansburg was read in open session yesterday and to-day, and no objection being made the same is ordered to be recorded a public highway to be opened sixty feet wide.

Allowed Alexander McKee for repairs on the jail and lock for same, \$1.87½.

The board appointed Jonathan Beatty treasurer of the county.

Allowed Wm. Beatty's account for repairs on the jail, \$1.75.

Jonathan Beatty appeared and gave bond for the performance of the duties of the office, and was duly qualified as the law directs.

The commissioners examined the auditor's vouchers and accounts, and approve the same, and direct him to publish an exhibit of the county's expenses from June 4, 1821, to June 4, 1822.

Adjourned *sine die*.

MELLINGER,  
WILSON,  
LENOX,  
*Commissioners.*

WELLS, *Clerk.*

December 2, 1822. The board convened at the house of John Blake. Present: John Wilson and William Berry, commissioners, and James Wells, clerk.

Since last session, Joseph Mellinger's time having expired and John Lenox having resigned, Wm. Berry and Joseph Mellinger were elected at the last October election to fill said vacancies.

Allowed Montgomery Evans \$5.00 as judge of election for Auglaize township and returning poll book.

Received the petition of Charles Sterrett *et al.* to vacate the road running from Ohio street south and Main street north, in the town of Sidney, leading to Barbara Tilburg's, which was read this day without objections.

Received the petition of Charles Sterrett *et al.* to vacate a road leading from South street in Sidney, to Dingmansburg; also, one running up the west side of the river, which was read this day.

Allowed the bill of expenses laid in this day by John Johnston and Samuel Marshall, road commissioners, who located the state road from Wapakoneta to Fort Meigs.

Received the petition of Jeremiah Redinbaugh *et al.* praying a road to be laid out, commencing at the south boundary, at the end of the road leading from Dayton up Lost creek, near Fleming Jones', and running thence northwesterly to or near Michael Young's; thence through John Stoker's lane; thence to or near the southwest corner of the southeast quarter of section 1, town 1, range 13; thence north to intersect the road leading from the east boundary line to Ruckman & Stewart's mill.

Received the petition of Wm. Richardson and others praying for a road commencing at the road leading from Sidney to Urbana, at or near the Bellefontaine road; thence south across Mosquito creek; thence along the high bank of Leatherwood to the old ford; thence the best way to the northeast corner of Jonathan Nicolas's land; thence south along his line; thence southwest to Byron Wilson's; thence to John Stoker's; thence to Michael Young's north line; thence west to intersect the Piqua road.

Adjourned till to-morrow.

December 3, 1822. Present: Wilson and Berry.

Received the remonstrance of John Blake and others against vacating the road from the northeast corner of the public square in Sidney to the ford near Henry Bryan's; whereupon John Lenox, John Johnston, and Richard Lenox were appointed viewers to view said road on the 14th inst. and report at next session.

The first petition of Charles Sterrett was read this day, and no objection being made, was ordered to lay over to the next session.

The petition of Jeremiah Redinbaugh and Wm. Richardson was read this day, and no objections being made, viewers were appointed to view said road on the 25th inst.

John Lenox, John Johnston, and Richard Lenox were appointed to view, on the 14th inst., the road petitioned to be vacated by Charles Sterrett and remonstrated to by John Blake, to report at next session.

Daniel Vandemark, Peter Musselman, and Booth Burdette were appointed to view the road petitioned for by Wm. Richardson.

John Lucas, John Medaris, and John Underwood were appointed viewers on the road petitioned for by Jeremiah Redinbaugh.

Received a transcript from the docket of James Lenox, Esq., certified by the clerk of the court for costs in state cases before said Lenox, which is laid over to the next session.

Adjourned *sine die*.

JOHN WILSON,  
WM. BERRY.

March 3, 1823. The board convened at the house of Francis Kendall, in Sidney. Present: John Wilson, Wm. Berry, and James Wells, clerk.

Received the report of the viewers appointed to view and report the expediency of vacating the road leading from the northeast corner of the public square in Sidney to Henry Bryan's ford; and they report that it is inexpedient to vacate said road; signed by John Lenox and John Johnston, viewers.

Received the petition of Isaac Davis and others praying for a county road, which is deferred until the first Monday of June next.

Allowed T. W. Ruckman's account for one pair of irons to convey Glassmire to the penitentiary, \$1.18 $\frac{3}{4}$ .

John Lucas, a road viewer, having removed, Peter Princehouse is appointed to serve in his stead.

Received the commissioner's report and surveyor's plat of a state road from Bellefontaine, in Logan county, to Sidney, and the same is ordered to be recorded.

Adjourned *sine die*.

JOHN WILSON,  
WM. BERRY,  
*Commissioners.*

June 2, 1823. The commissioners convened at the court house in Sidney. Present: John Wilson, Joseph Mellinger, Wm. Berry, and James Wells, clerk.

Allowed Gabriel T. Wilkinson for services as lister and appraiser for Perry township, 1823, \$5.00.

Allowed Benjamin Manning for services as appraiser for Perry township, 1823, \$1.00.

Allowed John Francis for services as lister and appraiser for Orange township, 1823, \$4.00.

Allowed Wm. Minear for service as appraiser for Orange township, 1823, \$1.00.

Allowed John Johnston for service as lister and appraiser for Clinton township, 1823, \$5.00.

Allowed Wm. Johnston for services as appraiser for Clinton township, 1823, \$1.00.

Allowed Samuel Marshall for services as lister and appraiser for Turtle creek, 1823, \$6.00.

Allowed Joseph Steinberger for service as appraiser for Turtle Creek township, 1823, \$1.00.

Allowed A. W. Hathaway for listing and appraising Loramie township, 1823, \$3.00.

Allowed John Gates for service as lister and appraiser for Cynthian township for 1823, \$4.00.

Allowed Jacob Wise for service as appraiser for Cynthian township, 50 cents.

Allowed John Bodkin, as lister and appraiser of property for Green township, 1823, \$3.50.

Allowed L. Nichols, appraiser of same, 50 cents.

Allowed John Workman, road commissioner, to locate the state road from Bellefontaine, in Logan county, to Sidney, five days.

Allowed Joseph Bennett, a commissioner in same, five days. Thomas Thompson, surveyor in the same, six days and a half. Wm. Minnear and Jacob Woodcock, chainmen in same: 2  $\frac{2}{3}$  days to Minnear; 3  $\frac{1}{4}$  days to Woodcock, Thomas Dickson, and Benj. Schoder, blazers; one day to Dickson, and 2  $\frac{1}{4}$  days to Schoder.

The petition of Isaac Davis and others, laid over from last session, was this day read without objection.

The petition of Elisha Kirkland and others praying to alter to state road leading from Sidney to Logan county-seat, so as to save the fence and spring of said Kirkland, beginning at the Four Mile Tree, thence to the top of the ridge west of his house; the same was granted at his own expense. Benjamin Manning, James Dingman, Jr., and G. W. Wilkinson were appointed viewers to view the same the 18th inst., and report at next session.

Received the petition of sundry citizens of Allen county praying that said county may be organized into a separate township, said petition being granted: Ordered that record be made thereof agreeable to the prayer of the petition, and an election for township officers be held at the house of Samuel Washburn in said township on the 4th day of July next; said township to be known by the name of Amanda.

Adjourned until to-morrow.

Met June 3 pursuant to adjournment.

Examined the books and vouchers of the auditor and found them correct, and direct him to publish an exhibit of the expenses of the county.

The board appoint Jonathan Beatty county treasurer for the year ensuing, and direct the auditor to take bond in the sum of \$3,000.

The board appoint John Blake collector of the state tax and county levy for the year 1823 at one-half of one per cent for such.

The petition of Isaac Davis and others was read this day, and no one appearing to give bond the same is dismissed.

Joseph Mellinger and Wm. Berry, both elected commissioners in October last, Mr. Mellinger's time expires in October next, and Mr. Berry's in October, 1825.

Allowed Elisha Williams for desk for use of auditor, \$6.50.

Adjourned *sine die*.

JOHN WILSON,  
JOSEPH MELLINGER,  
WM. BERRY,  
*Commissioners.*

Monday, December 1, 1823. The board convened at the home of John Blake in Sidney. Present: John Wilson, Wm. Berry, and Joseph Mellinger (re-elected) commissioners, and James Wells, clerk.

Received the surveyors' plat and field notes of the state road located from Wapakoneta to Fort Brown, at the mouth of the Little Auglaize river.

Received and accepted the report of the viewers appointed last June session to review and alter the state road passing by Elisha Kirkland, and ordered said alteration recorded.

Allowed Wm. Vaniam for repairs on the door of the jail, 75 cents.

Received the plat and field notes of the survey of the county road from the south line of the county, and terminating on the road leading from Ruckman's mill to the east line of the county.

Allowed B. S. Cox for survey and plat as above, for survey two days and plat, \$4.00.

Allowed John Miles for one day, 50 cents.

Allowed George Barker for the same service, 50 cents.

Allowed John W. Stoker one day as balance on the above road, 50 cents.

Allowed Robert Houston and John M. Corkle, commissioners who located the state road from Fort Loramie to St. Mary's, each five days at \$1.75 per day.

Allowed B. S. Cox for surveying said road four days at \$2.00 per day.

Allowed James Houston and John Houston, chainmen on same, four days each at 75 cents per day.

Allowed David Houston four days as blazer at 75 cents per day.

Adjourned *sine die*.

JOHN WILSON,  
JOSEPH MELLINGER,  
WM. BERRY,  
*Commissioners.*

Attest, JAMES WELLS, *Clerk.*

First Monday of March, 1824. The board convened at the home of John Blake in Sidney. Present: Wm. Berry and Joseph Mellinger, commissioners, and James Wells, clerk. John Wilson, commissioner, also appointed.

Ordered that the county treasurer proceed according to law to collect

the rents due on the school section No. 16, in township 7, range 6 east, of the principal meridian line drawn from the mouth of the Great Miami river, in the district of lands sold at the land office at Cincinnati.

Ordered that the road commencing near Fleming Jones's, at the south line of the county, and terminating at the road leading from Ruckman's mill to the east line of the county near John Francis's, be recorded and opened a public highway to be thirty feet wide.

Allowed John R. Medaris for one day viewing road from south line of the county, intersecting the road from Ruckman's mill to the east line of the county, 75 cents.

Elisha Williams is appointed keeper of the county seal, and authorized to procure a standard half bushel, and seal S. C. S., at the expense of the county.

Ordered that the clerk give public notice that if the donors of the county seat of Shelby county do not pay their several donations previous to the first Monday in June that legal steps will be taken to recover the same.

Adjourned *sine die*.

JOHN WILSON,  
WM. BERRY,  
JOSEPH MELLINGER,  
*Commissioners.*

Attest, JAMES WELLS, *Clerk.*

Same time as above allowed Elisha Williams (a transcript of certain state cases wherein the state of Ohio failed) to receive orders from the auditor on the treasurer for the costs on his obtaining the certificate of the clerk of the court of common pleas as to the correctness of the same.

April 23, 1824. Present: John Wilson, Joseph Mellinger, and Wm. Berry.

The board having received the resignation of James Wells, late auditor for Shelby county, and appointed David Henry to fill the vacancy, who appeared and gave bond according to law, with Wm. Pratt and James Dingman, Jr., his security, for the faithful performance of the duties of said office, and took the oath of office.

Adjourned to meet the first Monday in June. Signed by the board.

June 7, 1824. Present: Full board.

Allowed Thomas W. Ruckman, late sheriff, for his extra services from the 14th of January, 1823, to the expiration of his term of service, \$30.

Allowed George Pool, lister of Clinton township, for this year's services, \$4.00.

Allowed James Garver, appraiser, \$1.00.

Allowed John Francis, lister for Orange township, for this year's services, \$4.00.

Allowed to D. Minnear, appraiser, \$1.00.

Allowed Samuel Marshall, lister of Turtle Creek township, \$4.00. James Steinberger, appraiser, \$1.00. Robert Swaney, lister of Amanda township.



\$3.00. G. F. Wilkinson, lister of Perry township, \$4.00. Thomas E. English, appraiser as above, \$1.00. John Botkin, lister of Green township, \$4.00. Jonathan Nicols, appraiser, 50 cents. Stever Julian, lister of Loramie township, \$3.00. John Beck, appraiser as above, \$1.00. Wm. Hicks, lister of Cynthian township, \$3.00.

Allowed Joseph Stewart, surveyor, for surveying the road from Mosquito creek to Michael Young's, three days, \$4.50. Booth Burdette, two days' viewing same, \$1.50. Peter Musselman, same service, \$1.50. Chas. Johnston, chainman, \$1.50. Wm. Montgomery, chainman, \$1.50. Peter Princehouse, as viewer, 75 cents. Robert Cunningham, marker, 75 cents. John Stoker, marker, 75 cents.

June 8th. Commissioners met. Present: Full board.

Ordered that Charles Sterrett, proprietor of Sidney, have an order for \$520.66, his full half of the proceeds of sale of lots sold in Sidney, that is now made. Except three-fourths of three lots considered forfeited for non-payment, to wit, lots Nos. 13, 88, and 91, one-fourth of which has been paid and accounted for; the other three-fourths depend only on the lots for payment, which, when collected, is to be accounted for, or one-half of what the lots may bring.

Allowed Elisha Williams for work done at court house, \$20.00.

Allowed James Wells, late auditor, for one day's service for bringing his account up to the date of his resignation, \$1.50; also for measure seal, \$1.50. \$3.00.

The report of the viewers appointed to locate a road beginning at the Bellefontaine road on Mosquito creek, thence past Jonathan Nichols, John Stoker, and Michael Young, to intersect the Piqua road; and the same being read in open meeting yesterday and to-day, and no objections being made, the same is established a public highway, to be opened thirty feet wide.

Received the petition of James Dingman, Jr., and others, praying the vacation of a part of the state road from Sidney to Bellefontaine, from Plumb creek to E. Kirtland's; the same being read yesterday and today, is laid over to next meeting.

Received the petition of Francis Kendall and others, praying the vacation of the above state road from E. Kirkland to Alex. Jackson's; and the same being read yesterday and to-day, is laid over to next meeting.

The county levy is set this year to the highest extent of the law.

Thomas W. Ruckman came and settled his donation given to the county by giving his note, payable in lumber, December next.

Allowed Jonathan Beatty, treasurer, for attending to the collection of rents in school section range 6, town. 7, two days, \$3.00.

Francis Rook has varied his donation subscribed to the commissioners by giving a note for a barrel of whiskey, payable the first Monday in December next.

William Beatty is allowed for collecting county levy 4 per cent; for state tax, 3 per cent.

William Beatty is appointed collector of the state and county tax;

reappears and gave bond, with John Johnston, Robert Blakely, Jonathan Beatty, and Nathan Coleman, his sureties; the county levy in the sum of \$1,000; and the state tax same securities, in \$2,000, and took oath of office in both.

The petition of George Carey and others was received and read, praying for an alteration of the Mill creek road running through Carey's land, beginning twelve rods below the branch, at Rufus Carey's; thence to Rufus Carey's rope works; thence to a white oak four rods east of Elias Carey's house; thence to George Carey's land; thence to intersect the old road at or near the mile end. And Aaron Cecil, John Furgus, and Jeremiah White are appointed to view the same, and make report according to law on the third day of July.

June 9. Ordered that the auditor procure the eaves of the court house to be boxed, the windows not glazed to be boarded up, the doors hung, and house cleaned, and steps made for the jail door; also locks put on court house doors.

*Treasurer's Report of Shelby County for the year ending 1824.*

To uncurrent paper . . . . .	\$ 6.25
To Esquire Lenox for fines . . . . .	7.00
To Auditor (for state tax) . . . . .	136.39½
To Auditor, county purposes . . . . .	34.92
To Director of Sidney . . . . .	124.77
To Esquire Henry, fines . . . . .	2.00
To A. McClintock, donation . . . . .	20.00
To B. Brandon, donation . . . . .	6.00
To G. Pool, donation . . . . .	4.00
To A. Evans, licenses . . . . .	11.27½
To self, permits . . . . .	5.33¼
To schools and roads . . . . .	230.33¾
To money due county last year . . . . .	5.91
	<hr/>
	\$600.06

To the balance due county per settlement, \$38.47, exclusive of the county portion of state tax for 1823, and other collections for the same year.

*In Account with Shelby County.*

By money paid for school . . . . .	\$ 4.00
By money paid Robert McClure, road . . . . .	13.63¾
By money paid J. McClure . . . . .	11.06½
By money paid Turtle Creek . . . . .	10.94
By money paid J. Blake . . . . .	112.61
By money paid Jas. Wells . . . . .	5.00
By money paid self . . . . .	5.33

By money paid Cynthian, road.....	\$ 11.97
By money paid orders redeemed.....	262.37 $\frac{3}{4}$
By uncurrent paper.....	6.25
By road receipts.....	117.61
By balance due county.....	38.47
	<hr/>
	\$600.06

Signed, J. BEATTY, S. C. T.

Jonathan Beatty is appointed county treasurer, who appears and gave bond according to law, with William Beatty, John Whitmore, and James Roby as his sureties, and took oath of office.

Examined the orders issued by the old and new auditor, and found them correct.

Adjourned.

JOHN WILSON,  
JOSEPH MELLINGER,  
WM. BERRY,  
*Commissioners.*

D. HENRY, *Clerk.*

Nov. 13. A special meeting of the commissioners, for the purpose of improving the public building.

John Hathaway and Charles Johnston produced their certificates of election and were sworn into office, and proceeded to business. Repairing the court house and jail was the object of the meeting. The contract with Nicholas Smith to plaster the room for the clerk's office in the manner stipulated in his contract, in which he agrees to do the work for \$12.00. The repairing on the jail was laid over until their regular session in December.

Adjourned.

December 6, 1824. Present: Full board.

The account by John Blake, in favor of Ira Dickson, assigned to said Blake for house-rent for an office to H. B. Foote, is allowed \$9.50.

John Francis, for fuel for court up to present, \$2.12 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

John Blake, for room-rent for the last grand jury, is allowed \$2.00.

Joseph Stewart, surveyor of the road from Sidney to St. Marys, is allowed \$11.37.

Asa Hinkle, commissioner on said road, is allowed \$6.63. John Johnston, commissioner, \$5.70. Christ F. Tilberry and Parker, \$3.80. Jos. Blake and Henry Bryan, chainmen, \$5.70. Henry Smith, marker, \$2.85.

The petition of Matthew Sturms and others, praying for a road beginning at the West Liberty road, thence through the land of E. Sargent and P. Locker to the Dayton road, was received and read; and Philip Locker, Jacob Kyser, and Henry Sturms are appointed viewers of the same; or any two of them, together with Joseph Stewart, surveyor, and legal assistance,

is to proceed on the 16th instant to locate said road, and make report at the next session of this board.

December 7. The board met. Present as before.

The petition of Francis Kendall and others, praying for a vacation of that part of the state road leading from Sidney to Bellefontaine, that runs through said Kendall's and Jackson's land, that was read last session, was again read, and no objections made, and it appearing to the board to be reasonable, the same is hereby declared vacated.

The petition of James Dingman and others, that was read last session, praying for the vacation of the state road through said Dingman's land, was taken up and read; no objections being made, the said petition was granted.

The report of the viewers, appointed last session, to view the county road past Rufus Carey's to Sidney, was received with plat of survey, which being read, and no objections made, the same was granted.

John Hathaway and Charles Johnston, the late commissioners elected, drew lots for their term of office. John Hathaway drawing for one year, and Charles Johnston for three years.

Allowed to Joseph Garver for washboard and facing for two windows in court house, \$2.00.

Ordered that the qualified electors of the original surveyed township No. 7, range 6, to be notified to hold an election, on the first day of January next, at the house of James Barnett, to elect three trustees and one treasurer, to take charge of the school section.

Allowed James Wells for books, stationery, and drayage, \$8.31 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

David Henry, county auditor, for his services to this date, \$45.57.

Ordered that the clerk collect and record all townships and roads on file in this office.

Adjourned.

JOSEPH MELLINGER,  
JOHN HATHAWAY,  
CHAS. JOHNSTON.

*Commissioners.*

Attest, D. HENRY, *Clerk.*

Commissioners' Office, Shelby Co., O., March 7, 1825. Commissioners met. Present: Full Board.

Allowed David Henry, late auditor, the amount of his bill up to March 1, \$25.00.

The board appointed Wm. W. Cecil, Benj. Blankinship, and Samuel Marshall, appraisers to view and revalue school fraction No. 16, town. 1, range 7 east, on the tenth day of March next, in accordance with an act of the general assembly.

Ordered by the board that the inhabitants of township 8, range 6 east, meet at John Stephens' on the 19th instant and proceed to elect three trustees and one treasurer for school section 16, for the purpose of organizing the said original surveyed township.

Ordered by the board that a new township be created out of the townships of Turtle Creek, Clinton, and Loramie, beginning at the N. E. corner of fraction 11, township 7, range 6 east on the river, and running west to the S. E. corner of section 4; thence north along said line to the centre of said line; thence west to the centre of the west line of section 2, township 9, range 5 east; thence south along the section line to the county line; thence east to the Miami river; thence up the river to the place of beginning, be organized into a new township by the name of Grayson, and that the qualified electors meet at the house of Joseph Stewart on the first Monday of April next to elect township officers.

March 8. The board met pursuant to adjournment. Received the report of the viewers appointed last session to view and lay out a road from the West Liberty road south to the county line, and being real in open session, and there being no objection, the same was granted.

Ordered that the auditor procure the following work to be done in the court house: to fit the banisters on the south side of the doors and make sufficient benches from the banisters to the south end of the house on each side to make a bench for the judges on the south end of the house, to be raised two feet from the floor; a writing desk ten feet long and four feet wide, with sloping top; and fill the windows with glass.

Allowed James Wells \$1.00 for two set of door latches for court house, and one quire of paper.

Allowed Thos. W. Ruckman, auditor, his account of four dollars (\$4.00).

Adjourned.

JOSEPH MELLINGER,  
JOHN HATHAWAY,  
CHAS. JOHNSTON.  
*Commissioners.*

Attest, THOMAS W. RUCKMAN, *Clerk.*

Samuel McClure, of Loramie township, appeared and gave notice of his taking an appeal from the commissioners to the court of common pleas, respecting the creating of Grayson township in Shelby county, and also gave bond for costs, with James Wells as security.

March 12, 1825.

THOS. W. RUCKMAN.

Commissioners' Office, Sidney, June 6, 1825. The board met. Present: Joseph Mellinger, John Hathaway and Charles Johnston, and Thos. W. Ruckman, clerk.

Received the petition of George Layman and others, praying for a road to be established, beginning at the east line of section 5, where the road crosses leading to Dayton from Sidney, and running south with said line to the southeast corner of section 4, town. 1, range 12, to intersect a road leading from Troy up Spring street.

The board appoints John Lucas, John Miles and Wm. Bireley viewers, to view and locate the above-named road, taking to their assistance the county surveyor and other assistance necessary, on the 18th day of June inst.

The board allow Stephen Julian, lister of Loranie township, for 1825, \$5.00.

Allowed Jacob Shayley, lister of Cynthia township, for 1825, \$5.00.

Allowed John Francis, lister of Orange township, 1825, \$4.50.

Allowed Samuel B. Musselman lister of Perry township, 1825, \$4.00.

Allowed Aquilla Ellsworth, lister of Green township, 1825, \$4.50.

Allowed Jas. A. Graham, lister of Turtle Creek township, 1825, \$5.00.

Allowed Elisha Williams, lister of Clinton township, for 1825, \$3.50.

Allowed Joseph Steinberger, appraiser of Turtle Creek township, 1825, \$1.00.

Allowed Wm. Minnear, appraiser of Orange township, 1825, \$1.00.

Allowed George Myers, appraiser of Cynthia township, 1825, \$1.00.

Allowed James Roberts, appraiser of Perry township, 1825, \$1.00.

Allowed James Forsythe, appraiser of Clinton township, 1825, \$1.00.

Allowed Joseph Sutton for listing Amanda township, \$3.00.

Mr. Wm. Beatty, collector of Shelby county for 1824, produced the state treasurer's receipt for \$165.43.2.

Also the state auditor's receipt for receipts paid into the county treasury, to wit: for road purposes, \$168.00.7; for county purposes, \$66.85.9; for the proportion of land tax due Shelby county from state, \$102.00.6; for expenses printing, etc., \$40.11.0; also the county treasurer's receipt for the county levy of 1824, \$285.48.0.

The above discharges him from his said office, errors excepted.

Ordered that Alex. W. McKee be allowed for work, etc., at the court house, \$15.42.

June 7. The board met the same as yesterday.

Allowed Cephas Carey for the use of a horse five days to Dayton for house, \$15.42.

Allowed John Blake for carriage to Wells to go to Dayton for books, \$1.25.

To James Wells for cost in the cases of the directors of the town and Beatty & Blake, \$1.41½.

To Elisha Williams, justice fees in the above case, 56¼ cents.

To James Wells for six chairs for the use of the court house and offices, \$4.00.

June 8. Board met the same as yesterday.

Ordered that the county levy be charged at the highest rate the law allows. John Blake was appointed collector of Shelby county for the year 1825, at 2½ per cent for state, road, and county taxes of Shelby county.

Ordered that the auditor take bonds of said collector, with good and sufficient security, to the amount of \$2,000.00 for the state and road taxes, and \$1,000.00 for the county levy.

The board appointed Jonathan Beatty treasurer of the county for one year from this date. He appeared and gave bond, with Wm. Beatty, Abraham Dingman, Amos Evans, and Wm. Drake, Jr., to the amount of \$3,000.00

Ordered that Alex. W. McKee have \$12.78.4, being road tax in money overpaid by him for the year 1822.

June 9. The board met the same as yesterday.

Ordered that a publication be put in the *Piqua Gazette* for the building of a new jail at Sidney, to be let out on the 16th day of July next, to be 22 feet by 30 feet; one story high; with a cell; the walls to be hewed timber and double; filled in with stone. Conditions made known on day of sale.

Ordered that notice be given to the commissioners of Logan and Mercer counties that the county surveyor of Shelby county will be ordered to proceed to run that part of the bounds of Shelby county which lies in the new purchase, north of the old boundary line; to commence on the 11th day of July next, at the old boundary line on the east line of Shelby county, and run it agreeable to the law for the division and creation of Shelby county.

Ordered that Francis Rook be notified by the auditor to produce a barrel of whiskey due the county on the 16th day of July next in Sidney, to be sold.

Ordered that Cynthian township record be altered agreeable to the petition for the organization of said township.

Ordered that the auditor be authorized to cause cases to be put on the inside of the windows of the court house that have sash in, and also strips to hold the sash in, and to procure shutters to the under windows.

Allowed T. W. Ruckman, auditor, the balance of his account, \$23.72.5.

John Blake produced the receipts for his collections of 1823 for state and county purposes of Shelby county, and is discharged from said office, errors excepted.

Adjourned *sine die*.

JOSEPH MELLINGER,  
JOHN HATHAWAY,  
CHARLES JOHNSTON.

Attest, THOS. W. RUCKMAN, *Clerk*.

July 16, 1825. Special session.

The board proceeded to sell to the lowest bidder the building of a new jail in Sidney, agreeable to the plan and conditions on file in the auditor's office, and Augustus Richards became the contractor for \$793; one-fourth to be paid when the work is commenced, as appears by his bond with Samuel McClure and Amos Evans, his securities, for the completion of the building by the 25th day of December next, in a good, substantial, workmanlike manner.

Ordered that the auditor issue orders for one-fourth when the work is commenced.

Adjourned *sine die*.

JOSEPH MELLINGER,  
JOHN HATHAWAY,  
CHARLES JOHNSTON.

Attest, THOS. W. RUCKMAN, *Clerk*.

July 26, 1825. Present: John Hathaway, Charles Johnston and T. W. Ruckman, clerk.

The board entered into an additional agreement with Augustus Richards, for the jail to be raised two feet higher, and to cheek three doors with iron, to make the windows in the criminal room to be as large as the iron in the old jail will answer, and the windows in the debtor's room to be two feet square. Also to check the outside wall at the windows with iron, as entered on plan or conditions. It was also agreed Augustus Richards should have orders for the additional iron that will be required at cash value, and to be advanced for raising the wood wall two feet inside and two feet outside, and the stone wall between one foot; the said Richards is to have, agreeable to the first undertaking, the iron in the old jail at cash rate, to be deducted out of the additional iron required.

September 16, 1825. Special session. Present: John Hathaway, Charles Johnston, and T. W. Ruckman, clerk.

The board authorized the auditor to make a calculation of what additional iron will be required, and to issue orders on the treasurer to the amount required by selling the orders at sixty-two and a half cents on the dollar, or the best price they will command, and to furnish the orders or the amount they will bring in cash to the contractor when wanted to go after the iron, after deducting the iron furnished out of the old jail.

It is ordered by the board, in consequence of an appeal taken by Samuel McClure from the decision of the commissioners of March 7, 1825, creating Grayson township, to meet the court of common pleas, which was continued by the court under advisement until August term last, when it was dismissed by the court, as appears by the the clerk's certificate, dated August 13; therefore it is ordered that the clerk of the board advertise an election to be held in Grayson township on the 26th day of September inst., for the purpose of electing three trustees, one clerk, one treasurer, two overseers of the poor, two fence viewers, and one constable for said township.

March 6, 1826.

Ordered by the board that all that part of Perry township lying west of the following line be attached to the township of Clinton, beginning as follows: At the southeast corner of section 4, town. 1, range 13, thence north with the surveyed township line to the northeast corner of section 5, town. 1, range 13, on the river, and ordered to be recorded.

CHARLES JOHNSTON,  
JOHN WILSON.

Attest, THOS. W. RUCKMAN, *Clerk*.

April 26, 1826. Special session. Present: Joseph Mellinger, Chas. Johnston, John Wilson, and T. W. Ruckman, clerk.

The board agreed with the contractor to give him \$100 in addition to the amount of the first contract for the additional contract, exclusive of an order issued for the additional iron, making in all \$803 for building the jail. The board orders that the auditor issue orders for \$694.75, being the balance due



after deducting the one-fourth of the first contract which has been issued to the contractor.

Adjourned *sine die*.

June 5, 1826. Commissioners convened. Present: Joseph Mellinger, Charles Johnston, John Wilson, assessor Amos Evans, and clerk T. W. Ruckman.

The board orders that one tier of sections be struck off the north side of Green township and attached to Perry, and that all that part of Perry lying on the northwest side of the Miami river be created a new township by the name of Salem, and that the qualified electors of said Salem township meet at the house of John Hathaway on Saturday, the 24th day of June inst., for the purpose of electing three trustees, one clerk, one treasurer, two overseers of the poor, two fence viewers, and one constable for said township.

Ordered that the auditor give notice of aforesaid election.

Ordered that all that part of Grayson township lying east and north of the following lines be attached to Clinton township: Beginning on the line of said township at the northwest corner of section 10, town. 7, range 6 east; thence south to the southwest corner of said section; thence east with the section line to the Miami river; ordered also that this be duly recorded.

June 6, 1826. The board appointed James Lenox collector of the taxes for the county of Shelby for present year.

The board appointed James Forsythe treasurer of Shelby county for one year.

William Richardson paid his donation to seat of justice in full May 1, \$16,64 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Benjamin R. Brandon paid on his father's donation, \$12.50.

Rodman Talbott paid on his donation, \$13.00.

December 6, 1826. Present: Charles Johnston, John Wilson, Peter Musselman, and Clerk Ruckman.

Ordered by the board that the auditor give public notice and attend to the selling of the old jail on Saturday, the 16th day of this instant, on a credit of six months, with good and sufficient security for the payment. The purchaser to remove the building in twenty days after date.

March 7, 1827. The board appointed Booth Burdette assessor of the county, under act of January 16, 1827.

June 4, 1828. Ordered that the auditor take bond of James Forsythe, treasurer of the county, in the sum of \$4,000, for the faithful performance of the duties of his office.

JOHN WILSON,  
PETER MUSSELMAN,  
JOHN FRANCIS.

Attest, THOS. W. RUCKMAN, *Clerk*.

December 1, 1828. Samuel Marshall appointed and took his seat as commissioner. Present also Peter Musselman, John Francis and Clerk Ruckman.

June 3, 1829. The board allows James Wells, postmaster, the privilege to keep the post office in the court house; he paying therefor the sum of \$3.00 in compensation, from the 1st of June, 1829, to the 1st of June, 1830; said postmaster is in no wise to interrupt the court or lower room of said court house, but to have privilege to pass and repass through said room.

*Treasurer's Report, 1830. James Forsythe, Treasurer.*

DR.

1829.	To amount of balance on hand at last settle- ment .....	\$ 302 10
	To amount received from state treasurer for amount due for 1828.....	29 55.3
July 13.	To amount of license of H. H.bble.....	5 00
Sept. 23.	To amount of license of David Henry, Director of Sidney.....	100 00
Nov. 2.	To amount of John Blake, tavern license	5 00
Nov. 2.	To amount of Wm. Mills, tavern license..	5 00
Nov. 2.	To amount of M. F. Brodrick for permit	2 50
Nov. 4.	To amount of Adam Hull, Sheriff, jury fees .....	6 00
Nov. 5.	To amount Jas. Wells, clk., jury fees....	6 00
Nov. 6.	To amount of Jas. Wells, for J. Evans, fine	3 00
Nov. 7.	To amount of Jesse P. Blan'kinship, per't	4 07
Dec. 16.	To amount of B. B. and Geall, per't....	4 07
Dec. 16.	To amount of B. B. and Geall, per't....	5 75
Dec. 26.	To amount of Jason Taylor, coroner....	12 00
1830.		
June 1.	To amount of B. Bleden for tav. license..	5 00
June 20.	To amount on sale of school lands.....	599 60
June 20.	To amount on duplicate for state and canal taxes .....	386 03.8
June 20.	To amount of for school purposes.....	95 63.8
June 20.	To amount of for county purposes....	515 25.7
April.	To amount of for stallion license.....	27 00
June.	To amount of clerk for fine and costs against N. Burnett .....	7 94.5
	To amount of against Director of Sidney.....	210 00

CR.

By state treasurer's receipt for money on school lands .....	\$ 618 36
By his percentage for carrying same to Columbus..	6 24
By state treasurer's receipt for state and canal tax collected, 1829 .....	362 87.4

To amount of school orders redeemed.....	24	55.9
To amount of taxes not collected in Allen county and in Shelby county .....	5	56
To amount of county paper redeemed.....	779	52.7
To amount of his percentage on \$2,030 32.2.....	21	51.7
To amount of balance produced in cash.....	413	81.5

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\$2332 45.2

JAMES FORSYTHE, *Treasurer S. C.*

March 8, 1831. The board appointed Amos D. Kennard assessor of Shelby county for the year 1831, to fill the vacancy of Amos Evans, removed from the county.

Thomas W. Ruckman, elected auditor in October, 1830, entered into bond with Rodham Talbott, David Henry and Bazell Burton, as sureties, on the 7th instant.

Samuel Gamble, elected commissioner October, 1830, and took his seat in the board at December session following.

July 23, 1831. The commissioners met for the purpose of forming the plan of a new court house, to be built on the centre of the public square, in the town of Sidney, Shelby county, Ohio. The following is the plan and condition of said building: The walls above the foundation to be built of brick, forty-two feet square and two stories high. The foundation to be of stone, well laid in lime and sand mortar, eighteen inches under ground, and eighteen inches above ground, and two and a half feet thick. One foot of the top of the said wall to be range work jointed on the outside. The sleepers on lower joist to be three by ten inches of oak timber, laid twenty inches from centre to centre, and put in three lengths long, and supported by two walls of stone or hard brick across the building at the ends in from the out walls. The said two walls to be sunk one foot in the ground. The first story to be sixteen feet high in the clear, and the walls twenty-three inches thick, and the second story eleven feet high in the clear, and the walls eighteen inches thick. The joist at the top of the first story to be three by ten inches, laid eighteen inches from centre to centre, and the upper joist three by eight inches, laid twenty inches from centre to centre. The second and third tiers of joist to be good, sound, durable timber, both put in two lengths' long, framed into one girder in each story, supported by two columns in the lower story, to be turned in a proportion to the height of the story, and set upon sufficient pillars of stone or laid brick, and the upper column a sufficient square size. Two pieces of good strong timber, six by ten inches and forty-four feet long, to be laid at right angles across the upper girder in a proper position to build a cupola on. The building to be covered with a hip roof (framed with a space in the centre of twelve feet square for the purpose of building a cupola hereafter, but well covered for the present). The roof to be covered with joint shingles eighteen inches long. The eaves to be finished with a good cornice all around. There are to be three doors with eight panels in

each. One in the north, one in the south, and one in the east, four feet wide, with elliptical tops, and a blank door in the west side with an elliptical top. The door tops to be finished with a transom, a circulating frame and sash filled with glass, and the door frames finished on the inside with single architraves, and hung with substantial hinges fastened with sufficient fastenings.

The lower story to have sixteen windows, four in each side, to be placed at proper distances from the doors and each other, to contain fifteen lights of glass twelve by sixteen inches in each, and put double window shutters to them, panelled and lined, hung with substantial hinges and fastenings, and fastenings to hold the shutters open. The upper story to have twenty windows, five in each side, with twelve lights in each twelve by sixteen inches size in each; all the windows to be finished in the inside with single architraves, and sills to the windows for architraves to stand on; all the doors, including the blank door, and all the windows to be recessed four inches in the walls on the outside, and circulating at the top. To be one fireplace in the lower story, four feet wide in the clear, and two fireplaces in the upper story, two and a half feet wide in the clear. The lower floor to be laid with oak or ash plank, sawed one and one-eighth inch thick, not more than eight inches wide, well seasoned, and laid with a square joint. The upper floor to be laid with the same description of plank, and ploughed and grooved, to be fourteen squares of partition in the upper story, with one and a fourth inch poplar plank, planed on both sides, making four rooms, with a button door to open into each room, finished with single architraves, hung and fastened with sufficient hinges and locks. A flight of open newal stairs, rampt and kneed, to be run from the lower floor to the second. The walls to be painted outside a good brick color and penciled. The roof to be painted with two coats of Spanish brown, except the part over where the cupola will be built. The doors, door frames, and window frames to be all painted white with white lead, on the outside with two coats. The window shutters to be painted with two coats on both sides. The sash to be all painted white with two coats of white lead.

The whole of the material for the building to be of a good substantial quality, and the work all done in a good substantial workmanlike manner.

The undertaker to receive \$350 when the brick is burnt, \$650 when the walls are up, \$200 when the roof is on and painting of the roof and walls done, and the balance when the work is done and received, to be paid in orders issued on the treasury of the county. The proceeds of the sale of the present court house and lot to be applied, when sold, to the undertaker of this one. The whole work to be completed by the 1st of October, 1832.

The purchaser or undertaker to give bond and security for the performance of the work of said building and completion of the same, the centre of the building to be in the centre of the public square.

The commissioners also propose that \$150 in cash shall be advanced in January next, and that the present court house and lot should be sold in May

next, with conditions that the payments should be paid in cash, a certain portion at time of sale, and the remaining part within twelve months, and the payment when made to be applied to the use of said contractors.

SAMUEL MARSHALL,  
PETER MUSSELMAN,  
SAMUEL GAMBLE

Attest, THOS. W. RUCKMAN, *Clerk.*

July 25, 1831. The board offered the building of the new court house agreeable to the foregoing proceedings, and Charles Bush, Wm. Doak, and George D. Leckey became the contractors agreeable to the conditions of the proposals offered on day of sale as recorded.

SAMUEL MARSHALL,  
PETER MUSSELMAN,  
SAMUEL GAMBLE."

THOS. W. RUCKMAN, *Clerk.*

*Commissioners.*

John Barkalow elected assessor at October election, 1831, failed to give bond, and, at a meeting of the commissioners held March 5, 1832, the office was declared vacant. Barkalow having appeared was appointed to fill said vacancy for the year 1832, and gave bond on the succeeding day.

March 31, 1832.

The commissioners met for the purpose of making an alteration in the building of the court house, with the consent of the contractors, and making provision for selling the old court house and lot. On consulting with the contractors it is agreed that the stories shall each be thirteen feet high in the clear for the purpose of the court up stairs, thereby deducting one foot from the height; also that the entry in the lower story shall run north and south twelve feet wide; to partition the lower story in five rooms, three on the west of the entrance and passage of equal size, and two on the east side, the northeast room to be fourteen by twenty-six feet; to put in a window in the west side in place of the blank door, the same size as the other lower windows. The fireplace down stairs to be in the large room. It is agreed that the difference in expense caused by this alteration shall be calculated when the building is completed.

The commissioners and contractors sign the minutes so far as relates to said alteration, and said minutes to be considered binding in law and in fact.

PETER MUSSELMAN,  
SAMUEL GAMBLE,  
SAMUEL MARSHALL,  
*Commissioners.*

CHARLES BUSH,  
WM. DOAK.

Attest, THOS. W. RUCKMAN, *Clerk.*

*Contractors.*

May 16, 1832. James Wells is this day appointed recorder of Shelby county by the board, such appointment to continue until the next annual election in October.

October 20, 1832. *Description of a Cupola to be built on the court house in Sidney.*—The octagon to be framed into timbers resting on the upper joists, extending fifteen feet above the top of the roof, ten feet in diameter, a window in each square inclosed Venetian blinds from the bottom of the windows to the floor; there is to be a door which, together with all the window blinds are to be hung with hinges and to have iron fastenings on the inside; the joists on the top of the roof to extend one and a half feet outside of the octagon, making the floor fifteen feet square, with posts set upon the roof, framed into and extending two and a half feet above the floor, finished with Chinese balustrading, and weather-boarded from the floor down to the roof, the lower edge to be scalloped. The octagon to be finished with a Doric cornice in full, round the top. On the iron part of the spire there are to be a brass or guilt ball 20 inches in diameter,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet from the wood work, and a weather vane two feet in the clear above the ball. The outside to have two coats of white lead, except the blinds, which are to be painted green. Also, a conducting iron rod to extend from the ground eight inches above the top of the spire, safely secured and cased with boards six feet high from the ground. The frame to be put up and the floor laid tight by the 15th of December next, and to be completed by the 1st day of June next. One half will be advanced in county paper by orders issued on the treasurer when the frame is up and floor laid, including the subscription by individuals, and the remaining half in county paper when the work is completed. John Niswonger became the purchaser at \$390.

GAMBLE AND MARSHALL, *Commissioners.*

December 3, 1832. Commissioners present: Samuel Gamble, Samuel Marshall, and John Francis; also, Thos. W. Ruckman, Clerk.

Ordered that a new township be created, beginning at the southwest corner of town. 8, in the Piqua Land District, on the old boundary line at the range line dividing ranges 5 and 6; thence north with the said range line to the north line of Shelby county; thence east on the Shelby and Allen line to range line dividing ranges 6 and 7; thence south with the said range line to the old boundary line; thence west with said boundary line to the place of beginning; and further, that all included in the above described bounds be organized into a township under the name of Dinsmore.

Ordered also that the inhabitants of said township meet at the house of Joseph Green on the 25th day of December, inst., for the purpose of electing township officers according to law; and further—

Ordered that the electors of the original surveyed township No. 7 south, range 6 east, in the Piqua Land District, meet at the house of Joseph Green on the 25th of December, inst., and then and there elect three trustees and one township treasurer for the original surveyed school section of said township.

March 30, 1833. At a special meeting of the commissioners for the purpose of receiving the new court house on the contract entered into by Charles Bush, Wm. Doak, and George D. Lecky, contractors for building said new court house, present, full board.

The board received the new court house as being built according to contract, with the exception of the moulding around the doors and windows, and the glazing of the sash above the doors. The moulding to be put on and the sash to be glazed on or before the 1st day of August next.

The board contracted with Charles Bush and Wm. Doak to put on the base around the brick wall, above and below, at two cents per foot; and also pay said Bush and Doak the customary price for the materials. The said Bush and Doak agree to have said work completed on or before the 1st day of August next, and take county paper in payment.

The board order that the auditor issue orders on the treasurer to the contractors for the building of the new court house to the amount of the balance on the contract.

SAMUEL GAMBLE,  
JOHN FRANCIS,  
ROBERT HUSTON,  
*Commissioners.*

Attest, Wm. MURPHY, *Clerk.*

May 12, 1833. At a special meeting of the commissioners for the purpose of receiving the cupola built on the new court house in the town of Sidney upon the contract entered into by John Niswonger as contractor for building said cupola: the board received the cupola as being built according to contract, and also allow the said contractor \$9.50 for extra work on said cupola, and for hindrance of the hands at court in May, 1833.

The board orders that the auditor issue orders on the treasurer to the amount of \$204.50 (to the contractor), said sum being the amount due for building said cupola.

SAMUEL GAMBLE,  
JOHN FRANCIS,  
*Commissioners.*

Attest, Wm. MURPHY.

At a session held June 4, 1833, the board allowed the contractors for the building of the court-house their account for extra work done to said court-house, and for forty-three panes of glass—said account amounting to forty-six dollars and seventy-five cents in full.

December 2, 1833. Present: Samuel Gamble, John Francis, Wm. W. Cecil, and Wm. Murphy, clerk. The board of commissioners, upon being petitioned to erect a new township, ordered that a new township be created, bounded as follows, to wit: beginning at the place where the Indian boundary line intersects the east boundary line of Shelby county; thence north with said east boundary line of Shelby county to the county line between Shelby and Allen counties; thence west with the line between said counties to the

place where the east boundary line of Dinsmore township intersects said boundary line between Shelby and Allen counties; thence south with said east boundary line of Dinsmore township to the place where said east boundary line of said township intersects the Indian boundary line; thence easterly with said Indian boundary line to the place of beginning; and further, that all included in said bounds be organized into a township under the name of Jackson.

The board orders that the inhabitants of said new township meet at the house of Andrew Naggle in said township, on the 25th day of December inst. for the purpose of electing township officers for the said township of Jackson, according to law.

March 3, 1834. Present: Samuel Gamble, John Francis, Wm. W. Cecil, and Wm. Murphy, auditor.

The board being satisfied that it is necessary to erect a new township, and being petitioned for that purpose, they proceeded to erect a new township of the following bounds, to wit: beginning at the county line between Darke and Shelby county where the old Indian boundary line (made at the Greenville treaty in 1795) intersects said county line, and running thence with said Indian boundary line in an easterly direction to the southeast corner of section 8 in town. 8 south, range 5 east; thence north with the section line to the county line between Shelby and Allen counties; thence west with said line to the northwest corner of Shelby county; thence south and west with the west boundary line of Shelby county to the place of beginning; and the board order that said township be known and designated by the name of McLean: and the board do further order and direct that notice be given (by advertisement, according to law) to the electors of said township to meet at the house of Hezekiah Hubble on the first Monday of April next, for the purpose of electing township officers for said township.

December 1, 1834. The board received a petition signed by sundry persons, to the number of seventeen, praying for the setting off of a new township of the following bounds, to wit: commencing on the old Indian boundary line at the southeast corner of McLean township; thence east with said line to a point so as to take one tier of sections off the west side of range 6; thence north to the Allen county line; thence west to the northeast corner of McLean township; thence south to the place of beginning: and the board being satisfied that legal notice of the presentation of said petition has been given, and that said petition was signed by a majority of the householders residing within the boundary of the said proposed new township; and believing it necessary to erect said township, they therefore order that said new township as described and bounded as aforesaid, be set off and known by the name of Van Buren: and the board do further order and direct that notice be given (by advertisement, according to law) to the electors of said township, to meet at the house of Moses E. Baker, in said township, on the 1st day of January, 1835, for the purpose of electing township officers.

June 5, 1837. The board convened. Present: A. K. Hathaway, James G. Guthrie, and Wm. Murphy, auditor.



The board of commissioners received a petition praying for the following alteration in Perry township, to wit: to attach the whole of fractional township No. 1, in range 14, which is in Perry township, to Salem township; and, the board being satisfied that said petition was signed by a majority of the householders residing within the boundaries of said proposed alteration, and also that 30 days' previous notice of the presentation of said petition had been given, the board therefore makes the alteration as prayed for in said petition, by attaching to Salem township all of fractional township number one, range fourteen, which is in Perry township.

June 6, 1837. The board proceeded to estimate the annual income of each of the practising lawyers and physicians residing in Shelby county, as returned in the assessor's list in 1837, and to charge a tax on each according to his income, as follows, to wit:—

*Practising Lawyers.*—Patrick G. Goode, income, \$1200; tax, \$4. Joseph S. Updegraff, income, \$1200; tax, \$4. Wm. J. Martin, income, \$300; tax, \$1.

*Practising Physicians.*—Ezekiel Thomas, income, \$1200; tax, \$3. H. S. Conklin, income, \$600; tax, \$1.50. Nathan Updegraff, income, \$600; tax, \$1.50. L. K. Milton, income, \$800; tax, 2. Julius Deppe, income, \$1200; tax, \$3. S. B. Musselman, income, \$400; tax, \$1. Levi Houston, income, \$400; tax, \$1. James H. Stewart, income, \$1000; tax, \$2.50.

March 5, 1838. Board convened. Present: A. K. Hathaway, J. G. Guthrie, Wm. M. Flinn, and Wm. Murphy, auditor.

The board received a petition praying for the following described alteration in Orange township, to wit: to strike off from Orange township all of fractional section 9, town. 1, range 13, and attach the same to Clinton township; and the board being satisfied that said petition was signed by a majority of the householders residing within the boundaries of said proposed alteration, and being also satisfied that legal notice of the presentation of said petition had been given, and the board believing that it was necessary to make the proposed alterations, did therefore order that fractional section No. 9, town. 1, range 13, be stricken off from Orange township, and attached to and included in the bounds of Clinton township.

June 5, 1838. The board, together with the auditor, estimated the annual income of each of the practising lawyers and physicians residing in Shelby county, as returned by the assessor in 1838, and charged a tax on each as follows:—

*Practising Lawyers.*—P. G. Goode, income, \$960; tax, \$4. J. S. Updegraff, income, \$1200; tax, \$5. J. S. Conklin, income, \$960; tax, \$4. Wm. J. Martin, income, \$600; tax, \$2.

*Practising Physicians.*—Ezekiel Thomas, income, \$1200; tax, \$4. H. S. Conklin, income, \$1200; tax, \$4. James H. Stewart, income, \$900; tax, \$3. Robert C. Johnston, income, \$1200; tax, \$4. A. Sanborn, income, \$600; tax, \$2. Levi Houston, income, \$1200; tax, \$4. Julius Deppe, income, \$900; tax, \$3. S. B. Musselman, income, \$300; tax, \$1. Peter Julian, income, \$300; tax, \$1. Lewis A. Davis, income, \$600; tax, \$2.

December 3, 1838. The board received a petition praying for the follow-

ing described alteration in Orange township, to wit: to strike off from said township the north half of section 3 in town. 1, range 13, and attach the same to Clinton township; and the board being satisfied that said petition was signed by a majority of the householders residing within the boundaries of said prayed alteration; and being also satisfied that legal notice of the presentation of said petition had been given, and the board being of opinion that it was necessary to make said proposed alteration, did therefore order that the said north half of section 3 in town. 1, range 13, be stricken off from Orange township, and attached to and included within the bounds of Clinton township.

June 4, 1839. The board together with the auditor, estimated the annual income of each of the practicing lawyers and physicians residing in Shelby county, as returned by the assessor of said county in 1839, and assessed a tax on each as follows, to wit:—

*Practising Lawyers.*—Joseph S. Updegraff, income, \$1440; tax, \$3. Jacob S. Conklin, income, \$1440; tax, \$3. Patrick S. Goode, income, \$3440; tax, \$3. Wm. J. Martin, income, \$960; tax, \$2. John H. Ryers, income, \$720; tax, \$1.50.

*Practising Physicians.*—Julius Deppe, income, \$960; tax, \$2. W. L. M. Le Fevre, income, \$480; tax, \$1. Lewis A. Davis, income, \$480; tax, \$1. Samuel B. Musselman, income, \$240; tax, 50 cents. Park Beaman, income, \$720; tax, \$1.50. William Fielding, income, \$1200; tax, \$2.50. Ezekiel Thomas, income, \$1200; tax, \$2.50. Henry S. Conklin, income, \$1200; tax, \$2.50. Horace C. Mann, income, \$960; tax, \$2. James H. Stewart, income, \$720; tax, \$1.50. Robert C. Johnston, income, \$1200; tax, \$2.50. Levi Houston, income, \$1200; tax, \$2.50. Peter Julian, income, \$240; tax, 50 cents. Wm. C. Ayers, income, \$480; tax, \$1.

June 1, 1840. The board, together with the auditor, did estimate the annual income of each of the practicing lawyers and physicians residing in Shelby county, as returned and listed by the assessor and deputy assessors of said county in 1839, and did assess a tax on each as follows, to wit:—

*Practising Attorneys.*—J. S. Updegraff, income, \$1440; tax, \$3. J. S. Conklin, income, \$1440; tax, \$3. Patrick G. Goode, income, \$1440; tax, \$3. William J. Martin, income, \$960; tax, \$2. Wm. Armstrong, income, \$720; tax, \$1.50.

*Practising Physicians.*—Ezekiel Thomas, income, \$1200; tax, \$2.50. Henry S. Conklin, income, \$1200; tax, \$2.50. Wm. Fielding, income, \$1200; tax, \$2.50. Robert C. Johnston, income, \$1200; tax, \$2.50. Levi Houston, income, \$1200; tax, \$2.50. Julius Deppe, income, \$960; tax, \$2. Horace C. Mann, income, \$960; tax, \$2. T. V. W. Young, income, \$960; tax, \$2. Park Beaman, income, \$720; tax, \$1.50. Lewis A. Davis, income, \$480; tax, \$1. Samuel B. Musselman, income, \$240; tax, 50 cents.

June 6, 1843. *Practising Physicians.*—R. C. Johnston, N. Updegraff, H. S. Conklin, James Stewart, P. Beaman, Wm. Fielding, E. Thomas, H. C. Mann, W. V. Cowan, M. Zitzler, — Ewing, S. B. Musselman, A. Moyze, L. A. Davis, J. H. Drum, J. Deppe, — Duffengweller, — Little, O. H. P. Baer, L. Houston, C. Emerson, A. C. Bliss.

*Attorneys.*—J. S. Conklin, R. C. Poland, J. H. Byers, Edward Smith, B. F. Metcalf, W. J. Martin, J. S. Fry.

1846. *Practising Attorneys.*—J. H. Byers, Wm. J. Martin, J. S. Conklin, B. F. Metcalf, P. G. Goode, R. C. Poland, E. D. Smith.

*Practising Physicians.*—P. B. Beaman, R. C. Johnston, H. S. Conklin, H. C. Mann, Wm. Fielding, H. S. Stewart, N. Updegraff, O. H. P. Baer, W. C. Cowan, Charles Emerson, L. Houston, P. Julian, Jno. C. Leedom, J. Deppe, L. A. Davis, S. B. Musselman, A. Moyze, A. W. Pinkerton, Wm. Manson, M. Zitzler, John Little.

March 5, 1845. The board made final settlement with James Blair, contractor for the building of the jail, per John W. Carey, sub-contractor, when it was found that a balance of \$52.50 was due said contractor on the original contract and supplemental contracts for extra work performed, which made an aggregate cost of \$3,750.18, inclusive of said balance due of \$52.50.

June, 1846. Under section 20 of an act for levying taxes on all property in the state according to true value, passed March 2, 1846, the full board and auditor present, proceeded under said law to divide the county into districts as follows: District No. 1 to include Orange, Green, Perry, and Salem townships. No. 2 to include Clinton, Turtle Creek, Franklin, Dinsmore, and Jackson townships. No. 3 to include Washington, Loramie, Cynthian, McLean, and Van Buren townships.

Assessors were appointed as follows: 1st district, David Buchanan; 2d district, Samuel A. Croy; 3d district, Elijah Stoker. The per diem allowance of assessors was fixed at \$1.50.

It was ordered, under provisions of "An act to authorize county commissioners of the state to lay out and establish state roads," passed February 27, 1846, that all free turnpike roads within the county of Shelby be and are hereby declared to be changed into state roads, to be constructed and repaired as other state roads are by law constructed and repaired.

October 30, 1848. Under "An act for incorporating the Bellefontaine and Indiana Railroad Company," passed February 25, 1848, an election was held on the second Tuesday of October, 1848, to vote for or against the subscription for capital stock in said road.

The returns of said election showed that 1659 of the qualified voters at said election voted for said subscription, and 350 voted against it, being a majority of 1309 in favor thereof.

The board then proceeded, agreeably to the will of the people of said county thus expressed, to subscribe the amount of \$50,000 to the capital stock of said road as the law provided; and the auditor, Andrew Waucop, was directed to subscribe the same on the books of said company.

Lowman, Dill, and Marshall, commissioners; Waucop, auditor.

March 6, 1850. A petition was received from citizens of Cynthian township, praying for the following alterations in said township, to wit: That fractional section 34, in town. 12, range 4 east; also sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, and 12 in town. 11, range 4 east; also fractional section 35 in town. 11, range 5 east; also sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 in town. 10, range 5 east,

be attached to McLean township in said county; and the board being satisfied that said petition was signed by a majority of the householders residing in the bounds of said proposed alteration, also that thirty days' notice of the presentation of said petition had been given, do order and direct that the alteration as prayed for be granted, and that the above described territory be attached to McLean township for all civil purposes.

April 9, 1850. Under an act entitled "An act to authorize the commissioners of Shelby county to subscribe stock in the Bellefontaine and Indiana Railroad Company," \$60,000 was subscribed by the board.

Abstract of votes cast for and against the subscription of \$60,000 to the capital stock of the Bellefontaine and Indiana Railroad; election held April 1, 1850.

Townships	For Subscription	Against Subscription
Clinton .....	319	5
Turtle Creek .....	118	6
Washington .....	74	66
Loramie .....	108	4
Cynthian .....	109	26
Orange .....	105	36
Green .....	78	77
Perry .....	102	12
Salem .....	39	193
Dinsmore .....	49	21
Jackson .....	35	74
McLean .....	34	29
Van Buren .....	27	16
Franklin .....	97	18
	1294	583

Being a majority of 711 in favor of capital stock.

December 6, 1850. The board authorized the council at Sidney to erect a market-house in the northeast corner of the public square, said building to front on Poplar and Main streets, and to be a good substantial brick, at least as large as the one at Piqua.

June 9, 1852. Under the act of April 13, 1852, providing for the assessment and taxation of property, the county was divided into four districts, as follows: First district to embrace Clinton, Orange, Green, and Perry townships. Second, to include Washington, Loramie, and Cynthian townships. Third, to embrace Turtle Creek, Van Buren, and McLean townships. Fourth, to embrace Salem, Jackson, Dinsmore, and Franklin townships.

December 8, 1852. The board being satisfied by the testimony of John C. Elliott, of Jackson township, that there are more than twenty legal voters residing in the original town. 7 south, range 7 east, in Shelby county, it is ordered and directed that an order be issued, requiring the qualified electors

residing in said original township to meet at some place as near the centre of said township as is convenient (five days' notice having been given) for the purpose of electing three trustees and one treasurer, to perform all and singular the duties of trustees and treasurer as pointed out by law.

April 8, 1835. Election ordered in original town. 2, range 12, M. R. S., situate in Shelby and Miami counties, to be held at some place near the centre of the township, for the election of three trustees and one treasurer, under act of March 14, 1831.

September 5, 1853. The board sold six hundred shares of Bellefontaine and Indiana Railroad stock to the incorporated village of Sidney for \$30,000 in village bonds, to be issued under the act incorporating the D. & M. R. R. Co., said bonds to bear interest at the rate of seven per cent, and be redeemable March 15, 1865.

January 26, 1854. Sold \$10,000 worth of B. & I. R. R. stock to the trustees of Clinton township, to be paid for in township bonds.

March 6, 1855. Joseph Elliott presented the following petition: To the commissioners of Shelby county, Ohio. Your petitioners, inhabitants of sections 31, town. 6 south, range 6 east, sections 6, 7, 18, 19, and 30, town. 7 south, range 6 east, of Van Buren township, would respectfully represent that that public convenience and wants require that the above-named sections be attached to Dinsmore township; also to attach sections 31, town. 7 south, range 6 east, and section 6, town. 8 south, range 6 east, to Franklin township. This petition was granted.

March 7, 1855. A petition was granted attaching sections 31 and 32, town. 6 south, range 5 east; also sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 17, 18, 19, 20, 29, 30, 31, and 32, town. 7 south, range 5 east, to Van Buren township; also attaching sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and so much of 9, 10, 11, and 12, as belongs to Van Buren in town. 8 south, range 6 east, to Turtle Creek township.

#### COMMON PLEAS COURT MINUTES

May term, beginning May 17, 1819. Court at Hardin. Present: Honorable Joseph H. Crane, president; Robert Houston, Samuel Marshall, and Wm. W. Cecil, associate judges.

Harvey B. Foote was appointed clerk of the court *pro tempore*, and gave bond in the sum of two thousand dollars, with Daniel V. Dingman and Samuel Stewart his sureties, approved of by the court, and took the oath of office, and the oath to support the constitution of the State of Ohio and that of the United States.

Henry Bacon was appointed by the court prosecuting attorney for Shelby county.

The court order that an election be held according to law in Turtle Creek township, for the election of an additional justice of the peace for that township.

Monday, May 17, 1819. The court grant a license to Teagle Trader to keep a store in Perry township, on his paying into the county treasury the sum of ten dollars.

License also granted to Robert Aldrich & Co. to keep a store in Turtle Creek township, on the payment of ten dollars.

On petition and proof of publication the court grant a license to Hezekiah Stout to keep a tavern at his house in Hardin for one year, on his compliance with the law.

The court then adjourned without day.

Signed,

JOSEPH H. CRANE.

Shelby county, court of common pleas of September term, 1819. Monday, September 13, 1819. Present: Honorable Joseph H. Crane, president; Robert Houston, Samuel Marshall, and Wm. W. Cecil, associate judges. Harvey B. Foote, clerk *pro tempore*. Daniel V. Dingman, sheriff. Henry Bacon, prosecuting attorney.

The sheriff returned the following venire to serve as grand jurors: John Francis, foreman; John Manning, James Lenox, Joseph Mellinger, Conrad Ponches, Zebediah Richardson, Joseph Steinberger, Henry Hushan, John Stevens, Archibald De Frees, Cephas Carey, Peter Musselman, John Bryant and Richard Lenox.

John Kennard, who was summoned, not appearing, the sheriff was ordered to fill the panel from the bystanders, whereupon Abraham Davenport was summoned, who, with the jurors aforesaid, was sworn and charged, and retired to perform the duties assigned them by the court.

Monday, September 13, 1819. Thomas McClish and James Wells appeared and surrendered Hugh Scott to court, for whom they were bondsmen, and the recognizance was therefore declared void.

Application being made for the appointment of an administrator for the estate of Robert Hardesty, deceased, Nancy Hardesty is appointed with James Marshall and Jacob Wise as her security, to give bonds in the sum of four hundred dollars. Administratrix was sworn in open court. The court also appointed John Houston, John Wilson, and Conrad Ponches as appraisers of said estate.

Jacob Wise was appointed guardian of Elizabeth Philips, aged nine years, Mary Philips, aged eight years, Wm. Philips, aged seven years, and George Philips, aged six years, minor heirs of George Philips, deceased; the bond of one hundred dollars was given, with Leonard Danner as security.

Monday, September 13, 1819. Criminal docket.

State of Ohio *vs.* Hugh Scott. Taken before A. Harkness, Esq., and held in \$300. Recognized to answer.

State of Ohio *vs.* Thomas Driver and Wm. Underwood. Recognized to testify in sum of \$100. Taken before A. Harkness, Esq.

State of Ohio *vs.* Rebecca Gerrard. Recognized to answer. Taken before James Lenox, Esq., in \$100.

State of Ohio *vs.* Harvey Sturms. Recognized to testify. Taken before James Lenox in \$50.

State of Ohio *vs.* Rebecca Gerrard. Indicted for larceny. Plea of not guilty.

Thomas Driver being three times called, and failing to appear, his recognizance is therefore forfeited, \$100.

State of Ohio vs. Rebecca Gerrard.

There having been no jurors returned from the proper offices of the different townships to serve as jurors as appears to this court, it is ordered that a venire issue, commanding the sheriff to summon twelve good and lawful men to try the issues aforesaid; the sheriff thereupon returned that he had summoned Thomas Hurley, Wm. Cecil, Wm. Berry, Benjamin Blankinship, John Craig, Nathan Coleman, Robert Aldrich, Jacob Wise, James Crossman, Alexander Miller, and Elisha Courtland, who being duly elected, tried, and sworn, say upon their oaths that the defendant is guilty in manner and form as she stands indicted.

State of Ohio vs. Hugh Scott. Assault and battery. Plea of not guilty.

The defendant with Thomas McClish recognized in the sum of one hundred dollars conditioned for the appearance of said defendant to answer to said indictment from day to day during the present term.

The grand jury came into court, and presented sundry bills of indictment, and having no further business were discharged.

The court then adjourned until tomorrow morning at nine o'clock.

Signed, JOSEPH H. CRANE.

Tuesday, September 14, 1819. The court met pursuant to adjournment. Present: same judges as yesterday.

State of Ohio vs. Hugh Scott. Assault and battery. The defendant personally appeared, withdrew his plea of not guilty, and entered a plea of guilty. Judgment, to pay a fine of \$10.00 and cost of prosecution.

Wm. Underwood; claim three days, \$3.00.

State of Ohio vs. Rebecca Gerrard. Indictment for larceny. Defendant set up a motion for a new trial. Motion granted. The defendant with Wm. Cecil recognized in the sum of \$200 conditioned for the appearance of said defendant to answer to said indictment at the next term to be held in and for the county of Shelby, and not to depart the court without leave, and abide the decision of said court, then this recognizance to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue in law.

Hunt and Forsyth vs. Hugh Scott. Attachment. On motion of defendant's counsel writ was quashed at cost of plaintiffs.

It appearing to the satisfaction of the court, that there are no justices of the peace, in the township of Orange, the court orders that an election be held, according to law, in the said township of Orange for two justices of the peace.

Robert Broderick was appointed inspector for the county, who, with James Lenox, his surety, is to give bond in the sum of \$500, conditioned as the law directs.

The court appointed Harvey B. Foote clerk pro tem until next term.

The court allowed Henry Bacon \$15.00 for his services at this term.

Whereupon the court adjourned *sine die*.

Signed, JOSEPH H. CRANE.

Shelby county, court of common pleas, December term, 1819. Monday, December 13, 1819. Present: Joseph H. Crane, president; Robert Houston, Samuel Marshall, and Wm. W. Cecil, associates. Harvey B. Foote, clerk *pro tem*. Daniel V. Dingman, sheriff. Henry Bacon, prosecuting attorney.

State of Ohio vs. James Jackson. Assault and battery. The defendant being arraigned pleads, and says he is guilty in manner and form as he is charged, whereupon it is considered that he pay a fine of \$3.00 and costs of prosecution.

Then came the grand jurors, to wit: James Francis, foreman; Wm. Minnear, James Bryan, Daniel Vandemark, Joseph Bennet, John Mellinger, Zachariah Hurley, Robert Aldrich, Wm. Bush, David Coon, John Kennard, Gideon Wright, Charles Weeks, John Hathaway.

Wm. Richardson being several times called and not appearing, the sheriff was ordered to fill the panel from among the bystanders, whereupon the sheriff summoned John Wilson, who, with the jurors aforesaid, was sworn and charged, and retired to enter upon the duties assigned them.

State of Ohio vs. Joel Hurley. Affray. Plea of guilty; fined \$5.00 and costs.

State of Ohio vs. Alex. Jackson. Recognized to answer before D. Henry in sum of \$25.00.

State of Ohio vs. Isaac Lemasters and John Hathaway. Recognized to testify. Taken before D. Henry in sum of \$25.00.

State of Ohio vs. Rebecca Gerrard. Larceny.

The sheriff returned the venire, whereupon came a jury, to wit: John Johnston, Joseph Aldrich, James Buchanan, Daniel Mellinger, Wm. Mellinger, A. Cecil, Isaac Robins, Wm. Robinson, Wm. Marrs, James Green, John Hathaway, Joseph Bennett.

The aforesaid jurors being elected, tried, and sworn, say, upon their oaths, that the defendant is guilty in manner and form as she stands indicted.

State of Ohio vs. Alex. Jackson. Assault and battery. Plea of guilty, and fine of \$5.00 and costs.

The grand jury reported after finding an indictment, and were discharged.

The court then adjourned until tomorrow at 9 o'clock.

Signed, JOSEPH H. CRANE.

Tuesday, December 14, 1819. Court met pursuant to adjournment, with same judges present as yesterday.

The court allowed Henry Bacon \$15.00 for his services as prosecuting attorney at this term.

State of Ohio vs. Rebecca Gerrard. Appearance for sentence. Sentence of two hours' imprisonment, a fine of \$25.00 and costs.

On petition, the court grant a license to Michael Dickey to keep a house of entertainment at Cynthiana, by his paying into the county treasury the sum of \$5.00.



On petition, the court grant a license to Wm. A. Houston to keep a house of entertainment at St. Mary's, by his paying into the county treasury the sum of \$5.00.

The court appoints David Henry director of the town of Sidney, to be laid off upon the ground selected by the commissioners for the seat of justice of Shelby county, who gave bond with Rodham Talbott, Edward Jackson, and Thomas W. Ruckman, his securities, in the sum of \$6,000.

The court further orders that the director proceed to lay off a town upon the premises aforesaid, in lots of five rods wide by ten rods long, in blocks of eight lots each, with alleys one rod in width running through the centre of each block, at right angles with each other and with the streets, the alleys to divide the blocks into four equal parts; that the streets be laid out six rods in width, and that a public square be laid out in said town by striking out the centre block of lots.

That the director, so soon as the said town shall be laid out, shall, after giving one month's notice thereof in six of the most public places in this county, and in the *Gazette* printed in Dayton, shall proceed to sell, at public sale, one-third of said lots, upon the following terms, to wit: one-fourth in ninety days, one-fourth in nine months, and one-fourth in fifteen months, and the residue in two years; to be secured by a lien upon the lots until the whole shall be paid; reserving one lot upon or adjacent to the public square to be selected by the commissioners for the purpose of erecting temporary buildings for the county.

The court appoints Harvey B. Foote clerk of the court of common pleas for Shelby county for the term of seven years, who gave bonds with Daniel V. Dingman and Samuel Stewart, his securities, approved by the court, and took the oath of office and the oath to support the constitution of the state of Ohio and that of the United States.

The court orders that an election be held in the township of Auglaize for two justices of the peace. The court orders that the inspector be directed to fix the bounds agreeable to the bounds of Miami county—only substituting the word "Shelby" instead of Miami. The court orders that the next court of common pleas for Shelby county be held at the town of Sidney, the seat of justice established by the commissioners appointed by the legislature to fix the seat of justice of said county.

The court then adjourned *sine die*.

Signed,

JOSEPH H. CRANE.

Monday, April 24, 1820. Held at Sidney. Present: Joseph H. Crane, president; Robert Houston, Samuel Marshall, William W. Cecil, associates; Harvey B. Foote, clerk; Thomas W. Ruckman, sheriff; Henry Bacon, prosecuting attorney. Grand jurors: John Lenox, foreman; Samuel Stewart, Richard Lenox, Jacob Wise, John Houston, Henry Hershaw, John Bryant, Archibald Defrees, George Barker, John Underwood, John Manning, John Stewart, Philip Coleman, Wm. Johnston, and Wm. Cecil.

On application by petition, license was granted Abraham Cannon to keep a tavern at his house in Sidney for one year, on his paying \$5.00 into the county treasury.

It appearing to the satisfaction of the court that there are no justices of the peace in the township of Green, lately laid off by the commissioners, it is therefore ordered by the court that the trustees of said township order an election according to law, for the purpose of electing two justices for said township.

The last will and testament of Charles Botkins was proved by the oaths of Aquilla Ellsworth and William Ellsworth, subscribing witnesses thereto, and ordered to be recorded. David Henry and George Chiles, executors therein named, were sworn in open court. Wm. Marrs, Samuel Robinson, and Charles Johnston were appointed appraisers.

The grand jury reported sundry true bills and were discharged.

On application by petition, the court grant license to Hezekiah Stout to keep a tavern in the town of Hardin by the payment of \$5.00.

Ordered by the court that the director of Sidney offer for sale at public vendue, giving one month's previous notice in six public places in the county and in the newspaper published at Troy, one-third of the lots now remaining unsold in Sidney, on the following terms, viz., one-fourth of the purchase-money in hand, one-fourth in nine months, one-four in fifteen months, and the remaining fourth in two years; the purchaser to give bond and approved security for the payment of the three deferred instalments, and to receive from the director a certificate for the lot or lots purchased, stipulating that a deed shall be executed on the completion of the payments; and the director is further authorized to dispose of at private sale any lots remaining unsold at the public sale hereby ordered, on the terms prescribed by this order.

The court allows Henry Bacon \$15.00 for his services as prosecuting attorney.

Trial Docket:—

Isaiah Duncan vs. Moses Hicks. Replevin. Discontinued.

Niel Thompson vs. Daniel V. Dingman, late sheriff of county. Trespass. Discontinued at plaintiff's cost.

Abraham Cannon vs. Bryan McNamer. Slander. Continued.

Niel Thompson vs. Daniel V. Dingman. Trespass. Continued.

Court adjourned *sine die*.

Signed,

JOSEPH H. CRANE.

State of Ohio, Shelby county, court of common pleas. Monday, September 4, 1820. Present: Hon. Joseph H. Crane, president; Robert Houston, Wm. W. Cecil, associates; Harvey B. Foote, clerk; Thomas W. Ruckman, sheriff; Henry Bacon, prosecuting attorney. Grand jurors: Aaron Harkness, foreman; Henry Levally, Gideon Wright, Cephas Carey, Jeremiah White,

Abraham Minnear, Alex. Miller, Wm. Gibson, Thomas Hurley, Samuel McClure, Wm. Morrow, C. Aldrich, Isaac Robbins, Hezekiah Hubble, Philip Coleman. James Coleman, constable.

Abraham Cannon vs. Bryan McNamer. Slander. Rule for declaration in sixty days. Continued.

State of Ohio vs. Abraham Cannon. Adultery. Plea of not guilty continued on affidavit of defendant. The defendant, with Robert Aldrich and William Johnston, is recognized in the sum of \$200 conditioned for the appearance of said defendant to answer said indictment at the next term of court to be held in and for the county of Shelby, and not to depart the court without leave, and abide the decision of the court, then this recognizance to be void; otherwise to remain in full force and virtue in law.

State of Ohio vs. Jacob Trout. Larceny. Plea of not guilty. Continued on affidavit of defendant, whereupon the defendant with John A. Cavan is recognized in the sum of \$300, conditioned for the appearance of said defendant to answer to said indictment at the next term to be held in and for the county of Shelby, and not depart the court without leave, and abide the decision of the court, then this recognizance to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue in law.

The grand jury reported after finding several true bills, and were discharged.

State of Ohio vs. Justus Cooper. Assault and battery. Defendant taken into custody of sheriff, and recognizance of Thomas Hurley declared void.

License was granted to Alex. Miller to keep a house of public entertainment at the town of Cynthiana for one year, by his payment of \$5.00.

State of Ohio vs. Joseph Bennett. Recognized to answer.

State of Ohio vs. John Carey and C. Mason. Recognized to testify.

State of Ohio vs. Justus Cooper. Recognized to answer.

State of Ohio vs. Henry Zamer, Zachariah Hurley, Moses Hicks, John Borders, and Wm. Hicks. Recognized to testify.

Upon application, the court appoints Wm. Robinson guardian to Thomas Ralph Robinson, aged seven years, and Sally Robinson, aged eleven years, to give bond in the sum of \$200 with David Henry his security.

State of Ohio vs. Joseph Bennett. Assault and battery. Plea of guilty. Fine of \$2.00 and costs.

State of Ohio vs. Justus Cooper. Assault and battery. Plea of not guilty. Tried before a jury consisting of John Medaris, John Gilbert, Jas. Coleman, James Lenox, Conrad Poucher, Wm. Skillen, Azariah Julian, James McCain, Isaac Minnear, Robert McClure, Thomas Young, and Edward Jackson. The jury returned a verdict of guilty as charged, whereupon the defendant was sentenced to pay a fine of \$5.00 and costs, and be imprisoned in the county jail for a term of ten days.

State of Ohio vs. John Borders. Assault and battery. Plea of not guilty. Recognized with security in sum of \$75.00 to appear.

Jacob Scott vs. Zebediah Richardson. Continued on showing.

Jacob Haaks vs. Zebediah Richardson. Continued.

Neil Thompson vs. Daniel V. Dingman. Trespass. Damages \$5.00. Jury trial. Verdict of not guilty. Notice of appeal by plaintiff.

The court allow the prosecuting attorney \$15.00 for his services at this term.

Peter Pallanque, an alien, formerly a subject of the king of France, now a resident of this county, came into court, and gives notice of his intention to become a citizen of the United States, and took an oath of such his intention, and to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to every foreign prince, potentate, or sovereign, and particularly to Louis XVIII., king of France.

Wm. Dunlap, an alien, formerly a subject of Great Britain, now a resident of this county, came into court, and gives notice of his intention to become a citizen of the United States, and took an oath of such his intention, and to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to every foreign prince, potentate, or sovereign, and particularly to the king of England.

Robert Montgomery is appointed by the court administrator of the estate of John Bennett, deceased,—the widow having relinquished the administration thereof—and gave bond in \$300, with Alexander Miller and Archibald Defrees his sureties, conditioned as the law directs. John Miller, Wm. Gibson, and John Houston were appointed appraisers.

Signed,

JOSEPH H. CRANE.

State of Ohio, Shelby county, court of common pleas, December term. Monday, December 11, 1820. Present: Hon. Joseph H. Crane, president; Hon. Robert Houston, Hon. Samuel Marshall, and Hon. Wm. W. Cecil associates. Harvey B. Foote, clerk. Thomas W. Ruckman, sheriff. Henry Bacon, prosecuting attorney. Grand jurors: George Chiles, Wm. Houston, Thomas Wyatt, Abraham Davenport, Wm. Robinson, Samuel Robinson, Joseph Steinberger, Wm. Johnston, John Mellinger, Wm. Robinson, Jr., John McClure, Daniel Vandemark, John Kennard, James Marshall, and Elisha Williams.

Jacob Haak vs. Zebediah Richardson. Continued on showing at cost of plaintiff.

State of Ohio vs. Abraham Cannon. Adultery. Jurors: Richard Bush, Wm. Flinn, Thomas McClish, Jacob Crane, Wm. Buirley, Abraham Medaris, Wm. Kendall, Wm. Mellinger, Jr., Henry Sturms, Rufus Carey, Aaron Cecil, and John Johnston. Verdict of not guilty, and judgment of acquittal.

Abraham Cannon vs. Bryan McNamer. Slander. Nonsuit.

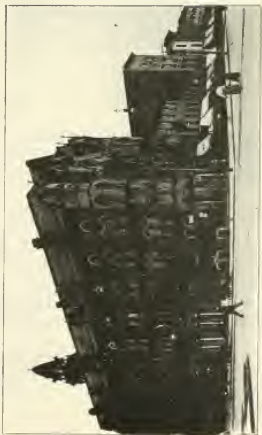
Upon application the court appoint Samuel Robinson guardian to Wm. Robinson, aged fifteen years, minor heir of Thomas Robinson, deceased, who gave bond with Wm. Robinson in the sum of \$200.

The court grant license to Samuel Spicer to solemnize marriage according to law, upon proof of ordination.

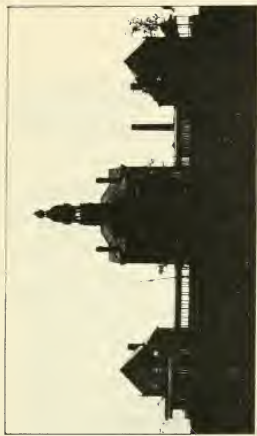
State of Ohio vs. John Davis. Affray. Plea of guilty. Fine of \$1.00 and costs imposed.



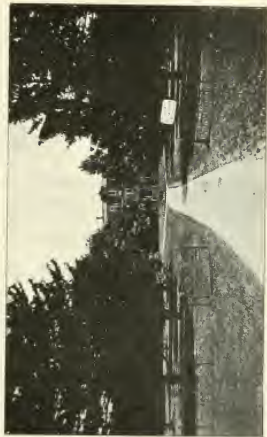
COURT HOUSE, SIDNEY, O.



WEST SIDE PUBLIC SQUARE, SIDNEY. SHOWING PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING



THE CHILDREN'S HOME, SIDNEY, O.



SHELBY COUNTY INFIRMARY



The court, an application, grants a license to John Blake to vend merchandise at his house, in Sidney, for one year, on payment of \$10.00 into the county treasury.

The court then adjourned until Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock.

Signed, JOSEPH H. CRANE.

Tuesday, December 12, 1820. Present: the same judges as yesterday. The State of Ohio vs. Jacob Trout. Larceny. Verdict of "not guilty" by the jury.

Atchinson Blakely vs. John Blake. Appeal. Declaration filed. Case continued.

Robert Gibson vs. Wm. Johnston and Wm. Wiley. Action in debt. Declaration filed and case continued.

The grand jury reported and was discharged.

State of Ohio vs. John Borders. Assault and battery. Continued.

State of Ohio vs. Riley Moore. Affray. Plea of guilty. Fine of \$1.00 and costs.

State of Ohio vs. John Blake. Dealing without license. Plea of guilty. Fine of \$2.00 and costs.

Letters of administration granted to Charles Roby to administer upon the estate of Ruel Roby, deceased.

The court allows Henry Bacon, prosecuting attorney, \$25.00 for services this term.

David Henry, director of the town of Sidney, presented his account for moneys expended and services performed as director aforesaid, which account, amounting to \$121.00, is hereby allowed.

Benjamin S. Cox, Jr., is appointed by the court county surveyor for the county of Shelby.

Court adjourned *sine die*.

Signed, JOSEPH H. CRANE.

The state of Ohio, Shelby county, court of common pleas, April term, 1821.

Tuesday, April 24, 1821. Present: Samuel Marshall, Wm. W. Cecil, associate justices; Harvey B. Foote, clerk; Thomas W. Ruckman, sheriff; Henry Bacon, prosecuting attorney.

There not being a quorum of judges, court was adjourned until tomorrow. Criminal docket:—

State of Ohio vs. Wm. Drake, Jr. Recognized to answer.

State of Ohio vs. Alex. Jackson and Jesse Hathaway. Recognized to testify.

State of Ohio vs. Levi Talbott. Recognized to answer.

State of Ohio vs. Jonathan Beatty and Benjamin S. Cox, Jr. Recognized to testify.

State of Ohio vs. Ira Dickson. Recognized to answer.

State of Ohio vs. Ira Dickson. Recognized to answer.

State of Ohio vs. Joseph Cabbinan and James Blake. Recognized to testify.

State of Ohio vs. David Houston. Recognized to answer.

State of Ohio vs. Samuel McClure, Eleazer Hathaway, and John Gates. Recognized to testify.

State of Ohio vs. Robert Hurley and Edwin Barker. Recognized to answer.

State of Ohio vs. Thomas Safford and Otho White. Recognized to testify.

State of Ohio vs. John Tilberry, Benjamin S. Cox, Jr., and Wm. Drake. Recognized to testify.

H. B. FOOTE, Clerk.

Wednesday, April 25, 1821. A quorum of judges not being in attendance, the sheriff again adjourned court until tomorrow at 9 A. M.

HARVEY B. FOOTE, Clerk.

Thursday, April 26, 1821. There being no quorum of judges, the sheriff adjourned court without day.

HARVEY B. FOOTE, Clerk.

The state of Ohio, Shelby county, court of common pleas, September term, 1821. Tuesday, September 4, 1821. Present: Hon. Joseph H. Crane, president; Hon. Samuel Marshall, Hon. Wm. W. Cecil, associates. Harvey B. Foote, clerk. Thomas W. Ruckman, sheriff.

The court appointed Stephen Fails prosecuting attorney *pro tem*.

Grand jurors: John Francis, foreman; Elisha Kirtland, Cephas Carey, Joseph Bennett, John Stoker, Philander Ketchum, Wm. Minnear, John Johnston, Wm. Richardson, Elisha Williams, Archibald Defrees, Edward Jackson, Peter Musselman, Wm. Cecil, John Lenox.

Charles Roby vs. James Lenox, J. P. Declaration filed. Continued.

License is granted to John Blake to keep a tavern at his house, in the town of Sidney, for one year from the 4th day of September, 1821, upon the payment of \$5.00.

The court orders that an election be held according to law in Perry township for the election of an additional justice of the peace.

The court grants that Robert Montgomery, administrator of the estate of John Bennett, deceased, be allowed until next session of the court to settle the accounts of the estate aforesaid.

State of Ohio vs. John Borders. Assault and battery. Continued.

State of Ohio vs. William Anderson. Assault and battery. Plea of guilty. Fine of \$1.00 and costs.

State of Ohio vs. James Myers. Assault and battery. Nollied.

Jacob Haak vs. Zebediah Richardson. In debt. Jury disagreed. Cause continued.

Jurors: John Mellinger, Eleazer Stephens, Daniel V. Dingman, Thos. Butte, James Buchanan, Thomas McKee, James Bryan, Richard Lenox, Wm. Flynn, Wm. Houston, John Stephens, Henry Cahoon.



On motion the court orders that Charles Roby, administrator of Ruel Roby, deceased, show cause why he should not be removed, and account to the court at 2 P. M. tomorrow to answer affidavit filed.

The grand jury reported sundry indictments, and again retired to consider further matters.

Frederic Bray vs. Andrew Russell. Action for debt. Quashed at plaintiff's cost.

Robert Gibson vs. Wm. Johnston and Wm. Wiley. Debt. Judgment against Johnston by default.

John Alexander vs. James Dingman. Debt. Declaration filed. Continued.

Jacob Repogle vs. Henry Wing. Debt. Settled at plaintiff's cost.

Samuel Marshall, treasurer of Turtle Creek township vs. Wm. Flynn. Action for debt. In this case it appears to the court that one of the associate judges is the father-in-law of the defendant and one other of the associate judges is plaintiff in the case, and there not being a sufficient number of disinterested judges to try the cause, it is therefore ordered that the cause be certified to the next supreme court for the county.

The state of Ohio vs. Atchison Blakely. Recognized to answer.

The state of Ohio vs. Charles Roby. Recognized to answer.

The State of Ohio vs. Rebecca Gerrard, John Childers, John Kennard, and Wm. Harrell. Recognized to testify.

The state of Ohio vs. Atchison Blakely. Recognized to answer.

The state of Ohio vs. Wm. Skellen. Recognized to testify.

The state of Ohio vs. John Mathews. Recognized to answer.

The state of Ohio vs. Thomas Butte, Thomas Cassell, Jacob Shageley, Alex. Miller, Robert Steen, and Henry Haskall. Recognized to testify.

The court then adjourned until Wednesday at nine o'clock A. M.

Signed, JOSEPH H. CRANE.

Wednesday, September 5, 1821. Court convened pursuant to adjournment. Same judges as yesterday.

The state of Ohio vs. John Mathews. Assault and battery. Verdict of guilty. Sentenced to pay a fine of three dollars and costs, and a recognizance of \$100 for his good behavior for the time of twelve months.

Atchison Blakely vs. John Blake. Debt. Verdict for the plaintiff.

Moses Sticks vs. Samuel McClure. Debt. Continued.

Wm. Flinn vs. George Johnston. Damage. Continued.

Abner Glassmire vs. Robert Miller. Damage. Continued.

Robert McClure vs. Nancy Hardesty, administratrix of the estate of Robert Hardesty, deceased. Continued.

Henry Levally, assignee of H. Hagerman and Alex. Miller vs. Thomas Butte. Debt. Continued.

The same vs. Wm. Houston. Debt. Continued.

Frederick Bray vs. Andrew Russell. Debt. Continued.

The jury made final report and was discharged.

The state of Ohio vs. Benjamin S. Cox, Jr. Assault and battery. Verdict of guilty.

The state of Ohio vs. Robert Hurley. Assault and battery. Plea of guilty. Fine of \$3.00 and costs.

The state of Ohio vs. Atchison Blakeley. Assault and battery. Verdict of guilty. Fine of \$3.00 and costs.

The state of Ohio vs. Charles Roby. Theft. Continued.

The state of Ohio vs. Levi Talbott. Assault and battery. Recognizance forfeited.

The state of Ohio vs. George Johnston. Assault and battery. Recognizance forfeited.

James Marshall vs. Griffith Mendenhall and Erastus Smith. Attachment discontinued at plaintiff's cost.

The state of Ohio vs. David Houston. Assault and battery. Recognizance forfeited.

The state of Ohio vs. John Mathews. Assault and battery. Bond to keep the peace.

Court then adjourned until tomorrow morning at eight o'clock.

Signed,

JOSEPH H. CRANE.

Shelby county, common pleas court, September 6, 1821. Present: the same judges as yesterday.

The state of Ohio vs. Benj. S. Cox, Jr. Assault and battery. Verdict of guilty. Fine of \$3.00 and costs.

Gideon Wright vs. commissioners of Shelby county. Appeal. Continued.

The court allows Stephen Fails, prosecuting attorney, \$35.00 for services at this term.

Thomas McClish and Jeremiah White vs. Charles Roby, administrator of Ruel Roby, deceased. On rule to show cause why defendant should not be removed. Administrator removed and ordered to account at next term.

The state of Ohio vs. Charles Roby. Stealing. Continued.

The court appoints Elisha Williams and John Kennard administrators of the estate of Ruel Roby, deceased, in the stead of Charles Roby, removed.

The state of Ohio vs. Charles Roby, James Wells, Ralph Roby, Elizabeth Roby, Thomas Dart, Thomas Safford and Wm. Davis. Recognizance taken before James Lenox, J. P., for appearance of Charles Roby in \$500. Recognizance forfeited.

The court then adjourned without day.

Signed,

JOSEPH H. CRANE.

Court of Common Pleas. At a called court, held on the 12th day of November, 1821. to grant letters of administration, etc. Present: Hon. Robert Houston, Samuel Marshall, Wm. W. Cecil, associate judges; Harvey B. Foote, clerk

Susanna Porches, widow of Conrad Porches, deceased, having relinquished her right to administer the estate of the deceased, therefore letters of admin-

tration are hereby granted to Henry Hushaw, who, together with Robert McClure, Jr. and Thomas Butte, his securities, entered into bond in the sum of \$600, conditioned as the law directs, and the administrator was sworn in open court. Appraisers: Wm. Gibson, Esq., John Houston, Esq., and John Miller.

The court adjourned without day.

Signed,

ROBERT HOUSTON, A. J.

Attest, H. B. FOOTE, *Clerk*.

Shelby county, court of common pleas. Tuesday, December 11, 1821. Present, Hon. Joseph H. Crane, prest.; Samuel Marshall, Wm. W. Cecil, associate judges; Harvey B. Foote, clerk; Thomas W. Ruckman, sheriff; Henry Bacon, prosecuting attorney.

Grand Jurors: Benjamin S. Cox, Jr., foreman; Archibald Defrees, Wm. Marrs, George Berry, Samuel Robinson, Wm. Underwood, David Coon, Charles Johnston, John Medaris, Jacob Lemasters, Abraham Davenport, John Ellsworth, Charles Weeks, Israel Post, Henry Sturms.

The court grant letters of administration to Mary Hurley, administratrix of Thomas Hurley, deceased, who gave bond with Robert Hurley and Zachariah Hurley in the sum of \$300. Wm. Gibson, John Miller and Alexander Miller were appointed appraisers of said estate.

Snow Richardson is appointed administrator of the estate of John Mangon, deceased, and gave bond accordingly. Robert McClure, Jr., Henry Hushaw and William Gibson were appointed appraisers of said estate.

The state of Ohio vs. John Borders. Assault and battery. Verdict of acquittal.

Moses Hicks vs. Samuel McClure. Appeal in debt: Continued.

John Alexander vs. James Dingman. Action in debt. Judgment for \$100 and costs by default.

Charles Roby vs. James Lenox, J. P. Misconduct. Continued.

Robert McClure vs. Nancy Hardesty, administratrix of Robert Hardesty, deceased. Settled.

The grand jury reported after finding one true bill, and was discharged.

Frederick Bray vs. Andrew Russell. Debt. Judgment by default for \$300 and costs.

The state of Ohio vs. John Blake. Indictment for bartering liquor to an Indian. Plea of guilty. Fine of \$5.00 and costs.

The state of Ohio vs. George Johnston. Assault and battery. Plea of guilty. Fine of \$3.00 and costs.

The state of Ohio vs. James Dingman. Assault and battery. Plea of guilty. Fined \$2.00 and costs.

The state of Ohio vs. David Houston. Assault and battery. Plea of guilty. Fine of \$5.00 and costs, and recognizance to keep the peace.

License was granted John Blake to keep a store in the town of Sidney for one year by paying the sum of \$10.00.

The state of Ohio vs. Elisha Williams. Assault and battery. Plea of guilty. Fine of \$3.00 and costs.

Abraham Glassmire vs. Robert Miller. Appeal. Continued.

The state of Ohio vs. Charles Roby. Theft. Set for tomorrow.

The court then adjourned until Wednesday at 9 A. M.

Signed, JOSEPH H. CRANE.

Shelby county, common pleas. Wednesday, December 12, 1821. The same judges present as yesterday.

On motion, further time is granted Robert Montgomery, administrator of the estate of John Bennett, deceased, to settle up the estate.

The state of Ohio vs. Charles Roby. Theft. Verdict of acquittal.

The state of Ohio vs. Levi Talbott and Wm. Drake. Recognizance forfeited.

The state of Ohio vs. Levi Talbott, Benjamin S. Cox, Jr., and Jonathan Beatty. On recognizance. Recognizance forfeited.

The court allow Henry Bacon, prosecuting attorney, \$25.00 for his services at this term.

On motion, further time is granted to Charles Roby, administrator of Ruel Roby, deceased, to settle the account of said estate until next term of this court.

Jacob Haak vs. Zebediah Richardson. Appeal in debt. Continued.

Gideon Wright vs. county commissioners. Appeal on road case. Continued.

William Flinn vs. George Johnston. Appeal. Continued.

Hugh Levalley, assignee, vs. Thomas Butte. Appeal, etc. Continued.

Henry Levalley, assignee, vs. Wm. Houston. Appeal. Continued.

Charles Roby vs. James Lenox. Certiorari in error. Continued.

Charles Roby vs. John Kennard, Elisha Williams, and John Stevens. Trespass, assault and battery, and false imprisonment. Continued.

The state of Ohio vs. Charles Roby, James Wells, Ralph Roby, Elizabeth Roby, Thomas Dart, Thomas Lafford and Wm. Davis. Recognizance. Dismissed.

John Shays vs. Callen Aldrich. Debt. Alias ordered.

Ira Dickson vs. Elisha Williams. Trespass, assault and battery, false imprisonment. Continued.

The court appoints Harvey B. Foote, administrator of the estate of Asa Hubble, deceased, to give bond with Wm. Drake and James Forsythe, sureties, in the sum of \$200. Appraisers, John Johnston, Robert McClure and Wm. Richardson.

Jeremiah Bodkin, aged fifteen, and Lydia Bodkin, aged thirteen years, minor heirs of Charles Bodkin, deceased, came into court, and chose John Bodkin, their guardian, who gave bond accordingly.

Thomas W. Ruckman produced in court a commission as sheriff of the county of Shelby, and gave bond in the sum of \$2,000, conditioned as the law directs.

Robert McClure produced a commission as coroner of Shelby county, and gave bond in the sum of \$1,000.

Upon application the court appoints John Bodkin guardian of Saul H. Bodkin, aged eleven, and Moses T. Bodkin, aged ten years, minor heirs of Charles Bodkin, deceased; said John Bodkin to give bond in the sum of \$300, with D. Henry and Wm. Richardson as securities.

The court then adjourned without day.

Signed, JOSEPH H. CRANE.

Shelby county, court of common pleas. Monday, May 20, 1822. Present: Hon. Joseph H. Crane, president; Hon. Samuel Marshall; Hon. Robert Houston and Hon. Wm. W. Cecil, associate judges. Harvey B. Foote, clerk. Thomas W. Ruckman, sheriff. Henry Bacon, prosecuting attorney.

The sheriff returned the *venire facias*, and had summoned as grand jurors John Manning, Esq., foreman; Daniel Vandemark, George Berry, Abraham Minnear, Frederick Steinberger, Conrad Fink, John Houston, Thomas Wyatt, Wm. Marrs, Aquilla Ellsworth, Edward Conroy, David Jerome, James Forsythe, Joseph Steinberger and John McCreight.

Petit jurors: Israel Post, John Gilbert, Wm. Robinson, Thomas Dart, James Marshall, John Miller, Jonathan Nichols, Silas Dorsey, George Morrison, Daniel Gobble, John Matthews, Archibald Defrees. Alexander McKey, constable.

Jacob Haak vs. Zebediah Richardson. Appeal in debt. Judgment.

Tabitha Davis chose Philip Coleman as her guardian.

Upon application the court orders that an election be held in Clinton township for an additional justice of the peace, public notice having been given according to law.

Abraham Glassmire vs. Robert Miller. Appeal. Verdict of not guilty.

Moses Hicks vs. Samuel McClure. Dismissed at plaintiff's cost.

Wm. Flinn vs. George Johnston. Dismissed at plaintiff's cost.

Henry Levalley, assignee, vs. Thomas Butte. Dismissed at plaintiff's cost.

Henry Levalley, assignee, vs. Wm. Houston. Dismissed at plaintiff's cost.

John Shays vs. Collin Aldrich. Dismissed at plaintiff's cost.

Charles Roby vs. John Bennard, Elisha Williams, and John Stevens. Continued.

Ira Dickson vs. Elisha Williams. Continued.

Andrew Russel vs. Frederick Bray. Bill in chancery. Dismissed at plaintiff's cost.

Frederick Bray vs. Andrew Russell and Francis Sunderland. In chancery. Continued.

Wm. Minnear vs. Cyrus Wilson. Continued.

John Blake vs. Atchison Blakely. Bill in chancery. Motion to dissolve injunction.

The state of Ohio vs. Abraham Glassmire. Resisting officer. Continued.

On motion of Wm. McGean, the court removed Robert Montgomery from

the administration of the estate of John Bennett, deceased, on account of the removal of said Montgomery from the state, and appointed Alexander Miller administrator *de bonis non* of said estate.

The court then adjourned until Tuesday at 8.00 A. M.

Signed, JOSEPH H. CRANE.

Shelby county, common pleas court, Tuesday, May 21, 1822. Present: Hon. Joseph H. Crane, president; Hon. Robert Houston, Hon. Wm. W. Cecil, associates. Harvey B. Foote, clerk. Thos. W. Ruckman, sheriff. Henry Bacon, prosecuting attorney.

George C. Johnston, Robert Johnston and James Johnston, former aliens, subjects of Great Britain, but now residents of this county and state, severally came into court and gave notice of their intention to become citizens of the United States, and severally took an oath of such their intentions, and to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to every foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, and particularly to George IV., King of Great Britain and Ireland.

The grand jury reported several bills, and was discharged.

On motion leave is granted to withdraw from the file of the court a promissory note, executed by James and Daniel Dingman in favor of John Alexander, whereon judgment was entered against said James Dingman at the December term, 1821.

John Blake vs. Atchison Blakely. Injunction dissolved and bill dismissed.

Charles Roby vs. James Lenox. Continued under advisement.

Charles Roby vs. James Lenox. Certiorari writ quashed at plaintiff's cost.

The state of Ohio vs. Abraham Glassmire. On recognizance. Recognizance cancelled.

The court allows Henry Bacon \$25.00 for services as prosecuting attorney this term.

Gideon Wright vs. county commissioners. Alteration of road. Continued.

Charles Roby, former administrator of the estate of Ruel Roby, deceased, produced his accounts and vouchers for settlement, agreeable to the order of the court, by which it appears that assets in the hands of said administrator amount to \$542.58¼. Vouchers and credits allowed by court, \$617.43½. Leaving a balance in favor of the said Charles Roby against the estate of the said Ruel Roby, deceased, of \$74.83½.

Ira Dickson vs. Elisha Williams. Trespass, assault and battery, and false imprisonment. Damages claimed, \$500. Pleadings filed and cause continued.

The state of Ohio vs. Abraham Glassmire. Perjury. Continued.

On motion of Charles Roby, it is ruled and ordered that Elizabeth Davis, formerly the wife of Ruel Roby, deceased, and Wm. Davis, her present husband, show cause, on the first day of next term, why a guardian should not be appointed for Ruel, Augustus, Adeline and Harriet Roby, children and heirs of the said Ruel Roby, deceased.

The state of Ohio vs. Abraham Glassmire. Resisting officer. Continued.

The state of Ohio vs. Abraham Glassmire. Perjury. Continuance set aside by agreement and consent. The jury returned a verdict of guilty. Motion for a new trial.

Court adjourned until Wednesday morning at 8 o'clock.

Wednesday, May 22, 1822. Same judges present as yesterday.

The state of Ohio vs. Abraham Glassmire. Perjury. Motion for new trial. On motion, in arrest of judgment, the case was continued, and the defendant, failing to give bond, was committed.

It appearing to the court that Alexander Miller, appointed at this term as administrator of the estate of John Bennett, deceased, was one of the sureties of Robert Montgomery, removed, and as the said Alexander Miller has not yet received letters of administration, it is ordered that the clerk withhold the letters until the further order of the court and the said Miller show cause at the next term of this court why he should not be removed from the said administration, and some suitable and disinterested person be appointed administrator of the goods and chattels yet remaining to be administered of the said John Bennett, deceased.

The court then adjourned without day.

Shelby county, court of common pleas, Monday, August 12, 1822. Present: Hon. Joseph H. Crane, president; Hon. Robert Houston, Hon. Samuel Marshall, Hon. Wm. W. Cecil, associates; Harvey B. Foote, clerk; Thomas W. Ruckman, sheriff; Henry Bacon, prosecuting attorney.

Grand jurors: David Carter, foreman; John Bryant, Joseph Bennett, Nathan Coleman, Jacob Sclosser, Charles Johnston, John Murphy, Rufus Carey, Zebediah Richardson, John Miller, John Peck, William Minnear, Benj. Blankinship, George Poole, James H. Coleman.

The grand jury retired, but returned no findings, and was discharged.

Gideon Wright vs. county commissioners. Road petition. Continued for report.

Charles Roby vs. James Lenox, J. P. Misconduct in office. Demurrer sustained.

Charles Roby vs. John Kennard, Elisha Williams, John Stevens. Trespass. Plaintiff failed to appear. Judgment of nonsuit.

Frederick Bray vs. Andrew Russell and Francis Sunderland. In chancery. Continued.

Wm. Minnear vs. Cyrus Wilson. Trespass. Appeal. Continued.

Joseph Steinberger vs. Ralph Roby. Appeal in debt. Continued.

The court order an election in the township of Cynthian for two justices of the peace.

Ira Dixon vs. Elisha Williams. Trespass. Discontinued by consent. Costs to be shared equally.

Mary Hurley, administratrix of Thomas Hurley, deceased. Petition to sell land. Order of sale.

The state of Ohio vs. Abraham Glassmire. Perjury. New trial granted and case continued.

The state of Ohio vs. Abraham Glassmire. Resisting officer. Continued.

Ordered that Alexander Miller be removed from the administration on the estate of John Bennett, deceased; and, on application, Samuel McClure is appointed said administrator.

Court adjourned without day.

Signed, JOSEPH H. CRANE.

At a session held September 20, 1822, letters of administration were granted Isabel Russell, who gave bond and was sworn to perform the duties of administratrix of the estate of Andrew Russell, deceased. Robert Broderrick, James Thatcher and Thomas McClish were appointed appraisers of said estate.

At a special session, held September 28, 1822, letters of administration were granted unto Aaron Hicks and Lyman Myers upon the estates of Moses Hicks and George Myers, both deceased.

On the 14th of October, 1822, a called court granted letters of administration to John McCorkle upon the estate of Isaac Parks, deceased.

#### PROBATE COURT RECORDS

A search among these records revealed some things which are deemed worthy of permanent record on account of the interest attaching to them by many of the citizens of today. Among these things are the records of early marriages, of which a full list is given for the first few years which the records embrace. Aside from this, the record of one marriage and that of a will are given, not because of their antiquity, but on account of their curious natures. While the one may provoke a smile at its seeming incongruity, the other must carry with it a sadness which will impress itself upon the reader who contemplates the murmur of despair which escapes the testator. It is the wail of undone manhood and expiring hope.

#### EARLY MARRIAGES

1824. June 3—Lewis Nevite and Charity Mason, by Augustus Richards, M. G. October 14—Archibald Defrees and Jane Wilkinson, by Augustus Richards, M. G. November 25—Hiram I. Wilson and Elizabeth Vandemark, by Augustus Richards, M. G. December 28—John Widney and Caroline Brodrick, by Arthur W. Elliott.

1825. June 23—Michael Kizer and Amelia Jackson, by James Kinkennon, E. C. C. June 28—Abel Grossley and Ann Rouse, by Elisha Williams, J. P. July 3—Elisha Grady and Maria Schoonover, by Levi White, C. P. July 10—David Mellinger and Sarah Safford, by John McClure, J. P. August 11—James Cannon and Nancy Hardesty, by John McClure, J. P. September 29—Thomas Wilkinson and Nancy Jackson, by Phillip Locker J. P. October 6—Benjamin Croy and Mary Holmes, by James Kinkennon, E. C. C. October 13—Reuben Jackson and Christena Le Fevre, by D. Henry, J. P. November 3—Robert Chambers and Hannah Moyers, by John Houston, J. P. November 17—John Marrs and Elizabeth Johnston, by John McCreight, J. P. Novem-



ber 21—Wesley Ditts and Cynthia Kennard, by G. W. Maley, M. G. November 29—Thomas Wilkinson, Jr., and Annie Kirtland, by John McCreight, J. P. November 26—James McKinney and Catharine Longworth, by Joseph Bennett, J. P. December 1—John Blakely and Mary Weeks, by John Francis, J. P.

1826. January 5—James Thatcher, Jr., and Abby Carey, by Abraham Davenport J. P. January 17—Thomas Weeks and Eliza Henderson, by John Francis, J. P. January 22—John Julian and Caroline Powers, by John McCreight, J. P. February 9—Wm. Ruggles and Sarah Cecil, by Joseph Bennett, J. P. February 14—Benj. Coleman and Margaret Tilberry, by J. H. Coleman, J. P. March 6—Wm. Wright and Elizabeth McCune, by James Coe, V. D. M. March 16—Clark Levally and Susan Childers, by Joseph Bennett, J. P. March 21—George Morgan and Eliza McKee, by John Francis, J. P. March 30—John Matthews and Priscilla Clayton, by D. Henry, J. P. April 10—John Jackson and Rachel Smith, by J. Kinkennon, E. C. C. April 26—Jonathan Julian and Mary Matthews, by Augustus Richards, M. G. April 20—Wm. Young and Margaret Madden, by Jno. Francis, J. P. Joseph Garver and Eliza Ann Foote, by Augustus Richards, M. G. May 14—Charles Mason and Sidney Shaffer, by D. Henry, J. P. May 18—Wm. Carey and Phebe Levally, by Joseph Bennett, J. P. June 10—Samuel Day and Hannah Jackson, by J. H. Coleman, J. P. June 15—John Adams and Mary Flim, by John Francis, J. P. August 3—Christopher Tilberry and Mary Moore, by J. H. Coleman, J. P. August 18—Joseph Baltzel and Minerva Kisting, by John Francis, J. P. August 15—J. R. Caldwell and Elizabeth Stewart, by A. Davenport, J. P. August 28—John Carey and Catharine Kennard, by George Gatch, M. E. M. September 12—Samuel Cannon and Susan Ham, by Robert Houston, Jr., J. P. September 23—Wm. Miller and Lucinda Gable, by J. H. Coleman, J. P. December 6—Samuel Blakely and Elizabeth Latterell, by Joseph Steinberger, J. P. December 28—Livius Matthews and Sally Brown, by D. Henry, J. P.

1827. February 19—Aaron Harter and Sally Miller, by Samuel Washburn, J. P. February 27—M. Withers and Drusilla Carey, by Joel Frankeberger, J. P. March 27—Samuel Tilberry and Polly Tilberry, by J. H. Coleman, J. P. April 12—Joseph Hughes and Hannah Black, by James Coe, V. D. M. April 12—Benj. Skillen and Catharine Hartman, by D. Henry, J. P. June 5—Wm. Taylor and Mary Cannon, by D. Henry, J. P. June 21—Thos. Leally and Elizabeth Hubble, by Joel Frankeberger, J. P. July 19—James Fugate and Miller Brown, by John Francis, J. P. July 26—Abraham Burdett and Catharine Hearn, by Booth Burdett, J. P. August 9—Elisha Freeland and Wilmot Medaris, by J. Nichols, J. P. September 18—J. S. Luttrell and Elizabeth Mellinger, by Joseph Steinberger, J. P. September 27—R. D. McKinney and Mary Levally, by James Lenox, J. P. September 27—Joseph Cox and Anna Thompson, by James Coe, M. G. October 4—Jabez Lucas and Osi Peace, by Jonathan Nichols, J. P. October 6—Henry Jackson and Drusilla Bush, by Joel Frankeberger, J. P. October 18—J. H. Pepper and Sally Ellsworth, by Jonathan Nicols, J. P. November 1—Isaac

Minnear and Lydia Weaver, by Joseph Bennett, J. P. November 1—Wm. Steinberger and Elizabeth Kenuse, by Joseph Steinberger, J. P. November 3—Joseph Barnett and Betsey Bluejacket, by Samuel Washburn, J. P. November 30—John Buffington and Sarah Hurley, by J. Kinkennon, E. C. C. December 6—Abraham Goble and Effa Drake, by John Francis, J. P. December 18—David Mellinger and Mary McVay, by Joseph Steinberger, J. P. December 27—Jesse Ruggles and Amanda M. Lambert, by John Francis, J. P. December 31—George Barker and Polly Phillips, by John Miller, J. P.

1828. January 3—Isaac Botkin and Elizabeth Sargent, by J. Nichols, J. P. January 24—Abner Gerrard and Susan Taylor, by Joel Frankeberger, J. P. January 24—John Turner and Jane Blakely, by James Lenox, J. P. January 31—David Shipley and Anna Harvey, by Robt. Houston, J. P. March 18—Edward Ladd and Susan Tilberry, by Joel Frankeberger, J. P. April 17—Joel Johnston and Elizabeth Cecil, by Joseph Bennett, J. P. May 15—John Schooler and Elizabeth A. Randall, by Booth Burdett, J. P. June 26—John Bush and Elizabeth Henshaw, by John Miller, J. P. September 11—Thomas Holmes and Jane Childers, by John Francis, J. P. November 7—Hiram Coon and Nancy Levally, by Solomon McKinney, E. C. C. November 21—Samuel Wise and Malinda Enos, by Robert Houston, J. P. December 2—James Wilson and Elizabeth Duprey, by James Lenox, J. P. December 9—John Blake and Matilda Kennard, by W. H. Raper, M. G. December 18—Nicholas Sturm and Catharine Davis, by Ezekiel Leavegant, J. P. December 25—Wm. Carey and Hannah Jackson, by D. Henry, J. P.

1829. January 1—John Minnear and Jane McKee, by John Francis, J. P. January 1—Richard Henry and Barbara Jackson, by D. Henry, J. P. January 8—Thomas Hubble and Mary Harrison, by Joel Frankeberger, J. P. January 8—Robert G. Sturgeon and Rosanna Marshall, by James Coe, M. G. January 18—James Davis and Jane McCullough, by James Lenox, J. P. January 26—John McCullough and Eleanor Marshall, by Joseph Steinberger, J. P. February 18—John Valentine and Rebecca Kinkinnon, by Solomon McKinney. February 19—Hiram Young and Charity Clauson, by John Francis, J. P. March 17—George Butte and Lucinda Mann, by John Miller, J. P. March 18—George H. Ward and Mary Robinson, by John Miller, J. P. March 19—Wm. Hawkins and Nancy Williams, by J. Kinkinnon, E. C. C. March 22—Benjamin Keneese and Catharine Mellinger, by Joseph Steinberger. April 7—John LeFevre and Margaret Stout, by R. M. Cannon, J. P. April 11—Samuel Butt and Leah Hathaway, by John Miller, J. P. April 14—Jesse Jackson and Susanna Jones, by John McClure, J. P. April 29—Wm. Skillen and Fannie Cromer, by E. Hathaway, J. P. April 23—Henry Levally and Mary Funks, by Jonathan Nichols, J. P. May 30—Levi Houston and Permelia Cassel, by Wm. Wright, J. P. May 30—David Coon and Mary Bush, by James Lenox. June 9—Richard W. Valentine and Ann Eliza Cecil, by David Clark, M. G. June 11—Alexander Beers and Margaret Sargent, by D. Henry, J. P. July 12—Solomon LeFevre and Sally Stout, by Joel Frankeberger, J. P. July 15—James Houston and Desdemona Sample, by William Wright, J. P. July 16—Robert Graham and Polly Burditt, by Joel Frankeberger, J. P.

September 24—Milton Keyser and Silence B. Ellsworth, by John Furrow, M. G. October 6—Joseph Hamilton and Mary Gamble, by W. H. Roper, M. G. October 8—John Hetzler and Margaret Redinbaugh, by J. W. Valentine, J. P. October 8—J. R. Ellsworth and Mary Parke, by John Furrow, M. G. October 31—James Thatcher and Elizabeth Manning, by J. H. Coleman, J. P. November 5—Silas Richards and Elizabeth McClanahan, by Caleb Worley, M. G. November 1—Jesse Jackson and Hannah Masters, by J. H. Coleman, J. P. November 30—Wm. Thatcher and Sarah Masters, by J. H. Coleman, J. P. December 1—Wm. C. Dills and Nancy Carey, by Joshua Boucher. December 24—Joseph Wyatt and Catharine Ellis, by William Wright, J. P.

1830. January 3—David LeFevre and Eliza Mellinger, by Joseph Steinberger.

## MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE

The State of Ohio, Shelby County, ss.

I certify that I have this day solemnized the marriage of Mr. Alexander McCune with Miss Sarah Clark.

Witness my hand this 24th day of November, A. D., 1850.

R. DINSMOOR, J. P.

Black is the cloud without one sunbeam;  
 Long is the day that hath no noon;  
 But blacker that heart which could refuse  
 To marry Miss Clark to Alex McCune.

R. D.

## JAMES COOK'S WILL AND PROBATE, FILED OCTOBER 19, 1855

The last will and testament of James Cook, of Shelby county, Ohio. Having been left ten times by a wife whom I took in poverty from necessity, and who after having slandered me and charged me with every crime that disgraces humanity; who has destroyed my character by her infamous lies; robbed me six times, and cost me directly and indirectly more than three thousand dollars, and now having stolen my property six times, and broke my heart, and then left me without cause; now know that I, James Cook, do make this will.

*Item.* If I die before Susan W. Cook gets a bill of divorce then it is my will that Susan gets one-half of my personal property in the house by choice or sale; one-third of my other personal property, including notes after paying my debts, which are small, and one-third of the rents and profits of my real estate, and so to remain while she is single, and if Joshua Peck outlives her then to him during his lifetime. If she gets a bill of divorce then the law to decide.

*Item.* If I die before she settles our case, then I wish the gold watch to be left, and Mary, mare, and the buggy taken as an offset to the watch, as I do not wish *my name on anything* she keeps.

*Item.* I wish after complying with the former provision that all my other estate be properly disposed of, and that the interest be equally divided between Allen Cook and Thomas Cook, and when one dies all the interest to go to the children, leaving out the heirs entirely of any brothers I ever had, as they before have been provided for.

*Item.* My gold watch to be given to the best daughter of Allen Cook, to be left to Wm. E. Cook, now of Rock Island City, Illinois, to decide.

*Item.* I do not wish to be buried on my land nor here, but make a place in some burying ground, or by my codicil to be left to certain M. D.'s to make an examination, etc.

*Item.* I leave my wife to the tender mercy of an everlasting God, and may he forgive as I have forgiven her, for I have forgiven her not only seventy times but one thousand times.

*Item.* I will not place on record my curse. God will do that. I pity a poor half-deranged woman whom I have loved, deeply loved, and truly love now, if pure and free from vice.

*Item.* In making this will I am not intending to cast any reflections on humanity. All have their faults. May God assoilzie the guilty. I am not. This will made on Sunday the 10th day of April, 1853.

Given under my name on said day.

JAMES COOK. [SEAL.]

Witnesses present Monday, April 11, 1853:—

HENRY ROSE,

JOSEPH THOMPSON,

G. N. FURMAN.

Sworn to and subscribed, October 10, 1855, by

THOMPSON & FURMAN.

VOUCHERS FOR WOLF SCALPS TAKEN WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF SHELBY COUNTY

To the State of Ohio, Shelby County, ss:

Before me, an acting justice of the peace for Turtle Creek township, personally appeared Ebenezer Stevens, who being duly sworn according to law, produced a wolf scalp over the age of six months, killed within the state of Ohio, for which he is entitled to four dollars.

Given under my hand and seal this 10th day of May, 1819.

JAMES LENOX, J. P. [SEAL.]

The State of Ohio, Shelby County, ss:

Personally came before me, the undersigned, an acting justice of the peace of Turtle Creek Township, Cephas Carey, who being duly sworn according to law, produced two wolf scalps over the age of six months, killed within the State of Ohio, for which he is entitled to eight dollars.

Given under my hand and seal this 13th day of August, 1819.

JAMES LENOX, J. P. [SEAL.]

July 19, 1819. I hereby certify that Thomas Young produced a wolf's scalp under the age of six months, and took the necessary oath according to law, that he killed it in Shelby county, Perry township, for which the law allows him two dollars.

JOHN HENDERSHOTT, J. P. for Miami Co. [SEAL.]

Shelby County, Ohio, November 11, 1819:

I do hereby certify that James Pertu, living at Camp No. 3, near Fort Defiance, is entitled to receive sixteen dollars for killing four wolves over the age of six months, agreeable to an act of the General Assembly to encourage the killing of wolves.

Given under my hand the date above written.

ROBERT BRODERICK, J. P.

You, Benjamin Wallingford, do solemnly swear that the five scalps now produced are the scalps of wolves taken within the county of Shelby, Ohio, by you within twenty days last past and that you verily believe the same to have been over six months old and that you have not spared the life of any she wolf within your power to kill, with a design to increase the breed.

BENJAMIN WALLINGFORD.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this second day of June, 1847.

C. W. WELLS, Clerk, by JONA. COUNTS, Dep. Clerk.

LIST OF WOLF SCALPS, SHOWING VALUATION, BY WHOM TAKEN, AND WHEN

1819.	May 1.	Hezekiah Hubble, one wolf.....	\$ 4.00
1819.	May 10.	E. Stevens, one wolf.....	4.00
1819.	July 29.	Thos. Young, one wolf.....	4.00
1819.	July 22.	Z. Richardson, one wolf.....	4.00
1819.	August 13.	Cephas Carey, two wolves.....	8.00
1819.	September 22.	John Plummer, two wolves....	8.00
1819.	October 22.	Jesse H. Wilson, one wolf.....	4.00
1819.	October 21.	John Hunt, one wolf.....	4.00
1819.	December 11.	James Pertee, four wolves....	16.00
1819.	December 11.	James Pertee, four wolves....	8.00
1819.	December 11.	Michael Horner, one wolf....	4.00
1819.	December 13.	Nathan Coleman, one wolf....	4.00
1820.	January 1.	Charles Johnston, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	April 24.	John Hebbert, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	February 23.	Wm. Groove, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	February 7.	Daniel Flinn, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	September 18.	John Gallant, two wolves....	8.00
1820.	June 23.	William Bush, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	August 22.	John Bush, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	February 23.	Thos. McClish, two wolves....	8.00
1820.	March 9.	John Gallant, one wolf.....	8.00

## HISTORY OF SHELBY COUNTY

1820.	March 9.	Charles Johnston, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	November 23.	John Gates, two wolves.....	8.00
1820.	December 22.	Samuel Hanson, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	February 26.	William Ike, two wolves.....	4.00
1820.	December 26.	William Ike, two wolves.....	8.00
1820.	June 13.	William Ike, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	December.	Thomas McClish, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	October.	Michael Horner, three wolves.....	12.00
1820.	December.	John Hunt, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	December.	Nathan Coleman, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	April.	Thos. McClish, two wolves.....	8.00
1820.	February.	John L. Steinberger, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	March.	Thos. McClish, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	November.	Isaac Larrison, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	May.	John Gallant, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	February.	Thos. McClish, two wolves.....	8.00
1820.	January.	Samuel Tilberry, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	June.	James Coleman, two wolves.....	4.00
1820.	March.	William Sturm, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	April.	Benj. Coleman, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	April.	John Carey, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	April.	Thos. Coleman, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	February.	Richard Cannon, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	April.	Wm. Robinson, one wolf.....	4.00
1820.	April.	Nathan Coleman, two wolves.....	8.00
1820.	March.	Isaac Larrison, one wolf.....	4.00
1821.	January.	Samuel Howell, one wolf.....	4.00
1821.	January.	Cephas Carey, one wolf.....	4.00
1821.	January.	Benj. Skillen, one wolf.....	4.00
1821.	January.	Thos. McClish, one wolf.....	4.00
1821.	January.	Josiah Sclosen, one wolf.....	4.00
1821.	February.	Thos. McClish, one wolf.....	4.00
1821.	February.	John Stevens, one wolf.....	4.00
1821.	February.	James Coleman, two wolves.....	8.00
1822.	March.	James Coleman, two wolves.....	8.00
1822.	April.	Thos. McClish, two wolves.....	8.00
1822.	May.	William Hicks, one wolf.....	4.00
1822.	May.	James Coleman, one wolf.....	4.00
1822.	December.	Nathan Coleman, one wolf.....	4.00
1822.	December.	Samuel Washbur, five wolves.....	20.00
1822.	December.	Benj. Coleman, one wolf.....	4.00
1822.	December.	Thomas Coleman, one wolf.....	4.00
1822.	December.	Thomas Coleman, one wolf.....	4.00
1823.	May.	Ebenezer Lucas, two old, eight young..	18.00

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 \$264.00

NUMBER OF WOLVES KILLED AND AMOUNT PAID IN THE FOLLOWING YEAR:

In year.	Wolves killed.	Amount paid.	In year.	Wolves killed.	Amount paid.
1819.....	20		1832.....		
1820.....	45		1833.....		
1821.....	19		1834.....		\$816.00
1822.....	15		1835.....		
1823.....	66		1836.....	5	20.00
1824.....	33	\$132.00	1837.....	13	46.00
1825.....	51	204.00	1846.....	6	
1826.....	44	176.00	1847.....	7	
1827.....	22		1848.....		
1828.....	18		1849.....	2	
1829.....	11		1850.....		
1830.....	35		1851.....	1	
1831.....	17		1854.....	1	

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE, 1825.

Records of the metes and bounds of the different townships in Shelby county, as they have been established by the commissioners, and entered by their orders.

PERRY TOWNSHIP

Begins on the southeast corner of section 4, town. 2, range 13, east line of Shelby county; north with the aforesaid county line to the northeast corner of the county; thence west with the county line to the line between sections 29 and 30, town. 1, range 7; thence south with the line between the aforesaid sections, continued on to Miami river, and across the river; thence with the river down to the land between sections 10 and 9, town. 1, range 13; thence with the last said line east, to continue on to the place of beginning.

GREEN TOWNSHIP

Begins at the southeast corner of the county; thence north to the south line of Perry township, between sections 3 and 4 of town. 2, range 13; thence west with the sections line to the east line between sections 33 and 34 in the aforesaid town. 2, range 13; thence south to the country line between sections 34 and 28, town. 2, range 12; thence with the county line east to the beginning.

ORANGE TOWNSHIP

Begins at the south line of the county, on the Miami river; thence east to the west line of Green township, on the line between sections 34 and 28, town. 2, range 12; thence north to the south line of Perry township, in the middle of the 13th range; thence west with the line through the middle of the 13th range aforesaid to the Miami river; thence down the river to place of beginning.

## CLINTON TOWNSHIP

Begins at the northwest corner of Perry township, on line between sections 29 and 30, town. 2, range 5; thence with the line between said sections south, and continued on to the Miami river; thence down the river to where the line between sections 15 and 18, town. 7, range 6, intersects the same river; thence north between said sections 15 and 16, and continued on to the county line; thence east with said line to the beginning.

## TURTLE CREEK TOWNSHIP

Begins at the Miami river, between sections 15 and 16, town. 7, range 6; thence north with the west line of Clinton township to the county line; thence west to the line between sections 35 and 36, town. 11, range 5; thence south between sections 34 and 35 to the south line of the county, between sections 26 and 25, town. 9, range 5; thence east to the river, and thence up the river to the place of beginning.

## LORAMIE TOWNSHIP

Begins between sections 25 and 26, town. 9, range 5, at the county line at southwest corner of Turtle Creek township; thence north with said Turtle Creek township line to the line between sections 35 and 36, town. 10, range 5; thence west to the county line; thence south to the southwest corner of the county; thence east to place of beginning.

## CYNTHIAN TOWNSHIP

Begins on the west line of the county, between sections 27 and 34, town. 11, range 4; thence east to the west line of Turtle Creek township; thence north to the county line; thence west to the northwest corner of the county; thence south to the beginning.

On June 18, 1825, the description of Cynthian township proving to be inaccurate, was corrected, as set forth in the following entry:

Record of Cynthian township, agreeable to the petition for the organization of the same: Beginning at the west line of the county, on the line between towns. 10 and 41, range 4 east; thence east to the west line of Turtle Creek township; thence north to the county line; thence west to the northwest corner of the county; thence south to the place of beginning.

The record of this township was found to be incorrect, and ordered by the commissioners to be corrected. All the numbers marked to be on the north line of the county are on the old Indian boundary, there being no numbers known on the north line. Still, in that case the north line of the county is to be considered the north boundary of such townships.

Examined and approved by the commissioners.



## PIONEER CONDITIONS

In pioneer days there was not a top buggy in Shelby county and but very few spring wagons, even fifty years ago, the highways being so execrable, that the sturdiest kind of a farm wagon did service for church or market or pleasure outings or joy rides, although an alleged turnpike, thinly graveled, subject to toll, had been constructed for 20 miles north to Wapakoneta.

The rich earth, shaded by the primeval woods, were avenues of mud and the corduroying of them with logs of various sizes made it possible to travel only at the slowest pace. Grain had to be hauled to Cincinnati or Sandusky 100 miles distant and the trip took more than a week. The price obtained was very low and only the necessities of life were purchased with the scant receipts.

In 1865 a toll turnpike was built from Sidney to Palestine, eight miles east, but in the latter part of the sixties a state law was passed permitting the building of free turnpikes to be paid for by taxing lands two miles each side of the pikes to be paid in yearly installments. This started pike building and a boom in real estate. At this time there are about 300 miles in the county, costing nearly two millions, so that now joy riders, in their automobiles raise the dust at a speed of twenty miles an hour, or more, where jaded horses at a snail's pace with lumber wagons bounced over the corduroy or mired in the mud. These pikes in many instances provided outlet for farm under-drains and there are now thousands of miles of tile drainage and the swampy lands, worthless in an undrained condition are the richest in the county. Farms can not be bought under \$100 an acre, some bringing \$150, where buildings are good. The luxuries of civilization on a higher plane have come to stay, with high cost of living. Those who have to buy grumble, while those who have things to sell rejoice.

Since pioneer days, fever and ague, with break-bone accompaniments, has become a thing of the past, of which the present generation know nothing and mosquitoes are on the road to ultimate extinction.

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There was no surplus money in Shelby county when it started on its career. The earth, by dint of labor, ministered to life's necessities but luxuries had no place on the daily bill of fare which probably inspired the poet to give birth to the immortal stanza "Bean porridge, hot, bean porridge, cold in the pot, nine days old." The wardrobe was in keeping with the homely diet, "neat, but not gaudy." Some money had to be obtained to get the country under headway, pay the officials, etc. The first financial exhibit, the debts and credits were a little more than \$1,100, with a deficit of \$708 in the year 1819, which remained the same until June, 1820. The county treasurer's settlement for 1822 made a better showing and the sum of \$769 was on each side, no surplus and no deficiency. In 1823 there was a credit surplus of \$5.91 and in 1825, \$128.

## LAND ENTRIES

The numerous land entries prior to 1822 show that the settlers were not adventurers but came for permanent homes, and here follow the names of the original proprietors:

Jonathan Nichols, Robert Gibson, Daniel Vandemark, Azariah Julian, William Johnston, John Kennard, David Hendershott, James and John Lennox, James Marshall, Joseph Mellinger, John Mellinger, Rebecca Earl, William Stuart, John Decker, Hezekiah Hubble, Robert Hurley, David Henry, Conrad Pouchers, William McClure, Eleazar Hathaway, Abraham Hathaway, Robert Houston, John Houston, William Honston, William Bush, James Buchanan, Thomas McKey, Philip Smyser, William Berry, Thomas Butt, Cephus Carey, Fred Steinberger, Moses Vale, John Hendershott, Rufus Carey, Elias Carey, Philip Coleman, James Cannon, George Chiles, Joseph Defrees, Patrick Doak, James Dingman, James Dingman, Jr., John Mathers, John Cowan, David Henry, Wm. Marrs, Thomas McClish, Azariah Julian, Robert McClure, Samuel McClure, John Miller, Wm. Morrow, Samuel Marshall, Robert McClure, John Johnston, Wm. Berry, Samuel Marshall, John Peck, Thomas Plummer, McMillen and Belderback, Parks and Brandon, Samuel Robertson, John Redinbaugh, Wm. Robertson, George Chiles, Thomas Robertson, Azariah Julian, Wm. Robertson, John Stephens, John Hendershott, Charles Sterrett, Henry Sturm, Joseph Steinberger, Ebenezer Stephens, Rodham Talbott, John Underwood, Daniel Valentine, Harmon Dildine, John Wilson, James Logan, Charles Weeks, Jeremiah White, James Cannon, Conrad Pouchers, Michael Young, John Bronson, Wm. Bothel, Joseph Brown, Benjamin Bayless, Isaac Ballinger, Nathan Bull, McMillan and Belderback, Hezekiah Hubble, Moses Vale, David Hendershott, Joseph Darlington, Christopher Telker, Robert Gibson, Wm. Griffith, Wm. Townley, Francis Johnston, John Johnston, James Jackson, James Johnston, Moses Kain, Nathan Kelly, James Logan, John McClintock, James Marshall, John Mathers, Adam McClintock, Wm. Townley, Thomas Norman, John Orbison, John A. Parr, Charles Helyard, Isaac Swaringer, Henry Sturm, O. M. Spencer, D. Talbott, James Cannon, Wm. Wells.

## POPULATION

The population of Shelby county in 1820 was 2,142; 1830, 3,671; 1840, 12,153; 1860, 17,493; 1880, 24,137; 1890, 24,707; 1900, 24,625; 1910, 24,663.

The population per square mile is 59.7; the rural population per square mile is 43.7.

The taxable valuation of property in Shelby county in 1911 was \$37,108,660; personal, \$8,589,340; real, \$28,519,320. \*According to the census of 1910, the population of Sidney, the county seat, was 6,607; taxable valuation of property, 1911, \$6,511,400; personal, \$1,959,850; real, \$4,551,550.

The total amount raised for taxation in Shelby county for the year 1912 was \$335,462.48.

Distributed as follows:

State fund .....	\$ 16,419.29
County fund .....	109,145.01
Township fund .....	25,628.55
Local School fund .....	94,821.00
Special taxes .....	32,830.43
City and Village tax .....	54,918.00
Dog fund .....	2,100.20

#### POLITICAL PARTIES

The politics of Shelby county date back to the organization of the county, though for some years the voting population was small and elections were not held in all the townships as they are constituted today. About the first elective officers of the county were justices of the peace, or "squires" as they were commonly called. These officers were selected from among the most intelligent citizens; they were known as the peacemakers of their respective localities and often settled neighborhood disputes out of court. They held "court" in the largest room of their houses, and the yard was taken up with the vehicles of those who came to hear the trials. There was very little "wire-pulling" for the early settlers met irrespective of party and put the best men in the field, then went to the different polls, traded horses, voted and went home. However, excitement rose to a high pitch when it came to state and national elections and Shelby county could generally be depended upon to give a whig majority.

The first real exciting campaign in this county was the presidential campaign of 1828. Partisanship became very bitter; there were Jackson and Adams meetings everywhere, the schoolhouses resounded with praise and defamations and before this campaign closed there were many bloody noses and blackened eyes.

The next great contest was that of William Henry Harrison in 1840. Harrison was the idol of the whig party and his name raised the greatest enthusiasm. The county did not see another great campaign until that of 1866 when the political club came into existence. There were barbecues, torchlight processions, turpentine balls, and the air was made melodious with the singing clubs and their political songs. But the most exciting political battle ever waged in the county took place in 1864. Meetings were held day and night; the highways were thronged with political processions and gaily decorated wagons filled with girls were a part of the parade. The following episode may give its reader an idea of the state of the times. It was during the Brough-Vallandigham campaign of 1864, when Ohio was still an October state, that Frank McKinney, of Piqua, an ardent democrat, who represented this district in congress, and C. L. Vallandigham, of Dayton, member of congress, and candidate for governor on the democratic ticket, were advertised to address

A meeting at Sidney. Thousands were gathered to hear the speaking. A regiment of soldiers was in the town awaiting transportation to their homes in Michigan and were encamped in Poplar street. When the carriage containing Mr. Vallandigham and Mr. McKinney passed by the soldiers they commenced yelling and shooting their guns over the top of the carriage which frightened the horses causing them to run down a bank and almost upset the vehicle. However, the carriage reached the hotel. Mr. Vallandigham was hurried in and the doors were closed. Mr. McKinney remained on the sidewalk and addressed a mob of soldiers who demanded the surrender of Vallandigham and attempted to enter the hotel. A riot was imminent. More than two thousand democrats, armed, surrounded the hotel waiting for the soldiers to make an attack. A message was sent to S. B. Walker, the mayor of Sidney, and he and the leading republicans were informed by Mr. McKinney that if blood was shed and property destroyed they would be held responsible. The mayor persuaded the soldiers to return to camp; they were gotten on trains and rushed out of town and the meeting was held. When the soldiers departed they took with them a cannon named the "Swamp Angel," which the democrats were using for the celebration and which was cast by Philip Smith in his own foundry for the occasion. This cannon was thrown into a pond up in Michigan and years afterwards was raised by Philip Smith himself and brought back to Sidney. The feeling against Vallandigham was caused by the fact that he was a southern sympathizer and had been sent through the rebel lines and found refuge in Canada.

This campaign represented the high-water mark of political excitement for Shelby county is overwhelmingly democratic and but few times since the birth of the republican party have any members of that faith been elected to county offices. The instances are: Jacob S. Conklin, prosecuting attorney, 1858 to 1880; James A. Irwin, recorder, 1856, clerk, 1860; J. P. Forsythe, auditor from 1873 to 1875; G. E. Allinger, sheriff, 1887 to 1889; John P. Brown, commissioner, 1895 to 1898, and J. C. Rosser, auditor from 1905 to 1909.

The townships of Orange, Perry, Salem, Turtle Creek and Washington give reliable republican majorities, while Cynthian, Dinsmore, Green, Jackson, Loramie, McLean and Van Buren are almost unanimously democratic with Franklin and Clinton furnishing smaller majorities for the party of Jefferson.

The county is in the Fourth Congressional District composed of the counties of Auglaize, Allen, Mercer, Darke and Shelby and is now represented in congress by J. Henry Goeke, Democrat, of Auglaize, whose plurality in the district at the last election was 11,245; majority 3,029. It is in the Twelfth Senatorial District made up of Miami, Darke and Shelby counties and has just elected to the legislature Dr. I. C. Kiser, of Miami, whose plurality in the district was 3,517 for the 1912 election.

The following is an abstract of votes cast at the presidential and gubernatorial election for 1912 in Shelby county:

	Democrat.	Republican.	Socialist.	Social Labor.	Prohibition.	Progressive.
For president—	3305	1613	245	8	52	678
For governor—	3433	1466	241	8	63	625

The vote of Sidney and the fourteen townships for president, November 5, 1912, was as follows:

	Democrat.	Republican.	Socialist.	Social Labor.	Prohibition.	Progressive.
Sidney . . . . .	844	550	154	204	4	11
Clinton . . . . .	463	99	25	42	1	5
Cynthian . . . . .	194	28	1	27	0	2
Dinsmore . . . . .	368	81	6	11	0	1
Franklin . . . . .	143	68	6	14	0	0
Green . . . . .	101	85	14	40	1	4
Jackson . . . . .	266	84	5	61	0	5
Loramie . . . . .	225	73	11	33	1	1
McLean . . . . .	287	38	1	1	0	2
Orange . . . . .	93	55	7	49	1	1
Perry . . . . .	132	96	2	30	0	10
Salen . . . . .	146	92	3	32	0	4
Turtle Creek . . . .	82	56	4	51	0	2
Van Buren . . . . .	199	48	1	46	0	0
Loramie . . . . .	225	73	11	33	1	1

Shelby county, as it exists today with its fertile farms and nearly one thousand miles of turnpike of gravel, of which there is abundance to keep them in repair, with its happy prosperous people, is in strange contrast to what it was a century ago.

From 1805 to 1812 at the advent of the first pioneers what is now within its limits was an unbroken forest, a free run-way for wild animals and the untutored Indian. Much of the surface was covered with water in a rainy time and got dry by slow evaporation, as most of the land was level, with little natural drainage. It was a paradise for mosquitoes and frogs and a delightful abode for the festive turtle.

The bravery, which verged on desperation, of the original settlers, may well excite wonder, for it is almost impossible to conceive of any inducement for their removal from the environment of civilization with its comforts and social pleasures. They were almost uniformly men of superior type, who had been comfortably situated, and were not men who had suffered from penury or escaped from crime, nor did they come to seek a life of ease, for their arrival here only meant the beginning of the most arduous toil, with little prospect of any immediate reward.

They came to carve out their own destiny—the forerunners of civilization, the pioneers of progress—with a stern determination to cope with the vigors of nature, to rear homes in the wilderness, and to dedicate temples of religion, education and justice in the midst of savagery and wildness. They subjugated the new conditions which confronted them and conformed to the better ideas and stern principles which prevailed in the communities which they had left, renouncing all their old associations. They came to build

homes and that meant to plant the seeds of civilization and enjoy the benefits of organized society. Gradually the wilderness gave way to the sturdy arm and untiring frame of the pioneer, who never knew rest until the forest was made to blossom with fruit and grain. Along the stream he built his mill and in the protected valley he laid out his village—now the city with its thousands of people. He met the howling wolf with defiance and dined upon venison and wild turkey. As the virgin forest yielded before his axe, cattle, sheep, hogs and horses flourished in his meadows. The meadows in turn gave place to the corn, and later to the wheat and we have the snow-white loaf superseding the "johnny cake." Their only garments were "linsey-woolsey" made by their own hands. The mothers were as untiring as the fathers—the daughters as capable as the sons for everybody worked from daylight until late in the night. The pioneer was his own manufacturer. He could build a chair or a house. He could shoe a horse or "iron" a wagon. He could make his children's shoes or a spinning-wheel and the female contingency of the household could cleanse and card the wool, hackle the flax, spin and weave the cloth for the family and make the garments without the aid of a sewing machine or any other labor saving device. These garments, if not pretty, had amazing strength and durability. The pioneers had little aesthetic or agricultural taste and but scant knowledge of hygiene, and had it not been for their huge fireplaces would have well-nigh suffocated for lack of pure air by ventilation. It was a pioneer, but perhaps not a Shelby county one, who, when his family were all sick with typhoid fever, and his doctor said the trouble was caused by a faulty drain, replied that it could not be, for there wasn't any drain.

Their homes were rude but the spirit of hospitality pervaded them, bringing to mind the beautiful words of Goldsmith's Traveller:

But they were men of thought, of enterprise, of resolution. Such traits of character were necessary to bring the young man of strong purpose, or the head of a family, to break up the old associations of life, and dare the hardships and privations of a new settlement in the wild woods of the West. Of such qualities were the early pioneers of our noble state. They were the men of nerve, of intellect, and strength of purpose that led the way over the Alleghenies to the borders of our beautiful streams and teeming valleys. Nor were they ignorant or uncultured in the rudiments of a fair education. They had been brought up in a land of schools and churches, and brought with them their education and religion. The early settlers were worthy of the land, they were not Goths and Vandals seeking conquest but our own countrymen speaking our own Anglo-Saxon language. They came from Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Virginia and Pennsylvania. What a grand combination!

Well might General Washington in his eulogy upon our first settlement say, "No other colony in America was ever settled under such favorable circumstances as that which has just commenced upon the Ohio river. Information, property and strength will be its beginning."

## ROSTER OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

Any apparent discrepancies in the length of terms of service of the different county officers are due to changes in the law affecting the same.

## AUDITORS

David Henry, 1819-1821; James Wells, 1821-1824; David Henry, 1824-1825; Thomas W. Ruckman, 1825-1833; William Murphy, 1833-1840; Samuel Croy, 1840-1844; Milton Bailey, 1844-1848; Andrew Waucoys, 1848-1852; William Murphy, 1852-1856; Samuel Leekey, 1856-1862; E. M. Green, 1862-1868; Harvey Guthrie, 1868-1873; J. P. Forsythe, 1873-1875; O. O. Mathers, 1875-1880; H. S. Ailes, 1880-1886; J. K. Cummins, 1886-1892; J. S. Loughlin, 1892-1898; R. B. Dill, 1898-1904; J. C. Rosser, 1904-1907; H. T. Ruese, 1907—.

## TREASURERS

James Lenox, 1819-1820; Jonathan Beatty, 1820-1826; James Forsythe, 1826-1835; Elijah McGrew, 1835-1839; Richard Hathaway, 1839-1840; Benjamin Brandon appointed to succeed Hathaway, 1840-1841; William Murphy 1841-1853; John Duncan, 1853-1855; Milton Bailey, 1855-1855; Guy Relsey appointed to succeed Bailey, deceased, 1855-1857; John Duncan, 1857-1861; Daniel Bush, 1861-1865; Hubbard Hume, 1865-1869; A. J. Robertson, 1869-1873; Ferdinand Amann, 1873-1877; Joseph Loughlin, 1877-1881; Peter Goffena, 1881-1885; William Kingseed, 1885-1889; Charles Timeus, 1889-1893; John Heiser, 1893-1897; Ben. B. Amann, 1897-1901; Oliver Staley, 1901-1905; J. B. Trimpe, 1905-1909; Elmer Kiser, 1909—.

## SHERIFFS

Daniel V. Dingman, 1819-1820; Thomas Ruckman, 1820-1825; Adam Hull, 1825-1829; A. Defrees, 1829-1831; A. D. Kennard, 1831-1837; Richard Hathaway, 1837-1839; J. H. Kirkendall, 1839-1841; A. D. Kennard, 1841-1847; J. H. Kirkendall, 1847-1851; J. R. Francis, 1851-1853; J. C. Dryden, 1853-1857; J. F. Skillen, 1857-1859; J. C. Dryden, 1859-1861; Matthew Ensey, 1861-1863; Benjamin McLean, 1863-1867; Isaac Harshbarger, 1867-1871; Charles Eisenstein, 1871-1875; Alexander Ramsey, 1875-1879; H. M. Lehman, 1879-1883; L. M. Hussey, 1883-1887; G. E. Allinger, 1887-1889; Joseph Ratterman, 1889-1893; E. P. Ailes, 1893-1897; W. H. Fristoe, 1897-1901; A. Braudewie, 1901-1905; D. J. Snow, 1905-1910; E. E. Gearhart, 1910—.

## RECORDERS

H. B. Foote, 1819-1824; August Richards, 1824-1825; James Wells, 1825-1835; Amos D. Kennard, 1835-1838; James Wille, 1838-1844; William Skillen, 1844-1856; James A. Irwin, 1856-1859; George L. Bush, 1859-1868; A. L. Marshall, 1868-1874; A. J. Rebstock, 1874-1880; Hudson Gartley,

1880-1886; Louis Pfaadt, 1886-1892; Charles C. Johnson, 1892-1898; Frank Lucas, 1898-1904; William Wenger, 1904-1910; Hudson Flinn, 1910—

#### PROBATE JUDGES

Vincent Guerin, 1852-1854; W. W. Skillen, 1854-1860; N. R. Wyman, 1860-1869; John G. Stephenson, 1869-1875; W. C. Wyman, 1875-1881; David Bowersoc, 1881-1887; A. J. Rebstock, 1887-1893; John M. Staley, 1893-1899; E. L. Hoskins, 1899-1905; I. A. Eshman, 1905-1911; I. A. Eshman, 1911—

#### PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS

Henry Bacon, 1819-1822; Harry Brown, 1822-1828; Robert Young, 1828-1832; Patrick Goode, 1832-1834; D. G. Hull, 1834-1836; J. S. Updegraff, 1836-1840; W. J. Martin, 1840-1846; Jacob S. Conklin, 1846-1848; Edmund Smith, 1848-1850; Hugh Thompson, 1850-1854; John E. Cummins, 1854-1856; Silas B. Walker, 1856-1858; Jacob S. Conklin, 1858-1862; John H. Mathers, 1862-1868; A. J. Rebstock, 1868-1870; N. R. Burres, 1870-1874; B. L. Martin, 1874-1880; Jacob S. Conklin, 1880-1883; George A. Marshall, 1883-1889; James E. Way, 1889-1895; Joseph D. Barnes, 1895-1901; Harry Robison, 1901-1907; Charles Marshall, 1907-1911; Charles Hall, 1911—

#### CLERKS OF COURT

Harvey Foote, 1819-1826; James A. Wells, 1826-1839; James Wells, 1839-1847; Charles Wells, 1847-1849; S. B. Walker, 1849-1850; Jonathan Counts, 1850-1854; Samuel Cowan, 1854-1857; Jonathan Counts, 1857-1860; James A. Irwin, 1860-1863; James Harvey, 1863-1869; H. H. Sprague, 1869-1874; Dennis Mulvihill, 1874-1880; Frank Hunter, 1880-1886; John Hussey, 1886-1892; Hugh Dorrlay, 1892-1899; McVay Lindsay, 1899-1904; John Duncan, 1904-1911; Fred Counts, 1911—

#### SURVEYORS

Benjamin S. Cox, 1819-1822; Joseph Stewart, 1822-1825; Daniel Hopkins, 1825-1828; N. F. Broderick, 1828-1834; B. K. Brandon, 1834-1837; Jonathan Counts, 1837-1840; J. A. Wells, 1840-1841; Jonathan Counts, 1841-1850; Harrison Maltby, 1850-1853; W. J. Sherman, 1853-1865; D. W. Pampel, 1865-1871; A. M. Weaver, 1871-1877; C. H. Flinn, 1877-1883; Philip Ratterman, 1883-1889; Charles Counts, 1889-1895; James E. House, 1895-1901; Charles Counts, 1901-1907; Walter Looker—

#### STATE REPRESENTATIVES

James Miles, 1820-1821; Jacob Miller, 1821-1822; James Miles, 1822-1823; James Riley, 1823-1824; John McCorkle, 1824-1825; James Fergus, 1825-1827; William Fielding, 1827-1828; John McCorkle, 1828-1829; William Barber, 1829-1832; Amos Perry, 1832-1833; Patrick Goode, 1833-1835;



Stacy Taylor, 1835-1837; James Cook, 1837-1838; Robert Skinner, 1838-1839; Edmund Fisher, 1839-1840; Hiram Bell, 1840-1841; Isaac N. Gard, 1841-1842; Jacob Counts, 1842-1843; James Bryson, 1843-1844; Isaac Hostetter, 1844-1845; Ezekiel Thomas, 1845-1846; John S. Purviance, 1846-1847; Jacob S. Conklin, 1847-1848; Luther Montfort, 1848-1849; George Ward, 1849-1850; John Lenox, 1850-1852; R. C. Poland, 1852-1854; Levi Houston, 1854-1856; W. V. Cowan, 1856-1858; Hugh Thompson, 1858-1860; A. E. Cary, 1860-1862; Charles T. Wells, 1862-1864; William Fielding, 1864-1866; Benjamin F. Lefevre, 1866-1868; William Fielding, 1868-1870; John McVay, 1870-1872; Jonathan Counts, 1872-1874; E. M. Green, 1874-1876; J. M. Carson, 1876-1878; Hubbard Hume, 1878-1882; E. M. Green, 1882-1884; Phannel Hunt, 1884-1888; Jachomeyer Counts, 1888-1892; H. N. Harshbarger, 1892-1896; C. R. Hess, 1896-1900; W. E. Partington, 1900-1904; Cliff McGinnis, 1904-1909; Charles Wyman, 1909-1913.

## STATE SENATORS

William Henderson, 1820-1821; Walter Buell, 1821-1822; Thomas Furnas, 1822-1824; Robert Young, 1824-1826; D. M. Workman, 1826-1828; William Fielding, 1828-1830; John Shelby, 1830-1832; Robert Young, 1832-1833; James Johnston, 1833-1835; John E. Hunt, 1835-1837; Curtis Bates, 1837-1839; John E. Hunt, 1839-1841; William J. Thomas, 1841-1842; Joseph S. Updegraff, 1842-1844; John O'Farral, 1844-1846; William Wilson, 1846-1848; J. S. Conklin, 1848-1850; James H. Hart, 1850-1852; Rankin Walkup, 1852-1854; John McClure, 1854-1856; William H. Lawder, 1856-1858; Isaac N. Gard, 1858-1860; Hardesty Walker, 1860-1862; William McClung, 1862-1864; Jonathan Cranor, 1864-1866; John E. Cummins, 1866-1868; John L. Winner, 1868-1872; John W. Morris, 1872-1876; N. R. Burress, 1876-1878; J. M. Carson, 1878-1880; George Moore, 1880-1882; Jennison Hall, 1882-1884; A. C. Cable, 1884-1886; Curtis A. Cole, 1886-1888; A. J. Robertson, 1888-1891; H. W. Thompson, 1891-1891; J. O. Amos, 1891-1892; T. A. Burns, 1892-1894; McPherson Brown, 1894-1898; George S. Long, 1898-1902; Orla Harrison, 1902-1906; J. E. Russell, 1906-1909; H. L. Yount, 1909-1913.

## COMMISSIONERS

Robert McClure, 1819; William Berry, 1819; John Wilson, 1819; David Henry, 1820-1823; Joseph Millinger, 1821-1830; John Wilson, 1822-1825; John Lenox, 1823-1826; John Hathaway, 1825-1831; Charles Johnson, 1825-1827; Peter Musselman, 1827-1832; Samuel Marshall, 1828-1834; John Francis, 1830-1833; Samuel Gamble, 1832-1835; Robert Houston, 1833-1836; John Houston, 1834-1837; A. K. Hathaway, 1835-1841; James G. Guthrie, 1836-1842; William N. Flinn, 1837-1845; Andrew Waucop, 1840-1843; Harvey Houston, 1841-1844; George Clancy, 1843-1846; Stephen Blanchard, 1844-1847; Jeremiah Layman, 1845-1851; Richard C. Dill, 1846-1849; Samuel Marshall, 1847-1850; Joseph Mendershall, 1849-1858; John C. Elliott, 1850-1856; William Millinger, 1851-1854; Curtis Kelsey, 1854-1857; Cor-

nelius Arbogast, 1856-1859; Isaac Short, 1857-1860; D. K. Gilleskie, 1858-1864; Samuel E. Maxwell, 1871-1874; H. H. Dressman, 1860-1869; John C. Elliott, 1862-1865; E. Ludlum, 1864-1870; William L. Woolley, 1868-1871; William M. Baker, 1869-1875; M. J. Winget, 1870-1874; Samuel Maxwell, 1871-1874; John Walkup, 1873-1879; William Johnston, 1874-1880; John Hale, 1875-1878; W. R. Jackson, 1878-1881; John Linker, 1879-1885; C. Kingseed, 1880-1886; John E. Bush, 1881-1887; Jeremiah Miller, 1885-1892; Jacob Paul, 1887-1893; Thomas Hickey, 1888-1894; Frank H. Turner, 1892-1895; George Cleckner, 1893-1899; Martin Quinilisk, 1894-1900; John P. Brown, 1895-1898; William C. Baker, 1898-1904; B. J. Wuetker, 1899-1905; T. M. Hussey, 1900-1906; J. H. Peltier, 1904-1910; John Lochard, 1905-1911; Alex Fisher, 1906-1911; John Sherman, 1910—; Charles Windle, 1911—; John C. Stangel, 1911—.

The reports of the clerk of court for the year ending June 31, 1912, show business transacted as follows:

Total fines collected, \$315.00.

Number of cases pending July 1, 1911; common pleas court, 67; circuit court, 3.

Number of cases filed during year: common pleas court, 190; circuit court, 9.

Cases disposed of: 171, common pleas court; 5, circuit court.

Number of cases carried up to circuit court, 9.

Number of cases pending June 30, 1912: common pleas court, 77; circuit court, 7.

Divorces brought during the year ending June 30, 1912, 25; pending July 1, 1911, 11; number decided during the year, 24; number still pending, 12; cases brought by the wife, 26; by the husband, 10.

Coroner's inquest filed on 11 cases during the year: 9 males, white; 2 females, white.

There have been 8237 civil cases filed in the common pleas court since the organization of the county in 1819; 2320 criminal cases, 6365 cases brought up from justices courts and 302 cases filed in the circuit court.

The report from the recorder's office for the year ending June 30, 1912, gave agricultural lands, deeds recorded, 166, with a valuation of \$721,723.24, at an average price per acre of \$60.68.

Deeds recorded of city, town and village lots, 376, at a consideration of \$313,142.24. Total deeds recorded for the county, 678.

The number of mortgages recorded of agricultural lands, 208, on 15,630 acres, with a consideration of \$526,807.00. The number of mortgages recorded on city, town or village lots, 324, consideration, \$217,671.96.

Mortgages cancelled on agricultural lands, 264, consideration \$357,999.42; on city, town and village, 198, consideration, \$138,912.52.

The report from the probate judges' office for the year ending March 31, 1912, shows 198 marriages for the year: 183 by license, 15 by bans. Six

persons were sent to insane asylums, 5 male, 1 female. Forty-six wills admitted to probate; 30 letters testamentary, 24 letters of administration. About 20 cases considered by the juvenile court; all but two held as wards by the judge who keeps a watchful eye on his charges. One boy sent to the Boys Industrial School, one to the Reform Farm.

Population of Shelby county for each decade beginning with the fourth decennial census.

1820	1830	1840	1850	1860	1870	1880	1890	1900	1910
2,106	3,671	12,154	13,958	17,493	20,748	24,137	24,707	24,625	24,663

## POPULATION BY TOWNSHIPS, INCLUDING VILLAGES

<i>Townships</i>	1870	1880	1890	1900	1910
Clinton .....	3591	4618	5776	6837	8015
Cynthian .....	1597	1835	1605	1402	1251
Dinsmore .....	1700	2257	2212	1941	2084
Franklin .....	889	999	1232	1062	936
Green .....	1254	1447	1221	1061	961
Jackson .....	1461	1852	1794	2085	1978
Loramie .....	1707	1730	1628	1528	1464
McLean .....	1309	1545	1658	1615	1640
Orange .....	951	984	1012	935	877
Perry .....	1208	1242	1134	1060	977
Salem .....	1428	1576	1569	1427	1181
Turtle Creek .....	1230	1359	1314	1163	1032
Van Buren .....	1381	1647	1621	1676	1470
Washington .....	1092	1046	931	833	797

Urban territory, Sidney, population 1900, 5,688, for 1910, 6,607. Per cent of increase, 16.2.

Rural territory, remainder of country, population 1900, 18,937, for 1910, 18,056. Per cent of increase, 4.7.

The auditor's report for year ending August 31, 1911, shows the enumeration of school youth of the country to be 7,248, 3,694 male, 3,554 female. There are 1,160 between the ages of 6 and 8, 2,921 between 8 and 14, 1,071 between 14 and 16, and 2,096 between 16 and 21.

Tax valuation of taxable school property, \$37,000,000. Received from state common school fund, \$14,150; from other funds \$4,482.25.

Amount levied in county for school purposes, \$107,650.30; received from other sources, \$6,253.65; total receipts, \$132,545.20.

Amount paid teachers, \$84,015.38; total expenditures made for school purposes, \$132,576.38.

## PERSONAL PROPERTY VALUATION

The following figures were taken from the abstract of personal property in Shelby county on file at the auditor's office, as returned by the different assessors for the year 1912: Horses, 10,144, value, \$1,153,387; cattle, 14,425.

value, \$331,323; mules, 230, value, \$25,325; sheep, 6,501, value, \$23,550; hogs, 21,134, value, \$140,880; automobiles, 391, value, \$115,775; watches, 688, value, \$8,340; pianos and organs, 987, value, \$75,995; merchants' stock, value \$506,330; value listed as banks, broker or stock jobber, \$600; manufacturers' stock, value, \$581,085; value of moneys in possession or on deposit subject to order, \$1,282,926; value of credits deducting debts, \$628,217; value of money invested in stock and bonds, etc., \$4,410; average value of property converted into non taxable securities, \$3,000; dogs at assessed value, 8, value, \$225; money in banks, \$347,800; steam railroads, value, \$2,328,100; electric railroads, value \$523,780; total value of all taxable property, except dog tax, \$9,234,540; number of male dogs, 2,159, female, 97; bonds exempt from taxation, \$438,170.

## CHAPTER VII

### SIDNEY, THE COUNTY SEAT

*Name of Sidney—Early Settlers—Sidney Made County Seat—First Houses and Roads—Jail and Court House—Benefit of the Canal—Sidney's Growth—Mayors—Police and Fire Departments—Commercial Club—Cemeteries—Wagner Conservatories, etc.*

#### SIDNEY, THE COUNTY SEAT

Sidney, as stated in the preceding chapter, was named in honor of Sir Philip Sidney, and the land on which the city now stands, was a farm owned by Charles Starrett, who donated some fifty acres to be platted into lots in consideration of the county seat being located at this point. Whether there were at that time any houses on the plat is not known, but within a few years after the settlement of the county seat, a number had been builded.

Between 1805 and 1810 the families of James Thatcher, John Wilson, James Cannon, Samuel Marshall, Joseph Mellinger, Cephas Carey, and the McClures came to Shelby county as permanent settlers. Sidney was incorporated as a village in 1820, as a town in 1834, and received its present charter in 1897. The town was laid out on the farm of Charles Sterrett who donated seventy acres to be platted into lots in consideration of the county seat being located at this point, and that he receive one-half the proceeds from the sales of the lots. A copy of the provision is here reproduced and it seems to have been a good business proposition for the donor as the land was used for a cornfield and could be bought for eight dollars an acre, and he received more than \$3,000 from the sale of lots.

I, the undersigned subscriber, proprietor of fraction No. 36, in township 8, range 6, east of the meridian line, and on the west bank of the Miami river, do make a donation to the commissioners of Shelby county of seventy acres of land, for the use and benefit of said county, on any part of the above named tract of land that the commissioners appointed by the legislature see proper to locate the seat of justice for said county, provided the commissioners for fixing the said seat of justice see proper to fix said seat permanently in said fraction provided that I do receive one-half of the proceeds of the sales of the lots after the said county commissioners locate, lay off, and sell the lots which may be laid off on said donation.

This was signed September 24, 1819, and some reserves made December 14, 1819, which are here given:

I, the said Charles Sterrett, do make the following reserves out of the seventy acres proposed to the commissioners for the seat of justice for the county of Shelby, to-wit: One acre for the public square, two half acres for two different denominations of religious societies for graveyards, and one acre for use of schools.

The sum of \$600 was also subscribed by citizens to secure the county seat among whom were Musselman, Johnson, Defrees and Puckman and the glory of Hardin departed when Sidney became the county seat. The town was named for Sir Philip Sidney an English knight.

Abraham Cannon's log cabin on Sterrett's run was used for a court house till one could be built which was done in 1822. The first frame house was built in 1820 by John Blake, with English and Montaney contractors, on the site of Thedieck's store and was later bought by John Carey and changed to the National Hotel where board could be secured at \$1.25 a week.

It occupied this lot until 1882, and was used as a hotel, a store, and a meat Citizens Bank now stands. The Sterrett homestead still stands on Walnut market. The first brick building was erected about 1830 and stood where the street at the west end of South just south of Klepstine's lumber yard.

There was said to have been a swamp four feet deep on the east side of the square. Roads were built from Piqua to Wapakoneta; Troy to Dingmansburg; Dingmansburg to Wapakoneta, and the Piqua-Wapakoneta road to Hardin and St. Marys, a road from Hardin to the State Road and many others. After all of these improvements in 1825, the books showed \$128 in favor of the county.

An old road ran diagonally across the square, northeast to southwest, till the brick court house was built. A log jail stood on the southeast corner which was burned in 1839 when a brick one was erected on the southwest corner which stood until the seventies. A market house partly filled Poplar street between Fry's and Taylor's corners. The only school house, though there were private schools, prior to 1857 when the Central school building was erected, was that in a log cabin on a lot given by Sterrett afterwards called the old Schwerer property. The Monumental building was constructed in 1875 on the site formerly occupied by the Farmers' Hotel. The present court house was built in 1881. The town was dark at night in these early days except when the moon shone. There were neither gas nor oil lamps. Most of the people used tallow candles, lard oil or camphene in their homes. There were no matches; tinder, flint and steel being used to obtain a light. The married women wore caps and all women carried "reticules" which were sometimes adorned with cucumber or muskmelon seeds to "set them off." Every Saturday night the young men greased their shoes with tallow to look well for Sunday. When they needed blacking, soot was taken from the under side of the kettle and mixed with water for the purpose. Such an article as a cooking stove was unknown in early Sidney, the wide chimneys affording sufficient space for all cooking purposes. Time was kept without a clock and they were as regular in their habits as we.

The coming of the canal and the railroad to Sidney were events of supreme importance. The former was finished to the town in 1837 and put her in touch with the outside world.

About this time produce in Sidney was commanding the following prices: Flour, per barrel, \$2.62; wheat 37½ cents; bacon, per pound, 3½ cents; chickens, per dozen, 50 cents; eggs, 3 cents; butter, 6¼ cents; sugar, 6¼ cents; tallow, 6¼ cents. In a short time the canal was found inadequate for the shipping of grain and the railroad was heralded as the only salvation for the people. In 1850 the C., H. & D. began running through Sidney. Shortly after trains on the "Bee Line" as it was then called passed through Sidney from Cleveland to Indianapolis and it was then the town took on an air of importance for in the days of the canal Port Jefferson was the principal town of the county.

Sidney never had a phenomenal growth; its advance has been healthy. In pioneer days it was a country town dependent upon the country for support. Sidney merchants have realized this and the past quarter of a century her progressive business men are not only taking care of local trade but forging ahead. They have seen the necessity of manufacturing interests and today the varied products of the city's industries find a ready sale in all markets of the civilized world.

The total assessed valuation of all taxable property in Sidney for 1913 is \$6,500,000; that of Sidney school district over \$7,000,000, and of the county approximately \$38,000,000.

The old landmarks are fast disappearing with all their sentiment which yielded to the commercial aggression of this bounding age and to the exigencies of business life.

In other chapters will be found mention of the banks, schools, churches, the press, and the several industries of the city. I realize that the present chapter does not fully cover the history of Sidney and Shelby county, but its salient features have been given with all the accuracy attainable and is thus submitted to the reader.

The old frame building which, up to 1882, occupied the lot on which Thedieck's store now stands, was one of the first business houses of any consequence erected in the village. The first brick building was erected about 1830 on the present site of the Citizens Bank. For some time the place grew slowly, almost the only considerable influx in the population being at the time that some construction work was undertaken, as the digging of the canal, and the building of the Big Four and the C. H. & D. railroads through the village. Though covering a short time, these were periods of great activity and when the work was finished many of those who had been employed, and who had come from other places, remained here and subsequently became some of the most successful mechanics and merchants of Sidney.

But though the growth of Sidney was slow, it was a healthy growth. The surrounding country, with its fertile fields, yielded bountiful harvests, and the village with its progressive merchants, became a popular trading point for miles around. During the last quarter of a century, however, Sidney's progressive

men, no longer satisfied to depend entirely upon local trade, have recognized the value of manufacturing interests as a town builder, and have engaged in various lines of manufacturing industry, in general with gratifying success. An account of the principal industries of this nature may be found in a special chapter of this work. Other important interests and activities of the city may also be found under their appropriate heads in separate chapters of the volume.

#### THE OLD STONE BRIDGE

The old stone bridge over the canal on which many have "stood at midnight" is doomed and before long will be but a recollection. No structure in this county has served its purpose so well. It was built in the latter part of the forties on honor when that commodity was fashionable, before the age of graft, at a cost of \$2,800. This amount was deemed so extravagant by the people of the county that Samuel Marshall, then serving his first term as commissioner, was not reelected on that account for he put the matter through. He builded better than the people knew or he himself, for there it has stood for over sixty years never crying to be done over again, nor to be repaired, nor clamored for a coat of paint. In spite of the fuss it made it was the best and cheapest structure the people ever paid for public use in the county.

The contractors were two brothers by the name of Chamberlain of New York, and James H. Fletcher, whose memory embraces a period of over seventy years, furnishes this incident.

Among those trundling a wheelbarrow with stone and mortar, was an Irishman, but a stranger here, who had applied and got a job at \$1 a day. In constructing the arch over the canal it had twice fallen and the contractors were getting discouraged when this Irishman ventured the remark that according to mathematical principles they were not building it right to stand. At first he was scoffed at but finally they told him to superintend the work if he thought he knew enough. He did so and the bridge stands a monument to his skill though his name is forgotten, if it ever was known here. Mr. Fletcher, at that time, was going to the private school of Mr. McGookin, where the Grand Hotel stands, and one day this Irishman, in his blue overalls, came to visit the school and took a seat beside Mr. Fletcher, whose geometry was open on the desk. He took it up and began to ask questions showing familiarity with geometry and a trained and educated mind. It was subsequently learned that he was a graduate of Dublin University but had become stranded here.

If the sturdy "arch de triomphe" had kept a record of the doings, sayings and happenings of the last sixty years, and a register of the names of those who have passed over it and under it, it would be a roster of the inhabitants, not only of Sidney but a more complete one of those of the county, than could be obtained anywhere else and thousands, now in the maw of relentless and speechless oblivion, would be rescued.

In view of the fact that the old bridge makes a hump in the paved street leading to the C. H. & D. station, unsightly in aspect and somewhat difficult



to surmount with heavy loads, the structure is to be removed and another one to suit the grade built.

Sentiment has a poor show in this materialistic age when pitted against traffic and comfort, and in this unequal contest the old bridge must yield and give up the ghost. This bridge gave place to the new one in 1907.

## MAYORS OF SIDNEY FROM 1846 TO 1913

1846—James Irwin.	1870—M. C. Hale.
1849—Joseph Cummins.	1871—John W. Knox.
1850—Leonard Werst.	1872—M. C. Hale.
1851—David Carey.	1874—H. Guthrie.
1852—W. J. Martin.	1876—J. G. Stephenson.
1855—M. B. Newman.	1878—D. L. Bush.
1856—W. J. Martin.	1880—C. C. Weaver.
1857—William Serviss.	1882—D. L. Bush.
1858—D. B. Rhinehart.	1884—W. C. Wyman.
1861—Samuel Mathers.	1886—M. C. Hale.
1863—D. B. Rhinehart.	1890—H. S. Ailes.
1864—Samuel Mathers.	1896—C. W. Nessler.
1866—J. G. Stephenson.	1901—Emerson V. Moore.
1867—J. F. Frazer.	1906—W. M. Crozier.
1868—Hugh Thompson.	1912—John Duncan.
1869—J. F. Frazer.	

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

The police department of Sidney is under the control of the chief, William O'Leary, subject to the general supervision of the director of public safety. The department consists of the chief and three patrolmen, Jacob Eisenstein, Charles Williamson, and Frank Kritzer. The chief, William O'Leary, has been identified with the department for twenty years, fourteen as chief. The expense of maintaining this part of the public service was \$3,394.41 for the year 1912.

A rather unique system of calling the police obtains in Sidney, two signal lights on the spire of the court house, turned on by the telephone operators, call the attention of the safeguards of the public to the fact that they are wanted in some locality.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

The fire department is full paid and under the control of the chief subject to the general supervision of the director of public safety. The first organization was a volunteer one which was changed to a paid one in 1885. George Hume, the chief, has been identified with the department for nearly seventeen years, five as chief. He is assisted by five men. The expense of this branch of the public safety was \$5,738.55 in 1912. The quarters of the fire department are on the first floor of the Monumental building and plans are on foot to make the

equipment as efficient as the most progressive cities by the purchase of a triple combination pumping, chemical engine, and hose motor car, sealed proposals for which are being received now. The machine, which will cost in the neighborhood of \$10,000, must have six cylinders with not less than 100 horse power and carry 1,200 feet of 2½ inch fire hose and one 40 gallon chemical tank.

Contract this with the early days when the equipment consisted of a hook and ladder wagon pulled by ropes in the hands of the men and a "bucket brigade," which worked in conjunction with them.

An incident which is recalled by a survivor of the old days was the burning of the C. H. & D. station when long lines of men were formed and the buckets, which were filled from a near-by creek, were passed laboriously along the line practically empty when they reached the last man. These buckets were of leather and Sidney's were red.

Henry Young was the first chief of the voluntary fire department and the Holly system of water works furnished the extinguishing liquid. On January 28, 1885, the paid fire department was organized and the chiefs in their order are: John B. Edgar, James McClung, A. O. Waucop, John W. Kendall, Jasper Wade, George W. Covill, John W. Kendall, Jasper Wade, H. C. Jones, Mort McNeil, Henry Yost and George Hume, the present incumbent.

#### WATER WORKS

If Sidney has one thing more than another of which to be justly proud it is her splendid supply of pure water from artesian wells fed by underground streams adequate for all present and future demands.

The present system was installed in 1889 and consists of six eight-inch and two twelve-inch wells sunk around the pumping station at various depths, none lower than 100 feet. The station embraces about two acres of ground located between the canal and the river in the northeastern part of town.

The Pohle Air Lift system is used with an Ingersoll-Rand duplex air compressor with a capacity to lift 1,100,000 gallons a day. A stand pipe built at the top of Miami avenue hill is connected with the distributing system which has a storage capacity of 300,000 gallons. There are 130 public fire hydrants. This system supplanted the old Holly water works which was installed in 1873 and which was located across the river where the electric light plant now stands.

The plant is owned by the city of Sidney and the system is under good supervision and well managed. It is operated under the direction of the superintendent of water works, G. A. Hatfield, who has served in his present capacity since 1909. The secretary is S. D. McCullough. The water works come under the management of the director of service, D. H. Warner.

The water works is now more than self-supporting. The cost of operation in 1911 was \$15,126.09 and the total receipts \$26,055.81, leaving a balance of \$10,929.72. The figures for 1912 show the cost of maintaining the department to have been \$9,314.41; extraordinary expenses such as extending the

mains, \$4,278.60; other items which bring the cost of the department to \$14,276.58; total receipts \$18,159.94, leaving a balance which includes that carried from last year of \$14,813.08.

## THE COMMERCIAL CLUB COMPANY

These articles of incorporation of the Commercial Club Company; Witnesseth, That we the undersigned, all of whom are citizens of the State of Ohio, desiring to form a corporation for profit, under the general corporation laws of said State, do hereby certify:

First: The name of said corporation shall be The Commercial Club Company,

Second: Said corporation is to be located at Sidney, Shelby county, Ohio, and its principal business there transacted.

Third: Said corporation is formed for the purpose of promoting the best interests of Sidney, Ohio.

Fourth: The capital stock of said corporation shall be \$5,000.00, divided into 200 shares of \$25.00 each.

In Witness Whereof, we have hereunto set our hands, this twenty-sixth day of February, A. D. 1903.

B. M. DONALDSON,  
E. S. MAXWELL,  
H. E. BEEBE,  
JAMES ANDERSON,  
E. J. GRIFFIS.

The books were opened for subscriptions to the capital stock March fifth, 1903, and the names of the original members of the company are here given:

James Anderson, A. W. Reddish, W. T. Amos, C. W. Benjamin, Web W. Robinson, William Binkley, J. D. Barnes, Fletcher M. Roberts, E. W. Bingham, A. Braudewie, G. D. Robertson, C. J. Briggs, J. P. Braudewie, H. W. Robinson, H. C. Carey, H. E. Beebe, James Rostron, John H. Durick, John T. Bryant, J. C. Royon, Jessi L. Dickenstiets, A. P. Carey, Fred Salm, E. C. Dyer, Wilson Carothers, C. R. Sargent, A. A. Gerlack, J. W. Costolo, T. A. Sawyer, B. D. Higgins, G. E. Cyshers, T. F. Shaw, E. L. Hoskins, B. M. Donaldson, C. A. Sexaner, T. M. Hussey, C. W. Frazier, William Shine, E. E. Kah, C. E. Given, Luik T. Snodgrass, E. W. Laughlin, John T. Given, L. M. Studevant, Robert Marshall, E. J. Griffis, W. D. Snyder, E. V. Moore, W. H. C. Goode, O. B. Taylor, Charles Neal, William Haslup, I. H. Thedieck, Samuel Piper, C. L. Haslup, J. A. Throckmorton, J. E. Russell, A. J. Hess, W. H. Wagner, N. Sanderson, Milt Herzstam, John H. Wagner, W. K. Sterlin, B. S. Hunt, Milton M. Wagner, W. S. Sears, George W. Henne, Ben P. Wagner, J. B. Shine, R. V. Jones, Henry Wagner, G. E. Smith, Louis Kah, Harry G. Wagner, Charles Timens, W. E. Kilborn, L. Cable Wagner, W. A. Underwood, John Loughlin, James P. Ward, Louis R. Wagner, William S. Ley, H. G. Woodward, H. Wilson, H. T. Mathers, W. P. Metcalf, W. R.

Wyman, E. S. Maxwell, C. B. Deweese, Charles Wyman, E. C. Nutt, James N. Anderson, H. Young, William Piper, J. Altenbach, William H. Princehouse.

The club occupies the second floor of the Harry Wagner building, on Poplar street, which it has fitted up in luxurious style for the comfort and enjoyment of its members and guests, and its annual banquets are looked forward to by Sidney society as a feature of the winter season.

The company labors faithfully for the welfare of the community, promotes business enterprises, encourages new industries and stands for civic improvement.

After an initiation fee of \$25.00 each member pays \$10.00 annually. The first Monday is held to hear reports and suggestions, at which time refreshments are served. There are about 100 members.

These representative citizens have been presidents of this organization since it started in 1903 in the order of succession: E. J. Griffis, I. H. Thedieck, H. T. Mathers, H. E. Beebe, W. H. Wagner, W. E. Kilborn, James N. Anderson, P. R. Taylor, C. F. Hiebok, W. H. C. Goode.

#### CEMETERIES

If Sidney is becoming such a beautiful place to live in it is hardly less beautiful in which to die in, if the word has a place as a qualifying term to the dread hour which Time will bring at last to the high as well as the low. On the banks of the murmuring and willow-fringed Miami is the ever-growing and peaceful white city of Graceland with its shaded drives and silent repose. Views have entirely changed from the pioneer ideas as to the resting-place for the dead—the neglected graveyards, weed and briar infested, which Whittier so truthfully describes as being

"The dearest spot in all the land  
To death was set apart;  
With scanty grace from Nature's hand  
And none from that of art."

for now by universal consent there is a laudable strife to make the cemeteries as beautiful as possible and to keep them so.

Sidney can lay claim to one of the most beautiful burial grounds in the state. It consists of 23 acres of gently rolling ground overlooking the Miami river and adjoining the town on the south. This land was bought of H. B. and Robert Reed, in 1866, and three sections were laid out by William Brown and J. D. Moler, of Springfield, Ohio. The first deeds for lots were made August 12, 1867, to J. F. Frazer, George Vogel, D. L. Bush, George Ackerly, Jason McVay, E. H. Arbuckle and Sophia Young.

The first interment was that of Mrs. Jane Irwin, the 27th day of September, 1867. Three burials were made that year and eleven during the year 1868. The first sexton was Rudolph Kaser, appointed April 17, 1868, at a salary of \$400.

Sections four and five have since been laid out and improvements made from year to year to correspond with the original plan.

There are now buried in the cemetery 4,504 persons, including the removals from the old Presbyterian and Sterrett burying grounds.

Much credit is due W. P. Stowell, who followed Samuel Mathers, the first superintendent for the artistic taste shown in laying out the grounds, planting trees and shrubs, for some most magnificent maples spread their branches in this ever growing city. Mr. Stowell devoted a large share of his time for fifteen years to this work.

The present superintendent, G. C. Anderson, has been connected with the management of the cemetery for more than 30 years and since the death of Mr. Stowell July 10, 1894, has carried on with such marked efficiency the beautifying of the grounds that one might say of Graceland, as was said of the spot where Keats lies buried, that it makes one fall in love with death to be buried in so sweet a place.

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Glen cemetery in Port Jefferson, Salem township, is a most beautiful burial ground on the banks of the Miami and Cedar Point in Perry township which takes its name from the cedars planted there, is most artistically laid out on a triangular piece of ground overlooking Mosquito creek. Houston and Hardin in Loramie and Turtle Creek townships respectively have beautiful cemeteries.

#### FRATERNAL AND SOCIAL ORDERS

Temperance Lodge No. 73, F. & A. M., Sidney, O.; charter granted Jan. 20th, 1826, with William Fielding as master; Robert Blakely, senior warden; John Lenox, junior warden. Officers for 1912 and 1913 are as follows: Bros. James H. Millikin, W. M.; Thaleon Blake, S. W.; Chas. E. Betts, J. W.; W. A. Graham, Treasurer; Jesse L. Frazier, Secretary; Benjamin F. Martin, S. D.; Henry B. Albuis Jr., J. D.; John A. Mumford, Tyler.

Sidney Chapter—No. 130, Royal Arch Masons; charter granted in 1872.

Officers for 1912 and 1913: Companions, James H. Millikin, H. P.; George B. Toland, King; Thaleon Blake, Scribe; C. E. Johnston, C. of H.; O. S. Kумы, P. S.; R. H. Toy, R. A. C.; W. A. Graham, Treasurer; Jesse L. Frazer, Secretary; L. M. Studevant, G. M. 3d V.; Don F. Edgar, G. M. 2nd V.; Herman T. Reuse, G. M. 1st V.; John A. Mumford, Guard.

Sidney Council No. 70, Royal and Select Masters; charter granted in 1882.

Officers for 1912 and 1913: Companions, Chas. E. Betts, T. I. M.; Benj. F. Martin, D. I. M.; Thaleon Blake, P. C. of W.; W. A. Graham, Treasurer; Jesse L. Frazier, Secretary; C. E. Johnston, C. of G.; L. M. Studevant, C. of C.; R. H. Toy, Steward; John A. Mumford, Sentinel.

Sidney Commandery No. 46; charter granted in 1888.

Officers for 1912 and 1913: Chas. E. Betts, E. C.; W. R. Wyman, Generalissimo; W. J. Emmons, Captain General; J. H. Millikin, S. W.; Jesse L. Frazier, J. W.; Frank D. Elwell, Prelate; W. A. Graham, Treasurer; George B. Toland, Recorder; William P. Collier, Standard Bearer; R. V. Jones,

Sword Bearer; J. E. Russell, Warden; J. H. Mumford, Sentinel; M. R. Linn, Third Guard; Hartman Miller, Second Guard; Thaleon Blake, First Guard.

I. O. O. F.—Sidney Lodge No. 60 meets every Tuesday evening in I. O. O. F. hall. Osceola Encampment, No. 63, meets first and third Friday evenings of each month in I. O. O. F. hall. Maple Lodge No. 254, D. of R., meets first and third Monday evenings of each month in I. O. O. F. hall.

K. of P.—Summit Lodge No. 50, meets every Wednesday evening in Castle hall. Sidney Company, U. K. K. of P., meets first Monday evening of each month in K. of P. hall. El Shereef Temple No. 32 Knights of Khorassan, meets the fourth Thursday of each month in K. of P. hall. Summit Temple No. 9, Pythian Sisters, meets second and fourth Tuesday evening of each month in K. of P. hall.

Jr. O. U. A. M.—Western Star Council No. 340, meets every Monday evening in their hall. Arabian Degree Klan meets on call in Jr. Order hall. Honorable Council No. 104 meets first and third Tuesday evenings of each month in Jr. O. U. A. M. hall.

K. of C.—Sidney Council No. 659 meets second and fourth Wednesday evening of each month in K. of C. hall. Fourth Degree Assembly meets quarterly on call in K. of C. hall.

B. P. O. E.—Sidney Lodge No. 786 meets every Tuesday except June, July and August in Post Office Bldg.

I. O. R. M.—Tawawa Tribe No. 67 meets every Wednesday evening in I. O. R. M. hall. Alpharetta Council No. 108 meets second and fourth Monday evening in I. O. R. M. hall, Thompson Bldg.

G. A. R.—Neal Post No. 62 meets second and fourth Monday evenings of each month in G. A. R. hall. Neal Relief Corps No. 76, meets second and fourth Monday afternoon of each month in G. A. R. hall.

U. S. W. V.—Camp J. Rush Lincoln No. 60 meets fourth Tuesday evening in G. A. R. hall.

K. of G. E.—Miami Castle No. 8 meets every Thursday night in Golden Eagle hall. Valley City Temple No. 8 meets second and fourth Monday evening of each month in Golden Eagle hall.

U. C. T.—Valley City Council No. 273 meets first Saturday evening of each month in I. O. F. hall.

I. O. F.—Court Ft. Loramie No. 3475 meets every Friday evening in I. O. F. hall.

R. A.—M. R. Waite Council No. 1091 meets second and fourth Friday evenings of each month in G. A. R. hall.

K. O. T. M.—Meets first and third Tuesday evening of each month in I. O. F. hall.

L. O. T. M.—Valley City No. 252 meets first and third Friday evenings of each month in G. A. R. hall.

B. H.—Sidney Court No. 19 meets second and fourth Friday evenings of each month in Jr. O. U. A. M. hall.

C. K. of A.—St. Joseph's Branch No. 115 meets in Holy Angels School Bldg. on call of president.

M. W. of A.—Sidney Camp meets second and fourth Tuesday evening in K. G. E. hall.

F. O. E.—Sidney Aerie No. 1403 meets Monday evening in their hall, 106 Ohio ave.

American Steel Scraper Aid Association—Meets second Wednesday evening of each month in I. O. F. hall.

Business Girls' Association—Meets each Friday evening in their rooms, 113½ S. Ohio Ave.

Iron Workers' Mutual Aid Association—Meets second Monday evening of each month in I. O. F. hall.

Shelby County Medical Society—Meets first Thursday of each month in Court House.

Ministers' Association of Sidney—Meets first Monday of each month in library.

#### THE WAGNER CONSERVATORIES

The beautiful park west of Sidney and joining the corporation is a charming spot of over one hundred acres and growing in beauty each year. Twenty acres or so is a natural forest of lofty trees indigenous to Ohio. The underbrush has been removed, the dead limbs also, and drives wind beneath a shaded canopy while artificial lakes abound.

The entire conception of the park originated in the brain of Bernard P. Wagner, one of the four brothers of the Mathias Wagner family. Possessing ample means to indulge fully his exquisite aesthetic taste his fancies have been given full play and landscape gardening has become to him an assiduous study.

In the year 1900 the Wagner Park Conservatories were started, being the outgrowth of the love and interest B. P. Wagner had for years taken in flowers and landscape gardening. The work increased each year and Wagner Nursery stock was recognized for its quality and the care used in packing it for shipment.

The work of planning and planting grounds and the giving of advice has now extended its field over a number of states and the Wagner organization is prepared to go anywhere in the United States to execute or advise on landscape work.

Recently the company has been incorporated under Ohio laws for \$100,000.00 under the name of the Wagner Park Nurseries Company. The officers are B. P. Wagner, president and treasurer; W. H. Wagner, vice president; H. L. Brown, secretary. These officers with Messrs. M. M., L. R. and J. F. Wagner and Mr. A. M. Brown make up the board of directors.

Upon entering the grounds of the Wagner park the chief group of buildings are the conservatories in which many of the flowers are cultivated. Fifteen thousand square feet of space is under glass for this purpose.

A new office building has recently been built. The first story is stucco and the second mission timber. Mission finish is also carried out in the interior. The room entered first is the library reception room: Here on file the periodicals and books relating to flowers and landscape gardening are kept for the

use of not only the visitors but for the men in the nurseries. On this same floor are the general offices together with the private offices of Mr. B. P. Wagner and that of the secretary and general manager, Mr. Brown. The second floor is given over to the landscape department. It is beautifully lighted and in every way adapted to drafting room purposes. The building has also a fireproof vault for plates and records.

Leaving the office via the green house the first section entered is the palm house which is 20 x 100 ft. in size. Here numerous palms of all varieties are kept for inspection and sale. Two rose houses are maintained. In the first the roses are at present in full bloom and present a most striking appearance as the visitor passes into the long glass roofed structure. Roses of all varieties are grown here. In the second rose house which is the exact size of the first recently the plants have been stripped of their bloom and over thirty-five thousand cuttings made which have been transplanted into the sand of the propagating frame.

A large hot water heating system furnishes heat for the entire conservatories. This is located in another building equipped for the purpose. The tank house contains a large water tank into which the water for the grounds is pumped by a gasoline engine. From the tank house into the packing house where the plants and flowers are prepared for shipment and the mission plant boxes are made during the slack business months.

The storage building is fifty by one hundred feet in size. Here everything for the use of the conservatories is kept.

Leaving the buildings proper the lath house is next of interest. Here in a structure built entirely of lath as the name indicates are kept boxwoods and the more tender evergreens for use in landscape gardening. The lath house furnishes the slight protection necessary to these evergreens from the changes in the climate so common to this part of the country.

In the propagating frames planted in sand fifteen thousand shrub cuttings and thirty-five thousand rose cuttings are making their struggle for life. The size of this one frame is six by one hundred feet.

Close by the propagation frame is the soil pile in the barnyard court. Here soil fit for certain plants is in the process of manufacture by decay constantly. The pile is probably one hundred feet long by twelve feet wide by twelve feet deep.

The growing fields are over one hundred acres in extent. Here flowers of all varieties are cultivated for the market and the use of the landscape gardening department of the firm. In busy season seventy-five men are required to attend to the cultivation and shipment of these. They present a most entrancing appearance with their variety of colors spread over the fields as far west as the observer can see. Each foot of space is cultivated and ravines and plains, hills and valleys which go to make up the general contour of the land occupied is utilized for different species of flowers, shrubs and trees.

Most unique and interesting is the arboretum just started by the gardeners. Here every species of plant cultivated by the conservatories will be



grown for display. Evergreens and plants, flowers and shrubs from China, Japan, France, Germany, in fact from every portion of the known world are here cultivated and nurtured. Over three hundred varieties of evergreens are planted here, the varieties of shrubs number five hundred and of trees two hundred and fifty. The bed is over two thousand feet long and ranges from twelve feet wide at the narrowest place to fifty feet at the widest. The arboretum extends the width of the grounds and doubles back following the west park boundaries. Although this was just commenced this spring and the weather was not the best for the purpose the arboretum is most beautiful and interesting. When after a few years' growth it will be as interesting as those of Arnold at Boston and Shaw at St. Louis. Students from all over the country will visit these gardens to study and observe plants and plant life from all over the world, where hundreds and hundreds of foreign plants have been imported and grown in this arboretum. For convenience and study all the plants are arranged in alphabetical order and designated by markers bearing the Latin name.

Nearby the entrance to the park from the south and north of the office the Isle of Nippon gardens captivate the eye. Here around a little lake and on several islands of that lake Mr. Wagner has caused to be planted and made a real Japanese garden with only flowers from the fair Isle of Nippon. The waters of the lake are clear and placid. Rustic bridges span the space to the islands. At the entrance a Japanese gate of logs has been erected and bears a small placard with the legend "Nippon."

For Sidney and Sidney people Mr. Wagner has been very considerate in building the beautiful Wagner park with its shaded drives following the natural contour of the woods, its pretty little lakes and novel gardens in which are planted wonders of nature from everywhere. Here Sidney people are privileged to hold picnics and reunions and enjoy the beauties of the park place. Here are wonderful stretches of stately old flowers our grandmothers loved grown in marvelous perfection. Here are scores of admirable if less well known horticultural beauties, rescued from obscurity by botanical expertness and presented to the modern hardy garden; myriad groups of shrubs in superb condition, deciduous, decorative, useful; unusual and effective combinations; long avenues of fine native trees; plantations of many interesting specimens that you may not know—such is the language of the florist in the Wagner park catalogue in describing the beauties of the park.

Probably the one section of the Wagner business that is best known is his landscape gardening. The Wagner's landscape service has become known the world over. This department is conducted under the personal supervision of B. P. Wagner assisted by a corps of able landscape artists, who have not only been thoroughly trained in the theory of every branch of this profession but have had a number of years of practical experience on the park grounds and are perfectly familiar with the "Wagner" methods of landscaping which have met with such universal success and given satisfaction and pleasure to thousands of patrons throughout the United States and foreign countries.

In the catalogue published by the nurseries the following description of the Wagner idea of gardening is taken :

"By the Wagner method of landscaping, lawn, garden and wooded ground are treated in a pictorial way, mainly with large effects. Lesser incidents, flower borders and masses, specimen shrubs, etc., are introduced in such a way as to add to the repose and simplicity of the whole. Harmony of color is especially studied. Unsightly outlooks are obliterated. Privacy is created. 'Vistas' are formed where existed monotony of outlook and illusions are manufactured by art, working on the principle of nature.

"The dominant feature in landscape beauty is an unbroken lawn space. All the better if it passes around the sides of the house. Beyond the green stretch of perfect turf are groups or formal planting of fine trees, with here and there—placed exactly at that point for some sound artistic reason—clumps of shrubbery adding their varying heights to the picturesque irregularity of the planting line. Across a shaded lawn also what a picture is formed by the brilliant undulation of hardy perennials grown in borders, a drift of bulb-blossoms, or a glorious mass of single flower-color! The arrangements of all these features make or mar the aspect of a place."

The landscape department does an extensive business in planning and laying out private and public grounds. The principles characterize the Wagner idea: First, keep the center of the lawn open; second, plant in masses; third, avoid straight lines.

In the literature published for the company appear many cuts of the homes of prominent Sidney people who have employed the services of the Wagner architects to plan and plant their grounds. Private grounds are pictured located all over the United States where the Wagner artists have done good work for a beautiful America.

The Wagner park nurseries have been the birthplace of many new species or varieties of flowers and shrubs which have been grown by selection years have been devoted to the cultivation and manufacture of a species to delight some fancier. The Wagner park new phlox varieties and the novelty roses, President Taft, Madam Taft, Jean D'Arc and others are some of the cultivations made and originated here.

In addition to his contributions to the flower world Mr. Wagner and his able assistant publish *Landscape and Garden*, a periodical which tells of how to make the home beautiful, a distinct contribution to the literature of flowers.

The Miami Valley Gas & Fuel Company was originally incorporated by outside parties, as The Mercer Gas & Fuel Company, Calvin S. Brice, of Lima, O., and William P. Orr, of Piqua, being the chief promoters, and Mr. Orr the first president of the company. No stock was taken in Sidney. The system went into operation July 1, 1888. About four years later the supply of gas gave out and the company then extended its pipe lines to Red Key, Indiana, at which time a pumping station was put in. The new supply lasted about four or five years, at the end of which time the pipe was dug up and taken to the Sugar Grove field, in Fairfield county, O. (known as the Lancaster field), from which gas has been obtained up to the present

time. The pumping station was also removed to Sugar Grove. During the past six years an additional supply has been obtained from the Pan Handle field, in West Virginia. The old field in Mercer county was sold to the corporation of Minster and they now get some gas from it, it not being entirely exhausted. The company now supplies Sidney only, the gas being used for heating purposes, factory power, and to some extent for illumination. The present officers of the company are in part: Frank E. Randall, of New York, president; F. L. Chase, of Columbus, O., secretary and treasurer. The local agent is A. L. Marshall, who has held this position for the past 20 years, he having served five years previously as assistant to Frank Hunter, the former agent.

The Sidney Electric Light Company is an offshot of the Sidney Gas Light & Coke Company, established in 1872. About 1886 certain persons who were interested in the gas company organized the electric light company, which had the same stockholders—D. W. Pampel, W. P. Metcalf, Judge Hugh Thomson, Jacob Piper, Sr., and J. C. Royon. An arc-light system was soon installed and went into operation for the lighting of the streets, stores and public buildings. About ten years later the arc-light system was supplemented and in part superseded by incandescent lights, which were introduced into private dwellings. A few years after the organization of the Miami Gas & Fuel Company in the interests of the Electric Light Company were transferred to the latter and the two systems were combined under one administration, Mr. Pampel and Mr. Metcalf being then the controlling stockholders. About ten years ago the artificial mains for conveying coal gas were abandoned and natural gas was adopted. A. L. Marshall is local agent for the company.

The Sidney Telephone Company was organized in 1899, the articles of incorporation being filed February 13th of that year, and the franchise granted on the same date. The company was capitalized at \$30,000, the incorporators being L. M. Studevant, I. H. Thedieck, W. H. Wagner and Frank Crissman. At that time a company using the Bell system was operating here and until about three years ago the two companies were in competition, when the Sidney Telephone bought out the interests of its rival and came into full control. During the summer of 1910 a complete new central office equipment was installed, known as the central energy system, and of Western Electric Company's make. In 1905 C. R. Bleakney became manager, at which time the company had 780 phones. The number of phones at the present time (January 1, 1913) is 1,575, in Sidney, with Anna and Ft. Loramie exchanges. W. H. Wagner is president of the company; I. H. Thedieck, vice president; A. J. Hess, secretary, and L. M. Studevant, treasurer. Five men are employed, four of them on outside work.

The Farmers Telephone Company was incorporated April 16, 1910, for the purpose of constructing and purchasing telephone lines, or both, and doing a general telephone business in Shelby and adjoining counties. It was capitalized at \$24,000, by J. H. Millhouse, Charles F. Snyder, John C. Ward, Oliver C. Steley, Elva N. Middleton, James M. Baker and George L. Mar-

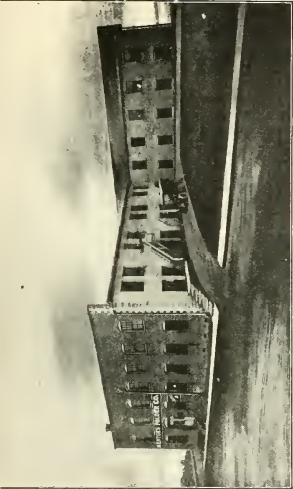
tin. The company now has about 700 phones in Sidney and the vicinity, the system being up-to-date, and the prospects are good for future business. The present officers of the company are as follows: R. J. DeWeese, president; J. H. Millhouse, vice president; Charles F. Snyder, secretary; T. M. Beamer, treasurer, and C. C. Hermetet, manager. The directors are R. J. DeWeese, G. L. Martin, P. A. Howell, W. F. Valentine, Sherman Cain, J. W. Harp, R. M. Yinger, M. K. Coon and Orin C. Staley.

I have seen gas "works installed in Sidney, the electric light plant, the Holly system of water works across the river which did service for some fifteen years, the new water works built up the canal, which pumped river water into the mains for some time but which was supplanted by pure crystal water from artesian wells from the rock between one hundred and two hundred below the surface and which is Sidney's special pride. All the old churches have been demolished since the sixties and ten or more beautiful structures erected, and a modern courthouse built in the delightfully shaded park of nearly three acres in the center of the city; a magnificent \$60,000 monumental structure, several miles of street paving, the city's sidewalks all paved with Berea ore or concrete, and a fire department so alert and well equipped that conflagrations for years have been nipped in the head. A one hundred thousand dollar high school nearly completed, where once was the Presbyterian graveyard, a building site purchased by the government for the next postoffice, and the location secured on South street, formerly the Mount Vernon African Baptist church, for an armory to be built by the state.

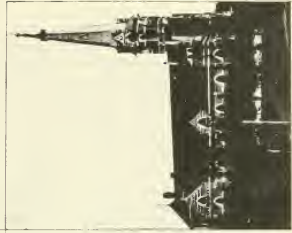
A row of elms, years ago, of more than a mile in length, was planted on the berme bank of the canal, the roots of which, extending to the water, promote a most luxurious growth which in time will be magnificent.

The C. H. & D. Railway gives the city and the contiguous region a much desired outlet to the south. The C. C. C. & St. L. places Sidney in communication with the east and west and an electric trolley line of two hundred miles in length connecting Cincinnati with Toledo, with lateral branches east and west passes through Sidney with its cars at frequent intervals. The beautiful parks at the C. H. & D. and Big Four stations displays exquisite taste, the latter the result of ceaseless efforts on the part of our fellow townsman, William Shine. The tender consideration of the poverty stricken and unfortunate is seen in the beautiful surroundings of the infirmary with the commodious apartments for their care and comfort while the Children's Home for orphan waifs is charming in every feature. The aesthetic taste dispalyed in the selection of the site and the beautifying of the environments, the wholesome instructor in manners and manual training, as well as books and the varied landscape of indescribable charms can not fail to make indelible impressions for good upon their children's plastic minds.

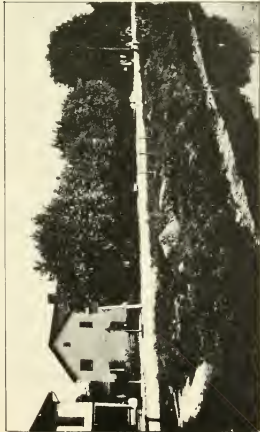
Aesthetic taste received an impulse from the beautiful Wagner conservatory which has achieved a national reputation and from the efforts of the Commercial club, which is ceaseless in its endeavors to make Sidney one of the prettiest gems in the incomparable Miami valley.



MENTGES FOLDER CO.



ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH,  
FT. LORAMIE, O.



VIEW AT FT. LORAMIE, McLEAN TOWNSHIP



N. MAIN ST., NEWPORT, O.



I have seen Sidney grow from a village of two thousand to a city of seven thousand, not a phenomenal growth but a healthy one. Thirty years ago we were entirely an agricultural community. Gradually a change has been wrought in the character of our industries until we have become quite an important manufacturing city with varied products which find a ready sale in all markets of the civilized world. We now have about forty manufacturing plants with invested capital of more than two millions which give employment to nearly fifteen hundred people. These industries bring to Sidney about \$3,000,000 annually, and about one-fifth of the entire receipts is paid for wages yearly.

Some idea of the growth of the city and her resources may be had by a comparison of her financial institutions with those of thirty years ago. There were then two banks with a capital and surplus of about \$20,000 and deposits of about \$350,000. Now we have four financial institutions with capital and surplus of more than 500,000 and deposits of about \$3,000,000. This does not mean the wealth of the community for there are large sums invested in bonds and mortgages that do not appear in the operations or statements of the financial institutions.

CHAPTER VIII  
MANUFACTURES AND COMMERCE

*Sketches of the Principal Manufacturing Industries of  
Sidney.\**

WAGNER HOLLOW-WARE COMPANY

Three quarters of a century or more ago several stalwart Germans, brothers and sisters, emigrated from the fatherland and settled in this part of Ohio. Large, dark and swarthy, they were all splendid physical specimens and being full of pluck and energy they were such people for whom a new country calls to subdue the stubborn features of nature, make them blossom as the rose and achieve a lofty destiny. They all rolled up their sleeves and with a determination that knew no such word as fail, encountered their life work.

The branch of the family with which this article has to deal is that of the scions of Mathias Wagner, one of the brothers. He was a strong, powerful man with a rare fund of common sense and unbounded ambition. At first he worked a while on the Miami and Erie canal, then being built, but did not continue long at the tedious and not very lucrative work, for, as soon as he had accumulated enough to buy an outfit, he commenced killing beeves and hogs in sufficient numbers to supply meat to the laborers and their families. This proved a fortunate venture and with his gains he bought property, which was cheap in and around Sidney, never selling any real estate but holding on until he became Sidney's wealthiest citizen. He continued to butcher and sell meat as long as his age and health would permit.

In the meantime he married Miss Mary Rauth, vigorous, large and strong, who seconded every effort of her energetic husband giving him sound advice, for she had sterling business acumen and was a helpmeet in every particular. Twelve children, of whom eight are living, were born in their household and were reared with the utmost care and educated. It was an ideal home, where happiness flavored the atmosphere. In time, Mr. Wagner passed away, but the large estate was not divided among the children and is intact to this day. Mrs. Wagner died only a few years ago and as long as she lived was the head of the vast interests.

Perfect harmony existed among the children, for there was no black sheep in the flock and today they work together like parts of a flawless machine. It

\*For industries located outside of Sidney see Townships.



is of the business of the Wagner brothers, consisting of William, Milton, Bernard and Louis, that this article is written.

For many years the Sidney people have been justly proud of the factory on the fair ground hill but few have known that here is made a great part of the hollow-ware used in the world and that from this factory is shipped daily goods to all parts of the civilized globe.

To just view the Wagner plant from the outside is scarcely sufficient to give an accurate impression of its immensity and up-to-dateness. A trip through the shop several times only reveals new wonders in manufacturing science and to the one new to the factory such a trip serves to rather bewilder with its extent and the various processes and numerous kinds of goods made.

Just finished is the extensive addition made this year to the factory to accommodate the increasing business of the firm. The office has been extended and enlarged. The second story newly built adds to the storage rooms for hollow-ware. The polishing department has been greatly enlarged and new store rooms for the factory supplies have been added. The cost of these improvements has been very great and when one realizes that since the founding of the plant in 1881 that only two years have passed in which additions have not been made the growth of the plant is of far more significance.

In 1881 the Wagner brothers founded this plant for the manufacture of hollow-ware on the hill next the C. H. & D. railway where shipping facilities were good. The shop was small then and only two buildings were built. Only twenty men were employed. R. O. Bingham, the present superintendent, was the manager in charge and built the factory on lines of his own design. He had been a moulder and practical machinist by trade and had spent some time as superintendent of foundries. The start was small but the growth has been rapid. In the thirty-one years of its existence the Wagner Manufacturing Company has increased its capacity twenty-nine times allowing only two years to pass in which improvements and enlargements have not been made to accommodate their ever-increasing business. Their original superintendent has been with them continually since the founding of the plant and with him have remained in their employ several men who started to work when the shop was founded.

The office of the factory has been made and remade several times but the complete refitting and remodeling this time will make it the largest it has ever been and thoroughly up to the time. Eight rooms and a hall comprise the working rooms of the business end of the plant. Upon entering, the large and commodious general offices are seen. A separate room opens from this room which will be used as a stenographer's room where all the typewriting will be done. Adjoining this will be the private office of the purchasing agent of the factory and last on that side of the hall is the private office of the president of the company. Another private office adjoins this to the rear. These private offices are specially constructed for the purpose. The office supply room opens off the hall to the rear and here also the secretary of the company has his office. A long hall connects all these rooms.

In the same building fronting on Fair avenue in which the office section

forms but a small part are the ware rooms of the factory in which are kept the finished products. On the first floor the heavy iron goods are stored ready for shipment. On the second floor the gray iron hollow-ware is kept. Here also is located the large shipping department of the factory. In the packing room several men are constantly employed packing the goods ready for loading on the box cars. Three inspectors go over the products before they are packed and see that no imperfect pieces are sent out of the factory. Here the pieces are also counted, billed and loaded. On the third floor is placed the cleaning room for aluminum. Here is kept the aluminum products ready for packing and shipment. The entire size of this building is one hundred and forty feet long by thirty feet wide and is three story brick. A heavy freight elevator connects the three floors.

The second building is two hundred and ten feet long by ninety-six wide and three stories. In this is located the finishing department for the entire factory and is connected by overhead bridges with the warehouses and offices.

On the first floor on this building in one large room the grinding room is situated. Here the rough hollow-ware is ground and edged, before the polishing is commenced. In another section of the first floor the store rooms for the factory are located. Here handles for waffle irons and other supplies for the use of the workmen will be kept when the new addition is completed.

The engine room occupies a large section of the first floor through the center of the shop. In the first room is located the old steam plant with its battery of boilers and one hundred and forty horse power engine which is used only to run the aluminum polishing department on the third floor and to operate the blasts for the cupolas. The large two hundred horse power tandem gas engine is placed in another larger engine room connecting with the steam room. This engine furnishes power for the rest of the plant. A smaller gas engine is required to crank and start this engine. Two engineers are in charge of the engine rooms who are experts in their departments.

The second floor of the finishing building is devoted to polishing of iron goods. The nickel-plating rooms and the present pattern and machine shop are located in separate rooms in the east end of this floor. The present store room for the factory and the carpenter shop is in this large room.

In the new addition will be placed a large machine shop where expert machinists will be constantly at work under the supervision of the superintendent constructing the special machinery used in the manufacture of high grade hollow-ware. At the far southwest end of this room the pattern room will later be moved and the superintendent will have his office for the direction of the work in the shop. The machine shop will be 66 x 46, the pattern room 18 x 30 and the superintendent's office 14 x 18.

In the office of the superintendent may be noticed the following motto which expresses the spirit of the man and the idea on which the shop is run, "Life without industry is guilt, industry without art is brutality." Leaving the second floor the aluminum finishing department on the third floor is visited. Here the aluminum is taken from the foundry and ground and polished in preparation for shipment to the merchants. In the new section of

the aluminum polishing department twenty new polishing machines will be run by individual motors each of five horse power. A powerful fan system sucks all the dust from the grinding rooms and polishing rooms into a large tower where it is collected and disposed of. Five fans are required to do this work.

Returning to the first floor visitors are shown the large milling rooms in which thirty-two milling machines commonly known as rattlers break the rough edges off the product as it comes from the foundry and before it is taken to the finishing department.

In another room opening off the gas engine room is placed a large five hundred light dynamo which furnishes light for the factory.

The blacksmith shop must not be neglected. This is at present a very small affair located back of the warehouse. Later a larger shop 20 x 30 will be constructed for this department.

The foundry is the next place of interest. Here eighty-three moulders are at work and here every afternoon as the last thing of the day the pouring off is done. The aluminum foundry is located at the extreme west end of this building and is separated by a high partition. The aluminum process is secret and so no one was allowed to visit this part of the shop. The foundry building is 110 x 450 feet in size and is well lighted. Job work for various factories about town is also done here.

The cupola room is located in the extreme east end of the foundry department. Here two cupolas are placed. The smaller is used only in emergencies, having outlived its present usefulness. Its capacity is eight tons. The big twenty ton cupola is now used daily to melt up the iron used in moulding. Three different kinds of pigs are used to secure the proper composition. The fire lighted the blast will melt the iron ready for pouring off in two hours. Five men are required to operate this cupola.

The iron mine so called is next visited. In a deep hollow which has been scooped out from the cinders reclaimed by this process is located a small frame shed in which an electric cinder mill daily reclaims a great quantity of iron from the cinders which have been dumped here in the past years as refuse. This has only been in operation in the past few years and more than pays for itself. Another cinder mill reclaims the iron from the cinders each day that are dumped from the cupola. After the iron has been reclaimed the waste product is dumped as before. This reclamation process has only been recently discovered and in this one place alone reclaims about four dollars worth of iron daily. This is only one of the many methods used in this big shop to cut down the cost of production and utilize the waste products through scientific management.

The kettle and flask store room is to the north of the foundry. It is two stories in height and sized 32 x 80. On the ground floor the heavy sugar kettles are stored and in the second story the flasks are placed for the use of the moulders.

A fire proof building, 36 x 18, sets a good distance from the rest of the shop in which the patterns are stored when not in use. The originals are all kept here. The patterns are most valuable, many of them being patented.

Fire protection for this factory is furnished by plugs and fire hose located in convenient places about the shop. Plenty of hose and several stand pipes have been provided and are supplied with water from a six-inch main surrounding the shop completely and drawing water from the city supply.

The water for use in the factory is supplied by an artesian well near the engine room from which a special pump draws twenty thousand gallons per day for factory use. This well is two hundred and thirty-nine feet deep.

When running at its full capacity the shop will employ three hundred men. The time record of these men is kept by two automatic registering clocks.

At every place possible the superintendent has introduced modern methods to save in the costs of production by reclaiming waste products. The cinder mill is a great factory in itself. There all the aluminum buffings are collected and sold to a firm where a special process is used to reclaim aluminum from them. It is understood that later a new machine and process will be installed to do this work at the plant. All the waste paper of the factory is baled and sold. Wherever a dollar can be saved in costs the proper utensils have been introduced to aid in this work. This is one of the greatest proofs that the Wagner Manufacturing plant is an up-to-date factory. A complete telephone system connecting the various parts of the factory with the general offices and the superintendent's office will soon be installed and will doubtless prove a great time and step saver.

The Wagner brothers have surely been progressive and have built a factory which is a great credit to Sidney and an honor to their enterprise and ability. Those who have the direct management of the firm in charge are W. H. Wagner, Milton Wagner, B. P. Wagner, Louis R. Wagner and L. Cable Wagner. As superintendent of the plant R. O. Bingham served since the founding of the company and has piloted the manufacturing end through all these years.

#### THE JOHN WAGNER SONS' BREWING COMPANY

The John Wagner Sons' Brewing Company was incorporated in 1896 and is managed by the three sons of the founder, Henry, Edward and Louis. The company consists of the family only and is organized with the mother, Mrs. Mary Wagner, president; Henry, vice-president; Edward, secretary and treasurer, and these with the five daughters, directors. The brothers are members of the Ohio Brewers Association, and the United States Brewers Association, and are intimately connected with many other business enterprises.

Their present plant covers an acre of ground, is equipped with the latest and best cooling machinery, with storage cellars that have a capacity of 28,000 barrels. Their annual output exceeds 24,000 barrels of the Golden Pilsener Lager and the bottled Pale American Export.

John Wagner, the founder of the present company, came to Sidney when a

little boy from Columbiana county, Ohio, where he was born in 1834. He rented a brewery from his brother Joseph, which he operated for one year, purchased an interest in the plant which he retained until 1876, when he became the sole owner of the business which he managed up to his death May 1, 1881. An extremely genial man he was very popular and had a wide acquaintance-ship in the county. He was one of five Wagner brothers, Joseph, George, Peter, Mathias, who settled in this county in its early history and whose names are interwoven with much of its development.

#### THE R. GIVEN AND SONS COMPANY

In pioneer days when the fabrics of the family were fashioned under the domestic roof of the calf-skins and cowhides were tanned for home use, and shoemakers made their rounds and shod the household. To meet the local demand vats for tanning were found in almost every township. Oak bark was plenty and years were given to tanning the product, consequently a pair of boots and shoes had the element of durability and a person was known by the tracks he made. These tanneries have long had their day. Such a thing as a farmer having a side of leather is not now known and a traveling shoemaker would be a novelty; in short like the dodo, he is an extinct species.

Way back in the fifties a tannery stood on a very small portion of the ground now occupied by the main building and in a very small way tanning was done. When Robert Given, the originator of the present firm, came to Sidney in 1854, the business was flourishing in its small way. Mr. Given, the elder, did not enter into the firm until 1868 when with S. Alex Leckey he purchased the plant and business and made the beginning of the present business. At that time the plant consisted of one small building in front which can even now be distinguished from the additions by the ancient color of the brick. Here the business was started and at that time it was a huge industry and one of the very few in Sidney.

Mr. Leckey died in 1881 and the business was taken over by Mr. Given. Later when he died his sons, John and Charles, and J. C. Royon continued the business. Several additions have been made from time to time. The first to be made were in 1880, when the north building, the engine rooms and the first part of the yard were added. In 1901 the new tannery section was completed and the last addition to the old plant was made in 1909 when the office section to the south was built.

In 1901 the company was incorporated under the laws of Ohio as the R. Given and Sons Company and under that firm name it has done business since on an ever increasing scale.

The main building of the tannery covers the lot 165 x 165 in extent. It is three stories and basement all over and a part four stories, thus making the floor space now occupied by the main building alone 108,000 square feet. The Givens believe in condensation and the utilization of every square foot of space, so the plant now covers every inch of the property included between the two alleys and Lane and Ohio streets.

In addition to the main plant, a complete machine shop is maintained in a building across the street where the company employs three expert machinists to do the repairing to the machinery in the shop and plan and build new machines for use.

The store rooms and tan yard of the company have been located several squares from the main factory. This has been done because of lack of room. On East avenue the old Yenny factory and yards have been utilized for this purpose and tons of material are unloaded and stored here. The building is two stories and basement 150 x 75 in size.

Extensive as the present plant is the company is cramped for room and must build to accommodate their business soon. This year a part of the product has been withheld from further sales as they were sold up to the capacity of the plant in that department.

It will be remembered that some time ago the company started to make additions and asked the city council for the vacation of Lane street, which they claimed was practically unused. The street was not vacated and the additions of the company necessarily stopped through litigation. The matter remains as yet unsettled. However the tannery company has purchased the property formerly known as the Millholland home and all the section bounded by Lane street, Main avenue and the Big Four railway, and now only awaits the decision in regard to the vacation of the street to erect improvements which will more than double the extent of the plant and enlarge their business in enormous proportions. The plans and specifications for the new section are now being prepared by the Chas. H. Stehling Company of Milwaukee. As planned the new addition will be three story brick triangular in form. Leases have been secured from the state and from the New York Central lines granting the company use of the territory next the railroad and on the canal bank when the new building is erected. The buildings will be extended to the track for shipping purposes.

It is estimated that the new building alone will cost \$90,000 and furnish employment for at least one hundred more men in addition to the one hundred and fifty now employed. Should this improvement be made the increase in the pay roll will amount to about \$50,000 per year.

Wherever collars are used for horses the R. Given and Sons tannery is known. The business is particularly well established throughout the great Northwest, in Texas and the central states. However throughout America Given products are shipped. The leather goods are even used in Europe.

Starting from the office a trip through the factory was made and the processes explained. The hides which are used by this tannery to be converted into the finished leather products are secured from Chicago, Cincinnati and other points where hide merchants job them to tanners. These hides come from the great packing houses of the country such as Armour, Swift and the like. The hide reaches the tanner in a salted condition ready for the first processes of tanning.

From the storage the salted or green hide is taken to the beam house where it is soaked and washed. It next goes through a machine which scrapes the

hide and removes all particles of flesh which may be hanging on the hide. This is called green fleshing. After this process the hide is thrown into large lime vats where the hair of the hide is loosened so that it may be easily scraped off. It is next worked out on a beam and put through the process by which the lime and dirt is worked out and the hide thoroughly cleaned by being washed in a wash wheel. It is next bated making the leather soft and pliable.

The hide is now ready for the coloring or tanning. In large tanks which form the floor of a room over which are placed boards so that passage may be made are hung the hides for the soaking process in the tan bark liquor which colors them. The liquor is changed every few days until the process of coloring is completed. After the coloring the hide is cured by being placed in a layaway between layers of tan bark.

After the hide has been cured it is taken to the shaving room, where by machinery all loose flesh is removed, the hide scoured by another machine which takes all the liquor and dirt out, then hung up to dry. It is then stuffed, set out by machine, then by hand, hung up to dry then reset.

The harness leather is next buffed black by staining, black set, greased off, bleached on the flesh side, trimmed, finished and brushed after which it is assorted and rolled ready for use or shipment.

The process in finishing the collar and fly net leather is somewhat different. From the tanning room it is taken to another part of the factory where it is pressed. Next through a splitting machine which splits the hide to any desired thickness from one and one-half to ten ounces weight. After splitting it is retanned, washed, brushed, stuffed and set. It is next tacked on a frame where it is left to dry and to stretch smooth. The complete hide is tacked on this frame. It is next trimmed, glassed, which gives it a smooth surface and glossed by machinery.

Perhaps the most wonderful machine in the Given factory is the measuring machine in which the leather hide is measured before converting it into the finished product. The machine is about twelve feet wide with numerous teeth set at regular intervals which do the gauging. A large dial on which is marked feet and inches is on top. The hide is started through this machine and when it comes out the dial registers the area in square feet and inches exactly. Every hole in the hide is missed and every indentation taken cognizance of. The hide which was measured to demonstrate the machine was  $49\frac{3}{4}$  square feet in area.

From the tannery where the hide is made ready for use the trip was made to the collar factory one part in the manufacture of the leather into the numerous products. In the cutting room the hide is cut over patterns by hand for the manufacture into horse collars of the ninety different varieties which the firm manufactures. Each collar part is cut by hand. The several parts are then assembled and sewed temporarily. On the tacking table the rim is tacked on and finally the parts are sewed permanently either with leather thong or thread as the collar specification calls for.

Next the stuffing and shaping room was visited where the collar is stuffed and shaped. Specially built machines do this work under the care of a man

for each machine. The straw with which some brands of the collars are stuffed is prepared on the floor above where one or two men cut it into proper length and fill the chutes with it.

The first part to be stuffed is the rim that holds the hame to the collar. This is stuffed with long straw by means of a long steel tubular needle operated by power under the control of the workman. This long straw is dove tailed in rim which makes a continuous wad through the rim.

Next the collar is faced with curled hair by another man after which still another fills it out with short straw. It is finally backed out with straw cut in twelve inch lengths.

The forming or blocking process in which the collar is made to take the shape it is intended to, comes next. Four huge pressure forming machines do this work. The collar is placed in its shapeless form in this machine, clamped in place and the power turned on which forces it to the pattern shape. After shaping the buckles are riveted on and after the dyeing process on the basement floor the collar is ready for market.

All the work in the net factory is done by machinery except the lacing. Women are mostly employed here to do the work. First the leather is taken and cut into strips one inch in width. These are afterwards cut by machines into various widths made to suit the various lashes. The bars are punched by machinery. The lacing is all done by hand.

In connection with the net factory is operated a harness factory in which harness of all kinds is made much in the same way and with the same machinery as is used in the old trade way. The leather is cut by hand to suit the pattern of the harness piece to be made. It is then assembled and sewed and finished into the harness set. All kinds of strap work is also done here.

Two large boilers furnish steam for the three hundred horse power Hamilton Corliss engine which runs the plant. A great economy practiced by this factory is the use of the spent tan bark for fuel. This makes a very hot fire and is good for firing purposes. In addition to the regular steam equipment the engine room contains a large air composer, and a light plant which is able to generate power for 1,000 lights.

Another new feature is the complete water works system operated by the plant. In a specially built cellar is located huge steam pumps which force water all over the building. Later a large storage tank will be built with the capacity of 100,000 gallons. A sprinkler system furnishes fire protection.

The shipping department of the firm is located on the ground floor in the old section. Here all the goods are prepared for shipment and sent out under the direction of able shipping clerks. The office is on the first floor of the new south building and is large and commodious.

The direct management of the company is in the charge of the brothers Charles and John Given. J. C. Royon also assumes direct responsibility. Others about the city own stock in the enterprise.

A progressive and increasing business, a credit to Sidney and an honor to its builders and owners, the R. Given & Sons tannery stands as one of the largest and best among the manufacturing enterprises of Sidney.



## THE AMERICAN STEEL SCRAPER COMPANY

The American Steel Scraper Company, operating one of the most important manufacturing enterprises of Sidney, O., was organized in 1876 by B. Slusser, inventor of the first steel drag scraper known to the trade, and W. S. Magill. Soon after the establishment of the factory it passed into the hands of W. H. C. Goode, who is now president of the company. W. E. Kilborn is treasurer and general manager. The plant, located at the corner of Court street and Wilkinson avenue, is a large and up-to-date concern, well equipped with improved machinery and all modern facilities, and the business is a large and prosperous one. The concern manufactures various styles of steel drag scrapers, plows, wheelbarrows, etc., and its products are shipped all over the world.

## SLUSSER MCLEAN SCRAPER COMPANY

The Slusser-McLean Scraper Company was established as a partnership in 1880, by Benjamin Slusser, inventor of the first steel drag scraper known to the trade, and William T. McLean. A number of years previously Mr. Slusser and William H. C. Goode had established the American Steel Scraper Company, the partnership being continued until Mr. Goode bought out Mr. Slusser in the year above mentioned. Mr. Slusser died in 1899, but the business has since been continued under the guiding hand of Mr. McLean. The concern is engaged in the manufacture of steel drag scrapers, wheeled scrapers, also line road-grading plows, and rooters, the product being shipped all over the United States and Canada and exports being made to foreign countries. The plant located at East avenue and Shelby street, is an up-to-date one in every respect and is the only water-power plant in Sidney.

## THE SIDNEY STEEL SCRAPER COMPANY

The Sidney Steel Scraper Company, whose plant is located at Poplar and Walnut avenues, was founded about 1880 by William Haslup and J. H. Doering, as a partnership concern, and was thus conducted until 1892, when it was incorporated, May 15th, with William Haslup, president and J. D. Barnes, secretary. Mr. Haslup died in April, 1912, and was succeeded as president by W. A. Perry, with N. L. Synder, secretary, they being the only local officers. The company is doing a prosperous business in the manufacture of steel scrapers (Haslup's Scraper), wheelbarrows, contractors' grading plows, road graders and general road machinery, the product being shipped all over the world.

## THE BIMEL BUGGY COMPANY

The Bimel Buggy Company, manufacturers of the famous Bimel buggies and carriages, was founded in Sidney, O., about 1849. Five or six years later he moved the business to St. Mary's, O., where it was continued subsequently for many years. The company was reorganized in 1896 and the plant moved

to Sidney, where it has since remained. The concern has acquired a notable reputation for the excellence of its product, which has a wide sale. The officers of the company (1912) are: A. C. Nobes, president; I. C. Minnich, vice-president; T. E. Miller, secretary; S. V. Wilcutts, assistant treasurer; T. M. Miller, treasurer and general manager.

#### THE SIDNEY MANUFACTURING COMPANY

The Sidney Manufacturing Company, engaged in the manufacture of metal buggy seats, was incorporated in 1907 with a capital stock of \$75,000, by A. J. Hess, L. M. Studevant, Herbert Sheets, I. H. Thedieck and P. P. Dyke. The above mentioned, with the addition of A. A. Gerlach and E. J. Griffis, constitute the board of directors. On its organization the company took possession of the old Maxwell mill, which was purchased by Mr. Thedieck for \$17,000, and which, with a few necessary improvements and equipment makes an admirable plant for the business. The concern, of which Mr. I. H. Thedieck is president, is among the more important business enterprises of Sidney.

#### THE MONARCH MANUFACTURING COMPANY

The Monarch Manufacturing Company originated about twenty years ago and was conducted for some time by Sebastian & May at the present site of the Sidney Tool Works. The old concern was not very successful and the plant was finally purchased by A. P. Wagner, who after some legal difficulties in regard to patents, removed it, with machinery, to Detroit, Mich., in 1896. Its career there was handicapped by financial difficulties, but it existed there until August, 1909, when it was purchased by I. H. Thedieck, of Sidney, O., and brought to this city. Mr. Thedieck is now president of the company, with W. E. Whip, manager. The directors are I. H. Thedieck, L. M. Studevant, W. H. Wagner, A. J. Hess, and E. J. Griffis.

#### SIDNEY ELEVATOR MANUFACTURING COMPANY

Sidney Elevator Manufacturing Company was established in 1902 by the present proprietor, W. R. Blake, and is engaged in the manufacture of elevators, dumb waiters, box hoists and concrete mixing machines. The concern has an up-to-date plant in the northeast part of the town, near the Big Four tracts. Mr. Blake was formerly proprietor also of the Superior Broom Company, which he operated in connection with his present plant, but which went out of existence about two years ago.

#### THE BUCKEYE CHURN COMPANY

The business controlled by this company was transferred to Sidney from Carey, Wyandot county, O., in 1891. It was then operated as a partnership concern by James Anderson and Wilson Carothers, and under the same name. The present plant, at Park street and the C. H. & D. railroad, was built at that time. In 1904 the concern incorporated with a capital stock of

\$100,000, with James Anderson, president; Lawrence B. Anderson, vice-president, and Wilson Carothers, secretary and treasurer. The stock was increased in 1911 to \$150,000, and at present the officers are: James Anderson, president; Robert Anderson, vice-president; Thomas Anderson, secretary and L. B. Anderson, treasurer. The directors include the above mentioned officers, with the addition of Wilson Carothers. The company, which is doing a fine business, manufactures churns, washing-machines, buckets, heavy horse pails, colonial columns for residences, bank furniture and finish for houses, besides doing a general wholesale and retail lumber business, an up-to-date sawmill forming part of the plant. The company are agents also for B. A. Hjorth & Co., of Stockholm, Sweden, controlling the United States and Canadian trade for the Primus cream separators, some of the parts of which are made at the Sidney plant.

#### THE FOLDING MACHINE COMPANY

The enterprise known as The Eclipse Folding Machine Company was started in 1884, by A. T. Boscom and L. M. Studevant. As a partnership under the name of Boscom Folder Company, the product being a newspaper folding machine, the invention of Mr. A. T. Boscom. Being the first successful medium-priced newspaper folding machine built, it met with success from the start. After about three years Mr. John W. Skillen purchased an interest in the firm and Mr. Boscom retired. New designs were brought out from time to time and some years later the name was changed to Boscom-Eclipse Folder Company, and finally the "Boscom" was dropped and the present name of The Eclipse Folding Machine Company was adopted.

The partnership between Studevant & Skillen continued without interruption until April, 1906, when Mr. Skillen desiring to retire from business sold his interest to Mr. Studevant, who became the sole owner.

Being engaged in many other enterprises and having to entrust much of the management of the business Mr. Studevant thought it prudent to convert the business into corporate form which he immediately proceeded to do under the laws of Ohio with a full paid up capital stock of \$50,000.

Mr. Studevant is the present president and principal owner of the company. Mr. W. C. Horr has been associated with him as secretary and general manager since January, 1912, and the business is in a highly prosperous condition.

The company's products are sold in all parts of the civilized world and probably one-half of all the medium-priced newspaper folding machines in use at this time bear the name plate of The Eclipse Folding Machine Company.

#### MENTGES FOLDER COMPANY

Mentges Folder Company, manufacturers of newspaper and job folding machines, with plant at the corner of Oak and Poplar avenues, Sidney, was established by George Mentges about 1897. The original factory was a small building on South Main avenue. In 1906 the present factory building

—a fine modern brick structure—was erected and the business transferred to this location. Since then improvements have been made and the floor space more than doubled. About fifteen men—mostly skilled mechanics—are now employed and the output of the concern is shipped all over the United States and Canada and to foreign countries. Mr. George Mentges is still proprietor of the business.

#### THE TUCKER WOODWORK COMPANY

The Tucker Woodwork Company, occupying capacious buildings on North Main street, Sidney, was organized January 18, 1903, with a capital stock of \$50,000, for the purpose of manufacturing bent wood work, such as single piece wood rims for bicycles and other wire wheeled vehicles, invalid chair hand rims, automobile steering wheel rims and various other products from complete circle bending; also, the production of bendings for carriage and automobile seats. To employ the waste products of the company, a department was added a few years ago for the production of folding porch and lawn furniture and children's blackboards. Owing to the rapid growth of the business, the capitalization was increased, in April, 1907, to \$150,000. The company enjoys a very active demand for its various products and is one of the most important and substantial manufacturing concerns in Sidney. James B. Tucker is president.

#### THE FARMERS GRAIN AND MILLING COMPANY

The Farmers Grain and Milling Company is a recently established concern, operating the old Stone Bridge grain elevator and mill and is successor to The Sidney Grain and Milling Company. The business was established some years before the Civil war by McGrew & Co., who were succeeded several years later by J. F. Frazer; it was then sold to a Mr. Levering of Piqua and from him passed into the hands of Joseph DeFreese. The next proprietors were Forsythe & Co., who sold out to J. N., J. M. and E. E. Nutt, who conducted it for awhile. Later J. N. Nutt dropped of the concern and it was conducted by J. M. and E. E. Nutt until July, 1887, when the business passed into the hands of E. J. and W. A. Griffis, the firm being known as Griffis Bros. In June, 1897, the style became E. J. Griffis & Co., and it was thus conducted until December 4, 1904, at which time Capt. E. E. Nutt bought the plant back. After his death it was conducted by the administrators under the name of The Sidney Grain and Milling Company until it came into the hands of its present proprietors, J. M. Blake, F. J. Russell and F. M. Sayre, Mr. Blake being active manager of the concern. The present elevator was built in 1895, the flouring mill being added to the plant in 1898. The concern deals in grain, seeds, salt, coal, cement, plaster, hay, tile, straw, etc., and is doing a prosperous business.

## THE PEERLESS BREAD MACHINE COMPANY

The Peerless Bread Machine Company, a newly established concern, is the successor to the Standard Clutch Company, which was established in 1905 by William Harmony and Frank Lucas, who for two years conducted a general repair shop. They then added a foundry and subsequently conducted the business until April, 1912, when it was taken over by E. J. Griffis and W. E. Wenger, who conducted the plant as a general machine shop until October 1st, at which time they opened up a foundry and began to make and market the Peerless bread moulding machine, in which business they are now engaged. The company was incorporated in 1897 at \$30,000, which capitalization has not since been changed. The present style was assumed early in January, 1913. The officers of the company are: E. J. Griffis, president; William Piper, vice-president, and F. X. Lauterber, secretary and treasurer. The company has good prospects of doing a successful business.

## THE MIAMI VALLEY GRAIN COMPANY

The Miami Valley Grain Company was incorporated May 20, 1907, and succeeded to the business of J. E. Wells & Co. The following well-known business men are identified officially with the enterprise: E. T. Custenborder, president; J. W. Allinger, vice-president; W. H. Persinger, secretary, and George Allinger, treasurer and manager. These gentlemen have had experience in the business in hand, knowing its every detail, and able at all times to afford their customers the best information as to the grain market. The company operates one of the largest elevators in the county, having a capacity of 40,000 bushels and equipped with the latest appliances. A modern grist mill is also operated and all kinds of feed and meal are sold or ground for customers. Mill feed and flour always on hand and at the lowest prices. The company is on the market at all times for the purchase of grain and seed. The Miami Valley Grain Company has a large trade which grows continually and the gentlemen connected with it have in the largest measure the confidence of all with whom they do business.

## THE WILLIAM KLIPSTINE LUMBER COMPANY

The William Klipstine Lumber Company is one of the largest and most conveniently arranged lumber yards in the state. This industry was formerly the George H. Worch Lumber Company and about 1909 became the property of the new company. Wm. Klipstine, who for so many years was manager of the company, remains in charge of the new company. The new building erected several years ago enables them to keep much of their lumber in the dry. There are two buildings 48 by 132 feet connected by a building running along Walnut avenue 48 by 70 feet, all three stories high; also a brick stable in rear, 30 by 70 feet, giving them over 60,000 square feet of floor space. All kinds of lumber and builder's hardware is handled, also coal, lime, cement, locust posts and composition roofing. The plan of the new buildings give three drive ways which facilitate the easy loading and unloading of goods.

## JONES GRAIN COMPANY

The elevator conducted by this concern was built about eighteen years ago by Emory C. Nutt, who was proprietor of the business for about ten years. It then passed into the hands of R. V. Jones and E. S. Sheets, who operated the plant for six years, or until recently, when R. V. Jones became principal proprietor, being associated in the ownership with J. C. Wagner and W. B. Jackson. The mill is located at West avenue and North street, close to the Big Four tracks and a prosperous business is being conducted in grain, seeds, etc.

## H. B. HOLE, POULTRY, EGGS AND BUTTER

This business was established in April, 1907 by H. B. Hole, of Versailles, the Sidney plant, located in the northeast part of the town, near the Big Four tracks, being a branch concern. Mr. Hole is the sole proprietor. About \$50,000 to \$60,000 worth of produce is shipped per annum to the New York and New Jersey markets.

## SIDNEY CEMENT STONE COMPANY

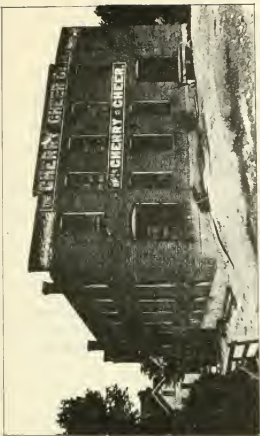
Sidney Cement Stone Company was established in March, 1906, by C. B. DeWeese, the present proprietor, and is one of the pioneer plants of the kind in the state. The concern manufactures and deals in cement, building blocks, water table, caps, sills, brick, chimney blocks, pedestal blocks, porch columns, porch trimmings, coping and garden furniture. The output is considerable, being equal to that of most of the largest plants elsewhere. They have the most modern machinery for the manufacture of their product and are doing a successful business.

## THE PIONEER POLE AND SHAFT COMPANY

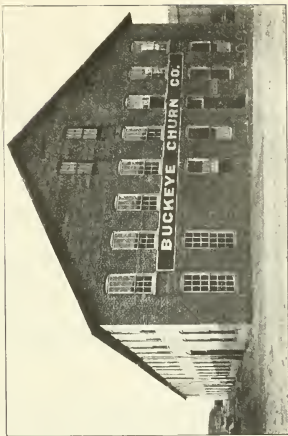
The Pioneer Pole and Shaft Company, with plant corner of Park street and the C. H. & D. Railroad, was established in Sidney some years ago as a branch concern, the main offices being located at Piqua, Ohio. As the name of the company indicated, it is engaged in the manufacture of poles and shafts for vehicles of various kinds. A. R. Friedman is president and general manager; C. C. Carey, local manager.

## THE CHERRY CHEER COMPANY

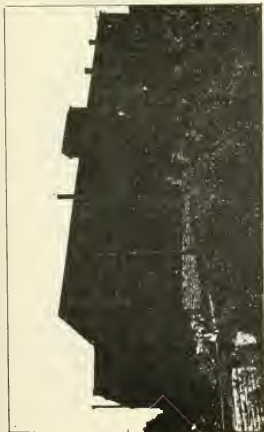
This business was established in 1908 by W. R. and J. C. Carothers, and was first conducted in a small way under the name of the Cherry-ola Company. In the fall of 1909 the concern adopted its present style and incorporated with a capital stock of \$25,000, the officers being: Wilson Carothers, president; W. R. Carothers, vice-president and manager; J. C. Carothers, treasurer; F. K. Carothers, secretary; and E. J. Carothers. The above mentioned officers, with the addition of E. J. Carothers, are the directors. The company is engaged in the manufacture of soda fountain sirups, including cherry cheer, zolakone, orangeade, grapall, mint-fire and coco-cheer, the



PLANT OF CHERRY CHEER CO., SIDNEY, O.



BUCKEYE CHURN COMPANY'S PLANT, SIDNEY, O.



PLANT OF AMERICAN STEEL SCRAPER CO., SIDNEY, O.



WAGNER MANUFACTURING CO.'S PLANT, SIDNEY, O.





product being shipped all over the United States and to foreign countries. The present plant, built in 1910, is located in the west end of Sidney, near the C. H. & D. railroad station. About 16 people are employed in the plant, while the company has forty travelling men, besides employing a number of house to house canvassers and demonstrators. Distilled water is used in the manufacture of the sirups.

#### THE W. M. TOY COMPANY, SIDNEY, OHIO

The W. M. Toy Company, Sidney, O., is engaged in the manufacture of plows, street scrapers, etc. The business was started more than 50 years ago by Daniel Toy-Sr., who was the originator of the Toy plow and who made the plows used in the construction of the C. H. & D. Railroad. At his death he was succeeded by his son, W. M. Toy, who has since conducted the business successfully. The latter's son, Hugh Toy, is associated with him. Important improvements in the plant are contemplated in the near future.

#### C. R. BENJAMIN & SON

C. R. Benjamin & Son, are engaged in the manufacture of handles, and are also dealers in coal, cement, etc. The business was established by C. R. Benjamin about thirty years ago and has been in continuous operation since, Charles W. Benjamin being the junior member of the firm. June 17, 1912 the plant was destroyed by fire but is now being rebuilt and will employ about 40 people.

#### THE CROFT LAUNDRY

The Croft Laundry on West avenue is one of the best laundries in the state. Mr. Croft has been in the laundry business for more than twenty-three years and his cement stone building houses the latest and most improved equipment, which is arranged for the careful and successful handling of rough and fine work. In addition to keeping things clean for the people of Sidney he has numerous agencies established in the surrounding towns which bring considerable laundry work to Sidney. With competent help and prompt deliveries the work speaks for itself. Mr. Croft takes pride in giving the people the best in laundry work. He is popular with all, prominent as an Eagle, Elk and K. of C. and takes a lively interest in affairs generally.

#### THE HARRISON M. POTTS' SAWMILL

The Harrison M. Potts' Sawmill, located on Miami avenue close to the canal, was established in Sidney a number of years ago by its present proprietor, Mr. H. M. Potts who is an experienced lumberman.

In addition to the manufacturing industries mentioned, Sidney is well provided with a goodly number of mercantile enterprises, most of which are doing a prosperous business.

## THE MARY L. POULTRY PLANT

The Mary L. Poultry Plant, once an important industry of Sidney, was founded in 1895 by John Loughlin, and is said to have been the largest poultry plant in the world. It included a number of buildings, the egg house being 40 by 537 feet and the hatchery 20 by 840 feet. Three hundred chickens were hatched daily and 9,000 eggs were constantly in incubation. The plant attracted large numbers of visitors from all over the country. The business, however, resulted in failure; Mr. Loughlin left Sidney and is now deceased.

## THE SIDNEY MARBLE AND GRANITE WORKS

The Sidney Marble and Granite Works, now conducted by James J. Shea, were established by William Shea in 1881, who acquired a wide reputation for the tastefulness of his designs and the thoroughness of his workmanship. This reputation has in no wise suffered since the business past into the hands of the present proprietor.

## CHAPTER IX

### TRANSPORTATION

#### *Construction of Roads and Highways—Taverns—The Canal—Railroads and Electric Lines—The Mails*

#### TRANSPORTATION

In no way can we see the century's progress better than to turn to our splendid system of turnpikes, steam and electric lines and compare them with early days of transportation and travel in the county. For a long time there were no roads at all, only the buffalo trails and Indian paths, and these zig-zagged in every direction. They were at first used by the men who opened the wilderness and were followed by the blazed ways from one settlement or town to another. As the various settlements grew and the people increased in numbers, better roads became necessary, and the settlers began to construct them. Long before the days of the turnpike came corduroy roads, which were constructed by the men and boys of the neighborhood with their axes and oxen. The men would cut down trees, split the large ones into rails and haul them with the ox teams to the worst places in the road. They would first lay brush in the road to support the logs and prevent them from sinking too deep in the mire, then place the logs and rails on top of the brush and shovel mud over them. The lack of good roads was a detriment to the settlement of the county. While neighbors were few and far between yet milling had to be done, and this necessity, to some extent, brought about the construction of better roads than the first primitive ones but many years elapsed before these rude country roads gave way to the magnificent turnpikes which now reach in every direction.

As early as 1806 congress took a hand on road building in Ohio for in this year it passed an act making a road from Cumberland, in the state of Maryland, to the state of Ohio, and it was this act which enabled Thomas Jefferson to become the official father of the national road.

While this famous thoroughfare did not touch Shelby county it passed through a portion of Miami and Montgomery and was the first great highway from the east to the west and did much to open up the Miami valley and its adjacent territory. It was conceived in the brain of Albert Gallatin, a Swiss, who was secretary of the treasury under Jefferson. It was to cost \$7,000,000 and to reach from the Potomac to the Mississippi. It passed through the states of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois and was one of the most important steps in that movement of national expansion which followed this

west of the West. The eastern division of the road at a cost of \$3,000 per mile was finished in 1817. Travel across the Alleghany mountains into the Ohio basin began and in 1825 congress authorized the extension of this great road into the state. As this highway stretched westward travel over it became tremendous and in a short time vehicles of every description crowded the new thoroughfare and its opening gave rise to many stage lines which competed with one another for the traffic. These cumbersome vehicles usually had three seats inside and could comfortably carry nine passengers. Many were decorated and richly painted, the linings being often of silk plush. Some were long, unsightly affairs without springs or braces and the harness was heavy and unorth. There were fifteen-inch back bands and high bands of ten inches and the braces were little less than loads of chains.

As to speed ten miles an hour was considered ordinary and competition on stage line travel was always at fever heat. Toll was charged all along the national road from the first. The gate keepers were appointed by the government and usually received a salary of \$30 a month.

Kettle taverns sprang into being every few miles with gaudily painted signs denoting entertainment for man and beast, and in short everywhere along the road the scenes were lively and unceasing.

An old road house which may be recalled by some of the older people was that known as Mumford's tavern on the Wajakoneta pike at Anna, seven miles north of Sidney. It was kept by a genial old man of the name of Mumford and in time became the place of entertainment for Sidney parties who journeyed thither to partake of his famous chicken suppers.

Shelby county now has 720 miles of turnpike roads constructed at a cost of about \$4,000 a mile, which, of course varies in different localities. The material for the making of good pikes has had to be brought from inconvenient distances for this county does not furnish good gravel enough for such uses as its gravel is commingled with too much clay to make it available.

For the year ending August 31, 1911, the total expenditures on pikes was \$30,396.04, no new ones being constructed. About three miles are being constructed this summer of 1912 in Jackson and McLean townships at a cost of \$12,000. The width of these pikes is forty feet much narrower than the ones constructed years ago. The cost is met by the county paying 50 per cent and the township and property owners 25 per cent each.

The pride of Shelby county was for many years the "St. Mary's pike" on the line of an old road formerly projected to connect Sidney with St. Marys. This road, of excellent width, was carried on a perfectly straight line for a distance which falls short by but a few rods of thirteen miles, wholly in this county. The engineer who constructed most of the pikes in Shelby county was David W. Pampel, who was a useful and prominent citizen, became a director in the German American bank and met a tragic death in the nineties of the Big Four station as he was alighting from the cars, being crushed between the train and the platform.

## THE CANAL

The canal is older than the Christian era and has always been recognized as a great aid to civilization. It was employed as a means of navigation and communication by the Assyrians, Egyptians, Hindus and Chinese and the Royal Canal of Babylon was built more than 600 years before Christ. The first canal in the United States of any consequence was the Erie canal, 336 miles long connecting the Hudson river at Albany and Troy with Lake Erie at Buffalo. It was begun in 1817 and opened with great ceremony in 1825 at a cost of \$7,602,000.

The great success of the Erie canal induced the people of Ohio to begin the work of canal building for this state and the history of the struggle is one of long continuous effort.

During the period of settlement in the Northwest, roads such as we know them now were quite as little known to the widely separated communities in Ohio as were railroads. With very few exceptions they were only widened bridle paths, improved in swampy places by patches of corduroy construction, but almost impassable in the spring and fall. Thus in the absence of roads, overland transportation for trade was impracticable and productions of any kind were of no value so long as they could not be shipped cheaply to the consumer by water. The need of cheaper communication was keenly realized from the time of the first settlement west of the great barrier, the Alleghenies, and most keenly by those situated some distance from any river or stream cut off from the usual modes of transportation by canoe, flatboat, "keel-boat" or "ark."

In 1817 the first resolution relating to Ohio canals was introduced into the state assembly, and the friends of the project entered actively into the fall campaign to elect men pledged to vote for internal improvements, and met without success. As years went by interest in canals increased and in 1830 congress debated the question of granting government lands in Ohio for canal purposes. Not all the states could view this internal improvement in Ohio as one of national interest and Webster in his famous reply to Hayne declared this very question, What interest has South Carolina in a canal in Ohio? is full of significance. This was nineteen months after congress had granted the lands to aid the Ohio and Indiana canals.

February 4, 1825, the legislature decided to construct the Ohio and Erie canal, following the old Scioto-Muskingum route from Cleveland to Portsmouth and the Miami canal, following the Great Miami river from Dayton to Cincinnati. It also promised to extend the Miami canal to Toledo in a few years.

The work on the Ohio and Erie commenced at once and the pay for laborers was 30 cents a day, with plain board, and a "jiggerfull of whiskey." The work on the Miami canal was not to be begun until December 1, 1831, by legislative enactment and did not commence until 1833. The cost of this work was paid in part by land grants from the government and from Ohio and Indiana. Congress by an act approved May 24, 1828, granted to the

state of Ohio a quantity of land equal to one-half of five sections in width on each side of the canal from Dayton to the Maumee river at the mouth of the Auglaize so far as the canal should traverse public land. The act reserved to the United States such alternate section of the land unsold, with the provision that such reserved land should not be sold at less than \$2.50 per acre. The number of acres included in his grant was 438,301.32.

Indiana then conveyed land granted to her by congress for canal construction, March 2, 1827, as lay within Ohio, if the latter would build the Wabash and Erie canal from the Indiana state line to Lake Erie. Ohio then received further grants from congress by act of May 24, 1828, of 500,000 acres of government land for canal purposes. These three land grants gave to Ohio a total of 1,230,521.95 acres of land to be sold for the aid of her canals. The state has sold most of these lands for \$2,257,487.32 and has remaining, principally within the limits of the Grand Reservoir, land worth perhaps \$100,000.

The Wabash and Erie canal was completed in 1842, being 67.75 miles long from its junction with the Miami extension canal to Toledo and having a water surface width of 60 feet, a bottom width of 46 feet, and a depth of 6 feet.

The Miami Extension canal was completed three years later, 1845, and was 114 miles long, 5 feet deep, 36 feet wide at the bottom, and 5 feet wide at the top.

A little later navigation also began on the Miami canal and on November 28, 1837, three boats crowded with citizens, left the basin six miles north of Cincinnati and proceeded to Middletown with the most perfect success. The progress of the boats was about three miles an hour, including locks and other detentions.

In 1841 the Miami and Erie canal was completed to Dayton, which place remained the head of navigation six years when the canal was completed to Piqua. This afforded cheap transportation to Cincinnati. It was found to be the very thing the people needed and they were not slow to take advantage of it.

By an act of the legislature March 14, 1849, the three canals previously known as the Miami canal, the Miami Extension canal, and the Wabash and Erie became known as the Miami and Erie canal, and so it has remained to this day. It is impossible to state the value of this canal to the country through which it passes. The whole length of the Miami and Erie canal, including 32 miles of feeders, is about 300 miles and cost \$8,062,680.80.

The gifts of land by the state greatly reduced the cost to the taxpayers.

The income from canals in Ohio is about \$130,000 annually and in 1912 it will amount to \$150,000.

It was not until the completion of reservoirs or feeders that the canal entered upon the era of its greatest prosperity. For many years it was the means of transportation and travel. The worth of the canal was soon apparent to every one. Shortly after it was put in operation wheat advanced in price and before 1840 merchandise was brought from New York City to

Dayton by the all water route of 1,100 miles in 20 days at a cost of \$17.25 a ton.

The route followed the Erie canal to Buffalo, the lake to Cleveland, the Ohio canal to Portsmouth, the Ohio river to Cincinnati, and the Miami canal to Dayton. The "canal counties" at once took the lead in industrial and agricultural growth, a lead they never lost as today these thirty of the eighty-eight counties contain fifty-two per cent of the state's population.

A dam was constructed in Logan county across the Miami river and a reservoir of several thousand acres formed and another dam at Port Jefferson across the Miami turning a part of the water into a feeder, nine miles long, which runs through Sidney and enters the main canal at Lockington, being entirely within Shelby county. Port Jefferson, at the head of the feeder, cherished bright prospects and saw in mind's eye a flourishing city but the advent of railways dissipated its hopes.

#### THE MAILS

The transportation of the mails in the early days of Shelby county was poor and primitive. When one considers the mail service of the present day, the fast mail trains, the free rural delivery, the commodious postoffices and other mail faculties enjoyed by the people, a comparison with the old mail service provokes a smile.

There was but little correspondence before the introduction of steam for it required days to get a letter through to its destinations; postage stamps had not come into use, but the amount of postage due was written on the outside of the letter. The old fashioned letters were written on a single sheet and so folded as to form the envelope. The address was placed on the blank page, a stick of red sealing wax held over the flame of a candle and a bit of the heated substance dropped upon the fold and allowed to cool. Now and then the writer if she were a young lady, would stamp the impression of her ring on the wax and the letter was ready to post. Mucilage then was unknown. If two sheets of paper were used the postage was doubled. Thus you can see how necessary it was to have the power to condense.

Rates of postage in those early days differed greatly from those of today. They were regulated by distance and not by weight. The charge was  $6\frac{1}{4}$  cents for 50 miles or less;  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents for from 50 to 150 miles;  $18\frac{3}{4}$  cents up to 300 miles; and over that 25 cents to any part of the United States.

Today a letter may be sent from Sidney to London, England, for two cents and to the ends of the earth for five cents.

The first mail route in the Northwest territory was established in 1799 from Wheeling, West Virginia to Limestone, Kentucky, the mail to be carried once a week each way, the whole distance being 226 miles.

Nor was the transmission of the early mails, no matter how they were carried, conducted in safety for the mail robber was abroad in the land. Some of the mails brought to this country eighty years ago came by post riders to Wheeling and thence down the Ohio to Cincinnati in mail boats, built like

whaling craft, each manned with four oarsmen and a coxswain, armed, thence by post roads to the Miami region. The voyage from Wheeling to Cincinnati occupied six days and the return trip up stream twelve days. The blowing of a horn announced to the people of the neighborhood the arrival of the mail. The early postoffices of the county were generally log structures, but they answered the needs of the times well enough. The postmaster was frequently merchant, cabinetmaker and government official all in one for his salary was small and business was not heavy. The mail bag was never filled to overflowing and the few recipients of its contents were indeed the lucky ones. We can hardly realize the burden and inconvenience the high and uncertain postage rates imposed upon the pioneers as money was scarce and difficult to obtain.

The first postoffice in Shelby county was established at Hardin in 1819 with Col. James Wells postmaster and was in a shop in which he worked at his trade as a hatter. The next year he removed to Sidney which had been made the county seat and continued as postmaster until 1841. He was during his period as postmaster auditor, clerk of courts and recorder of the county thus showing that salary of postmaster could not be depended on for a livelihood.

The following postmasters have served the people of Sidney since 1825 with their term of service given. This list was furnished by the postoffice department at Washington. There is a discrepancy in the dates furnished by the county records and those from the first assistant postmaster general as to the establishment of the Sidney postoffice, which can not be reconciled by the writer.

POSTMASTER	DATE OF APPOINTMENT
James Wells (established) .....	April 3, 1825
Hugh Wilson .....	May 31, 1842
Elijah Lynch .....	August 23, 1841
James Wells .....	June 7, 1845
Milton Bailey .....	June 1, 1849
Daniel L. Bush.....	May 16, 1853
George Murray .....	March 29, 1861
M. C. Hale .....	August 20, 1866
Margaret Walker .....	March 28, 1867
Samuel Mathers .....	January 16, 1873
Robt. H. Trego .....	September 22, 1876
J. E. Wilkinson .....	May 5, 1881
J. S. Laughlin .....	May 27, 1885
Hugh B. Neal.....	June 11, 1889
Franklin Hunter .....	March 15, 1894
Robert V. Jones.....	May 24, 1898

The present postoffice is in the building owned by Harry Wagner of Dayton, formerly of Sidney on Poplar street and will probably remain there until



the erection of a federal building on the location bought by the government at the corner of Ohio and North streets for the sum of \$20,000.

During Postmaster Jones' first term January 1, 1899, the first rural mail route was started in this county through Orange and Green townships and was carried by Kerr T. Carey. At the present time the rural system from the Sidney office consists of 11 carriers covering 275 miles of territory daily, except Sundays and legal holidays and serving about 7,500 people.

The salary of the rural carrier is \$1,000 annually.

The Sidney postoffice is second class. Salary of postmaster \$2,800. There are 5 city carriers covering about 90 miles of territory daily. Their salaries are \$1,100 annually.

#### POSTOFFICE REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1912

Postal receipts for year, \$31,462.44; registered mail and parcels delivered, 2,359; registered mail received for delivery, 2,702; transit registered mail, 4,881; money orders issued, domestic, 11,287; money orders issued, foreign, 76.

A. B. C. HITCHCOCK.

#### THE BIG FOUR RAILWAY

The Cleveland, Columbus & Cincinnati Railway Company was chartered March 12, 1845; was completed and trains ran through from Cleveland to Columbus, a distance of 138 miles, February 22, 1851. In the year 1861, the C. C. C. acquired by purchase that portion of the Springfield, Mt. Vernon & Pittsburg railway between Delaware, O., and Springfield, O., fifty miles.

The Indianapolis, Pittsburg & Cleveland railway extending from the city of Indianapolis eastward to Union City, eighty-four miles, and the Bellefontaine & Indiana railway extending eastward from Union county to Galion, 119 miles, were consolidated under the name of the Bellefontaine railway in 1864, pursuant to the laws of the states of Ohio and Indiana.

In April, 1868, the C. C. C. Railway Company was consolidated with the Bellefontaine railway under the name of the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati & Indianapolis Railway Company with a total length of 391 miles.

January 24, 1871, the road became the lessee of the Cincinnati & Springfield railway, eighty and one-half miles.

This made the total length of road owned and operated by the C. C. C. & I. 471½ miles. This road traverses Shelby county east and west.

The building of the C. C. C. & I. railway had a depressing effect on the general prosperity of the town for several years. The citizens were anxious to procure the road and the only inducement offered was to buy stocks. Many of the merchants of Sidney and some private individuals sold their property to the company, taking the nominal equivalent in stock. Numbers subsequently sold for thirty-three cents on the dollar. Those who hung on and passed from the enthrallment of the company, and regained their property did well, as also did those who could afford to keep their stock. The road now belongs to the Vanderbilt lines; and the benefits of its construction can not

now be measured, though a general depression in business and a sore retardment to the prosperity of the town, followed its opening.

The tax commission fixed the taxable value of the Indianapolis division of the C. C. C. & St. L. railway on 23.17 miles of main track and 7.5 miles of siding and all other property in the right of way at \$1,379,520 for Shelby county for the year 1912.

#### THE CINCINNATI, HAMILTON & DAYTON RAILROAD

The Dayton and Michigan railway was constructed in 1856. It runs from Toledo to Dayton and traverses Shelby county from north to south. It has proved a benefit to the county notwithstanding the fact that its advent was hailed with some disapprobation by the usual number of persons who stand in the way of progress.

The first sod of this line was cut at the end of Water street in Sandusky, September 7, 1835, by General Harrison of Cincinnati, afterwards president of the United States. The occasion was one of general rejoicing and great gayety—processions were formed, the air was resonant with music and the display of bunting was profuse.

The first locomotive named the "Sandusky" was the first locomotive in America to which a regular steam whistle was applied. At this time the track was known as the Mad River & Lake Erie railway and ran through Bellevue to Tiffin.

The Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton railroad was chartered March 2, 1846, its present name being given to it by an act passed March 15, 1849. The road was opened for business September 19, 1850, but a little more than a year after work had been commenced upon it. It was built without the aid of township subscriptions and its stocks and bonds sold at par from the start both in New York and Cincinnati. In less than a month after the opening of the subscriptions for stock, three-fourths of a million dollars in cash was paid in by Cincinnati investors. The rest of the stock and the first issue of bonds were taken in New York at par. This is supposed to be the first instance of the kind in the history of railroading. On May 1, 1863, the road from Dayton to Toledo, belonging to the Dayton & Michigan Company, and which passed through Sidney, was leased to the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton, and on February 18, 1869, it became the lease of the Cincinnati, Richmond & Chicago Railroad Company, which covered also the Richmond & Miami Railway. In 1872 the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Indianapolis railroad was added to the system. Within the last two years extensive improvements have been made by the C. H. & D. railway in Shelby county, by eliminating grades, straightening curvature and double-tracking the road-improvements which have materially assisted in the economical operation of the property. The tax commission has fixed the value of the D. & M. branch of the C. H. & D. railway in Shelby county for the year 1912 on 20.49 miles of main track and 10.08 of second track, and 7.29 siding at \$857,680.

## THE DETROIT, TOLEDO &amp; IRONTON RAILROAD

This road, which passes in a northwesterly and southeasterly direction through Jackson and Salem townships, with stations at Jackson Center and Maplewood, is the old Ohio Southern and was constructed in 1894. Its taxable value has been fixed by the tax commission at \$90,900 on 9.555 miles of main track and 1.56 siding for the year 1912.

## THE WESTERN OHIO RAILROAD

The Western Ohio railroad (electric), passing through Shelby county in a northerly and southerly direction, furnishes convenient connections with Piqua, Troy, Dayton, Springfield, Lima, Findlay, Fostoria, Fremont, Sandusky, Cleveland, Toledo and other points. Within the county the line runs through Sidney, Lockington, Swanders, Anna and Botkins, by means of branch lines connecting also with Ft. Loramie. Cars run at frequent intervals and the road enjoys a good patronage.

## DETROIT, TOLEDO &amp; CANTON R. R.

This railroad, which runs in a general northerly and southerly direction through Jackson and Salem townships, with stations at Jackson Center and Maplewood, is the old Ohio Southern. It crosses the tracks of the Big Four at Quincy, just beyond the eastern boundary line of the county, thus furnishing indirect communication with Sidney.

## WESTERN OHIO R. R.

The Western Ohio Traction Company was incorporated in 1902 and has a mileage in Shelby county of twenty-two miles. It owns and operates 111½ miles of railway between Findlay and Piqua. The first cars were run through Sidney, April 30, 1903. The road was assessed for taxation in Shelby county in 1912, \$493,460 on 21.97 miles of main track and .58 of siding.

It is now possible to go from Toledo to Cincinnati by means of these interchanging electric lines and a net work of railways gives interurban connection with Cleveland.

## CHAPTER X

### PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

*The Infirmary—The Shelby County Children's Home—Sidney Public Library—Shelby County Institute*

#### THE INFIRMARY

On the 23d of March, 1866, the county commissioners purchased of James Rollins a farm of 158 acres in the southwest quarter of section 10, town. 7, range 6, for the purpose of building an infirmary. The purchase was made for \$85,000, payable as follows: \$4,500 cash, \$2,000 in one year, and \$2,000 in two years from date of purchase, which was secured by mortgage bearing six per cent interest from date.

A board of infirmary directors consisting of C. Kingseed, M. J. Winget and H. Guthrie was created by the commissioners which selected Jacob Lehman for superintendent of the infirmary farm at a salary of \$50 per month. A short time after Lehman was succeeded by Jesse B. Howe, August 20, 1866.

Contracts for a new infirmary were let by the commissioners February 16, 1869, as follows: Slate, tin and galvanized iron work awarded Gephart & Sanders for \$8,400; cut stone given to Webber & Lehman for \$2,400; carpenter and joiner work to Rouzer & Rouzer for \$14,400, this to include glazing; plumbing and steam-fitting to Brooks & Light for \$6,845; brick work to Samuel and John McCune for \$8,000; said parties to allow \$2,000 for brick already on the ground. William C. Wyman contracted for the plastering at 35 cents per yard and F. Lierman the painting for \$1,700.

This building, which is an elegant and substantial brick of two stories with a mansard roof, is situated about three miles southwest of Sidney, in Clinton township and reflects great credit on the citizens of the county. A beautiful lawn in front of the home, which sits back from the road, shows the good taste of its managers, while the rest of the farm is highly cultivated.

On the 26th of February, 1875, Superintendent Howe resigned and was succeeded by William Widener, who was followed by Harvey Guthrie in 1897. William Guthrie succeeded his father till 1899 and was in turn followed by Emanuel Needles till 1903. Lawson Showers is the present superintendent and with his estimable wife as matron gives a most efficient administration of affairs. The institution at this time contains thirty-eight inmates.

## THE SHELBY COUNTY CHILDREN'S HOME

The following article was prepared and written by Attorney James E. Way, trustee of the home.

On the brow of one of the magnificent hills overlooking the Great Miami river, and about one mile south and east of the city of Sidney, stands the Shelby County, Ohio, Children's Home, recognized as one of the best conducted and managed charitable institutions of its kind in the state.

The view from the home is one of unsurpassed beauty. To the west is seen the Great Miami river, its clear and sparkling waters, fringed with tall, magnificent elms, stately sycamores and bending willows, winding like a silver cord onward, as described in one of Tennyson's poetic visions, forever, toward the sea. Northward, we are treated with a most beautiful panoramic view of the lively, bustling city of Sidney, snugly nestled among the hills, and spread out over them in artistic loveliness. To the east and south is presented an extensive view of well cultivated and productive farms, and lofty hills, luxuriant with the beauties of nature's own handiwork of forests of the hickory, oak, ash, and many other splendid specimens of the monarchs of the woods, with climbing and clinging vines interspersed between.

At the general election, held in the fall of 1893, the question of erecting a Children's Home was submitted to the people of the county for a test of sentiment. The generous hearted electorate of the county being thus appealed to, answered in the affirmative, and authority was thereby given to proceed in the good work. Afterwards, at the January term, 1894, of the court of common pleas, of Shelby county, a committee, consisting of S. J. Hatfield, A. J. Hess and S. L. Wicoff, was appointed by the court to select a location for the home, and approve plans for the buildings. After viewing several places the committee selected the present site, the farm containing about one hundred and forty-two acres in Clinton and Orange townships, and, likewise, approved the plans for the buildings as subsequently erected thereon.

In July, 1894, the county commissioners, acting upon the report and suggestions of the committee, made purchase of said land at the agreed price of \$7,562 for the whole. The erection of the several necessary buildings, at an approximated cost of \$30,000, including the purchase price paid for the land, as above stated, speedily followed, and on the 4th day of November, 1897, these were formally dedicated with appropriate exercises, and made ready for occupancy. Later, through the philanthropy and christian spirit of one of Sidney's splendid women, Mrs. Mary A. Barkdull, who by her last will provided that the proceeds of the sale of a part of her real estate be given to the home, the board of trustees was enabled to have erected on the grounds a neat and commodious school building, which stands as a fit memorial of and dedicated to the memory of that good woman who found a greater blessing in giving than in receiving. The building has encased within the front wall a tablet, bearing these words: "Barkdull Memorial 1903," as a further tribute to her whose memory shall ever be green to all the children who enter its doors.

Of the home farm, about seventy acres consists of cultivated lands, the

rest being wood and pasture lands, including the home park, upon which the several buildings were erected. The park has been greatly beautified, and presents a very cheerful picture from all points of view. The valuable services of Edgar Emley, one of the best known lovers of nature in the county, were secured to take charge of beautifying the park, and for a time he had supervision in the matter of selecting and planting the trees therein. He insisted in planting the native forest trees, giving as a reason that in time, when our forests will be denuded of their trees, we still would have the native kinds of timber on the park to remind the people of the woodlands of earlier days. Mr. Emley's idea prevailed, and the park has a beautiful growth of the hickory, maple, ash, elm, and numerous other kinds of trees, the product of Shelby county, secure for generations yet to come, and a fitting monument to the memory of him who placed them there.

The home, very soon after its dedication, was opened for the admission of children, and Dr. W. N. Shaw was appointed its first superintendent, and his wife, as matron. Dr. Shaw and wife resigned their positions on the first day of April, 1898, and were succeeded by J. H. McClung and his wife, as superintendent and matron, respectively. After eight years of faithful service, Mr. and Mrs. McClung severed their official relations with the home, and were succeeded by J. H. Kemp and his wife, Ann, who remained in charge and faithfully performed their duties as such officials until their resignations on the first day of March, 1912. Since that date the management of the home has been under the supervision of W. F. Meighen and his wife, Lina, and is in a very prosperous condition.

The first board of trustees of the institution, namely, S. L. Wicoff, R. D. Mede, Wm. A. Graham and Jeremiah Miller, gave to the organization the full benefit of their splendid services for a number of years, and at the end of their terms of office, were succeeded by J. N. Dill, S. D. Voress and George Hagelberger, respectively. The present members of the board of trustees are George Hagelberger, B. T. Bulle, James E. Way and J. W. A. Fridley.

The school building was opened for the admission of pupils in 1903, Miss Rachel McVay being selected as the first teacher therein who taught there until the year 1908, and was succeeded by A. M. Shidaker, now in charge of the schools.

In the school, the elementary and common branches of study, including music, are taught, with manual training and industrial departments, in addition thereto. In the manual training department, the boys receive practical instruction in the handling of tools, as applied to woodwork, as well as on the farm, as applied to agriculture. In the industrial department, the girls are taught plain and fancy needlework, and are likewise instructed in the art of cooking, and in other useful household duties. It is the aim of the management to qualify the children, as far as possible, while in the care of the home, to become good and useful citizens of the future; and the success attained along this line is attested by scores of bright, well educated women and men, formerly of the home, who are now honored and respected citizens of several of the states of our nation.

Since its organization, there have been received into the home and cared for, one hundred and ninety-three children, one hundred and seventeen boys and seventy-six girls, of whom one hundred and eighteen have been provided with comfortable homes, with worthy families in different parts of the state, from time to time, the remainder having been discharged by reason of age limit and returned to their parents, there being at present fourteen boys and twelve girls under the care of the institution.

The gross cost of maintaining the children per capita, in the home, since organization, has averaged about \$175 per annum as near as can be ascertained. This estimate, of course, includes the total cost of maintaining the institution, namely, the salaries of all employees, schooling, clothing, medical attention, provisions and other necessaries, as well as the purchase of live stock, agricultural implements, and the like, but does not take into consideration the several sums received from the sale of farm products, live stock, and from other sources, and turned into the county treasury as a credit to the institution. Deducting these several credits from the total cost of maintaining the home, as above estimated, and it can readily be seen that the net cost, per capita, would be very much less.

The main buildings are heated by steam, lighted by electricity, and supplied with water from the Sidney waterworks plant, and otherwise well equipped for successful management, clean and sanitary.

All in all, the Shelby County Children's Home is an institution of which the citizens of the county may justly be proud; and in taking care of and in educating the little, unfortunate ones committed to their care, are following after the precepts of the Divine entreaty: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Herewith, appended, are extracts taken from the last report of the state examiner of the bureau of inspection and supervision of public offices, relating to the Children's Home, covering the period from April 1, 1911, to June 1, 1912:—

"The financial matters of the institution are handled in a manner which absolutely precludes criticism. The books and records kept by the superintendent are models in completeness, and every transaction is so thoroughly detailed that it was a pleasure to audit them. \* \* \* The splendid condition of the buildings and grounds, and the schooling of the children in useful trades and handiwork are especially worthy of commendation. The board of trustees and the employees of the institution are entitled to commendation for the excellent manner in which all departments are conducted."

#### SIDNEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Sidney Public Library was first organized as a stock company, being incorporated December 5, 1869. It had a fund of about \$1,500 with which to purchase books, and was opened to the public during the year 1870. It continued to be operated as a stock company until the year 1879, when its books, property, and franchise were turned over to the trustees of the Monu-

mental building, under a contract whereby the trustees agreed to place the books in the Monumental building, and thereafter, as soon as the debt on the building should be paid, to maintain the same as a public library out of the rents derived from the building, devoting what was commonly known as Memorial hall to the purpose of a public library and reading-room forever. From 1879 to 1886 the books were stored in a part of Memorial hall, but the trustees, having no funds available, they were not accessible to the public. During the latter year the village council made a small levy for library purposes, and, with the consent of the board of trustees of the Monumental building took the necessary steps to keep the library open to the public until such time as the trustees might be in condition to take charge of the same and carry out their contract.

Under this arrangement the immediate management was in the hands of a committee appointed by the village council, which also elected the librarian. This arrangement continued until in the autumn of 1897, or the early part of 1898, when the board of trustees of the Monumental building organized as a library association, adopting a plan of government whereby the immediate control and management of the library was placed in the hands of a committee of three appointed by the board of trustees, which also elected the librarian. The managing committee was composed of one member of the board of trustees, one member of the city school board and one unofficial citizen of the city. Subsequently the membership of the committee was increased to four, two of whom were to be chosen, or concurred in, by the board of education. This form of government has proven satisfactory, and is still in force.

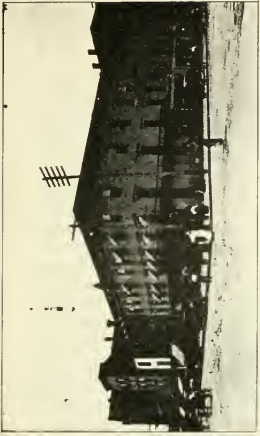
At the beginning of 1898 the library had about 1,200 volumes, exclusive of public documents, of which it probably had as many more, for it had been a depository library since about 1886. During the year 1897, the last year the library was under the management of the city council, the monthly average of books taken from the library for home reading was 343. The monthly average during the first year under the new management, being the year 1898, was 1,094 volumes per month; while the average monthly circulation for 1899 was 1,729 volumes per month. The average circulation for the year 1911 was 2,804 volumes per month. The library itself has grown from 1,200 volumes in 1898 to 12,000 volumes exclusive of public documents, on January 1, 1912. Its revenues are made up of rents derived from the Monumental building and a levy made by the board of education. From 1898 to 1902, inclusive, the board of education made a levy of three-tenths of a mill for library purposes under the law passed in 1897. Since 1902 the levy has been made under the law of 1902, which authorizes the levy of a mill, and for several years past the levy has been a mill, which on the valuation of the Sidney school district nets about \$2,800.

In the spring of 1901 the library began placing small collections of books in the school rooms of the city for the circulation of books for home reading—the books being under the control of the teacher, and given out by her. Five such libraries were placed in schoolrooms during that year as an experi-

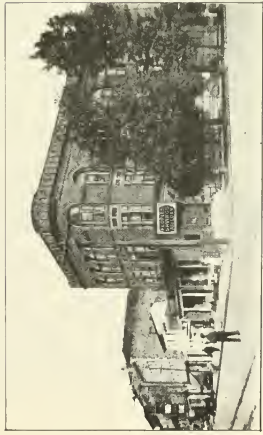




EAST SIDE PUBLIC SQUARE, SIDNEY, O.



WEST SIDE PUBLIC SQUARE, SIDNEY, SHOWING THE  
WAGNER HOUSE



SOUTH SIDE OF PUBLIC SQUARE, SIDNEY, O.



NORTH SIDE OF PUBLIC SQUARE, SIDNEY, O.



ment. The number of such libraries has been increased from year to year until now schoolroom libraries are being maintained in all the schoolrooms of the city down to and including the second grade.

The library now occupies the whole of the second floor of the Monumental building, furnishing floor space about equal to 37 by 95 feet. The building was erected in 1875 as a memorial to the soldiers who enlisted from Shelby county and died in the service during the war of the Rebellion. The first and third floors have the same floor space as the second—the first being leased for business rooms, and the third floor being used for lodge rooms. The Memorial Tablets are placed in the main room of the library, on the second floor. This building is not, therefore, technically a library building.

The whole of the second floor has been devoted to library purposes since the autumn of 1905, since which time the library has had a separate children's room equipped with over 1,000 books arranged in cases along the wall, open to the children at all times from half past eight o'clock in the morning until eight o'clock at night, and having a complete card catalog in the room for the use of the children, giving subject, author and title, arranged in dictionary form. A story hour for the smaller children once a week, on Saturday morning, has been maintained for several years.

In 1906 the library started a museum as an adjunct—limiting it, however, to such objects as would have educational value appropriate to and in conjunction with a library. This feature has been found both interesting and valuable from the library standpoint. It has cost a very slight money expenditure, the specimens having almost entirely come to the library as gifts.

During the year 1908 the congressional set of U. S. government documents, which had accumulated to about the number of 3,500 volumes, were assorted, about half of them, those of least importance to a small library, being returned to the government, and the remainder—about 1,800 volumes—were marked with the serial number on the outside, and shelved in the order of the serial numbers. At the same time the document lists in the government indexes were checked up in red ink showing just what volumes were in the library. This makes the volumes accessible to any one who understands using the indexes.

The library is especially strong in reference books, many (and the most valuable) of which, were gifts, either of the books themselves, or of the money with which they were purchased. The spirit of giving to this department has been fostered and encouraged with good results. Quite a number of these gifts were of a memorial nature. In several instances money which otherwise would have gone into the purchase of flowers for funerals has been invested in some valuable reference work for the library.

The use of the reference department has greatly increased during the past few years, as the people have become better acquainted with it, and with the methods of using the aids and helps available. It has been the great desire of the librarian to popularize this department of the library, believing that all readers of ordinary intelligence may become able to use the greater part, at least, of the reference books without the aid of a library assistant. With that

end in view, the librarian during the past year, acting in cooperation with the superintendent of schools, has been giving instruction in the use of the reference department to the pupils in the high school,—receiving them at the library in groups of six to eight at a time, and having them do practical reference work under her direction. The same general line of work is also now being pursued with several of the study clubs, while others are anxious to undertake it.

The idea underlying this work is, that all the student class of the community, as well as all other ordinarily intelligent readers should be able to use the library to a great extent without the aid of the library force, relying merely upon their own efforts to help themselves in the library. Looking to this end, the library has open shelves throughout. The reference books are shelved in a corner of the reading room devoted exclusively to reference work. The bound volumes of magazines are shelved in alphabetical arrangement, and the classed books for circulation are arranged according to the Dewey classification,—the ends of each case having labels indicating plainly the contents of the case, and then the shelves being labeled to show the exact location of each class.

Miss Emma Graham has been a most efficient librarian since 1898 when the library association was organized and the present plan of government adopted. She is one of the foremost educators in this line in the state and is prominent in all its activities. She works with the idea that the library exists for all the people and that it should contribute to the life-long education of all classes, has built up and strengthened along every line its collection of books, thus making it, not in name only, but in fact the “post-graduate school of the community.” S. L. Wicoff has been an untiring worker for the library giving much of his time to the intelligent administration of its affairs.

The present library board of directors consists of Harrison Wilson, W. A. Graham, W. B. McCabe, W. T. McLean, L. M. Studevant, and Perry Frazier, the place of W. H. Wagner, who recently resigned, not yet having been filled.

S. L. Wicoff, Robert Bingham, W. A. Graham and W. D. Snyder constitute the present library committee.

The Sidney public library is seeking to do a great work in this community and is an important part of the free educational system of the town and county.

## CHAPTER XI

### BANKS AND BANKING

#### *Origin of Banking—Uses of Modern Banks—Banks and Bankers of Shelby County*

The word "bank" is from the Greek and in that language means a bench or table for changing money. The word "bankrupt" is of Italian origin and the term Banca Rotta meant "broken bench," hence a bankrupt had his bench broken. The first bankers sat behind a little bench on the open street with their money piled upon the bench in front of them and when their money was lost, their bench was said to be broken from whence comes our word "bankrupt."

The bank of today performs three great functions, namely: the receipt of deposits, the making of discounts and the issue of notes. For the last named, a charter is generally granted at the present time, though in earlier days private banks and banking firms could issue notes. It is possible, however, to group all the duties of the bank under two heads—lenders and borrowers. Their loanable funds consist of their own capital and that of their depositors; their profits arise from the payment to them of interest on loans. The modern banker is generally a dealer in credit, while in ancient times he was a mere custodian of other people's money and a buyer of and dealer in foreign moneys. Bills of exchange, which were the first credit instruments handled, appear to have been in use thousands of years before the birth of Christ. The rise of modern banking, however, dates from the establishment in Venice of the Banco di Rialto in 1587, which was absorbed by the Banco del Gino in 1619 and became the support of the government. In the eighteenth century the two characteristics of modern banking—the issue of notes not covered by coin, and the granting of deposit accounts upon the mere credit of borrowers—were evolved, and this forms a part of the banking system of today. In America the words "Wall Street" carry with them a financial significance recognized in every part of the world.

The money interests of the United States are on a par with the greatest nations of the world.

No civilized country can make advancement without a bank and in Shelby county it may safely be said that the financial interests are well managed and of liberal patriotic usefulness when needed for the welfare of the county. All the banking institutions are conducted on a sound monetary basis, have conservative and intelligent management, and are secure of the confidence of

the community. One disastrous failure has marked the progress of banking in Shelby county, that of the German-American in 1904, but the blessings of prosperity were checked but a short time by that piece of bad financial management.

The oldest inhabitants are not very clear as to when the first bank was established in Shelby county and the written history of the county does not disclose it but the writer wishes to thank Mr. W. A. Graham of the Citizens Bank for many of the facts concerning the history of banking in this community.

Quite early in the fifties of the last century a gentleman by the name of Clark came to Sidney from Urbana and opened a bank but there is no evidence as to how long he continued.

Later John W. Carey, a prominent citizen and a man of great energy and considerable enterprise, embarked in the business. Whether he succeeded to the business of Mr. Clark or launched a new enterprise the oldest residents do not recall nor the date of his beginning but it is in evidence that he was engaged in the business as far back as 1854 and continued banking for a number of years affording the community with facilities of a bank and securing profit for himself. He was located in the room now occupied by the gas company.

Some years later Hugh McElroy opened a bank in the room now occupied by the First National Exchange Bank and used the rear of the room with his banking outfit while O. J. Taylor conducted a hardware business in the front part of the room. Later McElroy moved into the room now used by F. Lierman & Son.

On February 14, 1864, the First National Bank of Sidney was chartered and authorized to begin business, which it did soon after. Among the incorporators were J. F. Frazer, Judge Hugh Thompson, L. C. Barkdull, Wm. P. Reed and William Lee. These men were peculiarly fitted to serve as bank directors. They were old residents and had been doing business in the community most of their lives. Mr. Frazer had been a financier of note. A very successful man, he was a druggist by profession, in the room now occupied by Harry Taylor's hardware store, a man of genial disposition, of unquestioned integrity, and enjoyed the confidence of the community to an unusual degree.

Mr. Barkdull was a jeweler by occupation, somewhat stern and severe in manner, but of sound judgment and paid strict attention to business.

Judge Thompson was a lawyer, a man of keen foresight, tactful and diplomatic, with splendid business sagacity.

Mr. Reed was a cabinet maker by trade but early in life became a note buyer or "shaver," as he was styled. He was not a man of education, but of considerable natural ability and sound judgment, of extensive acquaintance in the county and familiar with the property and financial condition of nearly every one in Shelby county. He was a valuable counselor and in constant demand by his business associates. Mr. Lee was a contractor, a railroad builder, a successful business man. He subsequently moved away from Sid-

ney and was succeeded by John H. Mathers, who continued a director until his death.

The first cashier was a Mr. William Gibbs, who served the bank for perhaps a year when he was succeeded by William Murphy. Mr. Murphy had been many years auditor of the county and was a man of incorruptible character. He lost an arm early in life by paralysis and it was difficult for him to work rapidly so that he labored late into the night to get his books balanced and ready for the next day's business. He was succeeded three years later by Charles C. Weaver of Butler county, Ohio, about 1868.

In 1869 John H. Wagner entered the bank as a bookkeeper and general assistant. He was a neat bookkeeper, a rapid accountant and an expert handler of money and detector of counterfeit, and popular with patrons of the bank.

On June 9, 1874, William A. Graham entered the bank as collector and clerk. He had been teaching school and added to his slender salary by shearing sheep during vacations. He was an energetic young man of strict morals, aspiring and destined to become a man whose sagacity is recognized in business circles.

Early in 1875 Mr. Weaver and Mr. Wagner left the bank and W. R. Moore, agent for the Big Four railway, was made cashier. In December of the same year, Mr. Graham resigned and J. C. Cummins and D. R. Orbison were employed until the bank closed out its business in 1877. The bank went into liquidation and paid its stockholders one hundred and eighty per cent.

#### THE GERMAN AMERICAN BANK

The German American Bank opened for business May 1, 1875. Associated in the organization as stockholders with Messrs. Wagner and Weaver were B. W. Maxwell, Mathias Wagner, Peter Wagner, Christian Kingseed, Judge H. Thompson, E. E. Nutt, H. W. Thompson, D. W. Pampel, John E. Bush and others.

The bank was popular and prosperous and grew from the start. Its first president was B. W. Maxwell, cashier, John H. Wagner. Mr. Maxwell resigned two years later and was succeeded by H. Thompson, who continued president until his death. John H. Wagner was then made president and D. R. Orbison became cashier.

Mr. Orbison finally resigned and F. D. Reed succeeded him.

The bank failed in 1904 for \$850,000 and in about two years the receiver, J. D. Barnes, had paid its creditors twenty-seven and a half cents on the dollar. This institution, being a private one, held its stockholders individually liable for the full amount of indebtedness.

#### THE CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK

The Citizens National Bank was organized in 1870 and began business July first of that year. James A. Lamb and Louis E. Mathers were the promoters of the enterprise and associated with them were John H. Mathers,

Edmund Smith, William Johnston, Jacob Piper, Sr., Samuel Rice, John Barkalow, C. T. Pomeroy, James Murray, George Hemm, W. L. Alfele, Kendal and Conroy and Nathan Moore.

Mr. Lamb was its first president until his death in 1808 and was succeeded by H. W. Thompson, who died in 1908. W. P. Metcalf followed Mr. Thompson and in 1910 was succeeded by Dr. H. E. Beebe. Louis E. Mathers was its first cashier. He died in 1872 and the next cashier was his brother, O. O. Mathers. In 1875 W. E. Kilborn succeeded Mathers and remained with the bank until January 13, 1881, when he was followed by W. A. Graham, who still occupies the place.

The institution has a capital stock of \$100,000 with a surplus and undivided profits of \$65,000.

The present official force of the bank is Dr. H. E. Beebe, president; C. W. Frazer, vice president; W. A. Graham, cashier. Board of directors—W. A. Graham, W. P. Metcalf, H. E. Beebe, Jacob Piper, J. N. Vandemark, C. W. Frazer, and W. B. McCabe.

The bank enjoyed a natural and prosperous growth and in view of the urgent necessity for a home better suited to the increasing requirements of its business erected a modern brick building equipped for security and convenience on the site of the old one at the corner of Poplar and Main streets in 1888 at a cost of \$25,000.

#### THE FIRST NATIONAL EXCHANGE BANK

The First National Exchange Bank was organized by L. M. Studevaut and his associates in 1899 and began business September 18th of that year, with a capital of \$50,000. Mr. W. H. Wagner was its first president and is still its president. Mr. Studevaut was its first cashier. The bank was at first located in the room with the Peoples Savings and Loan Association, but in 1906 moved into its present quarters formerly occupied by the German American. In 1906 Mr. Studevaut resigned as cashier and was succeeded by J. C. Cummins, the present incumbent.

The growth of the bank has been rapid and substantial. It has an authorized capital of \$100,000; surplus and undivided profits, \$45,000.

The officers are W. H. Wagner, president; L. M. Studevaut, vice president; J. C. Cummins, cashier; C. W. Nessler, assistant cashier. Board of directors, C. R. Benjamin, Charles Timeus, L. M. Studevaut, Peter Goffena, W. T. Amos, J. E. Russell, R. H. Trego, W. H. Wagner, A. J. Hess, I. H. Thedieck, and J. C. Cummings.

#### THE PEOPLES SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

Saturday, October 23, 1886, The Peoples Savings and Loan Association opened for business in the office of Studevaut and Way in the building known as the old Hickok corner. A charter had been secured and a plan adopted known as the "perpetual plan" on which to operate the association, which organized by electing D. W. Pampel, president; Frank Hunter, vice-president;



L. M. Studevart, secretary; Wm. M. Kingseed, treasurer; James E. Way, attorney. Nine months later the association moved into the room now occupied by the Miami Gas and Fuel Company and six years later, in 1893, it took up permanent quarters in the Robertson building on the corner of Court and Ohio. Its offices are commodious and well-arranged, its furnishings are elegant and its office equipment includes every machine and device that is useful or can add to the efficiency of the service; it is provided with a chrome steel-lined burglar and fire-proof vault, inside of which is a burglar proof safe equipped with an automatic door, which is secured by a triple-movement time lock. Safety deposit boxes are also provided for the use of customers.

The officers and directors at the present time are W. H. Wagner, president; R. H. Trego, vice-president; Wm. M. Kingseed, treasurer; Andrew J. Hess, attorney; L. M. Studevart, secretary; Miss Leal Robertson, assistant secretary; W. O. Anderson, bookkeeper; J. E. Russell and C. R. Benjamin.

The 26th annual statement of the association, January 1, 1913, shows resources: Loans, \$1,311,207.83; cash, \$150,160.67; interest due from borrowers, \$1,720.47. Total, \$1,463,088.97. Liabilities: Capital stock, \$56,581.17; surplus, \$110,471.18; deposits, \$1,296,036.62. Total, \$1,463,088.97.

During the twenty-six years of its existence it has distributed to its patrons in profits \$773,584.85 as interest and dividends on deposits.

It has been a leading factor in the prosperity and wealth building of Sidney and Shelby county and well may its founder, L. M. Studevart, be proud of his work. With its one and one half million dollars of assets this institution is the largest corporation, either financial or otherwise, in this county. It has on deposit a sum equal to a per capita of \$52.00 for every man, woman and child in Shelby county and of \$106.00 for every inhabitant of the city of Sidney, which ranks it first of its kind in the state, figuring either the population of the county or of the city as the unit. It also ranks second in the state in its percentage of earned surplus to assets. These are but three distinguishing features of a really great savings institution right here in our midst at the service of the thrifty borrowers and depositors of Sidney and Shelby county.

#### THE SHELBY COUNTY BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

The history of the Shelby County Building and Loan Association dates back to December 14, 1895, when it was incorporated with a capital stock of \$2,000,000, divided into 20,000 shares of \$100 each. Its first board of directors consisted of John H. Taft, W. A. Perry, Louis Kah, William Piper, John Loughlin, M. L. Heffelman and Louis Pfaadt. William Piper was chosen president; J. H. Taft, vice-president; D. R. Orbison, secretary; W. P. Metcalf, treasurer; D. Oldham, attorney.

The association began business on the south side of the square in the Timeus block, but its constantly increasing business brought the officers of

the bank face to face with the necessity of seeking enlarged and more commodious quarters, and the Amann property on the north side of the square was purchased of the Ferdinand Amann heirs and fitted for banking purposes in 1902.

The past year a new building, save the side walls, has been erected on the site, which is in the center of Lancaster's commercial district. The new bank is three stories high with a cut stone front, a lobby, well-equipped office and directors' room on the first floor, handsomely furnished in quartered oak with tile floors and a burglar and fire-proof safe.

The following figures show the remarkable growth of the association: 1897, \$84,128.56; 1900, \$235,725.89; 1904, \$389,150.15; 1908, \$433,320.06; 1910, \$490,486.84; 1911, \$697,881.84; 1913, \$902,238.02.

The official force of the association for 1913 is William Piper, president; E. J. Griffis, vice-president; Louis Kah, Jr., 2d vice-president; Ben Amann, secretary; R. C. Kah, assistant secretary; Finley Mills, attorney

Financial statement of the Shelby County Building and Loan Association, February 1, 1913.

## STATEMENT

For the year ending Jan. 31, 1913.

Assets	Liabilities
Cash .....	Stocks and deposits.....
Loans .....	Contingent Fund .....
Furniture and fixtures...	Dividends .....
Real Estate .....	Undivided profits .....
Interest, insurance and	Borrowed money.....
taxes .....	Interest due from bor-
	rowers .....
<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
\$902,238.02	\$846,261.41
	22,000.00
	276.00
	16,877.39
	15,000.00
	1,823.22
	<u>                    </u>
	\$902,238.02

## THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF JACKSON CENTER, O.

The First National Bank of Jackson Center, O., was organized June 19, 1895, under the style of The Farmers & Merchants Bank of Jackson Center, with Shelby Baughman as president, and P. R. Clinhents as cashier. The first account was opened by the Jackson Center Elevator Company, and the second name on the books of the institution was John Johns.

After a service of two years, P. R. Clinhents died and Frank Baughman succeeded him as cashier and F. M. Wildermuth became assistant cashier in 1905. Mr. Baughman resigned on October 19, 1909, and he was succeeded by F. M. Wildermuth. In the meanwhile, on February 1, 1907, the business was reorganized, the bank becoming The First National Bank of Jackson Center, when it entered upon a new and still more prosperous career. The initial capitalization was \$10,000, while its present capital is \$33,000, and according to its statement of September 4, 1912, it has assets of

\$392,830.92, surplus \$66,000, and \$45,000 undivided profits. The bank owns its own substantial building and it is equipped with a screw-door safe, the wall being twenty inches in thickness. The officers of the bank are: Shelby Baughman, president; G. A. Swickard, vice-president; F. M. Wildermuth, cashier, and Walter C. Meranda, assistant cashier, with a board of seven directors.

#### THE FARMERS AND MERCHANTS BANK COMPANY, ANNA, O.

The Farmers and Merchants Bank Company was established at Anna, O., in 1907 by parties from Columbus, O. On May 29, 1910, it was incorporated by Daniel Runkle, R. D. Curtner, William C. Henrich, Geo. D. Fridley and E. M. Martin, with a capital stock of \$25,000. The bank is doing a good business and has undivided profits of \$1,600. The present officers are: Daniel Runkle, president; R. D. Mede, vice president, and A. W. Fridley, cashier.

#### THE SHELBY COUNTY BANK, BOTKINS

The Shelby County Bank was established at Botkins about 1897 by Philip Sheets, who conducted it as sole proprietor until his death in 1905. The business then passed into the hands of his sons, E. S. and H. E. Sheets, who continued it as a private bank until 1912. It was then incorporated with a capital stock of \$25,000, with H. E. Sheets, president; Philip Sheets Jr., vice president, and E. S. Sheets, cashier, which is the official board at the present time, January 1, 1913. The bank is a prosperous concern and an important factor in the commercial life of Botkins and the surrounding district.

#### THE LORAMIE BANKING COMPANY

The Loramie Banking Company, of Ft. Loramie, O., is a thriving financial concern, of which B. J. Wuebker is president, the official board and directors being men of acknowledged business ability. The bank has been established for a number of years, and is an important factor in the business and financial affairs of the western part of the county.

## CHAPTER XII

### THE PRESS

*The Newspapers of Shelby County—Sketches of the Daily News, Democrat, Journal, Republican, etc.—The Editors and the Proprietors.*

#### THE DAILY NEWS AND THE DEMOCRAT

The first number of The Shelby County Democrat was issued January 1, 1849. As no files of the paper were preserved until it came under the present management, very little is known at present about its early history, except that S. Alex. Leckey, then a contractor and active in politics, was the leading spirit in starting the paper. William Ramsey was the first editor of the paper. Mr. Leckey afterwards became the editor. In the first and second years of its publication it was called the Democratic Yeoman, but after that it was called The Shelby County Democrat. We learn from old citizens of Shelby county that during the first ten years the Democrat had a precarious existence and changed hands almost every year and sometimes twice a year. In 1860, A. Kaga, of Tiffin, came to Sidney and became the editor. He remained until the spring of 1861, when the Civil war broke out, he abandoned the paper, raised a company and went into the army.

After Kaga left, the paper was run by a committee for some time. Then General Thomas L. Young became the editor and published it for several months. One day he wrote a very bitter anti-war article and went to Cincinnati. This stirred up an intense sentiment against him in Sidney, which he learned of on his way home, and he too, abandoned the paper and never came home. He shortly afterwards went into the army, rose to the rank of brevet brigadier general and afterwards served in the Ohio senate, two terms in congress from Hamilton county, was elected lieutenant governor and when Hayes became president Young became acting governor of Ohio. After Young abandoned the paper, it was again published by a committee of democrats for some time.

In the year 1863 Joseph McGonigal became the editor and publisher of the paper. McGonigal was the first man to put the paper on a basis that met current expenses. He published the paper alone at first, but afterwards took in his son-in-law, Dr. Lewis, and the firm of McGonigal & Lewis published it. In 1872 H. Hume bought the interest of Dr. Lewis and McGonigal & Hume were the publishers until April 1, 1874, when it was sold to James Van Valkenburg, who became editor and publisher. Van Valkenburg died

December 6, 1875, and January 25, 1876, James O. Amos bought the plant and took charge as editor and publisher January 28, 1876. He has been the editor of the paper ever since.

When Mr. Amos took charge of the paper the office occupied two rooms of the building on the alley north of Christian's drug store, now owned by Dr. C. B. Arbison. In 1882 a two story building was erected south of the Robertson block and The Democrat was moved into a home of its own. Afterwards another story was added. In 1882 the paper was changed from a four page paper to an eight page paper. The South Ohio avenue building was the home of the Democrat for ten years. It was in this building that the publication of The Sidney Daily News was commenced.

The Sidney Daily News was started in 1891 at the urgent request of many of the citizens of Sidney. It was run under the management of Miss Delia Amos until her marriage to Horace Holbrook in November, 1905. Since that time it has been under the same management as the other departments of the office. Although The News was started at the solicitation of many of our citizens, a daily paper was an innovation in Sidney and it took time and lots of hard work to place it on a basis to make it a paying investment. It has always been an up-to-date paper and now ranks as one of the best papers in Ohio, in a city the size of Sidney. With the addition of The News, the increased circulation of The Democrat and the establishment of a large job department, the business had outgrown the size of the rooms it occupied and it became necessary to look for new quarters. The old United Presbyterian church was purchased, torn down and a new three story building erected in its place. The Democrat and Daily News were moved into the west side of this building in April, 1893. They occupied the first floor and part of the second floor.

In 1903 a large Meihle job cylinder press was added. This press will do as fine half tone work as any press in the country. Since it has been introduced into the office of the job department The Sidney Printing and Publishing Company has printed a large number of fine half tone jobs for Sidney manufacturers, besides jobs for factories in several other cities. In 1905 a new linotype machine was added and a two story addition sixty-five feet deep was built expressly for accommodation of the newspaper department. In 1906 a new Cox Duplex press was added. This Duplex press will print on both sides from rolls of paper, cut, paste, fold and make ready to mail 6,000 newspapers per hour. At the same time a new twenty-two horse power gas engine was put in. In 1909 another linotype machine was added to the composing room of the office. The first story of the new building is occupied by the Duplex press, engine and a stock room, the second floor is used for a composing room. This room is lighted from three sides and is one of the finest rooms in the state for the purpose.

#### THE SHELBY COUNTY DEMOCRAT,

In 1903 The Shelby County Democrat, job department and The Sidney Daily News were incorporated under the name of The Sidney Printing and

Publishing Company and have been continued ever since as a corporation. J. O. Amos, Delia E. Amos, W. T. Amos, E. C. Amos and Howard A. Amos became the active members employed in the company, the three latter having learned the printing trade during their school vacations. Delia Amos had entered the office after she had finished her course in the high school.

The office of The Sidney Printing and Publishing Company now has an eight page Cox Duplex newspaper press, three job cylinder presses, two platen presses, two linotype typesetting machines, two gas engines, a power paper cutter, power wire stitching machine and card cutter and was recently equipped with new type.

For the past five years it has given constant employment to twenty people, all skilled in the department in which they work. In each year of that time it has used an average of over 200,000 pounds of paper per year in the newspaper and job departments in the office.

The plant is considered by men engaged in the printing business to be one of the best equipped to be found anywhere. A systematic arrangement of the machinery with an ability to turn out the very best in the printing line has resulted in the building up of a large business. Anything in the printing line that can be done anywhere can now be done in Sidney and the output of this establishment includes anything from a small visiting card to large bound books. Letter heads, envelopes, printed stationery of all kinds, anything in the bill line, the finest half tone and three color work is handled with neatness and dispatch at this printing establishment. Their line of work not only includes circulars and catalogues for the local factories but it has taken large orders for catalogues and circulars, which have come to them through bidding from some of the larger cities of the state.

James O. Amos was the owner of the plant from January, 1876, until it was organized as a company in 1903 and has been president of the company ever since. He was born in Monroe county, near Beallsville in 1833. He grew up on the farm, attending school in the winter and worked on the farm in the summer. At the age of eighteen he began teaching school and between the age of eighteen and twenty-seven he continued teaching school and working on the farm. With the exception of one term in an academy his education was obtained in the common school and private study at home. While on the farm he studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1859, and immediately began the practice of law. In 1861 he was elected prosecuting attorney of Monroe county and served two terms. He was appointed school examiner in 1860, an office he held until 1870, when he resigned after he had been elected to the senate from the nineteenth district. He served two terms in the Ohio senate and in 1874 was appointed adjutant general, a position he held for two years. During his administration of the adjutant general's office, the nucleus for the present system of the Ohio National Guard was founded. He also settled \$144,000 worth of claims between the state of Ohio and national government, whereby the old condemned arms that had been given to the state during the Civil war were turned back to the national government and credited up to the state. The state drew in place of these

Springfield breech loading rifles. At the expiration of his term of office he came to Sidney and purchased The Shelby County Democrat, a history of which is given above. In 1878 he was appointed a school examiner in Shelby county serving three years and refused a re-appointment. In 1891 he was elected to the senate to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Senator A. J. Robertson. He enjoys the distinction of having been elected to the senate of Ohio from two separate districts, an honor that no other citizen of the state can claim. Besides his connection with The Democrat and Daily News he has been in a small way identified with several of the manufacturing enterprises in Sidney, more from the purpose of encouraging the growth of Sidney than from a financial object. His work as an editor and publisher for the past third of a century has been an open book before the people of Sidney and Shelby county almost everyone of whom know him and who are better able to judge the manner he has filled the difficult position before them, than he is himself.

Delia E. Amos, now Mrs. Horace Holbrook, was closely identified with The Democrat ever since she graduated from the Sidney high school and was the manager of The Daily News from the time of its first publication to November, 1905. She was an all around employee of the office. During her connection with the paper she traveled extensively in this country, Mexico, Europe, Egypt and the Holy Land. She wrote over one hundred letters descriptive of her travels which were very much appreciated by the readers of The Democrat and News. She has delivered a number of lectures on her travels and newspaper work. She is president of the Ohio Women's Press Association, a position she has held for three years. Four years ago she was married to Horace Holbrook and they went to California and published the Yreka News for more than a year and then sold out and purchased The Western Reserve Democrat at Warren, where she has a beautiful home.

W. T. Amos, who has been business manager of The Sidney Printing and Publishing Company for the past ten years, was educated in the Sidney schools from which he was graduated. He spent one year in West Point Military Academy. He then entered the Wooster University from which he graduated in 1891 and immediately entered the office of The Democrat and News, having learned the trade during his school vacations. He at once became a useful and active man in the office and soon became the general manager. Soon after he graduated from the university he was elected captain of Company L, Third regiment, Ohio National Guards, a position he filled during the Spanish American war. After that war the Third Regiment was re-organized and he was made lieutenant colonel, the position he still holds. At present he is the ranking lieutenant colonel in the Ohio National Guard. He has charge of the extensive job department of The Sidney Printing and Publishing Company. He is known by every business man in the county. He is a director in the First National Exchange Bank since its organization and a director of the Sidney Home Telephone Company.

Ernest C. Amos was born at Woodsfield, Ohio, and was educated in the Sidney public schools. After graduating from the Sidney high school he

entered Wooster University from which he graduated at the age of twenty-one. After graduating he entered the office of The Democrat and News as local editor, which position he held for a number of years, subsequently becoming bookkeeper, circulation manager and all around man in the office. He has been treasurer of The Shelby County Building and Loan Association for the past two years,

Howard A. Amos was born in Columbus and was educated in the Sidney schools. After leaving the high school he entered the job department of The Sidney Printing and Publishing Company. He worked several months in the Chicago Legal News Record office. At the age of twenty he became foreman of The News composing room which position he held several years when he became city editor of The Democrat and News, a position he still holds.

Miss Katherine Amos entered the office after Mrs. Holbrook retired and has been actively employed in the business department ever since. After graduating from the Sidney schools she entered the School of Art at Columbus from which she graduated. She has taken post graduate courses with several of the leading artists of this country and taught in her profession in Sidney, Cambridge and Barnesville. She has traveled extensively in this country, Europe, Egypt and the Holy Land and her many letters on her travels were published in the News and Democrat.

#### THE JOURNAL-REPUBLICAN

The Sidney Journal, the oldest newspaper in Shelby county, was established in the year 1832 by J. Smith, a very eccentric individual who, it is said, would go to Cincinnati on foot, a distance of 100 miles, buy paper for his office and carry it on his back to Sidney.

About 1842 the paper was called the Bugle Blast of Freedom which pretentious name was changed to Aurora; it was then bought by Clinton Edwards, who rechristened it the Herald. He continued the publication until 1854, when it was purchased by Samuel Mathers, who came from Pennsylvania. He changed the name to the Sidney Journal and ran the paper until 1861, when it was bought by P. A. Ogden. Subsequently it was passed into the hands of Bliss Adgate, J. Dubois and John McElroy now editor of the National Republican, of Washington.

In 1869 it was purchased by Trego and Binkley, who published it until 190-, when they sold it to J. H. Williams and Elias J. Griffis, who named it the Journal Gazette, and in 1908 they sold it to David Oldham and a stock company, since which time it has been known as the Journal-Republican and is now a daily as well as a weekly, and at present edited by Harry McGill.

#### SHELBY COUNTY ANZEIGER

The Anzeiger, established 22 years ago by Frank Sieverding of Botkins, Dinsmore township, is an eight-page, seven column sheet with offices in the Oldham building on Poplar street. It is the only newspaper published in German in Shelby county and has a large circulation in the outlying German



settlements. It is politically a democratic sheet and is building up a splendid job printing department. Hugo J. Antony, the present owner, resides at Minster, Auglaize county, and bought out P. E. Sherman a few months ago. One of the former editors, Ambrose Wirtz, is now a sugar planter in the Hawaiian Islands and will represent those possessions in congress the next session.

#### THE SIDNEY GAZETTE

In the year 1890 a company was formed for the publication of a new republican newspaper with Jesse L. Dickensheets as its editor, but in a few years it was sold to J. H. Williams who with E. J. Griffin subsequently bought the Sidney Journal, so the press of Shelby county in Sidney consists of the Democrat, the News and the Journal-Republican, the Anzeiger, the Botkins Herald and the Jackson Center News.

#### THE JACKSON CENTER NEWS

The Jackson Center News was established in 1896, Vol. 1, No. 1, appearing July 24th of that year. C. N. Shook, now mayor of Lima, O., was the first editor and publisher. The paper was at that time a five-column quarto with inside patent. Mr. Shook's equipment at that time consisted of a Washington hand-press and a few fonts of type that had seen better days. Yet he put out a bright newsy paper and enjoyed a liberal advertising patronage from the start. In January, 1907, the paper was enlarged to a six-column quarto and from that time on had a steady growth. In 1905 Mr. A. J. Ulsh, of Kansas, bought the paper. He made many improvements, both in the paper and in the equipment. He continued to publish the paper until January 1, 1911, when he moved the plant to Oakfield, N. Y. The Carter Bros., of Greenup, Ill., purchased the subscription list and good will of Mr. Ulsh and continued the publication until December 1, 1911, when they sold the plant to the Socialists of St. Mary's, O., leaving Jackson Center without a paper. J. G. Sailor, who was at that time mayor of the village, purchased the plant of the Quincy Inland Press, that happened to be on the market at that time. He moved the plant to Jackson Center and continued the publication of the News. It is now a six-column paper of from eight to twelve pages and has a large circulation throughout north Shelby, Logan and southern Auglaize counties. In politics it is independent.

#### THE BOTKINS HERALD

The Botkins Herald, a six-column quarto weekly, was established about 15 years ago by Adam E. Blakeley, who conducted it until his death in January, 1911, when he was succeeded in the proprietorship by his son, Lowell E. Blakeley. The paper is independent in politics and has a considerable circulation throughout this part of the county. A new cylinder press has recently been installed.

## CHAPTER XIII

### AGRICULTURE

#### *History of the Shelby County Agricultural Society*

On the 12th of April, 1839, the legislature of the state passed "An Act to Authorize and Encourage Agricultural Societies in the Several counties in the State and Regulate the Same." Under this a call was made by William Murphy, Esq. (then auditor of the county), for a meeting of the county to be held in the court house, on the 21st of August, 1839, to form an agricultural society.

The meeting was organized by calling Stephen Wilkin to the chair, and appointing J. S. Updegraff secretary. At this meeting seventy-one names were recorded as members of the society.

The organization was perfected by the election of the following officers: president, H. Thompson; vice president, Luke Fish; corresponding secretary, William Fielding; recording secretary, W. A. Carey; treasurer, John Shaw. A committee, consisting of George D. Leckey, William Fielding, and J. S. Updegraff, was appointed to draft a constitution. An adjournment was then had until the second Monday in September, at which time a constitution was reported and adopted, and 150 copies ordered printed.

The first annual meeting of the society was held on the 27th day of June, 1840, when the following officers were elected: president, Stephen Wilkin; vice president, James McLean; treasurer, Samuel Mathers; corresponding secretary, H. S. Conklin; recording secretary, H. Thompson. John Shaw, late treasurer, made his report. Balance in the treasury \$27.81 $\frac{3}{4}$ .

A committee was appointed to wait on the county commissioners and solicit a donation from them in aid of the society in accordance with law.

On the 8th of October, 1840, the board met at the office of Dr. H. S. Conklin, and fixed the time for holding the first county fair on the 17th of October, and at the same time prepared a premium list amounting to \$45.00.

Among the premiums awarded at this fair was one of \$5 to George D. Leckey for the best acre of corn, 99 3-7 bushels; one to Stephen Wilkin of \$2 for the best  $\frac{1}{4}$  bushel of potatoes, 146 bushels; and one to J. H. Kirkindall, \$5, for the best stallion, Tuckahoe. At this fair there were twenty-six premiums awarded. The record shows that the fair was considered a success, and augured well for the future success of the society, and that Shelby county was destined to take a prominent rank among the grain-growing and stock-

raising counties of our flourishing Miami valley. The place of exhibition was in the court square.

The second annual meeting was held at the court house on the 12th of June, 1841, when the following officers were elected: president, Benjamin Fulton; vice president, David Reynolds; treasurer, H. Thompson; recording secretary, William Murphy; and corresponding secretary, J. S. Updegraff.

The second annual fair was held at Sidney September 28th and 29th. The list of premiums at this fair amounted to \$52.00.

The prediction made by the secretary at the first fair was not realized, for we find that there were but two fairs held under that organization; and that on the 9th day of August, 1845, a meeting was held at the court house for the purpose of reviving the society (a period of four years having elapsed since a fair was held). But we cannot learn that an organization was completed until April, 1851, when a constitution was reported and adopted, and an election for officers was held under it, as follows: president, Irwin Nutt; vice president, H. Walker; secretary, J. P. Haggott; treasurer, T. Stephenson. The fair for this year was held October 15, 1851, in the market place on Poplar street.

March 26, 1852, the annual meeting was held, and the following officers were elected: president, Irwin Nutt; vice president, Curtis Kelsey; secretary, J. P. Haggott; treasurer, Thomas Stephenson.

At a meeting of the board held in August, it was resolved to have but one day of fair, as there was a show advertised for one of the days of the fair. This fair was held on the 28th of September. The exhibition of stock was very good. Twenty-three premiums were awarded on horses, fourteen on neat cattle, with a fair display of sheep, hogs, farm products, and miscellaneous articles.

At a meeting on the 6th of December, 1852, the treasurer made his report: Receipts \$186, \$67 of which had been received from the county; \$73.59 paid for premiums; balance in treasury, \$112.41. An election for officers was held: president, W. J. Thirkfield; vice president, Sam. Stephenson; secretary, S. Alexander Leckey; treasurer, T. Stephenson.

The third annual fair was held on the 5th and 6th days of October, 1853, on the grounds west of Sidney (known as the Jordan property), then owned by Dr. H. S. Conklin. There were 181 premiums awarded at this exhibition, consisting of silver cups, money and diplomas. A greater display and variety of domestic and miscellaneous articles were on exhibition than at any previous fair held in the county. The display of poultry was the largest that had been seen in the county. A premium was awarded to Dr. Conklin for a fine specimen of rat terrier dog.

December 6, 1853, the following were elected officers: president, Col. J. W. Carey; vice president, Hugh McElroy; secretary, S. Alexander Leckey; treasurer, W. J. Thirkfield.

April 22, 1854, the board met. The constitution was amended fixing the second day of the fair for the election of officers.

The fourth annual fair was held October 12th and 13th, on the grounds

of B. W. Maxwell, east of the river. A fine display of thoroughbred cattle was exhibited by Dr. Thirkield, Spense, J. W. Carey, and others. An election of officers was held during this fair, which resulted as follows: president, A. F. Munger; vice president, H. Walker; secretary, W. P. Stowell; treasurer, W. J. Thirkield.

The fifth annual fair was held on the grounds of I. T. Fulton, on the 4th and 5th days of October, 1855. There does not seem to have been the same interest taken at this time that there had previously been, for we find that this was the last fair held for several years, or until 1860, when the present independent society was organized, under the name of the Shelby County Agricultural Institute. The matter of securing a place to hold the fairs became burdensome and it was difficult to find grounds for the exhibition of stock and for domestic, mechanical and miscellaneous articles.

The grounds now owned by the Institute were purchased from W. P. Reed and J. L. Thirkield, as administrators of the estate of W. J. Thirkield, deceased, and contain twenty acres. Deeds were made on the 12th day of November, 1860, to John H. Mathers, S. Alexander Leckey, James A. Wells, I. F. Fulton, and J. C. Coe, as trustees for the Institute. For the payment of the purchase-money and the improvement of the ground there were 229 shares of stock subscribed, at \$10 a share, by 222 persons, on which had been paid \$2299.15, leaving a balance on stock subscribed and unpaid \$290.85. From the above it will be seen that the grounds are not the property of the county, but belong to individuals who have invested their money for the purpose of furnishing a place for the accommodation of the agricultural and mechanical industries of the county to exhibit their productions, and from which the stockholders have never received one cent in the shape of dividends or interest on the investment—the annual receipts from fairs having been expended in the improvement and beautifying of the grounds, and much more is required at this time to make further improvements that must be made.

At the first election in 1860 for officers of the Institute the following were elected: president, James A. Wells; vice president, E. Lytle; secretary, S. Alexander Leckey; treasurer, John Duncan.

The first annual fair was held on the 4th, 5th, and 6th days of October. At the second election in 1861 the same officers were re-elected, and the second annual fair was held on the 1st, 2d, 3d, and 4th days of October. At the election in 1862 the same officers were re-elected, and the third annual fair was held on September 30th, October 1st, 2d, and 3d. At the election in 1863 the same officers were re-elected, with James I. Elliott as secretary.

The fourth annual fair was held in October, 1863. At the election in 1864 the following officers were elected: president, E. Lytle; vice president, H. M. Reed; treasurer, John Duncan; secretary, A. B. C. Hitchcock. The fifth annual fair was held on the 27th, 28th, and 29th of September. On the 16th of January, 1864, J. A. Lamb was elected trustee to supply the vacancy occasioned by the death of I. T. Fulton. January 21, 1865, at the annual election the same officers were continued, and the annual fair held in October. J. C. Coe tendered his resignation as trustee, and Edmund Lytle was elected to

supply the vacancy. The annual fair was held in October. January 20, 1866, the following were elected officers: president, William Shinn; vice president, James A. Wells; treasurer, John Duncan; secretary, A. B. C. Hitchcock. The annual fair was held in October, 1867. The same officers were elected. At the annual meeting in 1868 the following were elected: president, John Duncan; vice president, W. A. Carey; secretary, J. S. Read; treasurer, O. J. Taylor. At the annual meeting in 1869 the following were elected: president, J. A. Wells; vice president, J. R. Kendall, with secretary and treasurer as before. The tenth annual fair was held in October. At the election in 1870 the following were elected: president, J. R. Kendall; vice president, Morris Honnell; secretary and treasurer same as before. The eleventh fair was held in October. In 1871 the following were elected: president, J. R. Kendall; vice president, Morris Honnell; treasurer, L. E. Mathers; secretary, H. B. Blake. The twelfth annual fair was held in October. In 1872 the following were elected: president, R. Joslin; vice president, D. M. Line; treasurer, L. E. Mathers; secretary, J. S. Read. The thirteenth annual fair was held in October. In 1873 the following were elected: president, R. Joslin; vice president, S. Alexander Leckey; treasurer, C. C. Weaver; secretary, J. S. Read. In 1874 the officers were: president, S. A. Leckey; vice president, M. Honnell; treasurer, O. O. Mathers; secretary, J. S. Read.

The fifteenth annual fair was held September 22, 23, 24, and 25, 1874. At the election held January, 1875, the following officers were elected: president, Francis Bailey; vice president, Morris Honnell; treasurer, O. O. Mathers; secretary, J. S. Read.

The sixteenth annual fair was held September 21, 22, 23, and 24, 1875. Officers elected January 15, 1876: president, Francis Bailey; vice president, M. Honnell; treasurer, John Duncan; secretary, J. S. Read.

The seventeenth annual fair was held September 19, 20, 21, and 22, 1876. Officers elected January 20, 1877: president, S. Alex. Leckey; vice president, Ed. E. Nutt; treasurer, C. C. Weaver; secretary, J. S. Read.

The eighteenth annual fair was held September 25, 26, 27, and 28, 1877. The total amount of receipts for the eighteenth annual fair from all sources was \$2081.28. Total disbursements were \$2084.94, leaving a deficit of \$3.66. The election for officers for the year 1878 resulted as follows: president, S. Alex. Leckey; vice president, Ed. E. Nutt; treasurer, C. C. Weaver; secretary, J. S. Read.

The nineteenth annual fair was held October 1, 2, 3, and 4, 1878. The total number of entries made in the different classes was 1320, an advance of more than fifty per cent over that of the year before, showing that the Institute was at this time in a flourishing condition. The result of the election held January 18, 1879, was the re-election of all the officers of the preceding year.

The time of the twentieth annual fair was September 30th and October 1st, 2d, and 3d. The total number of entries made at the twentieth annual fair was 1,618. Total receipts from all sources \$2,590.08. This included \$106.63 in treasury from the last year. Total disbursements, \$2,160.30, leav-

ing a balance of \$419.76 in treasury. At the election held January 17, 1880, the same officers were elected as those of the preceding year.

The time of the twenty-first fair was the last three days of September and the first of October, 1880.

This year, 1880, the Institute purchased six and a half acres of ground in addition to their former grounds, for which they paid the sum of \$1,300. The number of acres in the grounds at this date was twenty-six and a half. Cash value of the grounds and improvements was \$8,000.

September 6, 1880, S. Alex. Leckey, the president of the Institute, died. By his death the society lost one of its most efficient members. Appropriate resolutions were passed in honor of his memory, and the same were recorded in the secretary's book.

At a meeting held January 15, 1881, the following officers were elected: president, Morris Honnell; vice president, Daniel Staley; treasurer, O. J. Taylor; secretary, H. Guthrie.

The time of holding the twenty-second fair was September 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th. During the year 1881 the Institute purchased one and a half acres of land adjacent to their grounds, for which they paid the sum of \$325. The receipts for the fair held in September, 1881, were as follows: received from sale of tickets, \$2,190; entrance fees, \$209; received from state, \$120.68; balance from last year, \$180.77; from all other sources, \$593.40; making a grand total of \$3,293.85. Total disbursements, \$2,433.22. Balance in treasury, \$860.63. At the election for officers for the year 1882 the same persons were re-elected of the year previous.

The twenty-third annual fair was held September 26th, 27th, 28th, and 29th. This was one of the most successful fairs ever held in the county, although the weather was very unfavorable, raining every day. The entries in all departments (excepting that of fruit) were better than those of any previous year. The general attendance was better, and it is safe to say that if the weather had been favorable the receipts of the fair would have exceeded those of the year previous by from \$500 to \$1,000. The total receipts for this fair were \$3,061.71. Balance on hand from previous year, \$860.63. Total, \$3,922.34. Disbursements for the year, \$3,545.03.

At the annual meeting of the society held January, 1882, a resolution was offered to prohibit the sale of ale, beer, and wine on the fair grounds. This resolution met with some opposition, but was adopted by the board. The year previous they had received for the permit of the eating-house and the sale of beer, ale, and wine the sum of \$135. This year they could get no offer for the privilege of an eating-house. It accordingly was given to the ladies of the First Presbyterian church of Sidney free of charge, who made a success of it and gave universal satisfaction.

A noticeable feature at this fair was the quietness and good behavior of the large crowd of people in attendance. No drunkenness or disorderly conduct was seen. This proved, not only to the board of directors but to all who were there, that beer, ale, and wine are not essential to the success of a fair in Shelby county.

The election for officers held January, 1883, resulted as follows: president, Daniel Staley; vice president, Isaac Betts; secretary, Harvey Guthrie; treasurer, O. J. Taylor. The time for holding the fair was September 25th, 26th, 27th, and 28th.

At the stockholders' annual meeting held January 19, 1884, Isaac Betts was elected president, H. C. Wilson vice president, O. J. Taylor treasurer, and Harvey Guthrie secretary.

September 23d to 27th inclusive was fixed for holding the twenty-fifth exhibition.

January 17, 1885, the same officers were re-elected and the time for holding the fair fixed for September 22d, 23d, 24th, and 25th. G. C. Anderson was elected February 7th, to fill out the term of H. Guthrie, secretary.

At the annual stockholders' meeting held January 16, 1886, the board of officers was continued as amended and the 24th, 25th, 26th, and 27th days of September fixed for holding the twenty-seventh annual fair.

During this year the first Farmers' Institute was held in Monumental hall under the auspices of the Shelby County Agricultural Society and the Ohio State Board of Agriculture. The institute convened February 10, 1886, for a two days' session and was addressed by the Hon. J. H. Brigham, of Delta, W. H. Scott, president of Ohio State University, and John Gould, dairy editor of the *Ohio Farmer*. W. J. Chamberlain delivered his lecture on "The Boy in Town and Country." Local speakers and singers varied the programme of a most profitable and interesting session.

Officers elected for 1887 were E. Blanchard, president; J. T. Kelsey, vice president; G. C. Anderson, secretary; O. J. Taylor, treasurer. The fair for 1887 was fixed for September 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th.

At the annual meeting of stockholders January 21, 1888, 'the election of officers resulted in E. Blanchard for president; J. T. Kelsey, vice president; G. C. Anderson, secretary; Isaac Betts, treasurer. The time for holding the fair September 25th and 28th inclusive.

The second Farmers' Institute was held in Monumental hall February 3, and 4, 1888, and was addressed by Secretary Bonham of the State Board of Agriculture, who delivered lectures on improvement of live stock.

James McGregor spoke on various topics and gave a most interesting lecture on Modern Civilization. Local speakers throughout the county talked on various phases of farm life and the session was a most profitable one.

The fair association's officers for 1889 were H. Guthrie, president; W. W. Huffman, vice president; G. C. Anderson, secretary; Isaac Betts, treasurer.

At the annual meeting January 26, 1889, it was decided to limit the payment of premiums to Shelby county but not to prevent exhibits from other counties or states.

The fair exhibit was fixed for September 24th to 27th, inclusive.

At the annual meeting January 18, 1890, the following officers were elected: H. Guthrie, president; W. W. Huffman, vice president; G. C. Anderson, secretary; J. S. Laughlin, treasurer.

The thirty-first fair was appointed for September 16th, 17th, 18th, and 19th.

H. Guthrie, president; W. W. Ginn, vice president; G. C. Anderson, secretary and J. S. Laughlin, treasurer, constituted the board of officers for 1891 and the annual fair appointed to be held the 22d, 23d, 24th and 25th of September.

At the annual meeting January 16, 1892, H. Guthrie was elected president; W. W. Ginn, vice president; John Duncan, treasurer and A. L. Marshall, secretary, September 20, 21, 22, 23 were selected for the fair exhibit.

H. Guthrie, Isaac Betts, John Duncan, Al. Marshall, president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary, respectively, made up the fair board for 1893 and the annual fair appointed for September 19 to 22 inclusive.

In 1894 the same board of officers served for the year and the fair held September 18, 19, 20 and 21.

At the election of officers January 19, 1895, H. Guthrie, W. A. Graham, O. J. Taylor and G. C. Anderson were elected president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary, respectively, and the fair dated for September 17 to 20 inclusive.

It being necessary to enlarge the grounds a meeting of the stockholders was held January 19, 1895, for the purpose of passing on the decision that the Shelby County Agricultural Society was a corporation. This was decided, a loan negotiated with the People's Savings and Loan for \$8,000 and land bought of W. P. Reed, James Hennessey and wife, Frank Brown and Antony Braudewie at a meeting of the stockholders June 1, 1895. The Braudewie purchase involved twelve acres on the west and was used to make a race track and locate a grand stand capable of holding two thousand persons.

At this meeting it was decided that the family tickets costing \$1.00 each include the heads of families and all females under eighteen. Vehicle tickets for 25 cents which included vehicles with one or two horses and a price of 15 cents fixed for the grand stand.

The fair was dated for September 8 to 11 inclusive. At the annual stockholders meeting January 18, 1896, Isaac Betts, S. M. Wagoner, J. E. Russell and A. L. Marshall were elected president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, respectively, and the fair date fixed for September.

The fair board elected January 16, 1897, was H. Guthrie, president; E. W. Stowell, vice-president; J. E. Russell, secretary and O. J. Taylor, treasurer and the fair dated for September 21, 22, 23 and 24.

The total receipts of the fair of 1897 were \$2,450.52 and the disbursements \$2,427.78.

The fair officers elected January 22, 1898, were E. W. Stowell, president; H. C. Roberts, vice-president; J. E. Russell, secretary; W. E. Lierman, treasurer. The time for holding the thirty-ninth fair was fixed for September 20, 21, 22 and 23 inclusive.

At a meeting of the directors, February 8, 1898, an assessment of \$5.00 was placed on each stockholder in order to pay the premiums due from the institute for the year 1897.



There was no fair held in 1899 and for the three following years J. E. Russell, receiver, conducted the exhibitions under the order of the court.

The first fair was held on the present grounds the 4th, 5th and 6th days of October, 1860. At that time and until November, 1902, the property belonged to individuals, who had invested their money for the purpose of furnishing a place for the accommodation of the agricultural and mechanical industries of the county to exhibit their productions, and for which the stockholders never received one cent, the receipts received from the annual fairs having been expended for improvement and beautifying the grounds.

At the November election, 1902, the electors of the county decided by ballot to authorize the county commissioners to take over the grounds by authority of an act of the legislature passed April 29, 1902, entitled "An Act, To Authorize the Board of County Commissioners of Shelby county, Ohio, to purchase and improve lands upon which to hold county fairs, and to issue bonds of said county and levy taxes to pay for the same."

The act provided that there should be elected from each township two persons to a board, styled, The Board of Managers of the Shelby County Agricultural Society and under this new management the receipts of the county fair are continually growing.

At a meeting of the board of managers, January 10, 1903, J. C. Royou, Elisha Yost, J. E. Russell, John Duncan were elected president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer respectively and it was decided to hold the forty-second fair on September from the 8th to the 11th inclusive. January 31, 1903, the board adopted new rules and regulations and fixed the bonds of the secretary and treasurer at \$3,000 and \$5,000. January 8, 1904, the board of managers convened and the secretary's books showed that the receipts were \$6,878.13 and the orders issued by the treasurer \$6,752.72, showing a balance of \$123.40 for the fair of 1903.

The same officers were re-elected for 1904 and the forty-third fair fixed for four days in September beginning with the 6th.

At a meeting of the board of managers January 14, 1905, the secretary's books showed the receipts to be \$8,120.11 and the treasurer's books the disbursements to have been \$7,824.39 for the fair of 1904, furnishing a balance of \$295.72.

D. J. Cargill, E. Yost, J. E. Russell, John Duncan were elected president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, respectively and the forty-fifth fair fixed for the four days beginning September 12, 1905.

January 13, 1906, at the annual meeting, D. J. Cargill, Wilson Dill, J. E. Russell and John Duncan were elected president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer and the forty-sixth fair dated for September 11 to 14, inclusive.

At the annual meeting January 12, 1907, William T. Johnston, Wilson Dill, Thomas Quinlin, J. E. Russell were elected president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary and the forty-seventh was fixed for the fair days beginning September 10, 1907.

At the annual meeting held January 11, 1908, the secretary's books

showed the receipts of the fair of 1907 to be \$7,149.40 and the treasurer's orders to have been \$7,397.66 furnishing an overdraft of \$248.26.

Martin Quinlick, president; C. D. McCullough, vice-president; J. E. Russell, secretary; Thomas Quinlin, treasurer were elected for the year and the fair fixed for September 15 to 18 inclusive.

At the annual meeting held January 9, 1909, the secretary's receipts were \$10,900.96 and the treasurer's disbursements \$12,220.06 showing an overdraft of \$1,319.10.

The same board of officers was chosen for the year, and the fair appointed for the four days beginning September 14.

At the annual meeting held January 8, 1910, the reports showed the receipts for the fair of 1909 to be \$8,158.80 and the disbursements \$7,545.83. The board of officers of 1909 was re-elected and the fair fixed for September 13, 14, 15 and 16, 1910. This was the fiftieth Shelby county fair and was to be made the golden anniversary, a home-coming celebration. August 6, 1910, Oscar McMillen was elected superintendent of the grounds.

January 14, 1911, at the annual meeting, George Hagleberger, Earl B. Fristoe, James E. Burrons and J. E. Russell were chosen president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary for the year and the fifty-first fair appointed for September 12, 13, 14, 15. William Darst was elected superintendent of the grounds.

At the annual meeting held January 13, 1912, the same board of officers was re-elected and the date for holding the fifty-second annual fair fixed for September 10, 11, 12, 13, 1912.

The receipts for the Shelby county fair of 1912 were by far the largest of any fair ever held in the county. The receipts were \$11,444.05; disbursements, \$9,584.86. The affairs of the Agricultural Society are in a most flourishing condition, enabling the officials to make extensive improvements at the grounds.

The present fair ground is in striking contrast to days long gone. It is now one of the most beautiful in the state or country. The original ground, in a state of nature, was a magnificent forest of lofty oaks which have been carefully preserved with maples set out in vacant spots which are now large and afford ample shade.

The water works of Sidney have been extended by pipes so that an abundant supply of pure water from the artesian wells which furnish the city is convenient for stock as well as the people. The grounds have been increased from twenty acres to forty-three acres. The only director of the fair when the grounds were bought is Morris Honnell, now eighty-eight years old, who lives at his ease in retirement near the fair grounds in his delightful home, with his daughter Ollie.

Secretary J. E. Russell has been in that office for seventeen years and to his efficient work is due the present prosperous condition. Most of the buildings are comparatively new with a fountain playing in the art and floral hall. The appointments are up-to-date and it is the design of the managers to keep abreast of the times.

## CHAPTER XIV

### RELIGIOUS DEVELOPMENT

#### *Pioneer Preachers—History of the Principal Religious Denominations in Shelby County—Churches and Pastors*

##### THE PIONEER PREACHER

One of the first to enter the forest of Ohio was Charles Frederick Post, a Moravian missionary, a calm, simple-hearted, and fearless man, who was sent into Ohio after the defeat of Braddock to preach the gospel, as well as to win the Indians over to the cause of the English. At the close of the Pontiac war in 1761, Post returned to the valley of the Muskingum and settled among the Delawares. It was not until after the close of the Revolutionary war that the tide of pioneer preaching reached the real valley of the Ohio. It swept northward from Kentucky, headed by the good old itinerant, who rode from settlement to settlement with Bible and saddlebags, preaching wherever he could find a congregation, however small. He did as much to civilize the wilderness as those who wielded the axe, and built towns where naught but the unbroken forest had been. Strong and powerful men were the backwoods preachers, and their mentality was equal to their physical strength. They knew no fear. Imbued with the Holy Spirit, they set up their altars in the most remote localities, undaunted by adverse circumstances, and surrounded by dangers seen and unseen. These heroic men of different denominations came from different localities. The first Presbyterians emigrated from Kentucky, the Baptists from Virginia, where they had suffered much persecution, and John Haw and Benjamin Ogden were the first followers of John Wesley to cross the Alleghanies.

The Roman Catholics sought the new west from Maryland and loyal to their church, they grouped themselves in neighborhoods where they could enjoy its first instruction and offices. There was some rivalry between denominations in this region and great controversies about baptism and Pedro-Baptism, Free Grace and Predestination, Falling from Grace and the Perseverance of the Saints, but at no time did the pioneer preachers lose sight of the holiness of their mission.

The office of the backwoods preacher was no sinecure. His salary rarely exceeded a hundred dollars a year and nothing more was allowed a man with a wife, for it was understood by the ministers of the old church that a preacher was a great deal better off without one.

The early ministers of Shelby county had small encouragement in the way of pecuniary support to which they could look forward. They came to the wilderness to face perils, want, weariness, unkindness, cold and hunger. There was great force and stamina in the method of the first preachers of the country. They spoke loudly and with the whole body; their feet and hands were put in requisition as well as their tongues and head; they knew their hymn-books as well as their Bibles, for they had to make their sermons as they were traveling along the way from settlement to settlement. At this time there were few places dignified with houses of worship. There were many camp-meetings in the dawn of church history in this county. These were famous gatherings to which the whole neighborhood turned out and they lasted for days. There were some wonderful conversions during these meetings. The mourners' bench often erected in the forest always had its complement of sinners seeking grace. Everybody joined in singing old-fashioned hymns, the prayers were frequently interspersed with fervent "Amens," hundreds professed the new life and went on their way rejoicing.

The true worth of the pioneer preacher cannot be computed. He builded up little congregations, which in time became the foremost ones of the county. His whole soul was in his mission. He visited the sick, comforted the mourner, prayed with the dying and often read the burial service to the howl of the prowling wolf. He carried his saddle-bags through the snows of winter, forded the Miami amid the howlings of the tempest and appeared as a visiting angel to the family around the settler's hearth.

There are no living duplicates of these men, for the times have changed and the wilderness has disappeared. They were the men for the times, they came forth when they were needed, did their work nobly and left the infant church to the care of the earnest believers who were to come after them.

The picture given us in Oliver Goldsmith's incomparable "Deserted Village," of the village preacher, is a faithful painting of the pioneer preacher under whose ministrations our forefathers and foremothers worshipped.

"Unskilled he to fawn, or seek for power  
By doctrines fashioned to the varying hour;  
For other aims his heart had learned to prize  
More bent to raise the wretched than to rise."

And again

"Thus to relieve the whetçed was his pride,  
And e'en his failings lean'd to Virtue's side;  
But in his duty prompt at every call,  
He watch'd and wept, he pray'd and felt for all."

#### THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Presbyterian church in Sidney had its beginning in 1820 or perhaps 1821. Then the first missionary effort was made to establish preaching. In a year or two an organization was effected which for some reason had but a brief existence. The first permanent organization was in the month of Septem-

ber, 1825, through the efforts of the Rev. Joseph Stevenson, when a little band of people gathered together in the old court house standing where is now the Woodward building in Ohio avenue. The church originally consisted of eight members: Dr. William Fielding and his wife Elizabeth; John Fergus and his wife Margaret; William McClintock and his wife Sarah; James Forsythe and Sarah Graham. William Fielding and James Forsythe were the first ruling elders. Preaching stately was furnished by the Rev. Joseph Stevenson for a few years, and then by the Rev. Sayers Gaylay. Uniting with the church at an early period in its history were Joseph and Mrs. Cummins, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel McCullough, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Wilson and Mr. and Mrs. Allen Wells. In the year 1833 the little congregation built its first house of worship, costing the round sum of \$900, the house standing on the rear of the lot on which the present church now stands which was donated for that purpose by Charles Sterrell in 1819. In this little structure the people worshipped for thirteen years.

During the year 1834 the Rev. Samuel Cleland became a stated supply to the church, which position he filled for five years. After him ministerial services were rendered by the Reverends Hendricks, Greer, Hare and Bonar. In 1842, the church extended a call to the Rev. W. B. Spense, who was then preaching in Troy, which call he accepted and labored as the first regularly installed pastor of the church for twenty-two years. In 1845 the congregation resolved to build a larger and better house of worship and the brick church which stood for more than thirty years was the result of their effort. The Rev. Daniel Bridge succeeded the Rev. Spense and resigned in nine months and was followed by the Rev. Robert McCastin, October 1, 1866, who presided over the congregation for thirty-three years and is still living in Sidney with his daughter, Mrs. J. L. Dickensheets. While he has no regular charge, he visits the sick, preaches over the dead, performs marriages and occasionally occupied a pulpit though long since passed the three score and ten mark.

He was succeeded by James Albert Patterson D. D. in 1898, who served the congregation four years and left the field for the Central Presbyterian church of Columbus.

The Rev. Leroy Coffman then accepted a call from this congregation, which he presided over for six years leaving in 1908 for Davenport, Iowa, the Rev. John Charlton, the present minister took charge October 15, 1908, and the church at the present time numbers 710 members. The enrollment of the Sunday school is 350.

Officers of the church—Rev. John T. Chalder, minister. The session—Moses Russell, Stephen Lytle, Johnson Wiley, W. A. Graham, H. L. Mathers, John Mumford, George C. Anderson, John Orbison, and J. J. Bush.

Trustees—E. W. Bingham, O. B. Taylor, Wilson Carothers, C. S. Line, C. W. Benjamin, C. B. Orbison. Officers of Sunday school—Milton Snyder, superintendent; J. J. Bush, assistant superintendent; Frederick McLean, secretary; Floyd Sarver, treasurer; organist and choir leader, Miss Jessie Ayers Wilson.

The present house of worship was dedicated in 1883 and is both beautiful

and convenient built on the site of the old church at the corner of North and Miami streets. North of it is the parsonage and to the east the high school building, now in course of erection placed in what was formerly the old Presbyterian burying ground.

The year of 1829 is the date of the organization of the United Presbyterian church of Sidney. From its organization till 1840 it was served with preaching by the Rev. John Reynolds, J. C. Porter and Samuel Sturgeon. The first church edifice was a frame structure located on the site where St. John's Lutheran church now stands at a cost of \$700 and the first ruling elders were Robert W. Stephenson and Samuel Gamble. The Rev. Reynolds started with a congregation of twelve members and previous to 1840 the ministers were stated supplies. In 1840 a call was extended to the Rev. C. T. McCaughan whose labors extended over a period of sixteen years and showed great congregational growth. During his pastorate in 1854 a new church was built, a substantial brick structure on the south side of the square costing \$10,000, quite a fine church in those early days.

On May 25, 1858, the union of the Associate and Associate Reformed churches was consummated and from this time the Sidney congregation which was the Associate Reformed, took the name it now bears. Mr. McCaughan was succeeded by the Rev. J. G. Armstrong, who was ordained and installed November 15, 1859. In 1863 he was released to take charge of a church in St. Louis and subsequently entered the Episcopal church in Virginia. The Rev. M. M. Gibson followed in 1864 and in succession the Rev. J. W. Bain, 1867, the Rev. J. A. Bailey, 1869 until 1876. Then in turn the Revs. R. J. Miller, J. T. Wilson and J. P. Sharp in the years 1878, 1882 and 1883 respectively. Under the pastorate of the Rev. Sharp the church which had seen good service since 1854 was sold to J. O. Amos and is now the site of the Amos' newspaper offices.

The congregation now selected a lot on North Main avenue, a little distance from the business part of the town, and there erected a beautiful church with modern appointments.

In 1889 the Rev. J. P. Robb took charge of the congregation and remained until 1903, when he retired from active work, universally beloved. The pulpit was filled from 1904 to 1906 by the Rev. R. G. Smith. The present pastor, the Rev. Samuel Adams Moore, was called here in 1907, and is full of religious enthusiasm. The church maintains a Sunday school with George Hutchinson, superintendent; the session is made up of David Ritchie, Miller McVey, Robert Watson and Will Wead. The different societies are the Young Women's Christian Union, Women's Missionary Society and the Men's League. Miss Hazel Watson is the organist, Miss Helen Moore the choir leader.

The congregation has always been conservative but active in all matters of moral reform and has numbered in its membership many of the substantial families of Sidney and its vicinity.

## THE METHODIST CHURCH

The history of Methodism in Sidney begins with the year 1825, at which time the first Methodist sermon was preached in the house of Joel Frankenberger, by the Rev. Levi White. Under his pastorate a class was organized, consisting of Joel Frankenberger and wife, George Poole and wife, John Bryan and wife, Mother McVay and Father Defreese.

Sidney was then a part of Bellefontaine circuit, which extended from Sidney to Bellefontaine, thence to West Liberty and Westville, including all the intervening territory. At the time of the organization of the church in Sidney, Rev. David Young, whose name is as sweet incense to the memories of those who knew him, was the presiding elder.

There was no meeting house in Sidney until 1831, and the services during the six years preceding that time were held in the house of Joel Frankenberger in the winter, and in the summer under the wide spreading branches of a large elm tree that grew on the river bank just below the present bridge. Here protracted meetings were held, and under the mighty influence of primitive preaching and singing souls were converted and the church strengthened.

At the quarterly conference, held at Bellefontaine, November 10, 1827, while James B. Findlay was presiding elder and Joshua Boucher, pastor, a committee, consisting of Joel Frankenberger, George Poole, and John Hollingshead, were appointed to inquire into the practicability of building a meeting house in Sidney. This committee did not make a report until January 31, 1829, when they announced that they had purchased a lot on which to build a church. This lot is the one on which the Baptist church now stands, and cost \$16, and was paid for by the committee together with Mr. Persinger, each paying \$4. On this lot a small church was erected in 1831. This house was built "without money and without price," some furnishing material, while others did the work.

The Second Methodist Episcopal church edifice in Sidney was the one owned and used by the Baptist congregation of this place and was sold to them March 25, 1872, for the sum of \$1,700. It was erected in 1838, and dedicated by the Rev. Edward Gehon, who has since become prominent in the Church South. Rev. David Warnock and Rev. William Sutton were then preachers on the circuit. In 1834 the Bellefontaine circuit was divided, and Sidney circuit formed. Sidney remained the centre of Sidney circuit until 1843, when it was made a station, and Rev. David Warnock was returned as the first stationed preacher of this church. In 1867 the present church edifice was erected under the supervision of the Rev. W. J. Wells, but was not completed until 1874, under the management of Rev. J. Wykes. It was dedicated by Rev. Bishop R. S. Foster, August 11, 1874. Sidney held its first quarterly conference on the 19th of April, 1828, while John W. Clark and James W. Findlay were preachers on the circuit. Sidney has five times been the seat of the annual conference; first in 1847, when Bishop James presided; the second time in 1874, when Bishop Andrews presided; the third time in 1882, with Bishop Warren, the presiding bishop; the fourth time in 1898 with Bishop Joyce presiding, and in 1909 with Bishop Neeley.

From 1825 to 1880 fifty-three preachers have been appointed to the Sidney charge, whose names we will give in chronological order, though some of them have served the charge the second time: Levi White, George Gatch, Thomas Beachman, Joshua Boucher, John W. Clark, James W. Findlay, Thomas Simms, William M. Sullivan, William Morrow, John Stewart, Peter Sharp, Daniel D. Davidson, James Smith, W. C. Clark, George W. Walker, David Kempler, Wilson Smith, Silas Chase, L. P. Miller, David Warnock, Madison Hausley, Samuel Lynch, George Taylor, L. W. James, Jacob A. Brown, William M. Spafford, M. L. Starr, Elmer Yocum, W. G. Wells, Joseph Wykes, William Lunt, Lemuel Herbert, S. H. Alderman, L. C. Webster, Jacob Holmes, C. W. Ketcham, J. W. Alderman, J. L. Bates, Franklin Mariott, Gershom Lease, T. C. Reade, Oliver Kennedy, Louis M. Albright, P. P. Pope, I. N. Newton, W. W. Lance, J. H. Bethards, Thaddeus Wilson, M. M. Figley, W. G. Waters, E. E. McCannon, C. A. Smucker and W. B. Armington, who is now entering upon the fourth year of his pastorate here.

Sidney has been favored with the preaching of the following presiding elders, in the following order: David Young, John Collins, James B. Findlay, John F. Wright, William H. Raper, Robert O. Spencer, William S. Morrow, Samuel P. Shaw, Wesley Brock, H. M. Shaffer, J. S. Kalb, Alexander Har-mount, Joseph Ayers, Joseph Wykes, Wesley G. Waters, S. L. Roberts, E. D. Whitlock, Andrew J. Fish, C. R. Havighorst and D. H. Bailey, the last two being called district superintendents.

In one half century Sidney has sent out from its number sixteen preachers, viz., Isaac Hunt, Joseph Park, George M. Bond, George W. Taylor, P. G. Goode, John H. Bruce, A. C. Shaw, David Bulle, N. B. C. Love, H. Maltbie, A. Clawson, D. Rhinehart, Elanson Barber, Levi Moore, Webster Stockstill and Harley Hodge.

The original church consisted of eight members; it now numbers about 1,150.

The semi-centennial of Methodism in Sidney was held in the M. E. church November 26, 27 and 28, 1875, when the Rev. T. C. Reade was pastor. The opening sermon was preached by Rev. David Rhinehart. On Saturday, November 27, at 2:00 P. M., the Rev. J. R. Colgan preached, after which refreshments were served. One hundred and twenty-five of the congregation and visitors sat down at the social repast together. This was followed by toasts and responses from laymen and ministers. Wesley G. Waters preached on Sunday, and T. C. Reade read a short historical sketch of Methodism in Sidney.

The church has greatly prospered since its organization and has been a power for good in the community a net gain of 350 being made during the pastorate of its present minister, William B. Armington, D. D. The total membership of the church is 1,150; of the Sunday school, which is a graded one, 1,125. The primary class of which Miss Emma Haslup is superintendent has an enrollment of 140.

The contributions for benevolent purposes for the past three years have been \$9,000, of which \$3,600 was made the year just closing. There have been \$45,000 subscribed for the new church project.



The following separate organizations are a part of the church: Men's Brotherhood, Woman's Aid, Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Woman's Home Missionary Society, Young Men's Gymnasium Association, Boy Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, Young Ladies' Circle, Home Guards, Epworth League.

Officers of the church—Rev. E. H. Bailey, district superintendent; Rev. William B. Armington, minister; Miss Donna L. Kulp, deaconess; Mrs. W. H. C. Goode, superintendent of Sunday school.

Stewards—W. H. C. Goode, W. E. Kilborn, R. O. Bingham, C. C. Sollenberger, W. L. Van Riper, John Oldham, David Oldham, I. N. Wilkinson, V. S. Scott, Dr. A. W. Reddish, C. J. Briggs, W. W. Robinson, W. B. McCabe, L. M. Studevart, George Ohlinger.

Trustees—William Piper, Emory Nutt, Dr. B. M. Sharp, J. S. Crozier, C. W. Frazier, Finlay Mills, Dr. A. W. Grosvenor, P. O. Stockstill.

Class Leaders—William McCally, George Yenney, Elisha Yost, organist, George T. Blake; chorister, Maud Haslup.

Officers of Sunday School—Mrs. W. H. C. Goode, superintendent; Hugh Bingham, assistant superintendent; Miss Emma Haslup, primary superintendent; W. L. Van Riper, treasurer; Nellie Van Riper, secretary.

The church is now projecting a new building to cost \$60,000, three-fourths of which sum has already been raised. Proposals are now being called for the remodeling of their present edifice and the construction of a basement and two story Sunday school addition covering about 4,800 square feet. This is made necessary by the growth of the church and Sunday school.

The building will contain a completely equipped gymnasium with shower baths for both sexes; reading room for men and boys; a dining room seating 250, with a kitchen equipped with modern appointments for caring for large gatherings, all to be finished in about one year.

#### EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran congregation was organized July 5, 1840, by the Rev. George Klapp, when Shelby county numbered but 12,000 inhabitants while Sidney had exactly 713.

The first church council, installed November 1, 1840, was composed of but two members, besides the pastor, John Jacob, elder, and Jacob Pfeifer, deacon.

The first list of communicant members dated October 30, 1842, contains the names of thirty-three. The Rev. Klapp died in 1844 and was succeeded by the Rev. Isaac Hirsch and he in turn by the Rev. George Spaengler in 1850. It was due to his zeal and enterprise that the congregation finally secured a church home of its own in 1854 by purchasing the modest frame building and lot on Wales street vacated by the Associate Presbyterians, who had built it in 1835, for the reasonable price of \$800 and in this the congregation worshipped for thirty-four years. He resigned in 1859 and his widow,

Mrs. Dorothy Spaengler still worships in the church, a familiar figure to old and young.

In succession came the next twenty years the Revs. George Loewenstein, J. Graessle, J. Bundenthal and J. Dingeldey who had 117 members at the end of his term of service.

In 1879 the Rev. Frederick A. Groth took charge of the pastorate and started a movement for a new church building. He was succeeded in 1885 by the Rev. A. H. Minneman who was pastor of the congregation for twenty years, retiring July 1, 1905. During his pastorate a new church was built on the site of the old one costing \$10,200, which was dedicated October 14, 1888.

July 1, 1905, the Rev. E. Poppen began his work as pastor with 250 communicants. In October of that year the lot adjacent to the church on the west side was purchased and in 1907 a handsome parsonage was finished for the pastor. Three years later a fine pipe organ was installed.

At the present time Saint John's numbers 450 communicants, with an enrollment in the Sunday school of 240.

Officers of Sunday School—Rev. E. Poppen, superintendent and teacher of Bible class; George Schneeberger, assistant; Anna Albers, secretary; John W. Smith, assistant; Dorothy Frey, treasurer.

The Church Council—Rev. Poppen, president; John W. Smith, secretary; William Kliustine, treasurer; Henry Sexaner, elder; Fred Stany, deacon; Edward Schiff, deacon; Jacob Weingartner, trustee; John W. Smith, trustee; William Klipstine, trustee. Organist, Mrs. Emmanuel Poppen.

The societies of the church are the Frauen-Verein, organized in 1859; The Lydia Society; The Emmanuel Society; The Lutheran Helpers; The Men's League.

#### HOLY ANGELS' CATHOLIC CHURCH

In the year 1848 only a small number of Catholics resided in Sidney, but they formed themselves into a society and held their religious services in a private dwelling house and were ministered to by the Rev. Thomas Shehan. He was succeeded by the Rev. John Quinlan, Bishop of Mobile, Alabama, who then lived at Piqua but looked after the spiritual wants of the Catholics in Sidney.

At this time a frame building which had served as a cooper's shop, was purchased and converted into a house of worship on the lot to be occupied by the armory where the negro church now stands, at the corner of West and South streets. In 1855 this was blown up with powder and stone during the Know-Nothing excitement. The three years following mission services were held in different halls of the town attended by the resident priests of Piqua. In 1856 the site upon which the present church now stands was purchased by Mathias Wagner, Peter Wagner and John Smith, trustees, and a building erected which was opened in 1858. A partition was run across the west end of the church from north to south which gave a room 23 x 50 feet and here the school was commenced with an attendance of twenty children. The



ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL CHURCH,  
SIDNEY, O.



HOLY ANGELS CATHOLIC CHURCH,  
SIDNEY, O.



M. E. CHURCH AND PARSONAGE, SIDNEY, O.



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, SIDNEY, O.



BAPTIST CHURCH, SIDNEY, O.



church was still a mission in charge of priests from Wapakoneta from 1860 to 1862, when the first resident priest, the Rev. Florentine D'Arcy, succeeded in 1862. He was followed by the Rev. William D'Arcy in 1865, and he by the Rev. William O'Rourke. In 1867 the Rev. John D. Kress became pastor and remained three years. In 1870 Rev. William Sidley took charge of the congregation and was succeeded by Rev. Henry Rowecamp, and in March, 1875, Rev. Francis M. Quahman became the rector of Holy Angels' church. At this time the church consisted of 110 families and the pupils on the school roll numbered 95. In September, 1876, the present school building was opened on the west side of the lot occupied by the church. It is a well graded school and graduates pupils with a four years high school course, has a department of music connected with the school and all branches are taught by the Sisters of Charity from Mount St. Joseph near Cincinnati. There are at present seven sisters engaged in teaching. These, with a resident teacher, and the two priests who teach the Latin, make up the teaching faculty. The school is supported by a small monthly fee for tuition, by collections and donations from the members of the church.

In January, 1876, a lot north of the church grounds was purchased and the present brick building was erected for the sisters and is now used as a home for the priest.

The present church was consecrated in May, 1890, by Archbishop Elder and represents with its interior decorations and furnishings an outlay of \$75,000. It has a seating capacity of 750 and is a magnificent tribute to the untiring zeal of the Rev. Quahman, who lived to minister to his congregation nine years in the new edifice. He died November 15, 1909, after a successful pastorate of nearly thirty-four years. The thirtieth anniversary of his ministry was made the occasion of a great celebration which was participated in by Catholics and Protestants alike.

His successor was the Rev. Fortman of Kenton, Ohio, who is the present pastor, and who has an assistant in the Rev. Reverman. In 1911 a substantial home of pressed brick was built for the sisters on the lot formerly occupied by the old Peter Wagner homestead, south of the church, at a cost of about \$8,000.

The different societies of the church are the Married Ladies' Sodality, the Young Ladies' Sodality, Children of Mary, Boys' Senior and Junior Society of St. Alloysius, and the Holy Name Society for Men.

The officers of the church—trustees, W. H. Wagner, John Collins, Dennis Hoban, Frank Allenbach, Martin Quinlisk and William Salm. The organist, Frank Doorley.

There are belonging to this church 1500 communicants, representing 300 families, and 265 pupils enrolled in the parochial school.

#### RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS

As early as 1850 a number of German Baptist families or Dunkards settled about five miles east of Sidney and held church services in their dwellings. Later they built a small house of worship on the banks of Mosquito creek,

which stands today, but has been abandoned since March, 1895. Elder Keiser served the congregation for thirty years. They then purchased the old German Methodist church located on South Ohio and South streets and in 1896 Elder Longenecker began his pastorate with twenty members, and in four years effected a growth of sixty. Elder Fitzwater followed and in 1905 the Rev. S. Z. Smith came to Sidney and took charge of the work. The mission board sold the church and built a new cement block house on Grove street. They now have a membership of 114 with a Sunday-school of 150 in charge of Mrs. Smith.

#### FIRST REGULAR BAPTIST CHURCH

On the thirteenth of November, 1869, E. M. Thresher and G. N. Bierce of Dayton visited Sidney as a missionary committee of the Union Baptist Association and commenced holding prayer meetings in the homes of Baptist families. A Bible class was organized for the study of the Scriptures every Sunday and prayer meetings appointed regularly for Sunday evenings. Preaching was supplied by ministers of the association who voluntarily took turns in coming to Sidney. The meetings were held in what was then and is still now known as Union hall in the Dewese building, but it was not till January 27, 1870, that an organization known as the First Regular Baptist church was made at a meeting of Baptists held at the home of Mrs. Mary Whitman. The names of the seven original members are as follows: W. M. Whitaker, Mary Whitaker, John Grey, Anna Perrin, A. S. Moore, John Holverstolt and Callie Holverstolt. At this meeting a church covenant known as the New Hampshire Articles of Faith was adopted and suitable officers elected. October 1, 1870, the Rev. A. Snyder became the first pastor of the congregation preaching one-half the time. In February, 1871, the pastor resigned and the church was without a minister until February 4, 1872, when the Rev. T. J. Shepherd of Clyde, Ohio, took charge. With the coming of the Rev. Shepherd energy was infused and the Baptists began to look around for a home of their own. With that in view the old M. E. church property, the site of the present Baptist church, was purchased, for the sum of \$1,700. The work of cancelling this debt was done in a surprisingly short time and was no small undertaking for the entire membership of the church was only fifteen and the only male members were W. M. Whitaker and J. Grey who were the deacons. After a little more than four years the Rev. Shepherd closed his labors and in January, 1877, the Rev. J. C. Tuttle of Bellefontaine became pastor of the flock and served for six months.

He was followed by the Rev. Perry W. Longfellow who took up the work and served till 1882 and he in turn by the Rev. E. B. Smith. Then came in succession the Revs. Speece, Downer, Watter, F. M. Meyers, C. W. Baker, T. P. James, B. F. Patt and in 1910 the present pastor, the Rev. J. W. Kinnett.

The congregation met with a severe loss when January 14, 1904, their new church, which had been built in 1884 under the pastorate of the Rev. J. R. Downer, at a cost of \$8,540, burned, but nothing daunted the members after

heroic sacrifice rededicated the building January 15, 1905, and now the church property, which includes the parsonage, is valued at \$25,000. The church at the present time has 350 members with a Sunday school as large and by the first of March, 1913, will be entirely out of debt.

Officers of the church—pastor, Rev. J. W. Kinnett; deacons, James A. Hall, J. B. Newhall, E. E. Dell, C. A. Kiggins, Frank Smoot, Oran C. Staley, G. W. Donahue; emeritus, George Kessler; trustees, Elwood Clark, James Fitzgerald, John Wiant, J. R. Hall, H. W. Wilmore.

Sunday school—Frank Smoot, superintendent; D. L. Minton, assistant; Neva Hall, treasurer; Grace Archer, secretary.

Societies—Ladies' Aid, Mrs. William Linn, president; Missionary Circle, Mrs. J. B. Newhall.

Organist—Le Roy Bland.

#### RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS

The organization of the St. Paul's Evangelical church took place some time in 1870 by the Rev. Hermann. The congregation joined the Evangelical Synod of North America in 1887. From 1870 to 1886 services were held in the frame building at the corner of North Lane and Miami avenue, when the property at the corner of Miami and Water streets formerly used as a hose house was secured. A parsonage adjoining the church building was built in 1893. The congregation has successively been in charge of the following pastors: The Rev. Allardt from 1870 to 1873, Rev. Vontobel, 1873 to 1875, Rev. Weisgerber, 1875 to 1880, Rev. Carl Wissling, 1880 to 1882, Rev. J. Boehr, 1882 to 1883. The Rev. G. H. Schmidt then reorganized the church and had charge from 1887 to 1889, followed by the Revs. Dorn, 1889 to 1893, Keller, 1893 to 1897, Ratch, 1897 to 1899, Schneider, whom their new church was built was pastor of the congregation from 1904 to 1903, Cramm, 1903 to 1904.

The Rev. Theodore P. Frohne, under whom their new church was built, was pastor of the congregation from 1904 to 1910. In 1905 the Amann lot at the corner of Main avenue and South street was bought for \$3,000 and on November 4, 1906, the corner stone for a new building was laid. Two years later the church was finished at a cost of about \$20,000. Its dimensions are forty by seventy-five feet and it consists of an auditorium and Sunday-school room, with all the modern appointments in the basement. A gallery is erected across the west end of the auditorium.

The church was consecrated September 27, 1908, with an elaborate program and a new pipe organ, one half the cost of which was donated by Andrew Carnegie, was opened at the same time.

Beautiful stained glass windows were furnished by individual members. The Rev. Frohne was succeeded by the Rev. R. Wobus in 1910 and handed over to his successor a church in a most flourishing condition which had more than doubled itself during his pastorate.

The church council for 1912 consists of A. R. Friedman, president; An-

drew Curtner, vice-president; Allen Maurer, secretary; Carl Wolf, treasurer Deacons—Julius Stein, George Weiss. Trustees—George Weiss, Fred Brockman, Julius Stein. Elders—Andrew Curtner, Carl Wolf. Organist—Miss Ola Friedmann.

The United Brethren church was organized in September, 1894, by the Rev. E. E. Swords, a missionary pastor, who commenced with nine charter members in the old Dunkard church at the corner of Ohio avenue and South street. A Sunday school had been formed prior to this, by W. W. Lucas, who served as superintendent for five years. The Rev. L. C. Reed took charge of the church in 1895 and was its pastor for two years and built the Sunday-school room, which is a part of the church, at a cost of \$3,500. He was followed by the Rev. Waldo, 1897 to 1898, and he by the Rev. J. W. Lower, who conceived the idea of a memorial church dedicated to the memory of Ella Schenck, who met a tragic death in Africa while devoting her life to missionary work. Miss Schenck was from Shelby county. The Rev. W. T. Roberts became the pastor in 1899 and under his pastorate the church was built at a cost of \$9,000, a splendid memorial to the martyr missionary. Eighty-nine persons were received during his ministry, which lasted until 1903. The Rev. W. S. Sage was pastor from 1903 to 1904 and was followed by the Rev. L. S. Woodruff, who received two hundred and ten persons into the church. The Rev. Carl Jameson took charge from 1907 to 1909, followed by the Rev. Carl Roop. The present pastor, the Rev. D. C. Hollinger, followed in September 1910 and has a church membership of 391, a wonderful growth. H. G. Henly has supervision of the Sunday-school, which is graded into five departments with an enrollment of three hundred and ninety-four members.

The Mount Vernon Baptist church, African, is now in the process of building at the corner of Park and Linden streets in the northwestern part of the city. The structure is built of cement at a cost of \$3,000 and is modern in all its appointments, making a splendid church home for its sixty-five members. The Rev. Hathcock is the present pastor. The congregation worshipped for many years at the corner of South and West avenues in a little frame church on property bequeathed by Charles Sterrett. The town council bought the lot last year for \$1,800 and it has been selected as the location for the new armory to be built by the state this year of 1913.

During the year of 1895 Arch Deacon Brown, now Bishop of Arkansas, came to Sidney and found four communicants of the Episcopal church, Mrs. Sarah Stuber, Mrs. J. W. Cloninger, Mrs. W. S. Ley and Mrs. B. M. Donaldson. With these as charter members under the leadership of the Rev. Barkdull, St. Marks parish was begun. A series of services was held in the assembly room of the court house. The first confirmation service with the Rt. Rev. W. A. Leonard, Bishop of Ohio, in attendance was held in the U. P. church. Shortly after this the old Christian church on North Miami avenue was remodeled and decorated and fixed up as a mission in charge of the Rev. T. R. Hazzard. In 1901 the strength of the mission was considered great enough to build a church of its own on the church lot. This lot on North



Miami avenue had been left to the church in 1820 by Charles Sterrett, who was a member of that denomination. Mr. Hazzard drew the plans for the building after a church he had so much admired in England. It is built of red brick, with brown trimmings, Gothic in style, finished off in Flemish oak with beamed ceilings, a dignified little church. To be as economical as possible the Rector donned blouse and overalls and did much of the manual work. Rev. Hazzard was called to a New York pastorate and Rev. Linric became Rector in charge. He was succeeded by the Rev. Stalker and he in turn by the Rev. T. G. C. McCalla. The Rev. H. J. Haight followed and at present the mission is in charge of the Rev. John Stewart Banks, who divides his time between Bellefontaine and Sidney.

## CHAPTER XV

### THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

*The Pioneer Doctor—Prevailing Diseases in Early Days—Crude Methods of Cure—Great Medical Discoveries—Some of the Early and Later Physicians of Shelby County—The Shelby County Medical Society—Present Physicians and Surgeons.*

The first disciples of Esculapius and Hippocrates to practice within the present limits of Shelby county did not have the advantages enjoyed by their brethren of the present day. One hundred years ago the practice of medicine was crude and unsatisfactory. It was the day of the lancet, calomel and jalap. People then were afflicted with many diseases arising largely from the climate and exposures. Doctors were few and oftentimes a half day's ride from the isolated cabin and not infrequently a swollen river intervened. They were men of the family physician type—a type which has almost passed away in these days of specialism. They did their work well and never flinched where duty called them. Their patients honored them as they did their priest or minister. They were the men who fought the scourging epidemics of smallpox, black diphtheria, chills and fever and typhoid that were so prevalent. They did it the best they could with the means at their command. The prevailing diseases of the early days of county history were many. The winters were cold. Consumption was practically unknown among the pioneers, croup was the terror of the household, rheumatism and, along the water courses, remitting and intermitting fevers including ague were common. Dysentery occurred every summer in this locality, jaundice was common and besides the scourge of smallpox, there were two invasions of cholera. Among the other diseases with which the first physicians had to contend were scrofula, rickets, scurvy, dropsy and apoplexy. Cancers were hardly known in the county then and insanity was very rare. No bills of mortality were kept in the early days, there were no boards of health, and the old doctors were not called upon to furnish mortuary statistics. The old-time medical profession of the county had an intense hatred of the charlatan or quack doctor who came to the surface now and then to the detriment of the regular profession. Drug stores were unknown and every family was largely its own doctor.

Who has not heard of the thrifty housewife and her bowl of goose grease for smearing the children's throats, a custom which obtains to the present day. Each household had various remedies compounded from herbs and roots—

among which tansy, boneset, snakeroot and poke were favorites. Stimulants were found in the prickly ash, Indian turnip, sassafras, ginseng and the flower of the wild hops, tonics in the bark and flower of the dogwood, the rose willow, yellow poplar, the cucumber tree and the Spanish oak, while the red maple, wild cherry and crowfoot were regarded as astringents and so used. Almost every neighborhood had its "charm doctor" that claimed to be expert in the removal of ringworms, tetter, felon and the like.

It mattered little how weak a patient might be he had to be bled. The bleeding process obtained in this county till long after the birth of the nineteenth century. Sometimes, when they could be obtained, leeches were used in the practice of medicine to draw blood from the patient. They bled for croup, which was another name for diphtheria, and nothing was as efficacious for pneumonia. It is said that Washington was bled to death by his physicians.

It must not be thought that the pioneer doctor was a man of little education. He was a man much ahead of his profession. He kept abreast of his time and especially in the therapeutics of the day. His stock of medicine came generally from the east, though in later years pharmacopoeias were established at Columbus and Cincinnati. For the remedies which he did not manufacture himself he drew on the nearest medical depot and aside from jalap and calomel, he was dependent on his own resources.

To the introduction of anaesthetics and antiseptics is due a complete revolution of earlier methods, complete reversal of mortuary statistics, and the complete relief of pain during surgical operations; in other words, to these two discoveries the human race owes more of the prolongation of life and relief of suffering than can ever be estimated or formulated in words. In the same class from the point of usefulness to mankind may be placed the discovery in recent years of the great value of antitoxin by Professor Von Behring of Berlin. To Lord Lester is due the great honor of the discovery of antiseptics—a process that would avail against putrefaction and to Dr. William T. G. Morton the use of ether in surgery first proved to the world in 1846. On his tomb in Mount Auburn Cemetery in Boston is this self-explanatory inscription:

"Inocutor and revealer of anaesthetic inhalation, before whom in all time surgery was agony, and by whom pain in surgery was averted and annulled; since whom science has controlled pain."

The two grandest medical discoveries of all time are of Anglo-Saxon origin—the one British, the other American.

It would be next to impossible to catalogue all the old physicians of the county. Some are forgotten and the record of them is but the slightest. They lived in the days of poor fees and hard work but this did not daunt them.

The first practicing physician that settled in Shelby county was Dr. William Fielding who settled in Sidney in 1824, shortly after its selection as the county seat. He was born May 1, 1796, in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, and after a full medical course, commenced the practice of his profession in 1816 in Madison county, Ohio. He was in the War of 1812 and served six months under Colonel Johnston. In 1818 he went to Franklin and there practiced

until coming to Sidney. Dr. Fielding was identified with church, state and Masonic affairs as he was one of the ruling elders in the organization of the Presbyterian church in 1825. He represented this county in the legislature for seven years both as senator and representative and was one of the original petitioners of Temperance Lodge No. 73, in 1825, was honored with being its first worshipful master, which position he held during his life at different times for twenty-seven years. He was a thirty-third degree Mason and to this day the brethren assemble in the lodge room on his birthday every year. His portrait in oil hangs on the walls of the temple. He was probably the most learned of the past physicians of the county, a fine scholar and deep thinker, a Lord Chesterfield in manners, immaculate in dress and his name for nearly fifty years was a household word in Sidney and Shelby county. He was married in 1818 and the father of twelve children, eleven of whom reached maturity.

In 1836, when Sidney had a population of about one thousand, Dr. H. S. Conklin came to Sidney. The country for miles around was wild, the roads merely trails or paths through the forest and enough game remained in this section to furnish hunting grounds for a few Indians. A physician's practice extended over a large area and carried with it a great deal of genuine exposure and hardship. Sleep was often found in the saddle, while the saddle-bags were capacious enough to carry both medicines and surgical instruments. The subject of this sketch was born in Champaign county, Ohio, in 1814, and read medicine with Dr. Robert Rogers of Springfield. He graduated from the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati in 1836 and at once located in Sidney where he continued practising up to his death in 1890. He was surgeon for the state militia for fifteen years and held the offices of president and vice president of the State Medical Society, and was surgeon with General Fremont during the war. He was largely instrumental in securing the D. and M. and C. C. C. and I. railways for Sidney. A great lover of fine stock, he indulged his fancy to the fullest extent. A man of splendid physique, with a mind so astute as to enable him to arrive at a diagnosis of a case with almost unerring correctness, he was wise in counsel and sought for all over the state. In 1838 he married Miss Ann Blake, a native of England and raised a family of three children.

Dr. Albert Wilson, the third son of Col. Jesse H. Wilson, one of the pioneers of Shelby county, was one of the early practitioners of the county, settling here in 1852. He was born September 14, 1826, studied medicine under Dr. H. S. Conklin, of Sidney, and graduated from the Ohio Medical College of Cincinnati in 1851. In the spring of 1861 he entered the army as regimental surgeon and remained in the service four years and three months. He was the first volunteer from the town of Sidney having offered his service as surgeon within forty-eight hours after Lincoln's first call for troops. At the close of the war he returned to his practice in Sidney and in 1875 engaged in the drug trade in connection with his practice. In 1871 he married Miss Irene Ayres of Wapakoneta, and had one daughter, Jessie Ayres Wilson. He possessed a strong physical organization coming from a hardy race of

people, was loyal to his friends, honest and sincere, and his life was certainly an exemplary one. He died June 2, 1903.

Another physician that was contemporaneous with our early practitioners was Dr. Park Beeman, a native of New York, who settled in Sidney in 1838. No data concerning the doctor can be found but it is recalled that he made surgery a specialty, was painstaking and honest and a man highly respected in the community for his deferential bearing to his elders and the sympathy and aid to the sick and unfortunate. One of his two daughters, Mrs. Gloriana Driscoll, of Detroit, still survives him.

While not contemporaneous with the old time practitioners of Shelby county it is thought best to enroll the name of Dr. D. R. Silver in the list of early physicians and his death a year ago, December 8, was sincerely mourned by the entire community. He was reared on a farm near Wooster, Ohio, where he was born April 1, 1844, and when eighteen years of age entered upon an academic course at Vermillion Institute in Haysville, Ohio. After finishing there he studied medicine in Wooster and then graduated from the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia in 1868. He came to Sidney in 1871 from Apple Creek, Wayne county, where he had been practising and married Miss Jennie E. Fry of Sidney, June 2, 1872, and has had three children, two of whom survive, Edith and Arthur, the latter having taken up his father's practice since his death.

Dr. Silver was possessed of an analytical mind, positive in his convictions and unswerving in his devotion to his principles. He was a staunch Republican in politics, an implacable enemy of the saloon and it is said his activity in the wet-and-dry campaign hastened his death. An orthodox Presbyterian in which church he had been an elder since 1873. A member of the board of health of the city, identified with the schools as medical inspector, in which capacities he made investigations of sanitary conditions and the laws of hygiene. The father of the Shelby County Medical Society and a member of the Ohio State Medical Society.

One of the old school of physicians was Dr. Wilson V. Cowan, born near Urbana, Ohio, January 11, 1816. After receiving such instruction as the public schools afforded he attended Miami University taking a four years' course. He was a graduate of the Ohio Medical College of Cincinnati and in 1844 commenced the practice of his profession in Hardin, Turtle Creek, township, which he continued up to his death in 1874. He was elected to the lower house of general assembly in 1856 and in 1861 joined the Fremont Body Guards as assistant surgeon. He was surgeon of the 1st Ohio Cavalry and afterwards was made brigade surgeon. He was married in 1845 and had a family of eight children.

He was an excellent physician, suave and gentle in his manners, kindly in the sick room and a charming entertainer in his home. A most ardent Methodist and a staunch Republican in politics.

A doctor universally beloved by his community in which he lived, whose home was noted for its old time hospitality, was John C. Leedow, who settled on a farm near New Palestine in Green township in 1842. He was born in

Bucks county, Pennsylvania, November 13, 1817, was educated in the Philadelphia schools, and in the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia. He was married in Pennsylvania in 1839 and had five children. He combined the business of farming in connection with his profession and was a most enterprising man keeping abreast of the times. A fine looking man of splendid physique, with most agreeable manners, he was truly a physician of the old school. He died at his home in Green township October 28, 1891.

The first Doctor Hussey, we say first because two of his sons adopted the profession of their father, Allen, who practiced in Port Jefferson, and Millard F., who has a large practice in Sidney, came to Port Jefferson, Salem township, in 1848, and thus is identified with the early history of the county. He was born Stephen C. of Irish parentage in Greene county, Ohio, in 1819, the third in a family of seven children. He was a graduate of Sturling Medical College, Columbus, and continued the practice of medicine until his death in 1871. In 1840 he married Miss Ann Wical and raised a family of eleven children, ten of whom were living at his death. He was a man of genial disposition, positive in his convictions, a Democrat of the Jackson type, and one of the first officers in Stokes Lodge, No. 305, of F. and A. Masons.

Dr. John L. Miller was another Port Jefferson practitioner, a student of Dr. S. C. Hussey, who enjoyed a lucrative practice in that community for many years. He was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in 1833, and came to Salem township in 1854. After studying medicine there he attended Sturling Medical College and commenced the practice of his profession in Port Jefferson in 1857. He married Miss Margaret Henry in 1858, and had two sons one of whom survives him. He was a physician of more than ordinary ability, of fine literary tastes, and his death which took place in 1906 at Delaware, where he passed the last few years of his life, was most sincerely mourned by his old friends. His body lies in Graceland cemetery.

The Shelby County Medical Society was organized in 1871 and its founder was the late Dr. D. R. Silver. Its organization is on the plan adopted by the American Medical Association that is that the County Society is the unit of organization. It is a component part of the Ohio State Medical Association and also of the American Medical Association. Any member of the Shelby County Medical Society in good standing is a member of the Ohio State Medical Association and is likewise eligible to membership in the American Medical Association. The officers of the County Association are Lester C. Pepper, president; J. D. Geyer, vice president; Arthur Silver, secretary.

#### LIST OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF SHELBY COUNTY

Sidney—F. D. Anderson, Henry E. Beebe, Hugh McDowell Beebe, W. D. Frederick, J. W. Costolo, J. D. Geyer, S. G. Goode, A. W. Grosvenor, A. B. Gudenkauf, A. W. Hobby, Flint C. Hubbell, B. S. Hunt, Millard T. Hussey, C. E. Johnston, Lester C. Pepper, A. W. Reddish, B. M. Sharp, E. A. Yates. Osteopath, F. D. Clark.

Anna—C. W. B. Harbour, D. R. Millette.

Botkins—Frederick McVay, G. M. Tate.

Montra—C. M. Faulkner.

Jackson Center—Arlington Ailes, Mary E. Hauver, J. M. Carter,  
Edward McBurney, Edgar McCormick.

Maplewood—O. C. Wilson, Waldo N. Gaines, Dr. Elliott.

Lockington—S. S. Gabriel.

Houston—William Gaines.

Newport—J. N. Strosnider.

Kettlerville—O. O. Le Master.

During the past century medical advance in the county has been great. The old system of practice has passed away and there remains of it at the present day nothing but a memory. It may be said in conclusion that the medical profession of the county has a record to be proud of and that it keeps in the foremost rank of research and discovery in its particular domain.

## CHAPTER XVI

### EDUCATION

*Lack of Educational Facilities in Early Days—The Old Log Schoolhouse—Introduction of Graded Schools—The Schools of Sidney and Shelby County—Superintendents and Teachers—The New High School.*

#### SCHOOLS

While the pioneers had a high appreciation of the value and necessity of the education of their children it is amazing how crude were their ideas of the essentials in the furtherance of it. With forests that were an encumbrance all around, they erected small, squat school houses out of the logs, crowding the pupils together on inconvenient and excruciating seats, paying no regard to their comfort.

With land cheap and boundless in extent no yard which ought to have consisted of an acre or more furnished a play ground for the children, but the house was set as close to the highway as possible with a stake and ridged fence high and strong enough for a bull pen or a buffalo corral.

The fact is the fathers and mothers did not stop to think that conveniences and beauty played any part in the right development of the mental and physical man, and it is only in later years that parents have struck the right track.

Public schools paid for by taxation were not known and teachers were remunerated by subscription and the fathers of large families kept up the schools while childless homes took no part in defraying the expenses. Large families were looked upon as blessings and were in the sparsely settled country but the burden of their educational support rested upon the comparatively poor and when a fund for the purpose was proposed it was largely antagonized by men of property. Happily things have changed and the children of the poor are educated without money and without price in buildings commodious and beautiful.

Prior to the 2d day of January, 1857, all the schools of Sidney were taught in private houses or churches in different parts of the town, except one that was taught in a log house erected on the school lot given by the proprietor of the town (Mr. Sterrett). They were supported by private subscription, with the exception of a small fund from the state and a fund arising from the rent of a farm donated to the Sidney schools by Wm. Covill in 1843. There was no system of graded schools until after the erection of the present Union school building in 1856. In 1855 the board of education of the school district



determined to take steps toward the erection of a Union school building. Accordingly it was ordered that the clerk of the board should give the requisite notice to the voters of Sidney and the territory thereto annexed for school purposes, to assemble at the courthouse and vote upon a proposition to levy a tax of \$12,000, payable in three annual installments, commencing in 1856, and to issue corporation bonds therefor, bearing seven per cent. interest, for the purpose of building a schoolhouse in said village and buying the necessary grounds upon which to erect it. It was also stipulated in the notice through the public prints that if the school tax should carry, the qualified voters of the district should have the right of voting on the location of the school building. Accordingly, as per notice, a vote was taken on the 30th day of April, 1855; the result of the vote was 134 in favor of school tax and 79 against. There was a great strife in the selection of the site. A number of propositions were made by different persons in different parts of the town, and it was some length of time before a site was selected; finally, lot No. 106 and the west half of lot 105 were selected and purchased from Birch & Peebles at a cost of about \$2,100. The east half of lot 105 had been given to the town by its proprietor for school purposes. Upon these lots a brick building, 90x64 feet and three stories high (beside basement) was erected at a cost of about \$18,000. The building was not ready for occupancy until the 1st of January, 1857. At the completion of the building only eight rooms (four in the first and four in the second story) were fitted for schoolrooms; the third story was used as a hall for several years. As soon as necessity demanded, the third story was divided into four rooms, making in all twelve rooms. In the year 1828 Wm. Covill came from England to the United States, and for a few years stopped in the state of New York, but prior to 1840 he came to Shelby County, O., and bought the northeast quarter of section 26, in Clinton township. Some time prior to his death (which occurred in July, 1843), he bequeathed to the common schools of the town of Sidney this piece of land, which the board of education accepted, and gave a lease of the same for ninety-nine years. The fund arising from the lease of said land has, since that time, been used in the maintenance of the schools in the town of Sidney.

In the fall of 1860 Gideon Wright (an early settler of Shelby county) gave to the Sidney school district (by verbal will) \$500, with the expressed desire that the principal should be safely invested, and the interest arising from the same should be used by said district for tuition purposes. The condition of said donation was, that the schools were to grant to the descendants of said Wright one perpetual scholarship in the Union schools of said district. This donation was accepted, and the clerk was ordered to issue a certificate of scholarship in favor of the heirs of Gideon Wright. The above \$500 were invested in United States bond No. 9427, bearing six per cent. interest.

The first superintendent employed in the schools was Joseph Shaw of Bellefontaine, Ohio, at a salary of \$800 a year. The schools were opened on the second day of January, 1857, with J. S. Driscoll at the head of the Mathematical department, Miss Harriet Chapin, teacher of sixth room, Miss Louisa Knox of the fifth, Miss Mary Nettleton, fourth, Miss Charlotte Swan, third,

Miss Martha Crowell, second, and Miss Arnett, primary. Although no room had been set aside especially for high school work yet a course had been arranged at the commencement of school and the records give the names of Jennie K. Cummins and John B. McPherson, now United States district judge at Philadelphia, as having completed the curriculum of study but either from a scarcity of funds or lack of interest no diplomas were issued.

Superintendent Shaw was succeeded by Ira W. Allen and he in turn by W. H. Schuyler. Then in succession came Benjamin S. McFarland, S. S. Taylor, N. S. Hanson, W. C. Catlin, J. M. Allen, J. D. Critchfield, A. S. Moore, J. C. Harper, George Turner, R. E. Page, A. B. Cole, Van B. Baker, J. N. Barns, P. W. Search, M. A. Yarnell, E. C. Cox, M. E. Hard and the present superintendent, H. R. McVay, who took the management of the Sidney schools in September, 1902, and has had the longest term of service in their history. Mr. McVay was born April 14, 1865, on a farm in Athens county, and graduated from the Ohio University at Athens in 1890.

The schools of Sidney have never taken backward steps; they are therefore today in better condition than ever before. The common schools have grown to exceed the wildest guess of those in charge but a few years ago. At the present time there are more than 1,200 pupils enrolled in the various buildings with an attendance which will reach 250 in the high school this year of 1912, showing an increase of more than a hundred per cent in the last ten years. There are 40 teachers employed, 10 making the high school faculty. Mr. McVay has a most efficient assistant in Lee A. Dollinger, principal of the high school now entering on his seventh year in that capacity. Genial and sympathetic he is a boy with the boys but always maintains his dignity and has the respect and love of his pupils.

Besides the building described above which is known as the Central school now we have the first, second, third and fourth ward schools, all taxed to the extent of their capacity.

In 1904 the high school was removed from the Central building to the fourth ward school as a precautionary measure on account of the unsafe condition of its upper story which was condemned by the state department.

In 1911 the city council recognizing the need of a new high school building gave to the board of education the title to the grounds a little less than two acres, of the old Presbyterian graveyard long since abandoned, just east of the church of that denomination. The consideration was \$1,500 and all expenses incurred in exhuming of the bodies. This ground was donated to the town of Sidney by Charles Sterrett, September 24, 1819, in a proposition which he made to the commissioners of Shelby county in which he gave 70 acres of land to the county, the consideration being that the seat of justice be moved from Hardin to Sidney and that he be given one-half the proceeds of the sales of the lots after the said county laid them off and sold them—a good business proposition considering the fact that the land had been worth about \$8.00 an acre. In a reservation made December 14, 1819, one acre each was set apart for two different religious societies for graveyards.

At the regular election Tuesday, November 7, 1911, the voters of Sidney,

after a vigorous campaign, conducted by Superintendent McVay with the help of the teachers and pupils voted to issue bonds to the extent of \$100,000 for the purpose of erecting a new high school building on lot 113, better known as the old Presbyterian graveyard. Sidney's school property now is listed at \$74,000; after June, 1913, when the new high school is to be completed, it will probably be valued at more than \$200,000.

The architect selected for the work is Frank L. Packard, of Columbus, with H. L. Loudenback, of Sidney, as superintendent of construction. The style affected is a modified type of English Gothic enabling the free use of large window areas, straightforward architecturally, representing and expressing from the outside the purpose of the interior. There are two openings to the south and two to the north, at the extreme ends of the stair corridors which are 14 feet wide, extending through the building from south to north. The main facade of building has a frontage of 166 feet and will face south. The east and west pavilions will be 104 feet over all and 44 feet wide. The extreme depth north and south will be 170 feet.

The plans as proposed make provision for the following rooms with their minor sub-divisions: two study halls with total provision for 400 students; seven recitation rooms; a large room for mathematics; commercial department; domestic science department and manual training department; offices for the board of education, superintendent and principal; laboratories for chemistry and physics with lecture room between laboratories for biology, botany and agriculture, a gymnasium with locker rooms and shower baths; retiring room for men and women teachers; toilet facilities and coat rooms; an assembly hall seating 800 inclusive of the balcony; drinking fountains, electric clocks and everything that is pertinent to education.

The materials contemplated for the exterior of the buildings are Egyptian tapestry brick set in dark mortar with stone copings, sills, water tabs, approaches, etc.

The floors throughout will be reinforced concrete or tile arch construction, the finished floors of hard wood, the stairways of iron or reinforced concrete. The heating and ventilating apparatus installed to be of an approved mechanical system, guaranteeing 40 cubic feet of fresh air per pupil per minute, and to be operated by automatic regulation. The high school building is being made as attractive as possible to compete with the attractions offered in a business way to the young people for boys and girls have no trouble in getting employment in the factories and the temptation is great to stop school.

The character of the teachers employed in these schools is better with each succeeding year. All of the later additions have been recruited from the Normal schools. These bring with them the latest ideas which soon permeate the whole school, it being frequently found that the older teachers can make better use of these than can those who introduce them. All are required by regular and systematic reading of the newest and best things in school literature and by attendance at state and county teachers' meetings to keep up-to-date and to meet the ever growing requirements of an increasingly intelligent citizenship.

The broader meaning of the value of school property is being recognized and school property in out of school hours is being devoted to the public good. Mr. McVay has done much in furthering things that are useful in socializing the children and their parents in the community.

That the work of the school is done according to generally accepted standards is proved by the fact that it is ranked by the state commissioner of common schools as of the first grade, that the school holds membership in the Northwestern Association of College and Secondary schools and that the colleges of Ohio accept its graduates without examination.

#### TOWNSHIP SCHOOL STATISTICS

Clinton township: Number of schoolhouses, 5; teachers, 5; enrollment, 150; total tax levy for 1912, \$0.002; local taxes for school purposes, \$2,784.88; received from state common school fund, \$382.00; received from other state funds, \$153.01; total receipts, \$3,319.98; total expenditure, \$3,136.45; valuation of school property, \$4,000.00.

Cynthian township: Number of schoolhouses, 2; teachers, 3; enrollment, 81; total tax levy for 1912, \$0.0038; received from state common school fund, \$146.00; local taxes for school purposes, \$635.00; received from other funds \$23.83; total receipts, \$891.88; total expenditure, \$934.19; total value of school property, \$1,800.00.

Dinsmore township: Schoolhouses, 7; teachers, 7; enrollment, 180; total tax levy for school purpose in 1912, \$0.0028; local taxes for school purposes, \$3,687.80; received from state common school fund, \$428.00; received from other funds, \$191.02; total receipts, \$4,472.14; total expenditure, \$3,904.95; total valuation of school property, \$12,000.

Franklin township: Number of schoolhouses, 8; teachers, 8; total enrollment, 167; total tax levy, \$0.0024; local taxes for school purposes, \$4,777.32; received from state common school fund, \$442.00; received from other funds, \$113.77; total receipts, \$5,379.32; total expenditure, \$4,555.33; total value of school property, \$27,500.00.

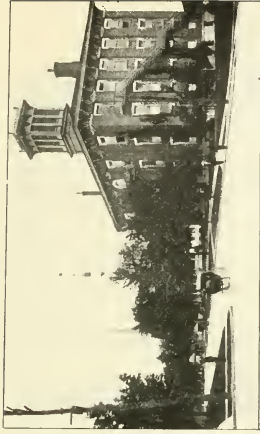
Green township: Number of schools, 5; number of teachers, 5; total enrollment, 183; total tax levy for 1912, \$0.002; local taxes for school purposes, \$4,094.65; received from state common school fund, \$528.00; received from other funds, \$279.18; total receipts, \$5,204.60; total expenditures, \$4,993.93; total value of school property, \$9,700.00.

Jackson township: Number of schools, 9; number of teachers, 9; total enrollment, 235; local taxes for school purposes, \$1,491.00; received from state common school fund, \$676.00; total tax levy, \$0.001; total receipts, \$2,516.77; total expenditures \$4,987.26; total valuation of school property, \$12,000.

Orange township: Number of schoolhouses, 6; number of teachers, 6; total enrollment, 165; total tax levy for 1912, \$0.002; local taxes for school purposes, \$2,681.77; received from state common school fund, \$362.00; received from other funds, \$135.85; total receipts, \$3,701.88; total expenditures, \$4,763.29.



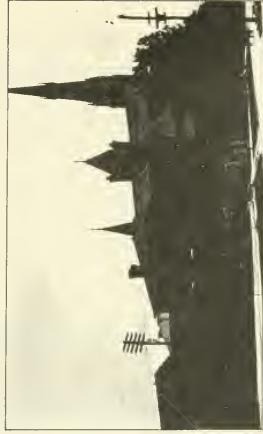
HIGH SCHOOL, SIDNEY, O.



CENTRAL SCHOOL BUILDING, SIDNEY, O.



THIRD WARD SCHOOL, SIDNEY, O.



CATHOLIC SCHOOL AND CHURCH, SIDNEY, O.



AND REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS

CITY, VILLAGE AND SPECIAL DISTRICTS

	No. of Schoolhouses	No. of Teachers	Enrollment	Total Value of School Property	Tax Levy	Local Taxes for School Purposes	Received from State Common School Fund	Received from Other School Funds	Total Receipts	Total Expenses
Sidney .....	5*	29	1,284	\$59,000	.0033	\$22,945.36	\$3,924.00	\$307.94	\$131,118.59	\$46,237.25
Rasinburg .....	1	1	28	1,200	.0028	475.72	112.00	20.84	608.56	501.33
Forest .....	1	1	23	1,000	.0022	415.58	80.00	3.90	556.55	532.95
Grietz .....	1	1	32	1,200	.0022	408.61	104.00	39.84	552.45	518.57
Hopewell .....	1	1	24	1,000	.0026	492.03	98.00	4.78	594.81	562.26
Mills .....	1	1	21	700	.0016	229.43	72.00	8.89	337.39	461.40
Oran .....	1	1	31	1,000	.003	357.15	78.00	3.80	438.95	478.73
Short .....	1	1	24	600	.0028	505.58	68.00	3.32	576.90	479.39
Turner .....	1	1	43	1,000	.002	394.39	106.00	40.61	541.00	511.03
Anna .....	1	3	91	12,000	.0037	2,304.23	304.00	140.71	3,212.77	3,477.53
Barkins .....	1	2	92	10,000	.0046	3,250.53	460.00	185.32	3,987.62	3,813.01
Rhine .....	1	1	48	1,000	.003	512.38	106.00	05.44	743.82	729.07
Zempier .....	1	1	18	3,700	.006	1,483.33	44.00	26.41	5,350.38	5,100.13
Jackson Center .....	1	3	111	14,000	.0056	3,818.39	380.00	115.09	4,885.76	5,112.98
Montra .....	1	1	64	2,800	.003	1,027.99	148.00	44.83	1,258.82	1,171.06
Beechgrove .....	1	1	51	900	.002	403.05	98.00	12.95	590.26	652.63
Francis .....	1	1	31	1,000	.0024	442.94	122.00	43.86	760.95	748.53
Greenwood .....	1	1	35	800	.0012	347.98	56.00	20.14	443.39	615.70
Harper .....	1	1	6	10,000	.0034	597.05	50.00	3.32	650.37	498.68
Houston .....	1	3	88	1,200	.006	4,577.85	18.57	18.57	4,699.17	4,133.29
Huffman .....	1	1	49	800	.0016	409.92	160.00	40.52	610.08	629.52
Kussia .....	1	1	48	800	.0012	353.93	108.00	60.40	600.10	618.00
Berlin .....	1	4	140	8,000	.0042	2,185.14	502.00	239.36	6,426.59	4,960.47
Deiters .....	1	1	36	1,400	.0014	474.56	176.00	69.42	752.25	679.25
Dirksen .....	1	1	23	1,000	.0012	433.67	108.00	115.89	672.86	733.30
Sherman .....	1	1	57	1,500	.0008	571.19	186.00	9.07	766.26	926.50
Walkup .....	1	1	31	2,000	.0012	480.63	124.00	58.40	704.74	690.08
Kirkwood .....	1	2	37	2,000	.003	1,460.99	130.00	31.37	1,596.91	1,473.16
Maplewood .....	1	2	48	3,000	.0035	1,483.61	130.00	131.99	1,831.20	1,387.58
Fort Jefferson .....	1	2	38	5,000	.0043	539.28	02.00	12.52	643.80	1,020.12
Hardin .....	1	1	23	1,500	.0014	501.34	80.00	1.05	543.39	714.54
Mt. Victory .....	1	1	27	600	.0036	461.99	50.00	.66	512.65	536.38
St. Patricks .....	1	1	50	3,000	.0032	1,200.32	190.00	9.48	1,410.01	1,111.07
Lockington .....	1	1	40	2,000	.0038	654.03	100.00	228.61	1,029.84	1,389.23

\*Including Sidney High School with enrollment of 290.

Perry township: Number of schoolhouses, 7; teachers, 8; total enrollment, 200; total tax levy for 1912, \$0.0028; local taxes for school purposes, \$6,380.36; received from state common school fund, \$450.00; received from other funds, \$178.95; total receipts, \$7,279.02; total expenditures, \$5,471.48.

Salem township: Number of schoolhouses, 7; teachers, 7; total enrollment, 112; total tax levy for 1912, \$0.0021; local taxes for school purposes, \$2,476.75; received from state common school fund, \$384.00; received from other state funds, \$182.69; total receipts, \$3,126.31; total expenditures, \$4,006.91.

Turtle Creek township: Number of schoolhouses, 7; number of teachers 7; total enrollment, 161; total tax levy for 1912, \$0.003; local taxes for school purposes, \$3,360.72; received from state common school fund, \$380.00; received from other state funds, \$64.53; total receipts, \$3,862.45; total expenditures, \$3,750.27.

Van Buren township. Number of schoolhouses, 10; number of teachers, 10; total enrollment, 495; total tax levy for 1912, \$0.0017; local taxes for school purposes, \$4,075.44; received from state common school fund, \$996.00; received from other state funds, \$373.96; total receipts, \$5,481.10; total expenditures, \$5,054.67; total value of school property, \$15,000.00.

Washington township. Number of schoolhouses, 6; number of teachers, 6; total enrollment, 118; tax levy for 1912, \$0.0016; local taxes for school purposes, \$1,741.78; received from state common school fund, \$312.00; received from other state funds, \$415.79; total receipts, \$2,562.85; total expenditures, \$3,379.32; total value of school property, \$7,200.00.

Superintendents or principals of schools in Shelby county: H: R. McVay, Sidney; A. A. Hoover, Anna; W. C. King, Botkins; W. G. Polan, Jackson Center; O. L. Simmons, Houston; Mary L. Patton, Lockington.



CHAPTER XVII  
MILITARY RECORD

*Shelby County in the Civil War—Regimental Histories—Neal Post, G. A. R.—Company L. in the Spanish-American War.*

"How sleep the brave who sink to rest  
By all their country's wishes blessed!  
When Spring, with dewy fingers cold,  
Returns to deck their hallowed mold;  
She there shall dress a sweeter sod,  
Than Fancy's feet have ever trod.

"By fairy hands their knell is rung;  
By forms unseen their dirge is sung;  
There Honor comes a pilgrim gray,  
To bless the turf that wraps their clay;  
And Freedom shall awhile repair  
To dwell a weeping hermit there!"

Shelby county need not be ashamed of her part in suppressing the war of the rebellion as is shown in the history of her soldiers taken from the military record.

FIFTEENTH REGIMENT OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

This regiment was organized at Camp Jackson, near Columbus, O., May 4, 1861, but a few days later moved to Camp Goddard at Zanesville, where preparations were made for field service. It was then ordered into West Virginia on guard duty on the Baltimore & Ohio Railway, and advanced as far as Grafton. It took part in the engagements at Philippi, Laurel Hill, and Garrick's Ford, and at the expiration of the term of enlistment was discharged about the 1st of August, 1861.

The next call of the president was for three hundred thousand men for three years, and the old Fifteenth responded almost unanimously. It was then reorganized at Camp Modocai Bartley, near Mansfield, and moved to Camp Dennison, September 26, 1861. On the 4th of October the regiment went to Lexington, Ky., but eight days later moved to Camp Nevin, near Nolin's Station, by way of Louisville. It was here assigned to the Sixth Brigade, commanded by Gen. R. W. Johnston, of the Second Division, under command of Gen. A. McD. McCook, of the Army of the Ohio, then under General Sherman. On the 9th of December, 1861, the division moved out to Bacon Creek, and the next day the brigade occupied Mumfordsville. On the 14th

of the month the division broke camp to move against Fort Donelson, but learning of the fall of that fort, a march was made to Bowling Green, and Nashville was finally reached on the 2d of March. Here a camp was formed, but on the 16th the march to Savannah began, that place being reached on the night of April 6. The next morning the Fifteenth marched to the battle ground, and remained in the engagement from noon till 4 o'clock, when the enemy fell back. In this engagement the regiment lost six men killed and sixty-two wounded.

At Corinth the Second Division formed the reserve force, and so did not move to the front until the 27th of May. It next marched to Battle Creek, Tenn., where it arrived on the 18th of July. Here it remained until the 20th of August, when it moved to Altemonte, and from here to Nashville, which place was reached on the 8th of September. Again it moved out, and on the 25th reached Louisville. The division next pursued Bragg as far as Orchard Knob, and then marched to Nashville, November 7, 1862. On the 26th of December the army advanced upon Murfreesboro', and in the battle of Stone River the Fifteenth Regiment lost eighteen killed and eighty-nine wounded.

On the 24th of July, 1863, an advance was made on Tullahoma and Shelbyville, and in the engagements which followed this regiment took a very prominent part. The division afterward moved to Bellefonte, Ala., which place was reached August 22, and on the 2d of September the march was continued in the direction of Rome, and on the 11th the division took position with the main army in Lookout Valley. Here the regiment occupied the extreme right flank until the morning of the 19th, when it marched for the battle-field of Chickamauga, and was engaged immediately upon its arrival.

It then took part in the siege of Chattanooga and the assault on Mission Ridge. We next find it with the First Brigade, Third Division, Fourth Army Corps, marching to the relief of Knoxville, Tenn., where it arrived on the 8th of December, and on the 20th the command moved to Strawberry Plains. In January, 1864, the greater portion of the regiment re-enlisted and started to Columbus, O., via Chattanooga, to receive furloughs. On the 10th of February the regiment reached Columbus three hundred and fifty veterans strong, and on the 12th the whole regiment was furloughed.

They next appear at Camp Chase on the 4th of March recruited to the strength of nearly nine hundred men. The regiment reached Nashville in March and Chattanooga on the 5th of April. On the 8th it went to Cleveland, Tenn., and to McDonald's Station on the 20th, where it remained until the spring campaign. On the 3d of May camp was broken and the regiment joined the army of Sherman at Tunnel Hill. The regiment afterward participated in the battle of Resaca, and again in that of Dallas, in which it lost nineteen men killed, three officers, and sixty-one privates wounded and nineteen missing, who were supposed to be killed or desperately wounded. The color guard, with the exception of one corporal, were all killed or

wounded, but one corporal, David Hart, of Company I, brought the colors safely from the field. The army next moved to Kenesaw Mountain, and on the 14th of June the regiment lost one man killed and five wounded from Company A.

The regiment next crossed the Chattahoochee and finally appeared before Atlanta. After operating on the rear of Atlanta the regiment was marched to the relief of Resaca, and finally to Columbia. At Nashville the regiment formed the extreme left of the army. It next moved against the enemy's position on the Franklin Pike. After following the enemy to Lexington, Ala., it went into camp at Bird Springs. It next moved to New Market, Tenn., in March, and then to Greenville to guard against the escape of Lee and Johnston, who were being pressed by Grant and Sherman. In April it was ordered back to Nashville, which place was reached about the 1st of May, 1865. Here the regiment lay in camp until the 16th of June, when it was ordered to Texas. On the 9th of July it reached Indianola, Texas, and the same night marched to Green Lake. Here the regiment lay until about the 10th of August, when it marched toward San Antonio. On the 21st it reached the Salado, near San Antonio, where it lay until October 20, when it entered upon post duty in the city. Here the regiment remained until the 21st of November, when it was mustered out and ordered to Columbus, O., for final discharge. Leaving San Antonio on the 24th of November the regiment reached Columbus, December 25, and was discharged on the 27th after a period of four years and eight months' service.

Company I, Fifteenth Regiment O. V. I.

Henry Fletcher.

Lucas Borer, killed December 31, 1862, at Stone River.

John W. Clearity, killed at Stone River.

Aaron Rambo, sergeant; discharged 1865.

Frank H. Riggs; discharged September 13, 1863.

Henry Seiters; discharged August, 1862.

L. F. Kerkendall, corporal.

James C. Delancy; taken prisoner at Stone River, June, 1865.

John H. Seiter, corporal, November, 1862.

William Price, wagoner, February, 1863.

William Ash; wounded at Chickamauga July, 1864.

Alva Anderson; taken prisoner at Stone River September, 1863.

Charles Baldwin, May 17, 1862, Shiloh.

Samuel Couter; taken prisoner at Stone River September 20, 1864.

David Fletcher, May 5, 1863.

Samuel Fletcher.

F. Fire, November, 1861.

Benj. Gallatine; wounded at Pickett's Mills May, 1864.

James Guthrie; taken prisoner at Stone River September, 1864.

Martin Hawver, September, 1864.

S. B. Hoadley, February, 1863.

George L. Hersluser; taken prisoner at Chickamauga September, 1863.  
Wellington Lathrops, September, 1862.

Andrew Larick, September, 1864.

Irvin I. Mellard, November, 1861.

Isaac A. Myers, February, 1863.

Joseph Mortimore, April, 1863.

William Morton; wounded at Stone River September, 1864.

Joseph E. Meek; wounded and taken prisoner at Stone River September, 1864.

Thomas S. Hart, May, 1865.

George W. Rockwell; taken prisoner at Stone River September, 1864.

Gardner Sawyer; taken prisoner at Stone River September, 1864.

George F. Summers; taken prisoner at Stone River June, 1863.

John A. White, May, 1862.

John F. White; taken prisoner at Stone River September, 1864.

William Winton, March, 1863.

Winfield G. White; wounded at Stone River September, 1864.

#### TWENTIETH OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

The Twentieth Ohio was recruited for three months in May, 1861, and reorganized at Camp King, Kentucky, October 21, 1861. The commanding officer was Col. Charles Whittlesey, of Ohio, who was a graduate of West Point, and had won great distinction as an engineer and geologist in the Superior region. During the winter of 1861-62 the regiment guarded several batteries in the rear of Covington and Newport, Ky., and at one time four companies were sent to quell an insurrection in the region of Warsaw.

On February 11, 1862, the regiment embarked on the steamers Emma Duncan and Doctor Kane for the Cumberland River. It reached Fort Donelson on the 14th of February, and went under fire the next day. It marched to the extreme right and went into a reserve position. After the battle the regiment was sent north in charge of prisoners, and so became greatly scattered. Soon afterward seven companies were brought together and went up the Tennessee on the expedition to Yellow Creek, on the steamer Continental, on which General Sherman had headquarters.

On the 6th of April, while on inspection at Adamsville, the regiment heard the guns at Pittsburg Landing, and at 3 P. M. marched to the field and went into position on the right of the army. It participated in the fight of the next day and is entitled to share in the glory of that victory. During the engagement it was under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Force, Colonel Whittlesey being in command of a brigade. During the advance on Corinth the regiment remained on duty at Pittsburg Landing. After the fall of Corinth the regiment went to Purdy, where it joined its division, marched to Bolivar, and became a part of that garrison of June 6, 1862.

On August 30, 1862, the Rebel General Armstrong, with fifteen regiments on an expedition northward, was held in check a whole day by the Twentieth Ohio, a portion of the Seventy-eighth Ohio, and two com-

panies of the Second Illinois Cavalry. Late in the afternoon two companies, G and K, of this regiment were captured by a cavalry charge, but not until they had repulsed two charges. For their courage on this occasion the officers and troops were highly commended. The regiment next assisted in driving Price from Iuka on the 20th of September. On November 28th it marched south from Lagrange in the Second Brigade of Logan's Division, and on the 4th of December entered Oxford, Miss.

About this time the Seventeenth Army Corps was organized, and Logan's Division became the Third of the corps. By slow marches the Twentieth reached Memphis on January 28, 1863, and was reinforced by two hundred men. On February 22 the regiment moved down the Mississippi on the steamer Louisiana, landed at Lake Providence, and a few weeks later marched to the relief of Porter's fleet, blockaded in Steele's Bayou, and after three days in the swamps, returned to camp.

On May 12 the Twentieth deployed in advance of the corps toward Raymond, Mississippi, and while resting with stacked arms, was fired upon from a thicket beyond a stream. The regiment at once formed and advanced, using the opposite bank of the stream as a breastwork. A severe struggle ensued for an hour, during which the Twentieth was exposed to a cross-fire. Every man stood firm until the Rebels were compelled to yield. The regiment lost twelve killed and fifty-two wounded. Private Canavan, of Company E, was promoted to a sergeantry on the field for skilful management of the company after the other officers and sergeants were disabled. Captain Wilson was decorated with the Seventeenth Corps Medal of Honor for gallantry in assembling his skirmishers under the very muzzles of the enemy's guns during the first charge. Lieutenant Weatherby, of Company A, being on the extreme right of the skirmish line with his company, and being cut off from his regiment, assembled his company, and reported to the colonel of the nearest regiment—the Eighty-first Illinois—and fought as a part of that regiment. The Eighty-first showed their appreciation of its services by giving three hearty cheers for the "Twentieth Ohio Boys." Again the regiment moved from point to point and engaged from time to time in skirmishes, until we find it in the rear of Vicksburg, where it acted as support to an assaulting party on May 21. Here it continued at work until May 29, when with a brigade it withdrew from line and went on an expedition to the Yazoo Valley. On the 4th of June it had returned and was in reserve at Vicksburg. On the 26th of June the regiment withdrew to Tiffin with the Second Brigade to watch the movements of Johnston. After the fall of Vicksburg the regiment camped at Bovina Station, but was soon ordered to join Sherman's army then besieging Jackson.

In January, 1864, two-thirds of the men re-enlisted, and on the 8th of February the regiment crossed Big Black and joined the Meridian expedition. Arriving at Meridian, the regiment assisted in destroying railroads and then marched to Chunkey Creek. The regiment afterward went north on furlough, and after thirty days rendezvoused at Camp Dennison on the 1st of May, and proceeded to Cairo, and from there by steamer to Clifton, Tenn. From here it marched, via Pulaski, Huntsville, Decatur, and Rome, to

Acworth, where it joined General Sherman on the 9th of June after a march of two hundred and fifty miles. After some skirmishes, the regiment appeared before the Rebel works at Atlanta on the 20th of July. The regiment took position in the advanced line on the 21st, and on the next day firing was heard to its rear. It formed in the works, the Rebels advanced, and the men leaped the parapet and faced the enemy. The Rebels pressed around the regiment and bullets came from front, flank, and rear. The Twentieth delivered their fire wherever the strength of the Rebels appeared until cartridges became scarce, when portions of Companies A, F, and D risked life and obtained, in the face of the enemy, five cases of ammunition. Even this was insufficient, and the ammunition of the wounded and dead was distributed, and charges made to capture Rebels for the sake of their cartridges. The batteries in Atlanta threw shell upon the rear of the brigade, the enemy redoubled the fire in front, and placing a captured gun within fifty paces of the flank of the Twentieth, raked the regiment with canister. Orders came to retire, and the men withdrew to form a new line, firing their last cartridge as they withdrew. In the new line the Twentieth was placed in reserve except a detachment of one hundred men who were posted in the works on Force's Hill, and fought desperately until the close of the battle. In this engagement the Twentieth lost forty-four men killed, fifty-six wounded, and fifty-four missing. Many instances of personal daring were mentioned, among which were Lieutenant Nutt, of Company F; Skillen, of Company G; Privates Crabbe and Casey of Company C; Elder, of Company G; and Speker and Stevenson of Company F, especially distinguished themselves.

The regiment changed about until the 24th of August, when it received orders to march as guard to the supply trains of the Army of the Tennessee. Four days later it joined its brigade at Fairburn and assisted in destroying railroads. It went into battle at Jonesboro' on the 31st, and as "refused flank" was exposed to a heavy artillery fire. It then went to Lovejoy's Station, but a few days later went into camp near Atlanta. On the 5th of October it engaged in the pursuit of Hood and at Galesburg turned back, and on November 5th again went into camp near Atlanta. It left Atlanta with Sherman's army November 15 for Savannah, participated in the destruction of Millan, Ga., and reaching Savannah, went into position on the right of the Seventeenth Corps. On December 19th it was detached and sent to Ogeechee, where it engaged in building wharves for the landing of supplies. The work was ended by the surrender of Savannah and the regiment rejoined the brigade December 24th in camp at the outskirts of the city.

On January 5, 1865, the regiment embarked on the steamer Fanny and proceeded to Beaufort, S. C., crossed Port Royal Ferry, and advanced until the enemy was found entrenched beyond a rice swamp. The Twentieth deployed as skirmishers, charged the enemy's works in splendid style, and the regimental colors were soon waving from the parapet. At dark the troops encamped before the fortifications of Pocotaligo, and on the morning of the 13th of January the regiment was assigned camping ground

beyond the railroad station of Pocatigo, and remained there until the 30th, when it joined the Carolina campaign. The head of the column struck the enemy on February 3d near the north Edisto bridge at Orangeburg, and two companies of the Twentieth were deployed as skirmishers. Soon the regiment advanced at double-quick and drove the enemy back to their fortifications, from which they opened fire. The regiment deployed as skirmishers, advanced through an ice-cold and waist-deep swamp, opened fire on the enemy and held the position until relieved in the evening. The next day the river was crossed and the railroad destroyed. Reached Columbia the night of its destruction, and the next morning marched through its smoking ruins and destroyed the railroad as far as Winnsboro'. On the 24th was left in rear of the whole army to guard the pontoon train, and after a hard march entered Cheraw March 3d and Bennettsville on the 6th. On the 20th of March Bentonville was reached, and on the 24th the regiment entered Goldsboro'. Two weeks later the regiment pushed to Raleigh, and on the 15th of April moved toward Johnston's army. It became known that Johnston had asked terms of surrender, the men went into ecstasies of joy, and even stood on their heads in the mud as they contemplated the final scene of the war. Leaving Raleigh on the 1st of May the regiment marched via Richmond to Washington, participated in the grand review, May 24th, was sent to Louisville, Ky., and on the 18th of July returned to Columbus and was mustered out of the service.

The whole history of this regiment is creditable to the men, to the officers, and to the nation.

#### Field and Staff Officers

Charles Whittlesey, colonel, August, 1861-April, 1862.

Manning F. Force, colonel, April, 1862; promoted to brigadier-general.

Harrison Wilson, colonel, June, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

John C. Fry, colonel, January, 1864; resigned 1864.

Harrison Wilson, lieutenant-colonel.

Peter Weatherby, major.

Henry O. Dwight, first lieutenant and adjutant.

John W. Skillen, first lieutenant and quartermaster.

Henry P. Fricker, surgeon.

James W. Guthrie, assistant surgeon.

James Knapp, J. W. Alderman, Chaplain.

William A. Nutt, sergeant-major.

Hiram H. Varner, quartermaster sergeant.

Henry V. Wilson, commissary-sergeant.

#### Company B, Twentieth Regiment, O. V. I.

John C. Fry, major, August 18, 1861; discharged April 19, 1863.

Andrew J. Edwards, captain; resigned April 14, 1863.

Russell B. Neal, first lieutenant, January 1, 1862-January 5, 1865.

- Reuben M. Colby, first lieutenant, January 5, 1863.  
William A. Skillen, sergeant.  
Isaac H. Coy, sergeant, October 25, 1862.  
Samuel W. Dickerson, corporal.  
John C. Sullivan, musician, July 14, 1862.  
Perry Burch, private, August 18, 1861-May 5, 1862, at Shiloh, Tenn.  
George W. Bains, private, August 18, 1861-July 24, 1862.  
Benjamin H. Croy, private, July 1, 1862.  
John M. Coleman, private, February 16, 1863.  
Joseph R. Conckright, December 19, 1861.  
William B. Elefrits, April 13, 1862, Shiloh.  
Arnold S. Coleman, October 22, 1863, Vicksburg.  
James F. Horn, August 29, 1862, Bolivar.  
John D. Hall, August 25, 1862.  
Clay R. Joslin, July 15, 1862.  
William Longacre, April 17, 1862, Shiloh.  
John W. Langstaff, July 25, 1862, Grand Junction.  
Peter Miller, December 26, 1862, Lagrange, Tenn.  
Adam Neil, July 5, 1862, Columbus, O.  
Joseph McVay, March 16, 1862.  
Isaiah O'Bryan, May 7, 1862, Shiloh.  
William O'Bryan, October 25, 1862, Bolivar.  
George W. Staley, September 9, 1862, Bolivar.  
George W. Shann, June 27, 1863, Vicksburg.  
William R. Stipp, December 21, 1861, C. King, Ky.  
Aaron Smith, May 6, 1862, Shiloh.  
Mark Thompson, April 8, 1862, Shiloh.  
John H. Vannater, April 8, 1862, Shiloh.  
Thomas M. Wale, April 4, 1862, Crump's Landing.  
David Cargill, August, 1864.  
William Woodruff, April 12, 1862, Shiloh.  
Stephen M. Young, March 11, 1862, Atlanta, Ga.  
George W. Zirby, September 21, 1864.  
Jacob H. Allen, September 21, 1864.  
William B. Cannon, September 21, 1864.  
William H. Herschell, September 21, 1864.  
John D. Hall, September 21, 1864.  
Allen Halterman, September 21, 1864.  
John Morris, September 21, 1864.  
William F. Packer, September 21, 1864.  
David Scisco, September 21, 1864.  
Robert M. Toland, September 21, 1864.  
Silas D. Young, September 21, 1864.  
Philip W. Young, September 21, 1864.  
Charles B. Cannon, September, 1862-September, 1863.



## Transferred

James Knapp, chaplain.  
 E. N. Owen, adjutant.  
 Robert N. Sharp, October 15, 1863.  
 John F. Smith, October 15, 1863.  
 John K. Wilson as Hospital Steward.  
 W. A. Skillen, promoted to first lieutenant, August, 1864.

## Killed in Battle and Died

John S. Wilkinson, sergeant, died May 31, 1862, Shiloh.  
 Elias Baldwin, private, died May 27, 1862, Paducah, Ky.  
 David Baldwin, private, died March 21, 1863, Jackson, Tenn.  
 William R. Campbell, private, died October 15, 1862, Sidney, O.  
 Levi Gump, died August 16, 1863, Vicksburg.  
 Thomas J. Goble, died April 25, 1862, Pittsburg Landing.  
 Harlam P. Hall, killed April 7, 1862, at Shiloh.  
 Amos Huffman, died July 2, 1862, Sidney, O.  
 Francis M. Hall, died January 26, 1863, Lagrange.  
 Jonas Harshberger, died May 12, 1863, wounds in action.  
 Henry D. Munch, died May 5, 1862, C. Denison.  
 Benjamin F. Ogle, died August 5, 1862, Paducah.  
 George Pencil, died April 18, 1862, St. Louis.  
 Joseph S. Schenck, died March 23, 1862, Savanaah.  
 Henry Schench, died March 23, 1862, Savannah.  
 Henry S. Staley, died June 15, 1862, Paducah.  
 Martin L. Thrush, killed in action May 12, 1863.  
 William Walter, died May 9, 1862, Shiloh.  
 Nehemiah B. Cannon, died February 24, 1863, Bull Run.

## Veterans of Company B mustered out with Regiment July 18, 1865

Newton R. Persinger, captain.	William Davis.
Chancey Grimes, first lieutenant	William Elifrits.
Co. D.	Arthur C. Gregg.
Henry V. Wilson, commissary-	Joseph S. Gerard.
sergeant July, 1865.	John W. Gerard, January 1,
Andrew Cox, sergeant.	1864.
James A. Fleming, sergeant.	Isaac Gump.
George H. Sharp, sergeant.	William H. Goble.
Christopher Layman, sergeant.	Homer L. Hall.
Simon Wicks, musician.	Thomas Wick.
Henry T. Bryan.	William G. Martin.
George W. Bain.	William C. McColly.
Isaac N. Carey.	Levi Pence.
Henry H. Davis.	Thomas Plunkard.

Jonathan Rea.  
 Samuel Rosell.  
 Clarence Robinson.  
 John Smith.

John M. Stephens.  
 S. W. Smith.  
 Jacob Taylor.  
 James E. Taylor.

Discharged May, 1865.

Benjamin A. F. Greer, captain.  
 Reuben M. Colby, first lieutenant.  
 Chancey Grimes, first sergeant.  
 Isaiah Euckley, private.  
 Daniel Eichers, private.  
 Samuel Hamlet.  
 William Hubner.

Jesse F. Halterman.  
 Lewis John.  
 Henry Ruppert.  
 Thomas McVay.  
 Peter Urivmmer.  
 George Snyder.

Died.

Gabriel K. Crawford, killed in action July 22, 1864, Atlanta, Ga.  
 William H. Borum, died in prison, Andersonville.  
 John Rinehart, died March 24, 1864, Vicksburg.  
 Perry Bailey, killed July 22, 1864, Atlantic.  
 George W. Ragan, died May 28, 1865, Andersonville Prison.  
 James H. Coleman, died March 17, 1865, Grafton, W. Va.  
 John Johnson, killed April 8, 1865, Pocotaligo, S. C.  
 John B. McAlexander, killed July 22, 1864, Atlantic.  
 George W. Rush, died March 14, 1864, Vicksburg.  
 John W. Wilson, died March 14, 1864, Vicksburg.  
 Harvey Watts, died April 17, 1865, hospital.  
 Sylvester Wright, died April 18, 1865, hospital.  
 David Clinton Baker, died June 2, 1863.

Company F. Twentieth O. V. I. enlisted in Sept. and Oct. 1861.

William W. Updegraff, captain; resigned February, 1863.  
 John W. Skillen, sergeant, promoted.  
 David R. Hume, first lieutenant, May 16, 1862.  
 Reuben Woodmancy, first lieutenant, November 1, 1864.  
 Allen Arbogast, sergeant; discharged October 2, 1864.  
 Samuel McMananny, sergeant; discharged October 25, 1862.  
 Benjamin McCullough, sergeant; discharged May 15, 1862.  
 David Robbins, sergeant; discharged October 10, 1864.  
 James Hume, corporal; discharged April 12, 1862.  
 David Ritchie, corporal; discharged August 1, 1862.  
 John C. Stipp, corporal; discharged October 2, 1864.  
 Josiah Morris, corporal; discharged October 2, 1864.  
 John Arbogast, private; discharged March 29, 1862.  
 William S. Blakely, private; discharged October 2, 1864.  
 Isaac Betts, discharged August 1, 1862.  
 John E. Blakely, discharged October 2, 1864.  
 Elijah C. Coleman, discharged August 25, 1862.

George Clickner, discharged January 10, 1862.  
Eli Davis, discharged May 1, 1862.  
Levi Hughes, discharged at Vicksburg.  
Robert R. Johnson, discharged September, 1862.  
George Jordan, discharged January, 1863.  
John Kershaw, discharged February, 1863.  
David Kennedy, discharged May, 1862.  
Thomas C. Leapley, discharged August, 1862.  
Abra Lenox, March, 1863.  
Daniel Leapley, discharged March, 1862.  
James Lattimer, discharged March, 1862.  
William McDowell, discharged March, 1862.  
George S. McNannama, January, 1863.  
John Moore, August, 1862.  
E. E. Nutt, discharged to receive promotion June, 1863.  
Wm. A. Nutt, discharged with regiment in 1865 as sergeant major.  
David R. Hume, private, August, 1861-May, 1862.  
Joshua Russell, private.  
Andrew Speker.  
William Smith.  
Daniel Smith.  
Thomas Smeltzer, November, 1862.  
Amos Winks.  
William Scisco, September, 1862-May, 1865.  
William J. Swander, served nine months.  
Hugh B. Neal, corporal, September, 1861-June, 1864.  
William Ogden, discharged March 29, 1862.  
Hiram Orwiler, enlisted October, 1862; discharged January, 1863.  
Joshua W. Russell, discharged July, 1862.  
Andrew Speker, discharged October, 1864.  
William Smith, discharged May, 1862.  
Daniel Smith, discharged August, 1862.  
Thomas Smeltzer, discharged January, 1863.  
Amos Winks, discharged July, 1862.  
Newton R. Perringer, quartermaster-sergeant, promoted.  
William Clemcey, hospital steward, September, 1863.  
George W. Cypners, corporal.  
George E. Eddy.  
Henry W. Neal.  
Seth Johns, 1861-October, 1864.  
William H. Coy, died December 29, 1861, Camp King, Ky.  
William Crotenteler, died March 26, 1862, Steamer City of Memphis.  
Lemuel Ellsworth, died March 18, 1862, Pittsburg Landing.  
William Edwards, died February 19, 1863, Memphis.  
William O. Heffeman, died February 13, 1862, Cincinnati.  
Philip Hall, died May 7, 1862, Shiloh.

William Heaman, died January 20, 1863, Lagrange.  
 Martin Hole, died May 17, 1863.  
 Thomas Minnear, died November 21, 1862, Shelby county, O.  
 George Olden, died April 1, 1862, Shelby county, O.  
 Nathan L. Russell, died May 13, 1862, Steamer Tycoon.  
 Thomas Smith, died May 21, 1862, Shelby county.  
 Daniel Vanote, died February 22, 1863, Memphis.  
 John W. Vandever, died March 25, 1863, Berry's Landing.

## Veterans.

Edmund E. Nutt, captain; discharged July, 1865.  
 Silas A. Reynolds, first lieutenant; discharged January, 1865.  
 G. C. Allinger, first sergeant; discharged February, 1865.  
 James Williams, sergeant, January, 1864.  
 Paul Beezley, sergeant, January, 1865.  
 William Wright, sergeant, April, 1865.  
 Willis H. Dye, corporal, January, 1864.  
 Peter W. Speker, corporal; captured July, 1864-May, 1865.  
 Charles Stevenson, corporal, October, 1864.  
 Thomas Buchanan, corporal, October, 1864.  
 John T. Hathaway, corporal, July, 1865.  
 John T. Neal, corporal, July, 1865.

## Mustered out with Company July 18, 1865.

Cornelius Ammons.	Peter W. Speker was in Ander-
George Burnett.	sonville and other prisons, 1865.
John W. Wade.	Timothy Kelly.
William Blocker.	John W. Moore, Aug. 1861.
George W. Boyer.	James McManamy.
John Bright.	Shepherd Shaw.
John Biggert.	Wm. Speker, sergeant.
Squire J. Baker.	Charles C. Wright.
Samuel Churchill.	William Musgrove.
Jacob Cost.	John Malahan.
James Coons.	Abraham Mapes.
George Clackner.	Jeremiah Reels.
A. L. Cain.	George Speker.
Joseph Elliott.	Samuel Stevenson.
William Fulton, prisoner of war.	Thomas Wright.
John W. Fisk.	Daniel Wright.
Jonas Garrett.	William Willis.
Henry Gilkison.	George Woods.
Maxwell P. G. Hageman.	William H. Williams.
Michael King.	John W. Whires.
F. S. Lewis.	Robert N. McGinnis, corporal.

Joshua Barbee, private.	Robert Johnson.
John Barbee.	William McDowell.
August Bahr.	William Scisco.
Aza B. Curtis.	William Munford.
Thomas Evans.	John Wical, October, 1862-June,
Lewis Galimore.	1865.
R. R. Johnson.	Joseph Green, private, Sept. 1864.

## Died and killed in battle.

Matthias Elliott, killed in action Atlanta, Ga., July 22, 1864.  
 Cornelius Davenport, died at Marietta, Ga., September 29, 1864.  
 Robert Elliott, killed in action, Atlanta, Ga.  
 Albert Hine, killed in action, Atlanta, Ga., July 22, 1864.  
 John Shaw, killed at Savannah, December 13, 1864.

## Company K, Twentieth O. V. I.

William D. Neal, captain; killed June 26, 1864, Kenesaw Mountain.  
 Abraham Kaga, captain; wounded and discharged January, 1864.  
 William L. Waddle, first lieutenant; promoted to captain.  
 D. B. Rinehart, first lieutenant January, 1862; resigned January, 1863.  
 Seneca Hale, second lieutenant November, 1861; resigned February, 1863.  
 Joseph S. Laughlin, sergeant, January, 1862-May, 1863.  
 Joseph E. Wilkers, corporal, January, 1862-October, 1862.  
 John F. Bull, July, 1862.  
 Henry Clousing, July, 1863.  
 E. P. Elger, July, 1862.  
 Jesse M. Furrow, September, 1862.  
 Jacob S. Gottchell, July, 1862.  
 William Hurt, January, 1862-September, 1862.  
 William Kiggins, January, 1862-July, 1862.  
 John C. Knox, December, 1861-July, 1862.  
 Lewis V. Mason, March, 1862-October, 1862.  
 Warret Owen, January, 1861.  
 William Swander, January, 1861-July, 1863.  
 F. M. Thomas, January, 1861-July, 1862.  
 Reuben Thompson, January, 1861-November, 1862.  
 James W. Watson, January, 1861-July, 1863.  
 Benjamin Snow, January, 1861-September, 1863.

## Died and killed in battle.

Andrew J. Watson, died July 4, 1863, Vicksburg.  
 Samuel Bryan, died May 20, 1862, Shiloh.  
 Oliver P. Baggart, wounded July 13, 1863, Memphis.  
 Thomas Baldwin, died February 13, 1863, Memphis.

Columbus Beeson, died March 28, Jefferson, Mo.  
 Jesse Babcock, killed May 23, 1863, Vicksburg.  
 Isaac O. Cole, died May 20, 1862, Shiloh.  
 Jasper N. Davis, died June 15, 1863, at home.  
 James Dalton, died October 18, 1862, Shiloh.  
 Jesse Day, died October 18, 1862, Bolivar.  
 Perry Deweese, died March 9, 1863, Memphis.  
 E. S. Gallimore, died June 18, 1862, Camp Dennison.  
 Freeman Hawkins, died April 24, 1862, Shiloh.  
 Henry Hardesty, died June 30, 1863, on transport.  
 James A. Knox, died May 16, 1863, Raymond, Miss.  
 Ozias Lambert, died February 5, 1862, Cincinnati.  
 Abraham Lenox, died March 12, 1863, St. Louis.  
 Elias Manning, died April 29, 1863, Lagrange.  
 Moses Sturgeon, died June 29, 1863, Vicksburg.  
 John Wagnog, died June 21, 1862, Grand Junction.  
 David C. Baker, died June 2, 1863, Nashville.  
 William Henry Sturm, drowned in 1862.

Mustered out with Regiment July 18, 1865.

R. M. Colby, captain, mustered out with company.	Daniel C. Dickensheets.
William H. Nogle.	Oliver P. Davis, October, 1862.
William P. Manning, first sergeant.	Thomas Duncan.
Richard M. Wilson, sergeant.	George Deal.
Andrew Wilson, sergeant.	William T. Dickerson.
Luther Stewart, sergeant.	William Elzroth,
George W. Dorsey, sergeant.	Samuel Emmitt.
Benjamin F. Whitmer, corporal.	Ira Fosnight, October, 1862.
George W. Redinbo, corporal.	William Golden.
John A. Jackson, corporal.	William Henry.
Gotleib Demler, corporal.	John W. Harrison.
Geo. W. Smalley, corporal; missing in action.	William H. Harrison.
George Blakely, private.	William Haig.
John M. Blakely, private.	Daniel P. Haines.
David W. Barber.	William J. Hines.
Irwin M. Bolenbaugh.	E. H. Kiser.
E. L. Bogus.	John A. Krabah.
John H. Bird.	Martin Line.
John W. Clement.	Henry C. LeFever.
John B. Croner, January, 1862.	John M. Martin.
Jacob Crusey.	Daniel H. Manning.
Henry F. Dickensheets.	James W. Martin.
	Jacob Manning.
	William A. Messenger.
	Samuel H. McCabe.

John McBain.	Josiah M. Hedges.
John E. Mitchell.	William Hammell.
James A. Peer, June, 1863.	Thomas C. Kiser.
William H. Princehouse.	Orrin Kiser.
John H. Ruppert.	Elisha H. Kiser.
Samuel Russell.	Labarr J. Kiser.
James H. Smith.	William H. Kibbons.
Henry H. Staley.	Benjamin F. Martin.
Henry Shue.	Abraham Mapes.
Henry J. Souder.	Jonathan Niswanger, August,
Philip Tunks, December, 1863.	1862.
Frederick Troutwine.	George W. Quillan.
Thomas Tuley.	William P. Ruppert.
William Weaver.	Seth T. Reddick.
Nelson Wright.	Reuben Smeltzer.
Hugh Marshall, corporal.	Robert Smeltzer.
S. J. Baker.	Calvin F. Shaw, August, 1862.
John Balmer.	Jonathan Smith.
Henry Brewer.	Toney Thomas.
James Fidler.	Levi Williams.
William Glasford.	Jacob Waltz.
Samuel M. Graham.	Henry Waltz.
Lucas Hardesty.	

## Died and killed in battle.

William D. Neal, killed at Kenesaw Mountain, June 26, 1864.  
 William Airgood, died October 24, 1864, Rome, Ga.  
 William S. Dodds, wounded and died October 10, 1864, Rome, Ga.  
 Thomas Gleason, wounded July 27, 1864, Atlanta, Ga.  
 Christopher Jelly, killed July 22, 1864, Atlanta, Ga.  
 John E. Kessler, killed July 22, 1864, Atlanta, Ga.  
 James Moore, killed July 22, 1864, Atlanta, Ga.  
 John Umphery, July 22, 1864, Atlanta, Ga.  
 Andrew Willis, died from wounds, June 28, 1864, Rome, Ga.

## Company I, Twentieth O. V. I.

Benjamin D. Dodds, December, 1861; killed in 1864.  
 John Pierce, December, 1861; died February, 1862.  
 John Manning, August, 1862.  
 John S. Sparling, December, 1861-June, 1865.  
 T. G. Ailes, December, 1861; killed at Peachtree Creek, July 22, 1864.  
 George W. Schenck, private Company H, April, 1861-August, 1861.  
 John T. Snodgrass, private Company H, April, 1861-August, 1861.

## NINETY-NINTH OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

The Ninety-ninth was organized at Camp Lima, O., and mustered into service August 26, 1862. Of this regiment two companies were raised in Allen county, two in Shelby, two in Hancock, and one each in Auglaize, Mercer, Putnam, and Van Wert.

For the regiment seventeen hundred men were recruited, but seven hundred were at once transferred to the One Hundred and Eighteenth Ohio.

They left Camp Lima, August 31, with one thousand and twenty-one men, under orders to report at Lexington, Ky. While en route it was learned that the enemy had taken Lexington and the regiment was ordered to Cynthiana. After a few weeks it went to Covington and entered the fortifications at Fort Mitchell. In September it went by steamer to Louisville, and was so disposed as to assist in the defence of the place against the threatened assault of the army under Bragg. On the 1st of October the regiment was transferred to Colonel Stanley Matthew's Brigade, which was composed of the Fifty-first and Ninety-ninth Ohio; the Eighth and Twenty-first Kentucky, and the Thirty-fifth Indiana. This subsequently became the Third Brigade, Third Division, Twenty-first Army Corps. The regiment now marched in pursuit of Bragg's retreating forces as far as Wild Cat, from which place the brigade moved to Mount Vernon, and again in regular order to Somerset, Columbia, Glasgow, and Gallatin. From this last point it was ordered to Lebanon to intercept the command of John Morgan. The march to Lebanon and back to Silver Springs was made in one day, and Morgan's command was first dislodged, but followed the brigade on its retreat and captured about one hundred of the Union forces who were unable to keep up the rapid march of the brigade. About twenty of these stragglers who were captured belonged to the Ninety-ninth. After a few days' rest the regiment moved toward Nashville and took position about seven miles from that city. Here the troops suffered greatly from sickness, and when the forward movement was ordered to Stone River the regiment could only muster three hundred and sixty-nine privates, two field officers, seven line officers, and three staff officers, who were fit for duty. On December 26, the regiment advanced toward Murfreesboro', being under the rebel fire during part of the march. At the battle of Stone River it formed on the extreme left of the line. On the morning of December 31 the division crossed Stone River, but on account of the disaster on the right, was ordered back to hold the ford while the first and second brigades were sent to reinforce the corps of General McCook. On January 1, 1863, the third division crossed the river and took a position which it held until Friday afternoon, when the rebels formed in heavy column, and doubling on the centre, drove Van Cleve's division across the river. This division was at once reinforced and drove the rebels back, capturing all the artillery used in the attack. Bragg commenced his retreat under cover of that night. In this battle the Ninety-ninth lost three officers and seventeen men killed; two officers and forty-one men wounded, and one officer and twenty-nine men captured.

After this battle the regiment took position at Murfreesboro' on the left of the line.



On June 30, 1863, it marched to McMinnville, where it remained until the 16th of August, when it moved to Pikeville.

After various marches and duties the regiment moved to Ringgold and participated in the battle of Chickamauga. Soon afterward the Twentieth and Twenty-first Corps were consolidated, and the Ninety-ninth Regiment was transferred to the Second Brigade, First Division, Fourth Corps. This brigade camped for a time opposite Lookout Mountain, but on the 1st of November moved to Shell Mound, where it did duty guarding and repairing the railroad from Chattanooga to Bridgeport. On the 22d it moved up the valley, and on the 24th participated in the "battle above the clouds," being the second line of the charging column. As the lines swept around the mountain the Second closed up on the First, until, nearing the Point, it rushed impetuously through the first line and held the advance until relieved by fresh troops after nightfall.

The next day the regiment was engaged at Mission Ridge, occupying the extreme right of the National line. After following the Rebels to Ringgold the regiment returned to Shell Mound, where it remained until February, 1864, when it moved to Cleveland, Tenn., and on the 3d of May entered upon the Atlanta campaign. It next participated in the actions of Rocky Face Ridge, Kenesaw Mountain, Pine Mountain, Atlanta, Jonesboro' and Lovejoy, in all of which engagements the regiment bore an honorable and prominent part.

On the 28th of June it was assigned to the Fourth Brigade, Second Division, Twenty-third Corps, and on the 19th of July took possession of Decatur. The regiment participated in the actions before Atlanta and moved to Jonesboro' and Lovejoy. It was next assigned to the First Brigade and returned to Decatur, having lost in the Atlanta campaign thirty men killed and fifty-six wounded. On the 1st of October the regiment started in pursuit of the command of Hood, moving to Centreville by way of Resaca, Johnsonville, and Waverly. For a few weeks its communication was cut off, but it finally received orders by courier to march to Franklin. As this place was in the hands of the enemy the march was continued to Nashville.

It next appeared in line in front of Nashville, and on the morning of the 15th of December moved against the intrenched army of Hood. It drove the enemy from one position to another until it found them posted on a hill covered by a stone wall. The division, without orders, charged the position, carried it, and turned the guns upon the retreating foe. The enemy was pursued to Columbia, where this regiment was consolidated with the Fiftieth Ohio and the Ninety-ninth ceased as an organization. The regimental colors were then sent to Sidney, until the return of Sergeant Wm. M. Van Fossen, when he took them in charge, and they are still in his possession.

#### Field and Staff Officers.

Albert Langworthy, colonel; August, 1862-September, 1864.

Peter T. Swaine, colonel; December, 1864.

John E. Cummings, lieutenant-colonel; transferred to 50th O. V. I.

James Day, major; resigned, December, 1862.  
 Benjamin F. LeFevre, major; transferred to 50th O. V. I.  
 J. T. Wood, surgeon; transferred to 50th O. V. I.  
 George J. Wood, assistant-surgeon; October, 1862.  
 James M. Morrow, chaplain.

Company H, Ninety-ninth Regiment, O. V. I.

Nathan R. Wyman, captain; August, 1862-February, 1863.  
 James H. Hume, sergeant; August, 1862-October, 1864.  
 Michael Quinn, sergeant; August 1862-October, 1863.  
 Vincent S. Wilson, sergeant; August 1862-October, 1863.  
 Benjamin M. Sharp, sergeant; August, 1862.  
 Benjamin F. Burrows, corporal; August, 1862.  
 E. G. Spence, corporal; August, 1862.  
 Morgan A. Le Fevre, corporal; August, 1862-July, 1865.  
 S. L. Russell, corporal.  
 Solomon Bahmer, corporal.  
 N. F. Connell, corporal.  
 Jasper S. McCoshen, corporal.  
 John C. Senoff, corporal.  
 Robert Beers, private; August, 1862-July.  
 Nathan Bunnell.  
 H. H. Bushman.  
 John Craft, August, 1862-July, 1865.  
 L. S. Coffin, August, 1862-July, 1865.  
 Alfred O. DeWeese.  
 James R. Doesan.  
 John W. Swander, August, 1862; wounded at Stone river, and died February 3, 1863.  
 Aaron Swander, August, 1862; killed at Chickasaw Mt. June 20, 1863.  
 Francis M. Shaffer, private, August, 1862-March, 1863.  
 Joseph D. Hume, private, August, 1862; died at Bowling Green, Ky., November, 1862.  
 Samuel W. Murphy, private. August, 1862; killed at Stone river, January, 1863.  
 Jacob W. Richards, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 ————— Doemeyer, August, 1862; died.  
 Elisha Yost, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Henry M. Lehman, enlisted August, 1862; discharged July, 1865.

Company K, Ninety-ninth Regiment, O. V. I.

James C. Young, private, August, 1862; died at Bowling Green, Ky., November 27, 1862.

Daniel Staley, private, August, 1862-July, 1865.  
 Valintine Staley, private, August, 1862-July, 1865.  
 Philip Staley, private, August, 1862-July, 1865.

Company C, Ninety-ninth Regiment, O. V. I.

James Knapp, captain, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1863. Dead.  
 Thos. Stevenson, first lieutenant, enlisted August, 1862; discharged, 1862.  
 R. E. Johnston, second lieutenant, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1863.  
 Thos. C. Honnell, first sergeant, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865, as captain.  
 Wm. H. Shaw, sergeant, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865, as first lieutenant.  
 M. E. Thorn, sergeant, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1863, as second lieutenant. Dead.  
 P. L. Frazier, sergeant, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865, as sergeant-major.  
 W. M. Van Fossen, corporal, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865, as first sergeant.  
 W. B. Simpson, private, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865, as sergeant.  
 W. Duncan, corporal, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865, as sergeant.  
 A. A. Davis, corporal, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865, as sergeant.  
 I. N. Redenbo, private, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865, as corporal.  
 Charles O. Frazer, private, enlisted, 1862. Died, 1864.  
 Edward Reed, corporal, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1864, as sergeant.  
 Dead.  
 S. McElroy, sergeant, enlisted, 1862. Died, 1863, as private.  
 Frank Luckey, private, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1863.  
 J. L. S. Lipencott, private, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1862. Dead.  
 Charles McMullen, private, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1862. Dead.  
 W. H. Shafer, private, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1862. Dead.  
 Samuel Walters, private, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1862. Dead.  
 G. W. Bland, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
 Lean S. Davis, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865, as corporal.  
 J. L. Luckey, corporal; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1862.  
 James Wolf, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865, as corporal. Dead.  
 John W. Stevens, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865, as hospital steward. Dead.  
 B. Arstenstall, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865. Dead.  
 A. Smith, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865. Dead.  
 James Wiley, corporal; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1862, as private. Dead.  
 R. D. Coon, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865. Dead.  
 T. W. Graham, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1863.  
 N. Boham, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
 G. Beason, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1863.  
 N. D. Brown, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
 W. F. Smith, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865, as corporal.

- John W. Slagle, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1863.  
Davis Brown, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1863.  
George Brown, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
S. R. Babcock, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
P. O. Babcock, private; enlisted, 1862. Killed, 1864.  
S. D. Babcock, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1862.  
John Sullivan, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1863, as drum major.  
I. L. Davis, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1863.  
Scot Lipencutt, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1863.  
John Fix, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1863.  
David Clayton, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1863.  
George Curl, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
John B. Moorehead, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1863.  
Joel Mattox, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1863.  
W. H. H. Cover, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1863.  
Isaac N. Kizer, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
Fred Wolf, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865. Dead.  
W. McClure, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1862.  
John Emmett, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865. Dead.  
E. Williams, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
W. H. Wittick, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1862.  
John Hartsell, private; enlisted, 1864. Died, 1864.  
M. McDermet, private; enlisted, 1864; discharged, 1865.  
John Crawford, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
W. B. Flesher, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865. Dead.  
H. Flesher, private; enlisted, 1864. Killed, 1864.  
George Hemelright, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
D. Duerbalt, private; enlisted, 1862. Killed, 1863, at Stone river.  
Aaron Ringlespaugh, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1863.  
Frank Irwin, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1863.  
James Luckey, private; enlisted, 1862. Killed, 1863, at Stone river.  
Davis Swickard, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
James Darst, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
Joseph Delap, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1862.  
W. R. Wilkinson, private; enlisted, 1862. Killed, 1864, at Chickamauga.  
Jerry Sullivan, private; enlisted, 1862. Killed, 1864, at Kenesaw mountain.  
E. F. Bull, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1862.  
G. W. Wiley, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1863.  
Isaac Redenbo, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
Daniel Redenbo, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1863. Died.  
Daniel D. Curtis, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1864. Died.  
F. S. Borne, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
W. S. Clary, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865. Dead.  
Jesse Jackson, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
Aaron Baldwin, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
Samuel S. Wirick, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.

M. Ragan, private; enlisted, 1864; discharged, 1865.  
 Josiah McGee, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1863.  
 John Camomile, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
 G. W. Sharp, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1863.  
 Samuel Silver, private; enlisted, 1865; discharged, 1865, as wagon master.  
 Michael Collins, private enlisted, 1865; discharged, 1865. Dead.  
 Jesse Wood, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865. Dead.  
 Jasper Lewis, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1863. Dead.  
 George McCabe, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1863.  
 Poke Nutt, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1863, as musician. Dead.  
 Wm. E. Bayley, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
 James F. McClure, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
 Martin Denman, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1864.  
 Wm. H. Ogden, corporal; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1863.  
 Andrew King, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1862.  
 John E. Darnell, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1863.  
 L. Davis, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1864. Dead.  
 C. Bodkin, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1862.  
 G. W. Windle, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1862.  
 Wm. Ramsay, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
 A. L. Humphry, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
 Joseph H. Cartright, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1863. Dead.  
 H. Stumbaugh, private; enlisted, 1863; discharged, 1865.  
 H. Wilson, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
 Robert Wells, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1863. Dead.  
 Ed. Williams, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1862. Dead.  
 H. Levingston, enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
 J. E. Wilkinson, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1865.  
 George G. Line, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1862. Dead.  
 William Austin, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1863. Dead.  
 George W. Frank, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1862. Dead.  
 Benjamin Forest, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1862. Dead.  
 James Hagan, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1862. Dead.  
 Frank Irvin, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1862. Dead.  
 Ed. Reed, corporal; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1864, as sergeant. Dead.  
 ———— Beeman, private; enlisted, 1862; discharged, 1862. Dead.  
 Wm. Franklin, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1863.  
 Julius T. Vorus, private; enlisted, 1862. Died, 1862.

#### Company H, Fiftieth Regiment, O. V. I.

Hamilton S. Gillespie, captain, August, 1862; promoted to colonel.  
 Solomon Balmer, corporal, December, 1864.  
 William Wilson, corporal.  
 Henry M. Lehman, corporal, December, 1864.  
 John C. Lenox, musician.  
 Joseph L. M. Cashen, musician.

Mark Galimore, August, 1862-July, 1865.  
 Daniel W. Abbott, private, August, 1862-May, 1853.  
 Samuel Flesher, September, 1864-July, 1865.  
 Espy C. Dill, August, 1862; missing after battle of Chickamauga.  
 James A. Deweese.  
 Theodore Farrote.  
 Philip Griner.  
 George Huffman.  
 William G. Herbert, August, 1862-July, 1865.  
 Henry A. Jackson, May, 1865.  
 Wm. B. Kessler, May, 1865.  
 Nicholas Cleinhen, August, 1862-May, 1865.  
 Jacob A. Line.  
 James H. Lenox.  
 Wm. H. Forrar.  
 Thomas I. Lash, December, 1864.  
 Jacob McClashen.  
 David W. McAlexander.  
 John M. Morton.  
 William Meyers.  
 William R. Parke, August, 1862-July, 1865.  
 Richard Pluman.  
 Isaac N. Parke, August, 1862-July, 1865.  
 Jacob W. Richards.  
 Philip M. Randolph.  
 John Schraer.  
 Alfred E. Toland, August, 1862-July, 1865.  
 George W. Zeibe.  
 James R. Dodson; died December 22, 1862, at home.  
 James Mapes; died May 25, 1865, at New York.  
 Alfred Swander; died in Libby prison January 1, 1864.

#### Veterans

Vincent S. Wilson, August, 1862-March, 1865.  
 Benjamin F. Burrows, March, 1865.  
 E. L. Spence, March, 1865.  
 Nathaniel L. Carrell, March, 1865.  
 L. S. Coffin.  
 Thomas Enright, August, 1862-May, 1865.  
 Vincent Wilson, August, 1862-July, 1865.  
 Philip M. Randolph, August, 1862-July, 1865.  
 Virgil C. Lenox, sergeant-major, August 1, 1862-June, 1865.  
 William Wilson, corporal, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Richard Pleiman, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Philip M. Randolph, August, 1862-June, 1865.

Samuel L. Russell, sergeant, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 George Huffman, private, August, 1862-June, 1867.  
 Alex. Harmony, Company D, August, 1862-June, 1867.

## Company B

Peter B. Weymer, sergeant, August, 1862-July, 1865.  
 Daniel Fuller, private, August, 1862-July, 1865.  
 Jacob Galley, private, August, 1862-July, 1865.  
 Edward M. Reed, sergeant, August, 1862-March, 1864.  
 Wm. M. Van Fossen, first sergeant, August, 1862-July, 1865.  
 Wm. Ramsey, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Thomas McKee, sergeant, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Simon P. Stonerock, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Robert G. Johnston, sergeant, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Henry Wilson, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 George Brown, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 James Wolf, corporal, August, 1862-March, 1865.  
 Jonathan Emert, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 John Emmett, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 William Flinn, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 George Curl, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Edmund R. Cecil, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 William M. Morrow, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Henry Wolf, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 William H. Day, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 David Bowsby, private, August, 1862; died, January, 1864.  
 Robert P. Crozier, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 David S. Davenport, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 James T. Lucas, lieutenant, August, 1862; killed at Mission Ridge, 1864.  
 John F. Pohamus, private, August, 1862; killed, May 31, 1864.  
 Davis J. Thompson, first lieutenant, August, 1862-March, 1863.  
 Frederick Wolf, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Jacob Helminger, sergeant, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Jesse W. Lenox, August, 1862; died, August, 1864.  
 William H. Shaw, first lieutenant, Company C, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Peter Charpier, private, Company F, August, 1862-June, 1865.

## ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTEENTH REGIMENT OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

This regiment, eight companies strong, was sent to Cincinnati in September, 1862, as that city was then threatened by Kirby Smith. The ninth company was here formed, and the regiment mustered into the service. Late in September it moved, under Gen. A. J. Smith, toward Lexington, but at Cynthiana was detached to guard the railroad. Patrol and guard duty was performed, and rebel recruiting largely prevented. On August 1, 1863, it went, by Lexington and Louisville, to Lebanon, Ky., and on the 20th

set out on a march for East Tennessee. On November 10th, Kingston was reached, and a few days later the rebels cut the communication between that point and Knoxville. Picket duty became arduous, to prevent a surprise from Wheeler's cavalry. The victories at Knoxville and Chattanooga relieved the Kingston garrison, and on December 9th, the regiment reached Nashville, and from there went to Blain's Cross Roads, and finally to Mossy Creek, to support Elliott's cavalry. On the 29th, the rebel cavalry under Martin and Armstrong assaulted General Elliott, at Paultier's creek, when he fell back to Mossy creek. As the cavalry approached, the regiment took position in the edge of a piece of woods, when the rebel force moved directly upon them. When the enemy approached within a hundred yards, the regiment opened a rapid fire, which was kept up about two hours, when it charged the rebels, and drove them over the crest of a hill. In this action the rebels lost about forty, killed and wounded. It was disposed with great skill, by Lieutenant-Colonel Young, and commanded by General Elliott. While in East Tennessee, the regiment suffered great privations, and subsisted about six months on half and quarter rations. They had neither sugar nor coffee for four months. Clothing was also short, but with all this the troops never murmured, but were even cheerful. The regiment was then kept changing about until the campaign of 1864. One march of one hundred miles, to Charleston, was made in five days. May 4th, the regiment encamped on state line. Here all baggage was sent to the rear. On the 7th, the regiment moved upon Dalton, and again advanced upon Resaca. On the afternoon of the 14th, it participated in a charge on the enemy's works, and lost one hundred and sixteen men, in less than ten minutes, out of three hundred actually engaged. On the 15th the engagement was renewed, but that night Johnston retired to Cassville, which in turn he abandoned, on approach of the national forces. After a few days' rest, the regiment went into the desperate battles of Dallas and Pumpkin-Vine creek, and bore a gallant and honorable part. It was afterwards engaged at Kenesaw mountain, at the Chattahoochie, at Utoy creek, and in the final movements about Atlanta. In these operations, about seventy-five men were lost. During one hundred and twenty-one consecutive days, the regiment was within hearing of hostile firing every day except one. During sixty consecutive days it was under fire sixty different times, and during one week there was not a period of five minutes during which the whistling of a ball or the scream of a shell could not be heard. After the fall of Atlanta the regiment fell back to Decatur, where, after a short rest, it joined in the pursuit of Hood, as far as Gaylesville, Ala. On the 23d of November it went to Johnsonville, Tenn., and then to Columbia, to join the army confronting Hood, finally reaching Franklin on the 30th. The brigade was drawn up in single line, its right resting on the Williamsburg pike, and its left at the Locust grove, this regiment being second from the right. The enemy struck the line to the left of the regiment. The shock was terrific, but the line stood firm, and poured a terrific fire into the rebel column. The troops fought desperately, the men using bayonets, and the officers side-arms, over the very breastworks. By daylight the One Hundred and Eighteenth were across the river, and falling



on Nashville, where it was again engaged. After the battle of Nashville, it participated in the pursuit of the rebels as far as Columbia, and then went to Clifton. From there it proceeded to North Carolina, and on January 16, 1865. On February 11th, it embarked on a steamer at Alexandria, landed at nati proceeded by rail to Washington City, which was reached January 27, 1865. On February 11, it embarked on a steamer at Alexandria, landed at Smithville, at the mouth of Cape Fear river, moved immediately on Fort Anderson, captured it, and the One Hundred and Eighteenth regiment was the first to plant its colors on the walls. On February 20th, it engaged in a sharp action at Town creek, in which three hundred horsemen and two pieces of artillery were captured, and then entered Wilmington on the 22d. On the 6th of March it moved to Kingston, then to Goldsboro', and joined Sherman's army on the 23d of March. It then camped at Mosley Hall until April 9th, when it participated in the final operations against Johnston. It then camped near Raleigh until May 3d, when it moved to Greensboro', and then to Salisbury, where it remained until June 24th, when it was mustered out of the service. The regiment arrived at Cleveland, O., June 2, was welcomed by Chief Justice Chase, participated in a 4th of July celebration, and was finally discharged on the 9th of July, 1865, having first gone into camp at Lima, O., in August, 1862.

#### Field and Staff Officers

Col. Samuel R. Mott; resigned, February 10, 1864.  
 Col. Thomas L. Young; resigned, September 14, 1864.  
 Col. Edgar Sowers; mustered out with regiment.  
 Lieut.-Col. John Walkup.  
 W. H. Phillips, surgeon.  
 Wm. Morrow Beach, surgeon.

#### Company C, One Hundred and Eighteenth Regiment, O. V. I.

Capt. William D. Stone.  
 Capt. Charles H. Floyd.  
 Capt. Abram O. Waucop; promoted from sergeant.  
 Samuel Schwartz, orderly sergeant, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 John S. Christman, sergeant.  
 Joseph Marshall, wounded at Moss Creek, Tenn.; discharged, November 17, 1864.  
 Charles H. Mann, corporal.  
 Wm. F. Carey, commissary sergeant, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Thomas B. Ramsey, commissary sergeant.  
 Jacob Flowers, musician.  
 George Baker, killed at Resaca, May 14, 1864.  
 John Barker, wounded at Resaca, May 14-June, 1865.  
 George Bickman.  
 Joseph Bickman, killed at Resaca, May 14, 1864.  
 Charles F. Behr, discharged, March 19, 1863, disability.  
 James H. Clawson, killed at Resaca, May 14, 1864.

- Perry Clawson, wounded at Resaca, May 14, 1864.  
 Peter Clawson, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Thomas Clawson, died at Knoxville, Tenn., July 7, 1864.  
 Joseph Daes.  
 Bernard Drees.  
 William Flowers.  
 Levi Gump.  
 Jeremiah Hullinger, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Edward Huston, died at home since discharge.  
 Charles D. Keck, wounded at Resaca and Nashville.  
 Andrew Kistner, wounded at Resaca June, 1865.  
 Joseph Kistner, died at Townsend's Bridge February 4, 1863.  
 Asa Leming.  
 Horace H. Malcom, taken prisoner at Atlanta, Ga.  
 Henry Menke, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Philip J. Millhoff.  
 Francis Morman, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 George Moyer.  
 Chas. W. Mann, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 William Moyer.  
 Andrew Murray.  
 George Murray, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Uriah Nunlist.  
 Henry Popplemon.  
 George Reiss.  
 William Rademacher, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 August Soup, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 John Shaffer, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Joseph W. Shaffer, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Henry Schlater, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Benard Shultz, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 William J. Short, August, 1862-June, 1865.  
 Robert Taylor.  
 Henry Tholemier, wounded at Resaca and killed at Camp Dennison, Ohio.  
 Andrew Wolfrom, wounded at Resaca June, 1865.  
 George Austin, wounded at Resaca.  
 Samuel Austin, died at Nashville.  
 William H. Mann, wounded at Atlanta, Ga., July 22, 1864.  
 John Sweigart.  
 Ebenezzer Thompson, died at Jeffersonville, Ind., January 17, 1865.  
 Mahlon Erwin, corporal, August, 1862-June, 1865; died at home since discharge.  
 Henry P. Johnston, sergeant, August, 1862-June, 1865  
     Company I, One Hundred and Eighteenth Regiment, O. V. I.  
 Captain, Edger Sowers, promoted to major and colonel.  
 First lieutenant, William H. Taylor, promoted to captain.

First sergeant, R. M. Campbell, promoted to first lieutenant and quartermaster.

Second sergeant, Wm. H. Mitchell.

Third sergeant, Geo. W. Black, promoted to orderly sergeant.

Fourth sergeant, H. S. Ailes, promoted to sergeant-major.

Fifth sergeant, R. S. Woolery, discharged 1865.

Corporal, George M. Thompson, promoted to first lieutenant.

Corporal, Robert L. Gouge, died at Lexington, Ky.

Corporal, Joseph Blue.

Nathan Kent, corporal, August, 1862-June, 1865.

Jacob B. Duvall, corporal, August, 1862-June, 1865.

Peter Morgan, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.

Richard S. Woolery, sergeant, August, 1862-June, 1865.

Cassius C. Wilson, sergeant, August, 1862-June, 1865.

William H. Mitchell, sergeant, August, 1862-June, 1865.

John W. Nicholson, August, 1862-June, 1865.

Francis M. Akers, corporal, August, 1862-June, 1865.

Bazel Burton, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.

John K. Dinsmore, sergeant, August, 1862-June, 1865.

Isaac Fulton, private, February, 1864-June, 1865.

John M. Peckham, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.

William H. Sceyter, private, August, 1862-June, 1865.

C. B. Coulson, died at Knoxville, Tenn.

A. A. Lawrence.

Cassius C. Wilson, promoted to sergeant.

Musician, Harry Thorn.

Wagoner, John W. Nicholson.

Private, Allen Oscar, July, 1865.

Corporal, F. M. Akers.

Private, S. E. Burton.

Wm. Consolover, died.

Frederick Dudy, died at Mosler Hall, N. C.

Corporal, J. K. Dinsmore.

J. B. Duvall.

Samuel Edwards, July, 1865.

George Fodra, July, 1865.

David D. Fagan, July, 1865.

Stephen R. Guthrie, July, 1865.

George P. Graham, July, 1865.

Beeman Hardisty, July, 1865.

Robert Julian, died at Knoxville, Tenn.

Nathan Kerst, July, 1865.

John H. Kestler, died at Moorehead City, N. C.

William Landers, July, 1865.

Aaron Morgan, died near Kenesaw Mountain, Ga.

C. Mellinger, died at Chattanooga, Tenn.

Thomas H. Melvin, July, 1865.  
 Benjamin Mopes, July, 1865.  
 Ira J. Peebles.  
 ———Peebles, July, 1865.  
 John M. Peckham, July, 1865.  
 Richard Parr, 1862.  
 Jacob F. Rhinehart, July, 1865.  
 Joseph Sattler, July, 1865.  
 Wm. H. Seister, July, 1865.  
 Francis M. Stockstill, July, 1865.  
 Joseph M. Stang, died at Knoxville, Tenn.  
 Robert Thompson, died at Nashville, Tenn.  
 John Tillow, July, 1865.  
 Jonathan C. Westfall, died at Knoxville, Tenn.  
 T. F. Campbell, recruit in 1864; July, 1865.  
 Isaac Allen, recruit in 1864; July, 1865.  
 Bazel Burton, recruit in 1864; July, 1865.  
 Isaac Fulton, recruit in 1864; July, 1865.  
 Fulton Walker, recruit in 1864; died at Nashville, Tenn.

#### BATTERY M, FIRST OHIO LIGHT ARTILLERY,

was recruited in the counties of Shelby, Miami, and Auglaize, by Capt. F. Schultz, and organized at Camp Dennison in September, 1861. It was mustered into the United States service by Capt. P. H. Breslin, December 3, 1861. In January, 1862, in company with Battery F, it proceeded to Louisville, Ky., and reported to Major-General Buell, who was at that time organizing the Army of the Ohio. The battery was ordered to join the main army at Bowling Green. It moved with the army to Nashville, and was there attached to the Artillery Reserve, Colonel Barnett commanding, with which it operated during the march to and the battle of Pittsburg Landing. It also took an active part in all the movements before Corinth, and after the evacuation of that place by the rebels, moved to Huntsville and Stevenson, Ala. In August, 1862, it returned to Nashville and remained there as part of its garrison during Buell's march to Louisville and through Kentucky, and until the return of the army to Nashville under General Rosecrans. The battery was then assigned to General Negley's division of the Fourteenth Corps, and with that division took part in all the skirmishes preceding the battle of Stone river. It greatly distinguished itself in that engagement. When Rosecrans' army moved from Murfreesboro' towards Tullahoma and Chattanooga, Battery M accompanied it and took part in all the skirmishes of that march. It also fought through the battle of Chickamauga and the subsequent victory of Mission Ridge. While in Nashville it was recruited up to its maximum, and newly equipped with guns and horses. It was shortly thereafter again ordered to the field, and on the 25th of June, 1864, it joined the main army at Kenesaw, Ga. On July 22d the battery joined Gen. George H. Thomas' Fourth Army

Corps at Peach-tree creek, having marched overland from Nashville. It was immediately placed in the trenches before Atlanta, where it remained until the flank movement against Jonesboro'. From that time to the battle of Jonesboro' the battery was attached to the First Division of the Fourth Army Corps, and took part in all its marches and skirmishes, pushing on with the army from Jonesboro' to Lovejoy's, where the battery took part in the engagement at the last-named place. A few days thereafter the whole army was ordered back to Atlanta, and while there the battery was relieved from duty and ordered to Chattanooga, where it was mustered out of service October, 1864.

Maj. F. Schultz, September, 1861-July 12, 1865.

Capt. Charles W. Scoville, October, 1864; mustered out with company.

First Lieut. Ferdinand Amann, September, 1861-November, 1862.

First Lieut. Constantine Schwerer, September, 1861-November, 1862.

First Lieut. Joseph Hein, November, 1861-November, 1862.

First Lieut. Eben P. Sturgis, November, 1862, with company.

First Lieut. Charles F. Chase, March, 1864, with company.

First Lieut. Frank R. Reckard, March, 1864, with company.

Second Lieut. Joseph Eberle, September, 1861; resigned October, 1862.

Second Lieut. John C. Lynch, October, 1862; resigned June, 1863.

Declined promotion.

Second Lieut. Jacob Zeigler, June, 1863; mustered out with company.

Second Lieut. Stephen Sloane, May, 1864; mustered out with company.

Second Lieut. Lee P. Beatty, September, 1864; mustered out with company.

Second Lieut. Wm. H. Manning, May, 1865; mustered out with company.

Charles Kotzebue, promoted to second lieutenant.

William Ruff, quartermaster-sergeant, December 13, 1864.

Charles Bodmer, quartermaster, September, 1861-December 13, 1864.

Thomas Meier, sergeant-major.

Henry Schunk, sergeant, September, 1861-December 13, 1864.

George Achbach, sergeant, September, 1861-December 13, 1864.

William Eisentein, sergeant, September, 1861-December 13, 1864.

Jacob Eisenstein, corporal, September, 1861-December 13, 1864.

John Bruning, private, September, 1861-December 13, 1864.

Christian Christler, private, September, 1861-December 13, 1864.

Peter Cigrant, private, September, 1861-December 13, 1864.

Adam Emig, private, September, 1861-December 13, 1864.

Otto Frantz, private.

John Gottschall.

Charles Grim.

Philip Hagelberger.

John Heiser, September, 1861.

Joseph Heiser, December, 1864.

John Kaufle.

Jacob Messmar.

Joseph Miller, private.

George Monroe.

John Nuss.

George Rock.

William Rineker.

Gottlob Zeigler.

Daniel Vesper.

Christian Wasserman.

Frederick Eisenstein, died November 5, 1862, Nashville.  
 August Nassber, died November 1, 1862, Nashville.  
 Henry Foust, died July 2, 1862, Corinth.  
 Theobold Nicholas, died September 1, 1862, Nashville.  
 Christian Wolfrom, died November 4, 1862, Nashville.  
 George Kemper, died May 13, 1862, Louisville, Ky.  
 John Weist, corporal, May 1, 1862.  
 Frank Assman, corporal, July 15, 1863.  
 Christian Enders, March 17, 1863.  
 George Grimm, disability, October 19, 1863.  
 Jacob Hassler, died May 14, 1862.  
 Frederick Mauser, died June 24, 1862.  
 John Weiss, first, died May 4, 1862.  
 Paul Nichel, died June 22, 1862.  
 Gottlib Schabe, died May 14, 1862.  
 Conrad Wissenger, died March 17, 1863.  
 Peter Bodaur, private, February 29, 1864.  
 Thomas M. Wyatt, private, June, 1865.  
 John W. Johnston, private, July, 1864.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Abbott, Eli, private, Company D, One Hundred and Ninety-second O. V. I.; enlisted February, 1865; discharged September, 1865.  
 Anderson, Abner, private, Company I, Forty-second O. V. I.; enlisted December, 1861; discharged September, 1863.  
 Allen, Peter, private, Company K, Thirty-second O. V. I.; enlisted November, 1861; discharged December, 1864.  
 Anderson, Wm. G., private, Company C, Seventy-fourth O. V. I.; enlisted November, 1861; discharged July, 1862.  
 Anderson, George W., private, Company B, Seventy-first O. V. I.; enlisted January, 1864; discharged November, 1865.  
 Aplas, David, corporal, Company K, Twelfth O. V. I., enlisted October, 1863; discharged November, 1865.  
 Apple, Orin, corporal, Company I, Forty-second O. V. I.; enlisted November, 1861; discharged December, 1864.  
 Apple, James, private, Company I, Forty-second O. V. I.; enlisted November, 1861; discharged December, 1864.  
 Baldwin, Nehemiah, private, Company G, Ninth O. V. Cav.; enlisted October, 1863; discharged May, 1865.  
 Baker, Martin, private, Company G, Ninth O. V. Cav.; enlisted October, 1863; discharged May, 1865.  
 Burrows, B. F., private, Company E, Benton Cadets; enlisted April, 1861; discharged 1861.  
 Babcock, Joseph C., private, Company F, One Hundred and Ninety-first O. V. I.; enlisted February, 1865; discharged June, 1865.

Burton, S. C., private, Company G, First O. V. Cav.; enlisted February, 1864; discharged June, 1865.

Bird, Levi J., private, Company K, Twelfth O. V. Cav.; enlisted October, 1863; died in Libby Prison.

Bulle, David T., private, Company I, Fifty-seventh O. V. I.; wounded at Shiloh July, 1862.

Born, Samuel R., private, Company B, Eighth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged July, 1865.

Bushwaw, John, private, Company B, Eighteenth Ill. V.; enlisted May, 1861; discharged June, 1864.

Block, Herman, private, Company F, Eleventh O. V. I.; enlisted June, 1861; discharged June, 1864.

Black, Joseph F., private, Company F, First O. V. I.; enlisted December, 1864; discharged June, 1865.

Bowen, Joseph, private, Company H, Eighty-third O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged July, 1865.

Buckner, John, private, Company H, Twenty-third U. S. C. T.; enlisted August, 1864; discharged June, 1865.

Buckingham, George W., private, Company F, Tenth O. V. Cav.; enlisted March, 1864; discharged July, 1865.

Batchelder, John, private, Company A, Eleventh Mass.; enlisted December, 1861; discharged December, 1864.

Baumann, Christian M., private, First O. Art.; enlisted September, 1861; discharged December, 1863.

Baumann, Christian I., private, First O. Art.; enlisted January, 1864; discharged July, 1865.

Brown, John W., private, Company F, Forty-first O. V. I.; enlisted September, 1864; discharged May, 1865.

Butler, Ludlow S., private, Company (Eighty-eight), Second O. Bat.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged June, 1865.

Bull, Francis M., private, Company E, Seventy-first O. V. I.; enlisted February, 1864; discharged November, 1865.

Brown, William A., private, Company F, Eighty-first O. V. I.; enlisted September, 1861; discharged September, 1864.

Burnett, George S., private, Company F, Twentieth O. V. I.; enlisted September, 1861; discharged July, 1865.

Brown, Cornelius, private, Company I, Fifty-seventh O. V. I.; enlisted November, 1861; discharged April, 1865.

Blue, John H., private, Twenty-second Battery; enlisted April, 1863; discharged February, 1865.

Blue, J. M., private, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Baker, Joshua, corporal, Company I, Fortieth O. V. I.; enlisted October, 1861; discharged December, 1864.

Bruce, Eugene, private, Company C, Ninety-ninth Ill. I.; killed at Atlanta August, 1864.

Bruner, John M., private, Company D, One Hundred and Ninety-first O. V. I.; enlisted February, 1865; discharged September, 1865.

Brown, Charles W., private, Eighth Ohio Battery; enlisted March, 1864; discharged August, 1865.

Bryan, Michael O., private, Eleventh O. V. I.; enlisted April, 1861; discharged 1864.

Beery, Isaac, private, Company H, Sixty-third O. V. I.; enlisted February, 1864; discharged July, 1865.

Boyle, Sylvester H., private, Company I, Ninety-fifth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged August, 1865.

Barkalow, James D., private, Company K, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged August, 1864.

Bull, Francis M., private, Company E, Seventy-first O. V. V. I.; enlisted February, 1865; discharged November, 1865.

Birch, Pem Brook, O. S., Company C, Sixty-ninth O. V. V. I.; enlisted April 16, 1865; discharged July 17, 1865.

Black, Jos. F., private, Company C, Fifth C. V. I.; enlisted December, 1861; discharged December, 1864.

Blue, Reuben R., private, Company A, Eighty-second O. V. I.; enlisted September, 1861; discharged June, 1864.

Bushwaw, Augustus C., O. S., Company B, Eighteenth Ill. V. I.; enlisted May, 1861; discharged July, 1864.

Clayton, Henry N., private, Company D, One Hundred and Ninety-first O. V. I.; enlisted March, 1865; discharged June, 1865.

Coon, David F., private, Company G, First O. V. Cav.; enlisted February, 1863; discharged June, 1865.

Clark, Daniel Z., private, Company K, Twelfth O. V. Cav.; enlisted September, 1863; discharged June, 1865.

Croy, Albert J., private; enlisted November, 1861; discharged December, 1864.

Cleckner, George, private, Company F, Twentieth O. V. I.; enlisted March, 1864; discharged July, 1865.

Calvert, Samuel C., sergeant, Company E, One Hundred and Tenth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged May, 1865.

Cook, Frank, private, Company C, Forty-sixth O. V. I.; enlisted March, 1862; discharged March, 1865.

Coffield, James F., sergeant, Company I, Fortieth O. V. I.; enlisted October, 1861; discharged December, 1864.

Crawford, John, private, Company E, Benton Cadets.

Cromer, Walter C., bugler, Company H, First O. V. Cav.; enlisted February, 1864; discharged September, 1865.

Crawford, John, private, Company E, Benton Cadets.

Crawford, John, private, Company B, Fiftieth O. V. I.; August, 1862.

Crusey, Jacob, private, Company M, First Light Art.; enlisted September, 1861; discharged December, 1864.



Crumbaugh, David M., first lieutenant, Company F, Fifty-fifth Ill. V. I.; enlisted April, 1861; died April 15, 1865.

Crumbaugh, John, private, Company G, Seventy-ninth Ind. V. I.; enlisted May, 1862; died January, 1865.

Crumbaugh, David M., first lieutenant, Company F, Fifty-fifth Ill. V. I.; enlisted April, 1861; discharged March 21, 1865.

Crumbaugh, Daniel H., private, Company G.

Conner, John, private, Company F, Fifteenth O. V. I.; enlisted April, 1861; discharged September, 1861.

Conner, John, private, Company K, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged August, 1864.

Davis, Franklin M., Benton Cadets.

Davis, Calvin M., Company F, One Hundred and Ninety-first O. V. I.; enlisted February, 1865; discharged June, 1865.

Davenport, David S., Company E, Benton Cadets.

Davenport, David S., Company B, Fifth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged March, 1865.

Dickensheets, Joseph, Company G, Twelfth O. V. Cav.; enlisted September, 1863; discharged November, 1864.

Drake, William E., lieutenant, Company E, Fifty-eighth O. V. I.; enlisted November, 1861; discharged January, 1864.

Dever, Samuel, private, Company C, Fourth O. V. I.; enlisted January, 1862; discharged March, 1865.

Dickensheets, William, private, Company A, Fortieth O. V. I.; enlisted September, 1861; discharged September, 1864.

Driscoll, Jerry, corporal, Company D, Fifteenth O. V. I.; enlisted January, 1864; discharged November, 1865.

Dill, Solomon, private, Company L, Eighth O. Cav.; enlisted February, 1864; discharged July, 1865.

Dunnivant, Esquire, private, Company K, One Hundred and Eighty-third O. V. I.; enlisted February, 1864; discharged July, 1865.

Dodds, Josephus, private, Company K, Fifty-seventh O. V. I.; enlisted December, 1861; discharged October, 1862.

De Nise, James S., private, Company K, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged August, 1864.

Elliott, William C., private, Company I, Forty-fourth O. V. I.; enlisted October, 1861; died at Meadow Bluff July, 1862.

Emely, Abraham H., private, Company K, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Estabrook, John T., private, Company I, Ninety-fourth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged April, 1863.

Evans, John, private, Company G, Ninth O. V. Cav.; discharged May, 1865.

Eisenstein, Jacob, corporal, Company M, First O. V. Art.; enlisted October, 1862; discharged July, 1864.

Epler, Benjamin C., private, Company C, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Epler, Jacob, private, Company C, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Elliott, Leonard T., private, Company C, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Elliott, John H., private, Company C, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Edgar, John B., One Hundred and Forty-seventh O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

English, James B., private, Company D, Eighty-eighth O. V. I.; enlisted January, 1863; discharged July, 1865.

Feree, J. D., first sergeant, Company G, First O. V. Cav.; enlisted February, 1864; discharged September, 1865.

Faurot, Theo., private, Company H, Fifteenth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged June, 1865.

Fielding, Charles, musician, Company K, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Faulder, George, private, Company K, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged August, 1864.

Ferree, Jeremiah D., first sergeant, Company G, First O. V. V. I.; enlisted February, 1864; discharged September, 1865.

Gillimore, Lewis C., private, Company C, Sixth V. R. Corps.

Gray, William G., private, Company I, Forty-second O. V. I.; enlisted November, 1861; discharged November, 1864.

Geuss, Christian, private, Company I, Forty-second O. V. I.; enlisted November, 1861; discharged November, 1864.

Geen, John, private, Company B, Ninety-fourth O. V. I.; discharged June, 1865.

Gessler, Dennis, private, Company I, Twentieth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged July, 1864.

Gahret, Jones, private, Company F, Twentieth O. V. I.; enlisted March, 1864; discharged July, 1865.

Gregg, Arthur C., private, Company B, Twentieth O. V. I.; enlisted January, 1864; discharged July, 1865.

Gilfillen, William, private, Company G, First O. V. I.; enlisted October, 1861; discharged August, 1864.

Goffena, Peter, 66th O. V. I.

Green, John, private, Company D, Twelfth O. V. Cav.; enlisted September, 1862; died July, 1863.

Green, Thomas, sergeant, Company I, One Hundred and Fifty-sixth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Gregg, Calvin W., private, Seventeenth O. V. Battery; enlisted August, 1862; discharged August, 1865.

Garrison, Samuel, private, Company K, First O. V. I.; enlisted September, 1861; discharged, 1864.

Hall, W. M., orderly sergeant, Company C, One Hundred and Ninety-second O. V. I.; enlisted 1864; discharged 1865.

Hall, W. M., Forty-fifth O. V. I.; enlisted 1861; discharged 1863.

Harshbarger, J. H., private, Company E, Benton Cadets.

Hagelberger, P. J., private, Company M, First O. L. Art.; enlisted 1861; discharged 1864.

Herbert, Joseph K., private, Company D, Fifty-first O. V. I.; enlisted October, 1864; discharged June, 1865.

Haney, Isaac R., private, Company E, One Hundred and Tenth O. V. I.; enlisted September, 1862; wounded at Winchester, and died June, 1863.

Haney, Peter L., private, Company E, Seventy-first O. V. I.; enlisted October, 1861; killed at Hartsville, Tenn., October, 1863.

Hinsky, Adam, Company K, First O. V. I.; enlisted September, 1861; discharged May, 1865.

Hines, Allen, private, Company G, Ninth O. V. Cav.; enlisted August, 1863; discharged July, 1865.

Haney, Franklin B., private, Company G, Ninth O. V. Cav.; enlisted August, 1863; discharged July, 1865.

Hemphill, Granville M., Company A, Seventy-ninth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged January, 1863.

Hanselman, William, sergeant, Company E, Fortieth O. V. I.; enlisted September, 1861; discharged December, 1864.

Henderson, George A., Company C, Fifty-seventh O. V. I.; enlisted October, 1861; discharged October, 1862.

Harp, Albert, private, Company B, Fifth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged June, 1865.

Harp, Abram, Company C, Sixty-ninth O. V. I.; enlisted April, 1862; discharged July, 1865.

Harter, George S., private, Company H, One Hundred and Tenth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged July, 1865.

Haggott, Benjamin P., hospital steward, Fifty-fourth O. V. I.; enlisted November, 1861; discharged December, 1862.

Hume, David R., corporal, Company F, 15th O. V. I.; enlisted October, 1861; discharged August, 1862.

Hathaway, John F., corporal, Company F, Twentieth O. V. I.; enlisted October, 1861; discharged July, 1865.

Hassenauer, John, Company I, Twentieth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged July, 1864.

Harshberger, James H., corporal, Company L, First H. Art.; enlisted September, 1861; discharged May, 1865.

Henry, Maxwell B., private, Company C, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Henderson, William J., private, Company K, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Harbor, Henry, private, Company E, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Isenberger, Henry, corporal, Company B, Sixty-sixth O. V. I.; enlisted January, 1862; discharged 1865.

Jones, Armstead, Company M, first sergeant, Company D, Fifty-fifth Massachusetts; enlisted May, 1863; discharged August, 1863.

Johnson, Robert, private, Company F, Twentieth O. V. I.; enlisted October, 1862; discharged May, 1865.

Jackson, Matthew, private, Company B, Twenty-seventh U. S. C. T.; enlisted December, 1863; discharged 1865.

Johnston, Samuel P., private, Company I, One Hundred and Fifty-sixth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged August, 1864.

Kohler, John, private, Company H, One Hundred and Twenty-eighth O. V. I.; enlisted December, 1863; discharged July, 1865.

Kauffeld, Henry, private, Benton Cadets.

Kiser, Orin, private, Company K, Twentieth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged July, 1865.

Kehr, Samuel, private, Company K, Twentieth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged July, 1865.

Key, Norman, private, Company H, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth, O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Key, John H., private, Company H, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Kerns, Joseph L., private, Company C, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Knoop, John, private, Company E, One Hundred and Tenth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged July, 1865.

Lawhead, Philip S., private, One Hundred and Forty-seventh O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Loth, John, Company G, Forty-seventh O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1861; discharged August, 1865.

Littlejohn, George W., private, Company I, One Hundred and Tenth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged October, 1865.

Ladd, George, corporal, Company B, Fifth U. S. C. T.; enlisted November, 1863; discharged September, 1865.

Linn, John, private, Company F, One Hundred and Eighty-third O. V. I.; enlisted October, 1864; discharged July, 1865.

Lenhart, George D., sergeant, Company C, First Michigan; enlisted July, 1863; discharged July, 1865.

Lawrence, Asher A., corporal, First Bat.; enlisted August, 1861; discharged July, 1865.

Lenox, Napoleon, private, Benton Cadets; enlisted 1861; discharged August, 1861.

Le Fevre, Morgan A., private, Company F, Fifteenth O. V. I.; enlisted April, 1861; discharged August, 1861.

McKee, Chas. W., sergeant-major, Eighty-eighth Ind. V.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged June, 1865; was wounded at Perrysville and Resaca.

Markley, John, private, Company B, Sixty-sixth O. V. I.; enlisted October, 1861; discharged December, 1864.

McVay, Russell B., private, Company F, O. V. Cav.; enlisted February, 1864; discharged September, 1865.

Mumford, John A., private, Company H, Eleventh O. V. I.; enlisted April, 1861; discharged July, 1864.

Minniear, Amos G., private, Company C, Seventy-first O. V. I.; enlisted November, 1861; discharged November, 1864.

Miller, Martin, private, Company D, Ninety-fourth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged June, 1865.

Moore, Charles H., hospital steward, Second Ill. Cav.; discharged November, 1865.

Moore, Charles H., private, Company I, Second Ill. Cav.; enlisted July, 1861; discharged November, 1865.

Mahony, Patrick H., private, Company H, Twentieth Iowa; enlisted November, 1861; discharged September, 1862.

McCullough, Charles, private, Company E, Benton Cadets.

Moyer, George W., private, Company K, First Heavy Art.; enlisted July, 1863; discharged July, 1865.

Messmer, Jacob, private, Company M, O. Light Art.; enlisted September, 1861; discharged December, 1864.

Mann, Charles W., corporal, Company F, Benton Cadets.

Martin, William C., private, Company F, Fifteenth O. V. I.

Mitchell, Wm. M., private, Company K, One Hundred and Eighty-fifth O. V. I.; enlisted February, 1864; discharged July, 1865.

Martin, John M., private, Company K, Twentieth O. V. I.; enlisted January, 1862; discharged July, 1865.

Mulford, Henry J., private, Company D, Fifty-fourth O. V. I.; enlisted September, 1861; discharged September, 1864.

McDaniel, James, Company C, Sixty-ninth O. V. I.; enlisted 1862; discharged 1865.

Maurer, Frederick, private, Company K, Twelfth O. V. I.; enlisted September, 1863; discharged May, 1865.

Mapes, Henry C., private, Company L, First O. Heavy Art.; enlisted June, 1863; discharged May, 1865.

Markley, John, private, Company B, Sixty-sixth O. V. I.; enlisted October, 1861; discharged December, 1865.

McVay, James, Company E, One Hundred and Eighty-fifth O. V. I.; enlisted February, 1865; discharged September, 1865.

Michael, Dewit C., private, Company K, One Hundred and Thirty-ninth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

McVay, James, private, Company E, One Hundred and Eighty-fifth O. V. I.; enlisted February, 1865; discharged September, 1865.

McCormick, James K., private, Company K, Fifty-seventh O. V. I.; enlisted February, 1862; killed February, 1863.

McCormick, Valentine, brigade wagon master; enlisted December, 1863; discharged June, 1864.

Millhouse, Jacob J., corporal, Company E, One Hundred and Forty-seventh O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

McIntosh, Wm., private, Company E, Forty-fourth O. V. I.; enlisted September, 1861; discharged November, 1864.

Mellinger, Joseph, private, Company K, Eighty-seventh O. V. I.; enlisted June, 1862; discharged October, 1862.

Maxwell, Capt. B. K., One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Morrow, Thomas E., private, Company F, Eleventh O. V. I.; enlisted April, 1861; discharged July, 1864.

McGinness, Leander, sergeant, Company C, Forty-fourth Ind. V. I.; enlisted August, 1861; discharged September, 1865.

Nuss, Andrew, private, Company A, Twentieth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged July, 1864.

O'Neil, William, private, Company A, Fifty-second O. V. I.; enlisted August; discharged June, 1865.

Phillips, John A., private, Company E, Thirty-sixth Ind.; enlisted August 1861; discharged September, 1863.

Potts, Harrison M., private, Company E, One Hundred and Tenth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged June, 1865.

Parr, Wm. A., private, Company G, Seventy-first O. V. I.; enlisted January, 1862; discharged December, 1862.

Powell, William, private, Company F, Eleventh O. V. I.; enlisted June, 1861; discharged February, 1864.

Powell, William, private, Company D, Thirty-first O. V. I.; enlisted February, 1864; discharged July, 1865.

Pilliod, Francis, private, Company I, Fortieth O. V. I.; enlisted October, 1861; discharged December, 1864.

Proctor, John, private, Company F, One Hundred and Tenth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; killed 1864.

Price, Wm. H., private, Company C, Ninth N. J. V. I.; enlisted November, 1864; discharged May, 1865.

Patterson, Robt. M., first lieutenant, Company I, One Hundred and Eighteenth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged June, 1865.

Patterson, John H., corporal, Company E, One Hundred and Forty-seventh O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; died August, 1864.

Patterson, Thomas R., private, Company E, One Hundred and Forty-seventh O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged August, 1864.

Quillen, Alvin E., private, Company L, Eighth U. S. Cav.; enlisted February, 1864; discharged November, 1864.

Quinn, Michael, sergeant, Company H, Fifteenth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged June, 1865.

Russell, Joshua W., private, Company E, Second Heavy Art.; enlisted September, 1863; discharged June, 1865.

Rylatt, James, corporal, Company A, Fourth Del.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged June, 1865.

Rodifer, Wm. L., private, Second Bat. Light Art.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged August, 1865.

Reed, John J., sergeant, Company G, Twelfth O. V. I.; enlisted September, 1863; discharged November, 1865.

Rebstock, Adolphus, private, Company I, Twentieth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged July, 1864.

Rebstock, Adolphus, first class musician, Second Brig. First Div.; enlisted February, 1865; discharged July, 1865.

Roberts, Henry C., private, Company I, Fifty-first O. V. I.; enlisted May, 1863; discharged July, 1865.

Rike, Dayton, private, Company K, Fifty-seventh O. V. I.; enlisted February 1862; discharged August, 1865.

Rike, Wm. E., private, Company E, One Hundred and Eighty-fifth O. V. I.; enlisted February, 1864; discharged September, 1865.

Reed, Wm. A., private, Company G, Twelfth O. V. Cav.; enlisted September, 1863; discharged November, 1865.

Rasor, James A., private, Company K, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged August, 1864.

Steel, James A., private, Twenty-fifth O. V. I.; enlisted February, 1864; discharged 1864.

Shaw, William H., private; Company F, Fifteenth O. V. I.; enlisted April, 1861; discharged August, 1861.

Shellenbarger, Company M, First O. Art.; enlisted September, 1862; discharged March, 1865.

Shoup, John, private, Company C, Third U. S. Art.; enlisted December, 1862; discharged December, 1864.

Smeltzer, Thomas, commissary sergeant, Company G, Ninth O. V. Cav.; enlisted August, 1863; discharged August, 1865.

Swearinger, G. A., corporal, Company B, Ninety-fourth O. V. I.; enlisted July, 1862; discharged June, 1865.

Strunk, Levi, private, Company A, Eleventh O. V. Cav.; enlisted October, 1861; discharged April, 1865.

Starret, David, private, Company I, Fortieth O. V. I.; enlisted October, 1861; discharged December, 1864.

Soupp, Victor, private, Company I, Fortieth O. V. I.; enlisted October, 1861; discharged December, 1864.

Stewart, Robert, private, Company B, Seventy-sixth O. V. I.; enlisted February, 1864; discharged July, 1865.

Stewart, William, Company E, Forty-fifth O. V. I.; enlisted July, 1862; discharged June, 1865.

Snodgrass, James H., sergeant, Company A, Twenty-eighth Mich.; enlisted January, 1864; discharged June, 1866.

Snell, John, private, Company E, Fortieth O. V. I.; enlisted September, 1861; discharged December, 1864.

Shanely, Isaac, private, Company I, Forty-second O. V. I.; enlisted November, 1861; discharged December, 1864.

Shue, John, private, Company E, Second O. Heavy Art.; enlisted July, 1863; discharged August, 1865.

Shue, Conrad, private, Company K, Thirty-first O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1861; discharged July, 1865.

Shanely, John, corporal, Company I, Forty-second O. V. I.; enlisted November, 1861; discharged December, 1864.

Spears, David, sergeant, Company A, Fifty-fifth Mass.; enlisted May, 1863; discharged August, 1865.

Shaw, James W., sergeant, Company K, Twelfth O. V. I.; enlisted October, 1863; discharged November, 1865.

Shue, Henry, private, Second Bat.; enlisted January, 1864; discharged July, 1865.

Souder, Henry J., private, Company K, Twentieth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged May, 1865.

Sparling, John S., private, Company I, Twentieth O. V. I.; enlisted January, 1864; discharged March, 1865.

Shaw, David, private, Sixteenth O. V. I.; enlisted November, 1861; discharged November, 1862.

Scott, George, private, Company E, Fifty-fourth O. V. I.; enlisted January, 1864; discharged August, 1864.

Smith, Robert, private, Company H, Fifty-fourth Mass.; enlisted April, 1863; discharged August, 1865.

Surin, Deamons, sergeant, Company G, Seventy-first O. V. I.; enlisted January, 1864; discharged November, 1865.

Staley, Valentine, first sergeant, Company E, Fifteenth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged March, 1865.

Staley, Philip, private, Company H, Eighth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged July, 1865.

Shearer, Jeremiah, private, Company B, Fiftieth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged June, 1865.

Surin, Henry, private, Company G, Seventy-first O. V. I.; enlisted January, 1862; discharged February, 1865.

Stewart, Luther, private, Benton Cadets.

Snodgrass, Finley, private, Company K, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. V. I.; enlisted January, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Smith, S. D., assistant surgeon U. S. navy; enlisted spring of 1863; discharged fall of 1863.

Smith, Wm. P., orderly sergeant, Company E, One Hundred and Tenth O. V. I.; enlisted 1862; discharged July, 1865.

Schenck, Geo. W., sergeant, Company K, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged August, 1864.

Schenck, John, private, Company K, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged August, 1864.



Staley, Daniel, private, Company F, Fourteenth O. V. I.; enlisted October 1861; discharged November, 1863.

Stockstill, Henry I., private, Company D, Fifty-first O. V. I.; enlisted September, 1864; discharged September, 1865.

Stewart, Thomas D., corporal, Company E, Benton Cadets; enlisted September, 1861; discharged January, 1862.

Sparling, James, private, Company C, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Staley, David, private, Company K, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Staley, Armstrong, private, Company A, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Slagel, Jacob S., private, Company B, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged 1864.

Sceyster, Wm. H., private, Company G, Seventh N. Y. I., Mexican war; enlisted 1846; discharged 1848.

Schwartz, Samuel, private, Benton Cadets; enlisted 1861; discharged 1861.

Stewart, Wm. D., private, Company K, Fifty-seventh O. V. V. I.; enlisted January, 1864; discharged August, 1865.

Stewart, Willoughby, private, Company F, Forty-seventh O. V. I.; enlisted September, 1864; discharged July, 1865.

Skillen, James F., bugler, First O. V. Cav.; enlisted 1862; discharged 1865.

Stewart, Joseph, private, Company E, Forty-fifth O. V. I.; enlisted July, 1862; discharged June, 1865.

Smith, John, private, Company B, Twentieth O. V. V. I.; enlisted September, 1861; discharged June, 1865.

Turner, George, private, Company D, One Hundred and Ninety-second O. V. I.; enlisted February, 1865; discharged April, 1865.

Trapp, P. M., sergeant, Company G., First O. V. I.; enlisted September, 1861; discharged August, 1864.

Tourdot, Chas., private, Company I, Fortieth O. V. I.; enlisted November, 1861; discharged December, 1864.

Thompson, Robt. J., private, Company I, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged August, 1864.

Unum, David, private, Company E, Fortieth O. V. I.; enlisted October, 1861; discharged September, 1864.

Van Ripley, William L., private, Company K, O. V. I.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1865.

Verdier, William I., private, Company I, Forty-second O. V. I.; enlisted November, 1861; discharged December, 1864.

Viney, Charles, private, Company F, Forty-third U. S. C. T.; enlisted April, 1864; discharged October, 1865.

Voorhees, Charles F., corporal, Company E, Benton Cadets; enlisted September, 1861; discharged January, 1862.

Williams, William H., private, Company F, Fifteenth O. V. I.; enlisted for three months.

Woodruff, John A., private, Company K, Fifty-seventh O. V. I.; enlisted October, 1861; discharged August, 1865.

Waldon, Alex., private, Company K, Thirty-second O. V. I.; enlisted March, 1864; discharged August, 1865.

Wicker, James, private, Company B, Fifth U. S. C. T.; enlisted November, 1863; discharged September, 1865.

Wirich, George, Company F, Twentieth O. V. I.; enlisted September, 1861; discharged October, 1863.

Wright, Charles, Company F, Twentieth O. V. I.; enlisted September, 1861; discharged October, 1864.

Wyatt, Adam B., Company F, Eleventh O. V. I.; enlisted June, 1861.

Weigend, Vinzing, Company D, First O. Heavy Art.; enlisted June, 1863; discharged July, 1865.

Williams, Elijah A., Company F, Nineteenth O. V. I.; enlisted February, 1865; discharged August, 1865.

Wones, Simon, private, Company I, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Wambaugh, B. F., private, Company A, Forty-seventh O. V. I.; enlisted March, 1862; discharged June, 1865.

Wilson, Dr. Albert, surgeon, First O. V. I.; enlisted April, 1861; discharged July, 1865.

Wilson, Isaac N., private, Company A, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Wenrick, John A., private, Company C, Twenty-fifth O. V. V. I.; enlisted October, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Wilson, J. Wesley, private, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Wilkinson, Isaac N., private, Company D, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.; enlisted May, 1864; discharged September, 1864.

Wilson, Joshua, private, Company B, One Hundred and Fourth Ill. V. I.; enlisted August, 1861; discharged July, 1865.

Williams, Job W., corporal, Company A, Seventy-first O. V. I.; enlisted 1861; discharged 1865.

Zerbe, George W., private, Company H, Fifteenth O. V. I.; enlisted August, 1862; discharged June, 1865.

#### NEAL POST

Shelby county bore its full share in the great contest in the sixties. As the years have passed this war has shown that it had far more to do with the world's history than the mere settlement of our own local questions. Thermopylae and Marathon held back the lower civilization of Persia, which was hurled against the higher civilization of the Greeks. Lepanto witnessed the destruction of the Turkish Mohammedan fleet and Christian civilization was granted a new life. The hands on the dial of time moved forward.

In the sixties the North had free speech, free schools and above all the right to labor without stigma. In the South free speech was at the risk of life; there were no common schools worthy of the name and the laborer was put upon the level of the slave. For a century this had dominated its people, and they had a lower and a higher civilization separated by only imaginary or natural lines. It was a conflict between them that called forth the warriors. The destruction of slavery lifted not only our land but the whole of humanity to a higher plane and the conflict continued until the grave was dug so deep that a resurrection could never be possible. Our political status was placed on a safer foundation and our soldiers look at it with eminent satisfaction. This satisfaction is very much enhanced when the results are more fully known and realized.

Had the Southern Confederacy succeeded, the first thing would have been the reestablishment of negro slavery on such a firm basis, that it would have remained for centuries, with all its evil influences, not only on their own people but with a reflex action on our side. They being the stronger, would have compelled the North to enter into such a treaty as would have made every civil officer responsible for the escape of their negro chattels. We would have been compelled to use all diligence, and to invoke all the powers of law to apprehend and hold property that belonged to the other side. From the Atlantic to the Pacific the border would have had its fortifications which would require armaments and men—this on both sides.

In addition to this, each side would have required an army of revenue officers, to guard and collect the revenue according to such tariff laws as might have been enacted. All this expense would have come from a divided country, harrassed by constant internecine contests.

The right of secession would have been settled affirmatively and we would have had that to face. New England would have said that she had no frontier to guard and why should she be taxed for the civil and military expenses—and she would have seceded. Likewise the Pacific coast, guarded on the east by the Rockies, would have done as New England did, and how could it be helped?

Disintegration would surely have followed and we would have gradually become separate principalities without prestige or power. Taxes would have increased so that, as a whole, the amounts now paid as pensions would be but a drop in the bucket. Opportunity for English extension would have been manifest and in the course of time the English flag would have floated where now is the Star Spangled Banner.

Shelby county sent into the ranks much of its best blood and when times of stress occurred, her soldiers carried themselves through with credit and honor to their country. On their return home they took up the work their hands had laid down and never faltered in their civil duties any more than in their military ones.

The organization of the Grand Army of the Republic became a national one, and almost every community had its post. A call was made April 5, 1881, for the purpose of establishing one in Sidney. The charter members

were C. W. McKee, W. A. Nutt, Thomas Wright, W. A. Skillen, W. M. Van Fossen, E. E. Nutt, Albert Wilson, J. A. Montross, G. S. Harter, H. B. Neal, Hugo Stahl, C. R. Joslin, J. S. Laughlin, J. C. Haines, C. E. Fielding, H. A. Ailes, Reuben Smeltzer and Pember Burch. The name selected was "Neal," in honor of Capt. William D. Neal, Company K, Twentieth O. V. I., who was killed in front of Kenesaw mountain, June 26, 1864. At the date of compiling this history there have been mustered 489 veterans, coming from twelve different states and representing all arms of the service.

The post has passed through many vicissitudes, and yet was generally prosperous, as it had the sympathy of a large majority of our citizens. But age is fast thinning its ranks. Many live at a distance and the attendance is now small and soon Neal Post, No. Sixty-two, G. A. R., Department of Ohio, will be numbered among the things that were. In the organization Neal Post has borne no small part. On May 16, 1894, Capt. E. E. Nutt was elected Ohio department commander for one year. He appointed from the post, T. B. Marshall as his adjutant and H. C. Roberts as his quartermaster. At that time the department had nearly 44,000 members in some 650 posts.

To formulate the necessary orders; receive and reply to the thousand and one questions was a task of no small dimensions. The year's administration was a very successful one and much praise was accorded to Commander Nutt in consequence. While in this connection it seems proper to give Mr. Nutt's history, both civil and military, as he was all his life one of the leading citizens of the county.

He was born near Sidney in October, 1837, on a farm and prepared himself for college. When teaching a district school he resigned and enlisted in the three months' service upon the firing on Fort Sumter. The regiment was the Fifteenth O. V. I. At the expiration of his enlistment, he joined the Twentieth O. V. I. for three years and advanced from private to captain. From the official records of the war, and while a lieutenant, he was awarded a silver medal for conspicuous bravery in the battle near Atlanta, July 24, 1864, by Maj.-Gen. F. P. Blair. His civil life was uneventful. He engaged in the grain trade, which he successfully pursued, and except for an interval of a few years continued until the close of his life in 1911. Outside of his business he was always interested and took an active part in various municipal affairs, chiefly in school matters. His influence was long felt and he was considered a man of forceful character, a lifelong republican in politics and a professing Methodist in religion. The post now numbers eighty and its present commander is Dr. B. M. Sharp.

#### THE MONUMENTAL BUILDING

One of the most imposing structures in Sidney is this memorial edifice erected to the fallen heroes of the Civil war by a grateful people. In the year 1865, just at the close of the war, a town meeting was called to consider the proposition to erect a monument in the public square in memory of the martyred dead heroes of Shelby county. Many plans were suggested by various speakers but no definite action was taken at that meeting. After

considering the matter for some time Messrs. C. W. Van De Grift, Frank B. Carey and Cyrus W. Frazer organized a private association for the purpose of conducting a lottery, the proceeds of which should be devoted to that purpose. Mr. Frazer withdrew and J. R. Fry became his successor. The lottery was established with real or personal property and the tickets were placed on sale at one dollar each.

It was resolved to raise \$60,000 and when \$40,000 was realized \$30,000 was used in the purchase of real estate and personal property for prizes. When the sale of tickets was exhausted the lottery was drawn, the prizes distributed and the proceeds of the drawing, \$11,473.97, delivered to the council.

On the 2d of May, 1871, the general assembly of Ohio passed an act providing for the appointment of trustees and the disposition of moneys or other property held in trust for the erection of soldiers' monuments. This act provided for the appointment of trustees by the court of common pleas, who should give bond for the faithful discharge of the duties of the office; that such board of trustees should not exceed seven members, each of whom should be a resident of the county in which a monument was to be erected; that the board, or a majority thereof, should determine whether to erect a monument or a monumental building; that permanent tablets should be provided, on which should be inscribed the name of each soldier who lost his life in the service of his country; that vacancies in the board should be filled by the court of common pleas; that all monuments or monumental buildings should be forever free from taxation.

On the 27th of May, 1871, W. P. Stowell, Esq., presented a petition to the court of common pleas, asking that the funds held by J. F. Frazier, George Vogle, and J. R. Fry, being the proceeds of the lottery, be placed in the hands of trustees under the act of May 2, 1871. Messrs. Frazier and Vogle appeared in court, waived service, and on June 12th the court determined, after due examination, that there were in the hands of said persons money, property, and assets to the value of \$11,473.97, the same being a fund set apart for the erection of a soldiers' monument. The court thereupon appointed a board of trustees, consisting of Levi C. Barkdull, Nathan R. Wyman, H. S. Gillespie, Daniel Staley, Hugh Thompson, Joseph C. Haines, and R. R. Lytle. The court further directed the original trustees, Messrs. Frazier, Vogle, and Fry, to bring said amount of \$11,473.97 into court on the 17th of June inst. This order was complied with, the new trustees gave approved bonds, and received the property in trust with instructions to loan the same in good and sufficient security. The trustees met on the same date and organized by electing Hugh Thompson, president; N. R. Wyman, secretary; and Hugh Thompson, N. R. Wyman, and L. C. Barkdull, executive committee.

On May 27, 1873, the trustees purchased the corner lot, known as the Ackerly corner, and being the south half of the lot on corner of Court and Ohio streets, Sidney. The consideration was \$4,500 and possession until the 1st of April, 1874.

On February 15, 1874, A. J. Robertson and Col. Harrison Wilson were appointed members of the board of trustees vice R. R. Lytle and H. S. Gillespie, who became non-residents. The property was then rented to John Mather for one year at \$50 per annum.

In the autumn of 1874 Mr. Robertson suggested the idea of requesting an additional legislative act to authorize the town and township to raise a joint fund which, with the amount already in the hands of the trustees, should be applied to the erection of a monumental building. This action was approved by the legislature, and the people were authorized to hold an election to determine whether the town and township should contribute to the project. Under this provision the corporation of Sidney and Clinton township each voted \$13,000, and issued bonds for said amount.

On March 21, 1875, the board had resolved to erect a monumental building if sufficient aid could be obtained from Sidney and Clinton township to make an aggregate fund of \$40,000, and as noted above, said fund was raised by taxation.

On May 30, 1875 Hugh Thompson and Col. H. Wilson were appointed to take proper measures to have another amount of \$12,000 voted by Sidney and Clinton township, or a tax of \$6,000 each. This was done March 15, 1876, the same having been changed to \$7,500 each, or an aggregate of \$15,000.

On the 14th of April the trustees rented a room for office uses in the residence of Hugh Thompson, and authorized A. J. Robertson to act for the board in arranging terms with the town and township as to the rights and privileges of each concerning the proposed building. Levi C. Barkdull, Harrison Wilson, and N. R. Wyman were appointed a committee on plan of building, subject to the approval of the full board. Hugh Thompson and L. C. Barkdull were authorized to dispose of the building which occupied the lot already purchased. The trustees, town council, and township trustees elected representatives to report plans and confer in joint session. A. J. Robertson was chosen by the building trustees, Samuel McCune by the town council, and John Wagner by the township officers, as representatives of the three bodies concerned. Plans were received, and, after a full examination by the joint bodies, the plans submitted by Samuel Lane of Cleveland were adopted, and on May 10, 1875, a committee on contracts was appointed, consisting of A. J. Robertson, L. C. Barkdull, and N. R. Wyman, their action to be subject to the approval of the whole board. A. J. Robertson was appointed to superintend the construction of the building.

Description and contracts.—The size of the building is one hundred and sixty-five feet on Court street and forty-four feet on Ohio street; three stories high, with basement in front thirty-five by forty-one feet, and a cellar under the whole building, which is so arranged as to be converted into rooms if any necessity of this character should arise.

The brickwork was let to W. W. Robertson for \$9,259.82. The cellar wall to Jacob Hopley for \$954.26. Cut stonework to Thomas Jones for \$9,650. Additional work to Thomas Jones for \$473. Woodwork to Mr.

McCoy for \$11,500. Painting and glazing to F. Gierman for \$2,963. Galvanized iron, tin, and slating to W. M. Service & Co. for \$1,915. Plastering to Fullers & Pecks for 6,508. Iron columns to Manning & Son for \$2,887.29. Gas fitting to P. Smith & Bro. for \$225. Frescoing and scene painting to E. F. Harvey for \$1,200. Steam heater to Brooks, Leight & Co. for \$3,397. Stage carpenter work to F. Fowler for \$430. Cost of stone for cellar and area walls for \$1,479.85.

A 1,400-pound bell was furnished by the corporation of Sidney.

Laying the corner-stone.—The following order of exercises was observed on Thursday, June 24, 1875, being the occasion of the laying of the corner-stone of Monumental Building. Prayer, by Rev. T. C. Reade, after which the square, level, and plumb were masonically applied to the corner-stone, and the corn, wine, and oil sprinkled upon it; whereupon the grand master struck the corner with his gavel, and the whole ceremonies were masonically explained. A box was then deposited in the corner-stone containing the following-named articles: Programme of the day; list of discharged soldiers of Shelby county; list of officers and members of Company M, First Ohio Light Artillery of Shelby county; copy of Shelby County Democrat of June 24, 1875; copies of Sidney Journal of April 21, 1865, and June 18, 1875; list of Summit Lodge, No. Fifty, K. of P.; a \$500 monumental bond of the village of Sidney, of issue of June 14, 1875; Wide-awake badge of J. C. Jacobs, lieutenant-colonel of the Twenty-fourth New York Cavalry; list of Silver Star Cornet Band; copy of Cincinnati Gazette, Commercial, and Enquirer of June 24, 1875; charter of Orange Lodge, No. One Hundred and Fifty-two, and names of charter members; name of the former owner of the building site, George Ackerly; names of survivors of the Mexican war, A. J. Robertson, George Ackerly, Amos Woaley, and W. H. Howell; names of building committee, A. J. Robertson, N. R. Wyman, and L. C. Barkdull; name of architect, Samuel Lane, associate member of American Institute of Architects.

It may here be observed that after this part of the ceremony, Sergt. W. M. Van Fossen, who in the procession was color-bearer of the Ninety-ninth regiment, veiled the corner-stone with the flag, saying, "Done in memory of the fallen heroes of Shelby county, in the state of Ohio and town of Sidney, June 24th, in the year of our Lord 1875."

A Masonic address was then delivered by J. F. McKinney, Esq., of Piqua, to a large and enthusiastic assemblage in the public square.

John G. Stephenson was appointed a member of the board February 9, 1877, vice L. C. Barkdull, resigned.

On April 14, 1877, the trustees were authorized to issue bonds for the completion of the building, and H. Thompson and J. G. Stephenson were appointed to procure printed bonds. Messrs. Haines and Stephenson were instructed to collect \$670 from Sidney and \$100 from Clinton township, to be applied to the payment for heating apparatus.

On the 4th of May the trustees submitted a report to the court of common pleas. Moneys received consisted of real estate, notes, etc., amounting to \$59,538.32. Disbursements, \$58,289.08. Balance on hand, \$1,249.24.

On February 1, 1890, the trustees met to consider a proposition to receive the books and other property from the Library Association trustees, and on February 10th the proposition was accepted on the following conditions: That the library be free to the clergy, their wives and minor children; to soldiers and sailors of the Civil war and their wives and minor children; to the widows and mothers of such soldiers or sailors who may have died in the service; to all others upon such terms as the trustees may prescribe; the whole institution to be governed by such rules and regulations as the board may adopt. The Monumental Association, by the board of trustees, bound the corporation to accept the proposition and comply with its provisions as soon as the funds of said association would justify full acceptance.

The building, which was completed in 1877, has a splendid basement devoted to various uses; the first floor on Ohio street, as originally conceived, had two store-rooms, one one hundred and twelve by nineteen feet, and the other seventy-five by nineteen feet. These have entrances on Ohio street, as have also the library and hall, while the store-rooms have entrances on Court street, also. Adjoining the Court street entrance to the hall and second story is a room eighteen by forty-three feet, once used for the postoffice, and west of this the fire department.

On the second floor is Library Hall, forty-two by seventy-five feet, with a librarian's office and museum, thirty-five by eighteen feet. In Library Hall are preserved the marble tablets upon which are inscribed the names of the illustrious patriots who died in the War of the Rebellion. Its splendid alcoves, arches and decorations make it a fit place to enshrine the names of the county's dead.

The third floor was the Opera Hall, forty-two by one hundred and twenty-six feet, which was complete in ornament, scenery and furniture and capable of seating seven hundred and fifty people. This room was abandoned as an opera house in 1895 and has since been the home of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

The whole is surmounted by a mansard roof, with a niche on the Ohio street front in which is a bronze statue of a private soldier resting on his gun.

The building has always been a source of pride to the community and stands a crowning credit to its originators, and all who in any way contributed to its construction.

The present board of monumental trustees consists of Judge Harrison Wilson, president; W. A. Graham, W. B. McCabe, W. T. McLean, L. M. Studevart and Perry Frazier.

#### TABLET ROSTER

The soldiers' tablets in Monumental Hall contain the roster as given below. The inscriptions at the head of the three tablets are also reproduced.

#### AT REST

D. M. Crumbaugh, Fifty-fifth Illinois.  
D. Elliott, Lincoln Guards.



- J. W. Michael, Company D, Twenty-fifth Ill.  
 J. Quatman, Thirty-second Ind. Cav.  
 G. Turner, Company K, One Hundred and Ninety-second O. V. I.  
 J. McKercher, Company C, Second O. Art.  
 Lieut. R. B. Neal, Fifth U. S. Col. Hy. Art.
- J. Bogar, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth O. V. I.  
 P. S. Hodge, Forty-fifth O. V. I.  
 I. Gallimore, Thirty-first O. V. I.  
 Isaac Rollins, Fortieth O. V. I., Company E.  
 Frank Kemper, Fortieth O. V. I., Company E.  
 Henry Segner, Fortieth O. V. I., Company E.  
 Samuel Chambers, Fortieth O. V. I., Company I.  
 John P. Born, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.  
 John B. Dunham, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.  
 John W. Denman, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.  
 George Line, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.  
 Cyrus W. Jackson, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.  
 James R. McClure, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.  
 Jerry Ray, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.  
 Wm. Stone, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.  
 Wm. K. Wilkinson, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.  
 Thomas Wise, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.  
 Emerson Williams, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth O. N. G.  
 J. Rollin, Fifty-eighth O. V. I.  
 Levi J. Bird, Twelfth O. Cav.  
 Ransom Gregg, Twelfth O. Cav.  
 John Green, Twelfth O. Cav.  
 John D. Struble, Twelfth O. Cav.  
 Wm. R. Wright, Twelfth O. Cav.  
 Samuel G. Brown, Ninth O. Cav.
- George Baldwin, Ninth O. Cav.  
 Neh. Baldwin, Ninth O. Cav.  
 George Hardesty, Ninth O. Cav.  
 Francis R. Honnell, Ninth O. Cav.  
 Virgil C. Hardesty, Ninth O. Cav.  
 John P. Powell, Ninth O. Cav.  
 Thomas Powell, Ninth O. Cav.  
 Austin E. Wright, Ninth O. Cav.  
 Amos Winks, Ninth O. Cav.  
 Charles Beers, Seventy-eighth O. V. I.  
 Anth. J. Wilford, Seventy-eighth O. V. I.  
 E. Brust, Sixty-sixth Ill.  
 W. C. Elliott, Forty-fourth O.  
 H. H. Quillen, First O. Inf., Company E.  
 P. O. Jacobs, Forty-fifth O. Inf., Company E.  
 J. B. Graham, First O. Inf., Company G.  
 E. Eisenstein, Schultz's Battery.  
 Henry Faust, Schultz's Battery.  
 Ch. Katzabua, Schultz's Battery.  
 August Nessler, Schultz's Battery.  
 George Remfer, Schultz's Battery.  
 N. Theabold, Schultz's Battery.  
 Chris. Wolforn, Schultz's Battery.
- Samuel Ashby, First O. Cav.  
 Wm. Boyer, First O. Cav.  
 Thos. O'Neil, First O. Cav.  
 John Slagle, First O. Cav.  
 Jas. A. Steale, First O. Cav.  
 Isaac R. Haney, One Hundred and Tenth O. V. I., Company E.  
 Clark Morrow, One Hundred and Tenth O. V. I., Company E.  
 John Procter, One Hundred and Tenth O. V. I., Company E.

## HISTORY OF SHELBY COUNTY

James U. Corwin, Forty-second O. V. I.	John Forsyth, Benton Cadets.
Isaac DeBoy, Forty-second O. V. I.	Wm. Ginn, Benton Cadets.
Wm. Gray, corporal, Forty-second O. V. I.	W. T. Windle, Benton Cadets.
Jas. McConnaughey, Forty-second O. V. I.	Wm. B. Crowell, Eleventh O. V. I., Company F.
John Baldwin, Benton Cadets.	Sam Lippencott, Eleventh O. V. I., Company F.
Clark J. Baker, Benton Cadets.	E. A. Morrow, Eleventh O. V. I., Company F.
Wm. W. Darnell, Benton Cadets.	James Wolf, Eleventh O. V. I., Company F.

## SHELBY COUNTY'S FALLEN HEROES

## Fifty-seventh Regiment, O. V. I.

P. Doolan, Co. A.	J. McCormick, Co. K.
J. Lotteridge, Co. A.	J. M. Rhodehamel, Co. K.
J. W. Toland, Co. C.	Jas. J. Smith, Co. K.
J. G. Meranda, Co. K.	David Smith, Co. K.
F. M. McCormick, Co. K.	S. Woodruff, Co. K.
J. Merchling, Co. K.	J. W. Weatherhead, Co. K.

## Fiftieth Regiment, O. V. I.

Co. B.	Wm. Flint.	W. Magginnis.
J. T. Lucas, Lieut.	Robert Ginn.	J. W. McDonald.
David Bowsby.	Moses M. Grey.	Wm. T. Peer.
Chris. Botkin.	John Humphrey.	J. F. Polhanus.
Henry L. Baker.	Robert Jeffries.	Thomas Day.
Wm. Conway.	Jesse Lenox.	John Jones.
A. C. F. Feinck.	J. Lippencott.	

## Twentieth Regiment, O. V. I.

Co. B.	Francis M. Hall.	Henry Schench.
Elias Baldwin.	J. Harshbarger.	Henry Staley.
W. H. Borum.	John Johnston.	Martin L. Thrush.
George Baldwin.	Abr. I. Mapes.	J. W. Wilkinson.
David Baldwin.	Henry D. Minnick.	William Waters.
Perry Bailey.	Wm. Munch.	Sylvester Wright.
W. R. Campbell.	J. B. McAlexander.	John K. Wilson.
Jas. H. Coleman.	Ben. J. F. Ogle.	Harvey Watts.
Gabriel Crawford.	George Pence.	J. C. Williamson.
Daniel Eicher.	John Rinehart.	Co. F.
T. J. Goble—L. Gump.	G. W. Rush.	J. E. Blakely.
Harlin P. Hall.	George W. Ragen.	William H. Coy.
Amos Hoffman.	Joseph S. Schench.	P. Crotenbiler.

William F. Clancy.	Co. I.	Perry Deweese.
Cor. Davenport.	Theophilus G. Ailes.	George Deal.
Mathias Elliott.	Demmitt Barker.	Jasper N. Davis
Lemuel Ellsworth.	Benjamin Dodds.	Jesse Day.
William Edwards.	Adam Englehart.	William Dodds.
Robert Elliott.	Pierce Johns.	E. S. Gallimore.
Levi Hughes.	Silas Kemp.	F. Hawkins.
Philip Hall.	J. G. McClelland.	Eli Hardesty.
John Hinkle.	B. L. Shackelford.	H. Hardesty.
Albert Hines.		Christian Jelly.
William Heffelma.	Co. K.	James A. Knox.
William Henman.	Wm. D. Neal, Capt.	John E. Kessler.
John Hinskey.	William Airgood.	Ozias Lambert.
Martin Hale.	William Baker.	Martin Line.
Thomas Jackson.	Oliver P. Bogart.	Abraham Lenox.
George W. Jordon.	Columbus Beeson	Elias Manning.
Thomas Minnear.	David C. Baker.	Jasper Miller.
George Olden.	Samuel Bryan.	James Moore.
S. E. McManama.	Thomas Baldwin.	George W. Quillen.
Nathan Russell.	Jesse Babcock.	George Ridenbo.
John S. Shaw.	Elisha Bogue.	Moses Sturgeon.
Thomas Smith.	Isaac O. Cole.	William H. Sturm.
Daniel Vanate.	Thomas Duncan.	John Umphrey.
John W. Vandever.	James Dalton.	John Wagner.
		Andrew J. Watson.
		Andrew Willis.

## One Hundred and Eighty-fifth Regiment, O. V. I.

Co. E.	Jacob Bogar.	J. W. Hogan.
Jacob Bland.	Jacob Cook.	John Shane.

## IN PEACE

## Seventy-first Regiment, O. V. I., Company C.

Peter L. Haney.	Jacob W. Miller.	Wharton S. Woolery.
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## One Hundred and Eighteenth Regiment, O. V. I.

Co. C.	H. Tholmier.	Robert Julian.
Joseph Backman.	E. Thompson.	John H. Kessler.
George Baker.	Co. I.	C. Mellinger.
James H. Clawson.	C. Coulson.	Aaron Morgan.
Thomas Clawson.	William Consoliver.	John M. Stang.
Andrew Irwin.	Frederick Dudy.	R. J. Thompson.
Joseph Kistner.	Robert L. Gouge.	B. F. Walker.
		J. Westfall.

## Ninety-ninth Regiment, O. V. I.

Co. C.	Joel Maddox.	S. Dunsbarger.
David L. Brown.	Stewart McElroy.	Lewis Haney.
Christian Botkin.	John B. Morehead.	Jonathan Haven.
G. R. Beeson.	Charles H. McMullen.	Joseph Hume.
Perry O. Babcock.	A. Ringelspaugh.	G. W. Kizer.
Michael Beeman.	G. W. Sharp.	John Mapes.
W. H. Cover.	Jerry Sullivan.	James W. Murphy.
David Clayton.	J. T. Voorhees.	W. H. Ogan.
Martin Denman.	W. R. Wilkinson.	Wm. C. Penrod.
Joel Darnell.	G. W. Windle.	Cyrus H. Russell.
Joseph Delap.		Charles Streets.
Dudenick Dearbolt.	Co. H.	John Swanders.
Frank Irwin.	J. L. Goble, Lieut.	Aaron Swanders.
Charles O. Frazier.	John August.	Alfred Swanders.
John Fix.	Robert Blakely.	John Schrarer.
Henry Flesher.	William Barker.	B. F. Stone.
William Franklin.	Edwin Barker.	G. W. Shearer.
W. T. Graham.	John Collins.	George P. Wilkinson.
John Hartzell.	John Chambers.	George Weimer.
John Kizer.	N. F. Cannon.	Edwin Wooley.
Andrew King.	Espy C. Dill.	
James N. Luckey.	James R. Dodson.	Co. B.
William McClure.	George U. Dormire.	John W. Berry.
	Lafayette Daviss.	David Kizer.

## COMPANY L, SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

Company L, Third Infantry, Ohio National Guard, answered first call for troops for the Spanish-American war, April 26, 1898, mobilized at Camp Bushnell, Columbus, O., and was mustered into United States service, May 10, 1898.

The Third regiment was assigned to the Fifth Army Corps and sent at once to Tampa, Fla. The corps was ordered to prepare to embark on transports for Cuba, had excess baggage stored and some of the horses loaded, when word came that, owing to there not being sufficient transports, the Third Ohio would not be taken, greatly to the disappointment of the ambitious recruits and the relief of the mothers and sweethearts at home. The six months' service of the regiment was spent in camp at De Sota park near Tampa at Fernandino, Fla., and Huntsville, Ala.

The company on the first call was made up of seventy-two officers and men. Upon the second call for troops the company was filled with recruits to the number of one hundred and nine, whose names are here recorded: Officers: Capt., William T. Aros; first lieut., Henry M. Theurer; second lieut., Emerson V. Moore; sergeants, first, Jesse C. Wilson; q. m., Cliffe Wilson, Benjamin McCullough. Jesse L. Frazier, Frank M. Hussey and Arthur W. Kah.

Corporals, Elmer Kendall, Louis P. Kraft, Melvin T. Williams, James Orbison, Robert Van De Grift, Omer Dill, Dan Wikoff, Eayre Haines, Robert Ginn, Ferd Amann, Jesse Laughlin, Weber Hussey and James Luckey. Musicians, Harland E. Kah, Charles Rostron; artificer, Asby G. Talbot; wagoner, William Sarver.

Privates, George Ackerly, William Apgar, De Witt S. Bush, Daniel Burton, Rolla Barber, Joseph Brandt, Martin Bennett, Henry W. Beck, Samuel Bower, Marion Bulle, Jason Carey, Edwin Cowan, William Dunnavant, William Deveney, Fred S. Edgar, William F. Eberle, Ervin Elliott, George Ehrhardt, Eayre Flinn, Chris Frey, Oliver Foust, Benjamin Funk, William Gilfillan, Frederick T. Given, Henry Griffen, Albert Huffman, George Haines, Ralph Heiges, Clem Hussey, Fred Havescher, Charles Harbaugh, Harry Humphreys, Oliver Horner, William Hoff, Clinton Kiplinger, William Kress, William Kummer, George Lewis, Reuben Luckey, John Longenecker, Harry Lewis, John Ludwig, William Leymaster, George Morton, Roy Motsinger, Harry Miller, Bayly Montross, John McHenry, Frank McVay, John McKercher, Harry Neal, Edward Nicholson, Frank Ockenfels, Daniel O'Neil, Omer Odell, Walter Parcher, Marenas Price, Louis Pfaadt, George Ruff, Harry Rhodefer, William Rostron, Joseph Reiger, Alvin Rhinehart, John Stang, Emory Sarver, Julius Struckman, Stephen Shannon, Philemon Snider, Jacob Staley, George Swob, Joseph Schaub, John Toller, Elmer Vogler, Todd Weaver, Adolphus Williams, Albert Wagner, Freeman Wright, Franklin Willoughby, Ben. Wiley, John Young, Adam M. Young, and Karl F. Young.

These officers and men were at the time of service all residents of Shelby county. There was much sickness due to the unsanitary condition of the camp at Tampa. Many of Company L were in serious condition and many were sent home on sick furlough, but a remarkable feature was that there was not a death in the company during the six months' service. The company was mustered out at Columbus in October with their flag, a beautiful silk one presented by the young ladies of Sidney, unspotted with blood and unsullied with the marks of the battlefield. At the reception given in the armory a few evenings after their return Melvin Williams on behalf of the boys presented Lieut.-Col. W. T. Amos with a beautiful sword.

## CHAPTER XVIII

### THE BENCH AND BAR

#### *Organization of the Courts—Interesting Cases—Old Time Judges and Lawyers—The Shelby County Bar of Today.*

Following the admission of Ohio into the Union February 19, 1803, the first legislature passed an act organizing the judicial system. Montgomery county, which is as old as the state, was established by an act of the same legislature the same year and embraced what are now the counties of Preble, Darke, Mercer, Allen, Van Wert, Paulding, Williams, Fulton, Henry, Defiance, Putnam, Auglaize, Shelby and Miami.

In 1807 Miami was separated from Montgomery and formed into a county with Staunton as the county seat.

In 1819 Shelby county was detached from Miami and erected into a separate organization with jurisdiction extending northward over the present counties of Auglaize and Allen, which formed the original Auglaize and Amanda townships of Shelby county. It is recalled that at this time the whole county was undeveloped but settlements had been pushed forward with rapid strides from 1812 to 1819 which indicated complete and permanent development. So it was that on the 17th of May, 1819, we find a court of common pleas in session at Hardin ready to "administer even-handed justice to the rich and poor alike."

This court was conducted by the Hon. Joseph H. Crane, president judge, and Robert Houston, Samuel Marshall and William W. Cecil, associate judges. On the first day of the session Harvey B. Foote was appointed clerk of the court and Henry Bacon prosecuting attorney.

A few licenses were granted and the court adjourned *sine die* on its initial day. The next session convened September 13, 1819, with a full staff of judicial, executive and clerical officers and at this time the sheriff, Daniel V. Dingman, returned the following venire to serve as the first grand jury in the Shelby county courts: John Frances, foreman; John Manning, James Lenox, Joseph Mellinger, Conrad Ponches, Lebediah Richardson, Joseph Steinberger, Henry Hushan, John Stevens, Archibald Defrees, Cephas Carey, Peter Musselman, John Bryant and Richard Lenox. One juror not appearing, Abraham Davenport filled out the panel from the bystanders.

The first case on the criminal docket was that of the State of Ohio vs. Hugh Scott, indicted for assault and battery. He plead guilty and was fined ten dollars and costs.

The next term of court convened at Sidney, April 24, 1820, Hardin having lost the distinction of being a seat of justice.

It might be interesting to note in this time of "high cost of living" that Samuel Marshall was allowed \$17 and William Cecil \$17.38 for services as associate judges from the 4th of June, 1821, to the 4th of June, 1822; the prosecuting attorney, Henry Bacon, was paid \$50; the grand jurors, \$93; petit jurors, \$4; constables, \$7.80.

Court at Hardin convened in an old block house and when Sidney was made the county seat the sessions were held in the humble homes of different citizens until the spring of 1822 when the first court house was built. The first meeting of court at Sidney was in the log cabin of Abraham Cannon on the south side of a corn field which occupied the center of the town. About the court stretched the forest rich in the varied garb of nature and abounding in wild game. The bridgeless Miami flowed unvexed toward the gulf and the craft that cut its waters were the flat boats of the first traders.

The launching of the first county court must have been an event of supreme importance to the people. It assured them that a new era had opened and that the new county had taken its place among internal commonwealths.

In course of time the number of attorneys increased. There were tedious journeys over poor roads to the county seat and these were performed in all sorts of weather. Locomotion, therefore, was slow and the early lawyers had ample time to think over their cases.

In early times court terms were limited to two weeks and consequently the docket was always crowded. The system of pleading was under the old common law, the complications of which often tried the patience of the early bar. Divorce cases were few and not many criminal cases were docketed.

Those were the days of meagre fees; in fact, litigants as a rule were poor in this world's goods and therefore avoided litigation as much as possible.

The first pleaders before the bench of Shelby county were men of worth and ability and of much erudition. They knew literature as well as law; they were as familiar with Shakespeare as with Blackstone. The old bar of the county has disappeared.

The last of the old practitioners passed with Judge Thompson and the temple of justice which echoed long ago to its wit and eloquence has given place to a new structure but the record left behind by the first lawyers has not been lost. It would be invidious to discriminate but we give a brief summary of the lives of some of the early practitioners.

The first lawyer of Shelby county of whom we have any record is Judge Samuel Marshall, who was born in Ireland a year before our Declaration of Independence and came to Washington, Pennsylvania, in 1784, with his father. In 1808 he started westward and settled in Washington township where the Marshalls became one of the oldest and most influential families in the county. He served as one of the first associate judges of the courts for many years, was county commissioner from 1828 to, 1834, and in all official capacities as in the private walks of life was held in high esteem. He was one of the first contractors of the old Piqua and Fort Defiance mail route

from Piqua to Bellefontaine. His sons Hugh and C. C. Marshall, carried the mail over these routes at a very early day. Judge Marshall died February 12, 1838.

The Hon. Patrick Gaines Goode, named after the illustrious Patrick Henry, an intimate friend of his father, belonged to the sixteenth generation of the illustrious family of Goode. They were Huguenots and many emigrated to Virginia at an early day, figured prominently as loyalists in its provincial history, but took a decided stand as patriots in the war of the Revolution. Many of the family were lawyers, physicians and legislators in the state and in congress.

Judge Goode was born in Prince Edward county, Virginia, May 10, 1798, and came to Ohio near Xenia with his father in 1805. Here he worked on a farm until sixteen when he entered a classical school for three years and later followed the same instructor to Philadelphia where he studied for two years. He then came back to Ohio and commenced the study of law at Lebanon, Warren county, which boasted of some of the great legal lights of the day. He was admitted to the bar at the age of twenty-three, practiced a little while at Madison and Liberty, Indiana, and in 1831 came to Sidney. As the county was yet new he devoted a part of his time to teaching and was a zealous worker for the State Sabbath School Society, organizing schools in Shelby and the counties north of it. In 1833 he was elected to the Ohio house, reelected, and in 1835 received a certificate of election to the Ohio senate which he refused to claim because some of his opponents' votes were thrown out on technicalities.

The following year he was sent to congress from a district of fourteen counties extending from Dayton to Toledo, twice reelected and refused a fourth term. In congress he was an indefatigable worker and labored incessantly for the improvements in the Maumee valley. When the sixteenth judicial district was created in 1844, composed of Shelby and Williams with the intervening counties, ten in number, he was elected president judge of the district by the general assembly for a term of seven years. After his term was out he resumed the practice of law in Sidney but shortly abandoned it to enter the ministry. In 1857 he was granted a regular appointment in the M. E. conference and so zealous was he that he overtaxed his endurance at a meeting of the conference in 1862 at Greenville where he was burdened with responsibilities owing to his knowledge of parliamentary law that he died two weeks later, October 7, 1862.

He was married July 3, 1832, to Miss Mary Whiteman in Greene county, and had three children, two of whom survived childhood.

Handsome in person, easy and gracious in manner, lofty in his ideas, he made a deep impression on everybody he met. Eminently religious by nature he set a high moral example in the practice of politics. Judge Goode was not only a jurist but a man of fine literary taste and was all his life a student. At the establishment of the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware he was made a member of the college board of trustees and continued in that capacity up to the time of his death. He was an able advocate and profound lawyer,



ready and proficient in all matters of evidence and practice and his industry was such that he was always found fully armed and ready for the fray.

Well may the language of Antony which he applied to Brutus be applied to him: "His life was gentle, and the elements so mixed in him, that Nature might stand up and say to all the world 'This was a man!'"

Jacob S. Conklin, whose services on the bench and at the bar have justly made his name a distinguished one in Ohio was born in Jackson township, Champaign county, Ohio, December 14, 1815. His early youth was spent there and it was there that the foundation of his education was laid. After holding a clerkship in two of the county offices at Springfield, Clark county, he came to Sidney in 1836 and commenced the practice of law with Judge Goode. His practice extended over a large area of territory and in 1844 he was elected prosecuting attorney for this county. He declined a reelection and in turn served in the legislature both as a member of the lower and upper house. In the Fremont and Buchanan campaign of 1856 he was a Fremont elector. After another term as prosecuting attorney he was appointed by Governor Brough in 1864 to fill a vacancy on the common pleas bench, a position to which he was elected for the full term—a year later. In 1880 he was again made prosecuting attorney in the face of a heavy democratic majority. Judge Conklin was married in 1841 and had eight children, two of whom are living at the present time. He died October 2, 1887.

His was a brilliant intellect, with a retentive memory enriched with the choicest gems from the classics. An able and conscientious judge whose written opinions show a mind of choice legal capabilities. They are clear and comprehensive. As a lawyer his arguments on the facts of a case were remarkable for their completeness in presenting the whole case, showing a mastery of the facts and an appreciation of the strong and weak points on each side and ability to sift evidence. His forte was in arguments to the court. His fund of reminiscences was never ending for the lawyers of the pioneer days were obliged to travel extensive circuits to practice their profession and as they endured the same hardships and privations the warmest personal friendships grew up among them.

Judge Hugh Thompson was born in a family of high social standing near Uniontown, Fayette county, Pennsylvania, November 30, 1807, of Irish parents, and died in February, 1889. After some years of farm life at home, he associated with his father in the mercantile trade in Uniontown and in 1831 came to Sidney when it was a village of 637 inhabitants. He pursued the business of merchandising but in 1834 he was chosen an associate justice for Shelby county to fill the unexpired term of the Hon. Samuel Marshall. At the end of his term he was continued for the full term by an appointment of the general assembly and continued to hold this position until 1841 when he entered the profession of law and remained in practice up to 1875. He was seven years prosecuting attorney of the county, a member of the State Constitutional Convention of 1851, and served in the lower house of the general assembly from 1857 to 1859. He was a staunch democrat in politics and an ardent Presbyterian in religious faith in which church he was for

many years an elder. He married in 1833 and one daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth T. Mathers, the mother of Judge Hugh T. Mathers, survives.

He was one of the original incorporators of the First National Bank chartered in 1864, at one time president of the German American and a director in the Citizens Bank. In social life Judge Thompson was one of the pleasantest of men. His humour and repartee were of the highest character and an hour with him in social conference was a joy and a pleasure. As a lawyer he was patient in hearing facts from his clients, prudent and careful in preparing his cases, terse and logical in his pleadings and successful in his practice.

One of the cases in which he was engaged when a member of the law firm of Thompson & Mathers attracted general interest at the time because it was the first time that particular principle was enunciated and shows his power of analysis.

One partner had sued another for alleged slander in charging him with having had a hand in the burglarizing of their store. Thompson and Mathers were employed to defend and Thompson correctly analyzing the case and applying the legal principles involved demonstrated in court that inasmuch as it was not a crime for a partner to enter his own store room and take away goods he was owner of, no crime charged. Hence no slander case.

A retrospective view of many now living can bring to mind a second generation of lawyers which took the places of these early advocates. The names of Mathers, Murray, Smith, Cummins, Burress, Walker, Bailey, Martin, McKercher, Stephenson, McCullough, Conklin, Davies, Marshall, Staley, Hoskins, Hatfield, Wilson and others are brought to mind.

About the first of this generation was John H. Mathers, born February 25, 1830, in Mifflintown, Juniata county, Penn., of splendid lineage. His early education was directed by his grandfather, the Rev. John Hutchinson, a Presbyterian divine, and the doctrines of that faith were early instilled in the boy. He graduated from Jefferson College with a good record, studied law with his father, was made district attorney, came to Sidney in 1856, and formed a partnership with Judge Conklin. He was three times made prosecuting attorney and in 1863 went into a law firm with his father-in-law, Judge Thompson, whose daughter Elizabeth he had just married. He had a son Hugh, the present common pleas judge, and two daughters, Jean and Loucretia. He died April 29, 1875. A man of culture and learning whose close application to business won him a lucrative practice.

Perhaps the foremost lawyer of this group was Gen. James Murray, whose parents came to Cincinnati in 1834 from Scotland, where he was born four years before with Scotch Presbyterianism incorporated in every fiber of his being. The Murrays came to Sidney in 1836, James was educated in Mr. McGookin's academy, studied law with Judge Conklin, was admitted to the bar at nineteen years of age and went into a law firm at Perrysburg. He served two terms as attorney general of the state, first elected in 1860, and was then made general attorney of the D. & M. railway.

He moved to Sidney in 1863, established a partnership with Colonel

Wilson and died June 15, 1879. He married Miranda Hamilton of Somers, Conn., August 30, 1858, and left two children, James and Kate. James Murray had a peculiar legal mind; his memory was prodigious; an intense student, he possessed the finest law library in this part of the state; his English was classic, never embellished with rhetorical flights. In him centered many paradoxes of human nature. Argumentative and logical as he was his aesthetic tastes were of a high order. He loved the dry details of the law, yet reveled in the realm of poetry; a warm friend though apparently cold. A lawyer whose opinions were sought for far and wide, his practice being confined almost entirely to the higher courts.

Edmund Smith of the law-firm of Smith & Cummins dropped dead in Cincinnati, March 13, 1874, during the deliberations of the third constitutional convention. He represented Shelby county in the convention. He was a man of positive character with personal magnetism that enabled him to sway a jury, very popular and had established a lucrative practice. He married a daughter of John Carey who survived him with five children, one of whom, Edmund, is an attorney of Columbus.

John E. Cummins, of Scotch-Irish ancestry, was born at Mifflintown, Penn., in 1832. The family settled in Sidney in 1834, and was prominently identified with the history of Sidney. It was at his father's home that General Harrison, the hero of Tippecanoe, was entertained during the famous Harrison and Tyler campaign. He took a course at Washington and Jefferson College, Canonsburg, Penn., enlisted in the army and was made lieutenant-colonel of the 99th O. V. I., and for meritorious bravery was brevetted brigadier-general by congress at the close of the war. He was admitted to the bar, a member of the law firm of Smith & Cummins, but died at the beginning of his career in April, 1875. He was married to Harriet Carey, a daughter of John Carey, who survived him with three sons, Knox, Carey and Frank.

Nathan Raper Burress was born in Turtle Creek township in 1845. He received such education as the country schools afforded and studied law with Edmund Smith. He was admitted to the bar in 1868, and in 1870 and 1872 was elected prosecuting attorney. He was made state senator in 1875, but declined a renomination and commenced the practice of law with Judge Conklin. He was married in 1876 to Miss Anna Stipp and had one son. He died December 15, 1883. He was a man of refined literary tastes, with a remarkable command of language, vivid imagination, and a mind of choice legal capabilities.

John E. McCullough was the descendant of sturdy Scotch ancestors who settled in Virginia, and were identified with American history at an early period. His father, Samuel McCullough, came to Sidney in 1835 and was intimately connected with its interests for nearly sixty years. A Presbyterian of the blue-stocking type, he would have suffered martyrdom for his religion.

John was born in Sidney, September 14, 1852, was educated in the public schools, studied law with James McKercher and was admitted to the bar

in 1884. He had a clear-cut mind, his powers well in hand, was a positive character and the soul of geniality and generosity.

He married Miss Anna Duncan January 22, 1874, and had two sons, Ben and Sam.

He died July 30, 1886, at the beginning of a life of bright promise.

George A. Marshall, one of the eleven children of Samuel Marshall, a pioneer of Turtle Creek township, was born September 14, 1849, and there he attended country school.

He took a course in the Ohio Wesleyan at Delaware, studied law in the office of Conklin & Burress, and was admitted to the bar in 1876. In 1878 he formed a partnership with Judge Conklin and two years later opened an office alone. Twice he was elected prosecuting attorney on the democratic ticket, in 1877 and again in 1882. In 1896 he was elected to congress from the 4th district and served one term. He died April 21, 1899, leaving a wife and three boys.

He had considerable native ability and with sound judgment and common sense made a strong jury lawyer.

John Milton Staley was born in Franklin township February 2, 1847, and died April 4, 1901. He secured the best education the country schools afforded, attended the university at Delaware for two years and then graduated from the Lebanon normal school, where he fitted himself especially for the teaching of music. In a few years he commenced the study of law at the Cincinnati Law School, was admitted to the bar and opened an office in Sidney. He was made probate judge in 1884 and served two terms. Always a great lover of music, he conducted for many years one of the best orchestras in this part of the state.

John G. Stephenson, born July 9, 1823, in Greene county, went to California with the gold seekers in 1852, came to Sidney sometime in the sixties, and in 1869 was made prosecuting attorney for six years. He was elected mayor in 1876 and in 1881 moved to Kentucky, where he lived until his death, September 7, 1902.

Judge W. D. Davies was born in Iowa, January 2, 1850, of parents who were natives of Wales. He finished his education with a three-year course at Ohio State University and was admitted to the bar in Iowa City in 1870. He was in the employ of various railroads until 1875, when he came to Sidney to practice his profession. He married Miss Belle Mathers of Mifflintown, Penn., November 11, 1880, and raised a daughter, Amelia.

An active partisan, he was a leader in the republican party and was honored with nominations for various offices and was a delegate to the national republican convention in 1900. He was appointed judge of the common pleas court to fill the unexpired term of Judge W. T. Mooney, from February to November, 1901. He died March 13, 1902.

John Wilson Conklin, son of Judge Jacob S. Conklin, was born in Sidney, August 7, 1848, and died May 4, 1903. He studied law after growing to manhood and was admitted to the bar in 1876. He married Miss Carrie McBeth of Bellefontaine, December 27, 1877, practiced law in Celina for

several years and then returned to Sidney. He was genial, with a brilliant mind, but did not appreciate his native ability, which suffered because it was not cultivated to the limit.

Judge Emery L. Hoskins was born near Magnetic Springs, Union county, August 4, 1857, was admitted to the practice of law in 1882, and in 1883 settled in Sidney.

A staunch democrat, he was elected probate judge in 1899 and served two terms. He was a member of the school board for fifteen years, prominent in fraternal orders of K. of P. and Odd Fellows, being grand master of the Ohio grand lodge in 1907. He was a partner of W. D. Davies in the law firm of Davies & Hoskins and died April 4, 1909. As a man he was kind, attentive and affable, and had a wide acquaintance in the county.

S. J. Hatfield was born on the Western Reserve in Wayne county, Ohio, September 21, 1845. He inherited the stern religious and moral virtues of this offshoot of New England which he never forgot in all the activities of his career. His early life was spent in the public schools until ready for a course at Western Reserve College. Choosing the law for his life work he fitted himself for its duties in the University of Michigan and in 1875 came to Sidney, where he pursued the profession of which he had the most exalted idea. He was a stalwart republican, an ingrained Presbyterian and for many years a member of the state board of pardons and a trustee of the children's home. He loved the true, the beautiful, and the good, reveled in the best literature, and was animated by the loftiest sentiments. He died October 30, 1911, the oldest member in years of practice of the bar association.

Col. Harrison Wilson was born near Cadiz, Ohio, March 15, 1841, the youngest in a family of six sons and three daughters. When a little boy his parents moved to Belmont county and there he got a country school education which he supplemented with a college course at the Ohio University in Athens, by great effort and sacrifice. At the outbreak of the war he was assigned to the 25th O. V. I., and successively held commissions from second lieutenant to colonel when he was mustered out with the regiment July 15, 1865.

He was in forty-two battles and skirmishes, at the siege of Fort Donelson, Vicksburg and Atlanta, and went with Sherman "to the sea." He came of a family conspicuous for its bravery, his grandfather, Thomas Wilson, having served in the Revolution and his five brothers in the Civil war. Colonel Wilson himself was awarded a medal by congress.

After the war he settled in Sidney for the study of law, was admitted to the bar and went into partnership with General Murray, which continued till Murray's death in 1879. He took a keen interest in politics and served thirteen years as circuit judge in the 2d judicial district of Ohio from 1895 to 1909. For the next two years he was identified with a prominent law firm in Columbus, but left for Nordhoff, California, in the spring of 1912 to spend the remainder of his days indulging his taste for outdoor life. He married Mary Caroline, a daughter of J. T. Fry of Sidney, in 1867, and raised a family of nine children, eight of whom are living.

Wilson took high rank among the lawyers of Ohio. He had a mind of

choice legal capabilities. As a judge his decisions were clear and comprehensive and he now has the confidence of his associates on the bench for his unswerving integrity. Dignified in manner, in habits simple, and austere temperate.

#### THE ARTIS MURDER

The Artis case is celebrated from the fact that it terminated in the only legal execution ever held in the county.

Alfred Artis, a full-blooded African, of Cynthian township, was found guilty of murder in the first degree, November 16, 1854. Five days later he was sentenced by the court to be confined in the county jail till the 23d of February, 1855, and then be hanged between the hours of ten of the clock in the forenoon and four of the clock in the afternoon. He was taken from his cell fighting and struggling to the gallows which was erected in the jail, at two o'clock in the afternoon and there hanged in the presence of thirty spectators amid dramatic scenes. The sheriff, J. C. Dryden, conducted the hanging, for which he received \$300, assisted by the deputy sheriff, Isaac Harshbarger, who is the only living eye witness of the event. Mr. Harshbarger, eighty-seven years old, is living in Sidney with his daughter and says they had to beat the negro almost to insensibility before they could hang him. He was not a large man, weighed about 130 pounds, but as wiry as a cat. The jail, a two-story brick structure, stood in the southwest corner of the courtyard and was used until the building of the present one in 1875.

The crime for which the victim paid the penalty was one of the most shocking ever known. He kept his daughter Emma, twelve years old, imprisoned in a cold room in his log cabin with an iron chain about her neck, fastened to a block without clothing nor a bed to lie on, occasionally giving her a little food and beating her for a pleasant pastime with a hoop pole which he kept for that purpose. She was obliged to shell corn at night and was let out once in a while in day-time to work. He kept her in the room for three months, when she died, starved and frozen, February 17, 1854. The negro buried her body four and a half miles west of Rumley. He was infuriated with the girl because she had run away from home.

The inquest was held by Isaac Harshbarger, coroner, the 27th of February, 1854, and the names of Dr. Albert Wilson and Dr. Park Beeman appear in the testimony given at the inquest. Judge Hugh Thompson prosecuted the case; assisted by Judge Jacob Conklin.

Shelby county is in the second judicial district of the court of appeals. The following eleven counties make up the district. Champaign, Clark, Darke, Fayette, Greene, Franklin, Madison, Miami, Montgomery, Preble and Shelby. The judges for the court of appeals, second judicial district, are: Hon. James Alread, Greenville; Hon. H. L. Ferneding, Dayton; Hon. A. H. Kunkle, Springfield.

It is in the first sub-division of the third judicial common pleas district which will continue until the new constitutional provision becomes effective in 1914 when each county of the state becomes a district in itself.

Eleven counties make up the third judicial district, common pleas court, of which Allen, Auglaize, Mercer and Shelby are in the first sub-division, Henry and Putnam in the second, and Defiance, Fulton, Paulding and Van Wert in the third.

Officers of the court are Hon. Hugh T. Mathers, Hon. William Klinger, Hon. F. C. Layton, judges; Fred Counts, clerk; F. M. Courts, deputy clerk; E. E. Gearhart, sheriff; Cliff Gearhart, deputy sheriff; Charles C. Hall, prosecuting attorney; Walter M. Scott, court stenographer; W. B. Woolley, court constable; F. B. Fitzpatrick, janitor.

The following is the present personnel of the Shelby county bar:

Attorneys—Barnes & Mills (J. D. Barnes, Fipley Mills), H. F. Counts, F. J. Doorley, Andrew J. Hess, Charles R. Hess, Royon G. Hess, Charles C. Hall, Charles C. Marshall, Logan W. Marshall, E. V. Moore, Earl E. Nutt, David Oldham, Harry Oldham, John Oldham, H. W. Robinson, J. C. Royon, J. E. Russell, P. R. Taylor, James E. Way, Wicoff, Emmons & Needles (S. L. Wicoff, W. J. Emmons, H. H. Needles).

Justices of the peace, Shelby county, Ohio—Clinton township, C. R. Hess, Emanuel Needles; Cynthian, J. F. Emert; Dinsmore, J. B. Stolley, G. W. Hensel; Franklin, George C. Schiff; Green, Thomas Kiser; Jackson, H. P. Ailes; Loramie, J. F. Flinn; McLean, Adolph Sherman, John Barhorst; Orange, P. O. Stockstill; Perry, S. B. Cannon; Salem, John Reeves, A. S. Retter; Turtle Creek, Isaac Beery, J. J. Huffman; Van Buren, E. H. Meckstroth; Washington, Jacob Everly.

Township clerks, Shelby county, Ohio—Clinton, Karl F. Young, Sidney; Cynthian, E. B. Sweigert, R. F. D., Houston; Dinsmore, Leroy F. Hemmert, Botkins; Franklin, T. S. Price, Anna; Green, E. F. Rolfe, Sidney, R. F. D.; Jackson, Geo. P. Staley, Anna; Loramie, Geo. M. Francis, Russia; McLean, William H. Niederkorn, Fort Loramie; Orange, James Wiley, Sidney; Perry, N. C. Enders, Pemberton; Salem, H. L. Haney, Port Jefferson; Turtle Creek, L. A. Richards, Sidney; Van Buren, Henry Roettger, Kettleville; Washington, William Douglas, Sidney, R. F. D.

## CHAPTER XIX

### THE TOWNSHIPS (I)

*Historical Sketches of Clinton, Cynthian and Dinsmore Townships—Organization—Early Settlement—Villages—Schools—Churches, Etc.*

#### CLINTON TOWNSHIP

This township, which lies southeast of the geographical center of Shelby county, was at first organized as a part of Miami county, in which, as elsewhere stated, the whole of Shelby county was formerly included. It still however retains its original name. It is bounded north by Franklin, east by Salem, Perry and Orange, south by Orange and Washington and west by Washington and Turtle Creek townships. The territory embraces portions of town 8, range 6; town 1, range 7; town 1, range 13, and town 7, range 6. This comprises sections and fractional sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 34, 35, 36, and 3 and 10 repeated being of different towns or ranges. Since its organization the township has undergone numerous territorial adjustments and readjustments, account of which may be found in the report of the county commissioners' proceedings.

Clinton township is drained by the Great Miami river, which enters at the northeast corner and flows south by west, and then, running southwest, becomes for a distance of about two miles the boundary line between Clinton and Orange township. Side by side with the river flows the Miami feeder with its water supply, which it carries to the canal at Lockington. Tawawa creek enters the Miami opposite Sidney, coming from the east, while another small tributary, flowing in the same direction, joins the large stream about a mile south of the mouth of the Tawawa. Three small streams enter the Miami from the west within the bounds of the township.

The township is crossed north and south by the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Railroad, and east and west by the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Railroad, which two roads cross at Sidney, the county seat, the town lying on the west side of the Miami. The canal leaves the river for a certain distance in order to pass through the central portion of the town. The chief importance of Clinton lies in its possession of the county seat, which attracts population, though throughout the township farming is carried on extensively and the inhabitants in general are prosperous.

The lands bordering on the Miami river are in particular noted for their fertility. The surface is broken, rolling away westward, and while not



jagged or precipitous, is still broken and even hilly along the river. The Infirmary farm comprises the extreme southwest quarter of land in this township, being the southwest quarter (160 acres) of section 10, range 6, town. 7.

## MATTERS OF RECORD

At an election held in the township of Clinton by order of James Wells, Esq., auditor of Shelby county, on the 25th day of October, 1821, agreeably to notice given, the following township officers were elected:

Trustees, Philip Coleman, Robert McClure, and Rufus Carey. Clerk, Harvey B. Foote. Overseers of the poor, John Tilbury and James Forsythe. Fence viewers, William Drake and Benjamin Mapes. Treasurer, George Poole.

Thomas Lambert appeared and gave bond, with William Drake and Thomas W. Ruckman, conditioned as the law directs, and was duly qualified to perform the duties of constable for Clinton township according to law, November 3, 1821.

Monday, March 4, 1822. The trustees met according to law, and agreeably to order of court of the 4th of February they proceeded to select W. Cecil, Jacob Sclosser, Wm. Johnston, Philip Coleman, Rufus Carey, Nathan Coleman, and Elias Carey as grand jurors (7), and also John Tilbury, Archibald Defrees, Robert Blakeley, John Whitmire, and John Johnston as petit jurors (5), to serve the ensuing year, the list thereof returned to the clerk's office the same day.

The trustees allow B. S. Cox \$1.00 for services as clerk of the first township election in this township; order given on treasurer.

John Lenox, supervisor for district No. 6, Turtle Creek township, as appointed by the trustees before the township was divided, made his return, and charges nothing for his services. Return filed.

Ordered, that it (the township) be divided into three districts (road); Sidney, No. 1; Plum Creek, No. 2; and Mile Creek, No. 3. No. 1 to work the road from the ford below Ruckman's mill to the public square in Sidney, the road leading to Hardin, and the one from Dingmansburg to Sidney. No. 2 to work the road from the public square on the road that leads up the river past Wm. Johnston's and Talbert's to the township line, and the Plum Creek road to the township line. No. 3 to work the road that leads from Sidney past Rufus Carey's to the township line, and the road from where it intersects the aforesaid road leading past Mr. Levalley's as far as the township line. John Blake supervisor district No. 1, N. Coleman of district No. 2, and a supervisor to be elected in No. 3.

Ordered that the clerk advertise according to law for an election to be held on the first Monday next to elect one clerk, three trustees, two overseers of the poor, two fence viewers, two appraisers, one of whom shall be lister as well as appraiser, one treasurer, two constables, and three supervisors, to serve the ensuing year (1822) for the township of Clinton. A true record.

Attest.

HARVEY B. FOOTE, Twp. Clerk.

## JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Elisha Williams, 1823; J. H. Coleman, 1825; John McCreight, 1825; James H. Coleman, 1831; John Lenox, 1834; E. McGrew, 1835; Alex. Stuart; Sam McCullough, 1837; Alex. Stuart, 1838; Sam. McCullough, 1840; John Shaw, 1841 (resigned); J. F. Frazer and Alex. Stuart, 1841; Sam McCullough, 1843; J. F. Frazer, 1844; Stephen Wilken, 1844 (never qualified); J. H. Byers, 1846; Fred Robinson, 1846; J. F. Frazer, 1847; Irwin Nutt, 1848; F. Robinson, 1849; J. F. Frazer, 1850; M. C. Hale, 1851; F. Robinson, 1852; J. F. Frazer, 1853; Wm. D. Walker, 1854; M. B. Newman, 1855 (resigned March 8, 1857); F. Robinson, 1855; J. F. Frazer, 1856; M. C. Hale, 1857; D. B. Rinehart, 1857; J. F. Frazer, 1859; M. C. Hale, 1860; D. B. Rinehart, 1860; Samuel Mathers, 1862; M. C. Hale, 1863; A. J. Robertson, 1864; Sam. Mathers, 1865; M. C. Hale, 1866; J. F. Frazer, 1867; S. Alex. Leckey, 1868; M. C. Hale, 1869; Irwin Nutt, 1870 (resigned July 2, 1870); A. J. Rebstock, 1870; A. A. Leckey, 1871; Mathew C. Hale, 1872; Harvey Guthrie, 1874; A. J. Rebstock, 1874; M. C. Hale and H. Hume, 1875; S. J. Hatfield, 1867; M. C. Hale, 1878; Daniel L. Buch, 1878; J. G. Stephenson, 1881; D. L. Bush, 1881; Geo. H. Bunnelle, 1881; Mathew C. Hale, 1884; Wm. C. Wyman, 1884; M. C. Hale, 1887; W. C. Wyman, 1887; H. S. Ailes, 1890; H. S. Ailes, 1893; Wm. C. Wyman, 1893; M. C. Hale, 1896; Chas. W. Nessler, 1896; Wm. C. Wyman, 1899; Chas. W. Nessler, 1899; J. W. Conklin, 1902; M. C. Hale, 1902; Ben D. Higgins, 1904, 1905; G. W. Elliott, 1905; C. R. Hess (appointed April 24, 1907, until successor elected); C. R. Hess, 1908; Emanuel Needles, 1908; E. Needles, 1911; C. R. Hess, 1911.

The present township clerk of Clinton is Karl F. Young. Trustees—William Salm, F. M. Hussey and Geo. Ehrhart.

## CYNTHIAN TOWNSHIP

Cynthian township is one of the west tier of townships. It is oblong in form, contains 32 sections and extends four miles north and south and eight miles east and west. McLean township bounds it on the north, Turtle Creek on the east and Loramie on the south, while Darke county lies on its western boundary.

Cynthian has a more rolling surface than any other township in the county. Its soil varies, in some parts being clay while in others black loam and sand are found. Its fine gravel beds furnish excellent material for highway construction. Almost centrally from north to south flows Loramie creek, other streams being Buffalo run, Lawrence creek and Salt Lick. Close to and parallel with Loramie creek runs the Miami and Erie canal and Great and South Panther creeks empty into it from the east. The farms and residences throughout the township present abundant evidences of prosperity on the part of its inhabitants.

## SETTLEMENT

There is evidence that Cynthian township attracted settlers as early as 1815. In that year Thomas Butt, John Wise and Conrad Pouches had established themselves with their families, but it is still a question which came first. Nevertheless they soon had other neighbors for between that date and 1824 the following pioneers—some from the older states and others from countries across the sea—took up their residences in the township: Leonard and Tobias Danner, Henry Hershaw, Zachariah Hurley, John and Alexander Miller, Samuel and Benjamin Leighty, Jacob Seerfauss, John Barker, John Gates, C. Stoker, William Hicks, George Harman, William Jerome, Charles Lovell, George Moyer, Jacob, John and Andrew Wise, Robert Steen, J. Shagley, Robert Chambers and John Borden.

As in other sections, the pioneers in Cynthian township lived at first in log cabins and while these primitive dwellings were adequate to their early needs, as they grew more prosperous, frame houses were erected, which still later gave place to those of stone and brick. The first frame house in the township was erected on the present site of Newport by Josias Reaser but he did not, apparently, occupy it, selling it to Cyrus Reese. George Butt was the first to build a brick house, probably burning the brick on his own land. A saw mill—one of the first necessities—was built by Conrad Pouches, and a tannery—another desirable enterprise in a pioneer settlement—was started by Stephen Blanchard. William Mills was the first blacksmith and in the villages which rapidly grew, other lines of business were started so that, within the first quarter of a century from the time of settlement, civilized conditions prevailed all over the township. Very early the people began to agitate the subject of schools and the first building especially dedicated to the cause of education was built on land owned by Jacob Wise. The United Brethren appear to have been the first here in the religious field. Originally this township belonged to Loramie but was detached in 1822. The first township election was held at the house of Alexander Miller, July 4, 1822.

## TOWNS AND VILLAGES

Four towns—North Port, Newport, Cynthian and Basinburg—have been platted at different times in the township's history.

North Port—The plat of North Port (incorporated into Newport?) contained twenty lots and was located on the west half of northeast quarter of section 30, town. 10, range 5 east and was surveyed for Richard Short, its proprietor, in June, 1839. It was laid out with four streets: Main, North, Elm and South.

Newport was surveyed and platted in the same year as North Port, for Nicholas Wynant. It is situated in section 30, on the Miami and Erie canal and at present has about 140 inhabitants the population having decreased considerably in the last twenty-five years. The first frame house as mentioned above was located here and was used as a hotel by Cyrus Reese, who built a second one in which he conducted a grocery store. Pilliod Brothers,

C. Belt and John Link, were early business men here and E. Pilliod operated the first steam saw and grist mill. In 1881 O. O. Mathers, of Sidney, established the Newport Flax Mill, which he operated in connection with the Sidney Flax Mill. This mill is still standing but has not been operated for a number of years.

Cynthian—On September 14, 1819, a town was platted, surveyed and recorded, at the Loramie crossing, in section 30, on land which subsequently was owned by the Sweigert family. It was named Cynthian village and a few lots were sold but not enough to make possible a village organization. In 1825 all hope of this was dissipated and the land was purchased by William Mills, who devoted it to agricultural purposes.

Basinburg—There was a time when Basinburg had prospects of becoming a considerable business and social center for the township but progress was slow and its village organization is no longer evident. It was laid out in 1839 by Herman Mier in the northwest quarter of section 18, town. 10, range 5 east, the plats showing sixty-five lots, the sixty-fifth being donated to the citizens as a site for a church edifice. Its main streets were Main, Canal, Basin, Water, East and South Lane.

Oran, formerly a postoffice, is now a settlement of about thirty-eight people, located on the line between sections 27 and 28, and receives mail through Dawson.

#### SCHOOLS

The people of Cynthian township are well supplied with school facilities, there being eight special school districts, the officials of these being selected from among the leading men of the township. Hopewell special school district's officers for 1911 and 1912: S. M. Winemiller, president; F. B. Miller, clerk, William Wiley, treasurer, and Charles Snow and Nathan Cromes, in 1911, the only change in 1912 being that Henry Bodemiller took the place of Nathan Cromes. Grisez special school district for 1911 had John P. Lallemand for president; John Grisez for clerk; Henry Achbach for treasurer, with Blaize Cardo and Philip Cardo as other members of the board. The officers and members for 1912 were: Jesse Barder, president; John Grisez, clerk; J. P. Lallemand, treasurer, and Xavier Cardo and Henry Achbach. Turner special school district's board of education for 1912: Henry Sherman, president; Peter Eilerman, clerk; Frank Turner, treasurer, and N. A. Paulus, William Kloeker and Jacob Batty. Basinburg special school district in 1911 had John Swartz as president, Michael Loy, clerk, Henry Harrod, treasurer, and Joseph H. Kessler and John Martz, while in 1912 the board was as follows: J. H. Kessler, president; Michael Loy, clerk; Henry Harrod, treasurer, and Frank Lindhaus, John Lengerich and Joseph Wurtz. Short special school district board for 1911 had Henry Eilerman for president; Henry Holscher for clerk; Charles Broerman for treasurer and G. W. Short and Joseph Winner, no change being made in 1912, except that John C. Short took the place of Joseph Winner. Forest's special school district for 1911 elected J. H. Rhodehamel as president of its board; Charles C. Sny-

der, clerk, David A. McKinstry for treasurer and Robert and Leander Wright as the other members. In 1912 the officials and members were: Leander Wright, William Jelly and W. W. Widener, the same officials serving. Oran special school district's board of education for 1912 had D. W. Christman as president; George Wyatt as treasurer; E. J. Enyart as clerk, with David Swab and A. Fagan as other members. Other school statistics may be found in the chapter on education.

#### CHURCHES

Methodist Episcopal Church—In 1872 through the efforts of Dr. Reaner and Mrs. Henry Sweigart, a Sunday school was organized at Newport, which developed into the Methodist Episcopal church at that place. A brick edifice was completed in the fall of 1873, the congregation then under the ministerial charge of Rev. Rauch. In spite of the decreased population of the village this church has maintained its organization and has always been active in Christian work. Rev. Parker is the present pastor.

Oran Christian Church—This church originally known as Cynthian Christian church, was founded in 1833, its first members being Samuel Penrod and wife, Isaac Short and wife, Isaac Mann, and George and Samuel Butt and their wives. A church building was erected in 1851 and the congregation is now presided over by Rev. Cain.

The Loramie German Baptist church was organized in 1848 and for a number of years the faithful gathered at stated times in private houses and in the Christian church. In 1865 the membership in the township was augmented by a number who came from other sections and in the next year an edifice for church purposes was erected and this society was known until 1877 as the North Branch of the Covington Society. In that year they became a separate congregation, Rev. Jacob Hollinger being elected the first minister.

The United Brethren have a church in this township and there is also a Dunkard church, presided over by Rev. McCokle.

St. Peter's and St. Paul's Catholic church at Newport was erected in 1856, and the same structure is still standing. It has been kept in good repair, and is now a modern structure and a church of which its members should feel proud.

#### JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Between 1835 and 1910, Cynthian township has been served by fifty-three of its representative citizens in the office of justice of the peace, a list of the same being herewith given: Michael Penrod, 1835; John Miller, 1837; George Hale, 1838; John Miller, 1840; Isaac Short, 1841; John Miller, 1843; G. G. Murphy, 1844; Josiah Clawson, 1846; H. Gloyd, 1847; G. G. Murphy, 1847; John Miller, 1848; Harry Gloyd, 1853; W. W. Skillen, 1854; James R. Johnston, 1855; Isaac Short, 1858; J. S. Chrisman, 1859; Isaac Short, 1861; Eugene Pilliod, 1862; Isaac Short, 1864; Eugene Pilliod, 1865; M. Merrick, 1867; Isaac Short, 1868; George Barker, 1869; Eugene Pilliod, 1871; Charles Mann, 1871; Edward Huston, 1874; Charles Mann, 1874; Edward Huston, 1877; N. W. Mills, 1877; A. H. Leckey, 1877; Julilus Foust, 1880; Francis

Turner, 1880; A. H. Luckey, 1883; Frank Turner, 1883; S. S. Laymaster, 1886; John Carpenter, 1886; Frank Moorman, 1888 (resigned in 1889); Charles Mann, 1889; Anthony Marshall, 1890; Benjamin F. Foust, 1890; G. W. Carpenter, 1892; R. Harrop, 1893; B. F. Foust, 1893; E. B. Sweigert, 1889; O. W. Nisewonger, 1899; J. F. Withringham, 1902; F. H. Turner, 1902; J. P. Galley, 1903; Wilbur Spraley, 1906; John H. Pickering, 1906; H. H. Short, 1909; J. F. Emert, 1910.

The present township clerk is E. B. Sweigert. Trustees: Joseph Barhorst, Nathan Cromes and James Wolaver.

### DINSMORE TOWNSHIP

Although this township was very late in its settlement and organization, its development was steady and its progress, along every line, rapid. It boasts of the two most important towns in the county, aside from the county seat, in Botkins and Anna, although the latter is partly in Franklin township. It is regular in its outline, being six miles square, and is centrally located in the northern tier of townships of Shelby county, its north line being bounded by Auglaize county. The commissioners' records show the township to have been independently organized on December 3, 1832. Pursuant to an order by the commissioners of the county, the citizens of the township met at the home of Joseph Green, December 25, 1832, and elected the various township officers.

Dinsmore township is level, practically speaking, and the soil is such as to attract agriculturists, being well adapted for the growing of the various grains and grasses. It is drained by a number of small streams which take their rise in the township. It seems the first real settlement was made here in 1832, which marked the arrival of a number of families, but it is reasonably certain some located farms here the previous year, notably William Blakely, of Franklin county, Ohio, and Silas D. Allen, of Pickaway county, Ohio. There has always been a diversity of opinion as to who was the first to take up residence within the township, many according the honor to George Turner, who came from Greene county, Ohio, in 1832. The latter did not remain long at that time, owing to the prevalence of milk sickness, but in 1837 again returned but took up a different farm. Mr. Turner was followed, in the same year, by Joseph Green, from Warren county, Ohio, who with his wife and five children, located on a farm in section 28, on a part of which the village of Anna is partly located; John Munch, of Greene county, Ohio, whose farm also lay in section 28, and was partly included in the village of Anna; Richard C. Dill, of Hamilton county, Ohio, who brought his wife and eleven children; Samuel Blakeley, of Franklin county, Ohio, who came here from Franklin township where he had settled in 1830; and Richard Botkin, who came from Hamilton county, Ohio. The following year, 1833, witnessed the arrival of: Alfred Staley, of Montgomery county, Ohio; Hector Lemon, of Chester county, Pennsylvania; Joseph Park, of New Jersey; Erasmus B. Toland, of Miami county, Ohio; Philip Good, who came from Greene county,

Ohio, but was a native of Pennsylvania; and Philip Hageberger, a native of France. In 1834, there came: Jacob Wilford, his wife and five children, from Virginia; Philip Brideweiser, from Franklin county, Ohio; David Taylor, his wife and eight children, from Greene county, Ohio; Peter Boling and family, from Montgomery county, Ohio; William Ellis and family from Virginia; Frederick Oxburger, of Germany; and Samuel and William Elliott, who located in section 4; Thomas Liams and family came from Warren county, Ohio, in 1835; Cornelius Elliott, of Licking county, Ohio, in 1835; Daniel Toland, of Montgomery county, Ohio, in 1836; William H. Abbott, in 1836; John Fahr, of Perry county, Ohio, in 1836; and Diödrich Schulte, in 1838. This is by no means regarded as an exhaustive list of those who came during the period mentioned, but time has thoroughly obscured facts once so easy to obtain. Settlement was quite backward in the early years, largely because of milk sickness, but became very general in the forties, and as a whole those who came were of a wholesome and progressive class.

Henry Hildebrant was the first justice of the peace of whom there is record, the year of his election being 1835, and he was succeeded in turn by Richard Botkin, in 1837; Henry Hildebrant, in 1838; John Elliott, in 1839; Richard Botkin, 1840; John Elliott, 1842; Elias Horner, 1842; Samuel Elliott, 1843; John Elliott, 1845; Jacob Wilford, 1846; John Elliott, 1848; E. F. Mede, 1849; John Elliott, 1854; Jacob Wilford, 1855; Samuel Elliott, 1855; Joseph Hildebrant, 1858; Samuel Elliott, 1860; Samuel Elliott, 1863; D. E. Morgan, 1864; Isaac G. Stafford, 1866; D. E. Morgan, 1867; Samuel Elliott, 1869; P. Hunt, 1870; Samuel Elliott, 1872; P. Hunt, 1873; Samuel Elliott, 1875; William Munford, 1878; P. Hunt, 1879; Lewis Applegate, 1881; S. Wilken, 1882; J. M. Carson, 1882; S. Wilken, 1885; R. B. Dill, 1888; J. B. Stolly, 1888; J. B. Stolly, 1891; R. B. Dill, 1891; George W. Hensel, 1892; J. B. Greve, 1894; George W. Hensel, 1895; J. B. Greve, 1897; George W. Hensel, 1898; J. B. Greve, 1900; M. A. Roth, 1901; George W. Hensel, 1901; George W. Hensel, 1904; M. A. Roth, 1904; J. B. Stolly, 1908; George W. Hensel, 1908; George W. Hensel, 1910; and J. B. Stolly, 1912. At the present time, LeRoy F. Hemmert, of Botkins, is township clerk, and the trustees are Jacob J. Fogt, John B. Schulte and Frank J. Marx.

Farming has generally claimed the attention of the rural residents of Dinsmore township, and such industries as have been fostered have been mainly in the villages. There was in earlier years considerable sawing done, but timber too quickly disappeared for that industry to be other than a small one here. A very successful plant, established in Dinsmore, on the William P. Davis farm, in 1871, was a tile yard which was given the name of the Montra Tile Yards, being three-fourths of a mile west of Montra. It was started by William P. Davis and M. Merkling and was operated by them some years before passing into other hands.

In 1849 a saw mill was established in section 26, operated by a forty-horse power engine. Silas D. Allen and George Duff, the original owners, conducted it until the death of the former in June, 1850, after which the latter carried on the business until in 1851. He then sold a half interest to Michael Fogt

and the firm of Duff & Fogt continued for several years. It was then operated by several owners until 1861, then existed in a state of disuse until it was finally torn down. In 1874, Messrs. L. Davis and J. C. Linton established what was long known as the Linton steam saw mill, they conducting it in partnership until 1878, when Mr. Linton conducted it alone. The business was discontinued here many years ago, the proprietors moving to Dayton, Ohio.

The citizens got together in the organization of a branch of the Patrons of Husbandry, Estey Grange, No. 924, being organized May 25, 1874, by Deputy Johnson. It originally had twenty-four members and experienced a healthy growth.

#### SCHOOLS

The first regular school in the township was conducted in a crude log structure, about twenty feet square, with puncheon floor and seats. A large fire-place extended the full width of the building, on one side, and there was a stick chimney and a one-light window. It was built in 1836 and the first teacher there was William D. Johnson. A second building of similar type, except as to windows, was built in section 23 in 1840, and here William Wilson and E. T. Mede were early teachers. The third schoolhouse, also log, was erected in section 14, and became known as the Beck schoolhouse, the first teacher there being James Beck. The buildings of the next period represented the advancement from the round log to the hewed log and frame type, and were variously located throughout the township. A uniform plan of locating them came into being, a building being erected in the center of every four sections, thus making nine schools. An additional school was established for the colored children, but in 1870 race segregation was abolished. As new school laws came into effect, the districts were much changed from time to time. More detail with regard to the schools may be found in the chapter on Education.

#### ANNA

Anna, a station on the C. H. & D. Railway, was surveyed for John L. and Fletcher S. Thirkield, in 1867, and lies in Dinsmore and Franklin townships. The name, Anna, was given it in honor of Mrs. Anna Thirkield. It is a prosperous place, the last census showing its population to be 460, and it is steadily growing. The plat of the town was recorded April 25, 1868, and in 1877 a petition was presented to the board of county commissioners for its incorporation as a village, the signers being: A. Clason, F. S. Thirkield, Lewis Kah, P. W. Young, J. D. Elliott and thirty-two others. The petition was granted June 26, 1877, and recorded as granted September 3, 1877. The first board of councilmen consisted of L. Kah, M. Norcross, A. Clason, M. Billings, Dr. Lefevre, and J. Weatherhead. The first mayor was L. Applegate, and the other first officers were: J. C. Koverman, marshal; Dodfrey Kembold, treasurer; and F. W. Stork, clerk. The first postmaster was F. S. Thirkield, but his service long antedated the incorporation of the village. Anna has an adequate fire department, the equipment consisting of a gas engine, hose-cart and ladder. The present mayor of the town is R. D. Curtner.



Among the principal commercial industries of Anna are the following: H. C. Hagelberger, clothing, tailoring and gents' furnishings; business established nine years ago; R. D. Mede, stoves, tinware, tinners' supplies, metal work, roofing, buggies and carriages; Mr. Mede has been established in business here for the past thirty years, and in addition to the commercial lines mentioned above, he is agent for the Oliver plows and cultivators.

E. B. Ballinger & Company are conducting the business established by J. L. Applegate, thirty-nine years ago, the present business style being assumed August 17, 1912. The concern deals in furniture, carpets, mattings, linoleum, window shades, lace curtains, curtain poles, and sewing machines. Mr. Ballinger also conducts a business in undertaking and embalming. A. Weller, druggist, also dealer in stationery, wall paper, etc., has been established in Anna for the last twenty years.

P. W. Young is dealer in general hardware, farming implements, stoves, paints, oils, glass, etc. This business was established forty-one years ago by Elliott & Young; the former partner, Mr. Elliott, died about twenty-five years ago.

The Farmers and Merchants Bank Company was established in 1907 by parties from Columbus, Ohio. On May 29, 1910, it was incorporated by Daniel Runkle, R. D. Curtner, William C. Heinrich, George D. Fridley and E. M. Martin, with a capital stock of \$25,000. Its present officers are: Daniel Runkle, president; R. D. Mede, vice-president, and A. W. Fridley, cashier. The directors last elected are: C. C. Toland, J. W. A. Fridley, W. M. Runkle (since deceased), E. M. Martin (not sworn in), R. D. Mede, Daniel Runkle, and George C. Schiff. The bank has undivided profits of \$1,600.

Finkenbein & Manning, dealers in grain, feed, flour and seeds, are proprietors of a grain elevator, the present firm having been established January 1, 1912. The business is an old one, having been established forty years ago by K. H. Stock & Company, who were succeeded by L. Finkenbein, who had been a partner with Mr. Stock, and who conducted it for a number of years. In 1895 it came into possession of L. Finkenbein, Jr., which proprietorship was continued until the present partnership was formed. The firm has an adequate plant and is doing a successful business.

Martin Manufacturing Company are successors to the William Johnson spoke factory. They are now putting in new machinery and will engage in the manufacture of staves.

Milton C. Fogt is conducting a prosperous hardware business. Miss S. E. McCullough is proprietor of a millinery and notion store. M. H. Ailes conducts a general insurance business.

The grain business now carried on by C. C. Toland was established fifty years ago, the elevator being built at that time. John Thirkield conducted the business for fifteen years, his successor being Frank Thirkield, who was proprietor for about five years. The property was then leased to Farrington, Saluson & Nelson, by whom it was carried on for five or six years. The next proprietor was Judge Bowersox, of Sidney, from whom the business was bought by C. C. Toland. The business was conducted for some time as a

partnership concern, under the style of Toland & Ludwig, but about twelve years ago Mr. Toland bought out his partner and has since been sole proprietor. Mr. Toland deals in grain, seeds, salt, etc., and is doing a prosperous business.

Other business enterprises of Anna are Fred Woehrl, groceries; George Fleckinstine, drain tile; L. Finkenbein, groceries, dry goods, notions, etc.; C. McVay & Son, livery, established twenty-two years; B. F. Martin, notions, Mr. Martin being the successor of his grandfather, R. Martin, who established the business; Rembold Brothers, W. T. and J. G., boots, shoes and rubber goods, have been established four years, the business having been previously carried on for seven years by W. J. Rembold alone.

#### BOTKINS

Botkins, which is located on the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Railway, near the north boundary of Dinsmore township, was platted as a village for Russell Botkin, who owned the land, in July, 1858. It was certified by J. A. Wells, surveyor, and acknowledged July 31, 1858. The town became a prosperous trading center and had a steady growth. It aspired to the dignity of an incorporated village in 1881, a petition being filed with the county commissioners on March 7, of that year. Although strenuously fought by some of the citizens, through remonstrance and protest filed, the proposition was carried through, a majority of the people being in favor of it. The petition was granted August 2, 1881, and was recorded January 3, 1882. A special election was held, at which the following officers were elected: P. W. Speaker, mayor; H. H. Varner, clerk; F. M. Hemmert, treasurer; J. B. Staller, marshal; and John McMahon, Dr. G. M. Tate, Dr. P. K. Cliehens, Alexander Botkin and J. B. Hemmert, councilmen. Since then the growth of the village has been slow but steady. There has been no marked "boom" but business in general has flourished and the citizens are prosperous. Though some former industries and commercial enterprises have passed out of existence with the mutations of time, others have taken their places, and present conditions, on the whole, mark a satisfactory advance.

For a town of its size, Botkins has a very complete and efficient fire department, with a good engine house. The apparatus consists of a Howe gasoline engine, hook and ladder wagon and hose-cart with several thousand feet of hose. There is also an old hand engine which can be used when required. There is a good water supply, the water being obtained from cisterns (50 by 25 feet), which are sunk at convenient places on the streets. These cisterns are supplied from an artificial lake, covering two acres of ground and from twelve to fifteen feet deep, which is owned by the corporation. The department consists of a volunteer company numbering forty men, under the command at the present time of Chief John Morris.

The Botkins Herald, a six-column quarto weekly, was established about fifteen years ago by Adam E. Blakeley, who conducted it until his death, in January, 1911. He was then succeeded by his son, Lowell E. Blakeley, who

is the present proprietor. The paper is independent in politics and has a considerable circulation throughout this part of the county. A job printing office is run in connection with the plant and does a good business. A new cylinder press has recently been installed, and the office is supplied with all the latest faces of job type. The proprietor, Mr. Blakeley, is the present postmaster of Botkins.

Among the principal commercial industries of Botkins at the present time are the following: The Botkins Hardware Company, John C. Koenig, proprietor, are dealers in hardware, stoves, roofing, fence, pumps, buggies and implements. The business was established by Mr. Koenig about seven years ago and is in a flourishing condition. The store is large and well supplied with an ample and varied stock. H. W. Weigert & Company, dealers in clothing, dry goods, shoes, groceries and general merchandise, has been established about two years ago and gives promise of a successful future. W. C. Zaenglein & Brother, are proprietors of a well-equipped department store. W. H. Brideweser, dealer in harness, has been established in Botkins nearly eighteen years and is conducting a successful business. Thomas Kennedy Implement Company deals in hardware, stoves, wire fencing, fence posts, implements, cement, lime, plaster, etc., and has been doing a successful business for ten years or more. William Oppeman conducts a well-appointed livery stable. F. G. Gutman conducts a general store. J. H. M. Schurr, undertaker and furniture dealer, is successfully carrying on the business established by his father, Christian Schurr, twenty-four years ago. B. A. Steinke is proprietor of a blacksmith shop. There are also several other stores, including the Blakeley Millinery, one or two barber shops and several saloons. A saw mill has been conducted here for a number of years by M. A. Roth, who also does ditch contracting. The Paul & Shafer grain elevator is an up-to-date concern and is doing a good business. The old mill was built by Taylor & Marx, who were its proprietors for about five years, the business then being bought by Mr. Shafer, who conducted it under the style of Shafer Grain Co. About a year later, July 6, 1911, it burned down, but in the same year the erection of the present mill was begun and in October, 1912, it was opened for business. In the meanwhile, on July 1, 1912, Mr. Paul became a partner with Mr. Shafer and the firm adopted its present style of Paul & Shafer. The concern deals in grain, seeds, salt, flour, coal and fence posts and building tile, and are buyers and sellers of live stock. The elevator is a commodious and up-to-date structure.

The Botkins Product Company was organized in the spring of 1911, and was incorporated with a capital stock of \$5,000, the following being the incorporators: J. M. Sheets, Louis Zimmerman, H. E. Sheets, Walter A. Looker and J. B. Reineke. J. M. Sheets was elected president; Louis Zimmerman, vice-president; H. E. Sheets, treasurer; and Walter A. Looker secretary. The company was formed to engage in the manufacture of "Kob Korn Krisp," the parching of corn on the cob.

Sheets Manufacturing Company, of Botkins, was established in 1903, by H. E. Sheets, who remains sole proprietor of the business. The concern

has a large factory, well equipped with up-to-date woodworking machinery and is engaged in the manufacture of bent rims and spokes for wagons, implements, carriages and automobiles. The factory contains 20,000 square feet of floor space and employment is given to about eighty-five men. About 10,000,000 feet of lumber is used annually, most of which is worked from the log to the finished product, the latter being shipped all over the United States, besides a considerable amount that is exported.

The Sheets Grain Company was established about thirty years ago by Philip Sheets, who continued the business until his death in 1905, when his sons, E. S. and H. E. Sheets, continued the business. The company handles grain, feed, seed, etc., having an up-to-date elevator in Botkins, and also own other elevators outside the county, namely, one at each of the following places in Auglaize and Logan counties: Wapakoneta, Lakeview, Waynesfield, Geyer and Gutman.

The Shelby County Bank was established at Botkins about 1897, by Philip Sheets, who conducted it as sole proprietor until his death in 1905, after which time the business passed into the hands of his sons, E. S. and H. E. Sheets, who continued it as a private bank until 1912. It was then incorporated, with a capital stock of \$25,000, with H. E. Sheets, president; Philip Sheets, Jr., vice-president, and E. S. Sheets, cashier, which is the official board at the present time, January, 1913.

M. A. Roth is proprietor of a saw mill established several years, and is also engaged in ditch contracting.

#### CHURCHES

The greatest civilizing agency we have, the church, was not long in establishing itself, in fact before the township was more than sparsely settled. Brief mention is here made of the history of the various congregations:

St. Jacob's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation.—One of the most beautiful church edifices in the county is that of St. Jacob's Evangelical Lutheran at Anna, which was dedicated August 4, 1907. The birth of this church was eighty years ago in 1832, when a few Lutherans, strong in their faith, settled in the virgin forest near Anna and the first preacher was the Rev. Henry Joesting, whose parsonage was a log structure of one room, which served as a residence, a schoolhouse, and a place for Sunday services. The names of John Altermath, Michael Altermath, Louis Bey and John Moothart, appear on the records, and they were soon joined by Germans of like faith.

In the fall of 1833 their number was increased by Philip Jacob Hagelberger, John Fogt, John Jacob Finkenbein, John Jacob Zimpher, Frederick Knasel, Henry Breitweiser, Henry Schaefer, Samuel Schaefer, and Benjamin Werth, with their families. A log church was erected in 1835-36, thirty-six feet long and twenty-four feet wide, for which the contractor, Jesse Weistch, got \$100 for his labor. The seats were boards on trestles. It was built on the site which afterwards was the Lutheran cemetery, David Swander giving the land.

The first class was confirmed in 1836. The Rev. George Klapp served the church from 1840 to 1844, the Rev. Hursh till 1850, and the Rev. Spangler followed with a pastorate of seven years.

The congregation outgrew their old log church of twenty years and dedicated a new one October 21, 1855, which cost \$1,100. The church, made of brick, stood its ground for seventeen years and eventually was torn down and used in the building of a tile mill. The Rev. Christian Sappes was pastor in 1857, followed by the Revs. Gottfried Loewenstein, J. F. Grassie, and John Bundenthal, and was followed by a theological student from Columbus, from 1871 to 1877. The brick church was soon found too small for it was such a Lutheran nest that if an inhabitant in that vicinity got scratched the chances were Lutheran blood was spilt, so a frame structure 60 by 40 feet was built in 1870 and 1871 at a cost of \$5,000.

Rev. John Michael Meissner served as pastor from 1877 to 1889, the longest term in its history. He baptized 303, mostly babies, for race suicide was not on their program, and he confirmed 110. The Rev. E. H. D. Winterhoff took charge in 1889 and was succeeded by the Rev. R. C. H. Lenski, the editor of the Synodical Journal. At the time the present church was dedicated there had been during his pastorate of seven years 200 baptisms and 210 confirmations, 33 of whom were adults, making the number of communicants 550.

The sacred frame structure could not begin to hold the crowds fired with Lutheran zeal, and so a building committee consisting of the pastor as chairman, George C. Schiff, C. E. Fogt, C. C. Fogt and George Hagelberger signed the contract with the builders, Newmier and Hemmert, of Wapakoneta, for \$17,490.70. The architect was R. C. Gotwald, of Springfield. The congregation was as harmonious as a colony of working bees, after the drones had been disposed of, and as the building progressed new and more extravagant ideas were advanced and approved until everything was done to make the interior of the church as artistic and perfect in its appointments as one could wish. Could the early saints in the Anna congregation be permitted to visit the earth again they would almost wish to leave Heaven for awhile to worship in so sweet a place. On Tuesday after the dedication the Rev. Emanuel Poppen, of Sidney, with 100 of his congregation, took charge of the past dedicatory services, his wife bringing out the possibilities of the new pipe organ with good effect.

The Rev. Lenski accepted a call to Columbus in August, 1911, and was succeeded by the Rev. C. J. Gohdus, who served a year and he was followed December 8, 1912, by Rev. H. J. Schuh, the present pastor, who came here from Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where he had served a pastorate of twenty-eight years. The congregation now numbers 579 communicants.

Botkins Methodist Episcopal Church—The congregation of this church was in existence some years before a church edifice was erected. It was organized in 1833 or 1834 at the home of Richard Botkin, by the Rev. Daniel D. Davidson, assisted by Rev. James Smith. Among the prominent early members were: Richard Botkin and wife, Henry Hildebrant and wife,

Cornelius Montfort and wife, Cornelius Elliott and wife, and Samuel Elliott and wife. For several years services were held in the home of Richard Botkin, and subsequently in a log house in Botkins until 1841, in which year they erected a hewed log church, on ground donated for that purpose by Richard Botkin. This was in 1860 replaced by a frame church building, dedicated in the fall of that year by the Rev. Wilson, assisted by the local pastor, Patrick G. Goode. In 1881 they erected a substantial brick building at a cost of \$2,040, and this was dedicated June 18, 1882, by Rev. Watters, assisted by Rev. J. S. Ayers, presiding elder of the Bellefontaine district. This church has since maintained its organization and has a live membership. Services are held Sunday afternoon and evening alternately. The present pastor is Rev. J. W. Miller.

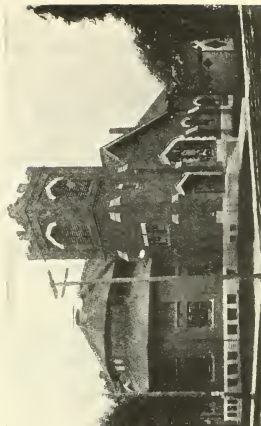
The Lutheran church, Botkins, Rev. A. Pflenger, pastor, holds alternate services Sunday mornings and evenings, with Sunday school in the forenoon.

Anna Methodist Episcopal church, originally known as Mt. Gilead Methodist Episcopal church, was organized at the home of Richard C. Dill, in 1833, Rev. D. D. Davidson and Rev. James Smith. Services were for some years held in the homes of Mr. Dill and Joseph Park, and from 1840 until the completion of a house of worship in 1841, at the home of Mary J. Young. It was built a quarter of a mile north of Anna, was of the hewed-log type, and served the congregation until a frame structure was erected some years later, in the same vicinity. The latter was dedicated in July, 1858, by Revs. Wilson and P. G. Goode, the latter being then pastor. Among the original members were Mrs. R. C. Dill, Jane Dill, E. B. Toland and wife, Thomas Iiams and wife, Mrs. Forsha, John Lucas and wife. The present Methodist Episcopal church in Anna was dedicated November 1, 1886. The church is a brick structure, with slate roof, stained glass windows and having an audience room, lecture room, and two class rooms. The regular preaching services are held one Sabbath morning, the next Sabbath morning and evening and so alternately. The church now has 126 members. Rev. J. W. Miller is now in his second year as pastor, having succeeded Rev. W. W. Motter.

Roman Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception, Botkins, Ohio.—The history of this congregation dates back more than six decades, when a few Roman Catholic families settled in the vicinity of the present town of Botkins. They were all German immigrants, and hence possessed but scanty means wherewith they might contribute toward the erection of a church, and the support of a pastor. Missionaries, however, came at regular intervals from surrounding well-settled communities, and provided for the spiritual wants of their poor brethren. Divine service was held at first in the residences of some families, later on in an old schoolhouse, and subsequently in a log church, which finally was replaced by the present church. The first church organization was formed in 1865, and immediately preparations were made and measures taken for the erection of a suitable house of worship. Two years afterwards in 1867 the zealous people of the congrega-



M. E. CHURCH AND PARSONAGE, ANNA, O.



ST. JACOB'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, ANNA, O.



WAPAKONETA AVE., ANNA, O.



HIGH SCHOOL, ANNA, O.





tion worshiped for the first time in the new edifice. The church, which had been erected at a cost of about \$8,000, is a handsome brick building of 85 by 45 feet, crowned by a neat steeple. In 1875 the congregation purchased the home of Andrew Gutman, which was first occupied by the reverend pastor but later became residence for the teachers. Clemens Huber, a pioneer of the congregation, donated in 1878 two acres of land for a new cemetery. The want of a school was provided for in 1881 by the purchase of the old Methodist Episcopal church, which has received an annex at the cost of \$800. In 1887 the new parsonage, a two-story brick building, was completed at a cost of \$3,000. The church was remodeled and highly embellished by the brush of the able artist, F. H. Hefele, 1898, and but one year later new beautiful stained glass windows were put up to give the renovation a finishing touch.

Father Joseph Goebel was the organizer of the congregation, and remained in charge of it till 1871, when he was succeeded by Rev. Henry Daniel. In 1873, Rev. Nicholas Eilermann, a pious and energetic priest, was appointed pastor and he fulfilled his duties most successfully until his demise, June 24, 1893. Since that time the Rev. Henry Daniel has reassumed the pastoral charge of the congregation.

St. Lawrence Roman Catholic Church, Rheine.—This church is located near the southwest corner of section 36, Dinsmore township, three miles east of Botkins, on the Botkins pike. With about twenty families, Father Henry J. Muckerheide started a congregation in 1856, and held divine service for them in the schoolhouse of subdistrict No. 1, Dinsmore township, until another and more spacious building could be erected. At a cost of about \$2,100 the newly organized congregation reared a new church of brick structure 50 by 40 feet, and in the autumn of 1858 Rev. H. J. Muckerheide was already enabled to dedicate it to the service of the Most High. In the spring of 1893 the cornerstone for a new church was laid, and on Christmas following it was successfully completed. The beautiful edifice as it now greets the eye of the traveler is a massive, yet handsome, brick building of 80 by 43 feet, which had been erected at a cost of \$12,400. The solemn strains of bells invite all to enter its hallowed walls. Moreover, new altars, and the excellent frescoing by F. H. Hefele have embellished the interior aspect, while a new furnace has helped to increase the comfort of the church. Most Rev. Archbishop Henry W. Elder, of Cincinnati, dedicated the new building with grand ceremonies, August 26, 1894. A two-story brick schoolhouse, 48 by 36 feet, was erected in 1878 at a cost of about \$1,800.

Several fraternal orders have lodges in Botkins. Botkins Lodge No. 903, I. O. O. F., organized four years ago, has now between fifty and sixty members. They hold regular meetings in their own hall.

The Rebecca Lodge, I. O. O. F., has been established for the last three years and holds meetings in the Odd Fellows hall.

Summit Camp No. 131, Woodmen of the World, was established here six years ago and now numbers forty members. They also have a hall for meeting purposes.

The Knights of St. John, a Catholic order, was instituted in Botkins fifteen years ago and have their own hall.

The Catholic Knights of America, a Catholic insurance order, flourishes under the auspices of the Catholic church. The members meet at the Knights of St. John hall.

## CHAPTER XX

### THE TOWNSHIPS (II)

#### *Franklin, Green and Jackson Townships*

#### FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

Surface and Soil.—The location of Franklin township being in the second tier from the north is crossed by the Greenville Treaty Line and its boundaries are as follows: Dinsmore is the sister township on the north; Jackson and Salem townships form its east line; Salem, Clinton and Turtle Creek are along the southern border, and Turtle Creek and Van Buren townships bound it on the west. A generally level surface and a rich soil mainly of black loam have made fine agricultural possibilities here, while sand pits and gravel beds in some portions have proved well worth developing. Transportation facilities are excellent, there being fine roads and from north to south runs the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton (the old Dayton & Michigan Railroad), with shipping points at Swanders, Anna and Botkins. This road is paralleled by the Western Ohio Electric Railroad, which does a good passenger business. This section of Shelby county was largely settled by natives of other parts of Ohio and its people have ever been of the quiet, law-abiding class.

Villages.—Swanders is a small village of about eighty-six population, centrally located, and has outlived Massena, Woodstock and other once promising settlements. Woodstock, a town of sixty-four lots, was laid out in June, 1836, but the village organization is no longer maintained. In 1857 the Dayton & Michigan Railroad (now the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton) was constructed and in 1867 the company established a flag station about five miles north of Sidney, which was named in honor of James Swander, who was appointed agent of the railroad company, was the first postmaster (1867), and established and conducted the first dry goods and general store.

Industries.—Tile making was formerly an important industry at Swanders, the tile yards being conducted for a number of years by Killian & Ludlum, but the business has been abandoned. In 1868, Henry Smith erected a steam saw mill, which he sold a year later to James Swander, who in turn sold out to Bulle & Minniear. The latter firm operated it with success for a number of years, but the business becoming unprofitable, was finally given up. The most important industry now at Swanders, or indeed in Franklin township, is the grain elevator of W. M. Alton & Son, which

is doing a good business. Edward H. Billing is postmaster and conducts a general store.

Justices of the Peace.—The list of those who have served in the office of justice of the peace in Franklin township is as follows: Daminett Cole, May 26, 1836; John Lenox, January 20, 1837; William M. Ross, April 8, 1839; George Clancey, December 28, 1839; George Clancey, October 17, 1842; David Deweese, April 25, 1845; George Clancey, November 15, 1845; Thomas Shaw, April 17, 1848; David Deweese, October 21, 1848; George Clancey, December 30, 1848; Henry Bogan, November 8, 1851; George Clancey, November 8, 1851; George Wenner, April 14, 1854; Eliakim Ludlum, May 19, 1856; George Clancey, 1857; Eliakim Ludlum, April 12, 1859; David Deweese, October 20, 1859; Eliakim Ludlum, April 22, 1862; Eliakim Ludlum, April 14, 1865; E. T. Ailes, April 11, 1866; Lewis Fridley, April 5, 1867; Eliakim Ludlum, April 13, 1868; J. McDeweese, April 12, 1869 (resigned May 26, 1870); J. D. Elliott, April 15, 1871 (resigned); Eliakim Ludlum, April 11, 1871; Daniel Staley, April 5, 1872; Eliakim Ludlum, April 10, 1874; Lorenzo Sitzman, April 9, 1875; Lewis Applegate, April 8, 1876; Eliakim Ludlum, April 17, 1877; Lewis Applegate, April 17, 1879; Eliakim Ludlum, April 14, 1880; P. W. Young, April 13, 1881; P. W. Young, 1884-1887; E. Ludlum, 1886-1889; P. W. Young, 1887; Peter Fogt, 1889; John Hagelberger, 1890; Peter Fogt, 1892; John Hagelberger, 1893-1896; Peter Fogt, 1895; August Maurer, 1896; Peter Fogt, 1898; August Maurer, 1899-1902; Peter Fogt, 1901; David Bushman, 1901; Andrew Bertsch, 1902; Andrew Bertsch, 1904; George C. Schiff, 1905; George C. Schiff, 1908; George A. Fogt, 1908; P. W. Young, 1911; Peter Fogt, 1912.

The present clerk of Franklin township is T. S. Price. Trustees: L. W. Border, Lewis Knasel and Anthony Summer.

#### CHURCHES

The Reformed Church Society.—The early settlers of Franklin township were not slow in taking measures to secure church privileges and the first society formally organized was that known as The Reformed Church Society, in September, 1832, at the house of Jacob Schlosser, by Rev. John Pence. The members of the first class were Jacob Schlosser and wife, James Swander and wife, David Swander and wife, Philip Swander and wife, Henry Swander and wife, Peter Hartman and wife, Jacob Woodring and wife, and Joseph Carmany and wife. They were all earnest Christian people and while they struggled for two years to secure a proper church structure, they became only the more closely united as they met for religious meetings at each other's homes. In 1834, with the help of the Lutheran society, a union building was put up on the Wapakoneta turnpike road, two and half miles south of Anna. It was constructed of hewed logs and its dimensions were 25 by 30 feet. The two church bodies met alternately in this building until 1845, when the Reformed society sold its interest and

in the following year erected a frame edifice. The church has a live membership, presided over at present by the Rev. R. R. Yocum, of Maplewood.

Wesley Chapel Methodist Episcopal Church.—In 1883 the Methodists of Franklin township decided to bring about the organization of a society of their faith and, although there were but seven initial members, their zeal was such that Rev. Thomas Simmes acceded to their request and afterward, for a number of years, regular meetings were held at the house of Philip Young. The church edifice known as Wesley Chapel was erected about 1847, and is situated on the Murphy turnpike road near the center of the west line of section 36, north of boundary line, in Franklin township. It has been remodeled in recent years. The church membership at present approaches one hundred and ministers have all been supported and church affairs decorously carried on. The first revival meeting in this neighborhood was held at the home of Philip Young. The last survivor of the original membership was Mrs. Samuel Barley. Rev. J. W. Miller, of Anna, Ohio, is now the pastor of this congregation.

Plum Creek Methodist Episcopal Church Society.—The frame structure known as the Plum Creek Methodist Church, situated three miles north of Sidney, near Plum creek, on the Wapakoneta turnpike road, was dedicated in November, 1860, by Rev. Jacob M. Holmes, but has since been remodeled. The society was organized in February, 1839, by Rev. David Warnock and the first members were Nathan Burress and wife, Thomas Shaw and wife, Henry Yinger and wife, Louisa Leapley, Jane McVay, Mary Critton, Caspar Yinger, Valinda Yinger, Elizabeth McVay, David Greenlee, Elizabeth Burress and Sarah Burress. Many of these old township families are yet represented in its membership. Rev. John Parker is present pastor.

An account of the schools of Franklin township may be found in the chapter on education.

### GREEN TOWNSHIP

This township, forming the southeast corner of Shelby county, is five miles square and contains 25 sections of land. It was a part of Orange township prior to March 7, 1820, when it was erected as an independent township. It possesses a fertile soil, is mainly level, and is well drained by various streams, principally by Tawawa or Mosquito creek and Leatherwood creek, with their respective numerous tributaries. There are also numerous drain ditches, which have been established through the flat sections of the township. Settlement here antedates the organization of the township some years, the first known family to penetrate the forest here and establish a home being that of Henry Sturm, who came from Clark county, Ohio, in 1814. This pioneer, with his wife and twelve children, settled in the southwest quarter of section 1. His children were Matthias, Margaret, Nicholas, Henry, Peter, William, Jacob, Frederick, Ephraim, Elizabeth, George and John, most of whom grew to become well known residents of this or other townships in the county.

The spring following their arrival marked the coming of Henry Sturm's son-in-law, Samuel Robinson, who also had several small children. Among those who came a little later we may mention: Ezekiel Sargeant, who came from Clark county, Ohio, in 1816; William Bothel, who came from Pennsylvania, in 1816; John R. and Adam Medaris, who came in 1817, and were progressive men and active citizens here for many years; John Ellsworth, who came in 1817; Peter Princehouse, who also came in 1817 or the year following; Thaddeus Tuttle, Edward Conroy and family; David Larue, who came from Champaign county, Ohio; all came in 1818. About this time—some of them even earlier—Joseph Park, William Richardson, Jacob Kiser, George W. Frazier, Daniel Apples, John Botkin and John Dorsey cast their lot with the newly developing community.

Among those of a latter period we might mention Robert C. Cunningham and Samuel Redenbo, who arrived in 1819; Silas Dorsey, in 1824; Peter V. and David S. Sherwood, in 1831; Samuel Bird and William Niswanger, in 1832; John Platt and William B. Williams, in 1833; Elias Barbee, in 1834; Timothy Conover and John Dickensheets, in 1835; Herman R. Hunt, in 1836; Matthias Gray, in 1837; Paul F. Verdier and Samuel Woodward, in 1839; Mahlon Moon, in 1840; and Dr. John C. Leedom, in 1842. Dr. Leedom was by no means the first practicing physician here, as he was preceded by Doctor Pratt, who came as early as 1820, and by a Doctor Little, who came subsequently to Doctor Pratt. The first election was held in the house of John R. Medaris in April, 1820. The first justices of the peace were Henry Sturm and Charles Johnston, who were chosen at the election above mentioned. The first clerk was Charles Dorsey.

The justices in order after the first election of Mr. Sturm and Mr. Johnston were: Philip Jackson, 1835; Thomas Vaughn, 1836; Elias Barbee, 1836; Elias Barbee, 1839; Thomas Vaughn, 1839; N. Sherieff, 1842; Thomas Vaughn, 1842; N. Sherieff, 1845; Thomas Vaughn, 1845; N. Sherieff, 1848; Samuel Lewis, 1849; Ira F. Hunt, 1851; John Hume, 1852; Alexander E. Carey, 1854; William Beezley, 1855; Samuel Lewis, 1860; A. L. Smith, 1863; David Bowersock, 1865; L. G. Simes, 1866; David Bowersock, 1868; L. G. Simes, 1869; David Bowersock, 1871; L. G. Simes, 1872; David Bowersock, 1874; G. L. Simes, 1875; Samuel Lewis, 1877; G. L. Simes, 1878; David Bowersock, 1880; L. G. Simes, 1881; L. G. Simes, 1884; John Sargent, 1885; L. G. Simes, 1887; Madison Bennett, 1888; L. G. Simes, 1890; E. M. Baker, 1890; L. G. Simes, 1893; Elisha Yost, 1893; David N. Prince, 1896; L. G. Simes, 1896; Elisha Yost, 1899; E. O. Marrs, 1901; W. H. Baker, 1902; E. Needles, 1903; N. H. Baker, 1905; C. A. Jackson, 1908; E. E. Wiley, 1908; and T. J. Kiser, in 1911. E. F. Rolfe is the present township clerk, and the trustees are W. F. Valentine, J. L. Atkinson and Harvey Wiley.

Schools.—Although this subject is dealt with in another chapter of this volume, we may here make some mention of the pioneer school. It was at first held in the homes of the settlers. About the year 1818 or 1819 a school was conducted in a primitive round log building on the farm of David Larue, in section 10. The first term consisted of but seven days and it is

related that the teacher, Mr. Dorsey, received but fifty cents a day, or three and a half dollars for the term. The first house built especially for school purposes was erected in 1820 near the old graveyard in what is now Plattsville. Miss Lucy Wilson was the first instructor here. In 1821 another log schoolhouse was built near the Sturm graveyard, and the first teacher was Doctor Pratt. Until 1853, there were none but subscription schools, but on June 18th of that year the township was divided into six school districts and a tax levied on the township for school purposes. The first brick schoolhouse had its inception in that year, and since that time the community has been blessed with good buildings and superior instruction, school affairs being under the guidance of capable directors chosen from among the citizens whose hearts were in the work.

Churches.—Hand in hand with development educationally and commercially, was the development spiritually. From almost the first the settlers were wont to gather in the home of some settler for divine worship, and from this humble beginning societies were gradually formed and in time churches erected. Denominational lines were not so closely drawn in those days, as there were too few of any one denomination. We herewith present facts regarding some of the religious bodies that struggled and conquered under the most adverse circumstances:

The Salem Methodist Episcopal church was organized in 1825 by Rev. Simes or Rev. Westlake, and among the most prominent of its members were David Larue and wife, Silas Dorsey and wife, and Mrs. Jemima Conroy. A hewed log church was erected in section 4, and served as long as the organization continued, which was until about the year 1840.

The Charity Chapel Methodist Protestant church was organized about 1840, with Silas Dorsey as the leader of the society, it drawing considerably from the membership of the Salem Methodist Episcopal church. Meetings were held in Mr. Dorsey's house for a number of years, when a frame building was erected in section 4 of Green township. It ceased to exist as a church body in 1864 or 1865.

The Spring Creek Christian church was organized March 15, 1851, by James T. Hunt and James Skillen in a log schoolhouse on the Cephas T. Sanders farm, with sixty-one members. Meetings were held in the school building until 1852, when a frame building was constructed in the southeast corner of section 28, near the Miami county line. It was dedicated in 1853 by Rev. Griffin. In 1868, a fine new church building was erected and was dedicated in November of that year by Rev. James Linn. Among the original members may be mentioned: Cephas and Nancy Sanders, Cephas T. Sanders, Rachel Sanders, David and Chloe Sherwood, John Luseny, Martha Luseny, Martha Sanders, David and Catherine Wiles, William and Rachel Williams, Jackson and Mary Cramer, John and Almira Henman, David and Matilda Hall, and Catherine Sanders. It started out with a goodly membership, and the church affairs have always continued in a good healthy condition. The present pastor is Rev. L. W. Ryan.

Charity Chapel Christian church was organized in the Methodist Protes-

tant church building in 1864 or 1865 by Elder Asbury Watkins. William Benham and Thomas Stith were appointed the first deacons of the church. Worship was held in the Methodist Protestant building until 1878, when they erected a building of their own, which was dedicated on December 27, 1878, by Elder E. M. Rapp. The church is served by Rev. L. W. Ryan, pastor of the Spring Creek Christian church.

The Methodist Episcopal society at New Palestine (now Tawawa) had its inception about the year 1820, and was organized by Rev. Finley. Among the members were Philip Locker and wife, William Bathel and wife, Jacob Kiser and wife, and Ezekiel Sargeant and wife. They met around at the various homes for worship and continued in that way while the organization lasted, which was until the late thirties.

The Christian church at New Palestine had its beginning in an organization formed at the residence of Daniel Neal in Champaign county, by Elders Jeremiah Fusion and John T. Robertson. The latter was the first pastor and meetings were held in the Neal home for about one year, and in May, 1838, they equipped a vacant house on the Ira Hunt farm in Green township with seats, using that as their house of worship for many years. They next built a frame church in New Palestine, which was dedicated in June, 1851, by Elder Samuel Fusion, assisted by Elder Justus T. Hunt. When this building proved inadequate for further use for church purposes, the society erected a larger structure near the old one, it being dedicated January 1, 1882, by Elder A. L. McKinney, of Troy, Ohio. The original members of the congregation were Ira and Anna Hunt, Justus T. Hunt and wife, David Bever and wife, Daniel Neal and wife, Joseph Basey and wife, David Greeley and wife, Ira F. Hunt and wife, Eleanor Woolley, Mary A. Flemmon and Daniel Currier. This church is at present served by Rev. A. J. Adriance, of Defiance, Ohio.

The Plattsville Methodist Episcopal church, at one time known as the Antioch Methodist Episcopal church, was organized about 1819 or 1820, and until 1828 or thereabouts, meetings were held in the homes of various members. In that year or the following a hewed log building was erected on the ground later occupied by the cemetery at Plattsville, the land being donated for that purpose by Thaddeus Tuttle. They continued in this building until 1849, when a new one was built on property purchased at Plattsville, from John R. Medaris. The church was dedicated in 1850, the name being changed from the Antioch Methodist Episcopal church to the Plattsville Methodist Episcopal church society. Among the original members were Thaddeus Tuttle and wife, John R. Medaris and wife, and William Ellsworth and wife.

The Plattsville Universalist church was erected in 1877, and was dedicated on July 29th of that year by T. S. Guthrie, assisted by the local pastor, Rev. J. D. Lawer. The society was organized on September 30th following, J. D. Lawer and thirty-six others constituting the membership. It has been a very prosperous organization. Rev. Colgrove is the present pastor.



Villages.—New Palestine, Plattsville and Ballou are the villages which have existed in Green township.

New Palestine was laid out on September 27, 1832, by Ephraim Davidson, who owned the land on which it was located, and the first settlers in the village were George Swiger and family. The first store was conducted by John Stephen, and the first hotel by Joseph Knot. The former postoffice for this village was named Tawawa, but has been abandoned, and the village is now known by its original name only. New Palestine has two lodges, a K. G. E., with a membership of ninety-eight, and on I. O. R. M. lodge, membership about sixty.

Plattsville, with a population of 134, is located near the center of Green township, on what was the old John R. Medaris farm. The latter had it surveyed in 1844 by Jonathan Counts, and it was recorded September 26, 1844. In 1849, an addition to the village was surveyed for J. R. Medaris, and this was recorded on July 4th of that year. The first business at this point was an ashery and general store, of which Thomas Farshee was proprietor. The Methodist Episcopal and the Universalist churches are located here, drawing membership largely from surrounding territory. Plattsville Lodge No. 643, I. O. O. F., was instituted in the village on July 12, 1876, by Nathan Jones, grand master of Ohio. The original members were: Samuel Griffis, L. P. Redenbo, P. R. Hunt, B. F. Johnson, G. W. Frazier, W. H. Bulle, J. T. Princehouse, W. L. Woolley, D. Bowersock and James Williams.

Industries of Green Township.—The first mill was established by John Medaris, and was a corn cracker, located near the village of Plattsville. A water power saw mill was erected on Leatherwood creek, in 1826 or 1827, by William Ellsworth, and a few years later Abraham Medaris also built a saw mill in the same locality near Plattsville. The next saw mill was the one conducted by Samuel Robinson on Leatherwood creek. In 1854 Hageman Brothers built a steam saw mill one mile south of Plattsville, and a steam saw mill was built by John Sargeant and John Neal near New Palestine. In 1879, a portable steam saw mill was started by Gabriel Harbaugh and was operated many years with great success. At the present time William F. Valentine operates the only tile mill in the township, his output being from 18 to 22 kilns annually. Mr. Valentine also engages in ditch contracting and in a season uses over 200 carloads of tile additional to the product of his own plant.

The present township clerk of Green is E. F. Rolfe. Trustees: W. F. Valentine, J. L. Atkinson and Harvey Wiley.

## JACKSON TOWNSHIP

Jackson township, which is bordered on the north by Auglaize county, on the east by Logan county, has Salem township on its south and Dinsmore and Franklin townships on its western boundaries. Its general settlement was more recent than many of the other townships, although, in 1912, it

may lay just claim to being one of the most important. While the land was originally heavily timbered, the soil proved very fertile and all agricultural activities have prospered.

#### EARLY SETTLERS

In 1831 James McCormick, traveling from Green county, found desirable land in what is now Jackson township and entered a tract in section 34. There are no other recorded transactions in land until 1833, when Andrew Nogle, of Fairfield county, settled in section 30. In the following year another pioneer, Thomas Cathcart, of Montgomery county, made an entry of land in section 33; and from the same county, in 1835, came David Snider and William Johnston. In 1837 the homesteaders were John W. Knight, Jephtha M. Davis, Dudley Hughes and William Babcock, and in 1838-1839, Jonathan Howell and Samuel Brandenburg. There is no further record of permanent settlers until 1843, when Christian Hawver of Miami county, located in section 33. Two years later, Philip Hawver, of the same county, bought 160 acres of the McPherson grant, and in the following year a member of the same family, George Hawver, also settled here. Other early settlers whose date of location cannot be definitely stated were Mathew Vandine, Timothy Wale, Julius Wale, Moses Quick, Kimmer Hudson, Henry Roland, Lewis Bland, Reuben Clayton and William Dawdon. It is probable that Luther L. Davis came about 1837 and that Jacob H. and David Babcock may have come in 1840. The McPherson section of grant above alluded to, comprises 640 acres lying entirely within Jackson township and was a special grant to James McPherson by the St. Mary's treaty of 1818.

Mills—Perhaps no industry in a pioneer region is more necessary than that of milling and where water could be utilized there was always some man enterprising enough to build a mill; even when no fall in a stream was sufficient, a horse mill was frequently built. The first mill in Jackson township—one of the latter character—was erected by Daniel Davis, in 1839, being located on the north half of the southwest quarter of section 3. Ten years later Joel Babcock erected a steam saw mill in what is now the town of Jackson Center, but it was destroyed by fire in 1868. In the following year the Babcocks erected another mill on the same site and operated it until 1875, when it was purchased by R. F. Buirley, who continued its operation. In 1866 the firm of McCod & Slusser built a saw mill, in section 33, operated it until 1881, the firm becoming McCord & Munch. For many years the Dearbaugh operated a saw mill and also a handle factory at Jackson Center, the latter being erected during the summer of 1882. Among present or recent industries are a cane mill, which has been operated for three years by William Hughes; also the mill and grain elevator of L. Kraft, who purchased it from William Ludwig. This, one of the most extensive business concerns of the township, was destroyed by a fire, in December, 1912, the loss was estimated at \$15,000.

## MONTRA

Jackson township has several important business centers. The village of Montra, with a present population of 160, was surveyed May 22, 1849, and is situated in the north half of the southeast quarter of section 18, town. 7, range 7 east. At first the village houses were constructed of logs and the first store was in a log building, conducted by a Mr. Mahuren, who was also postmaster and he not only carried the mail to Port Jefferson but also carried the greater part of his store stock, making his trips on foot. He evidently was a man of considerable enterprise, as he also conducted an ashery and a cooper shop. The village has several thriving industries at the present time, including the grocery and restaurant of Daniel Collins and the establishment of J. C. Heintz, devoted to pumps, steel tanks and wind-engines.

## JACKSON CENTER

The situation of Jackson Center is in the north part of the township, in sections 10 and 15, consists of twenty-four lots and the plat was recorded May 4, 1835. The first postmaster was E. P. Stout, who was also the first merchant. There has always been a considerable amount of business done here, among the present industries being the following: The Richmond Auto Company, automobiles and supplies; R. S. Heinler, hardware; J. B. Zehner, drugs; Chas. M. Lambert, musical goods and bicycles; Dearbaugh & Moodie, general merchandise; L. H. Sollman, bakery and restaurant; Mrs. G. A. Swickard, millinery, and the mill interests already mentioned. Dr. L. M. Babcock has a well appointed dental office here. There is also a good newspaper published here—The Jackson Center News, proprietor, J. G. Sailor, a fuller account of which can be found in the chapter on the Press of Shelby county. For mention of the First National Bank of Jackson Center see chapter on Banks and Banking.

## CHURCHES

Education both secular and religious has been a leading interest with the people of Jackson township and intelligence and good citizenship prevail. The more important educational statistics of the township may be found in the chapter on Education.

Jackson Center Seventh Day Baptist church was organized March 22, 1840, at the house of Solomon Sayrs, by Elder James Bailey, assisted by Elders Simeon Babcock and S. A. Davis, with about thirty members, viz., Luther L. Davis, Solomon Sayrs and wife, Emeline Sayrs, Dudley Hughes, Davis Loofborough and wife, Calvin Davis and wife, James M. Davis and wife, Uriah Davis and wife, James Davis and wife, John W. Knight and wife, Simeon Babcock, and some others whose names are not mentioned. They held their meetings at the houses of the different members alternately, making the house of Solomon Sayrs their regular place for holding the quarterly meeting about two years, or until 1842, when the society erected a hewed log

church building west of Jackson Center. Maxson Babcock and Jacob Maxson were appointed deacons of the church, Brooks Akers was the clerk, and Eled Simeon Babcock was the first minister in charge, and remained as such for over twenty years. The society met in the log church building for several years, or until the erection and completion of the old frame church building one-fourth of a mile west of Jackson Center, which was dedicated in September, 1859, by Elder L. A. Davis, assisted by Elders S. Babcock, Benjamin Clement, and Elder Maxson. In May, 1881, the society began the erection of a fine frame church building in Jackson Center 48 by 30 feet, which was completed at a cost of about \$2,000, and dedicated during the summer of 1882. The present pastor is Rev. E. L. Lewis.

St. Jacob's Lutheran church was organized in April, 1851, its original membership being Jacob Zorn, Sr., Jacob Zorn, Jr., Jacob Metz, Sr., Philip Metz, Philip Kempfer, Sr., Michael Elsass, Jacob Nonnoront, Michael Keis, Sr., Nicholas Shearer, Michael Shearer, and their wives, together with John Iseman and wife, Jacob Iseman and wife, George Heinz and wife, and Mrs. Elizabeth Christler. Nicholas Shearer, John Iseman and Jacob Zorn were the first church trustees. Under the direction of Rev. George Spangler, the company purchased a little over one acre of land in the northeast quarter of section 6, town. 7, range 7, on which a hewed log structure was built and this continued to be used as a meeting place until 1877 when a commodious brick church building was put up. The church has maintained its organization up to the present time. Rev. Mr. Pfluger, of Botkins, is now serving as pastor.

St. Emanuel's Lutheran Church—The Lutherans at Montra united in 1860 and a society was organized by Rev. Henry King. They were earnest people who were willing to meet for worship in an old storeroom until a proper church edifice could be completed, which was accomplished in the fall of 1862. Services were held here until the building was destroyed by fire in 1874, the membership having increased and during the summer of 1875 the new church building was erected on the old site. Many gifted preachers and zealous Christians have ministered to this congregation since then. The present pastor is Rev. B. F. Mittler.

Montra Methodist Episcopal Church—The Methodist faith was professed by some of the earliest settlers at Montra, but they had no special church organization until in the winter of 1864-65, when Elijah Holmes and wife, Mrs. Mary Foster, Henry Carter and wife, Samuel J. Piles and wife, William Baker, Elizabeth Kah and Joab Glick and wife, under the direction of Revs. Rinehart and Smith, became a recognized religious body. The society worshiped for several years in an old log building in the town but were able to dedicate a new structure in June, 1879, the minister then in charge being Rev. J. B. Findley. Rev. B. F. Smith, of Jackson Center, is now serving the congregation.

Pleasant Hill Methodist Episcopal Church—This church, located one mile east of Jackson Center, was organized some time prior to 1838. The earliest class included Andrew Holmes and wife, Lewis Bland and wife, Thomas

McVay and wife, Henry and James Roland and their wives, Philip Keith and wife, John Armstrong and wife, Mary Kertler and others. The first meetings were held in private houses, but by 1843 a log structure was put up, which was supplanted in 1853 by a frame edifice. The latter continued to be the church home until the erection of a much more pretentious one in 1882, at which time the membership numbered some sixty families, with missionary and other organizations. This society, however, disbanded some time ago and is no longer in existence.

There is also at Jackson Center a Disciples, or Church of Christ, organization, Rev. Harry Stinson being its pastor.

#### JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

The list of justices of the peace that have served in Jackson township from 1836 until 1910 will show that representative men here have held this important position:

James Maxwell, November 8, 1836; Thomas M. Cathcart, October 21, 1837; Wesley Noland, October 14, 1839; Thomas M. Cathcart, November 9, 1840; Newland Meranda, April 28, 1842; Wesley Noland, October 17, 1842; Newland Meranda, April 24, 1845; John C. Elliott, October 21, 1845; Davis Loofbourrow, April 22, 1846; John C. Elliott, November 8, 1851; Valentine McCormick, April 21, 1855; E. H. Hopkins, April 16, 1858; H. M. Ailes, November 10, 1860; E. H. Hopkins, April 22, 1861; John C. Elliott, October 23, 1863; G. N. Meranda, April 23, 1864, resigned September 3; Peter M. Young, October 18, 1864; John C. Elliott, October 17, 1866; P. M. Young, October 15, 1867; John C. Elliott, October 18, 1869; John Moodie, October 19, 1870; Alfred Ailes, October 12, 1872; John Moodie, October 20, 1873; Alfred Ailes, October 20, 1875; John Moodie, October 18, 1876; Alfred Ailes, October 14, 1878; John Moodie, October 18, 1879; Alfred Ailes, October 19, 1881; H. P. Ailes, March 18, 1882; J. C. Babcock, 1884, resigned March 9, 1886; H. P. Ailes, 1885; John Moodie, 1886; H. P. Ailes, 1888; Louis Applegate, 1889, resigned same year; James M. Hussey, 1889; H. P. Ailes, 1891; James M. Hussey, 1892; H. P. Ailes, 1894; J. A. Leininger, 1894; H. P. Ailes, 1897; H. P. Ailes, 1900; A. A. Davis, 1900; H. P. Ailes, 1903; A. A. Davis, 1903; C. F. Babcock, 1906; H. P. Ailes, 1906; H. P. Ailes, 1909 (appointed); C. F. Babcock appointed January 22, 1909, resigned April 5, 1909; J. G. Sailor, 1909; H. P. Ailes, 1910; W. E. Baker, 1910.

The present township clerk is Geo. P. Staley.

Trustees—William Schneeberger, Jacob Helmlinger and J. M. Hughs.

#### FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

Jackson township has several flourishing fraternal organizations. Lodge No. 736, Odd Fellows at Jackson Center, has about one hundred members. Granite Camp No. 15573, at Jackson Center has an active membership of thirty-one.

Epler Lodge, No. 458, F. & A. M. was organized at Montra, Shelby county, Ohio, on the 25th of November, 1871, and began working under dispensation, with officers as follows: T. W. Epler, W. M.; H. S. Ailes, S. W.; A. A. Davis, J. W.; J. E. Elliott, treas.; J. C. Grafton, sec.; D. Glick, S. D.; G. W. Elliott, J. D.; E. V. Ailes, Tyler. The charter members were C. M. Davis, J. M. Carter, H. Arnett, B. F. Wren, and H. M. Stout. They received their charter on the 16th of October, 1872. Their place of meeting was at Montra until December 17, 1877, when they moved to Jackson Center, where they have since held their meetings.

Poplar Knob Grange is an active and flourishing society, with W. C. Baker and Sidney Ailes, trustees.

CHAPTER XXI  
THE TOWNSHIPS (III)

*Loramie, McLean, Orange and Perry Townships*

LORAMIE TOWNSHIP

This township, located in the southwest corner of the county, is more or less distinguished from the other townships in its citizenship and its customs. It is quite cosmopolitan in its citizenship, but from an early period the western portion has been settled largely by the French. It is traversed by the Big Four Railroad, with three stations in the township, namely: Dawson, North Houston and Russia. The old canal cuts through the northeast corner of the township.

Loramie township is for the most part level and is exceedingly rich in its soil. It is well drained as within its limits are to be found Loramie creek and Nine Mile creek, together with various small tributaries. It is well suited for general agriculture, all products growing here readily. The first settlers came shortly prior to the War of 1812, and among the first of whom there is any knowledge was Samuel McClure, who with his family settled on what afterward became known as the J. W. Akin farm in section 9. There were only occasional arrivals during the war, but about 1814 settlers began coming in numbers. In that year came Robert and David Houston, and they were followed the succeeding year by William and John Houston. Among others of that early period who cast their fortunes with that of the township were the following: William Morrow, who came from Cumberland, Pa., in 1815; William Johnston of Pennsylvania in 1816 and John Patterson the same year; William Skillen from Westmoreland county, Pa., in 1817, and shortly before that time Zebediah Richardson, William Anderson and Thomas Wyatt; Henry Zemer and Jacob Black, in 1818; Jacob Everly, David Clark, Henry Harp and Robert Johnson were to be found here in 1820; William Johnston of Ireland, James Harvey and Joseph Blackwood came in 1823; William Ellis in 1826; Henry Day in 1830; Joseph Wyatt in 1831; William Legg in 1832; John Worley and Jacob Rouston, the latter from Maryland, in 1833; Christian Mader of Germany in 1834; Jacob S. Apple from Montgomery county, O., in 1837; Fred Bishop of Germany in 1838, and about the same time, J. R. Griffis of Butler county, O.; William Harrup from England in 1839; Emanuel Sherer in 1840; Henry S. Apple from Montgomery county, O., in 1843; and Peter Wright, who in 1839 came to Cynthian township from

Pennsylvania, moved to this township in 1848. Late in the thirties the western part of the township began to be settled by people of the French race, among the most prominent of them being James Unum, who came here in 1835; J. J. Debrosse and Joseph Gaible who came in 1837; John B. Malliott and Amos Peppiot in 1838; Tebone Didier in 1840; Henry Delaet in 1844; Simon Richards in 1845; Louis Peltier in 1848; and Nicholas Didier in 1852.

The following, taken from the records of the township, is given, primarily, to show the names of people who played a part in the affairs of the time, and secondarily the difference in volume of business transacted through the township officers in that day and this:

Orders issued and granted in 1824—No. 23. To Jacob R. Harp for one dollar for services as supervisor, dated March 7, 1825; \$1.00. No. 24. To William Johnston for one dollar for services as supervisor, dated March 7, 1825; \$1.00. No. 25. To Jonas Richardson for one dollar and seventy-five cents, dated March 7, 1825; \$1.75. No. 26. To Samuel McClure for one dollar and fifty cents for services as trustee, dated March 7, 1825; \$1.50. No. 27. To Robert McClure for one dollar and fifty cents for services as trustee, dated March 7, 1825; \$1.50. No. 28. To John Booker for one dollar and fifty cents for services as trustee, dated March 7, 1825; \$1.50. No. 29. To Snow Richardson for two dollars for services as township clerk, dated March 7, 1825; \$2.00. Total amount of orders granted and issued, \$10.25.

Treasurer's Report, March 7, 1825.—No money received, and none expended.

Road Districts in 1825.—The trustees convened according to law, and laid out the township in the following road districts, to wit: No. 1. Commencing at the northwest corner of section 3; thence to the mouth of Nine Mile creek; said creek being the line into William Wright's improvement (and including said William Wright in said District No. 1); thence to include all north of District No. 1. Robert Johnston, township clerk. In 1826 the township was divided into three road districts

Orders Issued in 1826.—No. 30. To John Booker, trustee, \$3.00. No. 31. To Thomas Wyatt, trustee, 75 cents. No. 32. To Jacob R. Harp, constable, \$1.00. No. 33. To William N. Flinn, trustee, \$2.25. No. 34. To James McCane, supervisor, 75 cents. Total amount of orders for 1826, \$7.75.

School Districts in 1826.—No. 1. Beginning at the northeast corner of section 22, town. 9, range 5; thence west in said line to the northeast corner of section 20; thence south to the northeast corner of section 29; thence west in said line to the Darke county line; thence south to Miami county line; thence east on said line to the southeast corner of section 27; thence north to place of beginning. No. 2. Beginning at the northwest corner of section 6; thence south to the northeast corner of section 19; thence east to Grayson (Washington) township line; thence north in said line to Cynthian township line; thence west on said line to place of beginning. No. 3. Including all the township not included in Districts Nos. 1 and 2.

List of Householders in these Districts.—No. 1. Wm. Morrow, Wm. Johnston, John Patterson, James McClure, Wm. Anderson. No. 2. Thomas



Wyatt, John Houston, Wm. Skillen, Janos Richardson, Isaac Mann, Wm. N. Flinn, Wm. Gibson, Wm. Flinn, Harvey Houston, Eleazer Hathaway, Henry Hashaw, Robert Houston, Levi Levale, Robert McClure, Jr., 2d, Robert Houston, Jr., Stephen Julian, Zebediah Richardson, Snow Richardson, Robert McClure, Robert McClure, Jr., Phebe Richardson, James Cannon, Wm. Bodkin, Robert Johnston, Sarah Johnston. No. 3. Henry Harp, Anthony Harp, Wm. Johnston, Jr., Wm. Houston, Wm. Wright, Joseph Hughs, John Hughs, George Black, Jacob Black, James Hervey, George Livingood, Henry Zemer, Jacob Everley, James Myers, Andrew Black, Margaret Clark, David Houston.

Treasurer's Report for 1827.—Received from Thomas Wyatt, J. P., fifty cents, being the amount collected by him as a fine; 50 cents.

Orders for 1827.—To Wm. Houston, trustee, 75 cents. John Hughs, constable, \$1.11½. Robert Johnston, trustee, 75 cents. Wm. Wright, clerk, \$2.00. Total orders issued March 3, 1828, for year 1827, \$5.11½.

In March, 1828, the township was divided into two school districts, with twelve householders in the first, and thirty-three in the second. In July three districts were formed, and in November these were reformed, so that the first embraced seventeen householders, the second twenty-two, and the third fourteen.

On December 27, 1828, sections 27, 28, 21, and 22 of Loramie township were attached to school district No. 2, of Grayson (Washington) township, in answer to petition.

Receipts and Expenditures in 1828.—Receipts, \$0.00; expenditures, \$0.00.

ROBERT HOUSTON, L. T. C.

Election.—I do hereby certify that Daniel C. Flinn was elected captain of the 2d Company, 2d Regiment, 2d Battalion, 12th Division, Ohio Militia, on the 8th day of August, 1829, by a majority of twenty-one votes.

JAMES HERVEY, L. T. Clk.

In 1831 a "list of hands in road districts," shows thirty-six in the first, fourteen in the second, and twenty in the third district.

Grand jurors selected in October, 1831: Eleazer Hathaway, Thos. Wyatt, Richard Jeffries, Wm. Houston, Robert Houston, Jacob Everley, Jr. Petit jurors selected same date: John Crozier, Robert Houston, Jr., Robert Johnston, Charles Mann, Snow Richardson, Joseph Blackwood.

At an election held for state and county officers October 11, 1831, fifty-five votes were cast. In March, 1833, the township was divided into four road districts.

Exhibit for 1832.—Received from John Crozier one dollar for Sabbath breaking, which sum is now in the treasury for school purposes.

Orders Issued.—To Harvey Houston, constable, 75 cents.

In 1834 the township was divided into four school districts. In 1838 six road districts were formed. At an election held in 1843 ninety-eight votes were cast; in 1847, sixty-five votes.

In 1855 twelve road districts were formed, and at spring election one hundred and thirteen votes were polled.

The following is a list of justices of the peace of Loramie township and the year of their respective elections: James Hervey, 1824; Robert Houston, 1826; Thomas Wyatt, 1827; Eleazer Hathaway, 1828; William Wright, 1829; Robert Houston, 1830; John Crozier, 1831; William N. Flinn, 1833; John Crozier, 1834; William N. Flinn, 1836; John M. Ross, 1837; Cyrus Jeffries, November 21, 1838; Snow Richardson, January 7, 1840; Robert Houston, December 7, 1840; John G. Hunter, December 24, 1842; Robert Houston, February 13, 1844; John W. Day, December 11, 1845; Robert Houston, February, 1847; J. G. Hunter, April 17, 1848; Samuel Clark, 1848; Asa D. Young, 1851; A. D. Young, 1854; Samuel Clark, 1854; David Flinn, 1857; William Bland, May 1, 1860; David Flinn, October 18, 1860; John Gartley, 1861; David Flinn, October 23, 1863; John Gartley, September 1, 1864; William Flinn, 1866; C. B. McKinney, 1867; William Flinn, 1869; C. B. McKinney, 1870; William Flinn, 1872; Joseph Voisard, 1873; William Flinn, 1875; Joseph Voisard, 1876; William Flinn, 1878; Joseph Voisard, 1879; Jeremiah Miller, 1880; William Flinn, 1881; Jeremiah Miller, 1883; David Souder, 1884; Justin Monnin, 1887; J. M. Wyatt, 1887; William Flinn, 1890; J. M. Wyatt, 1890; Irene Eshman, 1892; Hudson Flinn, 1893; I. A. Eshman, 1895; Hudson Flinn, 1896; I. A. Eshman, 1898; Hudson Flinn, 1899; George K. Nash, 1901; John B. Moorman, 1902; J. F. Flinn, 1902; John B. Moorman, 1905; J. F. Flinn, 1905; John B. Moorman, 1908; B. L. Grillot, 1908; J. F. Flinn, 1910; and B. L. Grillot, 1912.

The present officers of Loramie township are George M. Francis of Russia, clerk; and C. A. Wolaver, E. C. Mader and James Voisard, trustees.

In addition to general farming, there was in former years considerable activity in the various industries, especially milling. In 1876 Crone Brothers established a large saw mill in the township, with a capacity of 8,000 feet per day, and about the year 1879 John Wright bought the interest of one of the brothers, A. J. Crone. It was then conducted under the name of Crone & Wright with much success, but is now out of existence. As early as 1862, John Wright and E. W. Pampel built an icehouse on the Wright farm near Houston, its dimensions being 106x42 feet. In 1866 a second icehouse was built, 103 x 52 feet in dimensions, and in 1871 a third was built, 106 x 106 feet, giving a total storage capacity of 9,500 tons of ice. It was first operated under the name of Wright & Pampel, the members being John Wright and E. W. Pampel, and later Henry Crone bought the interest of Mr. Pampel, and thereafter the business was conducted for a number of years under the name of the Summit Ice Company. It is now owned by Dr. S. G. Martl.

#### VILLAGES

Within the confines of the township there have been a number of villages, more or less flourishing at times, namely: Houston, Mt. Jefferson, North Houston, Russia, Dawson and Massena.

Houston was surveyed May 4, 1838, by Jonathan Counts, for Harvey Houston, and was made to include a part of the northwest quarter of section 9, being situated on the state road between Piqua and St. Marys. The plat was recorded May 25, 1838. The founder of the village, Harvey Houston, resided on the east side of the road, just north of the village, in a log house, which he for some years used for hotel purposes. Mrs. Houston was the first postmistress of the township, receiving appointment in 1834. On November 1, 1855, the town of North Houston was laid out for Asa D. Young and also lies in the northwest quarter of section nine. It is situated on the Big Four Railroad and is known as Houston station, the old name having been dropped. In Houston, the first store was conducted by Nicholas Gresham, who started the business about 1832. Other merchants to follow him, were: Singer and Brown, Joseph Taylor, B. Mallot and C. Delaet. Mr. Taylor was also a grain dealer and was identified with the pork packing industry. The village received one very serious setback in its history, when it was almost wholly depopulated because of the cholera panic. Its population according to the 1910 census was 227 people. The business of North Houston in the early period was represented by Akin & Flinn, who conducted a warehouse; William Flinn & Co., who conducted a grocery and also a tile factory; and J. F. Black, who was proprietor of a general grocery and mercantile store. W. Flinn & Co. also conducted a sawmill at North Houston, which is now owned by N. C. Barr of Houston.

Mt. Jefferson, lying on the main road from Piqua to St. Marys, was laid out January 12, 1838, by Jonathan Counts for Samuel Farnum. The village never assumed any larger proportions than that of a small country center, although they had within their midst three churches, a Presbyterian, Christian and Episcopal. The first store there was conducted by Charles Rutherford.

Massena was laid out for a town March 15, 1833, by David and Cynthia Houston, and consisted of twelve town lots, but never made any headway, and the lots were soon again more profitably employed for farming purposes.

Russia, a station on the Big Four Railroad, according to the last census, has a population of 251 inhabitants. Its name was derived from the fact that as originally laid out it resembled a locality in Russia in which some of the first citizens had formerly lived. The first house erected within its limits was that of Lewis Phillip in 1853. He it was who purchased the original town-site from a man named Febaux, and conducted the sale of lots. The plat of the village was made subsequently. The second house was built by Clement Lachat in 1854, and the third by Ferial DeBrosse in 1856 or 1857. Among those who have conducted business enterprises within the village limits may be mentioned: Lewis Phillip, who established a grocery in 1853; Jasper Cordenner who conducted a dry goods store about 1861; Joseph Delaet, George Marshall; A. F. Ashman; Francis Didier; Joseph Miller; Frank Subler; and C. Besonnet. The business enterprises, in addition to the stores, included blacksmith shops, grain elevators and saw mills. The saw mill industry was at one time an extensive one, and the mill established by John A. Marshall, Michael Meham and John B. Marshall, in 1867, was operated for years with

unvarying success. Frank Simon succeeded to Mr. Meham's interest in 1868, and the business was conducted under the name and style of Marshall & Simon, until about 1888, when it passed into the hands of C. F. Francis, who is still the proprietor. When a postoffice was established here, Lewis Piney was made the first postmaster. The Roman Catholic congregation erected a church edifice within the village.

Schools.—It was not long after the settlement had become general that the settlers realized the necessity for educating their children. It was a serious problem they had to solve, one we can little understand in this day and age. A beginning was made by holding school in various homes, among them we might mention the homes of Robert Houston and William Skillen. William Wright and C. Wyatt were early teachers here. The teachers in that day and for many years afterward, boarded around with the different families who had children in school. When the growth of population had been sufficient to warrant it, plans were made for the erection of a school building. These plans were carried out in 1827 or 1828, with the erection of a building in section 18, a rude log structure. As time passed, the progressive element of the people saw that new and adequate buildings were erected in different parts of the township, which was divided into different school districts. Further data in regard to the schools of Loramie township may be found in the chapter on Education.

Churches.—In the main, it was a God fearing class of citizens who took up their residence in Loramie township, people used to the refining influences of church work, and it was not long before little gatherings for worship were being held in various homes. Gradually they became segregated into little groups of this denomination and the other, generally according to the faith to which they were reared, until church organizations were perfected and still later churches built.

A Methodist Episcopal church was founded in 1825 and as a branch of the Piqua Methodist Episcopal church, by Rev. Levi White and John Woodney, in the home of Thomas Wyatt. Abner Wyatt was the first class leader. Until 1832, meetings were held in the homes of Thomas Wyatt, Henry Harp and Richard Stone, and in that year a hewed log house was erected in section 17, and was dedicated in December, 1836, by Rev. James Findley. In 1854 a frame church was built at Mt. Jefferson, in which services were held for a number of years.

The Mt. Jefferson Presbyterian church was organized December 31, 1848, by Rev. J. A. Meeks, of Piqua, Rev. W. B. Spencer of Sidney, and Elder William Linn of Piqua. John G. Hunter was ordained the first ruling elder on that date. The original members of the society were: John G. and Charlotte Hunter, James and Jane Harper, Brazillai and Abigail Gray, Eliza A. Young, Margaret Blackwood, Catherine Young, Ann Diltz, Mary Diltz, Elizabeth Diltz, J. W. Hunter and Maria Hunter. A brick church was built at Mt. Jefferson, and was dedicated January 2, 1850, by Rev. Thomas Elcock, who served about two years as pastor. The church has maintained its organization

up to the present time and is a potent factor in the religious life of the community.

The Mt. Jefferson Christian church was organized in 1849 by Elders Caleb Wooley and James Fahnestock, and had originally eight members, as follows: Frederick Everly, Jesse Ellis, Jephtha M. Wyatt and wife, Jesse D. Elliott and wife, and John Hughes and wife. In 1852 a frame church building was erected at Mt. Jefferson. This organization is still flourishing.

The Beech Grove United Brethren church was organized in the Apple schoolhouse about the year 1866, by Rev. William Mittendorf, who was its first minister. Reuben Schuler was the first class leader. A church building was erected on land formerly owned by J. S. Apple, and was dedicated on September 5, 1869. The first members of the congregation were Reuben Schuler and wife, Jacob Hengle and wife, and Anthony August and wife. The church flourished for a number of years but is not now in existence.

The St. James German Reformed church was built in section 7, and was dedicated September 14, 1881, by Revs. Shaw and Weaver. The congregation had been organized by Rev. Jacob Weaver as early as 1867, but no building had been erected in which to worship. The first members were: Christian Harmony and wife; George Singer, his wife and three children; George Arent and wife; George Sherer and wife; and J. Lindsey and wife. This church also has gone out of existence.

St. Remy Congregation, Russia.—In the early part of the present century a colony of immigrants from France, Alsace, and Loraine settled in the western part of Shelby and eastern part of Darke counties, forming what is now known as Frenchtown, Versailles and Russia. These early settlers, true to the ancient faith, resolved to build a house of worship, to honor God after the custom of their fathers. This first church, known as St. Walbert's church, was situated one and a half miles northeast of the then Jacksonville, now Versailles. The ancient site is now used as the cemetery of St. Denis church, Versailles. It was the parish church of the three settlements. Soon, however, it became necessary to provide for better accommodations. The Catholics of Russia resolved to form a parish and build a church, under the direction of the Rev. L. Navaron, who continued to administer to their spiritual needs as their first pastor. The new church of logs was dedicated to St. Remy, the apostle of France, and in it for the first time on the 15th of June, 1854, was celebrated with great ceremonies the first holy communion of children and confirmation administered by the Most Rev. Archbishop Durcell, on the 26th of the same month. The congregation continued to increase and soon the erection of a new and more spacious edifice became necessary. In 1869 a large and imposing brick church was built under the direction of the Rev. C. Berard, and again after some years it became necessary to erect a new and still more spacious edifice because growing number of Catholics. The present beautiful church was begun in 1891 under the direction of the Rev. Nicholas Poiry, and was completed in 1892, and is one of the most imposing and beautiful structures of the archdiocese. It is built in purely Roman style and is the pride of the congregation. The present pastor is Rev. F. Kruskamp.

St. Michael's Catholic Church, Ft. Loramie, O.—Berlin was constituted a parish in 1838, at which time about 40 families were registered. Some German families had already been here for several years, and when the canal was constructed the population materially increased, many families coming here from Cincinnati and other cities. About that time a log church was erected and occasionally a priest came from Minster, read mass, baptized children, solemnized marriages and interred the dead. The priests of the society of "The Precious Blood" labored at Minster, to which place the Berlin catholics frequently went to attend services. In 1840 the parish of Berlin embraced over 100 families. They continued to worship in the log church until 1849, at which time a brick church, 60 by 30 feet, ground dimensions, was constructed, and hung with a 700-pound bell. But the season of 1849-50 proved trying to the new community, for an epidemic of cholera broke out, which within two months, swept away 28 persons, some 200 dying from the same fell disease at Minster.

The plague, however, ran its course and the people resumed neglected undertakings. The new church was dedicated and the services of Rev. Augustus Berger, of the Grand Duchy, were secured by the congregation. Under his care the new priest's house was built. He was succeeded in 1857 by Rev. Henry Muckerheide, of Oldenberg, who labored here until 1863, with great zeal and ability. He was succeeded by Rev. M. Anton Meyer, of Canton Basel, of Switzerland, who had an addition of 20 feet made to the church, and a few years later carried the construction of a schoolhouse to completion. In 1873, on account of failing health, he resigned from active labor in this field.

In that year, 1873, the institution of the "Fathers of the Holy Spirit" was abrogated in Germany, and Archbishop Purcell, wrote to the Rev. General-chief of the society to procure some priests for this country. Accordingly, in January, 1874, four priests and twelve lay brothers of the society left Paris for the United States, among whom was Rev. William Bigot, who became pastor of Berlin parish, this county. He had seen arduous service during the Franco-Prussian war in ministering to the wounded soldiers, and in performing other important offices, for which services the French government had conferred upon him the Cross of Chivalry, the Legion of Honor and the Cross of Merit. He reached Berlin, Shelby county, O., January 20, 1874, and here he found plenty of work awaiting him. Old debts amounting to \$700 had to be paid, the priest's house to be repaired, and the holy vessels to be renewed. All this was readily done, but the parish needed a new church, an enterprise which the congregation did not yet feel ready to undertake. Father Bigot himself gave a year's salary for the purchase of a 3,800 pound bell; but a new tower was needed for the bell, and a new church for the tower. By 1879 conditions had become more favorable and it was resolved to build. It was decided that, over and above the manual labor the members could perform, the building should not cost over \$30,000. There already existed a fund of \$4,000 for the purpose and a nine days' collection throughout the parish brought in \$16,000 more. The collection for the year 1881 brought

\$8,000, which, added to a pew-rent surplus fund of \$2,000, raised the aggregate to \$30,000 before the completion of the church. Aside from this individual gifts were received, such as a stained glass window or a figure. One family contributed \$800 for St. Mary's altar, while many others gave in a quiet manner, something over the regular subscription. By the 12th of October, 1879, the foundation was completed and on that date the Most Reverend Archbishop laid the cornerstone with imposing ceremonies.

The consecration ceremonies took place on Sunday, October 2, 1881, the Most Rev. William H. Elder presiding. The inhabitants had previously decorated their houses, and on Saturday afternoon the highly venerable consecrator was met at the boundary of the parish by forty young men mounted on horses and was by them received and escorted to Berlin, to the accompaniment of pealing bells and a salute fired by cannon. The procession passed under triumphal arches. Soon after the arrival of the Rt. Rev. Bishop the relics destined for the high altar in the new church were transferred and carried over in solemn procession, in which all Berlin participated, to the old church, and there set to view during the night for reverence by the faithful. At 4.00 A. M. on Sunday morning the holy masses began, and at 6.00 A. M. the solemn and imposing ceremonies of the consecration began and were continued until after ten o'clock, four priests being present. After the consecration the Most Rev. Archbishop celebrated a pontifical high mass, assisted by the clergy, deacons and other officials present. The Rev. N. Nickols then ascended the pulpit and preached the festal sermon in the German language, after which the Most Rev. Archbishop made an address to the congregation. In the afternoon solemn vespers were held, after which the General-vicar P. Otto Jair, O. S. F., preached. During the pontifical high mass the Maennerchor of Piqua, sang, and during vespers, the church choir of the congregation. At the close of vespers the festivities closed with the singing of the Te Deum.

St. Michael's church is a really magnificent structure. It is built in the Italian-Gothic style. Four slender pillars alternately divide the interior into three naves. The decorations are rich and the glass painting of the windows magnificent. The side windows contain respectively paintings of St. Augustine and St. Boniface. Of the fourteen other windows five are in fresco painting, while upon the remaining are represented St. John the Baptist, the most blessed Virgin Mary, St. Anna, St. Elizabeth, St. Catharina, St. Henricus, St. Anthony, St. Lawrence and the child Jesus. The three altars are masterpieces, namely: the high altar, whose table is supported by six small pillars. The fields between the pillars are filled up with emblems, of which the middle one contains the book with seven seals with the lamb. The tabernacle has richly ornamented folding doors; above these is a niche for the ostentation of the Most Holy Sacrament, beside which two worshipping angels are standing under canopies. The altar picture is the crucifixion-group in a niche under a canopy which terminates in turrets with buttresses and finials richly provided with carved ornaments. The side fields contain the statues of both apostle-chiefs, likewise under canopies, with richly articulated tower and pyramid. Beside the altar there are placed on both sides pedestals for worshipping

angels. Both of the side altars (St. Mary's and St. Joseph's altars) are wrought correspondingly with the high altar, and contain in the chief respectively St. Mary's and St. Joseph's statue. The St. Mary's altar contains in the side niches the statues of St. Rosa and St. Theresa. The altar table, decorated in the Gothic style, contains the statue St. Mary. The St. Joseph's altar contains in the side niches the statues St. Francis Xavier and St. Alois; the altar table the signature "St. Joseph." Pulpit and communion table are held in like style and are splendid works. Likewise is the organ, in its outward appearance corresponding with the building style of the church held in rich Gothic. The building is 150 by 65 feet and represents a cost of over \$40,000. It is numbered among the most beautiful churches in all America. The present pastor of St. Michael's is Rev. Anthony Moeller.

## McLEAN TOWNSHIP

### ORGANIZATION

McLean township, which lies on the west side of the county, where its boundary is Auglaize county, has Cynthian township as its nearest neighbor on the south, Van Buren and Turtle Creek townships on the east and Van Buren township and Auglaize county on the north. In answer to petition made to the county commissioners, the order for its organization was issued March 1, 1834, the legal description being as follows: "Beginning at the county line between Darke and Shelby counties, where the old Indian boundary line made at the Greenville Treaty Conference, in 1795—intersects said county line, and running thence with said Indian boundary line in an easterly direction to the southeast corner of section 8, in town 8 south, range 5 east; thence north with the section line to the county line between Shelby and Allen (Auglaize) counties; thence west with the said line to northwest corner of Shelby county; thence south and west with the west boundary line of Shelby county to the place of beginning; and the board orders that said township be known and designated by the name of McLean."

### SURFACE AND DRAINAGE

The surface of McLean township is generally level, the soil is easily worked and agriculture flourishes here. The Loramie reservoir, covering an area of about 6,000 acres, is located mainly in McLean township, about 1,000 acres being in Van Buren. This reservoir is formed by the damming of Loramie creek and constitutes a feeder for the Miami and Erie canal, which traverses the township from north to south. Loramie creek, flowing from Dinsmore township, waters a large section and Mill creek and Second run have afforded ample outlet for drainage.

### EARLY SETTLEMENTS

McLean township was mainly settled by Germans. They brought with them to what was a primeval wilderness, their home-making qualities, their



thrifty habits and plodding industry, and found their reward in the possession of land that responded to their cultivation and an independence that they could never have secured in Germany. Not all who have built up McLean township, however, came from that country, for there are many names that proclaim other native lands, but at the present day they are all so thoroughly American that no difference is noted. Perhaps politics have interested the residents here to a larger extent than in some other sections and a few early election statistics may be of interest.

In the state election of 1850, ninety-three votes were cast, seventy-nine of these being for the democratic candidate for governor, Reuben Wood. At the election in 1851 which was for the adoption or rejection of the new constitution and for or against the sale of intoxicating liquors, the vote for license stood 118, five votes being cast against. In the presidential election of 1852, 122 votes were cast for the democratic electors and twenty-eight for the whig electors. In 1864 the democratic electors received 219 votes and the republican electors 20 votes.

#### SCHOOLS

No section of the county has been more interested in the spread of education than has McLean and as early as 1850 the trustees of the township divided it into six school districts, the board consisting of Henry Whermann, Joseph Sherman and Philip Hoffman, Henry Sherman being township clerk in 1850 when this division was made. The officers serving as members of the boards of education in the different special school districts in McLean township in 1811-12 are:

Berlin Special School District for 1911: John Borger, president; Ferdinand C. Arkenberg, treasurer; J. B. Ratermann, clerk and Adolph Ratermann and John Seger. In 1912 the same president and treasurer served, Bernard Aselage becoming clerk and Henry Wendler and John Seger being the other members.

Sherman Special School District: John Seigel, president; Clemens Wolke, treasurer; Adolph Sherman, clerk, and Henry Ernst, W. J. Meyer and Barney Ernst, no change being made in 1912 except that Bernard Barhorst became a member.

Walkup Special School District: Charles Winner, president; Henry Sturwold, treasurer; Henry Borchers, clerk; and Anton Hilgefert and Joseph Poepelman, for 1911, the same president and treasurer serving in 1912, with John Holthaus, clerk and Anton Hilgefert and Fred Broermann, members.

Deiter Special School District for 1911-12: Anton Riethmann, president; Henry Schmitmeyer, treasurer; Stephen Schmitmeter, clerk; and Herman Berning, Clem. Prenger, Anthony Wolfe and Bernard Knob.

Dirksen Special School District for 1911 had Bernard Seger for president; August Schmiesing for treasurer; Henry Fortman for clerk, with Bernard Brandewie, Frank Bornhorst and J. Henry Albers as members. The same body with the addition of Clem. Hoying served in 1912. Further school statistics may be found in the chapter on Education.

## FORT LORAMIE

Students of history can easily recall the annals of the French and Indian war and of the military manoeuvres which made this section, in 1756, a battle ground and many yet living can remember the tales of their grandfathers of the building and occupancy of old Fort Loramie, which was situated less than one mile from the site of the present village of the name formerly known as Berlin, and later as Loramie, for which the name Fort Loramie has been recently substituted. This village was surveyed December 2, 1837, and all its lots are 4 by 8 rods except fractional ones. Its principal streets are Main, Walnut, Water, Elm and High. It is situated on the Miami and Erie canal. Not far away flows Loramie creek, the mouth of which is below Lockington, south of the county line. Many lines of business are successfully carried on here and the people in general are prosperous.

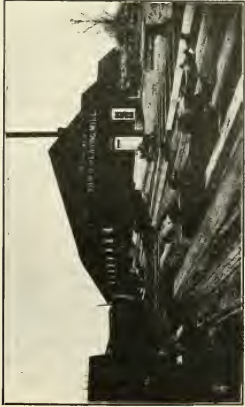
The following is a list of business enterprises at Fort Loramie:

August Wise, saw-mill; John Bramlage, flour-mill; Loramie Banking Company, established in 1904, B. J. Wuehker president, J. D. Inderrieden vice-president, A. F. Ratermann cashier, W. J. Sherman assistant cashier; Willmann Bros., general merchandise; J. D. Inderrieden, hardware, implements and lumber; Barney Krampe, implements, stoves and ranges; John Albers and Company, hardware and lumber; Henry Tecklenburg, hotel and livery; W. J. Borchers, general merchandise and livery; C. C. Wagler, brick manufacturer; Gregor Fleckenstein, tile manufacturer; Bernard Danzig furniture and undertaking; Herman Pleiman, groceries; W. H. Quinlin, drugs; Clem Daniel, groceries; John H. Romie, saddlery; M. Gregor, meat market; Herman Gaier, bakery and groceries; Peter Rieger, shoe store; J. H. Behrns, tailoring; Peter Krampe, blacksmithing; John Seger, carpentering; Carl Freitag & Son, masonry; Peter Kessler, cider-mill; Albert Anthony, barber; Peter Kiefer, plastering; Mat Brucken, saloon; Ben Vogelsang, saloon; John Tecklenburg, saloon; Paul Borger, poultry; Joseph Henke, poultry; Wm. H. Niederkorn, poultry; Kramer and Dickman, skimming station.

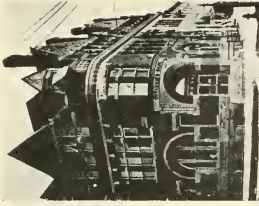
## JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

On November 18, 1837, W. C. Ayres became a justice of the peace in McLean township and the record from then until 1911 is as follows:

Isaac Edwards, June 8, 1841, resigned May 25, 1842; Jacob Hauss, June 18, 1842; resigned October 14, 1843; Frances Pilliod, November 11, 1845; Alexander H. Hayes, October 24, 1846; William A. Edwards, January 18, 1850; William A. Edwards, January 22, 1853; Joseph Mendenhall, January, 1856; John Walkup, April 14, 1857, resigned June 2, 1857; Andrew Ginn, October 21, 1857; J. B. Rottinghaus, April 12, 1859; Milton Kemper, November 10, 1860; J. B. Rottinghaus, April 22, 1862; William Ginn, April 17, 1863; J. B. Rottinghaus, April 14, 1865; Henry Menke, April 11, 1866 (refused to serve); William Ginn, June 24, 1866; Henry Sherman, April 13, 1868; J. W. Barber, April 12, 1869; Henry Rottinghaus, October 12, 1872; Henry Rottinghaus, October 20, 1875; David K. Brown, April 20, 1877; Joseph Raterman,



AUGUST WISE SAW AND PLANING MILL



CITIZENS BANK, SIDNEY, O.



MAIN STREET, SIDNEY, O.



POPLAR AVE., EAST, SIDNEY, O.



October 14, 1878; Henry Rottinghaus, May 26, 1880; Albert Hasebrook, October 14, 1881; Albert Hasebrook, 1884; J. H. Rottinghaus, 1886; Albert Hasebrook, 1887; J. H. Rottinghaus, 1889; William H. Quinlin, 1890; William H. Quinlin, 1893; J. H. Rottinghaus, 1895; John Barhorst, 1896; J. H. Rottinghaus, 1898; John Barhorst, 1899; J. H. Rottinghaus, 1901; John Barhorst, 1902; J. H. Rottinghaus, 1904; John Barhorst, 1906; Adolph Sherman, 1906; Adolph Sherman, 1908; John Barhorst, 1909; John Barhorst, 1910; Adolph Sherman, 1911.

The present township clerk is William H. Niederkorn. Trustees—Fred Holthaus, Joseph Boltheimer, and Clem Daniel.

There are two fraternal orders that have lodges in McLean township, namely: the Knights of St. John, having 50 members and the Catholic Knights of America, with 12 members.

McClellan township has two churches, Emanuel Reformed church, Rev. Albert Grether, pastor; and St. Michael's Catholic church, Rev. Anthony Moeller, pastor.

### ORANGE TOWNSHIP

Located in the southern part of the county, with its southern boundary touching Miami county, lies Orange township, which is one of the best improved sections of the county, the well tilled farms and general air of prevailing thrift giving evidence of successful agriculture. It has an area of about twenty-three square miles and embraces parts of town 1 and 2, of range 12 and 13. Perry and Green townships lie along its eastern line and Clinton and Washington townships, separated from it by the Great Miami river, on the north and west.

Orange township was formed from Perry township. On September 13, 1819, the county commissioners, at their meeting held at Hardin, ordered that Perry township should be thus divided: a line running through the middle of the thirteenth range should have the southern division organized as a new township which should be called Orange, and that decision made Orange township include all the territory embraced within the present limits of Orange and Green townships. At a meeting held at Hardin by the commissioners, March 7, 1820, it was ordered that all that part of Orange township that is east of the west tier of sections in the second township of both ranges 12 and 13, be erected into a new township and that it should be given the name of Green.

### SOIL AND WATER

The surface of Orange township is generally undulating and along the water courses somewhat broken and hilly. The soil is well adapted to the growing of grains and grasses, consisting of gravel and clay loam, while the gravel beds have supplied sufficient gravel for the construction of many miles of fine roads. Along the banks of the Great Miami river there is an abundance of limestone, which has been worked more or less at different times. This

township is well watered, principally by the Great Miami river, on the north and west side, and additionally by Brush and Rush creeks. There are also numerous fine springs.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENTS

In 1806 the Cannon family located on section 16, this being the first white settlement made within the present limits of Orange township. In the spring of 1809 came John Phillips and William Berry and in the fall of the same year came Daniel Valentine and Edward Jackson. Still others, who settled here prior to the War of 1812, were Thomas Young, Abram Glossmire, John Matthews, Luke Norris, John Gilbert and Harman Dildine, and Judge Francis located here very soon after the close of the war. The first frame house was built by William Berry, who also erected the first flouring mill, and it is known that flour and meal came from this mill for General Harrison's troopers on their march to the Northwest. This was the only mill within a radius of fifty miles. With the outbreak of the War of 1812, the settlers found that the heretofore friendly Indians had become hostile to the settlers and hence it was deemed advisable to build block-houses in which the families could take shelter in case of a sudden alarm. One was accordingly built near the Berry mill and another on the farm of Edward Jackson, who later built the first brick house that was ever put up in Orange township. On March 17, 1811, the first white child was born in the settlement—Isaac Young, who lived to an advanced age.

Orange township people soon showed interest in education and religion, the first schoolhouse being built on the farm of Thomas Young. The earliest teachers were Joseph Rollands and James B. McKenney, while Edward Jackson opened his house for church purposes in 1815, services being held by an itinerant Methodist preacher, the Rev. John Furrow. Without question, he had a large and deeply interested congregation. Shortly afterward preaching followed at the home of Daniel Valentine, by Revs. John McNemer and Jacob Antrim.

United Brethren Church—The Valentines and the Youngs, prominent among the early settlers, had left, reluctantly, their old church connection when they came into this wilderness but very early began the organization of a United Brethren communion in the new settlement. The members of this faith were scattered but when the missionary preacher arrived he found a warm welcome and left with an assurance that the faith was not dead nor yet sleeping, only awaiting the time when the believers could assemble together and form the nucleus which, many years afterward, became the United Brethren church at Kirkwood. The early meetings were held at the houses of Daniel Valentine, Jacob Boyer and others until 1844, when a schoolhouse that had been erected on the present site of Kirkwood was utilized. In 1847 a frame edifice was constructed on the land of R. W. Valentine, and George Warvel was the name of the first preacher. It was used as a place of worship

until 1876, when a more commodious church building costing \$2,500 was put up at Kirkwood. The present pastor is Rev. Mayne, of Lockington.

Wesley Chapel—The Methodist Episcopal church early sent missionaries to visit the settlers in Orange township. In 1833 regular meetings were held in the private houses of the members of this faith, by Rev. Arza Brown, and in 1840 the society built a brick structure, near the Miami county line, which became known as Wesley Chapel. Among the early members of this society were Henry Rhodehamel and wife, Father Kerns and wife, and Jacob Tabler and Amos Gray, with their families. This society did good Christian work in the community until a few years ago, when it disbanded.

Spring Creek Baptist Church—The society originally known as the Salem church was organized as early as 1816. Like other struggling religious bodies its first meetings were held in private houses but later a log house was built on Spring creek and services were held there, the membership including the pioneer families of the neighborhood and also some from Piqua. As the society grew it was found desirable to have separate church bodies and in August, 1840, measures were taken for the organization of the Spring Creek Baptist church, the first pastor being Elder Eaton and the second, Elder Fuson. During the latter's pastorate a church edifice was erected. A number of pious and zealous elders succeeded. In 1867, during the pastorate of Elder Daniel Bryant, a new church was built, it being located north of the Shelby and Miami company's line on a lot presented to the society by John F. Hetzler, in which services were subsequently held. This church has maintained its organization up to the present time, its present pastor being Rev. John T. Young.

#### JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

The following is a list of the justices of the peace who have served in Orange township from 1819 until 1912:

John Francis, 1819-22-31. John W. Valentine, 1832. Lewis Cooper, 1834. J. W. Valentine, April 4, 1835. Sexton Mount, December 8, 1836. John V. Higgins, November 18, 1837. John H. Wykoff, April 16, 1840. W. A. Carey, November 9, 1840. J. H. Wykoff, April 11, 1843. W. A. Carey, October 25, 1843. J. H. Wykoff, April 22, 1846. William M. Mendenhall, October 24, 1846. W. A. Carey, December 18, 1847. W. A. Carey, April 14, 1854. William Shinn, Jr., February 23, 1855. Lewis Cooper, April 15, 1858. D. Buchanan, April 7, 1860. R. P. Higgins, April 22, 1861. W. A. Carey, April 17, 1863. R. P. Higgins, April 23, 1864. W. A. Carey, April 11, 1866. R. P. Higgins, April 5, 1867. W. A. Carey, April 12, 1869. J. B. Brading, April 8, 1870. W. A. Carey, April 5, 1872. Christopher Hetzler, April 11, 1873. W. A. Carey, April 9, 1875. J. G. Higgins, April 8, 1876. George Frazer, April 8, 1878. Levi Cofield, April 17, 1879. Isaac Redenbo, April 14, 1880. Milton Valentine, 1885. I. N. Redenbo, 1886. Milton Valentine, 1888. H. L. Housen, 1889. F. W. Bown, 1891. Leander Walter, 1892. F. W. Brown, 1894. George W. Wiley, 1895. F. R. Higgins, 1897. G. William Vorlss, 1898. W. B. Fulton, 1900. P. O. Stockstill, 1901.

A. D. Rhinehart, 1903. P. O. Stockstill, 1905. Ed. Elsner, 1908. James Doak, 1908. P. O. Stockstill, 1911. In 1912 the trustees of Orange township are: S. T. Buirley, H. W. Caven and John Beaman, and the township clerk is James W. Wiley, of Sidney.

#### KIRKWOOD (OLD PONTIAC)

Kirkwood, a small village of about sixty-six inhabitants and formerly called Pontiac, was laid out in May, 1868, and is located in section 28, township 1, range 12 M. R. S. It lies six miles south of Sidney on the C. H. & D. Railroad. The first building was erected here in 1863, by G. W. Holley, and was a grain warehouse. Before engaging in the business, however, Mr. Holley sold to D. K. Gillespie, who began buying grain in 1864. In 1866 a store building was erected by H. S. Gillespie and Thomas McKee, which firm was succeeded by J. G. & Andrew Robinson, among later proprietors being Andrew Robinson (alone) and J. L. McKee. The village, which was originally known as Pontiac, in 1879 took the name in honor of D. Kirkwood Gillespie, who was proprietor of the grain elevator here. R. G. Knox keeps the general store and post office in Kirkwood. There is also a warehouse in Kirkwood owned by Adlard and Persinger of Sidney.

#### PERRY TOWNSHIP

Perry township is one of the original townships of this county, it having been organized as a part of Miami county, June 10, 1817, two years prior to the organization of Shelby county. Its early and subsequent boundaries may be described in general as follows: In 1819 Perry township embraced all the territory now included within the townships of Perry, Orange, Green, Salem, Jackson and a part of Clinton. In September of the above year Orange township was separated and in March, 1820, Green township was separated from Orange. In 1825 the county commissioners made entry as follows concerning the boundaries of Perry township:

"Perry township begins on the southeast corner of section 4, town 2, range 13, east line of Shelby county; thence north with said line to the northeast corner of the county; thence west with the county line to the line between section 29 and 30, town 1, range 7; thence south with the line between the said sections; continued on to the Miami river and across said river; thence with the river down to the line between sections 10 and 9, town 1, range 13 thence with last said line east to continue on to the place of beginning." In March, 1826, a portion of the above described land became a part of Clinton township, and in June, 1826, the north tier of sections of Green township was attached to Perry, and all that part of Perry lying north of the Miami river was created a new township to which was given the name of Salem, and in June, 1837, all of fractional township No. 1, range 14, which belonged to Perry, was attached to Salem township, which included that part of said fractional township lying south of the river, and this, in 1854, once more became a part of Perry township.



Surface, Soil and Drainage—With soil of rich, sandy clay and black loam, the early pioneers to this section found great promise of agricultural success as the surface of the land is generally level, its slight undulations providing for satisfactory drainage, which is toward the north, the boundary line in that direction being the Great Miami river. Other streams of importance are Big and Little Indian creek, Mosquito or Tawawa creek and Turkey Foot creek, the last named watering the central part of the township. Corn, wheat and grasses do remarkably well in Perry township and the prosperity of the agricultural sections is further indicated by the general intelligence and progressiveness of the citizens. Here may be found some of the best constructed and best kept roads in the county and it is no unfamiliar sight to see on them the automobiles of the farmers. The C. C. C. & I. (Big Four) Railroad crosses the township from east to west. The township has good schools, with modern equipments, further data in regard to which may be found in the chapter on education.

Early Settlement—In February, 1814, David Henry located in section 28, on the bank of Mosquito or Tawawa creek, and he was the first settler within the present limits of Perry township. In the following year he was joined by Samuel and William Robinson with their families, and in 1816 came William Marrs, and prior to the organization of the county in 1819, George Chiles, Charles Johnston, Thomas Wilkinson, Peter Musselman, William Richardson, Charles Weeks and Benjamin Manning had established homes here. At that time primeval conditions still prevailed over this part of the county, the settlers visiting each other and making their necessary trips to mill mainly by way of Indian trails, and it may well be believed that when the Sidney and Urbana road, the first in the township, was completed, that the pioneers felt that a great want was supplied. As to mills the first one built was of logs, on Mosquito creek, a fine location which is still utilized as a mill site, and was erected by Charles Mason, a colored man. The second flouring mill was erected by William Pepper. David Henry, the first settler, not only put up the first log house but also the first frame one. The lumber that William Marrs made use of in the building of the first frame barn, was cut in the township and sawed in Peter Musselman's mill on Mosquito creek. Henry C. Line became locally envied, perhaps, as he was able to build a brick house in 1836. Into the Henry family came the first births, David and Sally Henry, twins, who were born February 17, 1815.

From the very beginning the township, as a concrete body, recognized its responsibilities and in making provision for adequate government, selected representative citizens for officials. The list of those who have served in the office of justice of the peace from 1817 until 1910, inclusive, as follows:

David Henry, 1817; George Morrison, 1820; David Henry, 1821; David Henry, 1824; David Henry, resigned, April 1, 1826; Booth Burditt, 1826; David Henry, 1829; D. Henry and Booth Burditt, 1832; Charles Johnston, 1834; Joseph Garver, April 28, 1837; Booth Burditt, April 30, 1838; Benjamin Wagoner, April 16, 1840; Booth Burditt, April 16, 1841; Eleazer Hathaway, April 15, 1843; John M. DeWeese, September 2, 1843; Charles John-

ston, April 22, 1846; Simon Hornbeck, October 24, 1846; Charles Johnston, April 10, 1849; David Henry, November 3, 1849; Wm. R. Reid (resigned May 24, 1852), April 17, 1852; Charles Johnston, June 26, 1852; Charles Slagle, October 24, 1852; Marshall Pepper, June 27, 1855; G. R. Forsythe, November 1, 1855; Marshall Pepper, April 16, 1858; G. R. Forsythe, October 19, 1858; Wm. Dunlap, April 22, 1861; Marshall Pepper, October 17, 1861; Thomas Kizer (resigned Feb. 2, 1865), April 23, 1864; John Matthias, Feb. 22, 1865; J. V. Wilson, Feb. 12, 1868; Isaac Speer, April 13, 1868; Isaac Speer, April 11, 1871; J. V. Wilson, Marshall Pepper, April 10, 1874; G. W. Clark; Marshall Pepper, April 17, 1877; G. W. Clark, April 20, 1877; A. J. Davidson, April 19, 1880; G. W. Clark, April 14, 1880; J. D. Ferree, 1886; G. W. Clark, 1886; J. D. Ferree, 1889; S. B. Cannon, 1889; Jacob Cost, 1892; S. B. Cannon, 1892; G. W. Clark, 1895; T. J. Robinson, 1895; C. J. Jackson, 1897; R. J. Rugh, 1898; G. W. Clark, 1898; S. B. Cannon, 1901; A. J. Struhle, 1903; George E. Hahn, 1904; George E. Hahn, 1908; S. B. Cannon, 1910. The following citizens make up the board of trustees of Perry township in 1912: Charles Peppers, Walker Zimpfer and M. N. Lucas, N. C. Enders of Pemberton being township clerk. There are many family names familiar in this section at the present day that appear in the earliest township records and they may be recognized in the following list of those who paid road tax in 1818; James Bryan, John Bryan, Adam Conuts, William Drake, James Dingman, Jr., Daniel V. Dingman, John Francis, Caleb Goble, John Hathaway, Jesse Jackson, William Johnson, Jesse Jackson, Jr., Edward Jackson, Alexander Jackson, Elisha Kirtland, George Morrison, Elijah Montoney, William Minnear, Abraham Minnear, William Morris, Luke Norris, Rodham Talbott, Daniel Vandemark, in District No. 1, of which James Dingman was supervisor. Those in District No. 2, of which Asa Hubble was supervisor, were: George Chiles, Asa Hubble, John Hunt, David Henry, Charles Johnston, William Marrs, John Medaris, Peter Princehouse, Henry Princehouse, William and Samuel Robinson, Mathias Sturm, Henry Sturm and Henry Sturm, Jr., G. Thompson, Charles Weeks, John Mathews and Peter Musselman.

The present township clerk is N. C. Enders, of Pemberton. Trustees—Charles Peppers, Walker Zimpfer and M. N. Lucas.

Villages—The village of Pemberton, the leading commercial center of the township, is situated seven miles east of Sidney and derived its name through brotherly devotion, Civil Engineer Pemberton, officially connected with the construction of the C. C. C. & I. Railroad through the county, securing this honor for his brother, General Pemberton, a distinguished Confederate officer during the Civil war. The land was surveyed in 1852, sixty-four lots being included, and was platted by Benjamin C. Wilkerson, John H. and Leonard T. Elliott and George R. Forsythe, as proprietors. Calvin Morris opened the first grocery store, Isaac Wilkinson and Irvin Nutt, the first dry goods store, William Johnston, the first blacksmith shop, David Lemon, the first wagon shop and J. V. Wilson, the first hotel. Dr. Edward Stockton undoubtedly was the first physician and the first postmaster was Joseph

Smith. At one time the town was the home of numerous business enterprises, including grocery and dry goods stores, drug store, grain elevator, sawmill, shingle factory, butcher shop and concrete stone works. Some of these industries still continue. The population is about 325, and includes a number of wealthy retired farmers. There are now two grain elevators in Pemberton and one other not far from the village. There is also a general store and three groceries and restaurants, and two blacksmith shops. Hain & Gebhardt have a well-drilling machine with which they are doing a good business. J. H. Hickenbotham, of Pemberton, has a threshing machine and sawmill.

The village of Pasco in the western part of the township has a population of about fifty-two, with one general store. In the vicinity are also a flour mill and a blacksmith shop.

Baptist Church—The Baptist church has been a strong religious body in Perry township since 1830, when the first society was organized with eleven members (December 3) under the name of the Miami church, by Rev. Willis Hance, Moses Frazer and Moses Frazer, Jr. The first deacon was Peter Kiser and among the first members were: Peter Kiser, Catherine Kiser, Michael Cox, Mary Jackson, Nancy Wilkinson and Sarah Manning. House to house meetings were held through the first five years, but in 1835 the Baptists living near the dividing line of Shelby and Logan counties united in the erection of a church edifice at Quincy, in Logan county, and there the united congregation attended until 1873, when the building was destroyed in a great storm of that year. In 1874 the Shelby Baptists built a church of their own at Pemberton, expending \$4,000, the membership at that time being seventeen. It reached its highest point in membership in 1893, when there were 206 members. At present there are 131. The pastors have been Elders R. Duncan, E. Bunker, S. M. Brower, A. J. Wiant, A. Smider, D. Bryant, F. J. Sheppard, J. Ross, H. H. Witter, F. M. Taylor, L. J. Baker, C. R. Sargent, W. H. Gallant, J. W. Hartpence and G. L. Winters. The church maintains a well attended Sabbath school.

Methodist Episcopal Church—The Methodists organized a church society in Perry township in 1833, Rev. Sims meeting Booth Burditt and wife, George Pool and wife, William Moore and wife, Marcus Peck and wife and Mr. McVeigh and wife at the home of Booth Burditt. This band of Christian workers was small but very earnest and they continued to meet for worship in private houses and in the schoolhouse until 1843, when they erected a small frame church half a mile north of Pemberton and the name of Indian Creek church was adopted. In 1857 the Pemberton Methodist Episcopal church was organized; it was remodelled in 1885 and again in 1912. It now has a membership of 125, with Rev. Houser as pastor. A well conducted Sunday school is maintained. This feature of work was started by William McVeigh, in his own house, and he never ceased to take a keen and active interest in it.

United Brethren Church—Unfortunately the earliest records of this church body in Perry township have not been preserved, but it is known that prior to 1820, perhaps in 1819, Rev. Jacob Antrim, on a religious mission, came

to the home of Judge David Henry and formed a class, Mrs. Henry being a member of the same. In 1863 the church membership had become strong enough to consider the erection of a place of worship and when Samuel Young donated land on Mosquito creek, a frame building was erected thereon, known as Tawawa United Brethren church. Among its leading members a generation ago were the Peckhams, the Marrs and the Peppers. The Pasco United Brethren church was organized in 1892 and has a present membership of 150, with Rev. E. C. Hollinger, pastor.

Dr. W. M. Gaines ably represents the medical profession in Perry township. Some interesting facts in regard to the schools of the township may be found in the chapter on education.

## CHAPTER XXII

### THE TOWNSHIPS (IV)

#### *Salem, Turtle Creek, Van Buren and Washington Townships*

#### SALEM TOWNSHIP

The organization of Salem township took place June 5, 1826, when the county commissioners ordered that all that part of Perry township lying on the northwest side of the Miami river be formed into a new township and named Salem. It lies in the eastern tier of townships and its boundaries are Franklin and Jackson townships on the north, Logan county on the east, Perry and Clinton townships on the south and Clinton and Franklin townships on the west.

While the surface of Salem township is somewhat hilly along the water courses, it may be generally described as rolling. The soil is varied, with clay in some sections and in others rich black loam. The early settlers found here plenty of wood and water, this township being made green and fruitful by an abundance of springs which feed larger bodies of water here, including the Great Miami on the southern border, Rum creek in the east, Count's run in the central part and Plum creek on the east. This township is noted for its fine gravelled roads, the gravel being found in many places in the township.

#### EARLY SETTLERS

The first white settler in what is now Salem township is supposed to have been Charles Weeks, who located in section 20 about 1810 or 1811. He was followed several years later by the Hathaways and Gilberts. Prior to 1818 the following people had come as pioneers: Jesse Jackson, Alexander Jackson, Elisha Kirtland and Caleb Goble. Adam Counts and Jacob LeMasters came in 1818 and within the next two years followed William Roberts, Samuel Taylor, George Morrison, Benjamin Beden, Joseph Donaldson and William Skilken. John Hathaway, in 1814 or 1815, built his log cabin near the spring at Port Jefferson. Alexander Jackson had the distinction of building the first hewed log house and John Johnston of erecting and living in the first frame one. The first road in Salem township was the Sidney and Bellefontaine road, which was surveyed by a Mr. Thompson. Later surveyors and civil engineers in Salem were Daniel G. Hull and Col. J. Counts.

## PORT JEFFERSON

Of the three towns surveyed and platted within the confines of Salem township, Port Jefferson, Tiletton (now Maplewood) and North Salem, one—North Salem, platted in 1836—has long since disappeared.

Port Jefferson, situated on the northwest bank of the Great Miami river, was surveyed and platted August 11, 1836, by Jonathan Counts, deputy surveyor for Ezekiel Thomas and Abner Gerrard, proprietors, and contained 93 lots and fractional lots. It is situated at the head of the Miami extension canal feeder, and was incorporated as a village in 1842. Its first mayor was E. H. West. The first settler here was John Hathaway. The first store was kept by Albert K. Hathaway, who was succeeded by John Ogden, other members of the Ogden family subsequently continuing the business. The present proprietor is Chas. W. Ogden. The first hotel at Port Jefferson was kept by Samuel Anderson and the first physician registered here was Dr. L. A. Davis. The first postmaster was Alexander Jackson and at that day the mail was carried on horseback from Sidney to Marysville. During the palmy days of the canal, Port Jefferson, being situated at the head of navigation, was a booming village and had a most brilliant prospect. Five warehouses were in operation and the cooper and stave shops employed at least 150 men. There was a grist mill, two asheries for the manufacture of potash, which paid seven cents a bushel for ashes, an important source of income to the farmers. There were also five stores doing a flourishing business. With the advent of the railroad, however, all this was changed. The canal as a means of transportation was abandoned and Port Jefferson's hopes of a brilliant future were blasted. The present population of the village is 233.

## SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES

Although it was not until 1858 that Port Jefferson was organized as a special school district, schools had been maintained in the township for many years previously. At first they were subscription schools, each householder paying his due proportion of the expense. Later taxes were assessed for school purposes. It was a long time before adequate buildings could be provided and even then only through some particular display of public spirit, while at the same time it was often a difficult matter to secure competent teachers. After the organization of the special school district at Port Jefferson, a one-story brick structure was large enough to accommodate the students, but later it was enlarged to two rooms, and in 1877 a fine brick schoolhouse was built, at a cost of \$7,745, exclusive of furniture. At the time of erection of this building, which was at that time one of the most modern and complete in the county, the board of education was made up of the following members: R. B. Conklin, M. J. Winget, J. B. Nettleship, J. F. Miller, J. C. Ogden and William Manning. An account of the present educational facilities in Salem township, with interesting details in regard to the number of schools, enrollment, etc., may be found in the chapter on education.

Methodist Episcopal Church—The records of the first organized society of Methodists at Port Jefferson have not been preserved but antedate 1830. The earliest church edifice was of log construction and stood near the old cemetery east of the town. Later it was removed to give place to a frame building, which sufficed until 1862, when a new building was completed and dedicated by Rev. R. D. Oldfield, then pastor. A Sunday school was established, which proved an important factor in the growth of the church and the building up of its membership.

The Miami Christian Church—In 1849 Rev. James Skillen and Joseph Warbleton organized the Miami Christian church at the home of John Mulford, the first members being Amos and John Mulford and their wives, Jacob Near and wife and Samuel Wiles. Much interest was manifested in the society and its membership grew rapidly. The first place of worship, a log church, was built in 1852, on land in Logan county, owned by Jacob Near, and continued to be used until it was destroyed by fire in 1871, when a frame structure was erected on Henry Kemp's land. This church has had an important influence on religious development in the township.

#### PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Salem township has never had any disturbances concerning its government. Its present trustees are: H. J. Stockstill, John Stout and S. M. Knoop, while H. L. Haney, of Port Jefferson, is township clerk. Its justices of the peace who have served in the interim between 1836 and 1911 have been representative men, as follows: A. K. Hathaway, 1836; S. Gamble, 1837; A. K. Hathaway, 1839; Theodore McGinnis, 1840, resigned in May, 1842; James Gilfillen, 1840; Thomas Robbins, 1842; Elias LeFevre, 1843; A. Knox, 1844, resigned, 1845; Silas A. Thompson, 1845; Vincent Guerin, 1845; Vincent Guerin, 1848; Joseph Comer, 1849; Vincent Guerin, 1851; Reason Butt, 1852; James Haney, 1852; George J. Mitchell, 1853; George J. Mitchell, 1856; Joseph Comer, 1858; Daniel Ferree, 1858; H. M. Stout, 1859; William Shinn, Jr., 1861; H. M. Stout, 1862; J. P. Forsythe and William Shinn, 1864; G. J. Mitchell, 1865; Robert Simpson, 1866; J. P. Forsythe, 1867; G. J. Mitchell, 1868; Robert Simpson, 1869; John P. Forsythe, 1870; Jacob LaFevre, 1871; William Dunlap, 1871; H. M. Ailes, 1872; W. H. Mitchell, 1872; Robert Simpson, 1873; F. L. Manning, 1873; H. M. Ailes, 1875; A. A. Dunson, 1875; R. B. Conklin, 1876; S. L. Manning, 1878; A. A. Dunson, 1878; R. B. Conklin, 1879; B. McCormick, 1881; S. L. Manning, 1881; S. L. Manning, 1884; J. F. Thompson, 1884; S. B. Redinbaugh, 1887; James Haney, 1890; A. S. Retter, 1890; Albert Clark, 1890; James Haney, 1893; Jacob Epler, 1893; James Haney, 1896; A. S. Retter, 1896; James Haney, 1899; A. S. Retter, 1899; E. L. Harrison, 1900; Jacob Epler, 1903, appointed to fill vacancy caused by refusal of W. E. Smith to serve; E. B. Honnell, 1903 to 1906; A. S. Retter, 1903; John Reeves, 1904; A. S. Retter, 1906; A. S. Retter, 1908; John Reeves, 1908; John Reeves, 1911; A. S. Retter, 1911.

Stokes Lodge No. 305, F. & A. M.—This lodge was organized March,

1858, under the name of Stokes Lodge, in honor of Horace M. Stokes, who at that time was grand master of the state. The lodge worked under dispensation until October, 1858, at which time the following officers of the grand lodge were present, viz.: Wm. Fielding, W. G. M.; W. C. Fielding, Dept. G. M.; W. W. Skillen, S. G. W.; F. A. Pool, J. G. W.; Alex. Green, S. G. D.; Irwin Nutt, J. G. D.; H. O. Sheldon, W. G. C.; T. E. English, G. T.; J. S. Read, G. S.; and Jacob Young, T.

Earl Lodge No. 365, I. O. O. F.—A charter was granted by the grand lodge of the state of Ohio to W. B. Sandoe, J. Comer, E. H. Hopkins, J. F. Black, Wm. Dunlap, and Isaac Strahlem, May 15, 1861, to organize Earl Lodge No. 365, of I. O. O. F.

The first meeting of the lodge was held at Port Jefferson, July 13, 1861. G. M., W. F. Slater took the chair. The following officers were elected: W. B. Sandoe, N. G.; E. H. Hopkins, V. G.; Wm. Dunlap, R. S.; Joseph Comer, treasurer. After election they proceeded to the Methodist Episcopal church, where Grand Chaplain D. E. Thomas delivered an address, and the officers were installed by the grand master. The lodge room at this time was over the store of Joseph Comer. Some time later another lodge room was secured, which was afterwards burned, together with nearly all the furniture of the lodge. Meetings for a number of years were held in a room over the store of S. T. Thirkield. In the fall of 1832 the lodge secured the privilege from E. L. Kraft of building the second story on his new store building for a lodge room. This room they finished and furnished at a cost of about \$1,600.

#### TURTLE CREEK TOWNSHIP

Turtle Creek township was organized in 1820, but since that date has undergone some change in its boundaries. It occupies a position in the second tier of townships from the west, and has Van Buren and Franklin townships on the north; Franklin and Clinton on the east; Washington and McLean on the south and McLean and Cynthian on the west. The surface is mainly level except along Turtle creek and its branches, where it is somewhat broken. The soil is black loam. In March, 1821, the township was laid out in road districts and in 1822, when organization was probably more complete, it was divided into four road districts. According to the early records life in this township was peaceful and public affairs were conducted ably and honestly by its leading citizens—heads of families which in many cases are still represented here.

Among the settlers who came here in 1812 or earlier were the following: John Kennard, a Kentuckian, took up land on the south half of section 31; William Carddingly entered the northeast quarter of section 18; Cephas Carey located his log cabin near what is now Hardin, and on the present site of the town; Thomas McClish established himself on the present site of Hardin and William Bush became his near neighbor. These settlements were near together and the location was no doubt chosen because of the



abundance of wood and water. The winters might be cold but with an abundance of fuel close at hand the little log cabins could be kept warm, while the flowing streams watered the land from which the timber was cut and the cattle and stock, which then, as now, made up a large part of the pioneers' prospective wealth. In 1815 Richard M. Cannon came here from his former home near the present city of Sidney; Richard Lenox and John Lenox came, both having families, and in the same year arrived Joseph Steinberger. In 1816 Kentucky contributed William Davis, who settled in section 30; John Stephens settled in section 28 and Jeremiah White in the same section, while William Grooms established his home in section 29. In 1817 Basil Burton, David Coon and James Davis became residents and in 1818 the families of James Thatcher and Joseph Lyons came here. After the organization of the township it is probable that its advantages became more widely known and among the families who soon after became settlers may be mentioned those of Thomas Shaw, Edwin Barker, Joshua Cole and James A. Graham.

In the face of what must have appeared almost insuperable difficulties, the early settlers sturdily went about improving their section of the county and there seems to have been a great unanimity of sentiment concerning many of the enterprises of a public nature. Roads were among the first necessities and in 1816 the Hardin and Wapakoneta road was laid out and a few years later William Davis did much of the cutting. The second road in the township, connecting Hardin to Sidney, was laid out in 1817. As a fine quality of gravel was at hand, it was not long before use was made of this material and at the present time there are many miles of some of the finest turnpike roads running through the township. Among the principal ones may be mentioned the Turtle Creek Valley pike, the Sidney and Hardin, and the Russel, these running north, south, east and west and intersecting with turnpikes from other counties. Hardin Station, which is located one mile south of Hardin village was established by the C. C. C. & I. railroad, which runs along the southern boundary of the township. Transportation is no longer a problem in Turtle Creek township and many of the residents own stock in organized companies of this nature. In 1831 William Davis built the first brick house, the first frame one having been erected by Joseph Steinberger in 1829. On June 3, 1818, occurred the first marriage in the township, Cephas Carey, justice of the peace, uniting Richard M. Cannon and Mary Brodrick.

#### SCHOOLS

As soon as the actual necessities of life were provided, the residents of Turtle Creek township began to consider ways and means to provide for the education of the children. After a primitive round log structure was erected, which was accomplished in 1816, a Mr. Gibson became the first teacher and among the other early instructors were Richard Lenox, Mrs. Eliza Wells, Mr. Cohoon and Mr. Rosby, a second building having been put up in 1820, on the bank of Turtle creek in the village of Hardin. In 1824 a third school building was erected on land belonging to R. M. Cannon. The cause of

education has never since languished in Turtle Creek township and here reside some of the county's best informed and most intelligent citizens. Further information in regard to the schools may be found in the chapter on education.

#### HARDIN

The town of Hardin has been the principal center of affairs in Turtle Creek township from the beginning of community life, although its present nearness to larger centers of population has had its influence in limiting expansion. At the organization of the county in 1819 it became the seat of justice but in 1820 that honor was transferred to Sidney. The name of Hardin was given in honor of Col. John Hardin, whose prominence as a man and soldier need not be more than recalled in this connection, every Ohio history dwelling on the life and exploits of this brave explorer and victim of Indian treachery. He was assassinated on the spot on which the village of Hardin now stands, in 1792, and it seems appropriate that a memorial should be thus preserved of one who so deserved the admiration of his fellow countrymen. The original plat of the village of Hardin bore date of October 5, 1816, and consisted of thirty-six lots, exclusive of the public square. The original proprietors were Thomas McClish, Joseph Steinberger and James Lenox. The first merchants were Robert Aldrich and Aaron Harkness; Hezekiah Stout kept the first hotel and travelers were satisfied with even its limited capacity and accommodations; William Herr found a public needing his work as cabinetmaker, his business including the making of coffins; Robert Brodrick was the first village blacksmith and Lewis Steinberger probably the first carpenter. The first wagon shop was built in 1840 by Joseph Jackson and C. P. Lenox and W. H. Stephenson were among the early shoemakers. In 1854 William and Hugh Patten built a sawmill near Hardin, on Turtle creek, which was later operated by the Wilsons until it was destroyed by fire in 1868. In 1869 William, John and Frank Thomas built a mill on the east bank of Turtle creek. It burned down some years later, was rebuilt and then burned down again, after which it was not rebuilt. In 1880 the firm of Ewing & Dinsmore established spoke and bent works at Hardin Station, one mile south of the village, it being in the hands of Ewing Brothers for a number of years. The business was abandoned about 20 years ago, and the old frame building, bought by H. V. Wilson, is now used as a barn, it having been moved to a location half a mile south of Hardin. Hardin Station is chiefly important as a shipping point for stock and grain and as a station for the village of Hardin. The latter place constitutes an independent school district and has a substantial school building. Capable professional men are among its residents and church bodies are well represented. Its present population is 146 individuals. There are two general stores and one blacksmith shop. At Hardin Station, one mile south of Hardin, there is an elevator and grocery store.

## UNO

Uno is a small settlement of about twenty-two persons in the northwestern part of the township.

## CHURCHES

Hardin Methodist Episcopal Society—As early as 1819 the Methodists organized a society with a class of eighteen members, who met for worship in private homes. Between 1832 and 1834 they erected a church edifice on a lot donated by Thomas McClish, in the southeast part of Hardin village. In 1865 a commodious and structurally beautiful building was erected in the northern part of the town and when it was dedicated in August of that year, Rev. Philip A. Drown was the pastor. To this church belong the descendants of the Careys, the Davenports, the Whites, the Bushes, the Carters, the Stephens, the Shaws, the Thatchers, and the Cannons, and other well-known families of Turtle Creek. Rev. Parker is present pastor, as also of Cole chapel.

Cole Chapel Methodist Episcopal Society—About 1832, Rev. John Stewart organized the above society at the home of Joshua Cole and until a building was erected the members met at the home of Mr. Cole. In June, 1865, a frame church building was erected, at a cost of \$2,000, near the Turtle Creek Valley pike, in section 5, in which services were subsequently held, to the advancement and growth of life in the community.

White Feather Christian Society—This church organization was founded in 1839, by Elder Joseph Warbington and others, who met at the home of Samuel Harshbarger. The membership was but nine individuals at that time but the spirit of this little body never gave out and while the society did not feel justified in building a church edifice until about 1855, it was ever a vital and influential body of Christian people. The first church building was on the southwest corner of the northwest quarter of section 2, this land, for building and also for cemetery purposes, being donated by Samuel Harshbarger. In 1881 a more commodious building was erected on the Sidney and St. Mary's turnpike road, in section 1, much of the cost of labor being freely given by the members. Services have been discontinued by this society for several years.

Turtle Creek Presbyterian Church—In 1865 the Presbyterians in Turtle Creek township decided upon plans to erect a suitable place for their religious meetings. Prior to the completion of this building meetings were regularly held at the residence of William Patton. The edifice then erected cost \$4,500, is of brick construction and is located a short distance north of Hardin Station. A number of able and convincing pastors have been in ministerial charge here. Rev. S. A. Dean is present pastor.

There is also a Catholic church in the township, located at St. Patrick.

## INDIAN RELICS

At various times scientists have shown much interest in Indian relics found in this section and doubtless many museums have been enriched by gifts of

the same. There can be little doubt but that at one time the gravelly elevations where the majority of these relics, including bones, skulls and such vessels as Indians were known to have the habit of interring with their dead, were Indian burying grounds, but of how ancient a date it has probably never been yet decided.

#### JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

The following is a list of justices of the peace who have held office in Turtle Creek township: James Lenox, 1819; Elisha Williams, 1820; James Lenox, 1822; A. Davenport, 1823; Robert Aldrich, 1823; John McClure, 1824; James Lenox, 1825; Richard M. Cannon, 1827; Robert Brodrick, 1827; James Lenox, 1828; D. P. Williams, 1830; R. M. Cannon, 1830; James Lenox, 1831; James A. Graham, 1832; David Carey, 1834; James Lenox, 1834; R. M. Cannon, 1836; John Hutchison, 1839; R. M. Cannon, 1839; William Doak, 1842; James Lenox, 1842; William Doak, 1844; R. M. Cannon, 1845; John Hutchison, 1845; John Williams, 1847; William Doak, 1848; John Hutchison, 1848; F. C. McQuilty, 1850; William Critton, 1851; C. P. Lenox, 1851; F. C. McQuilty, 1853; John Hutchison, 1853 (resigned in 1855); William Doak, 1854; S. M. Sharp, 1856; C. P. Lenox, 1856; Julius Sharp, 1857; Casper Yinger, 1859; John Hutchison, 1859; John W. Graham, 1860; Fleming Hall, 1862; C. Yinger, 1862; J. P. Heston, 1863; Edwin A. Bell, 1865; C. P. Lenox, 1866; William Doak, 1866; C. P. Lenox, 1869; William Doak; 1869; C. P. Lenox, 1872; George Quillin, 1872; Richard F. Bell, 1873; C. P. Lenox, 1875; Isaac Johnston, 1876; Joseph Hamilton, 1876; John R. Wilson, 1878; Noah Rauch, 1879; John R. Wilson, 1881; Andrew Guin, 1884; John R. Wilson, 1884; Jacob M. Hensel, 1887; H. E. Bell, 1887; A. G. Allton, 1890; A. N. Shaw, 1890; Jacob Hensel, 1891; A. N. Shaw, 1893; J. M. Hensel, 1894; Mark Wilson, 1896; J. M. Hensel, 1897; James Farley, 1898; Mark Wilson, 1899; S. D. Ike, 1901; F. B. Brown, 1903; S. D. Ike, 1904; J. J. Huffman, 1908; Isaac Beery, 1910; John D. Huffman, 1912. The present township officers are: L. A. Richards, of Sidney, clerk; and A. W. Buirley, Watt Loughlin and James E. Burress, trustees.

#### VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP

Situated in the northwest corner of Shelby county, Van Buren township has for its northern boundary, Auglaize county; on the west lies Auglaize county and a part of McLean township; on the east Dinsmore and Franklin townships, and on the south, Turtle Creek and McLean. Although, in 1912, it contains thirty-six full sections, it was originally still larger. "At a meeting of the county board of commissioners held at Sidney, December 1, 1834, a petition was presented, signed by sundry persons to the number of seventeen, praying for the setting off of a new township of the following bounds, viz.: Commencing at the old Indian boundary line at the southeast corner of McLean township, thence east with said line to a point so as to take one tier

of sections off of the west side of range 6, thence north to the Allen county line, thence west to the northeast corner of McLean township, thence south to the place of beginning. The board being satisfied that legal notice of the presentation of said petition had been given, and that said petition was signed by a majority of the householders residing within the boundary of said proposed new township, and believing it necessary to erect said new township, they therefore ordered that said new township be set off and known by the name of Van Buren." Notice was given to the electors of the new township to meet at the home of Moses E. Baker, January 1, 1835, for the purpose of electing township officers. From that date until the present, Van Buren township has been well governed, its officials being men of sterling character in their neighborhoods. A list of those who administered as justices of the peace from 1835 until 1912 is as follows:

Joseph H. Park, June 24, 1835; Moses E. Baker, June 24, 1835; Moses E. Baker, April 30, 1838; Elias Harner, April 30, 1838; George Speaker, April 16, 1841, April 11, 1844; Moses E. Baker, April 20, 1847; Michael Quinn, April 17, 1848; Robert Ried, June 24, 1848; Samuel Reese, May 1, 1851; Joseph H. Park, April 17, 1852; George Speaker, April 14, 1853; William Grothaus, April 12, 1859; George Speaker, July 2, 1859; William Grothaus (resigned March 17, 1863) April 22, 1862; George Speaker, April 22, 1862; S. M. McCullough, April 17, 1863; George Speaker, April 14, 1865; S. M. McCullough, April 11, 1866; P. W. Speaker, April 5, 1867; S. M. McCullough, April 12, 1869; P. W. Speaker, April 8, 1870; S. M. McCullough, April 5, 1872; P. W. Speaker, April 11, 1878; S. M. McCullough, April 9, 1875; Harmon Quillhorst, April 20, 1876; William M. Baker, October 19, 1877; Charles Maurer, April 17, 1879 and 1882; William M. Baker, November 10, 1880; William M. Baker, 1883; Charles Maurer, 1885; C. F. Quellhorst, 1886; William M. Baker, 1886; C. F. Quellhorst, 1889; William McKinley, Jr.; August Maurer, 1892; William M. Baker, 1892; E. H. Meckstroth, 1895; William M. Baker, 1895; E. H. Meckstroth, 1898; John Wood, 1898; E. H. Meckstroth, 1901; John Wood, 1901; E. H. Meckstroth, 1904; John Wood, 1905; E. H. Meckstroth, 1908; Michael Drees, 1908; E. H. Meckstroth, 1910. In 1912 Julius Kettler was elected township clerk to succeed Henry Roettger, deceased. In the above year the board of trustees of Van Buren township consisted of William Henkener, Christian Therman and Henry Blanke.

#### SOIL AND DRAINAGE

Van Buren township, situated as it is, on the watershed, has superior advantages as to drainage, while it is well watered by Loramie creek and numerous other streams. Loramie creek is the most important body of water, passing through the township from the east and flowing in a south-westerly direction and emptying into the Loramie reservoir, a part of which is situated in this township. On this account the Loramie is not a rapid stream, the reservoir to some extent damming the water at the outlet. With level

surface and fertile soil, agriculture can be successfully carried on here and in many sections modern methods have produced phenomenal crops. Farming engages the attention of the majority of the residents and in 1875 Van Buren Grange No. 269 was organized. It continued in active operation until 1879 when, for various causes, the work was dropped until 1883 when interest was revived and it enjoyed a new growth.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENTS

The first settlements within the present limits of Van Buren township do not date as far back as in some other localities, 1832 probably witnessing the first permanent locations. Elias Spray was a resident here in the above year and a Mr. Cory lived for about a year on land owned by Judge Marshall, and also, among the transient settlers of this year were the families of Moses Redman, George Goins, Humphrey Clinton and some others. By 1833 many others had come to this part of the county, its natural advantages attracting those who proposed to become permanent home builders, and the names that have been preserved are: Moses E. Baker, Richard Elliott, Mrs. Philip J. Maurer, Adam Paul, Adam Braun, John McCullough, Jackson Traverse, Morris Jackson, Andrew Sanders, Robert Reed and Henry Van Brarigan. Others who had become landowners here prior to the organization of the township were Victor Schnelle, Christian Brockhoff, Frederick Abler, Victor Lanfersieck and another family by the name of Bather than that already mentioned. In the fall of 1833 occurred the birth of the first white child, Charles Maurer, and the first wedding ceremony was performed by Moses E. Baker, justice of the peace, uniting Allen Lupton and Sarah Rush. As in other settlements the first buildings were of logs and frame followed and in 1841 Joel Goins put up the first brick house, for which he made the brick.

#### VILLAGES

Van Buren township has two villages—Kettlersville and McCartyville. Several others have been platted at different times, as Pulaski (1837), Moliike, and Rumley (1837), but these never attained importance.

Kettlersville.—In 1873 Christopher Kettler laid out and platted the village to which he gave his family name. The tract consisted of seven lots, to which, subsequently, Christopher and William Kettler added forty-five lots. Here in the spring of 1882 was organized the German Evangelical Lutheran church, with thirty-five members under the pastoral guidance of Rev. A. Merkley. In 1883 the society erected a frame church edifice at a cost of \$3,500. Kettlersville has good schools, the first schoolhouse in the township having been erected on the land of George Speaker. The present population is 149.

The village of Rumley was surveyed May 19, 1837, for Amos Evans, proprietor, and the first hewed log house was built by Colonel Evans and was utilized for both store and dwelling.

McCartyville is a small village with a population of forty-seven. There is

considerable wealth in Van Buren township and many of its citizens have served creditably in public office. The township is well provided with churches of several different denominations.

### WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

This township was originally named Grayson, by Col. Jesse Wilson, in honor of his native county in Virginia. The township was settled many years before its organization in 1825. The petition for organization was filed with the commissioners in March of that year, and an election of officers was called for April at the home of Joseph Stewart. The election was postponed until September of that year, however, owing to an appeal being taken to the common pleas court on the creation of the township. The township was created from parts of Loramie, Turtle Creek and Clinton townships, and is a small township, containing twenty-five square miles, but is possibly the best watered and drained in Shelby county. The Miami river forms nearly all of the township's east border line, besides which it is penetrated by Loramie creek, Turtle creek and numerous smaller streams. The Miami and Erie canal with its feeder crosses the township. The feeder enters the canal at Lockington, the summit of the canal, from which point water flowed both ways. It was a highly important point in the active days of the canal and of distinguishing characteristics. The Big Four railroad crosses the township along the north boundary and affords transportation facilities.

The settlement of what now is Washington township antedates that of any other part of the county, at least James Thatcher, who made actual settlement in the northwest part of the township in 1805, is generally accredited with being the first to take up permanent residence here. The following year, John, Joseph and David Mellinger took up their abode near the present village of Lockington, and Thomas Earl also came in 1806. In that early period, new arrivals were few and far between, but from the meagre facts available, it is fairly certain that John Wilson settled along the bank of Turtle creek in 1807; Samuel Marshall came in 1808; Samuel McClure in 1810; the Lenox brothers, Richard, James and John, came in 1811. The manner of life they led, the hardships and privations, also their homely pleasures, are handed down in the history and traditions of every newly developed community. That they were men of the right type, brave and hardy spirits, has been demonstrated by their accomplishments as well as those of their progeny, in the years that have intervened. Julia Ann Lenox, daughter of Richard Lenox and afterward wife of William Stephens, has always been accorded the honor of being the first white child born in Washington township. The first marriage is supposed to have been that of William Manning and Ruth Julian. In 1816, John Wilson built a brick house, the first of that construction here, and the first sawmill in the township or county was that of Samuel Marshall on Turtle creek.

The following is a list of the justices of the peace of the township and the respective years of their election: William Mellinger, 1835 and in 1838;

James G. Guthrie, 1839; John Munsey, 1841; James G. Guthrie, 1842; William Mellinger, 1843; John Munsey, 1844; Robert Dinsmore, 1846; William Mellinger, 1846; Robert Dinsmore, 1849; William Mellinger, 1849; Robert Dinsmore, 1852; Amos Mohler, 1855; Harvey Guthrie, 1855; William Mellinger, 1858; Harvey Guthrie, 1858; William L. Burns, 1861; M. Wilson, 1862; William L. Burns, 1864; Harvey Guthrie, 1865; John N. Stewart, 1867; Robert Dinsmore, 1869; John Johnston, 1870; Robert Dinsmore, 1872; Jacob Everly, 1873; Isaac Betts, 1875; Joseph Johnston, 1876; J. K. Dinsmore, 1878; John Johnston, 1879; J. K. Dinsmore, 1881; J. K. Dinsmore, 1884; John Johnston, 1885; John Johnston, 1888; J. K. Dinsmore, 1888; J. L. Mellinger, 1891; J. D. Williams, 1891; Robert J. Dinsmore, 1894; J. K. Dinsmore, 1894; R. J. Dinsmore, 1897; Charles Adams, 1897; Gordon Parents, 1900; Jacob Everly, 1900; Charles Adams, 1902; A. T. Warwick, 1905; A. T. Warwick, 1907; and Jacob Everly, 1908.

Washington township has been fortunate in its schools, each district being provided with a good building and the instruction being of the highest character. This condition was not brought about in a day, but represents generations of progress and improvements. This subject is dealt with more fully in the chapter on education, to be found on another page of this work.

#### CHURCHES

In its churches also Washington has been fortunate, and of the various church societies few have passed out of being. Those that did, at one time flourished and their records show much in the accomplishment of good. The work of the church in the early period reflects much of the life the pioneers led, as church and social life were closely interwoven.

The Methodist Episcopal denomination was active here long before a church was built. We find missionaries of that faith visiting the community at the very earliest settlement. However it was some few years before there were any regularly organized societies. Even then they met for worship first in one cabin and another until they were somewhat more firmly established. No records being kept, such knowledge as we have of the church in those pioneer days has come through the vale of years by word of mouth. In 1825 or thereabout, a class consisting of James Thompson and wife, Jane Thompson, Joseph Caldwell and wife, Jane Patterson, Thomas Plummer and Amos Travers, was organized at the home of James Thompson, who was the first class leader. After some years meetings were held at the home of John Legg, upon whose property the society built a hewed log church building in 1838, dedicating it as Ebenezer church. The church held its own for many years, but as other more conveniently located churches became established, inroads were made upon its membership until in 1872 it ceased to exist, most of the members joining the Lockington body.

The Lockington Methodist Episcopal church was organized at the home of Wilkinson Post, in December, 1847, by Rev. Jacob W. Young, the first members being: Wilkinson Post and wife, Isaac W. Legg, who was the



leader, Mrs. Patten, Mrs. Munson and Mrs. Harper. A subscription was taken for a church building in 1848, but owing to an epidemic of cholera it was not until 1850 they completed their frame edifice, which was dedicated in June of that year by Rev. Michael Marley. It was a good substantial building and has been remodeled and enlarged twice since, in 1881 and again in 1812. Rev. Mr. Stafford is the present pastor.

The United Brethren church in Washington dates back to 1844 when Rev. James Winters organized a society at Rock Run, the original members being Francis Bailey and wife, Sarah Razor, William Dunlap and wife, John Bower and wife, and Blakeley Dunlap and wife. Francis Bailey was the leader. Although they kept up their organization for years, they never built a church and the members gradually joined with other societies which had churches. In 1850, the society at Lockington was formed by the Rev. Henry Toby and for two years or more they worshipped in a schoolhouse. In 1851 they erected a new church, which was dedicated in 1854 by Rev. Henry Cumler. The first leader was Jacob Razor and the following were the members: William Valentine and wife, W. Furnce and wife, C. Beadle and wife, Abram Razor and wife, Jacob Razor and Stephen Alexander and wife. The building served them well until 1887, when the present edifice was erected. The present pastor is Rev. J. H. Mayne.

The Disciple church in Lockington was organized in 1871 by Elder John M. Smith, with the following members: Joseph T. Wilkinson, John P. Johnston and wife, S. A. Johnston and wife, C. Johnston and wife, Joseph P. Barkalow and wife, William Beauchamp, Henry P. Johnston and wife, Mrs. Molly Mellinger, Harriet Johnston and Sarah A. Johnston. For a year they held meeting in a schoolhouse, at the end of which time they bought the building and remodeled it. The first elders of the church were Joseph T. Wilkinson and Christopher Johnston. The first deacons were William Beauchamp and S. A. Johnston.

#### LOCKINGTON

Lockington, once known by the name of Lockport, was a flourishing little place and a point of much interest in the old days of canaling. The last census accorded it a population of 166. It was surveyed by Jonathan Counts, in 1837, for its owner David Mellinger, and the plat recorded on December 18, of that year. Upon petition to the county commissioners, Lockington was incorporated as a village on September 9, 1857. Its first municipal election was held April 1, 1858, and the following officers elected: W. S. Burns, mayor; G. A. Gillespie, recorder; Jacob Razor, treasurer; John Agenbroad, marshal; and W. B. Valentine, F. Whitby, D. K. Gillespie, Thomas Wilson and N. B. Boust, members of the council. The present mayor of Lockington is Thomas Bailey, an old and respected resident of the village.

About all of the industrial activity of Washington township has been centered at Lockington. About the year 1830, a man named Steinberger started a small flour mill on Loramie creek near where the village now is

located, and in connection operated a sawmill which a man named Aldrich had previously built near by and abandoned. John Brown became the purchaser of these mills in 1837, and in addition conducted a woolen mill. It was sold to Robert Ewing, who in 1844 built a new flour mill and ran it until 1859. It was subsequently operated successively by D. K. Gillespie, John Johnston, John Fuller and O. C. Horton, the latter having it in 1872 when fire destroyed it. Razor & Brother, having bought the site, erected a new mill the following year, which continued in operation until some fifteen or sixteen years ago.

The first sawmill in Lockington was built by William Stephens about the year 1845, and was later sold to Reed Brothers, who closed it down after a few years. The site was sold in 1860 to Daniel and Jacob Razor, who erected a new mill, with a corn crusher and chopping burr attached. They operated it until 1873, then sold out to the Summit Paper Mill Company, who sold it a few months later to Francis Bailey and two sons. They continued the business until 1876, when it was sold to J. T. and H. P. Bailey, who operated it with success for years. The mill was burned down some eight or ten years ago and was never rebuilt.

At the present time there is located in Lockington the grain elevator of C. N. Adlard, which was established by D. K. Gillespie and came into the hands of the present proprietor about eight years ago. With respect to storing capacity this elevator is one of the largest in the state. It is a modern building in every respect and was substantially improved by Mr. Adlard in 1912.

Vogler & Hershey conduct a general store here and keep a wagon on the road, selling and buying produce.

G. A. Pope, who is postmaster, also conducts a general store, and in summer has a good ice cream business.

The Buxton Pattern Works were established here about four years ago, Mr. Buxton devoting his personal attention to the designing of special machinery.

Lockington Tent, No. 68, Knights of the Maccabees, is also located here.

## CHAPTER XXIII

### MISCELLANEOUS

*Singing Schools—The Old Shoemaker—Some Well Known Citizens, John Blakeley, John E. Bush, S. I. Gamble, Morris Hounell, Nathan Moore, Philip Smith, Dr. Hezekiah Stout, Dr. J. A. Throckmorton, Silas D. Young*

#### SINGING SCHOOLS

I do not know much about singing schools in the country in Ohio, for I did not spend my youth in the rural districts of the Buckeye state, but I did in Vermont, and have a most distinct recollection of them in the Green Mountain state. How fondly the boys and girls looked forward to winter, when singing schools would be held in the various temples of learning, the only place for entertainments. There was no loitering of the youths on their way home from school when the singing occasion arrived; chores had to be done and there was no lagging in filling up the wood-box for the night, feeding the pigs and watering the horses, and no grumbling about so many duties to perform. Faces were as radiant with smiles as if Christmas was at hand and not a complaining word was uttered at the table, lest the contemplated fun should be given a back-set by our parents for our unseemly conduct. We did not dress especially for the event, for our winter wardrobe was on our backs, with exception of a dickey and a neck ribbon for Sundays. Our hair, barbered by our mothers in a style of Quaker severity that underwent no change, in its Puritan exactness was oiled and combed to amazing sleekness and parted with not a lock out of place. In those days oil was profusely used to make each hair keep in order. Bear oil, supposed to be the best, could be bought in bottles, but as the marrow from beef bones served the purpose just as well it was carefully saved and tried out like lard from pork to be utilized. As it was generally scented with bergamot, a room full of boys emitted an odor like a sachet bag.

If the night was only clear or not outrageously blustering we were not deterred from being present. Ten or twenty degrees below zero were not minded if the sleighing was good, as buffalo robes were plenty, and with mufflers and mittens, knit at home, with caps drawn down over our ears and the girls wearing quilted hoods, the weather was joyously defied. Thick blankets were taken to cover the horses, as they stood hitched to a fence

while we were ostensibly learning to sing. There was no singing teacher in our town for many years, so one had to be procured from some outlying village, to whom the princely sum of two dollars a night was paid, which some thought was exorbitant, as he only had to drive his own turnout but seven or eight miles. The instructor could usually fiddle, as well as sing, so the instrument was brought along to get the right pitch and assist the rustic warblers in keeping on the tune.

Lamps had not generally come into use and gas and electricity had not stirred in the womb of the future. Candles, homemade, were brought for illuminants, set in auger holes in pine blocks and snuffed with the fingers. They shed a feeble light—and some tallow, when not held vertically. As nine-tenths of the attendants forgot to bring them, the room was not a blaze of glory, and a half dozen or more would crowd round each luminant of several lightning-bug power, to sing out of the church singing-book. The repertoire was not large and the pieces were so often repeated that the words as well as the music were soon learned and given with a gusto in the dark corners that figuratively raised the roof. It was a contest of strength and endurance without regard to sentiment.

Not being well equipped with books or light, the boys at each lull in the proceedings, would slide out of the cavernous gloom to wrestle, play tag and fox and geese in the snow, and when recess came the girls would join them and forget to return for the second part, as hills were numerous and coasting fine, so it was not strange that the singing schools were well patronized by the youths for miles around.

The tingling air painted the cheeks of the happy maidens and imparted a glow to their sparkling eyes so entrancing that obdurate was the boy who did not experience palpitation of the heart under their bewitching glances. How chivalrous we were and even glad to see one of the mischievous hoydens slip down, or purposely give out, in ascending a hill, and how we would scramble to be the first to render knightly assistance.

It was prudent to keep an eye on the schoolhouse, in order to start home when the rest did, lest the folks at home would surmise we had been playing truant and call us to account for not improving our physical talents when we had such a favorable opportunity. The horses, gingered by exposure to the biting temperature, were on their mettle and the jingle of the resonant sleigh bells with laughter and song flooded the air. It was permissible to sit close for sundry reasons, only one of which is here given, that it was a self-sacrificing necessity for health and comfort. Those happy years were not many, but they are treasures in the album of memory and afford a pleasure as they are recalled in the sober hours of waning life.

#### THE OLD SHOEMAKER

The generation which can recall from the dim mist of years the old shoemaker has not all faded from earth. Here and there one remains, and no one stands clearer in the recollections of his youth than that unique char-

acter who, with his kit of tools, used to make his annual visits to the homesteads of the farmers to make the boots and shoes of the families and mend the footgear which was no dry dock for repairs.

In New England—and no doubt the same custom prevailed here—the head of the rustic household took to the tannery, a cow hide, kip skin and calf skin, to be tanned to furnish leather for family needs. The latter was for shoes for the female part of the household; the kip for the boys who had commenced to attend winter parties and shave; the cow hide for the men of sturdier growth, whose line of travel lay through barnyards, muddy roads and plowed fields. New boots had to serve at least six months for handsome, as they termed it, meaning by that that they were only to be worn to church, donned on training and election days, and other state occasions.

The old footgear had to perform the menial service, be tallowed to turn water, twice a week, and in Connecticut, where extreme frugality prevailed, boots were deemed but half worn out when the soles could be kept on by willow withes.

Perhaps the advent of the shoemaker was not looked for with such yearning anxiety by the elder members of the family as by the children, but, it can be truly said that to them he was the most important personage, cheerfully considered, who entered the home during the year. He was usually a gossipy character, read little, but knew much, and had a way of getting on to the inside of the social secrets of the community which he took infinite pleasure in revealing. To the children, if not to all, this gossip broke the monotony of intensely rustic life and his tales were devoured with insatiable eagerness. The shoemaker who comes to my mind was old Dan W. Smith, whose tongue seemed hung in the middle, that both ends might play, who sang like a steaming tea kettle, knew an endless variety of songs, and could fiddle like the "Arkansaw traveler."

With what wonderment we stood around and watched him take his ball of shoe thread, break it the required length, wax it, roll it on his leather apron until the numerous strands were made one and strong enough for an effective lasso, and then deftly introduce the bristles into the wax ends. How we did enjoy chewing the black wax which he would give us. With what promptness and alacrity we took our places when our time came to be measured for a pair of new boots, and how plainly I can hear my father's injunction to old Dan W. to make them big enough to allow at least for a two years rapid growth of our pedal extremities without pinching them. The extra room the first year was occupied by hat soles in the bottom and cotton in the toes—in fact they just got ready to fit our feet when they were worn out. We used to kick, in common parlance, as vehemently as we dared at the extravagant allowance of room, but kicked in vain, as probable expansion had to be considered by the powers that were.

The old shoemaker is a thing or personage of the far away past. Machinery, the concentration of capital, enterprise and energy in huge factories, cheapening and beautifying the product has destroyed his profession, yet he

lives in the memory of all who have had my experience and will be cherished as long as the days of youth are remembered.

The following sketches of old and prominent citizens, were written within recent years by the Editor of this volume and contain some interesting reminiscences, together with historical facts.

SILAS D. YOUNG, the twentieth child of Philip Young, whose family consisted of twenty-two children, was born east of Anna September 11, 1837. Handicapped in the race of life with Mr. Ludwig by ten years he has never been able to overtake him. His youth was of the uneventful one of a farmer boy before machinery had lightened labor, and to be horny handed and horny footed was the rule not the exception as now. After amusing himself until twenty years old clearing land, burning logs and brush he concluded that he should take life more seriously, and with fear and trembling made a proposition to Miss Mary Jane Munch which was favorably considered and March 19, 1837, the double bow nuptial knot was tied.

Mary was an orphan from birth as her father died before she was born and her mother also when Mary was six months old, so she never knew the care and fervor of parental love.

Six children, all girls, blessed this union, four of whom are living, Ella, now Mrs. William Shuter, of Delaware; Minnie, now Mrs. John Manning, of Anna; Myrtle, Mrs. Richard Curtner, of Anna; and Berth, Mrs. Edward Zaigler, of Medina.

When the Civil war broke out and President Lincoln called for troops, Silas, fired with patriotism so intense as to induce him to leave his wife, two small children and his home for the privations and perils of the tented field. Being the 20th child he enlisted in the 20th regiment on the eighteenth day of August, 1861, under Col. J. C. Fry, serving three years and one month. At the hot fight at Champion Hills, Mississippi, though he sought protection of a tree, he could not entirely screen himself from a sharp shooter who seemed to have a desire to pick him off and shattered the bark of the tree several times. Unfortunately a small buck shot struck the bridge of his nose at the corner of one eye passing through his nose. This "doused his glim" and for two months he was in the hospital as blind as a mole. When he recovered the surgeon wanted to give him a ward in the hospital to superintend, but Silas demurred, as the buck shot put ginger into him and he vowed he would be revenged but was not pacified until after the battle of Atlanta where he killed as many rebels as they did of him if not more. He did not go with Sherman to the sea and when his term of enlistment expired returned to the bosom of his family. In Cincinnati he was offered \$1,500 to enlist again as a substitute but he deemed that Mary Jane, whom he had promised to protect and who had been on the anxious seat of dire apprehension for three years and the two children had a prior claim and he was not to be diverted from its fulfillment. He is a live member of Neal Post of Sidney and few are the grand encampments that he and Mrs. Young have not attended and he stands at the head of the list or about there of the Red Chair enterprises which have been in vogue for twenty years or more. Many years ago five

chairs were presented to veterans or their widows in one day at the Kah house in Anna where 325 took dinner. Knowing that W. D. Davies, of Sidney, was billed to speak at Botkins, the soldier boys went to the station a few rods distant and called out Mr. Davies to the platform of a north bound car. When he appeared they kidnapped him and bore him to the Kah house where he became the orator of the day and sent word to Botkins that not today, but some other time, he would be in Botkins and that they ought to have known better than to have started him out by way of Anna, filled as it was with buccaneers, without a guard.

Few farms as so delightfully situated as their home place of seventy-three acres. The corporate limits of Anna have been extended until it embraces part of the farm, a cement sidewalk extends to his very door and with a few steps he can enjoy the delights of country life or the bustle of an embryo city. This gives him polish on one side and the glow and appetite of rustic health on the other.

When fourteen years of age he was converted, joined the Methodist church and never got over it. He frequently led prayer meetings when in the army.

Out of such sterling material it would be impossible to fashion anything but a republican of fast colors and that is what Silas is, a shining example worthy to be followed.

A. B. C. H.

DR. J. A. THROCKMORTON was born in old Virginia several moons ago, if not more, and if the Mother of Presidents had not suffered from being sliced on account of being too strongly democratic, there is no telling how differently his career might have been shaped. As luck would have it, he was on the piece snipped off which put him three miles from the dividing line between Old and West Virginia on the west side. Of course this snuffed out whatever ambitious flame he may have had in the white house direction. It was such as he that occasioned, by their loyalty, the division of the old state for a love of the common country and lofty patriotism which thrives and abides in mountain air kept the western part true to the old flag. The merciful amputation was painless and ever since the new state has had a healthy growth.

The Doctor was small for his age, and is not huge yet, but his avoirdupois deficiency has been fully compensated for by his being a bundle of activity which years have not stiffened. When the slogan of war sounded, he donned a uniform of blue, probably made especially for his light and lithe form, and marched with patriotic stride to the front and was as good as new in the closing carnage of Petersburg and around Richmond and joined in the glad huzzas when the Appomattox episode was known. He was a difficult mark to hit and even the sharp shooters had to give him up as a hard proposition, with the odds all the time in his favor.

Not having forgotten what he learned in his youth, he taught school for a time and then emigrated with his parents to Ohio, settling on a farm bought in this county a few miles north of Hardin in Turtle Creek township. The bottom land in that vicinity was crowded out by knolls and knots not tractable

to manage and at that time had to be subdued by main strength and awkwardness, commodities of which he did not have a surplus, and the vocation sort of went against the grain. He concluded that he had served a full term in fighting for his country and did not relish another prolonged conflict by an attempt at warfare with mother Nature, especially at small wages with no prospect of a pension as a reward for his endeavors.

Looking over the catalogue of possibilities he settled on dentistry as a profession, packed his trunk, and with somewhat scanty accumulations bade the obdurate farm a tearless good bye for an education and finished at Ann Arbor with the honorable degree of D. D. S. and located in Sidney, where he has resided plying his profession for thirty-two years. Previous to graduation at Ann Arbor the Doctor attended the Baltimore College of Dentistry in Maryland and subsequently took a post graduate course in Chicago.

Upon returning from the war, he stayed on the farm in West Virginia for awhile and being of a mechanical turn of mind and having a distaste to being blistered by the sun when driving a mowing machine or harvester, he constructed a device that would hold an umbrella whose grateful shade protected him in comfort and did not hinder his efficiency as a harvest hand. This was something new to the rustics, who shook their heads and remarked that Mr. Throckmorton had the laziest son in those parts. They had not subscribed to the idea that if work must be performed a man had the privilege of doing it in the most comfortable way possible; but the Doctor had, and if bread must be earned by the sweat of the brow, the less sweat the better, especially where one was not over juicy. Their gibes did not in any way disconcert him and the umbrella was kept raised. Being brought up in that hilly and mountainous region he early learned to ride a horse, of which he was extremely fond, if it was a good one and his taste seemed to increase with his years, for he has two Kentucky thoroughbreds as tractable as kittens and which he has taught to so amble under the saddle that it makes equestrianism a delight.

In 1844 he married Miss Nannie R. Thomas, of West Virginia, who is an equestrienne of rare grace and accomplishment which seems to be indigenous to the rugged state of West Virginia and perfected by continual practice. At one time Doctor Throckmorton had branch offices in Chicago and San Francisco and did considerable laboratory work in Sidney, having impressions sent here for plate work.

DR. HEZEKIAH STOUT AILES. The patronymic surname, Ailes, the subject of this sketch, of course, is ancestral, but christening of the hopeful to designate him in a family of fifteen children was out of what may be deemed an excessive regard for their family physician, Dr. Hezekiah Stout, but notwithstanding this handicap he has survived, flourished, and is now our esteemed and prominent townsman, Hezekiah Stout Ailes, and has led an eventful life in peace and war.

Hezekiah was born at Lost Creek, Harrison county, now West Virginia, May 19, 1840, so that his infantile prattle mingled with hurrahs for "Tippecanoe and Tyler too."



His father sold the rugged home farm in 1842 and moved to the northeast corner of Franklin township, this county. Of this numerous family of fifteen children Hezekiah is the only one living and none lived, not even his parents, to be so old as he is now though they outlived all their children but him.

The farm was purchased of Daniel Baldwin, now dead, who was known in Sidney as Sassafras, for each spring his bent form carried a basket of it to purify and thin the blood of our people grown thick and sluggish by too substantial food and lack of exercise.

The mansion into which they moved was a round log house well chinked and warm, one story high, but the barn was more pretentious, being two story. In that sparsely settled time people were considered neighbors two or three miles distant and in the absence of those diversions which now prevail were neighbors in fact willing to assist each other in any emergency.

The round log schoolhouse not crowded with conveniences nor ease-inviting seats was one and three-quarters of a mile distant and he had to start alone, but was joined by the children of two other families on the way across the fields and through the woods. His a, b, c. teacher was Eli Bruner and his second Miss Elizabeth Allen, who afterward married William Edwards. He gradually absorbed the intellectual pabulum of the menu furnished in that crude temple of learning and when sixteen or seventeen years old, with two other boys, aspired to better things and as Sidney had just completed what is now the central school building, hired the front room over Thompson and Christian's drug store, boarded themselves, and slept three in a bed. They went home every Friday night and early Monday morning could be seen returning with loaves of bread and a pound of butter. They would occasionally buy some ginger cakes at the grocery and when feeling convivial and careless of expenses would indulge in a glass of spruce beer at Washington Carroll's emporium, but refrained from taking enough to get boisterous.

Hezekiah went one term when the schoolhouse was first opened in 1857. His teacher was Miss Harriet Chapin, who subsequently married John Frank-erberger. Being sufficiently advanced to have confidence in his ability to teach school he obtained a certificate and thus armed and equipped as the law directed, procured a school near home and his pedagogical pin feathers soon became fullfledged plumage for taking his experience both before and after the war embraced a period of fifteen years. When he had taught two weeks of his fifth term he resigned and enlisted in Company C, 118th regiment with Edgar Sowers, superintendent of schools at Port Jefferson as captain, and W. H. Taylor, of Sidney, now of Mansfield, as lieutenant.

At the battle of Resaca, Georgia; he received the only wound he got in the war. He was shot in the shoulder and lay on the ground by the side of George Murray Thompson, brother of Mrs. E. T. Mathers and H. W. Thompson, of this city. George's was a dangerous and painful one in the foot and he returned home and never went back. Hezekiah was reported dead, but pleasantly surprised his people by appearing clothed in his right mind and arm in a sling. Upon recovery he went back and was promoted to sergeant-major. In that engagement 112 soldiers out of 220 of that

regiment were either killed or wounded in five minutes time. Upon returning, as his corps did not go with General Sherman to the sea, they participated in the battles of Franklin, the severest one of the war, and the struggle around Nashville which destroyed General Hood's army. They were also in the East Tennessee campaign and were forty-six miles from Knoxville when Burnside was bottled there. As the rebel army was between them and Knoxville they were powerless to give assistance.

When the war was drawing to a close the army to which he belonged came north to Columbus and were transferred in box cars to Washington where they arrived dirty and ragged, as they had drawn no clothing nor had not received a dollar for six months and were lucky if they got enough water to drink, much less to wash in. Their dilapidated appearance provoked sneering remarks from some of the brass buttoned parvenues at Washington. Their commander hearing them responded through a newspaper that they were no feathered soldiers but had come east to help the feather-bed army around Washington. In a few days they boarded vessels on the Potomac, went down the river to the ocean, around Cape Hatteras, to Fort Fisher at the mouth of Cape Fear river and then to Fort Anderson. They celebrated Washington's birthday in 1865, by taking Wilmington, North Carolina, and after ten days made a forced march of 100 miles to Kinston where the rebels delivered 8,000 men who had been prisoners at Andersonville and Salisbury and were living skeletons. Many were demented and would voraciously devour any eatable handed them in their insatiate hunger. Mr. Ailes was ordered to detail ten men from his regiments to act as nurses, among whom was Fred Doody and John H. Kessler, of this county, who were unable to make the forced marches. Of these all died but two of swamp fever. The army marched to Goldsboro and to Raleigh to meet Sherman's army coming from Savannah through the Carolinas. Soon the news came that Lee had surrendered and the joyful news was carried along the lines with huzzas and tossing of caps in the air. A part was retained for a while as an army of occupation so he did not take part in the grand review at Washington.

After resting for a season and burnishing his education which had got a trifle powder burnt in the years of patriotic conflict, he entered again the school room and taught in Montra and vicinity for ten years more, or fifteen years in all. Among his early pupils was Miss Jane Elliott, then twelve years old, an attractive and amiable girl, whose charms in Hezekiah's eyes had grown so irresistible as to occasion heart trouble in his bosom and again she became his pupil from which she graduated, her diploma being a marriage certificate of lifelong duration. This remarkable event happened October 11, 1866, but did not interfere with his pedagogical avocation. In 1867 Milton E. of Washington, D. C., appeared in their household and was succeeded by Eva, now Mrs. John H. Taft, and Ada, now Mrs. Hugh Wilson, both of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Eugene, of late years of Nome, Alaska, but part of the time in Washington; Lulu, Olive, Chesley and Adrian of this city. Of their ten children two died while young.

On October 28, 1875, Mr. Ailes moved his family to Sidney to the house

now owned and occupied by Mr. George Moeller in West street. The monumental building was then in process of construction.

The children were all educated in the public school here and received graduating diplomas, with the exception of Adrian, who has graduating symptoms, as he is a member of the senior class and is probably cudgeling his brains for ideas in the oratorical display to come off the first of June.

A little over twenty years ago Milton, through General LeFevre, then congressman, received an appointment in Washington and became a messenger boy for General Sewall and Charles Chesley, government officials. He performed his duties with such fidelity and despatch that Mr. Chesley, who was an eminent lawyer, advised him to utilize his spare hours in studying law, a thing he had determined upon, and offered to be his preceptor. This proposition was accepted and he finally graduated with Bachelor of Arts honors and subsequently with Master of Arts distinction. His promotion was rapid and at length culminated in being appointed assistant secretary of the treasury under Lyman Gage, and two years under Secretary Shaw, a position which Milton resigned to accept the vice-presidency of the Riggs national bank, of Washington, a position he now holds. Eugene went to Washington, studied chemistry, became an expert assayer and for several years has been employed at Nome, Alaska, by a banking firm that makes a business of buying gold from the miners. Lest it be thought that the subject of this sketch is lost in the family shuffle, a return to the considering of Hezekiah will be made.

Since Mr. Ailes came to Sidney he has been elected three times as mayor of this city, became deputy county auditor under Orlando O. Mathers and subsequently served two terms as auditor and was the first county official to occupy the new courthouse. After his terms he again became deputy county auditor under Knox Cummins, now of Washington, thus serving for fifteen years in the courthouse. He is now president of the sinking fund trustees, was appointed by Judge Hughes a member of the board of monumental trustees to succeed the late Andrew J. Robertson and was for six years a member of the board of education. Before coming to Sidney he was clerk of Jackson township for four terms. Hezekiah now has an office of justice of the peace which keeps him out of mischief in his serene and happy age. Few can look back upon a busier and more blissful domestic and public life replete with honors and with a family of children who reflect radiance upon the name.

When Mr. Ailes returned from the war the time of his pre-soldier certificate had expired and a new one had to be procured. He came to Sidney to brighten up under Ben McFarland, one of the county examiners. Examination day and the democratic county convention came off the same day. The candidates for nomination to the state legislature were Jason McVay and Gen. Ben LeFevre, McFarland, though a republican, was very anxious to have the General nominated as he was his particular friend and asked Hezekiah whom he favored. The reply was, "the General, for we were boys together." Hearing this McFarland said, "I know your qualifications for

teacher and I want you to put in the day working for the General and when the polls close come and get your certificate." Since this sketch was written Mr. Ailes has died.

**PHILIP SMITH.** If the oldest inhabitant in Sidney, or any number of them were asked to name the man who is entitled to the premium card for remaining in the manufacturing business the longest time without a break in the chain, the unanimous answer would be, Philip Smith. This hustling, bustling, pushing bundle of incarnate hope who lined every cloud with silver and whose elasticity put him erect upon his feet after each reverse was never before in so prosperous condition as now, and it would take a stiff adverse wind to shake him. Showers of discouragements that would have disheartened most men he shed as easily as the proverbial duck's back does water, and financial straits, dull times and lack of orders merely made him blow his nose a little louder, which, in his case was a trump of defiance while he spit on his hands to get a better hold, and he invariably did get a better hold and hung on.

Philip was born September 7, 1838, near Harrisburg, Pa., where he spent his boyhood and was for a time servant boy for Judge Heaster at the capitol. When in his teens his parents moved to Connersville, Ind., where they stayed two years and then moved to Dayton for two or three years and where he finished the molders trade at the foundry of Thompson, McGregor and Callahan.

In 1859 the family came to Sidney and commenced in a small way the manufacture of stoves and in due time farm bells, kettles, lard presses, etc. across the canal when their factory burned. They rebuilt on Main avenue when there were but few houses on the north side of the canal. Hollow ware was also added and the first iron scrapers made in Sidney were fashioned in their shop.

While in Dayton he became acquainted with Miss Anna Silzell and she so lingered in his memory and had such a hold on his heart that he felt that if she did not come to Sidney he would have to go to Dayton. He did go and returned with her as Mrs. Philip Smith in the early sixties and of this union ten children were born, seven of whom are living. Mrs. Smith died in the eighties and on Thanksgiving day in 1885, he married Mrs. Mary M. French, of Champaign county.

Looking over his business career, with its so many ups and downs, pinched financially most of the time requiring all his wits and his indomitable energy to pull through he reminds one of the man who rolled down a hill with his arms around a log and when he got to the bottom cheerfully remarked that the log did not get any the best of him for he was on top half of the time.

His last venture, the formation of the incorporation of the Philip Smith Company of which he is president and which was launched on the sea of marvelous prosperity throughout the country was the best he ever made and put him, figuratively speaking, on easy street with an income far more than ample for life's necessities or luxuries, as he is now uppermost on the log which has quit rolling and his many bruises are permanently healed without leaving so much as a scar. Sidney has no character that has weathered so

many vicissitudes as he. A few years ago he and Mrs. Smith took a pleasurable outing through the far west to the Pacific, a most enjoyable trip, the only one of the kind in his busy career. In politics he has always been a democrat, but did not work at it to hurt much, as he had not time, though he did serve a term or two on the city council.

Mrs. Smith, his second wife, being a pronounced Baptist, and Philip, not having serious, religious convictions nor church going habits, accompanied her to the house of worship, became interested and joined the Baptist church and ever since has been a pillar of strength in the congregation. Such, in brief, is a sketch of the pioneer living manufacturer of Sidney who is now enjoying the fruits of a most industrious life among the scenes of his labor.

NATHAN MOORE. Sometime during the twenty-four hours of January 30, 1823, Nathan Moore, in faint, yet unmistakable tones announced that he had come from the mysterious realm of the unknown to stay in the household of his parents, board and lodge with them without the formality of a previous contract.

Curious as it may seem the expectant was made welcome. His food for a year or more had been prepared and like manna was fresh every morning and warm and ready at all hours.

After some family consultation the good old Biblical name of Nathan was settled upon by which to designate him and he was so registered on the blank leaves between the Old and New testament. This was the custom in those days when the bible comprised about all there was of the family library and which was perused much more than now. Though the account was not inspired, there was nothing apocryphal about it, for that he had appeared was as true as anything between the sacred lids and no one, not even higher criticism, has questioned its authenticity or attempted to give it a theoretical or twisted meaning.

The bibles in those days were big affairs, probably so that the birth page should be ample to record the names, as it was a pioneer custom to endeavor to fill a page, a pocket edition would not serve the purpose. It seemed to be a christian duty to multiply and replenish the earth and there was no shirking of that supposed duty, but that the command meant just what it said.

The advent of Nathan was made in Springfield township, Portage county, now a part of Summit county, in the northeastern part of the state then known as New Connecticut, as the inhabitants of the Nutmeg state spiced the region. Here the sturdy little Buckeye took root and flourished in the native soil for nine years but was uprooted by his parents when they moved to Wood county, and transplanted him there. But the removal probably stunted him some, as the animate Buckeye never grew to a lofty height but it was compensated for by muscles and a frame of iron actuated and directed by a brain of pluck and energy that has characterized him for four score and five years and which has not abated in intensity.

Such capital was necessary in those pioneer days when the rigor of mother

nature had to be subdued. None were born with a gold spoon in their mouth.

Mr. Moore, senior, entered a section of land on which the thriving city of Bowling Green now stands. Transportation was not very direct in any way unless a person footed it or rode on horseback for there were no through lines nor even sides ones. The Ohio canal to Cleveland was in operation for which place they embarked. Lake Erie was there and had been from time immemorial but no regular lines of navigation were in vogue, but they found a sailing smack for Detroit, procured passage and landed there. After a few days delay they took another sailing boat for Perrysburg, the head of navigation, on the Maumee. It was a brisk little place but Toledo had not been thought of outside of Spain. It did not have even a Blade nor a Bee.

Bowling Green being on an undulating sand ridge was selected because it was above high water mark and had a surplus of gnarled scrubby oaks, stubborn to a provoking degree. The outlying prairie, now the garden spot of Ohio, was inhabited by frogs, turtles and such amphibious brutes and was a paradise for mosquitos. The citizens were Indians principally and the Moore family was about the first white people that settled in that section. Neither schoolhouses nor churches dotted the landscape on this outlying post of civilization. There were no idle hands, so Satan did not have to find them employment.

The facilities for book education were few and slim, but Nature's volume lay open and Nathan took delight in reading it, for he found that the very trees had a language and that there were sermons in stones and running brooks. Having a taste for arboreal culture and as trees take kindly and cheerfully respond to intelligent cultivation and are ready to surprise any one with results when they work in accord with the unwritten law which govern them, for the same development is possible in inanimate nature as there is in animal life, including man, he turned his attention to the cultivation of trees, fruit and ornamental and has made nursery business his life work with marked success and is at present, at the ripe age of four score and five years, engaged in raising ornamental trees and shrubs to beautify the lawns and parks of Toledo of which his son, Milton L. is superintendent, and has been for years. Few men in the state are better authority, if as good in the nursery line, as he, with his seventy years of experience with his eyes wide open.

A volume of fiction is dull if there is not a thread of love romance running through it and the actual life of a person who has had no heart throbbing with the tender sentiment is barren of flowers, even though they did not fructify into any thing serious. The environments around Bowling Green, at that early day, were by no means crowded with the softer sex, with the exception of Indian maidens, but Mr. St. John moved into that vicinity with his family with a daughter, Julia, who awakened the tender sentiment in the breast of Nathan and his thoughts were divided between arboreal study and Julia. He was very much in the condition of Adam in the Garden of Eden, it was Eve or nothing. He wanted something to round out his life and so on December

25, 1846, Miss Julia E. St. John, became Mrs. Nathan Moore, and it may be well to casually state right here that if Nathan had had a thousand females from which to make a selection the chances are he would not have got so companionable a help-meet as Julia who walked by his side and adorned his home for almost sixty years, but who left him for permanent rest in Graceland September 25, 1904, her seventy-eighth birthday. She was accustomed in her youth to the privations as well as the sweets of pioneer life and was uncomplaining in their early struggles as she was in the ease and comfort of her closing days.

Eight children, evenly divided, four boys and four girls, were born to gladden their household, Mrs. J. D. Geyer, wife of Dr. Geyer, of Sidney; Mrs. Frank Fruchey, of Marion, Ind.; Ida, who died in Sidney many years ago, little Carrie who died when two years old, Ezra in the nursery business at Toledo; Milton L., superintendent of all the parks in Toledo; Albert, chief teller in the Northern National Bank, and Charles on the free mail delivery force in the same city. All inherited the sturdy industry of their parents and are true to those high moral principles which make valuable citizens, and the world better for their having lived in it. It was and is a family flock with no black sheep in it, as none possessed moral obliquities to pain a parent's heart or cloud their lives with dismal apprehension.

In the early fifties, having become acquainted with Philip Rauth, father of Mrs. Mary Wagner and Mrs. John E. Bush, and who was engaged in the nursery business in Sidney, he was induced to move to this town in 1855 as the Big Four railway was in process of construction and the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton railway was pushing its way northward from Cincinnati to Toledo which had sprung into existence and was sapping the life out of Perysburg and had already given promise of becoming a great commercial city, the emporium of northwestern O. and one of the chain of beautiful cities on the great lakes.

Sidney being at the intersection of these trunk lines of railway, would afford good shipping facilities when finished and this fact, made plain by Mr. Rauth, was an additional incentive to Mr. Moore to pitch his tent in Sidney.

He, with J. C. Coe, bought what was known for years as the nursery farm across the river of John Mills, agent for the Big Four that owned it.

The late George Hemm became a partner and subsequently Mr. Coe sold his interest to William McCullough and the profitable business was continued for many years. Mr. Moore is the only surviving member of the firm. The children of the Moore family were all educated here and the writer of this article had for a time Ezra and Albert for diligent pupils, and hence has a warm spot for them, especially in his heart, and is gratified to know of their marked success and sterling worth.

Nineteen years ago Mr. Moore sold out his business here and moved with his family to Toledo with the exception of Mrs. Geyer and Mrs. Frank Fruchey, and resumed the nursery business in which he is still engaged. Mr. Moore has been a life long republican, not offensive as a partisan, for that is contrary to his nature, but so strong in his political conviction as not to

admit of variableness or shadow of turning. While here he was with Mrs. Moore, a member of the Presbyterian church in this city, and will die in the faith. Such, in brief, is a sketch of his busy life and few can look back over an interval of a career, now verging on a century with fewer misgivings.

MORRIS HONNELL.—Eighty-four years ago, December 3, 1908, Morris Honnell, the third in a family of twelve children enlivened his parents household in Greene county, Pa., where his boyhood was spent until about nine years of age when Mr. and Mrs. Honnell turned towards Ohio with their hopeful in a large wagon, the only means of transportation known in those times between the two states. The progress was not swift but sure and the vehicle not as ease inviting as a Pullman palace car nor did it run nights. It had a commissary department for man and beast. The leisurely gait gave ample time to take in and enjoy the rugged scenery on the way. In fact it often became monotonous rendering a more rapid transit desirable. But that was in the days when heroic patience characterized people and no one was in a hurry as now, consequently nervous diseases were not as fashionable as at present. In due time they reached the pan handle of Virginia, crossed it to Wheeling and half forded and half ferried the Belle Riviere into the Buckeye state and finally brought up in Dingmansburg on the east side of the Miami where they remained for three years.

One night when Morris was nine years old Morris' eyes flew open and was amazed and frightened to see meteors falling like snow flakes, making it as light as day. He aroused the household and Mr. Honnell alarmed the neighborhood. The celestial fire works of meteoric dust was the most awe inspiring panorama he ever beheld and the end of the world was thought to be at hand. Those who had clean robes donned them so as to be as presentable as possible when their wings should be pinned on to meet the angels in the upper air. The woods in the vicinity were all lighted up. The wonderful pageant lasted from 2 o'clock in the morning until daylight and extended all over the United States, the Caribbean islands and Mexico.

The meteors seemed to start from the zenith like sky rockets or Roman candles and shoot in all directions athwart the arch of the sky in all directions to the horizon. While the luminous dust and fire balls with a train of white or blue light descended in a shower they seemed to fall at some distance from the observer and the illusion was as perfect as the ostensible ends of a rainbow.

In the South the superstitious negroes threw themselves upon the ground and rolled in mental agony crying to God for mercy, deeming the judgment day at hand. No meteoric stones were found in this vicinity though they were hunted for. The astounding phenomena has never been accounted for even by the most astute astronomers and scientists. It is said that the shower continued for eight hours but was not noticed by ordinary persons after the sun arose. In any event nothing like this was ever observed before or since of which there is any record.

The Honnell family farmed the old Fielding place for three years and



then moved to the north part of Sidney where they lived for three years more when Mr. Honnell bought 100 acres lying on the Russell pike a mile north-west of Sidney.

In due time a round dozen children made their appearance in the following order: Archibald, Maria, Morris, Eli, William, Jesse, Henry, Catherine, Cynthia, Thomas, Martha and Francis. Mr. Honnell did not clamor for the markets of the world as his home demand was about equal to his supply until the older ones left the parents' nest and partook of the provender from some other table.

Morris did farm work until 1848 when he broke out into the wide, wide world having been hired to take four horses overland to Vermont for Almon Hitchcock who had bought them in this county. This trip was made on horseback at a rate of thirty miles a day, riding one and leading three. It took the biggest part of a month to reach his destination but he delivered the goods all right and after remaining a few days so that he could occupy a chair without sitting straddle he took a packet at Whitehall on the Champlain canal for Albany, and then one on the Erie canal to Buffalo. Here he engaged passage on Lake Erie for Sandusky, then came to Bellefontaine by rail and completed his trip to Sidney on foot as the Big Four railway was an after consideration.

In 1850 he was seized with the California fever which literally took him off to the Golden state, leaving Sidney for St. Jo, Mo., March 26, in company with the late N. R. Wyman, Harvey Guthrie and some others from this city.

At St. Jo an outfit of ox teams, wagons and provisions were procured and daily, for several months, they pursued the sun in its course.

The oveland Californians of 1850 had to undergo trials far worse than the forty miners experienced unless they were in the advance of the immense army of adventurers as the grass along the trail was consumed faster than it grew so that the oxen had to subsist frequently by browsing on the brush. He immediately went to placer mining with fair success, then was employed for a time at seven dollars a day to superintend a gang of miners, and subsequently he ran a saw mill. He remained in the Golden state for four years then returned to this county by the oceans to New York and bought 160 acres in Washington township which he still owns though at one time he had over 200 acres.

He did not farm it long until he realized that a wife was a commodity that a bachelor needed to make a desirable home, and at this dire juncture Miss Martha MacDonough, of Lebanon visited a neighbor in Washington township. He looked upon her visit as a providential event as in his eye she filled the bill, and as his advances were looked upon with favor by her they were married in Lebanon, May 15, 1855, when his successful career commenced and a happy married life set in and continued until about four years ago when she was laid to rest in Graceland, leaving two daughters, the only children that were born to them, Emma, now Mrs. I. N. Woodcox, of Piqua, and Olive, his affectionate stay in his declining years and the light of his beau-

tiful home. Its two and one-half acres have given him healthy employment for the last twenty-one years, furnishing him with the vegetables and fruits of the soil in abundance and to spare, while, at the same time, he has enjoyed the social and church advantages of the city.

Wyandotte chickens lay for him high toned eggs, and are at hand whenever he feels like a pot pie, fry or roast, and grapes and pears in profusion garnish his table, while his early sweet corn has a city distinction which grocerymen are eager to get for the growing demand, and the probability is that corn not grown on his estate, labeled the Honnell corn, is sold to innocent purchasers, for it seems that in its season the supply from his acre is as inexhaustible as the widow's cruse of oil.

Being a whig in politics he had to keep mum on his California trip for the Missourians, of whom there was a large number, persisted that no whig should be allowed in California because of opposition to the Mexican war by which the golden plum fell into the hands of the United States.

Of the twelve children only three are living, Morris, Henry and Thomas, of Brown county, Kansas. In the fifties the Rev. William Honnell was employed at the Kickapoo mission, Kansas, and Henry soon followed to that state and went through the perilous time when overrun by the border ruffians of Missouri which gave the name of Bleeding Kansas, and he knew old John Brown. Thomas did not go there until after he returned from the war. Each got wealthy at cattle raising and the rise in real estate and became prominent citizens. Henry is a large stockholder and director in a bank at Horton of which his son-in-law is president, and Thomas is president of a bank at Everest and has a farm of 640 acres worth \$100 an acre, at one time he had over 2,000 acres.

Francis Honnell went to the army, was taken prisoner and died in Libby prison in the early days of the strife; Eli of Port Jefferson, died within the past year. Morris has voted for sixteen whig and republican candidates for president, commencing with Zachary Taylor and ending with William H. Taft.

If the temperance question has been left to this strong and highly moral family to settle, there would have been no wet and dry agitation in Ohio nor need of the county local option law nor Beal statute. In religion they were of the Presbyterian persuasion without any higher criticism as an appendix.

The eighty-four years which so far have been allotted thus graciously to Mr. Honnell have been the most important and eventful in the world's history, excepting, perhaps, the advent of the christian era. The strides upward in the scientific, the mechanical, the educational, the moral and political world have no approaching precedent. His recollection, which is undimmed by years, as he sits in his easy chair and sees the trolley cars pass and re-pass his door, views the trains on the railway near by, converses with friends at any distance over his telephone engaged his reflective thought and makes him wonder what the twentieth century can possibly bring that is new. The uplift of the people in the different nations, the crumbling of absolute monarchies and the restriction of oppressive despotisms everywhere, the marked ad-

vances of Christianity and the growth of republican and democratic sentiments, the manumission of slaves in this country and the freeing of serfs in Russia and other parts of the earth, all furnish with mental food and is a source of gratitude that he has been permitted to live through such an eventful era and has "crowned his labor with an age of ease."

SAMUEL I. GAMBLE, the subject of this sketch, is among the oldest if not the oldest native born citizen of Sidney. He was a son of Samuel and Mary Gamble and became one of the lights of their household, November 18, 1828. The humble domicile stood on the site of James Crozier's carriage factory on Ohio avenue. At that time all north of North street and south of South street was a forest. The streets were ungraveled, the side walks but little better, and no artificial lights penetrated the gloom of night or annoyed strolling lovers. When Samuel junior was three years old Samuel senior bought 220 acres of land in Salem township for \$5 an acre and which now is comprised in the farms of Joseph P. and John Thomas Staleys farms. When old enough Samuel entered the freshman class in a log school house from which he graduated in due time completing his education in the edifice with the bark on.

In 1846 he went to Sidney to learn the cabinet makers trade of James Irwin, Sr., but in two years left for a clerkship in the store of James and Samuel McCullough on the site of Clemens Amann's drug store. The 1849 gold fever raged worse than ever in 1850 and attacked Samuel, his brother William, his father and sixty-one others. Five persons usually accompanied one wagon. Equipped with a wagon made upon honor by the late Jacob Piper, and a yoke of oxen they started for Cincinnati, March 26, 1850, bought provisions there, good bacon at \$2.50 a hundred pounds, took a boat for St. Joseph, Mo., and arrived there April 12. Mr. Gamble, Sr., took sick on the river and died in two days after reaching St. Joseph, where he was buried. The party stayed there for four weeks waiting for grass to start. Two yoke of steers and a yoke of cows were bought when the long journey was commenced. They knew that the land before them did not abound in milk and honey so the cows were bought and furnished them with lacteal fluid but they did not buy a swarm of bees so had to forego the honey. The California trail, beaten by the immense tide of emigration, was a good road over which they averaged about twenty miles a day. The Indians were very friendly giving them no annoyance, but they saw but few buffalo or game of any kind as they did not take kindly to the stream of civilization across their domain.

They arrived in California, September 11, losing but one out of their teams, a cow while crossing a desert 40 miles wide. It was estimated that 125,000 people crossed the plains in 1850. Oxen stood the tramp better than horses. Samuel and his brother William, followed placer mining with fair success for thirteen months when they sold their claims, which subsequently proved to be very rich and after staying in the Golden state two years they took a sail vessel on the Pacific for Panama, landing at San Juan

and crossed the isthmus where the canal is now being excavated, then took one of Commodore Vanderbilt's sailing vessels for New York, where they arrived just six hours less than a three month's trip and as soon as his sea legs had resumed their normal condition and became land worthy, started for Sidney, finding the burg very much the same as he left it two years before, for the city had not then begun to tear off the moss and stir with growing pains and more modern ideas.

He bought a half interest in the drug store of his brother-in-law, Benjamin Haggott, situated where Dickensheets grocery on Main avenue now is, then moved to the room now occupied by the Elk saloon, in Poplar street. He soon bought out Mr. Haggot and rented one half the room to S. N. Todd for a book store and after nine years in the business sold out to Todd and Vandegrift. Being of horticultural taste, he engaged in fruit and vegetable raising on his little farm northeast of Sidney and followed it for several years, then moved to Sidney to the double lot near Benjamin's D. Handle factory, where he has lived for thirty years and where he indulges in the luxury of small fruits grown in this climate and which he richly enjoys.

In March, 1855, he was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Cunningham on the farm north of Sidney, latterly known as the Joseph Fry farm. Three sons were born, Wallace, now first steward of the insane asylum at Logansport, Indiana; William, now of Sidney; and John, who lately with his wife returned from a home visit to Sitka, Alaska, where he has lived about twenty years. John went there as teacher employed by the Presbyterian church industrial school, but is now engaged in mining in Chickagoff island, forty miles from Sitka.

In 1864 Mr. Gamble enlisted in the army and was at Petersburg, Virginia, during the long bombardment of that city, but escaped unharmed.

Mr. Gamble belonged to the United Presbyterian church here as an active member for forty years and then joined the First Presbyterian church. He has been identified with the Sunday school for more than seventy years and as teacher for fifty years. In politics he has always been a stalwart Republican since the organization, with the outspoken courage of his convictions.

Such, in brief, is a biography of Mr. Gamble, who for eighty-four years has been identified with Sidney and close vicinity as one of its most esteemed citizens.

**JOHN E. BUSH.** In 1849, the California gold fever struck Sidney. It might be termed a species of yellow fever and took off several of the residents of Sidney and vicinity. There is no spot on earth, except it be the north pole, that is now so remote from our city as California was in those days. At the present time a man can go around the world in less time than it took to get a fair start on the tedious journey across the plains, and do it comparatively without peril and in luxurious comfort. The fifty-nine years have been an era of amazing world progress, and to the young generation the story of the adventurers of three score years ago with what the forty-niners

endured and saw sounds like a romance, and yet, instead of being an exaggeration, falls far short of the reality.

The forty-niners' names, like those of the Mexican veterans, are mostly carved on marble or granite in the cemeteries as but few are left to relate their thrilling experience.

The subject of this biographical effusion, John E. Bush, of Orange township, one mile south of Sidney, on Sulphur Heights, is a Pennsylvanian by birth, as the little Bushwhacker put in an appearance in the home of Henry Bush, in Monroe county, September 30, 1828, so he is now four score and four years. The family came to this county near where John now resides in 1838. He had just entered the legal status of a man when the news came that our new possession of California was just sparkling with gold and its streams rippling over auriferous beds. The intelligence was enough to give almost anyone the yellow jaundice and John, being of an adventurous spirit, had it violently. Giving way to the impulse of feathering his nest in that far off region, he, with his brother, Dr. C. W. Bush, and Morris Jackson, got their possessions together, rigged out a schooner on four wheels, canopied for protection, with a propelling force of a team of horses, and set sail, figuratively speaking, for St. Jo, Missouri, April 19, 1849, and arrived there in about four weeks. St. Jo was the outlying point of western civilization where additional supplies were laid in for the long journey, across the plains, the deserts and over the Rockies and Sierras, from time immemorial the undisturbed abode of the Indians, buffaloes, deer, antelopes, wolves, bears, jack rabbits, prairie dogs, and gophers. Bridges over perilous rivers were a commodity and convenience not encountered, so the dangerous streams, many with bottoms of shifting sands, had to be forded, and many were the fatal disasters in the attempt. Twenty miles in a day was deemed rapid progress through dust shoe top deep and those in good condition walked rather than rode, though there was no likelihood of a head end collision as the trains were all moving in the same direction. Even if they had been going in an opposite way the impact of a collision would not have been serious when the velocity was not over two miles an hour, and rarely that. The jolt would have been a good deal like rolling off a sheet onto the floor. Water being scarce, the weather hot, and the dust thick, the weary travelers were some distance from godliness, if cleanliness is next to it. If the pores were closed at night they opened the next day with exuding sweat. The panorama did not change rapidly at the rate they were going so the journey would have been a trifle monotonous if some episode did not happen almost daily to relieve it. Buffaloes by the thousands and hundreds of thousands were seen and one night their horses, which were turned out to graze around the camp, were seized with the idea that they would enjoy the freedom of the plains better than pulling a wagon, even though in good society, so they took after the buffaloes and were never recovered. John started after them and pursued them for about eight miles. Almost famished with thirst a little lake of about twelve acres came into view but when he got to the banks he found the buffalo and other animals

had converted it into a pool of filth and he could not drink a mouthful. He managed to get back to camp in a most distressed condition but the recollection of that day's experience may dissuade him from voting dry when the question comes up.

At Salt Lake they paused for a while but not long, as Prophet Brigham Young had preached a sermon in which he counseled the saints to not furnish any eatables or other necessities to the weary, worn visitors for love or money. Not all the wives of the much married Mormons were happy, as the party was implored by two or three females to take them along to California, a request that could not be granted. Before they got to their destination their food supplies gave out and with starvation staring them in the face John fortunately shot a duck and a hawk with a squirrel in its talons. These gave them a lease of life and John devoured the squirrel. The duck and hawk were parceled out among the others. In September the Sacramento valley in all its native loveliness was seen from the mountain summit, and Canaan could not have looked more entrancing to the manna surfeited Israelites than did this valley to them. Their money was running low and as flour was over a dollar a pound and other necessities on the top shelf the emergency to "hurry up" and stir themselves was strenuous. A cradle for rocking the auriferous sands was quickly constructed from the wagon bed and operations were commenced on Feather river with reasonable success from the start, but living was so high that their surplus or sinking fund did not accumulate to the full measure of their hopes. Placer mining was followed by Mr. Bush for four years and then a vessel was taken at San Francisco for the Isthmus of Darien, which he crossed, sailed for New York and then he set his face for Ohio. His brother, Dr. Bush, remained and eventually settled in Los Angeles, where, with the practice of his profession and real estate deals in that thriving city, he accumulated a fortune, which he enjoyed singly, as he never married and died there two or three years ago. Of all the forty-niners that went from this section Mr. Bush and Mr. Jacob Shanly are the only living. Returning to the home farm on Sulphur Heights he dwelt in fancy free as a bachelor until September 17, 1863, he joined fortunes with Miss Christiana Rauth and ever since the old homestead and the adjoining acres in the delightful spot on the pike where he now lives has been his residing place. A family of eight children were born in their household, six of whom are living: Charles, John, Will and Fred, of Sidney, and George and Bertha at home with their parents. Edward died in a hospital in California several years ago at the age of twenty-six years, and Maud two or three years since at home, aged eighteen.

Mr. Bush has crossed the continent to California nine times, but the first in his Pullman palace car propelled by oxen with no extra charge for a sleeping berth left a taste in his mouth which the others have not supplanted and a spot in his memory more vivid than all the other trips combined. Being a natural Nimrod there are but few animals native to this country that have not succumbed to his unerring rifle. As a taxidermist he is an expert, and having a taste for curiosities, relics and rare specimens, his home is a museum

not equaled outside the cities in the state, for he has gathered them from New Brunswick to the Pacific.

Last Sunday I accepted an invitation, without urging, to take dinner at the Bush residence and a little after 11 o'clock John, Jr., was at the front door with his Reo automobile which whisked us to the homestead in ten minutes, where I was greeted by the veteran, wife and family. Dinner was soon announced, for outside the corporation sun time is in vogue, which puts the country folks about half an hour ahead of the urban population. After dinner a look was taken at three wild geese in an enclosure that have one wing clipped to prevent them from joining a flock should it happen to fly over the farm in its migration. Two wild ducks with a brood of sixteen, a day old, were sporting in a little artificial pond. The little balls of animated feathers do not have to go through a training process to teach them to swim, but perform with all the grace of connoisseurs from the very start. John, being somewhat of a crude artist, painted on the white barn, in jet black, some alleged bears, deer and other wild animals and his son, Will, said that when the horses first got a glimpse of these caricatures it was with difficulty they could be got near the barn, but eventually their timidity was overcome, for a horse can get used to almost anything however frightful. Returning to the house I was taken through the apartments and made a note of some of the specimens. In the sitting room a huge moose head, nine inches across the nose, and with fan-like antlers, looked down from the wall. Mr. Bush and son, Fred, killed the animal on the north shore of Lake Superior a few years ago. The animal was six feet and six inches high and weighed about 1,200 pounds; the horns have twenty-two points. To the left was a magnificent pair of elk horns of twelve points, five feet and seven inches high with four feet spread, a fine deer head and another of one killed in Minnesota. A center table with legs of three elk horns, another center table, three stories high, with moose and deer feet, a sideboard, hat rack with a split fawn head and hooks of deer feet, a Columbus chair made by Mr. Bush, who is handy with carpenter's tools, from sixty pieces of hickory and covered with the skin of a bear he killed in Wisconsin. In the hall is another hat rack with deer feet hooks, a score or so of beautiful canes and a badger skin.

In the parlor is a diamond willow stand, the material of which he got on the upper Missouri, a stool with deer feet and elk horns for railing, corner parlor chair which Mr. Bush fashioned from hickory and ash, a much prized photograph of eight deer suspended and killed in Maine with the hunters standing near, Joseph and Jess Laughlin, James Wilson, William Kingseed, Frank Brewer and Mr. Bush. Four of the deer he killed. There is also a photograph of two wild turkeys and one of himself taken in California in 1853. Barbers being a scarce article there his black hair covered his shoulders and a fringe of whiskers gave him the solemn look of a Dunkard preacher. From the parlor we went up stairs to a large front room devoted entirely to specimens and relics which are there by the thousands, collected in different parts of the country, to which are added countless queer and beautiful shells gathered by Mrs. Bush and daughter, Bertha, on the shore of the Pacific.

Gold bearing quartz, curious stones, many of beautiful moss agate with vegetable sprigs visible in the translucent stones, onyx, chalcedony, etc., in almost endless variety, condor quills, the head of a black wolf killed by William Kingseed, twenty-seven birds, many of the duck family, and a wild goose, a wild turkey, a cormorant, a bald eagle, blue winged heron, road runner, Jack rabbit, a porcupine which Mr. Bush killed in Wisconsin with a club, a bass, caught by him in the Lewistown reservoir with Joseph Laughlin managing the boat. This bass weighed eight and one-half pounds when caught, the head of a wolf killed by George Linder in Wisconsin, thirteen deer heads on the walls, two of which got their horns locked while fighting and were found dead in South Dakota, three pair of buffalo horns and a host of other curiosities fairly bewildering in number. When in California he was attacked in the mountains by a grizzly she bear that had cubs. From the fierce indications he thought that this Bush better aspire to a tree and ascended one as rapidly as possible and so did the bear to the same one and caught his hind leg near the calf, making four holes in his boot leg. Both fell to the ground, when the bear ran to her cubs, and he, to avoid any disagreeable encounter, went somewhat hurriedly in an opposite direction, which was a prudent movement, for she returned with malicious intent but he avoided the rush by starting early. He cut off the boot leg and has it among his collection with the autograph or mark of the bear. Mr. Bush has killed over 200 deer, a moose, four bears, ducks and geese without number, and does not have to draw on his imagination for fish stories. In politics he is a Democrat though a great admirer of President Roosevelt, has served two terms as county commissioner but enjoys a deer hunters' picnic better than a political convention and prefers an outing with his gun or fish pole to a sojourn at a summer resort. In shooting contests he rarely returns without winning a prize. His philosophy in life is to enjoy the passing moment and not depend too much on an uncertain future, subscribing without mental reservation to the saying that one bird in the hand is worth two in the Bush.

Mr. Bush has been honored by his party in being elected infirmary director, serving nine years, and in 1881 was elected county commissioner for three years and re-elected in 1884, but is in no sense an offensive partisan. The blankets, the knives, hatchets, etc., he has won in shooting contests at the deer hunters' picnics would give each of his children a good setting out in articles of that line, and still have enough for himself and his wife. No other marksman of his age in this region has much show when he draws a bead on the target and the younger ones find in him a stubborn competitor.

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P. S. One of the bears shot by Mr. Bush was a grizzly, killed in the California mountains, near Eureka lake. Another episode in his career was a fight with the Indians. They had rifled a camp and he with three others attacked about thirty braves and squaws as they were eating breakfast and put them to flight. John's gun was a flint lock. All the heads of the deer, twenty-five in number, and other specimens, were preserved and mounted by him and sons, John and George, who were expert taxidermists. At Fort Arthur



all the hotels have saloons and there are many others also which are well patronized by whole-souled fellows, but he did not hear an oath. They were two days and nights crossing the American desert without water and many were so exhausted that they had to be loaded into wagons and their tongues were so swollen they could not talk, but their lives were saved by administering much reviled whiskey, thus showing that it is a good thing on a desert. The nights were gorgeous with volcanic fireworks, which, in the distance, roared and illumined the sky and many of the springs were so hot anything could be cooked in the water.

A. B. C. H., 1908.

JOHN BLAKELEY—It is said that nothing will polish a person and give him a careless and cosmopolitan air like travel. Observing that my wonted luster was growing dim and gaping curiosity, that unfailling indication of rustic simplicity, was getting the better of me, I resolved to take a day off or a day out and rub up against the wicked world, thus becoming a tourist at large, with the best of intentions.

In accordance with this rash resolution and being sleepless over the prospect, the couch of repose was abandoned earlier than usual, an affectionate good-bye hurled at family and friends Monday morning, the trolley station sought for a ticket to Botkins, twelve miles distant toward the polar star that is always in its place and around which Ursa Major, with his celestial dipper, has been circling for ages.

The day was beautiful and although the Monday before was resonant with the jingling of sleigh bells and the merry laugh of children, youths and maidens crowded into slipping vehicles or hanging to cutters, every vestige of the beautiful had disappeared and the strident honk of the automobile was heard, one of the most sudden changes in this capricious climate.

This ascent to the classic suburb of Jintown or Bennettville was soon reached and a little more power was applied as if the car was eager to get out of sight of this burg nodule which has come to stay and can not be avoided even if so desired on a northern trip.

What a change has been wrought in the country within the last thirty or forty years around Sidney. The almost impassable mud and corduroy roads with their adhesive or jolting horrors have been supplanted by hundreds of miles of graded and graveled free pikes, furnishing drainage outlets and annihilating distance when compared with what used to be. Dense native forests have been cleared and unobstructed vistas miles in length opened through the rich level country dotted here and there with pretty farm houses and barns environed by clustering orchards.

The butting in of an era of prosperity years ago and its continuance with no prospect of abatement put farmers on Easy street, doubled the value of their real estate, fattened their bank accounts so that they are beginning to know the luxury of living rather than merely existing. With taste thus elevated and becoming alive to the possibilities which can be achieved by intelligently working with Mother Nature, what Shelby county will be in half a century more is a picture that can hardly be overdrawn.

The trolley line does not invade nor disturb Swanders and one might go by without knowing it, so unpretentious is it, but Anna, split into two precincts and about evenly balanced by the boundary line between Franklin and Dinsmore townships, has, in round numbers, about one thousand people, good, bad and indifferent, with a large preponderance of the good, as it is a Lutheran stronghold and their magnificent new church edifice close to the track challenges admiration for its artistic beauty and the up-to-date homes erected largely by rich, retired farmers, who have clustered there for social, intellectual and religious privileges. But I started for Botkins and will reserve Anna for future reference. Remembering Botkins, graced by the rather plebeian name of Stringtown forty years ago, I turned up my trousers and wore rubbers, for at that time it did not take more than a heavy dew to convert its rich, undrained soil into a mortar bed where, Mrs. Gutman said, her horse got stalled in the street, though she and a box of dog leg tobacco were the only freight in the buggy bound for Fryburg. The foot gear precaution based on ancient experience was entirely unnecessary as the graded streets were comparatively dry and the long lines of concrete pavement were white and clean as a new pin. Being Monday, when wash tub wrestling engages the attention of rural households and which was an ideal day for drying purified linen, there was not much business bustle in the growing village, giving a pedestrian plenty of elbow room, and the first familiar face which dawned on my optics was that of Adam Blakeley, a friend in good and regular standing for many years.

Adam, though a stalwart Republican in a strong Democratic town, is no mere figure head, as he has been mayor and was only defeated the last time by one vote by Thomas Kennedy; is postmaster and editor and proprietor of the Botkins Herald, a luminary which sheds light in the community, suggests improvements, records the happenings and molds public opinion.

As the objective point on this trip was to interview John Blakeley, his father, a pioneer veteran of eighty-four years, we together walked to the home of this retired farmer and as good luck would have it there sat Lorenzo Elliott, a relative and veteran pioneer but a few months Mr. Blakeley's junior and walked from his home two and a half miles distant to make a morning visit. He is wonderfully well preserved, while Mr. Blakeley is physically infirm, using two canes to support his bowed form, but mentally clear, is an omnivorous reader with a fund of reminiscence and a voluble tongue that enjoys a rehearsal of past events.

He was born in Franklin county, July 11, 1825, and came to Shelby county with his parents when three years old, where he has since lived. July 1, 1852, he married Miss Elizabeth Elliott, the fifteenth child of Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Elliott, and became the father of eight children, of whom Adam, Mary and Margaret, now Mrs. Charles F. Snyder, of near Oran, survive.

By industry, economy and judicious investments he became a large land owner but becoming somewhat weary of rural cares he moved to Botkins in May, 1883, a few days after the big snow storm. Not having a sportsman's taste he has but few bear, wolf and deer stories to tell in which he figured, as

he never killed but one deer, but he is rich in turkey and squirrel tales and once in his life he shot into a flock of turkeys with his rifle, the ball passing through the head of one and the body of another, one of those chance shots which even a novice might execute, like killing two birds with one stone. He never got tainted with the miasma of Democracy prevalent in that section, so that sin is not on record against him, and he is a Methodist with a clean title and faith that strengthens with years.

Lorenzo Elliott was born in Licking county in 1826 and came to Dinsmore township in 1835, married Miss Mary Bolin for his first wife and Mrs. Chamberlain, born in England in 1831, for his second wife, and who is still his helpmeet. He has plowed the land on which Botkins now stands and cradled wheat from its acres. He also laid a mile of ties on the C. H. & D. railway. The station was named after Richard Botkin, who graded three miles of the railway but never lived to see a train on the road.

Like Mr. Blakeley Mr. Elliott was not much of a Nimrod, as he despatched but one deer but he has scared as many as twenty at one time from the corn field lest there would be no provender left for the family. Mr. Blakeley related a hog sale he once made to William Marshall, of Hardin, soon after the war which overtops all accounts of recent transactions. He sold him seven Chester Whites that weighed 3,006 pounds at nine cents gross, and drove them to Anna, realizing \$270.54.

The fact that Botkins gave 124 wet votes to 24 dry brings a blush to Mr. Blakeley's cheeks and provokes stinging censure from the gray haired veteran and that they have just as many saloons as churches, three each, is a thorn in his side and the breaking up of a temperance meeting by a bombardment of eggs last fall rouses his indignation every time it comes to his mind, which is several times a day. It was a shame, especially at the high price of eggs.

As soon as I arrived I looked for the historic house of twelve gables built by James Niemann, but learned that a few years ago it fell into the hands of W. C. Zanglein and the enterprising merchant, not thinking it worth preserving any longer as a curiosity, razed it to the earth and erected his fine three story brick department store 42 feet by 90, which is crowded from basement to roof with a limitless store of articles, including groceries.

Botkins now has three dry goods and one furniture store, two warehouses, new bakery, four blacksmith shops, a large implement house now being erected by Mayor Kennedy which will be roofed this week, and a large factory employing seventy-five men owned by the Sheets brothers, and a bank. These brothers now own and operate nine warehouses at different points and by the means of the telephone do all their office work in Botkins. Frank Gutman, who has spent his forty-five years or more, his entire life, in Botkins, succeeding his father in the store close to the C. H. & D. track, has bought 3,000 bushels of clover seed so far this season. The Catholics are strong here and maintain a parochial school.

Botkins draws trade from a large section of the rich farming country and the freight and express business at the station is very large. Frank Hemmert, the genial station agent who learned telegraphy thirty-five years ago in the

office and has been the trusted agent for thirty-three years, said the creamery at the thriving village of New Knoxville ships 4,000 pounds of butter a week from the station to Cincinnati and says it is worth one's while to visit that place and see their dairies, where the cows are kept and cared for with Holland-like neatness and gentleness. It is the garden spot of Auglaize county. One thousand gallons of cream now, and two thousand in summer, are shipped to Dayton monthly from the creamery owned by the Dayton Pure Milk & Butter Company at the edge of town. Farmers take their fresh milk to the creamery, where the unctuous richness is separated by the centrifugal process and the impoverished milk taken back home. A large amount of poultry comes to an untimely end here and they have eggs to throw at the birds—and others. That unaccountable and mysterious milk sickness used to prevail alarmingly here, destroying human lives and whole herds of cattle but nothing has been heard of it for years. Some claim that the virus in the poisonous weed has been switched into the Democratic party, but for one I do not believe it, as no fatalities have occurred, though strange actions are sometimes obvious up there.

It might look as if there was a methodical design in my making the call so near noon, and perhaps there was, but then there is no place where the tongue wags with such freedom as around a dinner table. The layout indicated that though it was Monday, they were fully prepared for distinguished company. Gray seemed to be fashionable color with one exception around the board and we did our duty with veteran courage and fidelity. Bidding my old friends good-bye I strolled quietly around as though I were running a gum shoe campaign until the sun-down trolley car arrived and reached Sidney when the light of the new moon began to shimmer.

**ISAAC HARSHBARGER.** Our esteemed townsman, Isaac Harshbarger, now somewhat bowed with the burden of more than four score of years, was born in Montgomery county, not far from Dayton, in 1825 and has been a resident of Salem township and Sidney for seventy-five years. He was the oldest of ten children in the family of Mr. and Mrs. Jonas Harshbarger, the former of whom was born in the year 1800 in Rockingham county, Virginia, the latter in Franklin county, Pennsylvania. In 1838 the family left Montgomery county and after three days of continuous travel settled on a farm of 100 acres, three miles northeast of Sidney, which he had purchased in Salem township, and which is now owned by the Oliver C. Staley heirs. There were no bridges north of Piqua and the streams had to be forded. Of course most of the land was a virgin forest. Tillable farms had to be reclaimed from the shadows and Isaac did what he could to let the sunlight in. At the age of sixteen he was apprenticed to learn the tailor's trade, at which he worked in Port Jefferson and Sidney for forty years.

Port Jefferson became a booming village and after the canal was finished, being at the head of navigation, had a most brilliant prospect. Gerard and Thomas bought on the site 160 acres and laid out about 120 in streets and lots; a man by the name of Jackson laid out twenty acres and Mr. Wright

thirty acres, which he called North Salem. Three long streets running east and west were made and buildings constructed rapidly. In fact the future for Port Jefferson looked so propitious that the late Samuel Rice, who went on horseback from Buffalo to Chicago to make an investment, concluded that Port Jefferson had a brighter look and made a purchase there in preference to the Windy City, now the metropolis of the West.

Soon after the canal was done, five warehouses were in operation, cooper and stave shops employed at least 150 men, there was one grist mill, two **asheries** for the manufacture of potash, where seven cents a bushel were paid for ashes, which was no inconsiderable revenue to the farmers as forests were burned in clearing the land. There were five stores, the father of Lot Ogden being among the first who came from Chambersburg, near Dayton, with a \$400 stock and eventually accumulated \$50,000 or more. Mr. Cromer did about the same and moved back to Dayton, and Mr. Thirkield and Mr. Thompson also had general stores. The trade at this little giant of a town was immense, reaching far to the north and east. Streets were thronged whenever the roads would permit. Previous to this grain had to be hauled to Sandusky on the lake, so that the scope of country tributary in a business was far reaching.

Two large hotels were built, at one of which Mr. Harshbarger boarded two years at \$1.25 a week and it makes his mouth water to think of the excellent fare provided at about six cents a meal with lodging thrown in.

Peaches and berries were abundant and could be had for the gathering, game fairly swarmed in the woods and numerous birds snapped up the codling moths, so the luscious apples were not bored and preempted at the center with a vermiform appendix.

The bugs and flies with which the present generation has to contend had not rallied their warring forces, so living was cheap, and well that it was, as even shin plasters, which were current, did not lie around loose.

Mr. Harshbarger says that there was more and finer poplar in the forests of Shelby county at that time than in any other county in the state, with abundance of walnut, both of which are now so valuable, but they were ruthlessly cut or destroyed.

There were three sawmills in the vicinity and as there was plenty of snow in the winter of 1847, the sawmills were crowded with poplar logs from three feet to five feet in diameter.

In January a thaw and rain set in, the water rose to an almost unprecedented height and swept them away. He says he saw logs that would cover ten acres float down the Miami.

In the campaign of 1840 the whigs got together one day and cut the monarch poplar on the south side of the river, which was over six feet in diameter and sixty feet to the first branch. The mammoth log was converted into a canoe in which four or five could sit side by side. This was drawn to Dayton and sold to a party in Hamilton and was used in the "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" stirring campaign.

Two or three canal boats were built in Port Jefferson when the canal

got in operation and the now lonesome feeder of the Miami and Erie canal was a busy throughfare for packets and freight boats but the notes of the horn of the captain have been superseded by the steam whistle of the railway engine. A dry-dock for the repair of boats was constructed at the basin near Philip Smith's foundry.

As soon as the Big Four and C. H. & D. railways intersected at Sidney, a cloud came over the business sky of Port Jefferson which has never lifted and the golden prospect of this pretty spot, still beautiful in its decay, went glimmering and Sidney commenced to boom into consequential importance, sapping the very life blood of Port Jefferson, until today there are not as many inhabitants as there were voters in 1847.

Mr. Harshbarger was a life-long democrat and held local offices in Port Jefferson for many years. In 1853 he was elected coroner of the county and with Dr. Park Beeman and Dr. Albert Nelson was present at the inquest on the body of the murdered Artis girl. It was held in February with the snow fifteen inches deep on the ground. He was present at the hanging of Artis a year later in the county jail and was deputized to help Sheriff J. C. Dryden. The African fought so hard when they started from his cell that he had to be choked and knocked into insensibility before they could adjust the noose. He was four years United States marshal for the counties of Shelby, Auglaize and Mercer under Gen. Andrew Hickenlooper, and in 1868 was elected sheriff of Shelby county, serving six years.

He married Miss Joanna Staley, who was a schoolmate of his boyhood, and seven children were born in their household, four of whom are living. Mr. Harshbarger bought the old home farm of 100 acres where he lived for many years but since 1902 he has been living with his daughter, Miss Verdy Harshbarger.





J. EDWARD RUSSELL



# Representative Citizens

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HON. J. EDWARD RUSSELL, a leading member of the Sidney bar, with offices in the Woodward building, Sidney, is one of the representative men of Shelby county and for sixteen years has given attention to the numerous duties connected with his office as secretary of the Shelby County Fair Board. Mr. Russell, like many of his professional brethren, was born on a farm, August 9, 1866, his parents living then in Turtle Creek township, Shelby county, four miles from Sidney. He is a son of William and Laura (Beck) Russell.

William Russell was also a native of Shelby county and was born on a farm in Clinton township, two and one-half miles northwest of Sidney, a son of Joshua Russell, who was a pioneer in that section. Mr. Russell for a number of years was an extensive farmer and stock raiser but is now practically retired and lives on a small farm not far from Sidney.

J. Edward Russell attended the public schools of Turtle Creek township and afterward the Sidney schools and after graduating from the Sidney high school in 1888, engaged in teaching and taught three terms in the district schools, in the meanwhile applying all his leisure time to acquiring knowledge of the principles of law. He then entered the law offices of George Marshall, with whom he pursued his law studies until he finished the course, and in 1893 was admitted to the bar and immediately opened his office at Sidney. He served two terms as city solicitor and has been a member of the school board for one term. In his practice of law he covers all branches and has been identified with many cases of state-wide interest. In republican politics he has been unusually prominent and in 1904 and again in 1906, was elected to the state senate, and while at Columbus won still further the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens. Mr. Russell has additional interests and is a member of the board of directors of the First National Exchange Bank and also of the Peoples Savings and Loan Association.

Senator Russell was married at Sidney, O., to Miss Jennie Laughlin, who died August 29, 1910, survived by one daughter, Carrie. He is a member of the Presbyterian church. In his fraternal relations he is a Mason and a Knight of Pythias, and belongs also to some professional societies and social organizations. He is distinctly one of Sidney's foremost men.

WILBER E. KILBORN, one of the representative and substantial business men of Sidney, O., treasurer and general manager of the American Steel

Scraper Company, an important enterprise of this city, was born near Benson, Vt., a son of Edson S. and Martha J. (Wright) Kilborn.

The parents of Mr. Kilborn came to Shelby county when the latter was eight years old, and later moved to a farm west of Lincoln, Neb. The father engaged in farming and there both parents died and three children survive: Wilber E.; Mrs. Lydia Funk, residing at Milford, Neb.; and Henry S., a farmer in Hamilton county, Neb.

Wilber E. Kilborn attended the public schools at Sidney, and afterward, for several years, taught school. In 1875 he became cashier of the Citizens Bank and continued until 1881, when he left in order to become manager of the American Steel Scraper Company, of Sidney, and ever since has remained interested in the same business way, a reliable, honorable, conservative factor in the city's life.

Mr. Kilborn married Miss Anna Hendershott, a daughter of George W. Hendershott, an old resident of Sidney, and they have two surviving children: Helen M., who is the wife of Joseph Hagan, of Toledo, O.; and Ruth, who is a student at Smith College, Northampton, Mass. Mr. Kilborn and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In his political views he is a republican, and he is an active member of the Commercial Club. In 1912 he erected his handsome residence on North Ohio avenue.

W. J. SHERMAN, who is assistant cashier of the Loramie Banking Company, at Fort Loramie, and a member of its board of directors, belongs to one of the old and substantial families of this section, one that has had much to do with the development of Shelby county. He was born at Fort Loramie, on the west side of the Miami canal, May 3, 1869, and is a son of W. J. and Mary (Hummer) Sherman.

W. J. Sherman was born in Germany and was four years old when his father, William Sherman, brought him to the United States, in 1836, and settled in Shelby county. A thrifty, enterprising and broad-minded man, William Sherman became a leader in many of the early movements in this section and through his efforts a schoolhouse was erected on his farm and the special school district as well as the fine turnpike road afterward constructed, bears the Sherman name. W. J. Sherman received his primary education in the above district but completed his education at Cincinnati, O., and afterward taught school for some years and subsequently was made county surveyor of Shelby county, acceptably filling that important office for twelve continuous years. After his marriage he settled in McLean township and became interested in the lumber and stave manufacturing business and in this connection acquired some 1,000 acres of land lying in Patterson township, in Darke county and in McLean and Cynthian townships in Shelby county. He was also engaged as a dry goods merchant at Fort Loramie, being the senior member of the general mercantile firm of Sherman & Pilliod. His death occurred at the age of sixty-five years and his loss was felt in many circles. He was a faithful member of St. Michael's Catholic church and he and wife carefully reared their children in this faith. As a leading democrat in his section he was frequently honored by his party with election to public office and he

many times served as township trustee and in other capacities. He married Mary Hummer, a daughter of Peter Hummer, then of Cynthian township, and three sons and five daughters were born to them, namely: Johannah, who is the wife of Bernard Borger of McLean township; Magdalene, who is the wife of Anthony Brandewie, of Clinton township; Mary, who is the wife of John Borger, of Fort Loramie; Peter, who is a resident of Sidney; Catherine, who is the wife of J. B. Trimpe, of Sidney; Clara, who is the widow of Henry Pilliod, of Toledo, O.; W. J.; and Charles, who died when aged twenty-three years. The mother of the above family survived to the age of seventy-two years.

W. J. Sherman, who bears his late father's name, attended school in boyhood in the Berlin special school district and afterward was a student at St. Mary's Institute, Dayton, O. He then gave his father assistance on the home farm until he was twenty-one years of age when he turned his attention to the livestock business and for seven years was a large shipper of stock from this section. Since the organization of the Loramie Banking Company he has been on its directing board and one of its officials, and was one of the promoters of the Minster-Lorain Railway, and is secretary of the company. Since his marriage he has resided in McLean township and is interested there in 200 acres of land, divided into two well-improved farms.

On November 25, 1896, Mr. Sherman was married to Miss Frances Schemnecker, who was born in Kentucky and is a daughter of Frank and Ida Schmecker, who were then residents of Minster, O. To Mr. and Mrs. Sherman the following children have been born: Frank, William, Victoria, Mary, James, Beatrice and Helen. The family belongs to St. Michael's Catholic church and are interested and active in many of its avenues of benevolence and pleasant social organizations. Mr. Sherman is a strong democrat, along old Jeffersonian lines, and his influence in his party is marked. As a citizen he is held in exceeding high esteem, serving for years as a member of the city council of Fort Loramie and for seven years was elected mayor, his wise management of municipal affairs during this long period, bringing about much prosperity.

JOHN J. SHERMAN, president of the board of county commissioners of Shelby county, O., and one of the county's most substantial citizens, belongs to one of the old pioneer families of this section. He was born in McLean township, October 2, 1848, and is a son of Henry B. and Catherine (Ernst) Sherman.

William Sherman, the grandfather of John J. Sherman, came to the United States from Prussia, settled in Ohio and in 1833 entered land from the government in McLean township, Shelby county. Henry B. Sherman, son of William Sherman and father of John J., was fifteen years of age when he came to Shelby county and here became a well-known man. For twenty-eight years he taught school acceptably, although he was largely self taught. He also engaged in farming and took an intelligent interest in public matters and, in fact, became a representative man in McLean township, where his death took place in 1904, when he was aged eighty-six years. He married

Catherine Ernst, who was born in Hanover, Germany, and came to Shelby county in girlhood, spent her subsequent life here and died in 1909, in her eighty-second year.

John J. Sherman assisted his father on the home farm and attended the local schools. Farming has been his main occupation and since 1871 he has resided on his present farm in McLean township. He owns two other farms in the county, one in Turtle Creek township and the other in Cynthian township, all three aggregating 300 acres in Shelby county, while he also has forty acres of valuable land in Mexico, which he occasionally visits. Mr. Sherman is a man of excellent business judgment and this quality makes him a very useful public official. Politically a democrat, many public offices were tendered him before he consented to serve as a county commissioner. He first assumed the important duties of the same in September, 1909, and is serving in his second term and has been further honored by being elected president of this body.

In 1871, Mr. Sherman was married to Miss Lena Pelster, who was born in Germany, a daughter of the late Henry J. Pelster, who was formerly a well-known farmer here. To Mr. and Mrs. Sherman the following children have been born: Katherine, who is the wife of Frank Tahman; Henry, who is a bookkeeper in a business house at Dayton, is a well-educated young man who formerly taught school in this township; Anthony, who assists his father in carrying on the activities of the home farm; Louis, who is a farmer in Cynthian township; and Mary, Frances, William and Leo. Mr. Sherman and family belong to the Catholic church.

THOMAS WHEATON, who is a highly respected citizen and retired farmer of Shelby county, O., has been a resident of Sidney since December, 1911, when he removed from his fine farm of 160 acres, which is situated in Orange township. He was born on a farm in Montgomery county, O., September 14, 1854, and is a son of William and Jane (Williams) Wheaton.

William Wheaton, with his wife and son, moved from Montgomery county to Miami county, when the latter was two years old. Mr. Wheaton at that time had little capital and the family home was a log cabin near Lena, but he was an industrious and thrifty man and gradually accumulated substance until he owned two farms and also became interested in a grain business at Lena. He got to dickering in the board of trade and lost heavily. His death occurred in advanced age, a well-known and respected man.

Thomas Wheaton was mainly reared near Lena, O., attended school in that vicinity and remained on the home farm working for his father until he was twenty-seven years of age. After marriage he rented a farm for eight years, in Miami county, and then bought 120 acres in Orange township, Shelby county, to which he later added forty acres in the spring of 1911. Several years after taking up his residence on his farm his house was destroyed by fire and after rebuilding he also replaced the barn and gradually all the other structures and now its improvements equal those on any other place in the township. He carried on the usual farm activities until he retired, since when his son has been in charge. Mr. Wheaton purchased his hand-

some residence at No. 710 South Ohio street, Sidney, in 1911, where he and wife live in great comfort.

Mr. Wheaton married Miss Ida Garbry, a daughter of James and Mary Catherine Garbry, of Shelby county, and they have three children and one grandchild: Ora, who is engaged in business at Dayton, O.; Lucy, who is the wife of James Wiley, of Orange township, and they have one son, Darwin; and Albert, who ably carries on the farm industries for his father. He married Iona Redinbo. Mr. Wheaton and sons are identified with the democratic party. Although never anxious for public office, Mr. Wheaton is a conscientious citizen and proved his value to his fellow citizens during three years of service as trustee of Orange township. He has been an Odd Fellow for many years, still preserving his interest in the principles and object of this fraternal organization.

MRS. ELIZABETH PAUWELLS, one of the best-known and most highly esteemed owners of property in McLean township, resides in section 2, where she has 109 acres of both cultivated and pasture land. She was born in the State of New York, May 12, 1842, and is a daughter of John and Mary Louisa (Wesling) Stern.

The parents of Mrs. Pauwells were natives of Germany and after coming to the United States they lived for about six years in New York and then moved to Auglaize county, O. There the father followed his trade of stone cutter and also engaged in farming, his death occurring at Minster when aged about fifty years. His wife survived to be sixty-three years of age. They were members of the Catholic church and in that faith they reared their eight children, four of whom survive, but Mrs. Pauwells is the only one living in Shelby county. She was five years old when her parents settled at Minster and there she was reared and attended school. She then married Ezabaus Pauwells, generally known as Isaac Pauwells. He was born and reared in Holland and in his own land learned the baking trade. When twenty-one years of age he came to America and in the course of time made his home at Minster, O. Following his marriage he settled on the farm in McLean township which now belongs to his widow, working for twenty-five years for the firm of Coons & White, who owned a sawmill at Dayton. He then bought this farm and spent the rest of his life here, making many improvements, draining and tiling all the land that could be cultivated and putting up the buildings that are now in use. The eastern boundary of the farm is the Loramie reservoir and Loramie creek extends through the land, and thus thirty acres, on account of overflow, is given up to pasturage. During the fishing season the farm has many visitors and preparations are always made for the annual influx, and comfortable accommodations are provided for fishing parties and stabling is given the teams. Boats and fishing tackle are kept for hire. For fifty years this has been a favorite rendezvous for the disciples of Isaac Walton. Mr. Pauwells was a genial host and was very highly considered by all who knew him. His death occurred July 6, 1903, at the age of seventy-four years and his burial was at Minster, O. He was a faithful member of St. Augusta Catholic church.

To Mr. and Mrs. Pauwells the following children were born: Mary Louisa, who died when aged nineteen months; John Ezabaus, who died unmarried when aged forty-nine years; Bernard, who lives in Jackson township, Auglaize county; Annie, who is the wife of Benjamin Lampert, lives at Minster; Margaret, who is the wife of Henry Hollit, of Minster; August, who died at the age of nine months; Catherine, who died when aged eleven months; Julius, who operates the home farm for his mother; and Caroline, who lived but six weeks. Mrs. Pauwells and children are members of the Catholic church.

HON. R. D. CURTNER, mayor of Anna, O., and also serving as deputy county treasurer of Shelby county, is one of the leading men of this section, prominent both in business and in politics. He was born at Port Jefferson, in Salem township, Shelby county, O., September 15, 1866, and is a son of Daniel and Cynthia (Shaw) Curtner.

Daniel Curtner was a well-known citizen of Shelby county, one of her most enterprising and successful business men. He was engaged for a number of years in the dry goods trade at Port Jefferson and was also associated with Henry Cargill as a turnpike contractor, the firm building turnpike roads through Salem township for years. In the early seventies he moved to Anna, where he embarked in a general mercantile business which he continued until within a short time of his death, which occurred in August, 1893. His widow survives and is a highly esteemed resident of Anna.

R. D. Curtner was reared and educated at Anna and for some years continued his father's store. After disposing of the same he learned telegraphing and worked for eight years as an operator and then served for three years as cashier of the Farmers and Merchants Bank Company, with which he is yet identified as its second largest stockholder. From early manhood Mr. Curtner has taken an interest in politics and public issues and in the last election for county treasurer was the democratic nominee and was defeated by the present incumbent, Mr. Kiser, by only 122 votes. Since then he has served as chief clerk of the county board of equalization, also as deputy treasurer and as deputy auditor. As mayor of Anna he is giving the town a fine business administration and while adding to its revenues is also maintaining the highest standard of law and order. Mayor Curtner owns a valuable farm of eighty acres in Salem township which is operated by a reliable tenant farmer.

Mayor Curtner was married in 1886 to Miss Myrtle Young, a daughter of S. D. and Mary J. Young, of Anna, and they have four children: Carl, who is foreman of the Majestic Automobile Company, of Lima, O., in which his father is financially interested; Fred A., who is a musician in the band attached to the 30th U. S. Inf., now stationed in Alaska; and Erma and Lucille, young ladies well known in the social circles of Anna. Mayor Curtner is a thirty-second degree Mason, a Knight of Pythias, a member of the Ormus Grotto, Knights of the Golden Eagle, and a Knight of Khorassan. In the Knights of Pythias he has passed through all the stations up to the grand lodge.

EVAN W. BINGHAM, who is one of the enterprising citizens and representative business men of Sidney, O., is proprietor of the E. W. Bingham Furniture Store, which he has conducted here since August 15, 1895. He was born at Alexandria, Va., December 25, 1858, and is a son of Alfred H. and Rebecca (Evans) Bingham.

Alfred H. Bingham came from Virginia to Sidney, May 4, 1871, and died here in November, 1879, the death of his wife occurring in the following year. He was a cotton-mill worker and also a pattern maker and was employed in the machine shop of his brother-in-law, George G. Haslup, a quiet, industrious man, with a talent for his special line of work.

Evan W. Bingham had been a student in the Alexandria Academy prior to the removal of the family to Sidney, where he entered the high school. He early developed mechanical skill and during his vacations and on holidays had applied himself to learning the machinist trade, and when he left school, at the age of eighteen years, was able to prove to his employer that he could earn a man's wages, industrial rules and conditions being somewhat different then from the present. For twelve years Mr. Bingham worked satisfactorily as a machinist and then decided to turn his attention in an entirely different direction and for ten years afterward was a salesman in the clothing house of Abe Herzsam, at Sidney. At the termination of that engagement he embarked in his present business, in which he has prospered. He has always taken a good citizen's interest in civic matters and is a valued member of the Sidney Commercial Club, and one of its trustees.

Mr. Bingham married Miss Lizzie A. Fry, a daughter of the late R. L. Fry, who was formerly prominent here in the dry goods trade. Mr. and Mrs. Bingham have had two children: Robert Fry and Jennie Mildred, the latter of whom died at the age of four years. Robert Fry Bingham is a student at Oxford, O., a member of the graduating class of 1913, Miami University.

In politics Mr. Bingham is a republican. While he has never accepted other than local offices, he has frequently proved valuable and useful in these and was a member of the board of public service. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, to the Knights of Khorassan and to all branches of the Knights of Pythias, in which order he is past chancellor. Mr. Bingham and family belong to the Presbyterian church, of which he is treasurer and a member of its board of trustees.

THOMAS GREEN, whose farm of 100 acres lies in a beautiful section of Shelby county, in Washington township, nine miles southwest of Sidney, was born in Butler county, O., March 28, 1832, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Pearson) (Roseyboom) Green.

John Green was born in Licking county, O., where his people had settled at a very early day. He was married in Butler county and later moved into Mercer county, where his death occurred about 1869. His occupation was farming after his return from serving in the War of 1812. Of his children, four sons and two daughters lived to maturity and one daughter died at the age of eighteen months.

Thomas Green went to school in both Butler and Mercer counties and

farming has been his main business in life. During the Civil war he enlisted in the 100-day service as a member of Company I, 156th O. Vol. Inf., but was sick during the larger part of the time, the hardships and unusual exposure bringing many a brave man to the army hospitals in those days. Mr. Green is a member of the G. A. R. post at Piqua, O. On November 2, 1865, he came from Mercer county, his previous home, to Shelby county and has lived ever since on his farm in Washington township, which he still oversees but is now retired from active labor.

Mr. Green married Miss Sarah Jane Preston, who came of a very loyal and patriotic family, her father and three of her brothers serving in the Mexican war and all, even the father, who was then beyond the age limit, serving in the Civil war, and one brother died in Tennessee. Mr. Green and wife have had five children: Cynthia, who is the wife of Henry Bailey; William A., who lives near his father; Benjamin, who is a resident of Chicago; Ella, who died at the age of eighteen months; and Carrie B., who married John Jones. Mr. Green and family are members of the United Brethren church. He votes with the republican party and formerly served as a trustee of the township. He is one of Washington township's most respected citizens.

CAPT. EDMUND ELGIN NUTT, whose death on September 18, 1911, removed one of Sidney's foremost citizens—one whom all delighted to honor—was born in Shelby county, O., in 1837, the eldest son of Irwin and Barbara (Persinger) Nutt.

The father of our subject, Irwin Nutt, was born in Montgomery county, near Centerville, O., January 31, 1811, being a son of Aaron Nutt, Jr. In his youth he learned the tanner's trade, which, however, he followed for but a short time. After acquiring a fair, common school education in the district school, he spent six months in the seminary at Xenia, O., where he prepared himself for teaching, which occupation he followed for a time. In 1834 he married Miss Barbara Persinger, of Green county, O., who was born September 27, 1812. In 1836, with his wife and daughter, Louisa M., who was then one year old, he came to Shelby county and bought a piece of timber land one mile north of Sidney, where he built a cabin for himself and family and began to clear the land. His busy axe soon enlarged the clearing and in course of time smiling fields took the place of the dense and gloomy forest, and as the product of his toil he was able to command not only the necessities, but also some of the luxuries of life. In the work of developing the homestead, he was greatly aided by his faithful wife, who did her part in spinning and weaving the flax and wool for the family garments, also aiding in the outdoor work, in addition to performing her usual household duties and rearing her family of seven children. This family consisted of four sons and three daughters, as follows: Louisa M., born 1835, married Joseph Wilkinson; Edmund E., the subject of this sketch; Margaret J., born 1840, who became the wife of James Middleton; William A., born 1843, who married Elenor C. Lillie; Mary M., born 1845, who became the wife of Dr. J. C. Lillie of Logan county, O.; J. Newton, born 1848, who married Mae Price and John M., born 1851, who married Ella Smith.

In 1854 Irwin Nutt rented his farm and moved to Pemberton, O., where



he engaged in the business of buying and shipping grain, but three years later he returned to his farm and there remained until 1873. By this time his children had all married and settled in homes of their own and a lonely air pervaded the old homestead—as he expressed it, “the clock ticked too loudly on its shelf.” At the earnest solicitation of his children, he again rented out the old farm and he and his wife spent the rest of their lives with their children, residing for a while with one, then with another. He died in Quincy, O., at the home of his daughter, Mrs. J. C. Lillie, on March 7, 1880. In 1832, when twenty-one years of age, he had united with the Methodist Episcopal church, of which for the rest of his life he remained a faithful and useful member, giving freely of his time and money in its behalf, and when his end came the final summons found him prepared to enter into the eternal mansions. His remains were brought to Sidney and lay in state at the M. E. church from Monday until Tuesday afternoon, when interment took place in Graceland cemetery. His funeral procession was one of the largest seen in Sidney up to that time. He was among the first members of Temperance Lodge No. 73, F. & A. M., and during his life held all the offices up to and including that of worshipful master. His wife survived him until April 5, 1905, and was also buried in Graceland cemetery, Sidney.

Edmund E. Nutt was reared on the home farm north of Sidney and was educated in the schools of that city. When eighteen years of age he began teaching school, which occupation he followed for four years. He then entered Delaware College, but his further studies were interrupted by the breaking out of the Civil war, and on April 17, 1861, he enlisted in the Fifteenth regiment, O. V. I., serving three months, the full time of his enlistment. On September 16, 1861, he re-enlisted as a private in Company F, Twentieth regiment, O. V. I., and served until the close of the war, first as private, then sergeant, then second and first lieutenant and later as captain, with which rank he was discharged. He took part in all great battles in which his regiment participated, and for meritorious conduct at the battle of Atlanta, July 22, 1864, he was awarded a medal of honor, by order of Maj. F. P. Blair. He was wounded on the skirmish line near Atlanta, August 14, 1864.

After his return from the war Captain Nutt engaged in the grain business with his brother, William A. Nutt, at Pemberton, but after remaining there for a while, he came to Sidney and entered into the same business here with his brothers, I. Newton and John M. Nutt, purchasing what was known as the old stone bridge warehouse. His brothers subsequently retiring from the business, he continued it alone for some time, after which he sold out his interests to Griffis Brothers.

Although now past middle life he began the study of law and was admitted to the bar, but never practiced law. Instead, he engaged again in the grain business, being thus associated with his brother, William A., at Urbana, O., still, however, continuing to reside at Sidney. Subsequently he repurchased from E. J. Griffis the old stone bridge warehouse, to which Mr. Griffis had added a milling department, and this he owned and managed until his death. He was by this time conspicuous as a useful and public-spirited citizen and in 1897 was nominated on the republican ticket for state senator for the twelfth district.

Captain Nutt was a member of Neal Post, G. A. R., from its organization. He took great interest in the Ohio Department of the G. A. R. from the time also of its organization, and in recognition of his zeal, and of his honorable army record, he was elected department commander of Ohio, at Canton, O., at its twenty-ninth annual meeting in 1894. This position he filled both with credit to himself and satisfaction to his comrades, his administration being a highly successful one. He also served as president of the regimental organization of the Twentieth regiment, being always present at the annual reunions of Companies F, H and K, on the 22d of August, to celebrate the battle of Atlanta. The following circular was issued by Neal Post, G. A. R., at the time Captain Nutt was candidate for the office of department commander.

HEADQUARTERS NEAL POST, No. 62,  
DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, G. A. R.

SIDNEY, O., April 4, 1894.

"Comrade:—We the undersigned committee, appointed by Neal Post to present the name of Comrade Edmund Elgin Nutt for the position of Department Commander at the encampment to be held at Canton, respectfully and briefly submit their claims as follows:

"Comrade Nutt was a candidate and received a large vote at Hamilton, Ohio, and many pledges of support, and solicitations to remain in the field for the next encampment, to which we confidently respond with a brief review of some of the merits of our candidate. He was a soldier from the first call to 'Lights Out,' from April 17, 1861, to July 15, 1865; carried a gun more than two years and a sword two years in Company F, 15th O. V. I., three months' service; and Company F, 20th Ohio, three years' service; served at the front in all ranks from private to captain, and was skirmish officer on brigade staff; was wounded on skirmish line and awarded a medal for conspicuous bravery in battle.

"As a citizen since the war, his 25 years of successful business has proven excellent executive ability. As a comrade he was a charter member of Neal Post, always present at meeting, takes an active interest, is well posted in Grand Army affairs, attends encampments, and has served Neal Post five years as commander. In addition we desire to remind comrades of their pledges of support which induced us to renew the effort for the place, and further urge our claims for the reason that this part of the state has never been favored with department honors of any office. If this favor is granted we promise to furnish a department commander fully up to the high standard of former commanders.

"Yours in F. C. & L.

"Signed,—T. B. MARSHALL.

"Co. K, 83d O. V. I.

"J. H. CREEGAN,

"Co. C, 2d Iowa, I. V. I.

"H. C. ROBERTS,

"Co. D, 51st O. V. I.

"Committee."

In 1867 Captain Nutt married Miss Arvesta Van Demark, who was born in Shelby county, O., October 28, 1844, a daughter of Henry B. and Susannah (Boyer) Van Demark, who were married January 17, 1844. Mrs. Nutt's father, Henry B. Van Demark, was a native of this county, born near Sidney, September 19, 1815, the youngest member of the family of Daniel and Catherine (Bush) Van Demark. He was brought up on the farm and there remained during the lifetime of his parents, having charge of the farm for a number of years until the death of his father, which took place in 1840. In 1844 he married Susannah Boyer, who was born in Miami county in 1821, a daughter of Jacob Boyer. After their marriage the young couple made their home with his mother, Mrs. Catharine Van Demark, residing with her until her death, which occurred in 1848, at which time Henry B. Van Demark became owner of the homestead in Orange township. In 1855 he traded it for a farm in Washington township, which contained over 400 acres of land. Subsequently he added further to his landed possessions, until at the time of his death he owned over 900 acres, all within three and a half miles of Sidney. In addition to this, he owned considerable real estate in the town of Sidney. He and his wife reared a family of five children, namely: Arvesta; Daniel, who married Margaret A. Brown, a native of Warren county; Clymelia, now deceased, who was the wife of Samuel S. McCreedy; Jacob N., of Clinton township; and Harry, who died at the age of eleven years. Mr. Van Demark was reared in the Presbyterian faith and his wife in that of the United Brethren. Their burial took place in Graceland cemetery in Sidney, O.

Capt. Edmund E. Nutt and wife were the parents of six children, as follows: Florence Atlanta is the wife of Frank Leslie Shull, secretary of the Portland Flour Mills, at Portland, Ore. They have two children—Martha Arvesta and Frank Leslie, Jr.

Earl Edmund, who is second in order of birth, is engaged in the practice of law in Sidney, married Lillian Esther Patterson, of Nebraska. They have two children—John Edmund and Caroline Arvesta.

Susan Etylen, is the wife of Henry W. Roberts, a grocer of Tacoma, Wash. She has one child—Anna Catherine.

Barbara Emma is a teacher of domestic science in the Sidney high school.

Ora Marie is a kindergarten teacher in New York City. Jennie Mathers, the remaining member of the family, resides at home with her mother. The family belong to the Methodist church, taking a useful part in its work and various Christian activities.

FRANK B. MILLER, member of the board of education of Hopewell special school district, of which he has been clerk for the last ten years, is one of Cynthian township's most respected citizens. He is a retired farmer and lives on one of his three farms, which aggregate 250 acres, his home being in section 22, four miles southeast of Fort Loramie, O. Mr. Miller was born January 12, 1861, in Lancaster county, Pa., a son of Cyrus and Jane (Gingrich) Miller.

Cyrus Miller was born in Dauphin county, Pa., and his wife in Lebanon

county, in that state. When they came to Ohio they located on a farm west of Pleasant Hill, in Miami county, and from there in 1876 moved to a farm in Cynthian township, Shelby county, near Oran, O. They now reside with their daughter, Mrs. William Snow, who lives in Cynthian township. Of their family of six sons and two daughters, two sons are deceased.

Frank B. Miller was eight years old when he accompanied his parents to Miami county and was fifteen when they came to Shelby county. He had school advantages in both sections, attending the Oran special school district schools until he was seventeen years old. After putting aside his books, but not forgetting their contents, Mr. Miller went to work by the month with the determination of accumulating the capital that would enable him to buy a farm of his own and in the course of time his energy was rewarded. When he was twenty years of age he went to the west and prospered there, returning a year later with money that he had earned through his own industry. He invested first in the old Roan farm, later bought the farm on which he lives and still later bought the Brenner farm. For nine years he lived east of Piqua, O., on his father-in-law's farm and then moved to a farm in McLean township belonging to his mother-in-law, three years afterward coming to the farm he now occupies. All these farms are finely improved, Mr. Miller taking pride in his property and hence all of it is very valuable. In addition to general farming, which he continued until he retired, in 1907, he raised many horses, especially draft horses, cattle and stock. All the farm industries were intelligently carried on, new methods were adopted when they were found superior to old ways, and Mr. Miller became known as one of the best all-round agriculturists of Cynthian township. He still continues to be interested in raising stock to some extent, but has shifted his farming responsibilities to younger shoulders.

Mr. Miller married Miss Katie Grosvenor, who was born in Illinois, a daughter of Hiram and Araminta Grosvenor, once residents of McLean township, Shelby county. The father of Mrs. Miller died when she was six weeks old. To Mr. and Mrs. Miller six children have been born, Alva, Harry, Raymond and Blanche, in Miami county, and Olive and Glenn, in Shelby county. All survive except Alva and Raymond, who died in Miami county.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller attend the Christian church at Oran, of which she is a member. He is a republican in his political views. Every year Mr. Miller takes a few weeks for recreation in travel and in this way has seen much of the country and doubtless in some measure owes his excellent health to this wise change of environment and pleasurable interest in other than everyday duties and surroundings.

HON. EMERSON V. MOORE, former mayor of Sidney, O., and a foremost member of the Shelby county bar, belongs to an old Ohio family and was born on his father's farm in Green township, Shelby county, February 14, 1868, a son of Thomas B. and Deborah (Griffis) Moore. The father's death occurred in 1898, on his farm in Green township.

Emerson V. Moore was reared in his native township and secured his





HUGH THOMPSON MATHERS

early schooling there, afterward attending the Sidney high school for two years and then entered the National Normal University at Lebanon, O., and while there began the study of law. For one year afterward Mr. Moore taught school in Brown township, Miami county, and during the following year was superintendent of the schools of Green township, Shelby county, having had much to do with establishing the grade system. He had already been admitted to the bar and then came to Sidney and has since been engaged in the practice of law in this city. When the Spanish-American war became a fact, Mr. Moore was one of that band of patriotic young men who put aside their most pressing personal interests and ambitions and with a patriotism that was commendable, was ready to accept service, dangerous or otherwise, in his country's defense. At that time he was second lieutenant of Co. L, Third O. N. G., which became a part of the Third O. Vol. Inf., which was hastened to Tampa, Fla.

Lieutenant Moore was detailed in June, 1898, as recruiting officer and recruited the first battalion of the regiment to war strength. He was later detailed as aide-de-camp on the staff of Brig. Gen. Rush T. Lincoln and served as such until the regiment returned to Ohio for mustering out. The war closed before this regiment was called into active service and they returned to their homes ready for future calls. Mr. Moore is a member of the Spanish-American War Veterans and in 1911 served as judge-advocate of the state of Ohio in this body.

Mr. Moore married Miss Blanche Stafford, a daughter of Joseph Stafford, of Sidney, O. Aside from his law practice, Mr. Moore has been active in political and fraternal life. He is a democrat in politics and on the democratic ticket was city solicitor and twice elected mayor of Sidney, his administrations proving beneficial to the city in every way. He belongs to the Order of Ben Hur and to the Knights of Pythias but is particularly prominent in the Order of the Knights of the Golden Eagle and for six years was state secretary of the organization, state president and for one year was national president of the order and probably is one of the best-known members of this flourishing society in Ohio.

HON. HUGH THOMPSON MATHERS, judge of the Third Common Pleas Judicial District of Ohio, is numbered with the eminent men of a state which has long been productive of distinguished citizens. He was born May 20, 1866, at Sidney, in Shelby county, O., and is a son of Hon. John H. and Elizabeth (Thompson) Mathers.

For several generations the Mathers family has been prominent in Ohio and still farther back was also honorably connected with public affairs, in Pennsylvania. James Mathers, the paternal grandfather, was born in Pennsylvania and there became a leading member of the bar and served in the state senate, his death occurring on the old family estate in Juniata county. He married Jane Hutchinson, a daughter of John Hutchinson, who was a well-known Presbyterian minister.

Hon. John Mathers was born in 1830 in Juniata county, Pa., and

he, as his father before him, became prominent in the law, and came to Sidney when this place was the head of navigation on the canal. He served as district attorney of Juniata county, Pa., and as prosecuting attorney of Shelby county. He was a man of brilliant talents but died in middle life, in 1875, when aged but forty-five years. He married Elizabeth Thompson, a daughter of Hugh Thompson, and she survives, having been born in 1845 and married in 1864. Her father was born at Upper Middletown, six miles from Uniontown, Pa., and came early to Sidney and established himself as a merchant. He was shortly afterward elected associate judge of the court of common pleas and served two terms and then turned his attention to the study of law and for many years was a successful practitioner. He became prominent also in public life and served two terms as a member of the state legislature and was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1851. His death occurred in 1889, when he was aged eighty-one years. He married Lucretia Bailey, who was born near Baltimore, Md., and died in her seventy-third year. To the parents of Judge Mathers three children were born: Hugh, Jane, who is the wife of E. S. Laughlin, a merchant and traveling salesman; and Lucretia, who is the wife of Dr. Henry Baldwin, who is superintendent of the Tuberculosis Hospital at Springfield, O.

Hugh Thompson Mathers attended the public schools of Sidney and after graduating from the high school, became a student at Princeton University, and in the class graduated from the Albany Law School in 1888, was one of its four honor men, who delivered the class addresses. He came immediately to Sidney and in the same summer was admitted to the bar at Columbus, O., opening his law office at Sidney and shortly afterward was elected city solicitor. He served two terms in that office, at the close of his second term accepting the position of general attorney for the Ohio Southern Railroad, with office at Springfield. When the Ohio Southern became a part of the C. A. & C. Railroad, Judge Mathers removed to Cleveland for one year, and when the above road became a part of the L. E. & W. system Judge Mathers returned to Sidney. Here he was engaged in active practice until 1901, becoming the leader of the Sidney bar, when he was elected to fill a vacancy on the common pleas bench and served for three years, at the expiration of which period he was elected to the full term of five years and it was extended one year to meet the requirements of a constitutional provision. At the expiration of his six years of service in 1910 he was elected for six years more and continues honorably and faithfully to perform the judicial duties for which he seems so well qualified by nature. He possesses the well balanced and discerning mind so important to the jurist and the records of the court show the ability and patient and conscientious thoroughness with which he has administered the office.

In 1889 Judge Mathers was married to Miss Louise Beeson, a daughter of Charles and Amanda (Baily) Beeson, and they have two children:



Hugh Beeson and Jeanette. Judge Mathers and family are members of the Presbyterian church. In politics he is a democrat and was nominated, in 1906, as candidate for judge of the supreme court of Ohio, and again in 1908. Fraternally he is a Mason, in which organization he has attained the thirty-second degree. No man in public life in Shelby county stands higher in the esteem of his fellow citizens.

WILLIAM H. PRINCEHOUSE, funeral director, who has been established in business at Sidney, O., since March, 1898, was born near Palestine, in Green township, Shelby county, O., May 19, 1866, and is a son of Jacob and Mary (Bratigan) Princehouse. Henry Princehouse, the grandfather, who was born in Germany, was the founder of the family in Shelby county, and Jacob Princehouse, his son, was born in Green township, south of Palestine, O., spent his life as a farmer and died there. His widow survives and lives at Palestine, Shelby county.

William H. Princehouse attended the country schools in Green township and afterward engaged in farming, residing on his own property until 1898, when he came to Sidney, for four years afterward being in the livery business. For the past ten years he has been in the funeral directing business, being a practical embalmer, a graduate of Clarke's School of Embalming of Cincinnati. He has well-equipped quarters in the Bingham furniture store, and owns a funeral car, an ambulance and an automobile for the proper and dignified transaction of his business. He is identified with all the leading fraternal organizations, including the Masons, Odd Fellows, Elks, Red Men, Uniformed Knights of Pythias and the Knights of Khorassan. He belongs also to the Commercial Club at Sidney and is interested to some degree in political matters. Personally Mr. Princehouse has a wide circle of friends on account of his friendly and kindly spirit and as a business man he is held in respect.

HENRY E. BEEBE, M. D., a leading physician of Shelby county, and for the past five years president of the Citizens National Bank, at Sidney, O., was born on his father's farm, near Carey, Wyandot county, O., July 24, 1849, and is a son of Buell S. and Lucinda (Keir) Beebe.

The father of Dr. Beebe was born in Franklin county, N. Y., and in 1846 came to Ohio and lived until he was sixty-two years old in Wyandot county, when he came to Sidney on a visit and here his death occurred in 1883. His family consisted of one son and two daughters: Henry E. and Mrs. Anna Hoff and Mrs. Sarah Millholland, both of Carey, O., the latter of whom died in 1911.

Henry E. Beebe was educated in the public schools and Wittenberg College and pursued his medical studies in the Cleveland Homeopathic Medical College, at Cleveland, O., from which institution he was graduated in 1873 and in the same year located at Sidney. For forty years Dr. Beebe has been in active practice and few members of his profession in this section of Ohio are better known or more highly valued. He is a member of the American

Institute of Homeopathy and was its vice president in 1904-05 at its convention held at Niagara Falls. In 1886 he was president of the Ohio State Homeopathic Society, and from 1903 to 1904 was president of the state examining board, of which he was vice president for seven years and one of its organizers and belongs also to the Union Clinical Society. He is a thirty-second degree Mason.

Dr. Beebe was married in 1874 to Miss Ophelia McDowell, of Carey, O., a daughter of Hugh and Rebecca McDowell, and they have four children: Robert Wallace, Laura, Elise, Hugh McDowell and Henry Edwin. Robert Wallace Beebe is secretary and treasurer of the United Rim Co., of Akron, O. He married Miss May Hardesty of Cleveland. Laura Elise Beebe married W. C. Horr, who is secretary and treasurer of the Eclipse Folder Company, of Sidney, and they have one daughter, Rebecca. Hugh McDowell Beebe is a physician. He married Miss Ruth Peirson, of Troy. Henry Edwin Beebe, who is a graduate of the law department of the University of Michigan, of the class of 1910, is connected with the law firm of Roettinger & Roettinger, at Cincinnati. As a business man aside from his profession, Doctor Beebe has been an important factor in this section and was interested in the founding of the Citizens National Bank here, of which he is president and formerly for many years was vice president. He has been closely identified with the general development of Sidney and has not only fostered its business and professional enterprises but has, in every way possible, furthered all movements which have contributed to the educational and social uplift.

A. P. RATERMAN, whose valuable farm of 150 acres is situated in section 3, McLean township, Shelby county, O., three miles east of Fort Loramie, was born on this farm, and is a son of Ferdinand A. and Berdine (Pille) Raterman.

Ferdinand A. Raterman was born in Germany and was young when the family came to the United States. His parents settled south of what is now Fort Loramie, and there spent the rest of their lives. They had five sons: Henry, Philip, Joseph, Barney and Ferdinand A., and all attended school in what is now the Berlin special school district. In that neighborhood Ferdinand A. Raterman grew to manhood and after his marriage settled on a wild tract of land containing 130 acres, to which he subsequently added twenty acres. At that time this place seemed remote from civilization, it being in the depth of the forest with no roads leading to it and not a single attempt at improvement having yet been made. Mr. Raterman put up the first buildings and cleared all the land with the exception of fifteen acres. This land has remained in the family intact and Anthony P. Raterman has the sheepskin deed attesting ownership, the document bearing the signature of Zachary Taylor, president of the United States. Mr. Raterman labored hard to make a comfortable home, and productive farm for his family but did not live long enough to find much reward, his death taking place in his forty-ninth year. He was survived by his wife, who died on the farm in her sixty-second year. They were faithful members of St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort

Loramie. They had the following children: Joseph, who is deceased; Mary, who is the wife of Clemens Wolke; Henry, who is deceased; John, who lives at Loramie, married Katie Lauterbur; Sophia, who is the wife of Edward Wehner, resides at Dayton, O.; Anthony P.; Frank and August, both of whom are deceased; and Kate, who is the wife of George Groves, lives at Sidney.

Anthony P. Raterman took charge of the farm when his father died and immediately set on foot improvements which included the erection of all the buildings now standing with the exception of the residence. He was then but a young man, his birth having taken place September 24, 1870, but he had farm experience from boyhood and soon demonstrated his capability as an agriculturist. He drained the land and put down much tiling, set out trees where he found it advisable, and through mixed farming has kept the soil in fine condition and has made this one of the best farms in the township.

Mr. Raterman married Miss Anna Kloeker, a daughter of Herman Kloeker, of McLean township, and all their children were born on this farm, namely: Amelia, Martin, Raymond, Helen, Eugene, Arnold, Evelyn and Cletus, all of whom survive except Raymond, who died at the age of three months. Mr. Raterman and family belong to St. Michael's Catholic church. In politics he belongs to a family that is almost entirely democratic and one that is a leading one in this section of Shelby county.

SAMPSON G. GOODE, M. D., a physician and surgeon in active practice at Sidney, O., with office and residence at No. 310 North Ohio avenue, has been a resident of Shelby county for thirty-one years and established in his profession at Sidney since 1894.

Dr. Goode was reared in Champaign county, O., and from the country schools entered the academy at Urbana, where he made such unusual progress in his studies that he was awarded a teacher's certificate when he was but fourteen years of age. Afterward he continued to divide the seasons, working on the farm during the summers and teaching school, mainly in Champaign county, during the winters, for about fourteen years. He never had the leisure to wander far from this strict discipline as he was ambitious and dependent on his own efforts in order to prepare for the medical career which was his goal from early youth. He prepared for college while teaching, under the direction of Drs. B. F. Baker, D. R. Barley and Dr. Musson, all of St. Paris, O., and after seven years of study was graduated from the Eclectic Medical College at Cincinnati, O., in 1880. In the following year he came to Shelby county, locating at Pemberton, two years later removing to Port Jefferson and from there came to Sidney. Here he has been very successful in his professional life and has been active in public matters and on one occasion was the candidate of the democratic party for the state senate.

On January 2, 1867, Dr. Goode was married to Miss Mary Jane Ammon, of Champaign county, O., and two children were born to them: Dora, who is the wife of Charles W. Ogden, a merchant at Port Jefferson; and A. C., a graduated physician now in Alaska. Dr. Goode is physician and

surgeon for the Shelby County Infirmary and Asylum. He belongs to the State and National Eclectic Medical societies and is identified fraternally with the Elks.

CARL A. SEXAUER, proprietor of Sexauer's Grocery and Bakery, one of the old and stable business houses of Sidney, O., is a native of Germany and was born August 28, 1865, at Freiburg, Baden, a son of John Sexauer, who still resides in Germany, being now in his eightieth year. His wife, to whom he was married in 1861, also survives and is nearing her seventy-sixth birthday.

Carl A. Sexauer has an interesting history. He learned the baking business with his father but left home at the age of fifteen years and went to Basil, Switzerland, and despite his youth, there capably managed a bakery for eighteen months, during which period he saved enough money with which to make the long journey to America, the goal of his desires. During the voyage the ship was wrecked and three of the passengers died from shock and injury, but the others were finally landed after nineteen days of danger on the stormy Atlantic ocean. Mr. Sexauer had an uncle, George Sexauer, who lived on a farm near Piqua, O., and the youth decided to make an effort to reach this relative and finally, on December 24, 1881, arrived at Piqua. He paid fifty cents, his last money, to a cabman to drive him two miles into the country to his uncle's farm, where he was kindly received and rested for a couple of days. He then sought work at Piqua and secured a job in the Piqua Bakery, and for four weeks worked there on trial, for \$1.75 a week, when, rather than lose the skilled German baker that he was found to be, the proprietor made him his boss baker with a salary of \$13 a week with board and laundry, this being at that time the very highest wages paid in any baking establishment in that city.

Mr. Sexauer remained in that place for a full year. During that time Jacob Piper, who was operating a bakery at Sidney, paid a visit to Piqua and saw and sampled some of Mr. Sexauer's baked goods with the result that he offered the young baker the position of boss baker of his establishment, and as conditions were more favorable he accepted and worked for Mr. Piper from March 1, 1883, until August, 1889, when he bought the Piper bakery department, which proved a business mistake. He was thoroughly experienced in his trade but he knew little of practical business methods and in less than three years had lost the large sum of \$2,600, and owed \$800 to his wholesalers. It may be mentioned right here that since then he has paid every dollar of this indebtedness but it was a very discouraging experience. He then secured a basement workroom and for two years conducted a small bakery, and in this way retained many of his old customers and interested others, and by that time felt sure enough of further prosperity to buy the corner lot on which now stands the fine three-story brick building which he started to erect on March 1, 1905, into which he moved on September first following. In 1903 he had paid

a visit to his parents and remained with them for three months and on his return began his plans for his present substantial building. It stands on west Poplar street and corners on the canal, and its dimensions are 165x22 feet. He utilizes the first floor, which opens on the canal, for his bakery; the second floor which opens on West Poplar street, for his ware-room and stockroom, while the third floor he has fitted up as a public hall, and many entertainments are held in it, Sexauer's hall having conveniences that make it an ideal place for dances, parties and other gatherings.

Mr. Sexauer started into his second business adventure at Sidney with a capital of \$92, and a debt, as before mentioned, of \$800, but it speaks well for the impression he had already made on those with whom he had done business, that they continued to have confidence in him. After paying all indebtedness with the strictest honesty, he found no difficulty in borrowing the necessary capital to erect his new structure, which cost him, exclusive of fixtures and machinery, more than \$10,000, and that indebtedness has also long since been wiped out. He has expended several thousand dollars in putting in modern machinery and sanitary equipments and now operates the largest baking plant in this part of Shelby county, turning out from 3,000 to 4,000 loaves of bread daily, exclusive of biscuits, buns, pies and cakes, all of delicious combination and made from the best procurable supplies. He is ably assisted by his eldest son, John Sexauer, who is superintendent of that department and who designed much of the valuable baking machinery which his father has now installed. In addition to his extensive baking business, Mr. Sexauer conducts one of the most complete grocery stores in the city.

In 1886 Mr. Sexauer was married to Miss Mollie Althoff, of Lockington, O., and they have two sons: John and Raymond. Mr. Sexauer is a member of the Masonic fraternity and also of the Knights of Pythias, the Commercial Club, the National Bakers' Association of America and the Grocers' State Association. He is recognized as one of Sidney's most useful, honorable and representative citizens.

BERNARD BARHORST, who is one of the substantial men of McLean township, Shelby county, O., resides in section 4, two and one-half miles east of Fort Loramie, where he owns 245 acres of fine land. He was born in this township, one-half mile south of his present farm in the Sherman special school district, September 24, 1866, and is a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Grieshop) Barhorst.

The father of Mr. Barhorst spent his life in McLean township, following farming as his occupation, and died here when aged seventy-seven years. The mother, who was born in Germany, died when aged seventy-two years, in Mercer county, O., and there were six sons and two daughters in the family. The parents were members of St. Michael's Catholic church.

The Barhorst-children were not neglected, their parents sending them to the Sherman district school until all were well instructed. Bernard remained on the home farm until his marriage, when he moved to his

present property, all of which he has under cultivation except thirty-six acres which is still in woodland. He has put in many improvements here, erecting and remodeling buildings, enriching and draining the land, and, with the help of his sturdy sons, does a large agricultural business.

Mr. Barhorst married Miss Magdalena Ernst, who was born in McLean township, a daughter of Joseph Ernst, and nine children have been born to them, namely: Catherina, Joseph, August, Edward, Leo, Charles, Ursula, Urban and Paul. Mr. Barhorst and family are members of St. Michael's Roman Catholic church. In politics he has been a democrat since reaching man's estate, but has never sought political office, although his party might find in such men as Mr. Barhorst the honest and careful officials that a community needs for the practical carrying out of the laws.

HENRY V. VAN DEMARK, a successful general farmer and well-known citizen of Clinton township, Shelby county, O., who is operating a farm of 200 acres, which belongs to his father, was born in the house in which he resides, April 21, 1885, and is a son of Jacob Newton and Catherine (Hicks) Van Demark.

After his boyhood school days were over he attended the Sidney high school for two years. He comes of an agricultural family and naturally turned his attention to farming and stock raising, in which his father and grandfather were so eminently successful, but, before settling down decided to visit certain portions of the West and spent several months traveling through that part of the country, with the result that he returned satisfied to Ohio, realizing that this state offers everything contributive to the financial advancement and living comfort that can be consistently expected. Here, on one of the large farms belonging to his father, Mr. Van Demark is engaged in farming and he also gives attention to producing high-grade horses and stock.

Mr. Van Demark was married September 18, 1907, to Miss Caroline Coon, who was born on a farm in Shelby county and is a daughter of Marshall K. and Anna (Rinehart) Coon. Mrs. Van Demark has a brother, Alfred, and a sister, Florence. Two daughters have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Van Demark, Catherine and Anna. They attend the Presbyterian church. Mr. Van Demark, like his father, is identified with the republican party but takes no very active part in politics.

WILLIAM KLIPSTINE, a representative business man of Sidney, O., a dealer in lumber, coal and building materials, with office and yards on South Walnut street, has been a resident of this city for more than ten years, but his birth took place in Darke county, O., March 13, 1867, and he is a son of William and Louisa Klipstine, both of whom were born in Germany.

The Klipstine family was founded in America by William Klipstine, the grandfather, who came to Ohio and purchased a farm in Darke county when his son William was a child. The maternal grandfather, William Haack, also came from Germany and purchased land in Darke county, and

on the above farms the parents of William Klipstine, of Sidney, were reared, together attended the district schools and subsequently married. They reared a family of three sons and one daughter and both are now deceased, the father passing away in 1894, when aged sixty-seven years. The mother survived until the fall of 1909, her age being seventy-eight years. Their children were: Louis, who is connected with the Peoples Bank at Versailles, O.; Caroline, who is the wife of George H. Worch, of Versailles; William; and Amos, who is a farmer residing on the old homestead near Versailles.

William Klipstine attended the public schools in the vicinity of his father's farm and later the Versailles high school, and remained engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1889, when he went to Quincy, Logan county, O., where he engaged in the lumber business until 1901, when he came to Sidney as manager of the lumber business of his brother-in-law, George H. Worch, which business he subsequently purchased. Mr. Klipstine operates a planing mill and deals in all kinds and grades of merchantable lumber and builders' supplies, including hardware, paints and wire fencing, and has a commodious and expensive plant, in 1909 erecting his mill, office and storage room. Constant employment is afforded for from ten to twelve men and the business may be included with the very prosperous ones of the city.

In 1889 Mr. Klipstine was married to Miss Mary Grove, a daughter of Hiram Grove, of Perry county, O., and they have a happy family of six children, evenly divided, as follows: Roy, Charles, Ruth, Caroline, William and Mary. The eldest daughter possesses great artistic talent and it is being cultivated at Roanoke College, Roanoke, Va. Mr. Klipstine and family belong to St. John's Evangelical Lutheran church, at Sidney. Fraternally he is identified with the Elks and the Knights of Pythias. In politics he is a democrat and has served two terms as a member of the city council, during which period his sound business judgment frequently assisted in the solving of civic problems of importance.

OLIVER J. TAYLOR, a representative business man of Sidney, O., where he is a leading hardware merchant, founded his present establishment on June 1, 1854, and is now in his fifty-ninth business year in his native city, where he was born September 26, 1830, and is a son of Jason and Sarah C. (Skillen) Taylor.

The Taylors were pioneers in Shelby county. Samuel Taylor, the grandfather, was born in England, coming to near Harper's Ferry, Va., and from there moved to Ohio and settled first near West Liberty, O., subsequently removing to Shelby county, where he entered land in what is now Salem township. He built a log cabin on a hill on a suitable part of his 160-acre purchase and there remained through a long and industrious life and is still recalled as one of the county's well-known pioneers.

Jason Taylor, father of Oliver J., was a boy when his parents moved to Shelby county and settled in Salem township. He married early, before he was twenty-one years of age, and with wife and a capital of \$28.50,

came to Sidney, where he began business life as a shoemaker. He prospered at his trade and started a small general store and when he could spare the sum of \$37.00 invested it in land, and the time came when that same lot of land was sold for \$10,000. For many years he continued as a merchant at Sidney and then went into the jobbing business in New York City, where he remained for about eighteen years. Failing health induced him to close out his interests there and to return to Sidney, where his death occurred two years later. He married Sarah C. Skillen, who was of Irish parentage but was born in Pennsylvania and came to Ohio in girlhood.

Oliver J. Taylor had very limited educational opportunities in his boyhood and remained with his parents until his eighteenth year, when he began the study of civil engineering and spent several years on the Big Four and Pan Handle railroads. Finding that his heart was not in that line of industry, Mr. Taylor turned his attention to the hardware business, and, as noted above, established his store at Sidney at so early a date that he can justly claim to be one of the oldest men in the hardware line, not only in this city, but in Ohio. He had a capital of \$800 to start with, the same having been earned and providently saved while on the railroad, and he bought his first stock up to this amount, of the firm of Norton, Jewett & Busby of New York City, and the goods were shipped to him by way of Buffalo and Toledo, and then transferred to a warehouse. Learning that this warehouse was destroyed by fire on that night, Mr. Taylor presumed his goods had been destroyed and duplicated his order, with the rather disturbing result of receiving both orders and having only money enough to pay for one. His business shrewdness extricated him and soon he found he needed not only both orders of goods but that it became desirable for him to make annual trips to eastern markets and make his own selections. Still later he found his best market to be Pittsburg, later Cincinnati, and despite slow and exasperating delivery, he did a fine business. The first commercial traveler to visit him was John Williams, representing the Wheeler, Madden & Clenson Works, saw manufacturers, of Middletown, N. Y., this mark of growing importance being shown him in 1859. It is interesting to learn of Mr. Taylor's business methods as they proved so successful. It was his early habit to open his store at about 6 A. M. and probably close about 10 P. M. He has made it a point to buy for cash and to owe no one a dollar, although his purchasers very often did not follow the same honest line, buying largely on credit and having no definite time for settlement. Mr. Taylor remembers the advent of the wire nail, the family washing machines, the glass lantern that has succeeded the old tin cone pierced with holes. In his first stock of goods the cleaver was the only meat cutter and his padlocks that he then had to sell for perhaps fifty cents he can improve on for ten cents. He recalls his first door locks which were made to open with a lever instead of a knob; the old Spear & Jackson English saws were used and Mr. Taylor remembers that he had some trouble in convincing his customers that the Henry Disston saws were superior. His first American pocket cutlery he bought at Northfield, Conn., and for forty years he has handled the same



goods. In every other line he notes progress and improvement and has always been open to conviction himself and anxious to provide the very best goods on the market. In 1874 Mr. Taylor moved into the building he now occupies and there are few business men of Sidney who are more prompt in their daily activities or more active in attending to customers than is Mr. Taylor, at the age of eighty-two years.

On June 7, 1855, Mr. Taylor was married to Miss Sarah Harrison, who died suddenly July 30, 1887, the mother of seven children, four of whom survive: Harry J., who is the owner of the Sidney Hardware Company, of Sidney; Jennie A., who is the wife of J. C. Cummings, cashier of the First National Exchange Bank of Sidney; Willis B., who is buyer for O. J. Taylor; and Charles J., who is a traveling salesman, representing the Chicago Hardware Company, with his home at Kansas City, Mo. Mrs. May Belle Lyon died leaving three children. Oliver Earl, the fifth born is deceased, and Edwin, the sixth child in order of birth, died at the age of eight months. Mr. Taylor's second marriage was to Miss Helen C. Search, who is a sister of Prof. P. W. Search, the well-known lecturer. Mr. Taylor has been creditably interested in many of the industries of Sidney and has been called the father of the Sidney fire department, and, in association with the late George Burnell, organized the present paid fire department. For almost his lifetime he has been a member of the Presbyterian church and until recently, when he retired voluntarily from the office, for many years has been an elder in the church. His long life of persevering industry has brought him financial independence and his probity and business integrity have earned him the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens.

L. L. KNOOP, whose well improved farm of seventy-one acres, which he purchased and improved himself, is situated six miles southeast of Sidney, O., has spent the larger part of his life in this part of Shelby county. He was born in Orange township, three-fourths of a mile north of his own farm in Green township, in August, 1871, and is a son of John and Margaret (Martin) Knoop.

John Knoop is a highly respected retired citizen of Shelby county. He was born in Miami county, O., and at the age of seventeen years enlisted in the Civil war, and saw much hard service during the following two years as a member of the 110th O. Vol. Inf., including imprisonment in Libby prison. After his release he continued in the service as a teamster. When his term of enlistment was over he returned to Miami county and there engaged in farming until his marriage to Margaret Martin, when he came to Shelby county and located on the old Martin farm of forty acres. He also engaged in carpenter work and became well known all through this section. In 1909 he removed from the house he had occupied for so many years, to another house on the same farm and now lives in comfortable retirement and is the owner of 203 1-3 acres of land, which his sons operate. Mrs. Knoop passed away March 30, 1889, survived by five children, namely: Samuel, who lives one mile above Port Jefferson; L. L., who lives on his farm six miles southeast

of Sidney, O.; John W., who lives east of Sidney; William, who is located on the homestead; and Mrs. Dora Leckey, who resides north of Plattsville.

L. L. Knoop attended school in Orange township and afterward worked on the home farm until his marriage, when he came to his present property, where general farming and stock raising have been carried on ever since. He has improved the property with modern and substantial buildings and has all his surroundings comfortable and attractive.

Mr. Knoop was married January 11, 1894, to Miss Viola Hunt, daughter of P. R. Hunt, of Green township, near Plattsville, and they have two children: Bertha May and Harley Thomas. Mr. Knoop has served two terms as a trustee of Green township, elected on the Republican ticket, and is recognized as one of the solid and reliable citizens of this community. He is serving as a member of the county fair board and takes a hearty interest in every public movement to advance the interests of this section. Fraternally, Mr. Knoop is a Mason, a Knight of the Golden Eagles and an Odd Fellow, in the last named organization belonging to both the Encampment and the subordinate branch.

JOHN HEISER, senior member of the firm of John Heiser & Son, dealers in coal, lime, cement, plastering hair, sewer pipe and fire clay, at Sidney, O., is one of the stable and representative business men of this city. He was born December 1, 1840, on a farm that now lies in Mercer county, O., but was then in Darke county, and is a son of Lawrence and Rosena (Link) Heiser.

Lawrence Heiser was born in Alsace-Lorraine and for seven years of early manhood served in the French army, then married in his own province and with his wife emigrated to America. After reaching the United States they settled at Canton, O., and lived there for eight years, Mr. Heiser finding employment on the Ohio canal. In 1833 he entered eighty acres of land from the government and settled on the same and both he and his wife died there.

John Heiser remained on the old home farm until 1858, in the spring of which year he came to Sidney, where he learned the blacksmith trade in a building which occupied the site of the one which stands at No. 201 North Ohio avenue, in which he has his coal office. The old building burned down in 1855 or 1856. He learned his trade with Mr. Kingseed, with whom he formed a partnership after the Civil war, about 1866, for the manufacture of plows, and they continued together for eight years, when Mr. Heiser bought his partner's interest and continued plow manufacturing until 1893.

On September 21, 1861, Mr. Heiser enlisted for service in the Civil war, entering Company M, First Ohio Light Artillery, and remained in the same company and regiment for three years, seeing service in Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia, taking part in such great battles as Shiloh, Stone River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Jonesboro, the Flint River siege and many, many others. In spite of the almost constant danger of death, Mr. Heiser was never either injured or captured by the enemy and was finally honorably discharged and mustered out at Camp Dennison. He





WILLIAM RANDOLPH



MRS. WILLIAM RANDOLPH

returned then to Ohio and from January to May 1, 1865, worked at his trade at Urbana, and from June 1, to September 1, at St. Paris, then came back to Sidney, where he went into business as above related. In connection with his manufacturing business, Mr. Heiser had opened another line, becoming a coal merchant in 1879, and this interest he has continued, always in the same building, the site being one of the old business landmarks of the city.

In 1865 Mr. Heiser was married to Miss Mary Danil, who died in 1889, an estimable woman who was beloved by all who knew her. She was a daughter of Gabriel Danil, a farmer in Shelby county. Six children survived her: William L., who is in partnership with his father; Franklin; George; Rosa, who is the wife of August Myer; Raymond; and Amelia, who is the wife of William Ross. Mr. Heiser was married (second) to Frances Mons, who died September 19, 1908.

WILLIAM RANDOLPH, who owns one of the best improved farms of Green township, consisting of 160 acres, situated seven miles southeast of Sidney, for many years carried on extensive farming here but now lives retired. He was born in Clark county, O., near Springfield, July 13, 1826, and is a son of James Butler and Rachel (Stanley) Randolph.

James Butler Randolph was born in New Jersey and was eight years old when his parents took him to Clark county, O., and from there he moved to Miami county in 1839, and in 1852 came to Shelby county where he lived into advanced age, dying on his farm in Turtle Creek township. In earlier years he had followed his trade, being a cooper. He married Rachel Stanley, who was born in Virginia and who also survived into advanced age, her death occurring on the farm of her only surviving child, William Randolph, the family originally being of eight members, five sons and three daughters.

When William Randolph tells of his early school days he describes a log structure with slabs for benches and paper in place of glass in the windows, as the place in which he gained his knowledge of reading, writing, spelling and arithmetic, the primary elements of an education. It was a subscription school and each householder paid according to the number of children he sent to be instructed. Mr. Randolph started out for himself by working by the month on farms and helping the neighbors during haying and harvesting, until his marriage when he bought his present farm, in 1851, and settled on it in 1852. He cleared this land and erected the buildings and continued to make improvements until his property became exceedingly valuable, and continued to cultivate it until he no longer cared for such heavy responsibilities and for some years has rented it to good tenants. His handsome brick residence is one of the finest farm homes in Green township.

Mr. Randolph married Miss Sarah Elizabeth Bull, who is deceased. The following children were born to them: Elias, John, Clinton, William, Edward, Samuel L., Bert and Grant, Elias and William being deceased. Mr. Randolph's second marriage was to Miss Harriet B. Denise, who

was born and educated in Montgomery county, O., a daughter of Hiram Vail and Rachel (Barklow) Denise. The father of Mrs. Randolph was a lumber merchant at Cincinnati. Mr. Randolph is a republican in his political attachment. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. During a long and busy life he has witnessed many wonderful changes come about, and in looking around him misses the faces which long association in family and neighborhood had made familiar, but he still has a close circle of warm friends, and, with the blessing of good health and surrounded with material comforts of all kinds, can enjoy the evening of life untroubled with the cares of earlier years.

MARSHAL K. COON, one of the representative men of Turtle Creek township, Shelby county, O., who is now serving in the office of township assessor and resides on his farm of ninety acres, was born in this township, April 22, 1859, and is a son of Alfred and Elizabeth (Frankeberger) Coon.

Alfred Coon and wife were both born in Shelby county and the former in Turtle Creek township. He learned the tailor's trade in early manhood but later became a farmer and when he retired removed to Sidney. Alfred Coon and wife were parents of the following children: Margaret, who is the wife of Jacob Jenkins; David; John; Mary, who is the wife of Webster Barbour; Caroline, who is the wife of John S. Bush; Edward; Marshal K.; Frank and Lou, who is the wife of James Turner.

Marshal K. Coon commenced early to assist his father and remained on the home place until he was twenty-five years of age and after his father's death bought his present property which was formerly known as the Richard Cannon farm. A general line of farming is here carried on, Mr. Coon aiming to raise only enough stock for home use.

In August, 1882, Mr. Coon was married to Miss Anna Rinehart, who was born at Sidney, O., and is a daughter of Rev. D. B. and Catherine (Etherington) Rinehart. The father of Mrs. Coon was born in Fairfield county, O., November 21, 1825, and died February 27, 1900, aged seventy-four years, three months and six days. Mrs. Coon has one brother, William, who formerly lived at New Bremen, O., but died at Arcanum, and one sister, Clara Jane, who is the wife of Samuel L. McCoy, living at Hastings, Neb. In the Rinehart family is preserved an old family Bible which has descended from father to son for generations and authenticates the genealogy of this family from the time when its progenitors came from Germany to the American colonies, prior to the Revolutionary war.

Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Coon, namely: Alfred R., who married Grace McCormack; Lou Caroline, who married Henry V. Van Demark, and they have two children—Catherine and Anna Wilma; and Florence Catherine. Mr. Coon and family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is one of the trustees. Politically a republican, for many years he has been active in party movements and prior to being elected to his present office, served two terms as township treasurer. He is identified with

the Grange at Hardin, O., and with one exception, he and his wife are the only seventh degree members of the Grange in Shelby county.

GEORGE W. HANSELLMAN, a leading citizen of Cynthian township, Shelby county, O., township assessor and a substantial farmer, lives in section 30, where he owns ninety-nine acres of valuable land. He was born in this township June 3, 1862, and is a son of George and Catherine (Yoder) Hansellman.

George Hansellman, the father, was born in Holland and was seven years old when his parents brought him to the United States and settled in Darke county, O., and he was reared and went to school in Patterson township. He became a farmer in Shelby county and remained there until he married when he moved to Cynthian township, where he acquired a farm of 160 acres, situated on the county line, and here all his children were born and reared. He married Catherine Yoder, who was born in Germany, and eight children were born to them, namely: Eli, who lives at Piqua, O.; John, who lives at Salina, O.; Barbara, who is deceased, was the wife of Hiram Pitsenburger; George W.; William, who is deceased; and Margaret, Lydia and Isabella. The father of the above family died when aged sixty-eight years. The mother still lives on the homestead and considering that she is now in her eighty-first year, enjoys exceptional good health. She is a member of the German Baptist church but her husband was a Lutheran.

George W. Hansellman, with his brothers and sisters, attended school in the Turner special district and afterward learned the carpenter trade at Versailles, O. For a number of years he worked at his trade in Darke, Miami and Shelby counties and during this period, on March 13, 1886, was married to Miss Mattie B. Hemelright. She was born in Cynthian township, a daughter of George and Elizabeth Hemelright, the latter of whom died when Mrs. Hansellman was only eight years old. To Mr. and Mrs. Hansellman six children have been born: Harvey, Erna, May, Mabel, George and Cloyde.

After marriage Mr. Hansellman settled first on a farm of forty acres situated four miles west of Newport, O., and remained there until March, 1909, when he came to his present farm. He found this place in great need of improvement and his skill as a carpenter was immediately called into play in the building of a new residence and in making repairs on all the other farm buildings. He is a republican in politics as was his late father and has frequently been called on to serve in public positions, for three years being a trustee of the township, four years road supervisor and at present township assessor. Mr. Hansellman and family attend the Christian church at Oran, O.

BERNARD BRANDEWIE, who is one of the leading citizens and large land owners of McLean township, having 600 acres and devoting a large portion of this to raising cattle and hogs, was born in May, 1856, in Auglaize county, O., and is a son of Joseph and a grandson of Anton Brandewie.

Anton Brandewie, the grandfather, was born, reared and married in Hanover, Germany, the name of his wife being Mary Wissman, and they con-

tinued to live there for some years and when they came to America they had three children: Joseph, Barney and Catherine. They first made a home in Cincinnati, O., where they lived for six months, and then moved to Minster. At that time the land office was at Piqua and the nearest neighbor was five miles away. They bought a tract of land which is now the site of Minster, O., 160 acres, all in one body and owned by four people, Grandfather Brandewie retaining forty acres for himself. On this tract he spent his subsequent life, dying when aged seventy-two years, his burial being in St. Joseph's cemetery, Egypt. He helped to establish the Catholic church here and gave liberally to its support. He was a strong democrat and always cast his vote at elections even when he had to ride for miles on horseback to do so. He was well known among the early settlers in Shelby county but spent his days in Auglaize county.

Joseph Brandewie was twelve years old when he came to the United States and had attended school in Germany and later learned to read English although it was difficult for him to spell in this language. Probably the first money he ever earned was when fourteen years of age he became a worker on the canal as water boy. Later he drove ox teams and worked in the stone quarries and afterward again worked on the canal, with a Mr. Duncan, probably living all that time in Auglaize county. He then went to Michigan and during the six years he lived there bought 120 acres of land in that state. After he returned to Ohio he married and then bought eighty acres on the Shelby county line, all of it, at that time being totally unimproved. He built a house and barn and improved land as he was able and there comfortably reared a large family and at the time of his death on the original farm, he owned 252 acres, having cleared this land by his own industry. He was an enterprising man and a great worker and lived to the age of eighty-six years and during all this long life but once called in a physician for himself. He was a lifelong democrat and never missed voting and on several occasions was elected to local offices.

Joseph Brandewie was married to Catherine Prenger, who was also born in Germany and was brought to the United States by her parents, Herman and Kate Prenger, when a child. To them the following children were born: Mary, Tony, Bernard, Kate, Agnes, Joseph, Henry, Herman, Bernadine, Caroline, and Josephine. The mother of the above family died at the age of sixty-eight years and she was buried in the Catholic cemetery at Egypt, and many years afterward her husband was laid by her side, they having been among the earliest members of the church and faithful to its teachings, kind, good people.

Bernard Brandewie and his brothers and sisters attended the district schools near their home. In 1880 at the time of marriage, Mr. Brandewie came to Shelby county, and settled where he still lives. He has the larger part of his estate well improved and has two barns and three houses. He has always carried on general farming and for the past thirteen years has been in the livestock business, buying, selling and shipping to all parts of the country. On the portion of his farm on which he resides he put up all the substantial



buildings. It is situated four miles southwest of Minster and three miles west of Fort Loramie.

In 1880 Mr. Brandewie was married to Miss Mary Baumer, who was born at Cincinnati, O., a daughter of Bernard and Mary Baumer, and all of their children have been born in Shelby county. Louis, the oldest, married Elizabeth Severin and they live at Minster. Fred married Dena Ernst and they live in McLean township. Lottie married Barney Artkamp and they live in McLean township. Albert married Mary Ernst and lives in this township. Katie, Cecelia, Edward, Sophia and Lawrence, all live at home. The family all belong to the Minster Catholic church. Mr. Brandewie is a staunch democrat and is a member of the board of education of the Dirksen special school district.

CHRISTIAN KIRSCH, postmaster at Fort Loramie, O., is a representative citizen of this town, of which he has been a resident for forty-two consecutive years. He was born at Troy, in Concord township, Miami county, O., May 1, 1848, and is a son of John and Christina Kirsch.

John Kirsch was born in Hessen, Germany, while his wife was a native of Hanover. About 1855 they moved from Miami county, O., where they had first settled after coming from Germany, and afterward lived in McLean township until their death, when aged respectively seventy and seventy-six years. They were faithful members of St. Michael's Catholic church and were buried in the cemetery adjoining the same. They were well known and highly respected people.

During boyhood Christian Kirsch attended school when his father could spare him and then learned the carpenter trade, beginning work in 1867 and continuing busy at his trade for forty-two years, coming to Fort Loramie in 1870, where he served as the first town marshal. He has been active in democratic politics and for sixteen years served uninterruptedly as a trustee of McLean township and many times has served usefully and discreetly as a member of the town council. It is through the efforts of such men as Mr. Kirsch that communities prosper for they take an interest in the progress of the town and are the agitators who bring about many useful improvements. For twenty-nine years Mr. Kirsch has been a member of the volunteer fire company and one of its early organizers. As postmaster Mr. Kirsch has served acceptably since his appointment September 6, 1907, this being a fourth class office, with one rural delivery route.

Mr. Kirsch was married to Miss Rachel Meyers, who was born at Fort Loramie, O., and is a daughter of Lucas and Otilde Meyers, both of whom are deceased. Ten children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kirsch, four of whom died in infancy. The survivors are: Bernard, who resides at Hamilton, O.; Albert, who resides at Dayton, O.; Adaline, who lives at Minster, in Auglaize county, O.; Anna, who is her father's capable assistant in the post office at Fort Loramie; Christian, who is a resident of Troy, O.; and Carl, who lives at Hamilton, O. Mr. Kirsch and family are members of St. Michael's Catholic church.

ARMSTRONG LOGAN MARSHALL, who has been identified with gas and fuel interests for a number of years and who has been connected with the Miami Valley Gas and Fuel Company since July, 1888, was born on a farm in Washington township, Shelby county, O., September 25, 1840, and is a son of Samuel and Jane McCord (Russell) Marshall.

Samuel Marshall was born in Washington county, Pa., and was three years old when his parents, Samuel and Margaret Marshall, came to Shelby county, away back in 1802, they being the second settlers who had penetrated thus far and established a pioneer home. They entered land from the government which Grandfather Marshall cleared and cultivated in the primitive way. On that wild farm the younger Samuel Marshall grew to manhood and he, in turn, also entered land, his selection being a tract lying one-half mile east of the old Marshall place. There he followed farming and tanning, his old tan-yard being yet recalled by the older residents of that section, and on that farm both he and wife passed away in advanced age.

Armstrong Logan Marshall had much better educational advantages than were afforded his father and he remained at home until he was twenty-three years of age. He then taught school for about six years and later was in the grain business at Harden Station and about this time was first elected county recorder, to which office he was subsequently reelected. Mr. Marshall then became connected with several publishing houses and for eighteen years was engaged in delivering county histories and atlases both in the United States and Canada. He came then to Sidney and shortly afterward entered into his present business connection. For the first three years he occupied a subordinate position and then succeeded Frank Hunter as agent for the Miami Valley Gas & Fuel Company, and both became agents for the Sidney Gas Light and the Sidney Electric Light Companies, and at present he also is agent for the Miami Valley Gas & Fuel Co., the Sidney and Electric Light Company, The Sidney Gas Light Company having quit business.

Mr. Marshall was first married in 1864, to Miss Mary Burness, and one daughter, Mary B., and one son, Samuel, were born to them. His second marriage was to Miss Margaret Walker and they have three sons: Robert, who is a land agent with the Pennsylvania Railroad offices in New York City; and Charles C. and Logan W., both of whom are practicing attorneys. Mr. Marshall is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

WILLIS N. HANCE, one of Shelby county's well known and highly respected citizens, resides on his valuable farm of 140 acres, lying in Perry township, but no longer carries on his farm industries himself, having been retired for some years. He was born in Miami county, O., May 1, 1846, and is a son of Joseph and Patsey (Wilson) Hance.

The father of Mr. Hance was a native of Kentucky. After his marriage in Miami county, O., he engaged there in farming until the close of his life, both he and wife dying on their old homestead not far from Casstown. Ten children were born to them, namely: Lydia, who married Larison Huff; Margaret, who married Chryance Schenck; William; Lewis; Sarepta, who

married Levi Hockman; John; Benjamin; Seymour; Willis N.; and Letitia, who married James Wrigley.

Willis N. Hance attended the district schools near his father's farm in boyhood and afterward assisted in carrying on the work on the homestead and well remembers how laborious much of it was, as at that period much of the labor-saving farm machinery that is now universally in use, was not yet on the market. After marriage he settled on the present farm, on which his wife was born, and has remained here ever since, for many years being one of the active and successful farmers and stock raisers of Perry township.

On January 28, 1869, Mr. Hance was married to Miss Mary Jane Keplinger, a daughter of Mathias and Rebecca (Heckman) Keplinger, both now deceased, their burial being at Sidney. Mrs. Hance had three brothers and one sister: Sylvester, John H., now deceased, Charles A., and Naomi, who is the wife of Daniel Crumbaugh. To Mr. and Mrs. Hance the following children were born: Lilly, who is the wife of Grant Wirick, who is the mail carrier on the rural route out of Pemberton, O.; Charles A., who has charge of his father's farm, married Carrie Cannon and they have four children; Cleora M., Irma B., Rea Vivian and Wilda Margaret; Elsie Love, who is the wife of Charles Williamson, who is a member of the police force at Sidney, O., and they have two children—Leonard and Lois; and Earl W., who married Mary Kuhlman and they reside at St. Mary's, where he is bookkeeper for a business firm. Mr. Hance and family are members of the United Brethren church. He has always advocated reforms when they have appealed to his judgment in both local and outside communities and in his political views is in accord with the principles of the prohibition party.

EDGAR ALONZO SCHENCK, one of the representative citizens and substantial men of Shelby county, O., who resides on one of his farms, a tract of sixty acres, located in Clinton township, owns a second farm, of forty acres, which lies east of Sidney, was born on the farm he occupies, July 13, 1853, and is a son of Schuyler and Deborah (Suthen) Schenck.

The parents of Mr. Schenck were born in New Jersey and came to Ohio in youth, subsequently marrying here and spending the rest of their lives in Clinton township, Shelby county. The father was a shoemaker by trade and also followed farming. They were good, Christian people, members of the Brethren church. Of their children, Edgar Alonzo was the youngest born and is the only one living. The others were: Garrett, John, Henry, Joseph, George, Maria, Daniel and William.

Edgar Alonzo Schenck has spent his life on his present farm and has had the management of it since his school days. All the usual farm industries are carried on on both farms owned by Mr. Schenck, grain growing and stock raising, although he seldom markets any stock, growing largely for his own use. He has some other interests and is a stockholder in the Buckeye Churn Company.

In October, 1875, Mr. Schenck was married to Miss Anna Campbell, of Springfield, Ill., a daughter of Nelson and Margaret Campbell, farming

people there, who had the following children: James, Mary Jane, Catherine, George, William, John, Minnie and Anna. Mr. and Mrs. Schenck have two daughters, both now married, with children of their own. Grace is the wife of John McClure and they have two children, being Floyd and Gladys. Nora D. is the wife of Stanley Young, their children being Mildred, Margaret and Helen. Mr. Schenck and family attend the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically he is a republican.

JOSEPH OSCAR KING, one of the busy and successful general farmers of Clinton township, Shelby county, O., who operates his mother's farm of ninety-four acres, was born in this township, January 4, 1875, and is a son of David M. and Leah (Kauffman) King.

David M. King was born in Mifflin county, Pa., and came to Ohio when a young man. Here he followed farming all his life dying September 21, 1911, and was a well known and highly respected man, a leading member of the Brethren church. He married Leah Kauffman, who was born also in Mifflin county, Pa., and still resides on her farm in Clinton township. To David M. King and wife the following children were born: Alice K., who is the widow of Nicholas Kauffman; Rebecca, who is the wife of George Davis; Sadie, who is the wife of Walter Parcher; Joseph Oscar; Ida, who is the wife of Harry Tenney; and Amanda, who is the wife of Charles Miltenberger.

Joseph Oscar King obtained a common school education and since putting aside his books has devoted himself exclusively to farming and stock raising. The home farm is a valuable property and under his excellent management is very productive. He takes a good citizen's interest in public matters, votes, the republican ticket and at present is a school director.

In 1898 Mr. King was married to Miss Dora Theuer, a daughter of Martin and Anna Theurer. Mrs. Theurer was previously married but her three children, Henry, Charles and Dora, were born to her second union. Mr. and Mrs. King have two children: Helen and Melvin. The family, including the beloved mother, belong to the Brethren church.

WILLIAM F. VALENTINE, who operates the only tile mill in Green township, is an enterprising and prosperous business man of this section over which he is very well known. He was born in De Kalb county, Ind., August 25, 1864, and is a son of John and Nancy Jane (Bailey) Valentine.

John Valentine was born in Orange township, Shelby county, O., where he engaged in farming in early manhood and after marriage lived for one year in Indiana, moving from there to Illinois, eleven years later returning to Ohio. For twenty years Mr. Valentine continued to live in his native state after which he spent three years in Kansas but again returned to Ohio and his death occurred in Shelby county in his seventy-fourth year. For six years he was in the tile business but otherwise devoted himself entirely to farming. He married Nancy Jane Bailey, who was born in Clinton county, O., and still survives. They had the following children: Mrs. Alice Johnson; Jonas I., who lives in Kansas; William F.; Levi E., who lives in Green township; Richard R., who is a resident of Colorado; Thomas C. and Daisy C., both of whom

are deceased; Alonzo and Earl, both of whom live in Perry township, Shelby county.

William F. Valentine assisted his father and attended school until he was fourteen years of age and afterward followed farming until 1890, when he bought the tile mill which he has successfully operated ever since. The usual output of his plant is from eighteen to twenty-two kilns annually and as Mr. Valentine also carries on a business in contract ditching, he makes use of all his own factory product and uses additionally 200 car loads of tile in a year. He has some additional business interests and is one of the directors of the Farmers Telephone Company.

Mr. Valentine was married first to Miss Emma J. Rugh, of Wabash, Ind., who left two children: Mace E. and Grace F. His second marriage was to Miss Nellie J. Duffy, of Shelby county, and they have three children: Hazel, John and Newel. Mr. Valentine and family are members of the Christian church. In politics he is a republican and his party has elected him for his seventh continuous term as township trustee. He belongs to two of the popular fraternal organizations of this section, the Improved Order of Red Men and the Knights of the Golden Eagle.

CLEMENS WOLKE, who is numbered with the representative and substantial citizens of McLean township, Shelby county, O., is treasurer of the Sherman Special School District and the owner of a large property situated in section 10, consisting of 160 acres of valuable land. He was born on this farm, April 8, 1856, and is a son of John C. and Mary Wolke.

John C. Wolke and wife were born, reared and married in Germany and a daughter was born to them there, Ida, who died before they came to America. They had but two children, Clemens being born after they had reached McLean township, Shelby county. They found five acres of their 160 already cleared and John C. Wolke put in a crop as soon as possible and afterward worked constantly to clear his land, being assisted by his son as the latter attained strength to be of material help. Twenty-five acres have been left as a wood lot, but all the rest is made productive through careful cultivation. All the buildings now standing were erected by the present owner and all the other improvements now in evidence were placed here by him. The father and mother both died on this farm, the father when aged seventy-two years. They were excellent people, devout Catholics and good neighbors. Their burial was in the St. Michael's church cemetery.

When aged twenty-three years, Clemens Wolke was united in marriage with Mary Raterman, a daughter of Ferdinand Raterman; a member of an old family of McLean township, and they have one daughter, Bernadina, who resides at home. Mr. Wolke and family are members of St. Michael's Catholic church. He has always been a democrat in his political opinions and has taken an interest in township matters and has been particularly active in advancing the usefulness of the public schools. He has long been a member of the board of education and for eighteen years has been its treasurer. His property is well situated being on the south side of the Sherman turnpike road, and but four miles southwest of Fort Loramie.

FREDERICK H. SLEETER, a well-known and highly respected citizen of Sidney, O., to which city he retired from his farm many years ago, is a native of Ohio, born in Auglaize county, October 23, 1836. His parents were Henry and Catherine Sleeter.

Henry and Catherine Sleeter were born in Germany. After coming to Ohio and settling in Auglaize county, Henry Sleeter acquired a farm of forty acres but whenever opportunity offered worked at his trade of millwright and later left the farm and rented a mill on Greenville Creek, in Darke county, near New Harrison, and took charge of and operated it for one year before his family joined him there. Living conditions were not comfortable there, however, and parents and children returned to Auglaize county and during the cholera epidemic of 1847 the father and the youngest son, Henry, both succumbed to the disease at the same time and their burial was in the same grave. The mother was later married to John F. Meyers, who operated a hotel at Bremen, and F. H. for several years assisted his step-father, serving behind the bar and taking care of the stabling of the horses. Mr. Meyers did a good business as there was much wagon travel at that time east and west through Bremen.

Frederick H. Sleeter had attended a German school in Auglaize county but it was not until he was about fifteen years of age and had entered the employ of Joseph Dowler, in Newberry township, Miami county, that he learned the elements of the English language, being first instructed in Sunday school. He was anxious to learn and made rapid progress, his employers, Joseph Dowler and Henry Wright, who were brothers-in-law, taking a great deal of interest in him, and he remained with them for four years. At that time many young men were going to Iowa to seek better opportunities, and Mr. Sleeter also visited that state but within nine months returned to Ohio and then came to Sidney, where a half-brother, George W. Metzger, was then living, the latter being a son of his mother's first marriage which had taken place in Germany. In the meanwhile, having learned the carpenter trade with Henry Wright, Mr. Sleeter followed the same and prior to 1860, lived for some time in Shelby county with a family connection, Benjamin Wert. After marriage he bought a farm of 140 acres, situated in Green township, on which he lived from 1860 until 1886, at which time he and his wife moved to Sidney, where they have a fine home, the handsome brick residence being on South Main avenue. Mr. Sleeter gave the first farm he owned to his daughter, Mrs. B. T. Bull, and had improved that as well as his present farm of 152 acres which is situated in Orange township.

In 1860 Mr. Sleeter was married to Miss Mary Bucannan, a daughter of David Bucannan, who was one of the pioneers of Shelby county. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Sleeter: Lottie, who is the wife of B. T. Bull; Ella, who is the widow of Judd Miller; William and Olia, both of whom are deceased; Agnes, who is the wife of Jesse



FREDERICK H. SLEETER



MRS. FREDERICK H. SLEETER





L. Frazier; and Thomas B., who died in childhood. Mr. and Mrs. Sleeter are active members of the Universalist church. Formerly he was a democrat in his political affiliation and on that ticket was elected treasurer of Green township, in which office he served with efficiency, but in later years has been identified with the prohibition party. For many years he has been an Odd Fellow.

J. CLEMENS BENDER, residing two and one-half miles southwest of Fort Loramie, O., where he rents an improved farm of 120 acres, lying in section 11, McLean township, is one of the representative citizens of this section and a member of an old Ohio family. He was born in this farm, and is a son of John and Mary (Heilers) Bender.

John Bender was born in Auglaize county, O., and grew to manhood there and engaged in farm pursuits. He married Mary Heilers, who was reared at Minster, O., and they then came to this farm in McLean township and here Mrs. Bender died when her son J. Clemens was only seven years of age. There were five children, namely: John, who is deceased; J. Clemens; and Mary and Katie, who live at home; and Clara, who is deceased.

J. Clemens Bender obtained his education in the Walkup Special School District and then assisted his father and since the fall of 1911 has had entire charge of the home place, carrying on general farming and raising stock for home use. He married Miss Emma Seger, who is a daughter of John Seger, of Fort Loramie, O. The whole family belongs to St. Michael's Catholic church. Mr. Bender votes with the democratic party.

J. F. APPLGATE, who is one of the respected and useful men of Orange township, for the past ten years a member of the school board and interested in everything that promises to be beneficial to this section, resides on his well cultivated farm, which contains fifty-four and one-third acres. He was born February 25, 1849, in Green township, Shelby county, within a half mile of Plattsville, and is a son of Edward and Elizabeth (Kiser) Applegate.

Edward Applegate was born in New Jersey and it is possible that his ancestors came from Holland. He was twenty-five years of age when he came to Shelby county, and bought the land in Green township on which he spent the rest of his life, clearing and developing it through his own industry, dying there when aged sixty-five years. He married Elizabeth Kiser, who was born in Miami county, O., and died at Sidney, when aged eighty-two years. They had six children; Sarah Catherine, who married J. S. Loughlin; Mary E., who is the wife of Francis Bull; John I. C., who lives at Sidney; two who died in infancy; and J. F.

J. F. Applegate attended the district schools in Green township in boyhood, having the usual country boy advantages afforded at that time, and remained with his father until he was twenty-six years old, coming then to Orange township and for ten years afterward lived on his father-in-law's farm. From there he moved to the one he now occupies and successfully operates, for the past twenty years having carried on farming and stock raising here.

During this time he has made many changes and improvements and has a valuable property.

Mr. Applegate married Miss Mina T. Bull, a daughter of Hiram Bull, and five children were born to them: Rollo, who died when aged four years; Fleetwood, who lives near Springfield, O.; Forrest E., who is a resident of Sidney; Charles C., who is the practical home farmer; and Edward, who is now deceased, served as a soldier in the Philippine Islands. Mr. Applegate and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics a democrat, while living in Green township, Mr. Applegate served as a trustee and has also served two times as township clerk and has been a member of the school board since coming to Orange township. He belongs to the Odd Fellows, at Plattsville.

AUGUST B. GUDENKAUF, M. D., a well established physician and surgeon at Sidney, O., and secretary of the Shelby County Medical Society, is a native of Germany, where he was born September 14, 1870. His parents were Anton and Gertrude (Von Huesen) Gudenkauf.

Anton Gudenkauf followed the blacksmith trade in Germany but after coming to America in 1874 and settling in McLean township, near what is now Fort Loramie, Shelby county, O., he engaged in farming but his death in the following year prevented his acquiring any considerable interests in that direction. His widow survives.

August B. Gudenkauf was a child of four years when his parents brought him to America and he lived on a farm through his early school days, later becoming a student in the Sidney high school, where he was graduated in 1893. For seven years afterwards he taught school, following which came a year in the scientific department of the State University, at Columbus, O., which, in turn was followed by a course of four years in medicine, and he was graduated in the class of 1905 from the Ohio Medical University at Columbus. For one year he served as an interne at the Protestant Hospital in that city, in the fall of 1906 coming to Sidney, where he has been engaged in the practice of his profession ever since.

Dr. Gudenkauf married Miss Agnes Albery, of Columbus, and they have one daughter, Catherine Gertrude. Dr. and Mrs. Gudenkauf are members of the Catholic church. He is identified fraternally with the Knights of Columbus, and professionally with county and state medical bodies and with the American Medical Association, and in 1909 served as president of the Shelby County Medical Society, of which he now is secretary. Dr. Gudenkauf has also served on the board of county school examiners.

HARRY J. TAYLOR, proprietor and manager of the Sidney Hardware Company, at Sidney, O., a leading business concern here, has been identified with the hardware trade since a boy. He was born at Sidney, March 27, 1855, and is a son of Oliver J. Taylor, who is also in this line of trade.

Harry J. Taylor was educated in the public schools and afterward worked in his father's hardware store until 1868, when he embarked in business for

himself. Mr. Taylor began in a modest way and through close attention to business and a complete knowledge of all its details, has greatly prospered. To his first quarters he has added space and now has two large rooms and two warerooms and carries a very full stock, handling everything in light and heavy hardware, farm fencing, and factory and plumbers' supplies.

Mr. Taylor was united in marriage with Miss Belle Runyon, of Shelby county, and eight children have been born to them, namely: Oliver F., who is associated with his father in the store, is married and they have three children—Harold, James and Amelia Belle; Harry, who is also in the hardware business with his father; Mabel, deceased, who was the wife of Frederick Heiser, of Sidney, and they had one child, Mary Louise; James T., who is also in his father's store; and Mary, Rosanna, Cora and Julia, all of whom reside at home. Mr. Taylor is active in his citizenship, assuming responsibilities when necessary and in every possible way working for the general welfare. He belongs to several fraternal bodies including the Royal Arcanum and the Order of Ben Hur.

FRANK J. EILERMAN, a well known resident of Shelby county, who is a retired farmer residing in section 9, McLean township, where he owns 120 acres of valuable land, situated two miles east of Fort Loramie, on the Sherman turnpike road, was born in this township, December 9, 1847, and is a son of George Henry Eilerman, an early settler and worthy citizen of this part of the county.

Frank J. Eilerman obtained his education in the Sherman Special School District. Farm industries occupied the entire period of his active life and these he continued until 1910, when he shifted his responsibilities from his own shoulders to the sturdy ones of his son, being fully assured that a capable hand still remained at the plow. Mr. Eilerman came to the present farm following his marriage and with the exception of thirty acres of woodland, placed all the land in a tillable condition. He continued his improvements until he had an entire set of new buildings, those now standing, which are substantial in construction and adequate to farm needs. He found, at times, that parts of his land required draining and that also was attended to and a large amount of tile put down.

In 1873 Mr. Eilerman was married to Miss Catherine Holscher, who was born on this farm, the only daughter of B. H. Holscher, who was a victim of cholera during the epidemic of 1849. To Mr. and Mrs. Eilerman four children were born, as follows: Henry, who lives in Cynthian township, married Mary Dresher; Clemens, who has charge of the home farm, married Lena Dresher; Mary, who is the wife of William Kloeker, of Cynthian township; and Katie, who is the wife of Henry Borger, of McLean township. Mr. Eilerman has always been interested in the public schools and the only office he ever accepted was that of school director. With his family he belongs to St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort Loramie and when this church edifice was built he made a substantial contribution to the fund.

WILLIAM H. MAYER, merchant tailor at Sidney, O., is well known to his fellow citizens here, where he has spent his life and practically grew up in his present line of business. He was born at Sidney, July 8, 1872, and is a son of Andrew and Julia (Bretz) Mayer.

Andrew Mayer was born in Germany in 1829 and before coming to America, learned the tailoring trade. After reaching the United States he located at Lancaster, O., where he worked in tailor shops for a time and then went to Cincinnati and from there, in 1863, came to Sidney, immediately opening his own shop but later closed it and for a time worked as a cutter in other establishments. In 1881 he resumed business for himself and continued until March, 1906, when he retired on account of a slight stroke of paralysis which impaired his health to some extent. At Lancaster, O., he married Julia Bretz, who died in 1896, the mother of the following children: Mary, who was the wife of W. O. Wagner, died in 1892; Charles, who is a tailor in business at Bellefontaine; Delia, who is the wife of P. E. Sherman of Sidney; and Louise, Anna, William H. and Amelia, the last named being the wife of Hon. Charles M. Wyman.

William H. Mayer attended the parochial schools in boyhood and as soon as old and deft enough was permitted to help his father and in July, 1887, entered upon his apprenticeship to the trade. In 1904 he received his diploma as a cutter from the Frederick Cromborg Cutting School, Chicago, Ill., having previously, in 1892, attended the John J. Mitchell Cutting School, New York City. He continued with his father for nineteen years in all, in 1906 embarking in business for himself. He is recognized as one of the most expert cutters and fitters in the city, while his taste, carefulness and good judgment insure wide and continued patronage.

Mr. Mayer married Miss Helen Crusey, a daughter of Edward Crusey, and they have three children: Rosemary, Helen and William. Mr. Mayer and family are members of the Catholic church and he is identified fraternally with the Knights of Columbus and the Elks.

GEORGE KEIFER HIPPLE, whose valuable farm of eighty acres of finely cultivated land lies in Clinton township, was born in Miami county, not far from Troy, O., April 30, 1850, and is a son of David and Elizabeth (Enyeart) Hipple.

David Hipple was born in Pennsylvania, of German parents, and came to Ohio when young, settling in Miami county and marrying there. He followed farming all his life and he and wife were among the earnest members and liberal supporters of the Christian church. They had four children: Taylor; George Keifer; Angeline, who is deceased, was the wife of Samuel Hersey; and Laura Belle, who died when young.

George Kiefer Hipple attended the district school nearest his father's farm and assisted there until he was nineteen years of age after which, for a time, he was in the employ of an express company at Sidney, O. Since then he has resided on his farm where he is extensively and profitably engaged in the

poultry business, making a specialty of White Leghorns, his yards usually having 300 birds, his ready market being at Sidney.

Mr. Whipple was married first to Miss Ella Wilson, of Miami county, who was survived by one daughter, Gertrude, who is the wife of Wade Shilling. In 1882 he was married (second) to Miss Mary Miller, of Miami county, and they have three children: Harry; Walter, who married Ethel West; and Taylor. Mr. Hipple and family attend the Methodist Episcopal church. He is identified with the republican party but has never been a seeker for office.

OWEN DOORLEY, whose valuable farm of 155 acres lies in Orange township, one and one-half miles southeast of Sidney, now lives retired and is surrounded with the comforts that a long life of industry have provided. He was born July 16, 1825, in Ireland, and is a son of Daniel Doorley and wife, neither of whom ever came to the United States.

Owen Doorley helped his father on the home farm in Ireland and attended the parochial schools, and no doubt received instruction and advice from the parish priest when he announced his determination to leave home and seek his fortune in another land. He reached America in safety and spent his first four months in the United States at Philadelphia, Pa., and stopped at other points before reaching Ohio, where he secured work on the C., H. & D. Railroad then in course of construction, which had reached as far as Anna Station. He continued to work as a laborer for some time and then became a farmer and followed agricultural pursuits in Green township, Shelby county, for twenty-five years, being prudent as to his money, and in 1883 was able to purchase this farm. He had sixteen additional acres, which he sold to the Children's Home. Mr. Doorley has shifted his responsibilities to the strong shoulders of his sons but still takes much interest in all farm operations and improvements.

On October 29, 1849, Mr. Doorley was married to Miss Bridget Corcoran, in Ireland, who accompanied him to America and for many years was his cheerful and helpful companion. Her death occurred March 2, 1910. She was the mother of ten children: Anna, who died in infancy; John, who is also deceased; Thomas; Margaret, deceased; Elizabeth, who married Thomas Madigan and has nine children; Joseph, who married Catherine McGuff and has ten children; James; Mary Ann, deceased; Michael and Catherine. Mr. Doorley and family are members of the Holy Angels Catholic church. He is a democrat in his political opinions and has always taken an interest in the party's success but has not sought office for himself. In his long life of eighty-seven years he has witnessed many changes, including improvements in railroad building and in farming, and many comforts of living that now seem necessities, in his early days in Ohio would have seemed the greatest luxuries. Mr. Doorley is widely known and has many warm friends and well wishers.

BERNARD ASELAGE, a successful farmer owning 160 acres of fine land, which is situated in section 6, McLean township, one quarter mile southeast of Fort Loramie, is one of the representative citizens of this township and

is serving in the office of clerk of the Berlin Special School District. He was born in Germany, July 17, 1860, and is a son of George and Helena Aselage, both of whom died in Germany.

Bernard Aselage obtained his education in a German school and remained in his native land until he was twenty-three years of age. Being the only child of his parents he was left alone at their death and came to America by himself, his objective point being Fort Loramie, O. By trade a carpenter he worked for ten years in this neighborhood as such and for one year in Cincinnati, and then turned his attention to farming. For eighteen months he rented land in Cynthian township, then moved to the Adolph Sherman farm, which he rented for nine years, following which he purchased his present place from Bernard Pille. As the land had been improved and all cleared but eighteen acres of woodland, Mr. Aselage found his first expenditure was the main cost in securing a valuable property and a fine home, the residence being a commodious brick structure. Mr. Aselage took possession in the fall of 1902 and here carries on farming and stock raising under very favorable conditions.

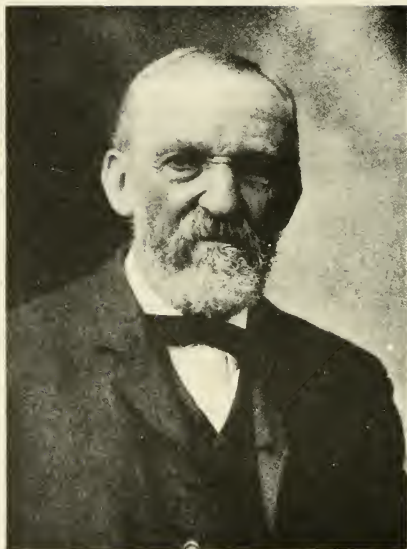
Mr. Aselage married Miss Lena Bruns, who was born in Germany, January 1, 1855, a daughter of Henry and Lena Bruns, and they have the following children: B. H., who lives in McLean township, married Elizabeth Schlater and they have one son, August; William and John, both of whom assist their father on the farm; Albert, who is a student in the Minster high school; and Joseph. Mr. Aselage and family are members of St. Michael's Catholic church, and he belongs to the Catholic Knights of America. In politics he is a democrat and has served McLean township with honest efficiency in the office of road superintendent, and early in 1912 was elected a member of the board of education as above mentioned.

FRANK M. SAYRE, secretary and treasurer of The Farmers Grain and Milling Company, at Sidney, O., one of the large business enterprises of Shelby county, was born in Adams township, Champaign county, O., one mile east of the Shelby county line, September 13, 1868, and is a son of Thomas J. and Margaret (Souder) Sayre.

Thomas J. Sayre was born also on the above farm in Adams township, which land had been entered from the government by his father, Ziba P. Sayre. He married Margaret Souder, who was born at Quincy, Logan county, O., a daughter of Daniel L. Souder, who had come to Ohio from Georgetown, Md., when a boy of sixteen years. Mrs. Sayre passed away in 1902 but Mr. Sayre survives.

Frank M. Sayre was reared to the age of sixteen years in his native county and there attended school and completed his education after coming to Shelby county, in 1883. He was just twenty-one years of age when he began to teach school, and, finding the work congenial, continued for fourteen years, becoming widely known and very highly esteemed all over the county. Later he became station agent at North Creek, O., for the Clover Leaf Railroad Company, resigning that position to become secretary and treasurer of the Farmers Grain and Milling Company at Sidney, in February, 1912.





JOSEPH BOWEN



Mr. Sayre married Miss Daisy E. Russell, who is a daughter of the late Moses J. Russell, a very prominent citizen and extensive farmer in Clinton township. Mr. and Mrs. Sayre have three children: Florence M., Herman and Albert.

JOSEPH BOWEN, owner and proprietor of a general store at Hardin, O., where he has been established for twenty-five years, is a representative citizen of Shelby county and is a veteran of the great Civil war. He was born in Clermont county, O., December 12, 1844, and is a son of Clark and Elishaba (Godfrey) Bowen.

Clark Bowen came from New England, being a native of Rhode Island, a farmer through life and a man of sterling character. His wife was born in Ohio to which state her people had come from New Jersey, where the name of Godfrey is still borne by well-known people. To Clark Bowen and his wife the following children were born: Eliza Ann, who married John Price; Joseph; and Ella, who was married first to G. M. Meyers and after his death to Samuel Lawyer.

Joseph Bowen attended the district schools in his neighborhood during the winter seasons, until he was fifteen years old, when he went to Sharonsville, in Hamilton county, where he was a clerk in a general store and was still there in 1862, when he decided to become a soldier. He enlisted for service on August 16, 1862, in Company E, Eighty-third Ohio Vol. Inf., and remained until his honorable discharge in 1865. For about eight months after the close of the war, Mr. Bowen visited among his relatives, recuperating from his years of hardships, and in that way came to Shelby county, where he became interested in farming and continued until the fall of 1871, when he started into the store and grain business at Hardin Station, in partnership with Isaac Betts. They continued for two years when Mr. Bowen sold his interest and went into the grocery business at Lockington, O. In 1887 he purchased his present store at Hardin and the place thereby gained a valuable citizen who has been active in promoting its advancement and welfare ever since.

On September 8, 1868, Mr. Bowen was married to Miss Christina E. Strate, who was born in Germany, a daughter of Adolphus Strate, who was a brickmaker by trade. The Strate family consisted of four children: Carrie, wife of John Hick; Christina E., Mrs. Bowen; William; and Louisa, Mrs. Tyson. To Mr. and Mrs. Bowen the following children were born: William H., who married Nancy Malcolm; James; Mabel, who is the wife of Frederick Cole; Bonnie, who married Dan Ellsner; Maude; Mary, who died in July, 1911, and Clark. The family of Mr. Bowen belong to the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically he is a republican and he is identified with the G. A. R. at Sidney, O.

WILBUR J. EMMONS, a leading member of the bar of Shelby county, member of the well known law firm of Wicoff, Emmons & Needles, at Sidney, is well known also in other directions, particularly in fraternal circles.

Mr. Emmons was born on a farm situated in Spring creek township, Miami county, O., May 18, 1864, and is a son of Job and Mary A. (Houser) Emmons.

Wilbur J. Emmon's early life was spent on the home farm and because he had more ambition than many of his school mates he was not contented with the educational training received in the country schools but prepared for and entered the National Normal University at Lebanon, O., where he was graduated with the class of 1885. He spent the next year on the farm and then came to Sidney and entered the law office of S. L. Wicoff, as a law student, and was admitted to the bar in 1899 and in the same year became Mr. Wicoff's partner. In 1901 H. H. Needles was admitted to the bar and in the fall of 1904 the present firm was organized, one that stands very high in the county, both collectively and individually. Mr. Emmons is active as a citizen and the value put upon his judgment and integrity by his fellow citizens has frequently been shown by election to positions of responsibility. For three years he was a member of the Sidney board of education and for six years served as a member of the Shelby county board of school examiners.

In 1899, Mr. Emmons was married to Miss Marianna Corwin, of Warren county, who died July 10, 1909, survived by two sons: Corwin J. and Wilbur D. While not particularly active in politics, Mr. Emmons has found interest to no small degree in fraternal associations. He has passed through all the chairs of the local lodge of Odd Fellows and served eleven years on the floor of the Grand Encampment of Ohio, then became Grand Patriarch for the state of Ohio, and at present is one of the representatives of the state in the Sovereign Grand Lodge. He is equally prominent in Masonry and is past eminent commander and at present is captain-general of Sidney Commandery, No. 46, Knights Templar.

BENJAMIN F. FOSTER, whose fifty acres of fine land is situated one mile east of Sidney, bordering on the Tawawa turnpike road, in Clinton township, Shelby county, O., was born on a farm one-half mile south of where he lives, October 6, 1864, and is a son of John and Catherine (Peterhaus) Foster.

The parents of Benjamin F. Foster were born, reared and married in Germany, and one year after marriage came to the United States. They spent the first six months at Baltimore, Md., and then came to Ohio, pausing for a short time at Dayton, and then came on into Shelby county, where they remained for the rest of their lives. John Foster became a substantial farmer in Clinton township. They were members of the Lutheran church and at death were buried in Graceland cemetery at Sidney. They had a large family of children, as follows: Christiana, who is the widow of Jacob Dormire; George and John, both of whom are deceased; Mary, who is deceased, was the wife of John Shaffer; Christian; Lewis, who is deceased; William; Callie, who is the wife of L. W. Kah; Benjamin F.; and Catherine, who is the wife of Henry McCracken.

Benjamin F. Foster had common school advantages and since then has devoted himself to agricultural pursuits, carrying on general farming and raising stock, and all his efforts have been expended on the old homestead.

On November 22, 1894, Mr. Foster was married to Miss Jennie Gearhart, who was born in Perry township, Shelby county, a daughter of Frank and Elizabeth (Miller) Gearhart, both natives of this county. Mr. and Mrs. Gearhart had the following children born to them: Harry, Edward, Lucy, William, Augusta, Jennie and Earl. Augusta is the widow of Ora A. Dunson. Mr. and Mrs. Foster have one son, John F., who was born October 2, 1896, who is a most satisfactory student in the Sidney high school. Mr. Foster and family attend the Lutheran church. Politically he is a democrat but is no aspirant for office, and fraternally he has been connected with the Odd Fellows at Sidney for many years. Mr. Foster is one of the solid, reliable men of Clinton township.

J. W. BROWN, who is one of the intelligent men and successful farmers of Loramie township, Shelby county, O., owning 130 acres of well developed land, ninety of which lie in the Greenwood Special School District, of which he is a valued official, was born near Gettysburg, Darke county, O., June 24, 1877, and is a son of Reuben and Anna Brown, who are highly respected retired residents of Versailles, O.

J. W. Brown was nine years old when his parents came to Loramie township, Shelby county, and he completed his education in the Greenwood Special School District. He entered into business as a farm hand, working by the month, and then for one year raised tobacco, and after this experiment embarked in agricultural activities for himself and has so continued. He devotes his land to general farming and moderate stock raising and is numbered with the prosperous and contented farmers of this part of Shelby county.

On September 14, 1899, Mr. Brown was married to Miss Hulda J. Apple, who was born also in Loramie township and is a daughter of Henry A. Apple, one of the old and well known citizens and wealthy men of the township. On this farm the three children of Mr. and Mrs. Brown were born: Erma Eleanor, Goldie Irene and Mary Henrietta. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are members of the Lutheran church. In politics he has always been a democrat but has never accepted any public office except membership on the school board, his first experience being when he served for two years, filling out the unexpired term of John Boyd, after which he was elected for a period of four years, which ensures his services on this body until 1916.

CHARLES F. SNYDER, one of the representative men of Cynthian township, resides in section 27, where he devotes his 130 acres of valuable land to general farming and cattle raising. This land is in two farms and they are situated one third mile north of the Sidney-Hardin turnpike road. Mr. Snyder was born April 19, 1863, in Miami county, O., and is a son of Henry and Lydia (Ward) Snyder.

Henry Snyder was born in Perry county, O., and was reared and educated there. He married Lydia Ward, who was born in Hocking county, a daughter of Daniel and Delilah Ward. Daniel Ward was a direct descendant of Nathaniel Ward, who was commander of the Patriot forces at Boston, Mass.,

in the early days of the Revolutionary war, before General Washington took command. After marriage, Henry Snyder and wife moved to Miami county and settled in Washington township, and also, at one time lived in Allen county and also in Van Wert county. Grandfather Snyder gave each of his children a farm of 160 acres but Henry Snyder never lived on his tract, trading it for sixty acres of the farm which his son, Charles F., now owns. He died in Cynthian township in March, 1866, and his burial was at Sugar Grove, O., in the cemetery of the Brethren church. His widow continued to live in Cynthian township until 1900, when she moved to South Whitley, Ind., where she died in September, 1905, and her burial was also at Sugar Grove. They were well known and highly respected people and were parents of eight children, namely: Daniel W., who died in 1877, at Peoria, Ill., was aged twenty-four years; Mary A., who is the wife of John P. Golly, of Cynthian township; John W., who died in 1897, at the age of forty years; Isaac, who lives in Cynthian township; Christiana, who lived but ten months; Charles F.; Jerd, who lived but six days; and Henry, who is a resident of Dayton, O.

Charles F. Snyder received his early school instruction in the Forest Special School District but when fourteen years of age was transferred to the Hopewell district, where he attended for four years and then returned to the Forest district and later attended school at Sidney. In the fall of 1883 he took charge of a school in Van Buren township, where he taught for three years and then taught for one year in Dinsmore township. After his marriage he moved to Botkins, and from there, in the spring of 1891, to his present home farm of eighty acres having bought out the other heirs and his mother's dower in 1900; he added to this a fifty acre farm in 1905, and in 1911 he and his son Virgil W. purchased 120 acres in Michigan, where he has done a large amount of improving in the way of draining and building.

In 1886 Mr. Snyder was married to Miss Adella Blakeley, who was born in Dinsmore township, Shelby county, a daughter of John and Elizabeth Blakely, the former of whom was born in Franklin and the latter in Licking county, O., and their parents, respectively, came to Shelby county in 1832 and 1835, being pioneers. To Mr. and Mrs. Snyder were born children as follows: Virgil W., who lives at Beaverton, Mich., married Bessie Ward; Mel-senia, who lives in Turtle Creek township, married R. Schmidt; Carl W., Israel Blakeley and Cora M., all of whom live at home; May, who died when aged twenty-three days; and an infant daughter who died at birth. Mr. Snyder is one of the enterprising and public spirited men of the township, was one of the incorporators and is secretary of the Farmers Telephone Company and lends his influence to further all movements which promise to be for the public welfare. He was reared in the republican party and has always given it support and has been one of its leaders in the county, formerly serving as a member of one of the important county organizations. At present he is serving in his third term as a notary public and since 1898 has been a member of the board of education of the Forest Special School District, of which he is clerk.

SIMON WEHNEMAN, one of the representative men of Loramie town-education of the Beech Grove Special School District since 1902, carries on general farming on his plate of 176 acres, in which he has a one-half interest. He was born here November 8, 1852, and is a son of John Henry and a grandson of John Andrew Wehneman.

John Henry Wehneman was born and educated in Prussia-Germany and was twenty-one years old when he accompanied his parents to America and all settled in Miami county, O., where the parents died and John Henry lived until his marriage, when he came to Loramie township. Here he secured eighty acres of the present farm, it being wild land covered with timber and to the clearing and subsequent cultivating of this land he devoted his best years. His birth took place March 16, 1817, and his death, July 20, 1874. He was an honest, upright man, a hard worker and one who performed every duty of life to the best of his ability. He married Ann Elizabeth Ficken, who was born in Germany April 30, 1825, and died August 15, 1893, the burial of both being in the cemetery at Houston, O. They were members of the United Brethren church. They had the following children, all born on the farm of eighty acres: George, who resides on the homestead with his brothers, Simon and Frederick, who follow him in order of birth; Hannah, who is the wife of Lloyd G. Hoon, residing at Bell Center, Logan county, Ohio; John, who married Elizabeth Stein, who lives on the grandfather's old farm in Miami county; Anna Elizabeth, who married David Christian, residing in Darke county, O.; and Barbara Elizabeth, who is the wife of L. D. Fessler of Loramie township.

Following the death of the father, Simon and Frederick Wehneman took charge of the farm and when the mother died in 1893 bought the place, the additional land having been purchased in 1883 from James Clark. General farming and moderate stock raising have been the successful industries and the land is all called very valuable. Simon Wehneman with his brothers and sisters obtained their education in the township schools and in these same schools, although under more favorable conditions, Mr. Wehneman's children have been educated. He married Miss Anna Christina Roeth, a daughter of Charles and Catherine Roeth, the former of whom is deceased but the latter survives and resides at Covington, O. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Wehneman, namely: Charles Henry, Albert Frederick, Lawrence Edward and Bertha Catherine. The beloved mother of the above children was born April 24, 1868; and died June 26, 1903. In every relation of life she was an estimable woman and with her husband and children belonged to the Lutheran church. Politically Mr. Wehneman has always been identified with the democratic party but has never accepted any office except membership on the school board, being induced thereto by his desire to advance the educational interests of his community.

JOHN C. FEY, for many years a prosperous farmer of Franklin township, Shelby county, O., where he owns sixty-two acres of well-improved land, is at present (1912) interested in the building of a handsome brick residence

at Swanders, O., proposing to retire to this pleasant town in the near future. Mr. Fey is a citizen whose removal will be a loss to Franklin township but Swanders will gain thereby. He was born in Dinsmore township, Shelby county, August 1, 1848, and is a son of Henry and Margaret (Dinehart) Fey.

The parents of John C. Fey were born, reared and married in Germany and from there, in 1845, they came to the United States and then continued their journey until they reached Shelby county. Henry Fey was a tailor by trade but later in life became a farmer and subsequently moved with his wife to Maryland and there both died. They were members of the Lutheran church. Their children were named as follows: Anna, Catherine, Lizzie, Mary, John C., Christian, Edward, Caroline and Eva.

John C. Fey had but meager educational opportunities in his youth as public facilities were very different then from what they are now, and he remained assisting his father on the home farm until he was twenty years of age. Then he learned the wagonmaking trade and followed the same for ten years, but in 1883 turned his attention to general farming and bought his place in Franklin township from James Swanders. In politics he is a republican. At different times he has served as school director and also as road superintendent, and has been a reliable and public-spirited citizen.

In 1874 Mr. Fey was married to Miss Eva S. Hartman, who was born in Indiana, a daughter of Peter and Savillia (Swanders) Hartman, and they have two daughters, Bertha and Emma. Bertha married J. W. Dickensheets and they have two children: Ethel and Ernest. Emma married Asa Fogt, and they have two children: Richard and Mary Eva. Mr. Fey and family belong to the Reformed church at Swanders, in which he is an elder. He is identified with the lodge of the Knights of the Golden Eagle, at Anna, O.

G. S. POLHAMUS for many years was a leading citizen of Washington township, Shelby county, O., where he was a substantial farmer and the owner of the old Polhamus homestead of 120 acres of well-improved land. He was born on that farm, December 31, 1855, and died there May 16, 1911.

In the Washington township schools Mr. Polhamus secured his education, which was afterward supplemented by association with people in different sections and much reading and probably there were no better informed men in the community than he. His fellow citizens recognized his excellence of judgment as well as his personal integrity and elected him to public office and at the time of his death he was a trustee of the township. After leaving the home farm in early manhood he spent four years in Colorado and then returned to Shelby county and for nineteen years resided on and operated the William Booher farm. In February, 1907, he took up his residence on the old homestead and until the close of his life carried on farming and stock raising with marked success.

Mr. Polhamus married Miss Sarah Lawrence, who is a daughter of John Lawrence, a farmer in Shelby county, and two children were born to them: Elsie, who married Glenn Knouff, who operates the farm above mentioned;

and Margaret Grace, who resides with her mother. Mr. Polhamus was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a liberal contributor to its different lines of usefulness. His death was a distinct loss to his community and his memory is held in tender regard not only by his family but by many others to whom he had been a kind neighbor or sympathetic benefactor.

JOHN C. WARD, whose finely improved farm of eighty acres is situated in Perry township, is a well-known and representative man of this section. He was born in Muskingum county, O., May 12, 1850, and is a son of Thompson and Lucinda (Cargill) Ward. They also were natives of Muskingum county and came to Shelby county in 1853, where their subsequent lives were spent, the father being a farmer. His death occurred on the home place in Perry township, on March 29, 1869, on which his widow still resides.

John C. Ward attended the district schools. When his father died he was eighteen years of age and he assumed charge of the property and carried on the usual farm industries there until 1884, when he moved to his present farm, which he purchased from Joel Drake. Here he erected a commodious residence, new barns and other farm structures and has been equally careful in enriching and cultivating his land. A general farming line is successfully carried on.

On September 30, 1876, Mr. Ward was married to Miss Susan D. Staley, who belongs to one of the old pioneer families of Shelby county. Both of her parents, Nicholas and Mary (Baker) Staley, are now deceased, their burial being at Port Jefferson, O. They had the following children: Margaret, who is the wife of John Bruner; Henry; Mary, who is deceased; John T.; Jennie, who is the wife of Port Blue; Susan D., who is the wife of John C. Ward; David C., who is deceased; and Squire Nicholas.

Mr. and Mrs. Ward have four children and one grandchild: Roland G., who married Clara Abbott; Edith, who married Samuel Rolfe; Verne, who married Chloë Apple and they have one son, Virgil; and Pearl, who married Oscar Key. The Ward family belongs and gives generous support to the Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mr. Ward is one of the trustees. In politics he is a republican.

JOHN CHARLES FREMONT KIGGINS, who is a retired farmer, since 1905 has been a resident of Sidney, O., where he is well known and highly respected and was born in Shelby county, O., September 3, 1855, on a farm of forty acres, the old home place, situated in Orange township, which he disposed of at the time of retirement from active life. He is a son of John Robert and Sallie Ann (McCloskey) Kiggins. John Robert Kiggins was born in Miami county, O., and was a son of Robert Kiggins, who was a native of Ireland. After marriage John Robert Kiggins came to Orange township, and settled on the above mentioned farm and continued to reside there until his death in 1898.

John C. F. Kiggins was reared on the home farm and spent forty-nine years there, all his life practically until 1905, with the exception of five years

following his marriage, when he rented land. When he contracted to purchase the homestead he had no capital, but afterward he developed a large amount of business sagacity which not only enabled him to honestly clear off this indebtedness but also to make other wise investments. At one time he owned a farm of seventy-two acres, situated in Logan county, which property he sold one year later to great advantage. Another farm of eighty acres, located in Jackson township, near Jackson Center, he owned for three years and then sold at a much higher price than he had paid, the difference being between \$85 and \$117 per acre. Mr. Kiggins then went on a prospecting tour to Houston, Tex., and in that vicinity bought 320 acres, paying \$38 per acre, which he held for an advance in price, and recently sold one-half of the tract for \$45 per acre, still retaining the rest of the land. Still later he purchased twenty acres, for a town site, paying \$250 an acre, and this valuable property he still holds. When he decided to retire and move to Sidney, he bought his fine residence on South Miami avenue and began to consider propositions for the sale of his homestead, on which he had made excellent improvements. When he finally disposed of the forty acres he received what was regarded as a record price, \$150 an acre. That the land is worth that and still more has been evidenced by a still later change of owners, the last purchaser paying \$175 per acre, this giving a pretty fair idea of the general value of Shelby county farm land when it has been properly developed.

In the fall of 1884, Mr. Kiggins was married to Miss Laura Ella Cozier, who was born at Piqua, O., a daughter of Theodore Cozier. Mr. Cozier and family lived at Piqua until Mrs. Kiggins was sixteen years of age, when he traded his city property for a farm in Green township, Shelby county. Mr. and Mrs. Kiggins are members of the First Baptist church at Sidney, in which he is a deacon. He has been identified with the order of Odd Fellows for many years.

JOHN F. MEIGHEN, one of the substantial citizens and experienced farmers of Orange township, residing on his well cultivated farm of eighty acres, which is situated six and one-half miles southeast of Sidney, O., a part of the old Bull homestead, was born in Warren county, O., November 6, 1849, and is a son of Amos and Julia Ann (Long) Meighen.

Amos Meighen also was born in a Warren county and for some years was a farmer there but in 1867 moved to Shelby county, where the rest of his life was spent, his death occurring at the age of seventy-five years. He married Julia Ann Long, who was born in Pennsylvania and died in Shelby county, in her sixty-third year. They had three children: Mrs. Mary Anderson, John F., and Mrs. Alice Hetzler.

John F. Meighen attended the public schools near his father's farm in boyhood and after assisting his father for some years rented land for himself and has devoted his life to agricultural pursuits. In 1906 he came to his present farm and here carries on general farming and raises stock for his own use. Mr. Meighen married Miss Johanna Bull, who was born in Orange township, is a daughter of Hiram Bull, and they have three children: Minnie,



who is the wife of Denton Simes; William, who is superintendent of the Children's Home, in Shelby county; and Edna May, who is a teacher of music in the township schools. Mr. Meighen and family belong to the Baptist church. In politics he is a democrat.

WILLIAM H. FRISTOE, one of the leading men of Shelby county, and one who is known in democratic politics all over Ohio, came to this county in 1864 and it has been his home ever since. He was born on a farm in Hocking county, O., March 22, 1851, and is a son of Charles and Anna Maria (Beery) Fristoe.

Charles Fristoe was born and reared in Virginia and was twenty-one years of age when, in 1833, he came to Licking county, O. He was married near Bremen, in Fairfield county, to Miss Anna Maria Beery, who was reared there and was a member of one of the old, prolific and substantial families of that section, of Virginia ancestry. The Beery family still holds yearly reunions and William H. Fristoe is president of the organization. After marriage, Charles Fristoe bought a farm near Gore, in Falls township, Hocking county, and moved to Shelby county in 1864 when William H. was thirteen years of age, and here Charles Fristoe died in May, 1876. His widow survived many years, passing away at the home of her son in 1890.

William H. Fristoe was reared on the home farm and first attended school in Hocking county and afterward in Shelby county and when he started out for himself spent the first season working on a farm south of Sidney, in Orange township. Afterward he was employed in a brick yard in Turtle creek township, but in 1874 came to Sidney and learned the carpenter trade and for some years worked at bridge carpentering all over the state. In 1884 he was elected town marshal of Sidney and served for four years but in 1889 went into the implement business, as a member of the firm of Fristoe, Stewart & Co., five years later becoming an independent dealer and conducting his business alone for four years, when he was elected sheriff of Shelby county, in which office he served for two terms, from January 1, 1898, to January 1, 1902. Mr. Fristoe then bought the old Fielding farm in Clinton township, near Sidney, and carried on agricultural operations here for five years, during which time, through his efforts in securing the petition, he succeeded in having the fine turnpike road built which was named in his honor. After selling his farm he resumed the implement business at Sidney and continued until 1908, when he disposed of it to the firm of Arnet & Son. He has been active politically since early manhood and has served in many public offices and capacities as indicated above and for four years was a member of the city council of Sidney. In June, 1910, he was elected deputy state oil inspector of Ohio, and in January, 1911, was elected a member of the county board of infirmary directors and is clerk of this body.

In the fall of 1884 Mr. Fristoe was married to Miss Uretta Hall, a daughter of Marion Hall, then a well-known citizen and locally noted as an auctioneer, whose death occurred in February, 1911. Mr. and Mrs. Fristoe had two children born to them: Charles Marion, who is a soldier in the United

States army; and William Robb. The mother of these sons died July 20, 1907. Since 1873 Mr. Fristoe has been an Odd Fellow, in which organization he has advanced to encampment membership, and since 1892 has been identified with the Masonic bodies.

JACOB W. RICHARDS, an honored veteran of the Civil war, to which great struggle he dedicated three years of early manhood, is one of the prominent and substantial citizens of Turtle Creek township, where he owns 240 acres of valuable land. He was born in Miami county, O., November 23, 1836, and is a son of Richard and Sarah (Timmons) Richards.

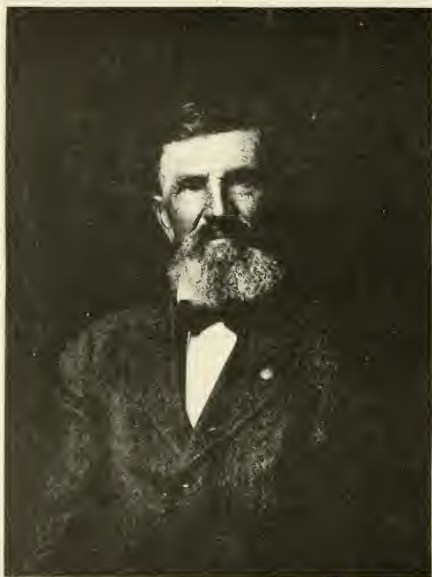
Richard Richards was probably of Welsh ancestry but was born in Virginia and married after coming to Ohio. He followed farming throughout a long and industrious life and the family has always been held in respect in the communities in which it has been known. To Richard and Sarah Timmons the following children were born: Henry, Jacob and Jennie; Sarah, wife of Amos Fee; and Samuel and Martha.

Attending the district schools and helping on the home farm describes in general terms the life of Jacob W. Richards before the death of his father. At that time he was nineteen years of age, and as changes came about then in the home, he hired out to work by the month and so continued until he enlisted for service in the Civil war. On August 11, 1862, he became a member of Company H, Ninety-ninth Ohio Vol. Inf., and for three long years camped and marched and fought, a cheerful, obedient and courageous soldier, often facing almost certain death on the battle field but being mercifully preserved from all serious injury. After the end of his military service he returned to Shelby county and ever since has followed an agricultural life, in 1872 purchasing his present farm. For some years afterward he was obliged to labor very hard as little clearing had been done on this land, but it has well repaid his efforts and is now one of the most valuable properties in the township.

In 1871 Mr. Richards was married to Miss Martha McClure, who was born in Shelby county and is a daughter of Andrew and Jane (Hutchison) McClure, the former of whom was born in Virginia and the latter in Kentucky. To Mr. and Mrs. McClure the following children were born: John and Andrew; Margaret, who married Samuel Stevenson; Mary Ann, who married James Hutchison; James and William; Sarah, who is the wife of William Fee; Rachel, who is the wife of Thomas Spence; George; and Martha, who is the wife of Mr. Richards.

To Mr. and Mrs. Richards four children were born, namely: Emma, who is the wife of Grant Ike and they have children—Cora, Carl, Erma, Catherine and Kenneth; Lorenzo, who married Bonnie Miller and they have children—Willa, Willis and Lowell; Charles, who married Sadie Enders, and they have children—Jennette and Frances; and Nora, who is the wife of Franklin Hill, and they have one son, Gerald. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a republican in





JACOB W. RICHARDS

politics but his ambitions have never been in the direction of office holding, his preference for a quiet life after years of war making him a contented as well as successful tiller of the soil. Mr. Richards is widely known and is held in high esteem.

W. O. AMANN. Among the old and reliable business houses of Sidney, is that of W. O. Amann, jeweler and optician, who has been established in this line and at his present location, No. 112 North Main avenue, for the past thirty-three years. He was born at Sidney, O., February 17, 1855, and is a son of Ferdinand and Catherine (Wagner) Amann.

Ferdinand Amann was of French extraction. By trade he was a tailor and in the forties established himself at Sidney and later went into the hotel business, owning what is now the Wagner hotel, which he conducted during and after the Civil war. He became prominent in county politics and served out two terms as county treasurer, one of his sons, Benjamin B. Amann, succeeding him in the office. He married Catherine Wagner, a member of a very widely known and substantial family of this section. Ferdinand Amann died at Sidney in 1874 but his widow survived into advanced age, her death occurring in 1904.

W. O. Amann was reared at Sidney, where he has always lived with the exception of two years, during which period his parents resided at Fort Wayne, and he was educated in the public and parochial schools. He learned the watchmaking trade with the late C. Schwerer and later purchased his instructor's business and has conducted it ever since, in point of business being the oldest man in this line in the city.

Mr. Amann married Miss Catherine Robertson, a daughter of Wallace W. Robertson, of Sidney, the latter being a brickmason, who died at Sidney in 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Amann are members of the Catholic church. In politics he is a democrat and for the past twelve years he has been chairman of the democratic judicial district, which includes Shelby, Auglaize, Mercer and Allen counties.

ELVA N. MIDDLETON, one of the representative men and substantial general farmers of Green township, where he operates a tract of 100 acres, forty of which is his own and sixty belongs to his father, was born October 12, 1873, on a farm one and one-fourth miles north of this one, the latter being situated in Shelby county, O., seven and one-half miles southeast of Sidney. He is a son of James G. and Margaret (Nutt) Middleton.

James G. Middleton was born in Hamilton county, O., a son of John and Lydia (Graham) Middleton, and a grandson of William and Rachel Middleton. John H. Middleton was born in Hamilton county, January 29, 1814, a blacksmith and farmer. On December 5, 1838, he married Lydia Graham, a daughter of James and Mary E. Graham. She was born in Lancaster county, Pa., August 14, 1818, and accompanied her parents to Hamilton county, O., in 1823, and after marriage she and her husband lived in Hamilton county until 1853, when they came to Shelby county and settled in Green

township. They had the following children: Lucinda H., James G., Mary J., David, Elizabeth, Lewis N., Alice B., and William. When his parents came to Shelby county, James G. Middleton was eleven years old and he has continued his residence on the old homestead farm, now living in comfortable retirement, being aged seventy years. He married Margaret Nutt, who also survives, and they have three children: H. C., who lives one mile south of his brother's farm; John, who lives one and one-half miles north of this property; and Elva N.

After his school days were over, Elva N. Middleton followed farming on the old home place, and then settled on his own farm about fifteen years ago, and has devoted his attention to a general agricultural line. The excellent improvements seen on the place he made at different times and the appearance of comfort and thrift indicate Mr. Middleton's careful interest in his present activities. He married Miss Eva May Proctor, a daughter of George Proctor, one of the old settlers of Green township, and they have four children: Don, Catherine, Grace and Robert. In politics Mr. Middleton has been a staunch republican for many years. Fraternally he is identified with both the subordinate and encampment branches of Odd Fellowship and the auxiliary order of Rebeccas, and belongs also to the Modern Woodmen.

J. L. ATKINSON, who may be termed the leading business man of Plattsville, O., as he owns and conducts the only general store in the place, also owns a valuable farm of eighty-five acres, which lies in Green township, Shelby county, O. He was born in Green township, one mile east of this village, February 28, 1864, and is a son of Ralph and Martha (Johnson) Atkinson.

Ralph Atkinson and wife were born in Pennsylvania and after their marriage came to Shelby county and became farming people in Green township and there spent the rest of their lives, both dying near the age of sixty-eight years. They had eight children born to them: K. T., residing at Piqua; Samuel, of Bellefontaine; Mrs. Ella Zinks, of Darke county; Mrs. T. K. Minnear, of Plattsville; Mrs. Mary L. Simes, of St. Mary's; Harvey, living in Miami county; J. L.; and Mrs. Hannah Rolfe, residing in Green township.

After his school days J. L. Atkinson worked on the home farm for some years and then went to Champaign county for a time but was later returned to Green township and operated his farm there until 1908, when he purchased his store at Plattsville from P. L. Frazier. He carries a large stock of assorted merchandise, including hardware, and enjoys a large trade, his customers coming from quite distant points on account of the excellent quality of his goods and his honest methods of dealing. Mr. Atkinson is just the kind of man a community needs to assist in its development, being energetic, progressive and far-sighted.

Mr. Atkinson was married first to Miss Retta Woolley, who died in Green township, leaving two children: Ralph and Mrs. Ona Hand. Mr. Atkinson's second marriage was to Miss Lizzie Soby and they have one daughter, Anna. In politics Mr. Atkinson is a democrat and he is serving in his first term as

township trustee. He is identified with the lodge of Odd Fellows at Plattsville, and he and family attend the Universalist church.

JOHN W. HARP, general farmer residing in section 33, Cynthian township, where he owns eighty acres of valuable land, was born December 3, 1853, in Loramie township, Shelby county, and is a son of Albert and Catherine (Galley) Harp.

Albert Harp was born at Piqua, O., of Scotch and German parentage, and was reared to manhood at Lockport, O. He married Catherine Galley, who was born in Carroll county, Md., of German parents, and twelve children were born to them, four of whom now live in Ashland county, one in Kansas, one in North Dakota, and the following in Shelby county: Mrs. Elizabeth McLellan, of Cynthian township; Jacob, of Sidney; and John W. Albert Harp was a plasterer by trade and was accounted a good workman. In his youth he served as a soldier in the Mexican war and during the Civil war served as a member of the Fiftieth O. Vol. Inf., fortunately escaping all injury in both wars and living to return to Loramie township, Shelby county, where he had previously established his home. He died in Cynthian township on his seventy-first birthday, having outlived his wife for many years, she passing away when aged fifty-four years. They attended the Dunkard church and both were interred in the Dunkard cemetery in the eastern part of Cynthian township.

John W. Harp attended the district schools and under his father learned the plasterer's trade and worked more or less at that trade up to 1900, after marriage residing for nine years in Paulding county and then settling on his present farm in Cynthian township. Seventeen years ago he purchased this property from the Danferd heirs. It had been partially cleared but all the fencing was done by Mr. Harp and all the erecting of the present substantial buildings. The land is well situated, lying three-fourths mile south of the Sidney and Hardin turnpike road.

Mr. Harp married Miss Lydia Roads, a daughter of John S. Roads, a former resident of Loramie township, and ten children were born to them, although but three are now living: Clara, who is the wife of Alfred Ward, and they live in Michigan; Pearl May, who is the wife of A. A. Woods, of Cynthian township; and Edward, who assists his father on the home farm. The mother of the above children died when aged fifty-four years, four months and twelve days, and her burial was at Houston, O. She was a woman of many virtues and was a consistent member of the Christian church at Oran. In his political sentiments Mr. Harp has been a republican since early manhood and has frequently been called on by his party to accept local responsibilities. He served as township trustee for seven years and was also school director for many years and for fourteen years has been treasurer of the school fund of the Oran special school district.

WILLIAM H. PERSINGER, who is a member of the prominent grain firm of J. E. Wells & Co., operators of grain elevators in Shelby, Miami and

Logan counties, O., has practically been in the grain business all his life. He was born in Logan county, O., on his father's farm south of Quincy, in 1875, and is a son of Henry D. Persinger.

The parents of Mr. Persinger moved to Quincy when he was about one year old and thus the youth had both social and school advantages and became a graduate of the Quincy high school. Soon afterward he entered the office of J. E. Wells, a prominent grain merchant of Quincy, in the capacity of bookkeeper, and continued until 1898, when he became a member of the firm. His business enterprise and capacity have made him valuable in his present connection and his own interests, with those of the firm, have continuously expanded. He assisted in the organization of the Miami Valley Bank of Quincy, of which he is a director, Mr. Wells being president of the bank.

Mr. Persinger was married at Quincy, O., to Miss Maud E. Neal, of Champaign county, O., and they have resided at Sidney for the past seven years. The company has fine business headquarters in the Citizens Bank building at Sidney.

CHARLES F. BROERMAN, who is one of Shelby county's most respected citizens, is a large landowner in Ohio, having 291 acres in his home place in Cynthian township, and eighty-two acres in Wabash township, Darke county, about seventy-five acres of his land being in timber and pastures. He was born in Germany, January 29, 1864, and is a son of Frank and Elizabeth Broerman.

The parents of Mr. Broerman came from Germany to the United States in 1867 and settled on land in Shelby county, O., located one mile west of Fort Loramie. That place continued their home as long as they lived. They were members of St. Michael's Catholic church.

Charles F. Broerman was three years old when his parents brought him to Shelby county and he attended school in the Walkup special school district in Cynthian township and afterward engaged in farm work and after his marriage settled on his present place. He set about making improvements, erected the comfortable residence and remodeled or repaired all the other buildings, put down tilings where necessary and built substantial fences. He has carried on farming and stock raising with very satisfactory results and is numbered with the prosperous agriculturists of this section.

Mr. Broerman married Miss Catherine Kuether, who was born in Auglaize county, O., a daughter of Henry Kuether, and they have had seven children, namely: Emma, Clara, Frank, John, Robert, Leo and Adeline, the youngest dying at the age of one month. Mr. Broerman and family are members of St. Peter and Paul Catholic church at Newport, O., and for the past four years Mr. Broerman has been church warden. In politics he is a democrat and at present is serving as treasurer of the board of education of the Short special school district.

C. G. GINN, who operates his excellent farm of ninety-two acres according to modern methods of agriculture and meets with very satisfactory returns,



resides in Green township, Shelby county, six miles southeast of Sidney, in a very beautiful section of country. He was born in 1864, in Shelby county, O., three miles north of Sidney, and is a son of George and Ella (Wells) Ginn.

George Ginn was born in Ireland and was brought to the United States by his parents when two years old. They settled on the west line of Shelby county, and there the son grew to manhood. When twenty-one years old he left home for the gold fields of California and for six years followed mining in that state but when he determined to locate permanently he returned to the East, settling first on land north of Sidney, O., where he remained until 1874, when he removed to White county, Ill. For five years Mr. Ginn engaged in farming there but in 1879 came to Green township, Shelby county, settling on the above mentioned farm and here the remainder of his life was passed, his death occurring at the age of seventy-three years. He was a well-known man, one widely informed, and had many friends in whatever section he chose to make his home. He married Ella Wells, a daughter of James Wells and she survives, being now in her seventy-fourth year. Five children were born to George Ginn and wife: Wilbur A., who lives at Sanford, Fla.; C. G.; Charles Earl and Grace E., both of whom live at Cincinnati; and Sarah Frances, who lives with her mother and brother on the old homestead.

C. G. Ginn attended the country schools and afterward enjoyed one term at Lebanon, O. He then returned home to assume charge of the home farm and here has continued to carry on general farming and moderate stock raising to some extent. In politics he is a Republican and for seven years has served as assessor and as member of the school board. Since early manhood he has been identified with the Odd Fellows and belongs to the lower branch at Plattsville and the encampment at Sidney. With his mother and sister he attends the Methodist Episcopal church at Plattsville. Mr. Ginn is unmarried.

HENRY WENDELN, who owns a very valuable farm containing 178 acres, which lies in section 11, McLean township, adjoining the town of Fort Loramie, on the north side, is one of the substantial and representative citizens of this section of the county. He was born February 26, 1855, in Auglaize county, O., and is a son of Henry Wendeln, and a grandson of William Wendeln.

Grandfather William Wendeln emigrated from Germany with his family of five sons and three daughters and settled in Auglaize county, O., securing 160 acres of government land situated in Jackson township. This was in 1833 and as yet no roads had been constructed in the township and it took a long time to go to and from Piqua, the nearest provision point. The grandfather survived for five years after coming to America, his death occurring on the above farm and his burial being at Minster, in the Catholic church cemetery, having been a lifelong member of that faith.

Henry Wendeln, son of William, was born in Oldenburg, Germany, and accompanied his parents to the United States. He worked for several months at Cincinnati, O., and then took charge of the farm in Jackson township and was married to Elizabeth Duttman. She also was a native of Germany and

had been in America but three months when she married and ten children were born to them, four of whom are yet living, Henry being the second youngest of the family. The father, Henry Wendeln, continued to carry on the farm until his death, at the age of fifty years and was survived by his wife for ten years, she then being aged fifty-nine years. The grandmother survived both her son and daughter-in-law, living to the age of eighty-nine years and her last days were made comfortable by the kind attentions of her grandson, Henry Wendeln.

About two years before his grandmother's death, Henry Wendeln came into possession of the home farm and continued to live there for five years following his marriage and then sold it to advantage and bought his present farm, in 1882, it being but partly improved. Mr. Wendeln remodeled the residence and made other improvements, has cleared about forty acres and still has twenty acres in valuable woodland. He carries on a general farming line, Fort Loramie giving him a ready market, and is one of the prosperous agriculturists of this section.

In 1877 Mr. Wendeln was married to Miss Mary Anna Liening, who was born at Minster, O., a daughter of Benjamin Liening. She died in May, 1890, and her burial was in St. Michael's cemetery, her age being thirty-five years. She was the mother of five children, namely: Louis, who is a farmer near Wheatfield, Ind., married Bertha Panchar; Katie, who lives at Cincinnati, O.; Rosa, who is the wife of Benjamin Schulte, living at Maria Station; Edward, who assists his father; and Joseph, who died at the age of nine months. In 1892 Mr. Wendeln was married to his present wife, Catherine Bohman, who then lived at Annexburg, Ind., and they have seven children: Carrie, Dena, Eleanor, Mary, Millie, John Henry and Andrew. Mr. Wendeln has given his children all possible advantages and they have done well at school. Since January, 1912, he has been a member of the board of education of the Berlin special school district. The family belongs to St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort Loramie.

WILLIAM F. MEIGHEN,, superintendent of the Shelby County Children's Home, was born in Shelby county, O., September 4, 1876, and is a son of John F. and Johanna (Bull) Meighen, and a grandson of Amos Meighen and of Hiram Bull, the former an early settler of Warren county and the latter of Shelby county.

John F. Meighen was born in Warren county, O., November 6, 1849, and now resides on his farm of eighty acres situated six and one-half miles southeast of Sidney. He married Johanna Bull and they have three children: Minnie, wife of D. J. Simes; William F. and Edna May. Mr. Meighen is one of the highly respected citizens of Orange township and the family is well known in the neighborhood and is prominent in the Baptist church.

William F. Meighen obtained his education in the schools of Miami county and until he accepted his present responsible position, devoted himself to farming and stock raising, in the meanwhile becoming so well and favorably known in the county's various welfare movements that his appointment as

superintendent of the Children's Home in March, 1912, brought general satisfaction and public approval. He has been twice married and to his first union one child was born that died when aged one year. His second marriage took place in 1908, to a daughter of John S. and Victoria Stapleton, formerly farmers in Champaign county but now living retired at Christianburg, O. Mrs. Meighen has one brother, Ulysses. She has been interested in this line of work almost all her life and possesses the temperament and personal attributes that admirably fit her for it. She has been connected with a number of public institutions, including the State Pythian Home at Springfield, O., the Masonic Home and the Children's Home of Miami county, O. Mr. and Mrs. Meighen are members of the Baptist church. In politics he is a democrat.

HENRY FORTMAN, clerk of the board of education of the Dirksen special school district, McLean township, is a prosperous agriculturist and resides on his farm of eighty acres situated in section 9, one mile west and one mile north of Fort Loramie, O. He was born in Germany September 8, 1865, and was six years old when his parents, Henry and Elizabeth Fortman, came to America. Of their three children he is the only survivor.

Henry Fortman grew up on the home farm in McLean township and attended school until he was thirteen years of age pretty regularly but since that time has devoted himself to tilling the soil and growing stock. With his father he cleared about sixty acres of this land and all but twenty acres of woodland is well drained and tiled. His farm products are grain, hay and potatoes largely, with cattle and hogs and an abundance of fruit.

Mr. Fortman was married first to Miss Agnes Berning, who was born in McLean township and died here July 25, 1893, survived by one son, Bernard. His second marriage was to Miss Mary Riethman, a native of McLean township and a daughter of Anton Riethman, and the following children have been born to them: Anton, Laurence, Louetta, Henry, Raymond, Alvena and Hilda. Mr. Fortman and family are members of the Catholic church at Minster, O. In politics he has always been identified with the democratic party.

SHELBY J. BRANDENBURG, who belongs to a family that has lived in Shelby county through several generations, ever esteemed and held in respect, owns an excellent farm of fifty-five acres, situated in Franklin township. He was born in Jackson township July 11, 1863, and is a son of Joel and Hannah (Le Master) Brandenburg.

Both parents of Mr. Brandenburg were born also in Jackson township, Shelby county and both are now deceased and their burial was in the Pearl cemetery. The father was a member of the Reformed church and the mother was a Methodist. They had three children: Linsley C., Amanda, wife of Scott Ewing, and Shelby J.

After completing the public school course, Shelby J. Brandenburg remained with his father on the home farm until he was twenty-seven years of age,

after which, he rented land for himself in Salem township for four years, later land in Franklin township for eight years, in Turtle Creek township for three years and once more rented in Franklin township, but, after four more years of renting, in 1909 purchased his present farm from J. M. Forsythe. He has made all needed improvements on his property and carries on general farming, raises sufficient stock for home use, and is numbered with the solid, reliable agriculturists of this section.

In 1892 Mr. Brandenburg was married to Miss Mary E. West, who was born also in Shelby county; a daughter of William and Levina (Conover) West, the former of whom is deceased, but the mother of Mrs. Brandenburg survives and resides at Sidney. Mr. and Mrs. West had children as follows: John, Lester, Edward, Mattie, wife of George W. Zedecker, Charles, and Mary E., the wife of Mr. Brandenburg, and they have three children: Cora, who is a teacher in Turtle Creek township; Clyde and Lenita. The family belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. In his political views Mr. Brandenburg is a democrat.

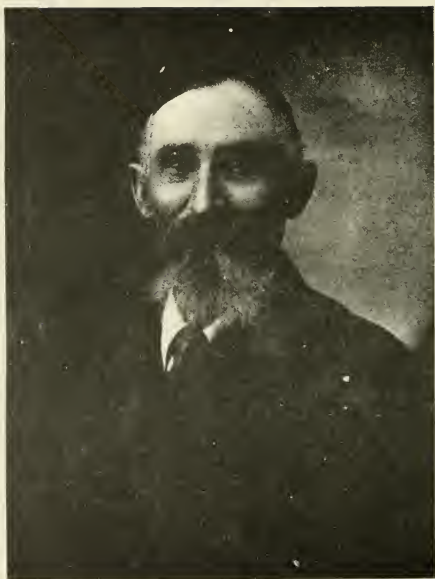
CHARLES M. DORSEY, who is a representative of one of the earliest pioneer families of Shelby county, is a well-known citizen of Sidney where he has been engaged in newspaper work prior to July 1, 1898, since which date he has been assistant postmaster. He was born on his father's farm in Green township October 27, 1870, and is a son of Snowden Taylor and Anna (Mathers) Dorsey.

Snowden Taylor Dorsey was born in 1825, in Green township, a son of John Dorsey, who came from Maryland and settled in this section when it was yet a wilderness. Snowden T. Dorsey was reared on the pioneer farm and attended the first school ever organized in Green township. He learned the carpenter trade and also was a farmer. At the time of death, September 11, 1894, he was the oldest man in Green township.

Charles M. Dorsey grew to manhood on the home farm and obtained his education in the public schools, with two years at the Lebanon National Normal School and one term at Valparaiso, Ind., for three years afterward teaching school at Palestine. He then came to Sidney and for some years was connected with the old Sidney Gazette which later merged with the Sidney Journal. He has been an active citizen and to some degree interested in politics.

Mr. Dorsey was first married to Miss Mamie Brelsford, who died September 14, 1910, the mother of three children: Amelia Knox, Mary and Horace Taylor, the second born dying at the age of seven months. Mr. Dorsey was married (second) July 18, 1912, to Miss Stella Wilson, who was a successful teacher and an admired lady in Sidney social circles. Mr. Dorsey was reared in the Presbyterian church. He is identified with a number of fraternal organizations, including: the Odd Fellows, the Tribe of Ben Hur, and the Knights of the Golden Eagle.





MICHAEL LOY

MICHAEL LOY, one of the representative citizens of Shelby county, O., who resides on his valuable farm of seventy-four acres, which is situated in section 18, Cynthian township, two and one-half miles south of Fort Loramie, has been more continuously connected with educational matters in the Basinburg special school district, of which he is the present clerk, than any other resident of the township for the past thirty-six years. Mr. Loy was born September 1, 1853, in McLean township, Shelby county, and is a son of George and Catherine Loy.

George Loy was born in Germany and was a young man when he came to the United States and settled in McLean township, locating at first among the early settlers west of Fort Loramie, whom he assisted to clear their lands. Later he bought a tract of eighty acres located south of Fort Loramie, in partnership with a Mr. Smith, the latter taking the south one-half and Mr. Loy the north one-half and this land now belongs to Michael Loy. He lost his wife, Catherine Loy, when their only child, Michael, was three years old, and his own death occurred seven years later.

Thus, when but ten years old, Michael Loy was made an orphan. For three years afterward he lived with an uncle, when the latter's death left him again without legal protectors, and he then became a member of the family of a Mr. Wagler, a farmer in Cynthian township, with whom he lived for one year and eight months. From there he went to the home of an aunt and worked for her as a hired man, in the meanwhile attending school as regularly as he was able, in what is now the Basinburg special school district, being obliged, at that time, to go back and forth through the woods as there had been little clearing done in that locality. Mr. Loy's memory goes back to the building of the old United Brethren church edifice, which is now in ruins, and he can easily recall the introduction of many of the most useful farm implements and machinery, now in constant use on his own land, the same never having been even thought of when he was a boy. After his marriage, Mr. Loy rented farm land until 1882, when he purchased the property on which he has lived ever since and successfully carries on his different farm industries, assisted more or less by several of his sons.

In 1879 Mr. Loy was married to Miss Hattie Groh, who was born in Cynthian township, Shelby county, a daughter of Ludwig Groh and wife. They were natives of Germany who lived in Pennsylvania before coming to Dayton, O., and later to Shelby county. The father of Mrs. Loy died in Cynthian township and the mother in Auglaize county, O. To Mr. and Mrs. Loy the following children were born: Harvey W., who is president of a university in Union county, Ky.; Rosa, who is the wife of Ross Hotchkiss and they live in Illinois; Frances, who is a highly appreciated teacher in the Basinburg special school district; Albert, who resides east of Sidney, married Viola Mills; Frank, who teaches school in Perry township, married Elsie Geer and is a student of theology; George; Walter, who is a student at Ada, O.; Elmer; and Emma and

Nettie who are in school. Mr. Loy is a republican in his political sentiments and has frequently been elected to township offices, serving at times on the election board and as judge of election, and in 1876 was first appointed a member of the special school board, on which he has served ever since with the exception of six years. He and wife belong to the United Brethren church, while the children are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

REINHART SIEGEL, who is one of the highly respected residents and substantial citizens of Cynthian township, whose excellent farm of 260 acres lies in section 15, may be called one of the pioneers here as very wild conditions prevailed when he first set step in Cynthian township. He was born March 1, 1838, in Germany, and is a son of Jacob and Gertrude Siegel.

Jacob Siegel brought his family to the United States when his son was sixteen years of age and they settled near Troy, Miami county, O., where they lived for a few years and then came to Cynthian township, Shelby county. The eighty-acre tract lay in the woods, four acres of which had been cleared and here the family lived in a little log cabin. After the mother died, Reinhart bought the father's land and set up a domestic hearth of his own, marrying Caroline Circher, who survived until 1907. She was the beloved mother of four sons and six daughters, namely: Clara, who is the wife of Benjamin Pauwells, of Minster, O.; and John, Jacob, Joseph, Josephine, Rachel, Elizabeth, Frances, Peter and Mary.

Mr. Siegel has carried on the usual farm industries and has added tracts of land as he has deemed desirable, all of which he has cleared and has under cultivation with the exception of about forty acres in woodland. Among the many substantial improvements on his place may be mentioned the comfortable brick residence. Mr. Siegel is a democrat in his political opinions but has never desired to hold public office. With his children he belongs to St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort Loramie, O. He has an excellent memory and can tell much that is interesting concerning early days in Cynthian township.

JOHN H. KEMP, one of the substantial farmers of Perry township, who resides on his forty-acre tract and owns a second farm containing ninety-five acres, both in Perry township, was born in Salem township, Shelby county, January 29, 1855. He is a son of Henry and Eliza J. (Gray) Kemp.

After his school days, which were spent in the district schools of Salem township, John H. Kemp started out to take care of himself. Possessing industry and good judgment, he easily found employment as a farm hand and as he prudently saved his money he was soon enabled to buy land, his first investment being the forty acres on which he resides, this purchase being made in 1894. Here he has placed many improvements, including a commodious and comfortable residence and a substantial barn and other farm buildings. His second farm he purchased at a sheriff's sale, in 1908. Mr. Kemp no longer is an active farmer, having practically retired. The larger number



of his brothers and sisters live in this county, he being the second born of his parents' children. The others were: Phoebe Jane, who married twice, first, Frank Armstrong, and second, Jonathan Henman; Mary, who is deceased, was the wife of John Stiles; Louvina, who married (first) William Winsor, (second) William Beerline; and George C., Emmanuel E. and Samuel N.

On August 9, 1881, Mr. Kemp was married to Miss Anna DeWeese, a daughter of J. D. and Lydia (Kiser) DeWeese, who were early settlers in Shelby county. To Mr. and Mrs. DeWeese the following children were born: D. K.; Benjamin and Thomas, both of whom are deceased; Anna; Samantha, who is deceased, was the wife of Mack Van Demark; Therza, who is the wife of A. N. Stephenson; Jethro M.; Cora, who is the wife of Isaac Green; and James. Mr. and Mrs. Kemp have an adopted son, Albert W., who was born September 8, 1907, to whom every educational advantage will be given and whose future is well assured if he develops, as now promises, into a youth of fine character and of more than ordinary intellect. Mr. and Mrs. Kemp attend the Baptist church at Pemberton, O. Politically Mr. Kemp is a republican and for fourteen years he served as a trustee of Perry township. For six years he filled the responsible position of superintendent of the Children's Home in Shelby county and during this time his wife was the matron, their administration being marked by efficiency. Mr. Kemp belongs to the Knights of Pythias and attends the lodge at De Graff, O.

BENJAMIN E. DILLON, whose excellent and well-cultivated farm containing eighty acres, lies six and one-half miles southeast of Sidney, is a well-known citizen of Orange township, in which he has spent the greater part of his life. He was born one and one-quarter miles southeast of Sidney and was brought to the present farm, a part of the old Hiram Bull homestead, when he was eighteen months old and with the exception of five years, has lived here ever since. John Dillon, father of Benjamin E., was born in Shelby county and still lives but the mother died when Benjamin E. was seven years old. John Dillon formerly was a farmer but now engages in carpenter work.

Benjamin E. Dillon obtained a common school education and afterward learned the carpenter trade and during the five years he spent at Dayton, O., assisted in building cars and also did house building. He returned then to his grandfather's old farm and lives in the house which his grandfather built so many years ago and owns the deed his grandfather secured, with the signature of James Madison, president of the United States, signed to this document. Mr. Dillon carries on the various farm industries which this climate favors and is very comfortably situated.

At Dayton, O., on June 7, 1903, by Rev. Hale, Mr. Dillon was married to Miss Della Maude-Wickoff, who came from Adams county, and they have two children: Bernice and Omer D. In his political sentiments Mr. Dillon is a democrat and takes pleasure in his party's political supremacy in 1912. Fraternaly he is identified with the Odd Fellows and the Masons.

FRANK DANZIG, one of the enterprising citizens and excellent farmers of McLean township, Shelby county, O., who resides in section 9, where is situated his productive farm of 120 acres, has spent his life in this section of the county, having been born on his present farm March 25, 1866. His parents were William and Elizabeth Danzig. Frank Danzig received his educational training mainly in the Sherman special school district, which was supplemented by one term in the Coldwater high school, and since then he has carried on his agricultural industries on the home farm. After marriage, when he came into full possession, he remodeled the farm residence which his father had erected and built a new barn and other structures, putting everything into good condition and ever since has kept up his repairs. In addition to his home farm he owns forty acres situated in Cynthian township, twenty of which he uses as a pasture land, while twenty acres of the other farm is still in valuable timber. Mr. Danzig is a careful and well-informed farmer and a good manager and hires helpers in carrying on his activities.

Mr. Danzig married Miss Caroline Brandewie, a daughter of Joseph Brandewie, of Auglaize county, O., and four children have been born to them, the youngest only surviving, a very engaging little daughter, Teckla Mary, who has passed her second year. The eldest, Clara E., died at the age of fourteen months; Leo Joseph died when aged eighteen months; and Wilhelmina also died at the age of eighteen months. Mr. and Mrs. Danzig are members of St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort Loramie. Politically he is a democrat as was his father before him.

SAMUEL PIPER, proprietor of Piper's Grocery and Bakery, a well-known and popular business house of Sidney, has been identified with this line for many years, it having been founded by his father fifty-two years ago. Samuel Piper was born at Sidney, April 8, 1858, and is a son of Jacob and Catherine Piper.

Jacob Piper and wife were born in Germany, both came when young to the United States and were married in Ohio and both died at Sidney. They were held in universal esteem for their many admirable qualities. Before starting his grocery store, in 1860, Jacob Piper operated a wagon shop at Sidney and did a good business as at that time transportation was largely wagoning, there being neither canal nor railroad facilities. When wagon making no longer was profitable he turned his attention to the handling of food stuffs and carried on a grocery business for a number of years, the bakery feature not being added until his sons became associated with him. He first admitted his son, William Piper and a son-in-law, Fred Yenny, after which the firm caption became Piper & Yenny, and this firm gave way to Piper Brothers, when Samuel and Jacob Piper, brothers, purchased the business, which continued until Samuel Piper became sole proprietor in 1897. In 1893 the firm of Piper Brothers erected the fine three-story brick block, with a frontage of 46 feet and a depth of 165 feet, on North Main avenue, facing the court house, the first floor being given up to business purposes and the second and third floors being divided into comfortable and attractive housekeeping flats.

While Mr. Piper employs as many as ten men in his store and bakery, he looks after every detail himself and takes justifiable pride in the high standing his business house has maintained for so many years.

Mr. Piper married Miss Carrie Elsner, who was born on her father's farm in Turtle Creek township, and they have three children: Harrison and Morton, twins, who are with their father in his business; and Elsie, who is well known in social circles. Mr. Piper and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is one of the city's dependable men and frequently has been elected to public office, serving in the city council, as cemetery trustee, as water works trustee and on the school board. He is identified with the fraternal order of Odd Fellows.

S. T. BUIRLEY, whose fine, eighty-acre farm is situated five miles south of Sidney, is one of the prominent citizens of Orange township, Shelby county, O., of which he is a trustee. He was born August 25, 1862, in Orange township, and is a son of Daniel and Mary (Venice) Buirley.

Daniel Buirley was born in Shelby county, O., where his father had been a pioneer, probably coming from Germany. In the early subscription schools Daniel Buirley obtained his knowledge of text books and afterward devoted his life to farm pursuits, first in Orange and later in Clinton township, living into his seventy-first year. He married Mary Venice, who was born in Champaign county, O., and died in Orange township, when aged seventy years. They had five children, namely: John A., who is a resident of Clinton township; Benjamin, who lives at Jackson Center; S. T., who attended school both in Clinton and Orange townships; Delilah, who is deceased; and Elizabeth, who is now deceased, was the wife of H. H. Wilson.

S. T. Buirley remained on the home farm in Clinton township until 1888, when he came to Orange township to live, and in 1909 bought the old Fergus place and started immediately to make the improvements which have converted it into one of the valuable and attractive properties of this section, his residence being built according to ideas of comfort and convenience. General farming is carried on here very successfully and good stock raised.

Mr. Buirley was married to Miss Mary Redinbo, who was born in Green township, Shelby county, and they have one daughter, Dema D., who resides with her parents. Politically a democrat, Mr. Buirley takes a deep interest in public issues and is somewhat of a leader in local opinion. In 1910 he was elected a member of the board of trustees of Orange township and has proved an able, honest and efficient public official. He belongs to the Odd Fellows and attends lodge meetings at Sidney.

WILLIAM E. WOOLLEY for many years was one of the prosperous, well-known and highly respected citizens of Perry township. He was born in Champaign county, O., June 7, 1844, and died on his farm in Perry township, Shelby county, July 30, 1899. His parents were Charles and Barbara (Spice) Woolley, farming people in Champaign county. William E. was their eldest child, the others being: Anna, wife of David Dormire; Ella,

wife of William Nicehorner; Mattie, wife of William Neal; and Josephine, wife of Dr. Hunt.

William E. Woolley attended school near his father's farm and no doubt the sessions were held in a log structure, as was the usual custom when he was a boy and perhaps his opportunities were very meager. Nevertheless he became a well-informed man and during a busy and useful life performed all the duties and accepted the responsibilities which come to one as a good citizen, a peaceable neighbor, a kind husband and indulgent father. He learned the wagon-making trade in early manhood and followed the same until he became a farmer. On May 16, 1872, he was married to Miss Nancy Jane Johnson. She was born in Perry township, a daughter of James and Lafey (Newman) Johnson, both now deceased. The father of Mrs. Woolley was a native of Shelby county, while her mother was born in Logan county. Mrs. Woolley has one brother, Charles William Johnson.

To Mr. and Mrs. Woolley the following children were born: Cora, who is the wife of C. M. McCashin, of Perry township; Charles, who married Mabel Ritter, she being now deceased; Ora, who is the wife of John Lorton; Daisy Belle, who is deceased, was the wife of Chester Staley; James C., who married Edna Ward; Frank; Harry; Grace, who is the wife of Wallace Lockard; and William. Mrs. Woolley and children attend the Methodist Episcopal church. She continues to reside on the valuable home farm of 108 acres, which is her property.

A. G. WHEATON, who operates one of the fine farms of Orange township, containing 160 acres of well-improved land, is one of the enterprising young agriculturists of this section. He was born on his father's farm located on the Urbana turnpike road, in Miami county, O., in March, 1889, and is a son of Thomas and Ida (Garbry) Wheaton.

Thomas Wheaton was born in Champaign county, O., and moved into Miami county after marriage and there followed farming until 1892, when he came to Shelby county and settled on the farm which his son now manages, and operated it until the fall of 1910, when he retired to Sidney, where he resides in great comfort, he and his wife being leading members of the Baptist church there. He married Ida Garbry and three children were born to them: Ora T., who lives at Dayton, married Neva Loy; Lucy, who is the wife of James Wiley, and they have one son, Darwin; and A. G.

After completing the common school course, A. G. Wheaton began to relieve his father of many of the farm responsibilities and when the latter retired and moved to Sidney, took entire charge. He had little improving to do as the homestead had received excellent attention from his father. Mr. Wheaton makes use of the best farm machinery obtainable and takes a very intelligent interest in his farm industries, raising the usual farm products and some excellent stock. In politics, like his father, he is a democrat, but is no seeker for public office, contented to have others make the laws, provided they are just ones.

Mr. Wheaton married Miss Iona Redinbo. They attend the Baptist church at Spring Creek, are well known all over the township and have a pleasant social circle.

JAMES W. WILEY, who is successfully engaged in farming and stock raising on his farm of eighty acres, which is situated in Orange township, Shelby county, O., is one of the enterprising and intelligent young agriculturists of this section, active alike in business and in public matters. He was born on his present farm September 7, 1880, and is a son of George W. and Lydia A. (Geer) Wiley.

George W. Wiley was born in Miami county, O., and was a young man when he came to Shelby county, after which he engaged in farming in Orange township during the rest of his active life, subsequently retiring to Sidney, where he still lives. He yet owns eighty acres of land here and made all the improvements and put up all the buildings on the whole estate. He married Lydia A. Geer, who was also born in Ohio and they had six children born to them, five of whom yet survive.

James W. Wiley obtained a good common school education and then turned his attention to an agricultural life and has been engaged ever since in farming and stock raising, not only operating his own farm but also a sixty-acre farm belonging to his uncle. Mr. Wiley is prominent in local politics, being one of the leading democrats of the township and at present is serving in the office of township clerk.

Mr. Wiley married Miss Lucy Wheaton, born in Miami county, O., a daughter of Thomas and Ida (Garbry) Wheaton, who live retired at Sidney. Mr. and Mrs. Wiley have one son, Darwin W. They are members of the Presbyterian church at Sidney and Mr. Wiley is identified fraternally with the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias.

JOHN B. BORCHERS, one of Shelby county's substantial and respected citizens, who has spent the larger part of a useful and busy life in Ohio, was born in Hanover, Germany, August 7, 1832, and is the oldest of the three sons and two daughters born to his parents, John H. and Catherine Borchers.

The parents of Mr. Borchers emigrated from Germany with their children in 1848 and after reaching the United States settled near Minster, in Auglaize county, O., where they lived for eighteen years. The father died there when aged sixty-three years and his burial was in the Minster cemetery. After his death the mother and children came to Shelby county and settled on the farm in McLean township on which John B. Borchers still resides and here the mother passed away in her eighty-sixth year. Both she and her husband were faithful Catholics and she was a member of St. Michael's church.

John B. Borchers was sixteen years of age when he accompanied his parents and brothers and sisters to the United States and is the only survivor of the family. The country was but sparsely settled when the family came to McLean township, and the farm of 160 acres on which they settled was about one-half cleared. Mr. Borchers continued to add other tracts as an advan-

tageous opportunity offered and continued until at present he has 560 acres, 230 of which lie in Cynthian township. His land is separated into three farms, his sons having a partial interest in the same and each farm has a set of substantial buildings. All the land is utilized for general farming except about sixty acres, which is still in woodland.

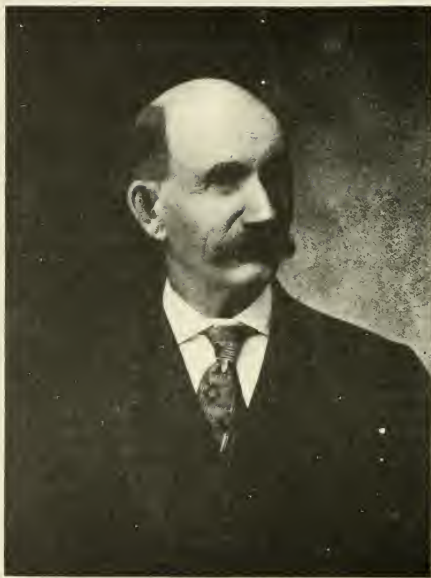
In Auglaize county, O., Mr. Borchers was married to Miss Catherine Timmerman, a daughter of John H. Timmerman, who died in that county when his daughter was a babe. To Mr. and Mrs. Borchers the following children were born: Catherine, who is the wife of Barney Ernst, of McLean township; Elizabeth, who is the wife of Barney Krampe; Mary, who is the wife of Henry Ernst; Henry, who married Frances Hilgefert; Bernard, who married Eleanor Shank; Clement, who died when aged three years; John, who married Ann Schlater; William, who married Lena Seitters; and Frank, who married Emma Boerger. Mr. Borchers has the satisfaction of knowing that all his children are well settled in life and takes much interest in his grandchildren. He has been a democrat ever since reaching manhood but has never been anxious to serve in public office, consenting at one time, however, to accept a place on the board of education in his special school district. He and family are members of St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort Loramie.

SAMUEL HIGGINS, one of the well-known citizens of Shelby county, now living retired on his valuable farm of 130 acres, which is situated six and one-half miles southwest of Sidney, in Orange township, is also entitled to respect and esteem as a surviving veteran of the great Civil war. He was born January 18, 1841, on a farm in Shelby county, one mile south of his present home, and is a son of Francis and Mary (Doak) Higgins.

Francis Higgins was born in Hamilton county, O., and came to Shelby county in 1833, locating on the farm on which his son was born, from which he removed to the second farm when Samuel Higgins was one year old. Here he died at the age of sixty-seven years. He married Mary Doak, who came to Shelby county in 1815 and lived beyond her eighty-first birthday. They had five children: John V., Elizabeth, Ella, Samuel and Mary C., the two survivors being Elizabeth and Samuel.

Samuel Higgins attended the district schools in Orange township, during the winter seasons, until he was about nineteen years of age, giving his father help on the farm in the summer time. In 1862 as a patriotic young man, he enlisted for service in the Civil war then in progress, entering Company B, Fiftieth Ohio Vol. Inf., under the command of Captain Gellespie, and continued all through the war, receiving an honorable discharge, and never was seriously injured although he participated at Perryville, Knoxville, through the Atlanta campaign including the taking of the city, Franklin and Nashville, being ever at the post of duty. When the war was over he returned to peaceful life and took up farming on his present property, on which he has lived ever since. He practically made the place over, putting up all the buildings now standing and adding all the other improvements. Since his retirement from active farm work, the industries are carried on by his son.





MOSES R. RUSSELL



Mr. Higgins was married to Miss Martha E. Bryan, whose father, James Bryan, died in Sidney when she was only one year old, leaving a widow, formerly Wilma Crumbaugh, and two little daughters: Sarah E. and Martha E. To. Mr. and Mrs. Higgins eleven children were born and nine of these survive. Mr. Higgins and sons are republicans and he belongs to Neil post, G. A. R., at Sidney. With his family he attends the United Brethren church at Kirkwood.

MOSES R. RUSSELL, who owns eighty-three acres of excellent land in Clinton township, and, in association with his two sisters, eighty acres in Turtle Creek township and 130 acres in Franklin township, is well known all over Shelby county, in which his life has been passed and belongs to a pioneer family that settled here in 1834. He was born in Turtle Creek township June 18, 1852, and is a son of Moses and Mary A. (Laughlin) Russell, and a grandson of Moses and Jane Russell.

Moses Russell, the grandfather, a soldier of the War of 1812, was born in Augusta county, Va., July 29, 1775. He was a carpenter and cabinetmaker prior to becoming a farmer. He married Jane Ross, who was born in February, 1779, in Virginia, and they remained in their native state until the fall of 1811, when they came to Ohio and located in Greene county and lived there for twenty-three years. In March, 1834, they came to Shelby county and settled on land later owned and occupied by their son, Moses Russell, and there passed the rest of their life, Moses Russell, Sr., dying March 13, 1851, and his wife February 13, 1845. They reared a family of seven children: Jane, William, Joshua, Elizabeth R., Moses, Margaret L. R., and Mary J.

Moses Russell, son of Moses and father of Moses R. Russell, was born in Greene county, O., May 25, 1812, where he passed his younger days and in 1834 accompanied his parents to Shelby county and they settled in section 16, Turtle Creek township, where his life was spent, his death occurring in 1889. He was a well-known and useful citizen and served as township trustee for four years. In 1843 he married Mary A. Laughlin, a daughter of John and Jane Laughlin. She was born in Jefferson county, O., August 25, 1819, and died March 17, 1897. She accompanied her parents to Shelby county in 1839, they settling in Turtle Creek township. Both she and husband were members of the First Presbyterian church at Sidney and when they passed away their burial was in beautiful Graceland cemetery in that city. They reared six children: John F., Margaret J., Martha E., Moses R., Elizabeth A. and Mary B.

Moses R. Russell obtained his education in the district schools of Turtle Creek township and has always resided here. He has been engaged in agricultural pursuits all his life and is numbered with the successful farmers and stock raisers of this section. In his political views he is a republican in national affairs but in local matters he uses his own good judgment when it comes to placing power in the hands of

candidates. He has never been an office seeker although he served one term as township trustee and takes an interest in all that concerns the public welfare of his county. He is a member of the First Presbyterian church at Sidney, O.

D. FINLEY MILLS, junior member of the well-known law firm of Barnes & Mills, at Sidney, and serving in his second term as city solicitor, was born April 25, 1879, at the village of Newport, in Cynthian township, Shelby county, O., and is a son of N. W. and Mary Elizabeth (Spraley) Mills.

D. Finley Mills lost his mother when a child and his father when he was only nine years old and then went to live with an uncle, Marcus Mills, who was a farmer in Cynthian township. After securing a public school education he began to provide for himself by teaching school and taught for four years, then spent one summer in the study of law in the office of Mr. Barnes, his present partner, after which he entered the Ohio Northern University at Ada, and in 1905 was graduated after completing the scientific course, and completed the law course in 1906, in December of the same year being admitted to the Ohio bar, resuming teaching and being so engaged in Logan county from January until May, 1907, when he came to Sidney. Here he entered first into partnership with the late Judge E. L. Hoskins, whose death occurred in 1909, in which year he became associated with his present partner under the firm style of Barnes & Mills. Mr. Mills has been somewhat active in politics and on the democratic ticket was elected city solicitor, in the fall of 1909, and was reelected in the fall of 1911. A general law practice is carried on by the firm and they are local attorneys for the Western Ohio Electric Railway Company, and Mr. Mills is attorney for the Shelby County Building and Loan Association. He belongs to the junior order of American Mechanics, to the Masons, and to the Odd Fellows, and in the last named organization is past grand master of the subordinate branch. Both in his profession and as a citizen, Mr. Mills occupies a leading position in Shelby county.

WILLIAM J. BORCHERS, a general merchant and representative business man of Fort Loramie, O., was born in McLean township, Shelby county, O., October 28, 1884, a son of Bernard and Catherine Borchers. He was reared and attended school in the same locality and at the age of twenty-two years left the farm to attend business college at Sidney, O. After taking a course in bookkeeping, he purchased the grocery business of E. J. Evans, on Pomeroy avenue, Sidney, which he conducted for two years. He then sold out and moved to the Wagner block, becoming proprietor of the Arcade Grocery. On June 30, 1910, Mr. Borchers sold that place and moved to Fort Loramie, O., where he established his present business, in which he has been quite successful. His property, which he purchased, is located on the west side of the canal, adjoining the bank. He has greatly improved the building and carries a first-class stock of goods. Besides attending to his personal business, Mr. Borchers is ticket and freight agent for the Western Ohio Railroad and is also agent for the Wells Fargo Express Company. Politically a staunch

democrat, he has the confidence of his fellow citizens, and was elected January 1, 1912, as a member of the town council. He is also an active and useful member of the Commercial Club and belongs to the volunteer fire department.

Mr. Borchers was married November 11, 1908, to Miss Lena Seiter, a daughter of Joseph Seiter, of Sidney, O. They have one son, Joseph, who was born June 11, 1912. Mr. and Mrs. Borchers are members of St. Michael's Catholic church, and he is identified with the Knights of Columbus and the Knights of St. John.

HENRY W. EHRHARDT, florist and gardener, located at No. 756 Spruce street, Sidney O., is a representative business man of this city and one of long experience in his particular line. He was born at Cincinnati, O., May 19, 1850, and is a son of Adam and Margaret (Vogel) Ehrhardt.

Adam Ehrhardt was born in Bavaria, Germany, and in his own land learned to be a gardener. At the age of twenty-two years he came to the United States and was naturalized, in 1845 casting his first vote as a citizen in the city of Cincinnati, O. He married Margaret Vogel, who was reared in Cincinnati from the age of two months, a daughter of Fred Vogel, who once conducted a tailoring establishment in that city. Adam Ehrhardt engaged in the gardening and florist business and so prospered that he was able to acquire property, purchasing land at Clifton, now a suburb of Cincinnati, where he continued in the same business until his death in 1870. The family owned that property for thirty-seven years and when they disposed of it, it had increased many times over in value and the price paid was over \$70,000.

Henry W. Ehrhardt was reared and attended school in his native city and was trained in his father's business and continued to carry on the same at Clifton for some years after his father died. In 1888 he came to Sidney and here has seven acres of land and six fine greenhouses. Mr. Ehrhardt is not only a successful business man but is also an active and useful citizen and at times has served in the city council.

Mr. Ehrhardt married Miss Emma Hambrock, a daughter of John and Mary (Martin) Hambrock, of Cincinnati. John Hambrock served three and one-half years as a soldier in the Civil war and died shortly afterward. The mother of Mrs. Ehrhardt resides with her daughter. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Ehrhardt, namely: Theodore, who died May 28, 1910, is survived by a widow and four children; George, who is his father's assistant; Lydia, who is the wife of Edward Gretzinger; Rebecca, who is the wife of William Ralston; Emma, who is a student at Dayton, O.; and Esther, who is a school girl at Sidney. Mr. Ehrhardt and family belong to St. Paul's Evangelical church. In politics he is a republican and he maintains fraternal relations with the Odd Fellows.

FRANK J. RATERMAN, M. D., who is engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery at Fort Loramie, O., where he has built up a large and substantial practice, was born in McLean township, Shelby county, O., Janu-

ary 19, 1879, and is a son of Henry and Sophia (Weheringer) Raterman. This is an old family in this part of Ohio being among the pioneer settlers at Fort Loramie. Mrs. Sophia Raterman was born in Germany.

In the public schools of McLean township, Frank J. Raterman received his early educational training and afterward he attended the Normal School at Lebanon, O., and Valparaiso, Ind., and then taught school for three years and subsequently was graduated from the Ohio Medical College, at Columbus, O., with the class of 1907. Dr. Raterman came then to Fort Loramie as successor of Dr. Lester Pepper, a former well known physician, and has made this pleasant town his permanent home, making investments in property and interesting himself as a fair-minded citizen in public matters but declining all political office. He devotes himself to his profession and is a valued member of the medical organizations of both county and state.

Dr. Raterman was united in marriage with Miss Anna Barhorst, who is a daughter of Henry and Wilhelmina Barhorst, old residents of McLean township. Dr. and Mrs. Raterman are members of St. Michael's Catholic church and he is identified with the Knights of Columbus. He follows his father's example in politics, always casting his vote for candidates of the democratic party.

F. M. CARPENTER, a well known citizen of Orange township, whose excellent farm of eighty-two acres is situated six miles south of Sidney, O., has spent the greater part of his life in this county, but his birth took place in Miami county, O., in December, 1862, a son of J. C. and Rebecca (Darlington) Carpenter.

J. C. Carpenter was born in Pennsylvania and when he came first to Ohio settled at Dayton, in Montgomery county, removing from there to Miami county, and afterward settled on a farm west of Lockington, and from there went to Springfield, Mo., dying on his farm there when aged seventy-five years. He married Rebecca Darlington, who survives with nine of their twelve children.

F. M. Carpenter obtained his education in the public schools of Shelby county, afterward engaged in farming on the home place in Missouri, for eight years, and then returned to Shelby county and purchased his present farm in Orange township from John Young. He has erected all the farm buildings on the place and made many desirable improvements. In addition to carrying on general farming, he devotes attention to raising Percheron horses, having registered mares and a valuable stable, his fine Percheron stallions—Clay Center, Isba and Jaures, being among the most valuable animals in the county.

Mr. Carpenter was married to Miss Dora Valentine, a daughter of Samuel Valentine, and they have four children: Irene, Earl, Caldwell and Howard. Politically Mr. Carpenter is a republican and is now serving in the office of township trustee. He is identified with the Odd Fellows, at Kirkwood, and he and wife attend the Methodist Episcopal church at Lockington.

LAUSON C. SHOWERS, who, since the spring of 1903, has been the efficient superintendent of the Shelby County Infirmary, is a well known citizen of the county and belongs to an old family. He was born October 26, 1857, in Champaign county, O., and is a son of Andrew and Mary (Slife) Showers. He had better educational opportunities than many, after completing the common school course attending the Urbana University for six years, and, with a view of adopting a profession, read both medicine and law for some months. He then decided that an agricultural life would best satisfy him and continued with his father on the home farm until he was twenty-eight years of age. Mr. Showers then came to Shelby county, where he rented land for a few years and for six years was an employe of the Sidney Wheel Works, at the end of that time entering upon his present duties. He is well qualified for this position and in him the tax payers have a man of good judgment and personal integrity, one who does justice to his charges while administering the affairs economically for the county.

On July 1, 1884, Mr. Showers was married to Miss Elizabeth Chapple, a daughter of William and Elizabeth (White) Chapple. Mr. and Mrs. Showers are members of the Baptist church. In politics he is a democrat and fraternally is connected with the K. O. T. M. at Sidney.

THOMAS DUNCAN, one of Shelby county's well known citizens, now living retired, owns a valuable farm of sixty-four acres, which lies in Orange township, six miles southwest of Sidney. He was born in 1832, in Fairfield county, O., and is a son of James and Matilda (Wise) Duncan. The father of Mr. Duncan was born in Pennsylvania, there grew to manhood on a farm and farming was his business through life. He married Matilda Wise and they had nine children. From Fairfield county, O., James Duncan and family came to Shelby county in 1834 and his death occurred in Orange township, at the age of forty-seven years.

Thomas Duncan attended the district schools in boyhood, mainly during the winter seasons, devoting the summers to helping on the farm. Afterward he worked as a farmer in different sections prior to settling permanently in Orange township, where he carried on farming and stock raising until he retired from active labor.

Mr. Duncan married Miss Sarah Jane Doak, who died January 27, 1912, after a happy married life of sixty years. She was an estimable woman in every relation in life and was beloved by a wide circle. To Mr. and Mrs. Duncan the following children were born: Mrs. Mary Alice Randolph, Mrs. Clarinda Higgins, Sarah Jane, Samuel J., James and Mrs. Viola Randolph. Mr. Duncan has always been in sympathy with the principles of the democratic party. He is a member of the Presbyterian church at Piqua, O.

CHARLES E. GIVEN, secretary and treasurer of The R. Given & Sons Company, tanners and manufacturers of saddlery goods, one of the large and prosperous business enterprises of Sidney, O., was born at Sidney, September 6, 1857, and is a son of Robert and Catherine Given.

Robert Given came from Pennsylvania to Shelby county about 1851 and as he was a tanner by trade became interested at once in the leather manufacturing business at Sidney. For a number of years he worked in the tannery that later became his property, then became foreman and superintendent, and in 1869 entered into partnership with S. Alexander Leckey under the firm name of R. Given & Co., which operated as tanners until the death of Mr. Leckey in 1881. Mr. Given then admitted his son, Charles E., to partnership and continued his own association with the business until 1884, when John F. Given, another son, entered into the partnership and the firm style was R. Given & Sons until 1890, when Joseph C. Royon was admitted. The three partners continued together until 1902 when the business had so expanded that incorporation became desirable and a board of officers was elected, Mr. Royon becoming president; Charles E. Given, secretary and treasurer; and J. F. Given, vice-president and general manager. About 1885 they opened their saddlery branch, first putting out flynets and later manufacturing collars and other properties. Having been more or less connected with this business all his life, Mr. Given understands it in every detail and his name and that of the firm stand high in the hide and leather trade all over the country.

Mr. Given married Miss Catherine Yenney, a daughter of George F. Yenney, who formerly was in the pork packing business at Sidney but now lives retired. Mr. and Mrs. Given are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

ERNEST LININGER, one of Sidney's well known business men, being the junior member of the firm of Fretz & Lininger, funeral directors and furniture dealers, is experienced in this line and has been established since 1910 at Sidney. He was born on a farm in Marion township, Pickaway county, O., November 18, 1882, and is a son of Michael and Adeline Lininger, who are highly respected retired residents of New Holland, O.

Ernest Lininger was reared in his native section and attended the Marion township schools. He assisted his father on the home farm prior to entering into the undertaking business, for which he prepared by attending Clarke's School of Embalming, at Cincinnati, where he was graduated. He then entered the undertaking and furniture business at New Holland, and remained there until August, 1910, when he came to Sidney and bought a one-half interest in the undertaking business of W. E. Fretz and shortly after the partnership was formed the firm added the furniture department which has been gradually expanded until they have one of the largest furniture displays in Shelby county. They are well equipped as undertakers and funeral directors and their services are called for from different parts of the county.

Mr. Lininger married Miss Florence West, also of Pickaway county, and they have two children: Kenneth and Virginia Alice. Mr. Lininger is a quiet, law abiding citizen, not given to much display of his sentiments but has won the respect of all with whom he has had business relations. He belongs to the fraternal order of Knights of Pythias.

ADOLPH F. SHERMAN, clerk of the board of education of the Sherman Special School District and so well qualified for that position that he has been retained in office for twelve continuous years, was born on the farm he owns and occupies, 240 acres, situated in section 9, McLean township, Shelby county, O., February 12, 1855, and is a son of Henry B. and Catherine Sherman.

Henry B. Sherman was born in Germany and when nineteen years of age came to the United States with his parents in 1835, who settled in what is now McLean township, all this cultivated and improved locality being at that time a wilderness. The Shermans were progressive and intelligent men and the Sherman schoolhouse was built on Grandfather Sherman's farm, that property being owned at present by John Siegel. Henry B. Sherman was a somewhat unusual man for his day and opportunity, possessing great mental gifts and these were made valuable to those with whom he lived and associated. For twenty-two winters he taught school, attending to his farm industries in the summers, and served in many local offices, being township clerk and a justice of the peace for many years, always giving his political support to the democratic party. In his youth he frequently carried corn as far as Piqua to have it ground. He was an earnest Catholic and first attended church at Minster and later was one of the founders of St. Michael's church, and on account of his many activities this neighborhood was called the Sherman Settlement and when the turnpike road was completed his name was given it to honor his memory and to reflect credit on his sons. His long and useful life was extended to eighty-six years. He married a young woman who was also a native of Germany and she accompanied her parents to Shelby county when sixteen years of age and lived here into her eighty-first year. To them were born three children: John J., Louis and Adolph F.

Adolph F. Sherman attended the Sherman school and grew up on his father's farm and this has always been his home. In addition to the old homestead as noted above, Mr. Sherman owns a second farm, containing eighty acres, situated in section 11, McLean township and the substantial buildings now standing were erected by him. Mr. Sherman cleared some twenty acres of his land and still retains forty acres in timber growth that is valuable.

In 1879 Mr. Sherman was united in marriage with Miss Agnes Brandewie, a daughter of Joseph Brandewie. She was born in 1862 and died in 1891 and her burial was in St. Michael's cemetery. She was an estimable woman in every relation of life and was the devoted mother of the following children: Henry, Herman, Clara, Lucy, Caroline and two babes, deceased.

In politics Mr. Sherman has always been a zealous democrat and as a citizen he has so met the approval of his fellow citizens that they have honored him time and again by electing him to responsible township offices. In 1899 he was first elected clerk of the Sherman Special School District and has been continued in the office ever since. For nine years he served as township assessor, for two terms as land appraiser, and for six years acceptably filled the office of justice of the peace.

HARRY N. DICKENSHEETS, who conducts a first class grocery at No. 116 South Main avenue, Sidney, is numbered with the representative business men of this city, and was born at Sidney, O., January 21, 1868, a son of Jesse L. and Melissa (Williams) Dickensheets, and a grandson of David Dickensheets, who was a pioneer settler of Shelby county. Jesse L. Dickensheets was born after his parents came to Shelby county and spent his entire life here, dying when his son was but eighteen months old. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Dickensheets removed to Plattsville, Shelby county, where subsequently she was married to David Sibert, after which they settled on his farm in Orange township.

On his step-father's farm Harry N. Dickensheets grew to manhood, attending the country schools and assisting with the farm industries, and then went to Piqua where he learned painting and paper hanging and from there came to Sidney. Here he became a contracting painter and continued until an attack of typhoid fever interrupted work at his trade. On March 3, 1902, he embarked in the grocery business at his present location, buying out S. D. Voress, and has prospered in this undertaking.

Mr. Dickensheets was married to Miss Jenette Johnston, of Green township, and they have one son, Jesse Johnston, a youth of nineteen years. Mr. Dickensheets and family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church. He has been identified with the Knights of Pythias for a long period, for ten years being master of finance in the Sidney lodge, and belongs also to the Odd Fellows, the Red Men, the Tribe of Ben Hur and the Knights of Khorassen. He is by no means active in politics but belongs to that class known as the quiet, effective, dependable citizens.

JOSEPH ALTENBACH, contractor and builder at Sidney, O., the oldest man in his line in this city and well known all over Shelby county, was born October 31, 1839, a son of Joseph and Theresa (Foultz) Altenbach, then residents of Auglaize county, O., but natives of Germany.

Joseph Altenbach remained on the home farm until old enough to learn the carpenter trade and afterward, for many years, was one of the busiest men of Shelby county, coming to Sidney in 1866, and continuing a leader in this line until within very recent years, when his responsibilities, in great measure, were taken over by his son, Frank J. Altenbach. During these years of activity he erected many of the leading business blocks, factory and public buildings, churches, school houses and residences, and has a greater number to his credit than any one else in the same line. Upon many occasions he has not only contracted for and erected buildings but has also drawn the plans, showing that his talents might have been so developed that he could have also been a leading architect. The following may be mentioned as examples of Mr. Altenbach's fine work: The Shelby County Children's Home, for which he had the entire contract; Holy Angel Catholic church at Sidney; Thediecks Department Store building; Peoples Savings and Loan Association building; Woodward building; Fred Salm's building; Wag-





JOSEPH ALTENBACH



ner Manufacturing Company's buildings; Buckeye Churn Company buildings; Catholic church at Russia, Shelby county; Lutheran church at Sidney; Catholic church and school house at Piqua and the Lutheran church and school house attached, at Piqua. Many of the most elegant residences of Sidney are the results of his skill and taste. Mr. Altenbach was so closely interested and devoted to his work that he very unwillingly accepted membership on the Board of Review, repeatedly declining to accept other positions tendered him by both the republican and democratic parties, being a member of the latter organization.

In January, 1863, Mr. Altenbach was married in Auglaize county to Miss Susanna Linder, and eight children were born to them: Mary, who belongs to that noble order, the Sisters of Charity; Catherine, who is the wife of Michael Smith; Frank J., who is a leading builder and contractor at Sidney, practically succeeding his father; Edward, who is the municipal architect of Toledo, O.; Louise, who is deceased, was the wife of John Madigan; Roman; Harry; and Florence, who is the wife of John Gattes. Mr. Altenbach and family are members of the Roman Catholic church and for thirty years he has belonged to the order of Catholic Knights of America. He enjoys a comfortable home, his residence being located at No. 411 South Main street, Sidney.

J. W. ROTTINGHAUS, one of the well known men of Shelby county, was born April 20, 1863, and reared on the farm of 160 acres, situated in section 5, McLean township, on which he has always lived, his people having been early settlers in this section. He is a son of J. B. and Elizabeth (Unterbrink) Rottinghaus.

J. B. Rottinghaus was born and reared in Germany and was a young man when he came to Putnam county, O., where he married Elizabeth Unterbrink, also a native of Germany and a daughter of Henry Unterbrink. After marriage they came to McLean township, Shelby county and settled on the land which was later chosen as the site of the reservoir, and when they moved from there, J. B. Rottinghaus began the purchase of the present home farm, buying it at different times. It was all covered with heavy timber and it required years of hard work to clear and put the land under condition to cultivate advantageously. Here he continued to live during the remainder of his life, dying in his seventy-seventh year, his burial being in the cemetery attached to St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort Loramie, of which he was a member. Politically he was a democrat and was one of the leaders of his party in McLean township, of which he was clerk for seven years and for twenty-one years served in the office of justice of the peace. He was the father of ten children, the four survivors being: Elizabeth, who is the wife of Herman Klecker; Matilda, who is the wife of John B. Holcher; Ann, who is the wife of Bernard Schlater; and J. W. Those deceased were: Mary, wife of Joseph Sherman; Caroline, wife of Bernard Gerling; and Catherine, Henry, Carl and Frederick.

With his brothers and sisters, J. W. Rottinghaus attended school in the

Sherman Special School District and afterward continued to assist his father on the home farm and when the latter died assumed entire charge. He has made many improvements here including the erecting of a substantial barn and other buildings, but the farm house, which was so stanchly built forty-five years ago, still continues the family residence. When it was built it was considered a modern house, having many conveniences and comforts not included in other structures in the neighborhood. Mr. Rottinghaus successfully carries on farming and stock raising and is one of the substantial men of this section.

Mr. Rottinghaus married Miss Mary Holthaus, a daughter of Bernard Holthaus. She died at the age of thirty-three years and her burial was in St. Michael's cemetery. His second marriage was to Mrs. Clara (Fleckenstein) Sherman, widow of Joseph C. Sherman, and they have two children: Alma and Leona. To her first marriage three children had been born: Tracy, Joseph and Velma. Mr. Rottinghaus and family are members of St. Michael's Catholic church. In politics he has been a staunch democrat all his life although he has never been willing to accept any political office.

BERNARD DANZIG, who is engaged in the furniture and undertaking business at Fort Loramie, was born in McLean township, Shelby county, February 15, 1864, and is a son of William and Elizabeth (Goer) Danzig.

William Danzig was born in Germany and came to the United States in youth. He carried on farming for many years in McLean township, and his death occurred here at the age of seventy-three years. After coming to this township he was married to Elizabeth Goer, who died when aged but twenty-seven years. They were devout members of St. Michael's Catholic church and their burial was in St. Michael's cemetery. They had three sons and one daughter.

Bernard Danzig attended school in boyhood and worked on the home farm for fifteen years and then came to Fort Loramie to engage in the furniture business, three months later adding undertaking and being in partnership with J. L. Applegate, the firm style being Danzig & Applegate, which continued for five years. Mr. Applegate then retired and since then the firm name has been Danzig & Ballenger. They do a large business and cover a distance of fifteen miles south, one mile north and ten miles east and west. Mr. Danzig owns an unimproved farm of eighty acres which is situated in Texas, which is capable of being developed into a valuable ranch.

Mr. Danzig married Miss Bernardine Brandewie, who was born in Auglaize county, O., and they have two children: William J. and Agnes Catharine, the former of whom is a student and after Christmas, 1912, will be the embalmer and funeral director of the firm above mentioned. In politics Mr. Danzig is a democrat. He and family are members of St. Michael's Catholic church. He is a highly respected citizen and is known as an honorable business man all through this section.

JONAS KAUFFMAN, who is now pleasantly situated at Sidney, O., occupying his comfortable residence at No. 605 South Ohio avenue, is a retired farmer and still retains the ownership of his valuable farm of seventy-seven acres lying in Clinton township, not far from the location of the Shelby County Infirmary. He was born in Mifflin county, Pa., April 4, 1840, and is a son of Christian and Catherine Kauffman, both of whom died in Pennsylvania.

Jonas Kauffman had district school advantages in boyhood and remained on the home farm until 1865, starting out for himself at the age of twenty-one years. For four years afterward he worked on the farms of agriculturists in Juniata county, Pa., and from there went to Wayne county, O. He worked there for a short time as a farm hand and then enlisted for a period of six months as a government employe, which he passed at Little Rock, Ark., and from there came to Shelby county. For several years afterward Mr. Kauffman worked at different things, during the summers mainly on farms and in the winter time finding teaming and other kinds of labor ready at hand for any one willing to exercise self denial and muscle. After marriage he and wife went to housekeeping at Sidney for a time, while he was employed in a brick yard, but Mr. Kauffman preferred farm life and they soon went into the country and there he acquired tracts of valuable land. For twenty-five years he and wife lived on their farm of 156 acres, situated in Cynthian township, west of Sidney, after which Mr. Kauffman traded that farm for his present one of seventy-seven acres, receiving also \$4,500 additional in cash. In 1901 Mr. and Mrs. Kauffman came to their present home at Sidney, where they are well known and highly respected people.

In the spring of 1866 Mr. Kauffman was married to Miss Elizabeth King, who was born in Berks county, Pa., a daughter of Michael King. She was six years old when her parents settled in Clinton township, Shelby county, where they had a farm of 142 acres, which Mr. Kauffman subsequently owned and then sold to William Kingseed. Mr. and Mrs. Kauffman have two children: Adam Francis, who is a farmer in Miami county, O.; and Nora, who lives with her parents. The family belongs to the Christian church.

HUGH McDOWELL BEEBE, M.D. For forty years the name of Beebe has been associated with the medical profession in Shelby county, O., representing men of high scientific attainment and successful exponents of the Homeopathic School of Medicine. The pleasant and thriving town of Sidney, the county seat and the home of business, culture and refinement, has two physicians of the above name, father and son. Hugh McDowell Beebe was born at Sidney, July 24, 1883, and his parents are Dr. Henry E. and Ophelia (McDowell) Beebe.

Hugh McDowell Beebe was educated in the public schools of his native place and after completing the high school course, entered the Ohio State University and subsequently the medical department of the University of Michigan, and was graduated from the latter institution in the class of 1907. Shortly afterward he entered into practice at Sidney and has been associated

with his father. He has won recognition, particularly as a surgeon, and is held in high regard by his professional brethren and by the general public.

Dr. Beebe was married in 1909 to Miss Ruth Pearson, who was born at Troy, Miami county, O., a daughter of Elmer E. Pearson, who formerly was auditor of Miami county. Dr. and Mrs. Beebe have one son, Henry Pearson. Dr. Beebe is identified with the Masonic fraternity and professionally is connected with a number of organizations including the Union Clinical Society, the Ohio State Homeopathic Medical Society and the American Institute of Homeopathy.

JOHN B. HOLSCHER, one of the well known men of McLean township, whose fine farm of eighty-five acres, situated in section 11, lies on the south side of the east and west road, three miles southwest of Fort Loramie, O., was born in Cynthian township, Shelby county, March 19, 1849. His parents were Joseph and Clara (Eilerman) Holscher.

Joseph Holscher was born in Germany and spent his earlier years in his native land, being aged about twenty-one years when he came to Ohio, where his first work was helping to dig the canal. He married Clara Eilerman and they settled on a forty-acre tract of land which is the present site of the reservoir, which land they were obliged to vacate when plans were completed for the building of that utility. Although Mr. Holscher received a certain amount as damages it was not as large as might reasonably have been expected. He moved then to the northern part of Cynthian township, where he secured eighty acres and afterward devoted his time until death to the improvement of that land, his decease taking place in his sixtieth year. His widow survived about ten years and their burial was in the cemetery attached to St. Michael's Catholic church. They had the following children: Henry, who resides on the old homestead; Mary, who is the wife of Henry Schalter, lives at Fort Loramie; John B.; Joseph, who lives in Cynthian township; and a babe that died.

John B. Holscher, with his sister and brothers, attended the Sherman District school and grew up on the home farm as his father's helper and has carried on farming and stock raising on his present place ever since his marriage. He still has fifteen acres in timber but has cleared all the rest of the land and has, by careful cultivation, made it very productive. He has always been a hard working man and of so reliable a character that frequently his fellow citizens have elected him to township offices, and has served many years as road supervisor and as a member of the board of education in the Walkup Special School District.

Mr. Holscher was married first to Miss Kate Gudenkauf, who became the mother of one daughter and both are deceased. The second marriage of Mr. Holscher was to Miss Matilda Rottinghaus, and the following children were born to them: Benjamin, Henry, William, Elizabeth, Matilda, Anton, Sophia and Frances, twins, Ludwig, Adam and Emma, all of whom survive except

William and Elizabeth. Mr. Holscher and family are members of St. Michael's Catholic church. In his political views he has always been a democrat.

ROBERT B. EVANS, who is one of the substantial and well known men of Franklin township, where he owns seventy acres of very valuable land, was born in Auglaize county, O., February 15, 1860, and is a son of John and Mary (Throckmorton) Evans.

John Evans probably came of Welsh ancestry but was born in Berkeley county, W. Va., as was his wife, and they married there and then came to Ohio, where the rest of their lives were passed. They were upright people, members of the Methodist Episcopal church. They had the following children: Thomas; Margaret, who married Andrew Close; Robert B.; David; Charles; Albertus; Mary Effie, who married John Murphey; and Silas.

Robert B. Evans had common school advantages and afterward worked with his father on the home place until he was twenty-one years of age and then started out independently, working for three years by the month, for S. D. Young. In partnership with his brother he then rented land for one year and afterward, for twenty years by himself, at the end of which time he and brother together bought the home farm. Eighteen months later Robert B. Evans sold his interest and in 1907 bought what is the old Thomas Shaw farm in local conversation but it is a much better property since Mr. Evans has become proprietor. Here he carries on general farming and does considerable business in buying and selling stock.

On April 30, 1886, Mr. Evans was married to Miss Jennie Stewart, who was born in Shelby county, a daughter of James and Elizabeth (Elliott) Stewart. The parents of Mrs. Evans were farming people who were well known and highly respected. They had the following children: William; Jennie; Emma and Anna, twins, the former of whom married Joseph Fogt, and the latter, Alonzo Boyer; and Cora, who married Stanley Chiles.

Mr. and Mrs. Evans have children as follows: Earl L., Harry F., Clyde H., Stanley, Floyd G. and Robert T. The family belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church in which all are active, and Mr. Evans is a member of the board of trustees and a class leader as well as Sunday school superintendent. Politically a republican, Mr. Evans has frequently been urged for office by his party and has served in school positions and as road supervisor.

B. P. HIGGINS, who carries on general farming and stock raising in Orange township, owns 110 acres of well cultivated land that has been in the family since the time of his grandfather, who erected the residence that still stands. He was born in 1875, near Kirkwood, O., and is a son of J. V. and Sarah Elizabeth (Dunn) Higgins.

J. V. Higgins was born, reared and educated in Shelby county, and for thirty-five years carried on farming north of Sidney and then came to the place his son now occupies, and here the rest of his life was passed, his death occurring at the age of seventy-five years. He married Sarah Elizabeth Dunn,

who was born on this farm, seventy-eight years ago, and resides here with her son, B. P. Higgins, who is the youngest of the family of six children, the others being: Mrs. Susie Hartshorn, of Miami county; Charles, of Piqua; Mrs. Minnie Hetzler, of Orange township; and W. H. and T. L., both of this township.

B. P. Higgins obtained his education in the Kirkwood schools and afterward went to the west, where he spent eighteen months. When he returned to Shelby county he came to this farm, Grandfather Dunn's old place, and here has followed his agricultural industries ever since. In 1904 he was married to Miss Ida Baker, who is a daughter of Ephraim and Anzetta (Cain) Baker. They were well known residents of Shelby county, where the father died in 1908, when aged seventy-one years. Mr. and Mrs. Higgins have one son, Kenneth. In his political views Mr. Higgins chooses to be independent and the only office he ever accepted was that of constable. He belongs to the Odd Fellows at Kirkwood, O.

EDWARD E. KAH, one of the representative and old established business men of Sidney, who for twenty-two years has been proprietor of Kah's Jewelry Store, and who, for thirty-four years has been in the jewelry and optical business, was born on his father's farm in Franklin township, Shelby county, O., December 23, 1857, and is a son of George and Dorothy (Zimpher) Kah.

George Kah was born in Germany and both he and wife came to America prior to marriage, with their parents, settling in Shelby county. After marriage they lived for some time on their farm in Franklin township and then came to Sidney, where George Kah conducted a shoe store, being a practical shoemaker. He died at Sidney, December 10, 1904, where his widow, now aged eighty-two years, still resides.

Edward E. Kah attended school in this city and then gave his father assistance in the shoe store until he was twenty-one years old, when he felt at liberty to follow his own inclinations in regard to his choice of career. Consequently he went to work for C. W. McKee, who, at that time, conducted a jewelry store in the Wagner House block. He finally bought the business from Mr. McKee but in order to get a more desirable location, had to buy a book store, which he continued to conduct in conjunction with his other business until 1911, when he closed out that feature but still continues to handle wall paper and picture moldings. He is considering the matter of erecting a new building and moving into it in the near future, although he already owns a fine block in which Young Brothers' clothing store is located. He is an expert watchmaker and a graduated optician, having completed his course in the latter branch in a well known optical college at Chicago, in 1898.

Mr. Kah married Miss Carrie A. Bush, a daughter of George L. Bush, of Sidney. They enjoy the comforts of a handsome residence on North Walnut avenue. Mr. Kah is a man of quiet tastes and is identified fraternally with but one organization, the Knights of Pythias.



GEORGE EHRHARDT, a member of the board of trustees of Clinton township, and a substantial business man of Sidney, was born at St. Louis, Mo., November 6, 1879, and is a son of Henry W. and Emma (Hambrook) Ehrhardt, the former of whom is one of the leading gardeners and florists in this section.

George Ehrhardt was two years old when his parents returned from St. Louis to Cincinnati, O., their former home, where both had been reared. In 1888 the family came to Sidney and here George Ehrhardt was educated and then served an apprenticeship to the baker's trade. In the meanwhile his father had taken his eldest son, the late Theodore Ehrhardt, as his assistant in the gardening and florist business which he had established, and the younger son carried on a bakery for seven years at Sidney. When Theodore Ehrhardt died in 1910, George Ehrhardt sold his business to Edward Staley and became associated with his father. Seven acres of land are utilized for gardening purposes and six greenhouses supply plants and flowers to all this part of the county.

Mr. Ehrhardt was married in 1902 to Miss Anna Adlon, of Springfield, O. They have no children of their own but are parents to two of the four children left by Theodore Ehrhardt, Vendora and Walter A., whom they have adopted. Mr. Ehrhardt has always been identified with the republican party and on the republican ticket he was elected in the fall of 1911 to his present office and Clinton township is profiting thereby. Fraternally he is connected with the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias.

C. K. PRUDEN, one of the representative citizens and successful agriculturists of Orange township, whose well improved farm of eighty acres lies three and one-half miles south of Sidney, O., was born on the old home place, four miles south of Sidney, in 1870. He is a son of James K. Pruden and a grandson of Peter Pruden, who was born in New Jersey and left there in early manhood and went to Paris, Ky., where he engaged in shoemaking until 1830, when he came to Shelby county, and settled on the farm now owned by his grandson, C. K. Pruden. He married Christiana Amos, and they spent the closing years of their lives in Orange township.

James K. Pruden was one of a family of eight children and was born in Bourbon county, Ky., in 1826. After he reached manhood he engaged in farming and stock raising, improving his property and building the stanch residence in which one of his sons resides, some forty-five years ago. He lived to the age of seventy-four years, a man well known and universally respected. He married Mary E. Cooper, who was born in Hamilton county, O., but was a child when she came to Shelby county, and now is a beloved member of the household of her son, J. Edward Pruden. They had five children: J. Edward; Mrs. Mary Fields, who is deceased; Mrs. Anna Beaman, who lives on a part of the homestead; Alfred, who is deceased; and Clark K., of the present review.

Clark K. Pruden has been engaged in farming and stock raising ever since his school days, remaining on the home place until his marriage and then

moving to his present farm. In 1893 he erected his comfortable residence and has placed all other buildings and improvements here and was actively engaged in his various industries until 1910, when he retired to some extent, since then renting out the larger part of his land and devoting the rest to growing potatoes and some common stock for home use.

Mr. Pruden married Miss Josephine Voress, a daughter of Okey Voress, and they have two children: James Earl, who is a member of the graduating class of 1913, in Miami University, having taken a chemical course; and Alfred David, who is also a bright student, now in the Sidney schools, who is making plans to enter the Ohio State University. In politics Mr. Pruden is a republican and has been quite active in local affairs for many years. He served five years as township clerk and very acceptably served out also an unexpired term of the township treasurer. He is identified with the Odd Fellows, attending the meetings of the order at Kirkwood.

L. F. EVERLEY, whose fine farm of 114 acres, situated in Washington township, may be reached by traveling ten miles southwest of Sidney, O., belongs to one of the old families of Shelby county, which was established by his grandfather. He was born in Loramie township, Shelby county, O., July 3, 1866, and is a son of Jacob and Sarah J. (Feint) Everley.

Jacob Everley was a well known resident of Washington township where he was concerned in agricultural affairs and for many years followed the carpenter trade. He was a highly respected man, having been honest and upright in all his dealings, and left many friends behind when he passed out of life, April 25, 1912, in his seventy-third year. He was a veteran of the Civil war and served afterward in township offices. His widow survives and is a member of the household of her son, L. F., who is one of the four survivors of a family of eight children.

L. F. Everley attended school at Lockington and afterward learned the carpenter trade, which he followed for fifteen years. When prepared to embark in farming as his main business, Mr. Everley purchased his present property, on which he erected new and substantial buildings and otherwise improved the place until it is one of the most attractive properties in the township. Mr. Everley and wife, who was formerly Miss Laura Booher, with Mr. Everley's mother, enjoy the comforts of this beautiful home alone, as they have no children. They are very hospitable, however, and have a wide circle of friends. They attend the United Brethren church at Lockington. Mr. Everley is a republican in his political views.

JAMES ANDERSON LAMB, formerly one of the foremost business men of Sidney and at the time of death, December 9, 1898, president of the Citizens National Bank, was closely identified with this section of country for more than a half century. He was born in Pennsylvania, December 14, 1815, a son of Samuel and Jane (Anderson) Lamb.

During youth James A. Lamb worked on a farm, attended the subscription schools and until 1833 was a clerk in a store. In 1834 he came



JAMES ANDERSON LAMB



to Ohio and with a partner went into the drug business first at Mansfield and later at Lancaster. He was a man of great business perception and his whole subsequent life showed the shrewd foresight that provides for emergencies while it also ventures into unknown fields. In January, 1840, he embarked in the mercantile business with Colonel Zinn and in the spring of 1842 came to Sidney, which was then a village but the business field seemed promising, and the partners started here a factory for the manufacture of pearlsh, the product being conveyed overland to Sandusky. Mr. Lamb continued with Colonel Zinn until 1868 and then sold his interest and purchased a farm. This land he sold two years afterward in order to accept the presidency of the Citizens National Bank, one that he held until his death. For eight years Mr. Lamb was a member of the city council and introduced the ordinance providing for waterworks and was largely instrumental in carrying this and other public-spirited projects to a successful issue. He had much to do with the material growth of Sidney, building the warehouse later occupied by Moore & Marshall, his own fine residence, the handsome Presbyterian church and parsonage and many other structures. He was the second son born in his parents' family, all of whom came to Ohio; John, Hannah, James Anderson, Samuel, Margaret, Jane and Elenor, Hannah becoming the wife of Colonel Zinn, Jane becoming the wife of Silas Thompson, and Elenor the wife of Henry Wilkinson.

In 1843 Mr. Lamb was married to Miss Julia A. Taylor, who was born in Shelby county, a daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Stipp) Taylor, farming people. The father of Mrs. Lamb was born in Maryland and the mother in Virginia. They were members of the Christian church. Mrs. Lamb was their youngest child, the others being: Jason, George and William; Susan, wife of Abner Girard; Margaret, wife of Mark Broderick; and Lewis and Shelby. Mr. Lamb was reared in the Presbyterian church and to that religious body he gave liberally. For many years he was identified with the Masonic fraternity.

ROBERT PATTERSON THOMPSON, who is one of the highly respected, widely known and substantial citizens of Washington township, was born on his father's farm in this township, in 1834, and is a representative of one of the earliest pioneer families, the Thompsons having come to Shelby county in early days. His parents were Freeborn and Margaret (Patterson) Thompson, the former of whom died in 1837. The latter, a native of Ireland, was brought to America when four years old, and died at Piqua, O., in her eighty-sixth year. R. P. is the elder and the only survivor of his parents' two children, his sister, Elizabeth Ellen, having passed away October 23, 1912. She was the widow of George J. Legg, who died in 1859.

R. P. Thompson had few of the present day school advantages. In his boyhood books were scarce and school sessions continued through but a few months in the year and the old log school houses were but poorly equipped, in fact were fitted only for the most sturdy of children. With the others he

trudged for miles, many times through the snow, and then hauled wood for the heating of the log structure with its puncheon floor and slab benches. In those days farmers' sons just naturally became farmers and very much, too, to their credit and advantage. Prior to 1885 Mr. Thompson followed farming on a place somewhat west of the old homestead and then moved to his own home farm of 120 acres, making all the improvements here at that time. He also owns eighty acres in Loramie township and has a part interest in the old Patterson homestead. Until 1907 Mr. Thompson carried on all his various industries himself but since then lives somewhat retired, contenting himself with overseeing his several properties and their management.

Mr. Thompson was married to Miss Jane McKee, a daughter of John and Catherine McKee, who were born in Pennsylvania but later came to Shelby county. Mrs. Thompson is the only one living out of eight children. In politics Mr. Thompson has always been a democratic voter but, with one exception, has never accepted public office, having served through one term as township supervisor.

DARWIN H. WARNER, proprietor of the D. H. Warner Grocery Store, one of the leading business houses of Sidney, and one of the stable and representative men of this city, was born at London, Madison county, O., June 8, 1868, and is a son of Louis and Lida (Williams) Warner. The parents of Mr. Warner removed to South Charleston, in Clark county, in 1870, where the father engaged in work at his trade, being a carpenter, and from there moved to Port Jefferson, in Shelby county, in 1876.

Darwin H. Warner attended the public schools of Port Jefferson and afterward went to work as an employe of the Sidney Wheel Company, changing to the Philip Smith Company six months later, and remained with the latter concern for about nine years, being connected with the hollow-ware department. For eight years prior to first embarking in the grocery business he was connected with a Sidney manufacturing plant, and after conducting a grocery for two years, closed that interest for one year, during which he was with the Sidney Steel Scraper Company. About 1909 he reentered the grocery trade, conducting his business, at his excellent location at No. 414 North Main street. Mr. Warner has long been recognized as a citizen of sterling worth and has been and still continues an important factor in civic life. He served usefully in the city council for four years, for two years representing the Second ward, and for two more years being councilman-at-large, resigning that office in order to accept his present office, that of director of public service, the duties of which he assumed on January 1, 1912.

Mr. Warner came to Sidney in 1890 and in the same year he was married to Miss Rosetta Snodgrass, and they have a family of four children: Blanche, who is the wife of Oscar Burns; and Clara, Doris and John. Mr. Warner is a prominent Odd Fellow, belonging to both the Encampment and the subordinate lodge, and belongs also to the Knights of the Golden Eagle, in which organization he has passed all the chairs and has been a delegate to the Grand Lodge.

WILLIAM J. MEYER, residing three miles east of Fort Loramie, on his exceedingly valuable farm of 240 acres, situated in section 4, McLean township, is a well known and highly respected citizen of Shelby county, where his parents, Joseph and Elizabeth Meyer, were early settlers. He was born at Fort Loramie, O., June 22, 1876, and was educated mainly in the Berlin Special School District.

Farming and stock raising have engaged the time and attention of William J. Meyer ever since he reached manhood, and he is numbered with the sensible, practical and successful agriculturists of this section. After some early experience he engaged in farming for two years in Cynthian township but has been on this farm for the past five years and has been six years a continuous resident of McLean township. He has impressed his fellow citizens as a man of reliability and character and in January, 1912, he was elected a member of the board of education of the Sherman Special School District, a mark of public confidence.

Mr. Meyer was married to Miss Carrie Struckamp, a daughter of Barney and Elizabeth (Burwinkel) Struckamp. The parents of Mrs. Meyer were born in Germany. The father came to the United States when a young man and was a bricklayer by trade and at the time of Mrs. Meyer's birth was a resident of Mercer county, O. His first marriage was to Catherine Vondrelle and two children were born to them: a child that died in infancy, and Mrs. Henry Barhorst of Shelby county. His second marriage was to Elizabeth Burwinkel and seven children were born to the second union: Carrie, who became Mrs. Meyer; Henry; Benjamin, who was accidentally drowned in childhood; John and Louis, and two who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer have five children: Ralph, Julia and Aslea, twins, and Agnes and Leona. The family belongs to St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort Loramie.

LINK T. SNODGRASS. Probably one of the best known men in Shelby county, is Link T. Snodgrass, of Sidney, who, for twenty years has followed the business of auctioneer, one who, with never failing wit, humor, seriousness or pathos, has sold commodities of all kinds, on all occasions and at all points where his services have been called for. He handles farm lands and chattels with remarkable success for their owners and the mere fact of his being the auctioneer for the occasion, is sure to bring a large concourse to hear him. It is a real gift that Mr. Snodgrass possesses and there are those who declare he was born with it, and that a story told of his childhood is that one of his first conscious acts, while still in his cradle, was an attempt to auction off his teething ring and baby rattle.

Link T. Snodgrass was born February 14, 1861, in Orange township, Shelby county, O., a son of Alexander and Climena (Boyer) Snodgrass. The father was born near Sidney and was a son of Thompson Snodgrass, one of the pioneer settlers of this section. Alexander Snodgrass married Climena Boyer, a daughter of Jacob Boyer, who was a man of large substance, having entered 284 acres of land from the government when he first settled here.

Mr. Snodgrass died at the age of sixty-two years on the farm on which he had spent his life, his widow surviving some years and dying at Sidney, in her seventy-third year.

Link T. Snodgrass continued to make his home on the farm until he was twenty-eight years of age, having been educated in the public schools. In 1885 he was married to Miss Jennie N. Proctor, of Green township, a daughter of George W. Proctor, who, for forty years was a school teacher.

In view of the success that Mr. Snodgrass has had as an auctioneer it is interesting to learn how he began. Putting aside the amusing story of his infantile attempts, he made a beginning by selling cakes and watermelons, auctioning them off at social festivals, when a mere boy. The first sale he cried in the rural regions was for Mrs. Sallie Metz, while still living on the farm, and he had associated with him George De Nise, a well known local character. His largest sale was in 1907 when he sold at auction almost a half-million dollars worth of real estate for J. D. Barnes, receiver for the German American Bank, the auction continuing for a number of days. He also does a general real estate business, mainly handling farm properties. He belongs to the order of Elks and to the Odd Fellows, both the lower and Encampment branches. Mr. Snodgrass is a man of wealth and has a reputation for a great deal of quiet charity. His business brings him into contact with many very distressing situations and his warm heart is often touched. For business as well as pleasure, Mr. Snodgrass travels over the country in his speedy automobile.

WILLIAM A. FERGUS, general farmer and stock raiser, residing on his well cultivated farm of forty-four and one-half acres, situated in Perry township, belongs to old county families, his grandfathers having settled here in early days. Mr. Fergus was born in Shelby county, May 12, 1857, and is a son of Joseph and Barbara (Uhlrey) Fergus.

Joseph Fergus was born in Shelby county and here learned and followed the carpenter trade and later was in the lumber business. He was a republican in his political views but was no politician, just a quiet, busy man, attending to his business and performing life's duties according to his best judgment. Both he and his wife were members of the United Brethren church. They had a family of children and almost all of them survived their parents. The record reads as follows: Caroline, who married George Faulder; Richard; Sarah, who is deceased, was the wife of William Valentine, also deceased; John S.; William A.; Mary, who is the wife of Thomas Mitchell; Joseph; Winfield S.; Stella, who married P. O. Stockstill; Laura, who married Samuel Knoop and Charles.

William A. Fergus obtained his education in the public schools and afterward, until he was twenty-two years old, worked for his father at logging for the latter's saw mill. He then rented a farm of 105 acres on which he resided for seventeen years, when he moved to the Norman Key farm and rented that for ten and one-half years, and in 1907 bought his present



place from William Dormire. Like his late father, Mr. Fergus is a republican but no office-seeker.

In 1879 Mr. Fergus was married to Miss Belle Sheppard, who was born in New Jersey, a daughter of Charles and Mary Sheppard. Mrs. Fergus had three brothers, David, George and Martin, the first named being deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Fergus the following children have been born: Edward, who married Eva Simes; Bertha, who married Otto Steenrod; Clinton, who married Grace Stevenson; Edith, who married Roy Fogt; and Florence. Mr. and Mrs. Steenrod have two children: Gladys and Harold; Clinton Fergus and wife have two children: Joseph and Frances; and Mr. and Mrs. Fogt have two daughters: Thelma and Roma. Mr. Fergus and family attend the United Brethren church. He takes an interest in all that promises to benefit his section, gives encouragement to local enterprises and is a stockholder in the Farmers Telephone Company.

BERNARD VONDRELE, whose valuable farm of 114 acres, situated in section 12, McLean township, is bordered on the south by the Loramie reservoir, is one of the best known residents of this section of Shelby county, where the greater part of his life has been passed. He was born in this township, three miles east of Minster, O., August 13, 1843, and is a son of Bernard and Margaret (Qoutte) Vondrele.

Bernard Vondrele was born in Germany and was a young man when he came to this section and he assisted in the construction of the Ohio Canal, working in Shelby, Auglaize and Mercer counties. In Shelby county he married Margaret Qoutte and then settled on the Harman Siesman farm in McLean township, where he died when his only child, his namesake, was a babe of one year, his burial being in the Minster cemetery. The farm of forty acres belonged to his widow and she remained on it and later bought forty acres more and here she resided until the time of her death, at the age of sixty-two years. She was a faithful member of the Catholic church at Minster, O.

After his school period was over, Bernard Vondrel applied himself to farming and stock raising and following his marriage settled on his present farm in section 12, which, at that time was partly cleared. Mr. Vondrele has carried on all his farm undertakings in a practical, common sense way, draining his land and putting down tile as he found desirable and raising grain and stock. He is one of the leading democrats of the township and served four years as township trustee and has always been interested in having good schools.

Mr. Vondrele married Miss Caroline Drehman, who was also of German extraction and was born in Germany, a daughter of Herman and Catherine Drehman. The five children of Mr. and Mrs. Vondrele were all born on this farm, namely: William, Joseph, Herman, John and Frank, the two youngest sons assisting in carrying on the farm industries. Mr. Vondrele and family are members of St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort Loramie and he was a liberal contributor to the building of the present church edifice.

HENRY A. ERNST, who, for eight years, has been a member of the board of education of the Sherman Special School District in McLean township, Shelby county, O., owns the old homestead farm in section 10, containing 185 acres of well improved land, situated three and one-half miles southeast of Fort Loramie. Mr. Ernst was born on this farm, March 10, 1867, and is a son of Joseph and Catherine (Barringhaus) Ernst, both of whom died on this place, fine people and faithful Catholics.

Henry A. Ernst has lived on his present farm all his life. He attended the Sherman school in boyhood and has always been interested in advancing the cause of education in this section and hence has consented to serve for so long a time on the educational board. It is to Mr. Ernst and his fellow members that the township looks for the increase and permanence of its school facilities and it is due to their wisdom and liberality that educational work is so far advanced in this part of the county. Mr. Ernst is a busy and successful farmer, carrying on a general line, raising grain, hay and stock, and finds a market for his overplus at Fort Loramie. He has his place well drained but has not deemed it necessary to replace the buildings that were erected by his father, they being in good condition.

Mr. Ernst married Miss Mary Borchers, a daughter of Barney Borchers, of McLean township, and the family of ten children were born on this farm and all live in the vicinity except the fifth child, Urban, who died when aged two years. The others are: Clemens, Bernard, Louis, Anton, Henrietta, Wilhelmina, Carl, Henry and Mary. Mr. Ernst and family are members of the Catholic church. He has always cast his vote with the democratic party.

JOHNSON GINN, who is well known all over Shelby county, O., is a very large and successful dealer in livestock, devotes the greater part of his time to the buying and selling of cattle and resides on his farm of ninety-two acres which is situated in section 10, Walkup Special School District, McLean township, three miles west and one-fourth mile south of Port Loramie. Mr. Ginn was born on this farm in April, 1847, and is a son of William and Marian (Bodkin) Ginn.

William Ginn was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, and there married his first wife, Jane Walkup, who died in Miami county, O. William Ginn and wife and their eight children settled three miles north of Troy, O., and remained there one year when the wife died and he moved to the farm in McLean township now owned by Johnson Ginn. He found work on the Miami Canal near Fort Loramie and in that way earned the money which he invested in this land. Later he married Marian Bodkin, who was born in Virginia and came with her people to Ohio. Six children were born to this marriage, the second wife dying when their son Johnson was two years old. William Ginn was married a third time, Mrs. Jennie (Mullen) Rutledge, a widow, becoming his wife. She was also born in Ireland and died when over sixty years of age, having had three daughters born to her first marriage. William Ginn outlived all his wives, he being in his eightieth year at time of death. He was a man of many fine traits of character and continued to be

active both in mind and body into advanced years. He served as a soldier in the Civil war but escaped all injury. When he settled on his land in McLean township it was heavily timbered, not a stick of wood ever having been cut, and it was through his untiring industry that the first building on the place was put up and preparations made to convert the wilderness then prevailing into a comfortable homestead. Gradually he acquired other tracts of land until at one time he owned about 500 acres situated in Darke and Shelby counties. After improving his McLean township land so that others could live on it with a large degree of comfort, in 1851 he made himself a home on his Darke county land, just across the road, and there continued to live until his death. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and his burial was in the Sidney cemetery.

Johnson Ginn attended school near his father's farms and then began his own career as a farmer, residing south of his present farm for some years and selling the same before coming back to the old home place. This property he has under a tenant's care as he devotes the most of his time to his stock activities. The land is well tiled and much of it is in pasturage and fifteen acres remain in valuable timber.

Mr. Ginn married Miss Minerva Houston, who was born in Darke county, O., a daughter of Eli and Melvina Houston. Mr. and Mrs. Ginn have had two daughters: Florence, who resides at home; and Abigail, who died when aged six months. In political connection Mr. Ginn has always been a republican as was his father.

WILLIAM H. BOWEN, one of the substantial citizens and excellent farmers of Turtle Creek township, where he owns 120 acres of fine land, was born in Washington township, Shelby county, July 24, 1869, and is a son of Joseph and Christina E. (Strate) Bowen.

Joseph Bowen, who is a leading business man at Hardin, O., where he has been a merchant for a quarter of a century, was born in Clermont county, O., in 1844, a son of Clark and Elizabeth (Godfrey) Bowen. Joseph Bowen served as a soldier in the Civil war from 1861 until 1865, afterward engaged in farming and then established himself at Hardin, and is one of the representative men of that section. In 1868 he married Christina E. Strate, who was born in Germany, and they have had seven children born to them.

William H. Bowen, the eldest of his parents' children, was afforded educational advantages and after completing the public school course spent two summer terms at the Ohio Normal School, at Ada, O., and for six years thereafter taught school in his native county. He then became associated with his father in business but three years later sold his interest and since then has devoted himself to agricultural pursuits exclusively. He is a progressive farmer, adopting new methods according to the latest scientific plans for agricultural advancement and is a valued member of the local Grange.

On September 14, 1893, Mr. Bowen was married to Miss Nancy M. Malcolm, who was born in Indiana but was reared in Shelby county, being six months old when her parents, James and Elizabeth (Davenport) Malcolm.

brought her to this section. The father was a farmer until his death. Mrs. Bowen has three sisters and one brother: Lucy, wife of Wallace Gamble; Cora, the wife of G. T. Patton; Clara, wife of J. D. Price; and J. Harper, Mrs. Bowen being the youngest of the family.

Mr. and Mrs. Bowen have seven children: Helen, Elizabeth, Elsie, Hazel, Dorothy, Joseph and William Kenneth. Mr. Bowen and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he is trustee of the parsonage. In politics a republican, Mr. Bowen has served on the township school board for the last twelve years.

SAMUEL M. DORSEY, who is very capably managing his mother's farm of 160 acres of valuable land, which lies in Green township, Shelby county, O., belongs to one of the old families of this section. He was born in Green township, October 26, 1868, and is a son of Snowden T. and Anna M. (Mathers) Dorsey. His father died in 1894, one-half mile east of the old Dorsey homestead where he was born in 1825.

In the public schools Samuel M. Dorsey secured his early educational training and later pursued higher branches at Lebanon, O. For two years afterward he taught school and as an educator fulfilled every expectation but as a business, agriculture made closer appeals to him and for many years he devoted himself to farming and stock raising. He is connected at Sidney with the Odd Fellows and the Knights of the Golden Eagle, and he belongs also to the Presbyterian church at Sidney. In politics he early identified himself with the republican party and has served in the office of township clerk.

W. H. HIGGINS, who belongs to one of the old families of Shelby county and is a successful general farmer in Orange township, was born in the Russell settlement, in Turtle Creek township, and is a son of J. V. and Sarah Elizabeth (Dunn) Higgins. For many years the father was a prosperous farmer in this section and lived to the age of seventy-one years. The mother still survives and lives on her old homestead, now aged seventy-eight years.

W. H. Higgins attended the township schools and then turned his attention to farming, which has been the family business. He worked for five years by the month and afterward rented farm land, living on the home place until five years after his marriage, when he moved into Washington township, Miami county, and lived there for one year. In 1903 he settled on his present farm of fifty acres, which lies seven miles south of Sidney, and here has successfully carried on farming and stock raising ever since. He is identified with none of the political parties, belonging to a very independent family, but nevertheless has frequently had township offices tendered him and has served as road supervisor.

Mr. Higgins married Miss Lula M. Moore, a daughter of Jacob Moore, an





GEORGE H. BILLING AND FAMILY

old resident of the county, and they have four children: Jessie, Floyd, Robert and Francis. Mr. Higgins is an Odd Fellow and belongs to the lower branch at Kirkwood and the Encampment at Sidney.

GEORGE H. BILLING, who owns large bodies of land in different sections of Shelby county, O., is one of the county's best known men. He was born in Franklin township, this county, February 12, 1865, and is a son of Frederick and Sarah (Knasel) Billing.

Frederick Billing was born in Germany and after coming to the United States became a farmer. He married in Shelby county, O., and there both he and wife died. They were well known and highly respected people. A family of eight children was born to them, namely: Susan, who is the wife of Samuel Hagelberger; John; Sophia, who is deceased, was the wife of Jacob M. Finkenbine; George H.; William; Louisa, who is the wife of W. J. Fogt; Lena, who is deceased, was the wife of Samuel H. Fogt; and Edward, who is a resident of Michigan. These names represent some of the best people of Shelby county.

George H. Billing secured a common school education and remained at home with his father until he was twenty-eight years of age when he started out as a farmer on his own responsibility, at first renting land from his father and afterward acquiring it for himself, although he first rented the homestead during the last years of both parents, afterward buying out the other heirs. When they died he inherited 100 acres but the purchase of the remainder of the estate cost him \$1,000. He has made many improvements including the remodeling of the barn and at the present time of writing is converting the old farmhouse into a modern and attractive residence. He owns 378 acres of valuable land in Shelby county, 160 of which is located in Salem township and 218 acres in Franklin township and is one of the county's large tax payers.

In 1892 Mr. Billing was married to Miss Elizabeth Gerber, who was born in Shelby county, a daughter of John C. and Catherine (Smith) Gerber, and they had the following children: Sarah, Elizabeth, Edward E., Albert, Clara, George, Henry, Charles and Anna, Charles being deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Billing have three children: Leota, Raymond, and Ora. The family belongs to the Lutheran church at Anna. In politics Mr. Billing is a democrat but has not been willing to accept public office although ever an interested and liberal-handed citizen.

W. T. PICKERING, who is numbered with the prosperous and progressive agriculturists of Washington township, owns a farm of 140 acres which lies twelve miles southwest of Sidney. He was born in 1880, in Putnam county, O., and is a son of M. S. Pickering, who was born in Fairfield county, a member of one of the old pioneer families. M. S. Pickering was a farmer first in Paulding county, later in Shelby county and at present is a resident of Fairfield county.

W. T. Pickering attended school in both Putnam and Paulding counties and remained with his father until 1897, when he came to Shelby county and in 1907 purchased and settled on his farm in Washington township. The general improvements he has placed here give evidence of good judgment and he probably has as fine a modern residence as can be found in the township. He raises the usual grains of this section and also devotes attention to stock raising.

Mr. Pickering was married in 1901 to Miss Katie Patterson. They are members of the Presbyterian church at Piqua. In his political sentiments he is a democrat.

NATHAN MOYER, who resides on his valuable farm of 147 acres situated in section 20, Cynthian township, Shelby county, O., was born in this township, on an adjoining farm, which is now owned by J. C. Short, December 22, 1841, and is a son of George and Sarah (Seymour) Moyer.

The parents of Mr. Moyer were born in Pennsylvania. They were farming people in Shelby county, and the father died in Cynthian township, when aged sixty-two years, and the mother in her eighty-fourth year, and their burial was in the cemetery at Oran, O. George Moyer owned a farm of eighty acres which he cleared and improved to some extent, at the time of his settlement in Cynthian township the country being yet in a wild condition. In those days even the ordinary domestic duties were carried on in a burdensome way. Mr. Moyer remembers when his mother wove all the family wearing apparel, coloring the cloth afterward and fashioning it into garments. She also cooked the toothsome viands for which the pioneer home was celebrated, in the open fireplace, Mr. Moyer being seventeen years old before he even saw a cook stove. All the family attended church, a spring wagon being called into requisition when the distance was too far to cover by walking, but in those days it was considered no disgrace to wear a patched coat or gown or to appear with bare feet. Mr. and Mrs. Moyer were long remembered in their community for those virtues which prevailed in old days—kindness, generosity, charity and hospitality.

Until he was sixteen years of age Nathan Moyer attended the district schools in the winter seasons and then started out to be entirely self supporting, his industries including farming, chopping wood, making staves, digging ditches and hunting. In 1863 he bought forty acres of the place he now owns and to his original purchase kept on adding until he now has 147 acres of finely cultivated land, excepting only ten acres, which is still timbered. When he came here the land was wooded and it was no slight task to clear it but this was completed many years since, and on the spot where once stood giants of the forest, wave the grain or feed the herds and stock which make Mr. Moyer one of Cynthian township's men of independence. He is one of the four survivors of his parents' family of ten children, his twin sister dying in 1864. The others are: Mrs. John Short, Sr.; George, of Loramie township; and William, of Piqua, O.

Mr. Moyer was married to Miss Eliza A. Forrest, who was born at Day-



ton, O., a daughter of John Forrest, who died while serving as a soldier in the Civil war. To Mr. and Mrs. Moyer the following children were born: John, who married Elizabeth McCorkle; Elizabeth and Charles, both of whom are deceased; Walter; Leonard; Louella, who is the wife of William Newman; and Laurence. Mr. Moyer and family are members of the Christian church at Oran, O. In politics he is a democrat and has served in such township offices as supervisor and road superintendent.

JOSEPH V. GAIER, a general farmer and respected citizen of Cynthian township, who owns seventy-six acres situated in section 18, Basinburg Special School District, one-quarter mile east of St. Mary's turnpike road, was born in McLean township, Shelby county, December 26, 1877, and is a son of Jacob and Louisa (Wise) Gaier.

Jacob Gaier was a farmer throughout his active years and resided in Shelby county where he was a man well known and much respected. He died when aged sixty-five years and his burial was in the cemetery attached to St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort Loramie, he having been a member of that church. He was twice married and two children were born to his first union and seven to the second.

Joseph V. Gaier attended school in boyhood in the Berlin district and then helped his father on the home farm in McLean township until his marriage, when he settled on his present place where he has carried on general farming and stock raising ever since. He remodeled and repaired the buildings and made many improvements and has a home and farm in which he justly takes pride, all of his land being under cultivation except ten acres in timber.

Mr. Gaier married Miss Elizabeth Barhorst, a daughter of Joseph Barhorst of McLean township, and they have one daughter, Helen Elizabeth. Mr. Gaier and family belong to St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort Loramie. Like his late father he is a democrat but has never desired public office of any kind. He is a quiet, industrious farmer, one who attends to his own business and performs his duty as a citizen according to his best judgment.

JOSEPH WINNER, a general farmer and highly respected citizen of Cynthian township, who owns a carefully cultivated farm of eighty acres, was born January 14, 1867, in McLean township, Shelby county, and is a son of Anton and Caroline Winner.

Joseph Winner attended school in the Dirksen district and remained at home helping his father until his marriage, when he located where he has remained ever since, in section 17, Cynthian township. He has made all the substantial improvements on the place, has his land well drained and tiled and all of it under cultivation with the exception of ten acres. It has an excellent location being three-fourths of a mile east of the St. Mary turnpike on the township line road, with postoffice accommodations at Fort Loramie.

Mr. Winner married first Miss Josephine Bruns, who, at death, left four children: Joseph A., Herman, Frances Elizabeth and William. Mr. Winner's second marriage was to Mrs. Agnes (Brackman) Richling, widow of

August Richling. She had one son, Henry Richling, born to her first marriage. To Mr. and Mrs. Winner four children have been born: Leona, Alexander, Lucinda and Louetta, all surviving except Lucinda. Mr. Winner and family are members of St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort Loramie. In politics he is a democrat but has never accepted any office except one connected with the public schools, for three years serving as a member of the board of education of the Short Special School District.

JOHN J. HUFFMAN, a leading citizen of Turtle Creek township, where he owns an excellent farm of forty acres, has served acceptably in the office of justice of the peace for the past seven years and is interested in all movements that promise to improve or advance this neighborhood. He is widely known and was born in Clinton township, Shelby county, August 14, 1850, and is a son of George and Mary (Johnston) Huffman.

George Huffman and wife lived out long and respected lives and passed away on the farm which they had occupied for many years. They were consistent and useful member of the Baptist church and their burial was in the McClure cemetery. They had the following children, all sons: John J., William M., Samuel, James S. and George A.

After his school days were over, John J. Huffman spent two years at Sidney and then settled down to farming as a business and prior to purchasing his present farm in 1894, from C. E. Thompson, rented land in this section. Here he carries on varied farm industries, growing grain and fruit and raising stock and poultry for home use, not being particularly desirous of adding to his agricultural burdens as he finds that official responsibilities absorb a large part of his time. He owns stock in the Farmers Telephone Company, a profitable investment.

On December 2, 1869, Mr. Huffman was married to Miss Mary L. Van Gorder, who was born in Trumbull county, O., a daughter of James L. and Phoebe (Moore) Van Gorder. The father of Mrs. Huffman was a farmer and he and family moved from Trumbull to Shelby county, his children being: Mary L.; Charlotta, wife of Charles L. Argabright; and Charles A. and George L. To Mr. and Mrs. Huffman a son and daughter have been born, Albert B. and Edith L. The latter is the wife of David Latimer and they have three children: Morris L., Mary E. and Ethel G. Mr. Huffman and family belong to the Presbyterian church at Hardin, O. Both Mr. and Mrs. Huffman take an active interest in the Patrons of Husbandry and Mr. Huffman has been for twenty years secretary of the Shelby County Grange, and for the past sixteen years, has been secretary of the Shelby County Farmers' Institute. He belongs also to the Knights of Pythias at Sidney. Mr. Huffman has been a republican for many years, his father having been interested in the same organization of political leaders in 1857 and an upholder of its principles throughout his life.

ADOLPH F. RATERMANN, cashier of the Loramie Banking Company, of Fort Loramie, is one of the representative men and well-known financiers

of Shelby county. He was born in McLean township, Shelby county, September 26, 1873, his people being early settlers in that section.

Mr. Ratermann attended the local schools until the year 1892 and in 1893 he attended the Valparaiso, Indiana, Normal College, and spent four terms at the Ohio Normal University of Lebanon, O. Having improved his opportunities then engaged in teaching, a profession he followed for ten years, during three years of which he was at the head of the Fort Loramie village schools. In March, 1904, he entered the Loramie Bank as assistant cashier, of which he became cashier a few months afterward and has continued in this connection.

On August 21, 1901, Mr. Ratermann was married to Miss Rosa Rieger, who was born at Fort Loramie, O., and died here June 12, 1906, at the age of thirty-one years. She was a daughter of Joseph and Anna (Schwartz) Rieger. Two sons survive: Paul J. and Albin H. Mrs. Ratermann was a faithful member of St. Michael's Catholic church, to which Mr. Ratermann also belongs. He is identified with the Knights of St. John and the Knights of Columbus. A democrat in his political preference, Mr. Ratermann is not active along that line although ever ready to perform every necessary act of good citizenship.

JACOB R. LEAPLEY, who, in addition to being a stockholder in the Farmers Telephone Company, owns 120 acres of some of the finest land in Franklin township, Shelby county, O., was born in this county September 15, 1864, and is a son of Othol and Mary (Stone) Leapley.

Othol Leapley and wife belonged to old pioneer families of Shelby county, where they were born, married, and passed out of life. They were estimable people and liberal supporters of the Methodist Episcopal church, attending at Port Jefferson, and their burial was in the cemetery there. Their family consisted of five children, three sons, namely: Quin, Charles and Jacob Raper; and two daughters, Anna, wife of Newton Wooley, and Blanche, wife of Orrin C. Staley.

Jacob R. Leapley attended the country schools with his brothers and sisters and afterward, as a dutiful son, assisted his father until he was twenty-one years old. About this time occurred his marriage and he then went to Nebraska where he rented land and raised one crop. Conditions there, however, did not look promising to a young man when compared to those he had left behind in Shelby county, therefore he returned and for two years following rented farm land in Franklin township. He then moved on the place which he now owns, a part of the old Yinger farm, which he rented for twelve years previous to buying. He is one of the township's most prosperous stockmen as well as farmer, paying particular attention to Jersey cattle, Shropshire sheep, Percheron horses and O. I. C. hogs.

On December 17, 1885, Mr. Leapley was married to Miss Lollie Fee, who was born in Shelby county, a daughter of William and Sarah (McClure) Fee, both of whom were also born in this county. The father of Mrs. Leapley is deceased, but the mother still resides here. Mrs. Leapley has one older

sister, Maggie, who is the wife of James Shaw; and a brother, Frank, and a sister, Mattie, who is the wife of William Davis, both younger. Mr. and Mrs. Leapley have but one son, Rollie, who remains with his parents. Mr. Leapley and family are active members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he is a trustee, treasurer and steward. In politics he is a republican.

JOHN C. McCLURE, proprietor of Sunnyside Farm, an attractive name that pleases the ear and prepares the stranger traveling through Clinton township, for the fifty acres of finely cultivated land that spreads out before him, is one of the well-known citizens of the county, having had business interests in many parts of it during some fifteen years or more. He was born in Green county, O., in 1844, and is a son of John and Elvira (Young) McClure.

The parents of Mr. McClure came of Virginia people on the paternal side and of North Carolina on the maternal. The father was a carpenter by trade and in later life also followed farming. Both he and wife were members of the Presbyterian church. Their family consisted of the following children: Jennie, wife of Jacob Wilson; James Harvey; David Franklin; Andrew H.; John C.; Cyrus; Mary, who is deceased; Elizabeth and Augustus. The parents lived into old age and at death were laid to rest at Bellbrook, O.

John C. McClure had such educational advantages as the district schools offered in his boyhood, and he remained with his father on the home farm until he was thirty-five years old. He then became a traveling salesman, first covering the country selling nursery stock and afterward contracting for hedge fence. He now carries on general farming on his productive land, raising some good stock but keeping it for his own use.

In May, 1879, Mr. McClure was married to Miss Josephine Stevenson, who was born in Orange township, Shelby county, O., a daughter of Samuel S. and Margaret (McClure) Stevenson. Samuel S. Stevenson was born near Xenia in Greene county, O., and died in his eighty-seventh year, in Shelby county, to which he had come when twenty-one years old. He was a carpenter and contractor and was a well-known and highly respected man. He married Margaret McClure, who was born in Shelby county, and the following children were born to them: Jennie, who is the wife of William Wilson; Anna, who is the wife of John Thompson; Josephine, who is the wife of Mr. McClure; J. Frank; Frances, who is the wife of W. S. Shaw; and Harry. Mr. and Mrs. McClure attend the United Presbyterian church. In politics, like his late father, Mr. McClure is a republican.

JOHN M. BLAKE, who is one of the proprietors of the Farmers Grain and Milling Company, of Sidney, O., has been so associated since the business was founded in January, 1912, and in the division of responsibility between the three partners concerned, has charge of the flour department. He was born at Sidney January 1, 1867, and is a son of O. B. and Mary (Ensey) Blake.

O. B. Blake was born on a farm in Perry township, Shelby county, a son of John Blake, one of the very early settlers, who was a son of John Blake,

who was born in England. For some ten years O. B. Blake was engaged in the meat business at Sidney, later moved to a farm in Turtle Creek township but subsequently retired to Sidney where he still lives. He married Mary Ensey, who was born at Sidney, a daughter of Mathew Ensey, who was the contractor who built the court house at Ottawa, O., fifty years ago.

John M. Blake was three years old when his people moved to Turtle Creek township and he was reared there and continued to reside in that part of the county for thirty-two years, when he moved to Clinton township, but still owns one fine farm of 200 acres in the former township, and one of eighty acres, in partnership with his brother-in-law, Fred J. Russell, in the latter township. The flour mill now belonging to the Farmers Grain and Milling Company, is one of the oldest mills and grain elevators in Shelby county and prior to January, 1912, was operated for many years by the late Capt. E. E. Nutt. At the time above mentioned, John M. Blake, Fred J. Russell and Mrs. Frank M. Sayre, bought the mill and a prosperous period of business has followed. Mr. Blake's duties have been specified. Mr. Russell has charge of the buying and selling of the grain, while Frank M. Sayre is secretary and treasurer of the company and attends to all the office work. With the exception of one year in the Sidney high school, Mr. Blake never had any but common school advantages and during the larger part of his life has been exclusively an agriculturist, moving from his farm to Sidney early in 1912.

Mr. Blake married Miss Jessie Russell, who is a daughter of Moses James Russell and Martha E. Russell, now deceased, the father once a very prominent farmer in Clinton township, where Mrs. Blake was born. They have a family of five children: Mary, Russell, John Chester, Gladys and Ethel, and the removal of the family to Sidney opened another hospitable home here and made welcome additions to pleasant social circles.

JOHN SHORT, SR., a retired farmer and one of the oldest settlers now living in Cythian township, was born in Virginia, October 29, 1829, and was brought to Ohio when a child of two years. His parents were Isaac and Mary (Vandegrift) Short.

Isaac Short and wife were born in Virginia and in all probability came from Holland ancestors. The ten children born to them are recorded as follows: Susanna, the eldest, married George Barker of Cythian township, Shelby county, and they had four children: Isaac, Sarah Ann, George and Ivy. John, who was the second in order of birth. Christian, who is now deceased, was married first to Caroline Rhona and after her death to Nancy Clauson and was the father of: Mary, Perry, John, George, Margaret and James. George Short married Jane Slack and both died in Cythian township, three of their children, Susan, William and George, still living, and three of them deceased, Frank, Levi and Henry. Newton Short, the fifth of the family, married (first) Mary Jane Moyer and (second) Margaret Crotinger, and he died in Miami county. His children were: Rachel, Ella, Sarah, Maria and Peter. Allison Jason Short married Sarah Butt and he still resides in

Darke county where his wife died some years ago, the mother of four children: Thomas, Martha, Allison and William. Rachel Short was the wife of Jacob Hollinger of Indiana, deceased, and they had five children: Mary, Martha, George, Samuel and William. Martha Short married William Butt and both died in Cynthian township having no children. William Short, who lives at Piqua, O., married Lucinda Austin, who died at Piqua, the mother of six children: Abraham, Charles, Leonard, Della, Virgin and Ida. Richard, the youngest, died at the age of sixteen years.

It was in 1831 that the Shorts came from Virginia to Dayton, O., and one year later all the family, including the grandfather, Richard Short, came to Cynthian township, Shelby county, where the six sons contracted for eighty acres of land, each one to pay twenty-five dollars. The grandfather advanced the money and the sons subsequently paid it back. He secured 160 acres for himself and also owned eighty acres near Newport. All the Shorts were men of good business judgment and became men of affairs. The Short Special School District was named for Isaac Short, who died on the old homestead, in his sixty-eighth year. His widow survived to be eighty-three years old and their burial was in the cemetery attached to the Christian church at Oran, O.

John Short, Sr., grew up amidst pioneer surroundings. In boyhood he attended a subscription school in a log cabin situated in McLean township and as those were primitive days, he had but meager advantages, but, at that time, it was not considered necessary for the farmer boys to have more than a practical knowledge of reading, writing and arithmetic, and history shows that the acquirement of these was sufficient to enable many a youth to become a leader of men and the possessor of ample fortune. As the eldest son of his father, John Short very early took responsibilities upon himself and during the whole of his subsequent active life, followed agricultural industries with vigor and success. He resides in Cynthian township, where he owns 309 acres, his home being two and one-half miles southeast of Fort Loramie, and eleven miles from Sidney, O.

On March 13, 1851, Mr. Short was married to Miss Elizabeth Moyer, who was born May 8, 1829, in Cynthian township, a daughter of George and Sarah (Zemer) Moyer. The parents of Mrs. Short were born in Pennsylvania, came early to Ohio and were married in Cynthian township and became parents of ten children, the survivors being: Mrs. Short, George, William and Nathan. The Moyers settled on land that John Short now owns and here both died, the father aged sixty-two years and the mother eighty-five years.

When John Short and wife went to housekeeping it was in a log cabin surrounded with dense woods and it was his task to clear off this heavy forest growth, drain and tile the land and then put it under cultivation. As time went on he made additional improvements and erected the comfortable farm house in which he is spending his later years. The children were all born here, five in number as follows: George W.; Mary Jane, who resides with her parents; Isaac, who died when twenty-six years old; Sarah Elizabeth, who married William Jelly; and John C. Mr. and Mrs. Jelly reside in Cynthian

township and they have had five children: Annie, Milton, Hugh, Ethel and John, the last named dying at the age of twelve years. A nephew of Mr. Short, Elmer F. Short, has a very desirable government position at Washington, D. C. During the period of the Civil war Mr. Short was an auctioneer when his services were needed. A lifelong democrat, this being a democratic family, Mr. Short has heartily supported democratic principles and candidates and occasionally has consented to serve in local offices. He is a highly respected citizen and is widely known and long has been a liberal supporter of the Christian church at Oran, O., of which he is a member.

GEORGE W. SHORT, who is a successful general farmer residing in section 17, Cynthian township, where he cultivates 106 acres of fine land belonging to his father, was born on his father's homestead in Cynthian township, Shelby county, O., February 9, 1852, and is the oldest son of John and Elizabeth Short.

After his school period was over, George W. Short assisted his father on the home farm until 1889 when he became a salesman of organs and pianos for the Baker Music Company of Sidney. After marriage he settled on a farm that adjoins his present one on the south and lived there for two years and then came to the one on which he has resided ever since and here has made many improvements including the erecting of a new residence and the remodeling of the other buildings. The property is well drained and tiled and is in fine condition.

Mr. Short was married (first) to Miss Sarah Ann Noland, of Washington township, Shelby county, who died at the age of twenty-nine years, her burial being in the cemetery at Oran, O. She was the mother of two sons: John R. and Harley H. The latter married Bertha Hemmelright and they reside in Cynthian township and he is a farmer and school teacher. They have three children: Hubert R., Musetta C., and Martha Ellen. Mr. Short was married (second) to Miss Mary Walters, who died aged twenty-seven years, leaving one daughter, Elizabeth May, who died when nineteen years old. Mr. Short's third marriage was to Miss Lilla Belle Taylor, a daughter of Alexander Taylor, formerly of Montgomery county, O., but for some fifteen years a member of Mr. Short's household. To Mr. and Mrs. Short four children have been born: Martha Belle, who died when aged fifteen months; Olive Goldie, who died when aged eleven weeks; and Emmet Wendle and Byron W., both of whom are making satisfactory progress at school. Mr. Short and family are members of the Christian church at Oran, of which he is a deacon and is also a member of the finance committee and clerk, for the past thirty-five years having been active and helpful in this church body. In 1881 Mr. Short was elected a member of the board of education of the Short Special School District and he has served continuously with the exception of two years, and during that time was president of the board for one year, also treasurer and its clerk for twenty years. On the democratic ticket he was elected township assessor and served two years in that office, and in all his public life has commanded the respect and possessed the confidence of his fellow citizens.

JOHN FINKENBINE, Sr., one of Shelby county's most substantial and respected citizens, now living retired and residing on his large and well-improved property in Franklin township, where he owns 342 acres, is a native of the old Keystone State, born near the city of Philadelphia, in December, 1831. His parents were Jacob and Susan (Fogt) Finkenbine.

Jacob Finkenbine and wife were born in Baden, Germany, and many of the old and prominent families of Ohio have originated there. When they came first to the United States they located at Philadelphia, Pa., but, in 1832, came to Shelby county, O., where he found ready employment at his trade of stone mason. He and wife belonged to that sturdy, thrifty class naturally well equipped to face and overcome hardship and they not only comfortably reared their large family, by example and precept teaching them industrious habits, but so prospered that they lived to enjoy ease in their old age. They were among the early founders of the German Lutheran church in this section. They had the following children: John, Jacob, Louis, Frederick, George, Charles, Christian, Michael, Dorothy and Sarah. Dorothy married Jacob Fogt, and Sarah married John Fogt.

John Finkenbine attended the district schools in boyhood but as soon as old enough to be trusted with the handling of tools, learned the carpenter trade, which he followed for a number of years. In the meanwhile he acquired land, tract by tract, and then gave up carpenter work and during the remainder of his active life successfully engaged in farming and stock raising. In addition to his Franklin township land he owns 123 acres in Dinsmore township. The extensive farm activities are now in the hands of his sons who continue them profitably.

On June 8, 1858, Mr. Finkenbine married Miss Barbara Schiff, who was born in Baden, Germany, a daughter of Michael and Magdalena (Ludwig) Schiff, who emigrated to America when Mrs. Finkenbine was six years old, she being the youngest of the family: Michael; Magdalena, wife of Jacob Pfaadt; Sarah, wife of Michael Stengle; Jacob; Christian and Barbara. To Mr. and Mrs. Finkenbine the following children were born: William; Magdalena, wife of Jacob Hagelberger and they have four children—Della, Alfred, Frederick and Carl; Louisa, wife of Christian Foster, and they have two children—Dora and Catherine; Julia, widow of Edward English, and they had three children—May, Bessie and George; Ella, wife of William Stockstill, and they have three children—Pearl, Minnie and Thomas; Sophia, deceased, formerly the wife of Thomas Emley, and they had two children—John and Warren; John E.; Margaret, wife of John Boyer, and they have three children—Clyde, Donald and Paul; and Lewis H. and Milton B. Mr. Finkenbine and family are members of the German Lutheran church at Anna, O. He is a strong democrat in his political views but has never desired to serve in public office. Since coming to this section he has seen many changes take place, new methods of farming have been adopted and comforts and





MRS. JOHN PINKENBINE



JOHN PINKENBINE



conveniences have been brought into the life of the farmer such as, in his boyhood, were not enjoyed by any residents outside of large cities. He has seen many of the old families, also, pass away, their descendants giving up their birthrights of land to enter into the rush and bustle of town and city and it must be a source of satisfaction to him that his sons still love the soil.

N. A. PAULUS, who is one of Cynthian township's substantial and valued citizens, doing a large contracting and building business all through Shelby county, resides on his valuable farm of 100 acres, which lies three miles west of Newport, O. He was born March 6, 1869, in Patterson township, Darke county, O., and has spent his life in his native state.

When he was five years old Mr. Paulus was taken to Wayne township and there he lived all through his school period, then learned his trade and continued to make his home in that section until his marriage in 1900, to Miss Mary Perin. Mrs. Paulus was born in Cynthian township, a daughter of Julius and Rosa (Frances) Perin, well known and highly respected people of this township. Mr. Paulus bought the interests of the different heirs in the Perin farm and here he and family have lived ever since. With the exception of the comfortable residence, Mr. Paulus erected all the buildings now standing and has made many other substantial improvements. There are two sets of buildings on the place.

Mr. and Mrs. Paulus are members of the Catholic church at Newport. They have three interesting children: Clara, Francis and Rosa. Mr. Paulus has always voted the democratic ticket but has never been willing to accept political office, making an exception when it came to membership on the school board, and in January, 1912, he was elected a member of the board of education of the Turner Special School District to serve until 1916.

FRANK LINDHAUS, a successful general farmer residing in section 19, Cynthian township, where he owns seventy-three acres of productive and well-cared-for land, was born in Ohio, November 30, 1877, and is a son of Henry and Elizabeth Lindhaus.

Frank Lindhaus was three years old when his parents moved to Fort Loramie and he obtained his education in the Berlin Special School District. General farming has occupied the time and attention of Mr. Lindhaus ever since and he has resided on this property, which lies one and one-fourth miles north of Newport, O., ever since his marriage. Here he has put in many improvements and these include the erection of the substantial buildings and the neat fencing which encloses his fields.

In May, 1903, Mr. Lindhaus was married to Miss Elizabeth Kloecker, who is a daughter of Herman Kloecker, of McLean township, Shelby county, and they have four attractive and intelligent children: Emma, Henry, Raymond and Laurence. Mr. and Mrs. Lindhaus are members of SS. Peter and Paul Catholic church at Newport, O. In politics he has always been a democratic voter and has never accepted any public office except that of school

director, and in January, 1912, was elected a member of the board of education of the Basinburg Special School District.

FRANK J. BORCHERS, whose valuable farm of 160 acres lies in section 26, Cynthian township, is one of the enterprising and prosperous young agriculturists of this section. He was born November 12, 1887, in McLean township, Shelby county, one and one-quarter miles southwest of Fort Loramie, O., where his people were well-known old settlers.

Frank J. Borchers attended school in the Berlin Special School District and then turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. In the spring of 1911, he came to his present farm where he has thirty acres yet in timber, but all the rest is well drained and sufficiently tilled, while Mr. Borchers has put the buildings in excellent repair. He carries on mixed farming and all his industries are flourishing.

Mr. Borchers was married to Miss Emma Boerger, a daughter of Henry Boerger, a former resident of McLean township, and they have one daughter, Freda. Mr. and Mrs. Borchers are members of the Catholic church at Newport, O., which town is situated two and one-half miles east of their farm. Mr. Borchers votes the democratic ticket in both local and national elections.

J. WILLIAM KLOCKER, a well-known general farmer and stockraiser of Shelby county, O., residing in section 35, Cynthian township, where he has eighty acres of fine land, was born December 23, 1872, in McLean township, and is a son of Herman and Elizabeth Klocker.

J. William Klocker obtained his schooling in the Berlin Special School District, after which he engaged in farming, a very natural thing to do as he was reared to take an interest in this direction. In March, 1911, Mr. Klocker purchased this farm and has all but seven acres of woodland under cultivation. Through remodeling and building, draining and tiling, he has made his property much more valuable than when he bought it. He carries on mixed farming but has little grain to sell, finding it more profitable to feed stock. His markets are easy to reach, his land lying but three and one-half miles west of Newport, O., and on the Hale turnpike road through Cynthian township.

In February, 1908, Mr. Klocker was married to Miss Mary Eilerman, a daughter of F. J. Eilerman, of McLean township, and they have two children: Leo, who was born December 23, on the Eilerman farm, 1908, in McLean township; and Margaret, who was born on the present farm October 24, 1911. Mr. Klocker and wife are members of SS. Peter and Paul Catholic church at Newport, O. He is a democrat in politics and on the democratic ticket was elected in January, 1912, a member of the board of education of the Turner Special School District.

J. C. SHORT, general farmer and stock raiser, residing in Cynthian township, Shelby county, O., was born on this place, the old family home-

stead January 25, 1872, and is a son of John Short, one of the old and respected residents of this section.

J. C. Short was primarily educated in the Short Special School District and afterward attended the Normal School at Lebanon, O., and then engaged for a time in teaching school in his own and neighboring townships. In more or less degree he has always engaged in farming and since marriage has devoted himself entirely to agricultural activities. This farm is the old Moyer homestead and here Mr. Short's mother was born, Grandfather Moyer having entered the land. There are eighty acres in the farm and it has been improved by J. C. Short and his father and is one of the fine farms of Cynthian township.

J. C. Short was married on May 1, 1901, to Miss Sarah Anderson, a daughter of I. N. and Catherine (Peters) Anderson, of Miami county, O. Mr. and Mrs. Short have one son, a bright youth of ten years who is making satisfactory progress at school and the name of John Emery Short stands on the record of the Oran Special School District with many credit marks attached. Since January, 1912, Mr. Short has been a member of the school board, elected on the democratic ticket. Mr. Short and family are members of the Christian church at Oran, O., their farm lying one mile north and one and one-half mile west of that town.

HENRY J. BORCHERS, one of the prosperous farmers of McLean township, who successfully cultivates his farm of 153 acres, which is situated in section 11, two and one-half miles southwest of Fort Loramie, O., is interested also in a farm of eighty acres, which, in association with his brother, J. J. Borchers, he purchased from George Williams, with the intention of devoting it to stock raising. Mr. Borchers was born in McLean township, Shelby county, O., June 3, 1874, and is a son of J. B. Borchers, one of the well-known residents of this section of the county.

Henry J. Borchers obtained his schooling in the Berlin Special School District and ever since has been engaged in agricultural pursuits and at the time of marriage purchased his home farm from his father. He has all of his land well drained and in fine tillable condition with the exception of twelve acres which he prefers to keep as a wood lot. Mr. Borchers is known as an industrious, sensible and careful farmer and his time is largely devoted to his own affairs, although at times he has accepted official responsibilities on the board of education, for seven years serving as clerk of the Walkup Special School District.

On May 1, 1901, Mr. Borchers was married to Miss Frances Hilgefert, a daughter of Clemens and Mary Hilgefert, and their eight children were all born on this farm and here the fifth of the family, Bernard Paul, died when aged but three weeks. All the others survive and are a sturdy and interesting little group: Marie, Kate, Eleanor, Bernadine, Loretta, Ursula and Rose. Mr. Borchers and wife are members of and are carefully rearing their children in St. Michael's Catholic church. In politics Mr. Borchers is a democrat.

JOSEPH POEPELMA, who operates his mother's excellent farm of eighty-three acres, which is situated in section 11, McLean township, Shelby county, O., is one of the well-known and highly respected citizens of this township and for seven years served on the board of education of this special school district. He was born in McLean township and is a son of Bernard and Elizabeth Poeppelman.

The father of Mr. Poeppelman was born in Auglaize county, O., and for many years was a successful farmer in Shelby county, where he owned three farms. His death occurred in his sixty-fourth year and his burial was in the cemetery belonging to St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort Loramie, of which he was a member. His wife was born in Germany and still survives, and eight children were born to them.

Joseph Poeppelman attended school in the Dirksen Special School District and afterward helped his father and remained with his mother after the father's death. He has improved the farm in the matter of drainage, putting down a large amount of tiling, but all the buildings now standing were built before his time. He carries on a general farming line, raising stock for his own use and has the reputation of being a fine farmer and good manager.

Mr. Poeppelman was married to Miss Mary Gerling, who was born in McLean township, a daughter of Barney Gerling, and they have a family of nine children: Rosa, Ludwig, Anna, Albert, Allwis, Regina, Herman, Joseph and Martha. The family belongs to St. Michael's Catholic church. As a lifelong democrat, Mr. Poeppelman is much interested in the political future of his party and loyally supports its candidates. He has never accepted any public office for himself except membership on the school board as above mentioned.

MRS. LILLY MAY MARTZ, whose beautiful farm of 117 acres lies in Perry township, Shelby county, O., is a member of old and respected families of the county, who for years have been numbered with the solid and reliable residents. Mrs. Martz was born in Perry township and is a daughter of William A. and Rachel A. (Sturm) Ried, and a granddaughter of George and Mary (Stout) Sturm. The second marriage of Mrs. Ried was to Samuel Woolley, and to this marriage the following children were born: Mary Etta, who is the wife of Edward Taylor; George A.; John William; Martha Ellen, who is the wife of William Develvis; Clarence Earl; Harley Thurman; Maggie Alberta, who is the wife of Charles Glick; Anna, who is the wife of William Hatcher; Adrian; and one who died at the age of fifteen years.

Lilly May Ried was educated in the public schools of Perry township and carefully reared by a very capable mother. On December 24, 1890, she was married to Lee Martz, who is the son of Flavius and Mary (Weaver) Martz. The parents of Mr. Martz were Champaign county people and he has one sister, Jennie, who is the wife of Albert Harner; and two brothers, Michael, who is older, and Lester, who is younger. Mr. and Mrs. Martz have two children: Jennie May, who is the wife of Vernon Elliott and they have one daughter, Verna May; and Guerna O'Feral, who married Harry M. Zimpfer.

Mr. Martz and family belong to the United Brethren church. Politically he is a democrat and fraternally belongs to the Odd Fellows, the Knights of the Golden Eagle and the Red Men. He is numbered with the enterprising and successful farmers and stock raisers of Perry township and he and family have a wide circle of friends.

J. HENRY ALBERS. The well cultivated farm of 100 acres which lies on the east side of the North and South road, in section 4, Dirksen Special School District, one-half mile west and one and one-half mile north of Fort Loramie, O., in McLean township, Shelby county, O., is owned by J. Henry Albers, one of the representative men of this section. He was born on the farm that adjoins this on the west, January 16, 1864, and is a son of H. H. and Josephine Albers.

H. H. Albers was born in Germany and came to the United States and to Ohio when a young man. He was married to Josephine N. Eneking, who was born in Auglaize county, and eight children were born to them, three of whom are deceased. After marriage H. H. Albers and wife came to McLean township and settled on the farm on which Mrs. Albers still resides, being now in her sixty-fifth year. He carried on farming there for a number of years prior to his death, when aged fifty-two years, and was a very highly respected man. He was influential in democratic politics and served as township supervisor and also as a member of the school board, and was a faithful member of St. Joseph's Catholic church, to which his widow also belongs.

J. Henry Albers obtained his education in the Dirksen Special School District and remained at home assisting his father until his own marriage, at which time he bought his present farm from his mother and has continued here ever since. He cleared about twenty acres of the land and yet has fifteen acres in woodland, and has made many improvements including a first class system of drainage and the erection of the commodious and comfortable buildings. He carries on mixed husbandry and raises cattle, paying close attention to his industries and having the reputation of being very successful.

Mr. Albers was married to Miss Margaret Hoying, who was born in McLean township, Shelby county, O., October 20, 1877, a daughter of Clemens and Bernadine Hoying, and they have the following children: Clemens, Bernadine, Frances, Herman, Leo, Alphonse, Matilda and Estella. Mr. Albers and family are members of St. Joseph's Catholic church at Egypt, O. He is affiliated with the democratic party, as was his late father all his life, and is serving in his second term as a member of the board of education in the Dirksen Special School District.

FRANK BORNHORST, who resides on his well-cultivated and improved farm of eighty acres, which is situated in section 9, Dirksen School District, McLean township, was born in May, 1856, in Jackson township, Auglaize county, O., and is a son of Joseph and Katie Bornhorst.

Frank Bornhorst attended school in Jackson township and afterward worked as a farmer and after his marriage purchased his present farm of his

father-in-law, Anthony Imholt. The land had been somewhat improved but Mr. Bornhorst completed its clearings, all but five acres, which he retains in woods, and erected all the substantial and comfortable buildings on the place. He carries on a general farming line and raises enough stock for his own use and at all times is a busy man. He is at the head of a fine family, nine sturdy children having been born to himself and wife and they all survive. He married Miss Catherine Imholt, who was born at Cincinnati, O., a daughter of Anthony and Mary Imholt, both of whom died on this farm. Mr. and Mrs. Bornhorst's children are as follows: Mary and Frances, twins, Bernard, Herman, Bernadine, Amelia, Elizabeth, Anthony and Leo. Mr. Bornhorst and family are members of St. Michael's Catholic church. He is a democrat in politics and has served in local offices with honesty and efficiency, for two years being road superintendent and at present belonging to the board of education of the Dirksen Special School District.

BERNARD SEGER, who is president of the board of education of Dirksen Special School District, McLean township, Shelby county, O., successfully carries on general farming on his valuable tract of eighty acres, situated in section 4, on which place he was born January 9, 1862. He is a son of Clemens A. and Elizabeth Mary (Albers) Seger.

Clemens A. Seger was born in Germany and it was about the time of the Civil war that he came to Shelby county and secured the farm under consideration, it then being entirely unimproved, in fact but a belt of woodland. He worked hard to clear and improve his land but did not survive beyond middle life, his death occurring in 1875, when he was aged but fifty-six years. He was twice married, first to Bernandina Grieshop, and second to Elizabeth Mary Albers. The first wife was the mother of Henry, Ferdinand, Bernard and an infant son. To the second marriage the following children were born: Herman, Elizabeth, Bernard, John, Anthony, Josephine, Anna, Theresa, Clemens and Joseph. The mother of the above children died January 29, 1902, at the age of sixty-six years and her burial, like that of her husband, was in the Catholic cemetery at Minster, where they attended church.

Bernard Seger was only thirteen years of age when his father died. With his brothers and sisters he had been attending school in the Dirksen Special School District, but the death of his father made it necessary for him to give the greater part of his time to work on the farm, which subsequently became his property. He has developed it into one of the finest and best improved farms of the township and has all cleared but ten acres. He put up all the present handsome buildings and takes a pardonable amount of pride in his richly cultivated fields and in his herds and stock. Like his late father, he is a democrat and has served several terms as road supervisor and for the past three years has been a member of the Dirksen Special School District, of which he is president. In this public office he is associated with other leading men of the community. With Mr. Seger president, the district is fortunate and the other members of the board are: Henry Fortman, clerk; August







MR. AND MRS. ELISHA YOST

Schmising, treasurer; and Henry J. Albers, Frank Bornhorst, and Bernard Brandewie the other members.

Mr. Seger was married to Elizabeth Aspre, born in Germany, a daughter of Henry and Agnes Aspre, and the following children have been born to them: Mary, Frank, Ludwig, Charles, Johannah, Clemens, Edward, Albert and Harold, all surviving except Mary and Johannah. Mr. Seger and family are members of the Catholic church at Minster, O. The handsome home is situated on the east side of the Brandewie turnpike road.

ELISHA YOST, who is one of Sidney's most respected retired citizens, occupying his comfortable residence which is located at No. 219 North Miami avenue, is one of the best known men of Shelby county, his various activities during his earlier years, bringing him into business and social relations with a very wide circle. He was born December 25, 1837, in Morgan county, Va.

Until he was seventeen years old Elisha Yost remained in Virginia, but early in December, 1856, accompanied his uncle, Rev. John Yost, to Logan county, O., and remained with hm at Quincy, until the spring of 1857, when he began work at the carpenter trade, having learned the same with his brother before leaving Virginia. In Quincy he worked at the trade with his cousins for a time and then, being curious to see something of other parts of the state, accepted an offer from the American Tract Society and traveled through Logan, Shelby and Champaign counties for several months, selling that company's books. In Champaign county he found other relatives and worked for some of them as a farmer, after which he purchased the carpenter tools of a cousin and went into the building business, and continued until 1862, erecting many houses and barns all through the country, and a Methodist Episcopal church edifice in Champaign county.

In the spring of 1862 Mr. Yost moved to Shelby county, and here, on August 11th of that year, he entered the Union army for service in the Civil war, enlisting as a private in Company H, Ninety-ninth Ohio Vol. Inf., and was honorably discharged at the close of that long struggle. During his first year he was connected with the Army of the Cumberland but then was transferred to the Pioneer Corps, that necessary branch of the service that, among its many duties, had the responsibility of building the pontoon bridges. Mr. Yost was present at the fall of Chattanooga and after that was transferred to the Veteran Volunteer Engineers, which built fortifications and probably occupied a more dangerous position than any other body of soldiers, and was made up entirely of skilled men. Although for all these years he lived a life of hazard, Mr. Yost escaped all injuries and was finally mustered out at Nashville, Tenn., and returned to his home in Shelby county. In the following September he was married and he and his wife resided with the latter's father until he built a residence in Champaign county, on a farm of 265 acres, which was purchased from his wife's brother and

partly belonged to her, and on that farm they lived for twenty-two years. While at Quincy he had had some experience in the saw mill business, and as he had fine water power on his Champaign county property, he erected a saw mill there and successfully operated it and also made a profitable business of raising tobacco. When he sold his Champaign county farm he moved to Palestine, Shelby county, where he owned 400 acres, 200 of which he has sold. In 1907 he came to Sidney, where he has been a quiet but useful citizen ever since and a liberal supporter of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which religious body he has been a member since January 16, 1857.

On September 12, 1865, Mr. Yost was married to Miss Caroline Weimer, a daughter of Peter and Christina (Dormire) Weimer. Peter Weimer was born in Germany and when he came to the United States as a boy was entirely dependent upon his own industry for a living. After settling in Ohio and securing land he did not have enough capital to enable him to buy a plough with which to break up his land and it was with the only farm implement that he had, a hoe, that he toiled until he could sow wheat for his first crop. This lack of tools caused many early settlers to grow discouraged and abandon the land which they had worked hard to get, but Mr. Weimer was persevering in the face of poverty and through his industry became prosperous and in the course of years one of the large and successful farmers of his section. The mother of Mrs. Yost was born in France.

To Mr. and Mrs. Yost the following children were born: Effie May, who is the wife of Edward Miller, a farmer; Olive Myrtle, who is the wife of Asbury Wilson; Dora A., who is the wife of Marcus Partington; Caroline Belle, who is the wife of Lee Sergeant; Mary M., who is the wife of Charles Leever and they live in Cincinnati; Daisy Alberta, who is the wife of O. W. Cook, of Maplewood, O.; Norma Lavilla, who is a teacher of music, resides at home; and Bonnie Loretta, who is deceased. While never an aggressive politician, Mr. Yost has always taken a good citizen's interest in public affairs. While living in Champaign county he served twelve years in the office of justice of the peace and afterward served six years in the same office in Shelby county. For forty years he has been identified with the Masonic fraternity.

FERDINAND C. ARKENBERG, who is a prominent citizen of McLean township, Shelby county, O., resides on his improved farm of 200 acres, situated in section 10, one mile north of Fort Loramie, O. He was born in McLean township, January 28, 1858, and is a son of Ferdinand and Elizabeth Arkenberg.

Ferdinand Arkenberg, the father, was born in Germany and was twenty-five years old when he came to the United States. He found a home in Ohio, locating near Minster, in Auglaize county, later marrying and buying a farm in McLean township, Shelby county. His wife, who was also a native of Germany, had lived in America from the age of six years. They became the

parents of five sons and two daughters, of which family two sons and one daughter are deceased. Ferdinand Arkenberg and wife both died when aged sixty-five years. They were laid to rest in the cemetery attached to the Minster Catholic church, of which they were early members, later transferring their membership to St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort Loramie. In politics Ferdinand Arkenberg was a democrat and at one time served with honest efficiency in the office of road supervisor in his township.

Ferdinand C. Arkenberg attended school all through boyhood, first in the Dirksen Special School District and also at Minster and Fort Loramie, and then naturally assumed farm duties on the homestead, where he remained until his marriage, when he settled at Minster. One year afterward he moved to his present farm, which is a part of the old home place, and has continued here ever since. The present substantial buildings were on the place when it came into his possession, with the exception of a fine barn which Mr. Arkenberg put up in 1910, after the former one was destroyed by fire. This was destroyed by fire also but he has erected one which he completed in December, 1912. In addition to general farming and stock raising, Mr. Arkenberg has a source of income from a valuable gravel pit on the place, from which he has sold material for turnpike construction for many years. This farm has many historic associations clinging to it as it is the site of old Fort Loramie. On numerous occasions as its present owner has turned furrows in the soil as his plow has been driven back and forth, he has found souvenirs of old days and as gathered together they make a very interesting collection and are naturally very highly prized by Mr. Arkenberg. Included in this collection are about twenty cannon balls, suggestive of less peaceful times than the present, and several pieces of silver. He has found three fifty cent coins bearing dates of 1776, 1777 and 1778; one dollar piece dated 1780 and a shilling bearing the date of 1805. On the south side of the farm is an area of 40x40 feet, which was long since dedicated to cemetery purposes and around which Mr. Arkenberg has planted trees.

Mr. Arkenberg was married to Miss Mary Ortman, a daughter of Bernard and Sophia Ortman, of Auglaize county, and while living at Minster one son, Frank, was born, the family being increased since coming to the farm by the following children: Rosa, Joseph, Ferdinand, Julia, Albert, Herbert and Lawrence. Mr. Arkenberg and family are members of St. Michael's Catholic church. In politics he has always been a democrat. The high esteem in which he is held by his fellow citizens is indicated by the confidence they long have shown in him in reference to educational matters. He served as a member of the Berlin Special School District three terms of three years and two terms of four years each; and is now treasurer of the board.

DAVID M. PRUDEN, general agent for the Union Central Life Insurance Company of Cincinnati, O., for Shelby and Miami counties, for a number of years has been a resident of Sidney, where he has had business interests. He was born on a farm in Orange township, Shelby county, O., December 29, 1836, and is a son of Peter and Anna (Amos) Pruden.

Peter Pruden was probably born at Elizabeth, N. J., and was a shoemaker by trade, later became a farmer. He was married in Benton county, Ky., where his wife, Anna Amos, was born, and they came to Orange township, Shelby county, and both died on the home farm. On this farm David M. Pruden was reared and resided until he was forty-six years of age when he came to Sidney. Here he embarked in the farm implement business and also engaged in handling wool. For the last twenty years he has been connected with the above standard insurance company and probably few men are better known than he in the territory his business interests cover.

In 1879 Mr. Pruden was married to Miss Anna M. Thompson, who was born in Washington township, Shelby county, a daughter of Davis Thompson, and three children were born to them, namely: Nellie, who died at the age of twenty-five years, was the wife of Clifford Livingstone; Sadie, who died when aged twenty-three years; and Catherine. Mr. Pruden is identified fraternally with the Masons, the Elks and the Knights of Pythias.

WILLIAM CASHNER, a highly respected citizen and retired farmer of Shelby county, who occupies his comfortable residence situated on South Ohio avenue, Sidney, was born in Dinsmore township, Shelby county, O., April 23, 1843, and is a son of John and Barbara (Walburn) Cashner.

John Cashner and wife were born in Pennsylvania and were married there a short time before coming to Ohio. They settled in Montgomery county and spent one year on a farm south of Dayton and about 1833 came to Shelby county, settling on a heavily wooded tract of land in Dinsmore township. They were among the first white settlers and found many Indians remaining in this section, while, for years afterward, wolves howled unpleasantly near the farm-house at night and a close watch had to be maintained to prevent the deer coming from the forest and pawing out the winter wheat. Game was plentiful and there was no lack of food, but other pioneer conditions brought many hardships which only courage and brave endurance could overcome. John Cashner died on this place when aged but fifty years, but his widow, of more robust constitution, survived into her eighty-seventh year. Their original farm contained forty acres, to which Mr. Cashner had added twenty acres.

William Cashner was about nine years old when his father died and he then accompanied his mother to Champaign county, where they lived for two years, in 1860 returning to Shelby county. Choice and immediate opportunity made a farmer of Mr. Cashner and after coming back to his native county he worked for more than a year for John Bush, south of Sidney, and afterward for other farmers over the county for twenty-six years. He then invested in farm land in Wood county, O., on which he lived for three years when he disposed of it and for two more years rented a farm in Orange township, Shelby county, belonging to an uncle, Benjamin Wirt. From there he went to Anglaize county and lived on a rented farm for seven years and then returned to the former farm in Orange township, which he rented for nine more years, and in 1894 purchased it and continued to reside there until June,

1910, when he bought his home in Sidney and retired from active life. Shortly afterward he sold his farm, which he had greatly improved, realizing \$12,000, which was a profitable investment as he had paid but \$5,000 for the property.

In 1873 Mr. Cashner was married to Miss Valerie L. Rush, a daughter of Jesse and Jane (Martin) Rush. She was born in Franklin township, Shelby county, O., but her father was born in Pennsylvania and her mother in New York. They were married in Greene county, O., and for many years lived comfortably as farmers in Franklin township, Shelby county, where the father died in 1866 and the mother in 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Cashner have three children: Charles C., who is clerk in the Oliver Hotel at South Bend, Ind.; Nellie Jane, who is the wife of Milton Haney, a farmer in Orange township, and they have one child, William Don; and William Dow, who is a book-keeper in the great commercial house of Montgomery Ward & Co., Chicago, Ill. Mr. Cashner and wife are members of the Presbyterian church. Although ever a wide awake and interested citizen, Mr. Cashner has never been very active in political life and never accepted any public office except membership on the school board in Orange township.

EDWARD F. STALEY, proprietor of Staley's Bakery at No. 714 Spruce street, Sidney, O., where he is doing a very satisfactory business, has had an experience in this line that covers twenty-one years. He was born on a farm east of Anna Station, O., May 23, 1869, and is a son of Joseph and Mary J. (Kerst) Staley. Joseph Staley was born in Shelby county, a son of Emanuel Staley, the latter of whom was a native of South Carolina and an early settler in Montgomery county, O., from which section he came to Shelby county. Joseph Staley followed farming all his life and died on his farm, after which his widow moved to Anna, where her death occurred.

Edward F. Staley attended the country schools and remained on the home farm until he was twenty years of age. Then he decided to learn the baking business and worked in a bakery at Anna Station for two years, after which he went to New London, O., later to Wapakoneta, then to Lima, and from there to Winchester, Ind., working at his trade at all these points. Mr. Staley has been a resident of Sidney for six years, in 1910 purchasing the bakery which George Ehrhardt had been operating here for seven years. Mr. Staley has a clean, commodious and sanitary bakery, and the extent of his patronage may be judged when it is asserted that he turns out from 1200 to 1400 loaves of bread a day, beside quantities of other goods, and requires the assistance of two bakers. His range of customers covers so large a territory, both in and outside the city, that Mr. Staley now makes use of an automobile for his deliveries.

Mr. Staley was married to Miss Sophia F. Preter, of New Knoxville, Auglaize county, O., a daughter of Joseph Preter, a well-known resident of that section, and they have five children: Vida, Minnie, Wilbur, Ethel and Everett. Mr. Staley and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is identified with the Odd Fellows.

J. W. WEYMER, who is a well-known citizen and farmer of Washington township, Shelby county, O., operating his farm of 150 acres, situated six and one-half miles southwest of Sidney, was born in Washington township, June 2, 1850, and is a son of Michael and Mary (Barnes) Weymer.

Michael Weymer was probably of German extraction but was born in New York and from there came to Shelby county in 1838, locating at that time in Washington township where the remainder of his life was spent, his death occurring in 1877, at the age of sixty-seven years. He was married to Mary Barnes in New York and they came by wagon to this section and in the early days endured many pioneer deprivations. Seven children were born to them and all reached maturity with one exception, there now being but two survivors, J. W. and Carrie. One daughter, Mary A., married John J. Alexander, who died in February, 1895. Mrs. Alexander died in May, 1900.

J. W. Weymer obtained his schooling in Washington township and from boyhood assisted his father on the home farm. Since 1877 he has been operating his present property and also manages his sister's farm of 100 acres. The residence occupied by Mr. Weymer and also by his sister, was built by a brother-in-law, the late John J. Alexander, who owned and operated this farm. A general agricultural line is carried on including grain growing and stock raising.

Mr. Weymer married Miss Ida M. Burnett, a member of one of the early families of Shelby county, and they have one son, Clarence, who has been given collegiate advantages at Ada, O., and who assists his father. Mr. and Mrs. Weymer are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Lockington. In politics Mr. Weymer is a democrat. He has never desired political office but has always taken an interest in the agricultural development of the county and has served as a director of the Agricultural Association. He belongs to the fraternal order of Maccabees.

D. W. SCOTT, whose valuable farm of ninety-five acres is situated four and one-half miles southwest of Sidney, O., in a fertile and favorable section of Washington township, was born in 1863 in Washington township, Shelby county, O., and is a son of John and Elle (Higgins) Scott.

John Scott, who is one of the highly esteemed retired residents of Washington township, where he owns a farm of 140 acres, was born in Shelby county and has spent his life here. He was married first to Ellen Higgins and they had three children: D. W., Samuel and Mrs. Hunt, Samuel being deceased. Mr. Scott was married (second) to Jennie Stewart and the two children of that union are both deceased. His third marriage was to Callie Stewart, to which there was no issue.

D. W. Scott obtained his education in the public schools and afterward, for some years, worked in different sections by the month, for farmers. For two years after his marriage he was associated with his father and then spent four years in Miami county. In 1898 he purchased his present farm which he devotes to stock raising and general farming, mainly grain growing.



Mr. Scott married Miss Cora Valentine and they have two children: Ella and John. Mr. and Mrs. Scott are members of the United Brethren church at Lockington. In politics he is a republican and at one time served as township trustee. The Scotts are representative people of Washington township.

CAPT. JAMES L. VAN RIPER, captain of Company L, Third Ohio National Guard, and city auditor of Sidney, O., is one of the prominent young men of Shelby county and one in whom Sidney takes a proprietary interest as he was born here on August 17, 1884, and has made his native place the scene of his interests. He is a son of William L. and Margaret (Lampher) Van Riper, the former of whom is agent for the United States Express Company in this city.

James L. Van Riper attended the public schools of Sidney and was graduated from the Sidney high school in 1902, at that time accepting a position in the office of the American Steel Scraper Company, where he continued for five and one-half years, when he accepted, in 1907, the position of secretary with the Standard Clutch Manufacturing Company, with which he remained until his resignation in 1911. In the meanwhile he had become interested in public affairs and politics and became the candidate on the republican ticket for city auditor, to which office he was elected with a large majority, being the only one of his political complexion elected on the city ticket. A patriotic sentiment suggested his uniting with the state militia and on July 1, 1907, he enlisted as a private in Company L, Third Regiment, Ohio National Guards, and he was quickly discovered to possess military qualities which resulted in his promotion. On July 22, 1907, he was appointed corporal, and on March 20, 1908, was advanced to the rank of sergeant, on April 22 following being made first sergeant and on January 6, 1910, was commissioned first lieutenant by Governor Harmon. On January 26, 1911, he succeeded Captain Douglas and has command of a fine body of fifty-six men, his being the largest as well as one of the best drilled companies at the annual encampment in 1912. Although a stern disciplinarian, Captain Van Riper has the universal devotion of his men and they form a very effective section of the Third regiment. Captain Van Riper is identified with several fraternal organizations, including the Knights of Pythias and the Foresters.

ANTHONY BARHORST, who is a very enterprising and successful farmer of McLean township and a member of one of the old and respected Catholic families here, was born in McLean township, Shelby county, O., March 1, 1884, and is a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Grieshop) Barhorst.

Henry Barhorst was born at Steinfeldt, Oldenberg, Germany, September 30, 1828, and came to the United States when sixteen years of age, settling on a farm west of Loramie, O., and after his marriage he followed farming there for ten years and later acquired a large body of land, at the time of death, August 22, 1906, owning 240 acres. He was a man of high standing in McLean township and for fifteen years served as a township trustee. On

June 5, 1855, he married Elizabeth Grieshop, who was born at Denklage, Germany, January 7, 1838, and was brought to America in her ninth year. Her people settled in Mercer county, O., where she lived until her marriage took place at Loramie. She died on the home farm in McLean township, August 23, 1908. They were faithful members of St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort Loramie and were known all through the parish for their many fine qualities. They had eleven children: Henry, Herman, John, Bernard, Joseph, Anthony, Mary, Catherine and Rose, being those named, and of these, Herman, Joseph, Mary, Catherine and Rose are deceased.

Anthony Barhorst was educated in the Sherman Special School District and has followed farming ever since reaching manhood. After marriage he settled on his farm of 100 acres, which is situated in section 11, McLean township, four miles southeast of Fort Loramie, which he bought of George Babylon. He remodeled the residence and has added buildings as his large agricultural operations have made necessary and has all his land in tillable condition except twelve acres of woodland.

Mr. Barhorst was married January 22, 1907, to Miss Josephine Debrosse, who was born in Loramie township, a daughter of Irenus and Margaret (Esthman) Debrosse, and four children have been born to them: an infant daughter who did not long survive; and Irenus Henry, Agnes B. and John Robert. Mr. Barhorst and family belong to St. Michael's Catholic church. He is a democrat in his political views and takes a good citizen's interest in public matters.

JOHN BURKHART, one of the leading business men of Sidney, conducting a first class shoe store, in the Burkhart block, on North Main avenue, is an experienced shoe and leather man, having been engaged in this line since 1879, when he and his brother became partners with their father, one of the pioneer business men of the city. He was born at Spring Hill, Champaign county, O., September 13, 1857, and is a son of John and Mary Ann (Bernier) Burkhart. The parents were born and reared in Germany and shortly after marriage, in 1850, came to the United States and settled first at Quincy, O., but later moved to Spring Hill, and in 1865 came to Sidney. The father was an expert shoemaker, having learned his trade in Germany and continued active in business until his death in 1902. He was a successful business man; not only erected the Burkhart block on North Main avenue, but also owned the two-story brick building directly north. He left three sons: William, John and E. E., the last named serving for eight years as mayor of the city of Dayton, O.

John Burkhart was educated in the Sidney schools and among his earliest recollections are events connected with his father's shoe store in which he assisted as he grew older, and in 1879 he and brother William became partners with their father. In 1880 the firm erected the Burkhart block, a fine three-story brick building with basement, which Mr. Burkhart now owns, having purchased his brother's interest in 1904. The other real estate owned

by the father is also retained in the family, being valuable property and in the heart of the business district.

At Sidney, Mr. Burkhart was married to Miss Mary Kraft, a daughter of George Kraft, and they have one daughter, Stella, who is the wife of Prof. L. J. Meyerholtz, a well-known teacher of music here and the leader of the Sidney band. As a citizen Mr. Burkhart has been public spirited and enterprising, has served usefully in the city council and was a member of Sidney's first board of public service. He maintains fraternal relations with the order of Eagles and belongs also to the Elks and is a trustee of the local lodge of this organization.

E. M. BAKER, a leading citizen of Green township, formerly a justice of the peace, resides on his valuable farm of seventy-five acres, which lies ten miles southeast of Sidney. He was born in Clark county, O., in 1863, and is a son of C. W. and Mary A. (Wells) Baker.

C. W. Baker was born in Maryland and was four years old when his parents brought him to Ohio. He was reared in Clark county and followed farming there for many years and continued to be an agriculturist after moving to Shelby county, where he died in his seventy-ninth year. He married Mary A. Wells, who was born in Champaign county, O., and five children were born to them, namely: N. H. and W. B., both of whom live in Green township; Forrest, who is deceased; E. M.; and Mrs. Bertha A. Pence.

E. M. Baker was educated mainly in the public schools of Shelby county, enjoying two terms also at Lebanon, O., after which he became a school teacher and more or less continuously devoted himself to educational work for twenty-five years, practically in Shelby county with three terms in Miami county. As a teacher he was considered very efficient and his acquaintance extends all over both counties and his friends are in every section. In 1905 he moved on the farm on which he resides and in retiring from educational work he turned his attention to the improvement and development of his property. With the exception of the residence, all the substantial buildings on the place have been put here by Mr. Baker, and it has been so remodeled that it has many desirable modern comforts and conveniences. General farming and stock raising are carried on and Mr. Baker is proving that an educated man makes a very successful farmer.

Mr. Baker married Miss Clara Moon and they have two children: O. H. and C. L., both of whom reside at home. In politics Mr. Baker is identified with the republican party.

E. W. PARTINGTON, a successful general farmer of Green township, Shelby county, O., residing nine miles southeast of Sidney, where he owns 118½ acres of excellent land, the old home place, was born here and has the privilege of being associated with the old familiar landmarks that he can remember since childhood.

Edward W. Partington married Miss Ora D. Middlekauff, who was born in Indiana. They have no children and now live retired, Mr. Partington

finding enough to still occupy his time in overseeing his large property. During his active years he carried on general farming and stock raising and his land still brings him a satisfactory income. He still occupies the residence his father built but has made many improvements. Mr. Partington has always been a democrat although he has never been willing to accept office, but his judgment is valued by his fellow citizens and is often consulted. Mr. and Mrs. Partington have a wide circle of friends.

P. A. HOWELL, one of the representative men of Orange township, Shelby county, O., residing on his excellent farm of 135 acres, named Cedar Hill, situated six miles south of Sidney, O., was born in Hancock county, Ill., and is a son of James A. and Ellen (Slaughter) Howell.

James A. Howell was born in Ohio and reared to manhood here. Prior to his marriage he moved to Illinois and remained there and in Iowa some six years. After he returned to his native state, he located in Miami county and lived there and in Shelby county until 1900, when he removed to Richmond, Ind., where he now lives retired. He married Ellen Slaughter, and of their six children five survive.

P. A. Howell was educated in the schools of Miami and Shelby counties, being aged four years when his parents came to Ohio from Iowa. At the age of sixteen he was granted a certificate to teach, being at that time the youngest person ever given a teacher's certificate in his home county. He however preferred the farm and began life for himself as a farm hand. Fearing no amount of hard work and never turning back when encountering difficulties and adversity, although still a young man, he has succeeded in establishing himself on one of the most productive farms of Orange township, being considered one of the substantial citizens of the community. For a number of years Mr. Howell has been engaged frequently in lecture work before Farmers' Institutes, and Cedar Hill farm, on which he has resided since 1900, is surely an example of what may be accomplished by modern methods and systematic effort in increasing the productiveness of a run down farm. He makes a specialty of breeding draft horses and raising potatoes and also has for a number of years been engaged in buying and shipping potatoes, being the founder in this vicinity of an industry amounting to many thousands of dollars annually to the farmers of the county. Mr. Howell is one of the progressive agriculturists of this section, undoubtedly is prospering, and is in every sense of the word a self made man. In politics he is a democrat but has never accepted any offices except in connection with the public schools and has served several years on the school board, and for five of these was clerk.

Mr. Howell was married to Miss Dora C. Voress, only daughter of J. F. Voress, one of the well known residents of Shelby county, and they have four children: Mabel, Walter, Violet, and Ethel. Mr. Howell and family belong to the Christian church.



P. A. HOWELL



JOHN ARLING, who is one of the heirs of the late Henry Arling, and who, with his brothers, Henry and Frank Arling, carry on the agricultural activities of the homestead, where they have 170 acres of fine land, was born on this farm, situated in section 12, McLean township, Shelby county, O. He is a son of Henry and Mary (Fischer) Arling.

Henry Arling was born and reared in Auglaize county, O., and died on the present home farm in August, 1906, at the age of sixty-six years. He was a faithful member of the Catholic church and an upright man in every relation of life. His first marriage was in Auglaize county, to Elizabeth Leining and they had two children: Bernard, who lives at Fort Loramie, O.; and Elizabeth, who is the wife of Frank Rethman, of the same place. After his first marriage, Henry Arling lived at Minster until he bought his farm of 170 acres in McLean township, Shelby county, a tract that had been but little improved. His first wife died on this farm and his second marriage was to Mary Fischer, who was born in McLean township, a daughter of John Fischer. Mrs. Arling still lives on the old homestead, and she and her children all belong to St. Michael's Catholic church. To the above marriage eight children were born, namely: John, Henry, Rosa, Katie, Anna, Frank, Caroline and Loretta, all of whom survive except Anna.

John Arling and his brothers and sisters attended the schools near home and the sons of the family have all become capable farmers, industriously carrying on general farming and raising livestock, cattle and hogs. The old home sufficed until 1909 when it was replaced by a more commodious and comfortable one, erected by Mr. Arling and his two brothers. On this farm there are gravel pits which have supplied the material for the building of three turnpike roads but they have not been operated since 1910. John Arling and brothers, like their late father, are all staunch democrats.

JOHN W. LOCHARD, who now lives in comfortable retirement at Sidney, O., for many years was an extensive farmer in Salem township, where he still retains 240 acres of highly improved land, a fine farm that lies six and one-half miles northeast of Sidney. He was born in Champaign county, O., March 18, 1855, and is a son of Thomas and Eliza (Ellis) Lochard.

The parents of John W. Lochard were born in Virginia and were married shortly after removing with their people to West Liberty, Logan county, O. They moved then to Champaign county where they continued to live until 1874, when they came to Shelby county and the father bought 160 acres of land in Salem township on which he died in 1879, the mother surviving until 1881. After the death of both parents, John W. Lochard bought the interests of the other heirs and subsequently added more land until, as above mentioned, he has 240 acres, all in one body. During the succeeding years Mr. Lochard replaced all the old buildings with modern ones and his residence is an unusually fine example of rural architecture with attractive surroundings. In addition to general farming Mr. Lochard gave considerable attention to raising high grade hogs and cattle. Although a busy man all his active life he never neglected any duty of citizenship, and his neighbors frequently showed

their confidence in him by electing him to local offices and for seven years he served as a trustee of Salem township. In 1905 he was elected a county commissioner on the democratic ticket and continued in this responsible office until 1911, in the spring of which year he came to Sidney.

Mr. Lochard married Miss Clara Belle Murphy, a daughter of H. C. and Nancy Murphy, farming people of Franklin township, Shelby county, and four children have been born to them, namely: Laura Celia, who is the wife of George L. Kraft, and they have one daughter, Virginia; Mabel Clare, who is the wife of Dr. Fred McVay, of Botkins, O.; the third daughter, who died at the age of eleven years, and Hazel Ellen, who lives at home. Mr. Lochard and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is identified with several fraternal bodies that have a large and representative membership in this section, including the Knights of Pythias and the Knights of Khorassan.

WILLIAM H. McCLOSKEY, a retired farmer and well known citizen of Shelby county, who has occupied his handsome residence on South Main avenue, Sidney, since March, 1909, still retains possession of two valuable farms situated in Perry township, aggregating 120 acres. He was born in Orange township, Shelby county, O., January 17, 1857, and is a son of Josiah W. and Sarah (Barklow) McCloskey.

Josiah W. McCloskey was born at Maysville, Ky., and was sixteen years old when he accompanied his father, Michael McCloskey, to Shelby county, who settled first in Orange township but afterward lived in both Green and Clinton townships and then returned to Orange township where he and wife died on the same day. Josiah W. McCloskey grew to manhood in this county and married Sarah Barklow, a daughter of John Barklow, who came here about 1836. Mr. McCloskey bought his first farm in Orange township about the time of marriage and afterward owned several valuable tracts of land. His death occurred in March, 1890, at the age of seventy years.

William H. McCloskey attended the district schools in boyhood and remained on the home farm in Orange township until he was thirty years old and then moved to Perry township where he had bought a farm. Three years later he was united in marriage to Miss Nora E. Redinbo, a daughter of Andrew Redinbo, and they have one daughter, Myrle. She was married in October, 1911, to Charles Louis Eichel, a business man of Sidney. Mr. and Mrs. McCloskey resided in Perry township until his retirement, carrying on general farming until 1887, when he went into the threshing business and continued until 1904, after which for five years, he again devoted his attention entirely to his farm activities. In politics Mr. McCloskey has always been identified with the republican party and at times has been elected to township offices on this ticket, serving as township trustee, and also for six years has held the position of deputy state supervisor of elections. For many years he has had fraternal interests which include membership with the Knights of Pythias, the Knights of Khorassan and the Elks.



M. E. PARTINGTON, who has been a lifelong resident of Shelby county, O., resides on his valuable and well improved farm of 156 acres, which lies in Green township, one mile east of Plattsville. He was born one and one-half miles southeast of this place and is a son of Edwin and Jemima Partington.

Edward Partington was born in Union county, Ind., in 1831 and came to Green township, Shelby county, with his mother when nine years old and remained here during the subsequent years of his life, dying in 1905. He was a man of high standing in his community and was widely known. His widow, who still survives, was born in 1831, and six children were born to them: Joseph, who lives near Middletown; John D., who lives at Midway, Shelby county; Mrs. Mary Middleton; William E., who lives at Sidney; Edwin W., who operates the homestead farm; and M. E.

M. E. Partington remained on the home farm during his boyhood while attending school and afterward until 1900, but when he married he came to this farm which his father owned, and bought it in 1906, and here carries on farming and stock raising very successfully.

In 1900 Mr. Partington was married to Miss Dora Yost, who is a daughter of Elisha Yost, of one of the old pioneer families, and they have two children: Florence and Myron. They are members of the Christian church. In politics Mr. Partington is a democrat.

JOHN E. DORSEY, one of the representative men of Green township, Shelby county, O., and a member of one of the pioneer families of this section, resides on his farm of ninety acres, situated twelve miles southeast of Sidney. He was born in 1854, on a part of his father's land lying immediately across the road from his present farm, and is a son of Snowden D. and a grandson of John Dorsey.

Snowden D. Dorsey was born on the farm above mentioned which his father had secured from the government, and as he grew old enough helped his father to clear the 160 acres from its wild state. Snowden D. Dorsey was both farmer and carpenter. His death occurred in 1894, on his farm east of where he was born in 1825. He was thrice married, first to Margaret J. Dodson, who, at death, left two sons: Edward C. and John E. His second marriage was to Sarah Shaw, who died without issue, and he then married Anna M. Mathers and two sons were born to that union: Samuel M. and Charles M.

John E. Dorsey attended the district schools and afterward continued to assist his father and remained on the old homestead until 1892, when he purchased his present land. This property he greatly improved, building a comfortable and commodious residence and otherwise changing and rearranging structures so that everything was made convenient and now has one of the fine farms of this section. He married Miss Mary E. Licklider and they have six children, namely: Edward E., Harry F., Bonnie F., William S., Bessie M. and Bertha M. Mr. Dorsey has always been an active citizen so far as taking an interest in all law abiding movements is concerned, but he votes indepen-

dently. His fellow citizens, however, have many times shown their appreciation of his sterling character by electing him to local offices and he has served on the school board, as township assessor, as township trustee and as turnpike superintendent. He is a man of social tastes and is identified fraternally with the Knights of the Golden Eagle and the Improved Order of Red Men.

FLINT L. HUBBELL, M. D., physician and surgeon, has been engaged professionally at Sidney, O., since 1905, and has built up a very satisfactory practice, making a specialty of surgery. He was born at Quincy, O., January 9, 1879, and is a son of Dr. James A. and a grandson of Hezekiah Hubbell.

It is a long way back to the times of Grandfather Hubbell as he was one of the earliest pioneers of Shelby county. He was a shoemaker by trade and for a short time followed the same when Sidney was but a village. He was a great hunter and the family tradition is that in one winter alone he killed a bear and forty-three deer on the present site of Sidney. His son, Dr. James A. Hubbell, still resides at Quincy, where he has practiced medicine continuously for the past forty years, his father having died there.

Flint L. Hubbell was reared at Quincy and in the home of his grandfather near by, receiving his educational training in the Quincy schools and after completing his course in the high school entered the Ohio Normal University at Ada, O., where he was graduated in 1896. For two years afterward he conducted a drug store at Quincy and in 1898 entered Starling Medical College at Columbus, where he was graduated with the class of 1901. He returned to Quincy and engaged in medical practice there, in the meanwhile continuing his scientific studies which included several post graduate courses prior to coming to Sidney, February 22, 1904. He was an interne for six months at Bellevue Hospital, New York, and on July 4, 1904, was graduated from the Chicago Clinical School. Dr. Hubbell's enthusiasm for his profession induced further study and he completed a post graduate course in 1912, at the Chicago Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital. He is identified with the leading medical organizations of the country, belonging to the Shelby County Medical Society, the Ohio State Medical Society, the American Medical Association and the International Associations of Surgeons.

Dr. Hubbell was married at Sidney to a daughter of John F. Horr, who, at present is a government official at Jacksonville, Fla. Dr. Hubbell is a member of the Elks and is a thirty-second degree Mason.

V. C. HETZLER, whose extensive agricultural operations are carried on his farm of 214 acres, situated in Green township, and on a farm of 121 acres, located one mile further north, which belongs to himself and sister, is a member of one of the old and respected county families. He was born October 20, 1877, at Hetzler's Corners, in Orange township, Shelby county, O., and is a son of George F. and Orilla F. (Sanders) Hetzler.

George F. Hetzler was born and reared in Orange township, Shelby county, and lived and died on the place where his father, Christian Hetzler, had also been born, whose father, George F. Hetzler, had come to this place

from New Jersey, securing the land from the government when this locality was first opened up for settlement. Grandmother Hetzler was a member of the old Lemon family, which came early to Shelby county. The great-grandfather's farm was never out of the Hetzler name until it was sold in 1912, but the grandfather's farm is still held by the Hetzlers. George F. Hetzler, father of V. C., followed farming until his health failed, his death occurring at the early age of twenty-eight years. He married Orilla F. Sanders, who died November 21, 1912, their two children being: V. C. and Harriet, the latter being the wife of Roscoe Laymaster, who is in business at St. Mary's. They have three children: Dorothea, Florence and Harold.

Since his school days, V. C. Hetzler has been occupied with farming and stock raising and carries on his large undertakings with very satisfying results. The death of his mother has increased his ownership of land, he now having 204 acres in Green township, eighty-three acres where he lives and 121 acres one mile north. He married Miss Sylvia Woodmancy and they have three children: Gladys F., Rachel E. and Doris L. In his political attitude Mr. Hetzler prefers to be independent but takes a good citizen's interest in all local matters and served three years on the school board. With his family he belongs to the Christian church. Fraternally he is identified with the Odd Fellows.

FRED McNEIL, general farmer and stock raiser, who owns a valuable farm of sixty acres in Orange township, situated five and one-half miles southwest of Sidney, was born in Montgomery county, O., August 23, 1866, and is a son of Milton and Elizabeth (Boyer) McNeil.

Milton McNeil was born in Montgomery county, O., where he grew to manhood and after his first marriage moved to Missouri and lived there for six years and then came to Shelby county and settled on the farm now owned by his son and continued to live here until his death, when aged seventy-six years. His first marriage was to Frances Boyer and they had four children: Mary Frances, Jacob, Lucretia and Martin, the last two being deceased. His second marriage was to Elizabeth Boyer, a sister of his first wife, and two children were born to them: Fred and Jessie, the latter of whom died in Missouri. The mother died in February, 1912, at the age of eighty-four years.

Fred McNeil obtained his education in the public schools, and farming and stock raising have been the industries to which he had devoted his time and attention ever since and for the past thirty years he has lived on his present place. The buildings were all put up during his father's time and he has kept them in repair and has done other improving.

Mr. McNeil was married to Miss Hannah W. Weatherhead, who was born in Miami county, O., and they have two children: Milton, who gives his father assistance; and Jessie, who resides at home. Mr. McNeil and family attend the United Brethren church. Politically he is a democrat and at present is serving as a member of the township school board.

JOSEPH DANIEL BARNES, a leading member of the bar at Sidney, where he enjoys a fine practice and is a representative and stable citizen, was born in Adams township, Champaign county, O., June 14, 1869, and is a son of John H. and Mary (Hubbell) Barnes.

John H. Barnes was born at Hedgesville, W. Va., in 1845, and died April 13, 1907, in Ohio, to which state his father, Michael Barnes, had brought him when a motherless boy of two years. Michael Barnes settled at what was known as Mosquito Lake, Champaign county, where he acquired land and there John H. Barnes was reared and a year after marriage moved to Logan county, later returning to Champaign county and in 1884 moved to Sidney. He was a well-known, reputable citizen, a member of the Episcopal church and a democrat in his political connection. He married Mary Hubbell, in 1867, a daughter of Hezekiah and Sarah (Johnson) Hubbell, of Quincy, where Mr. Hubbell was a merchant. Three children were born to John H. Barnes and wife, two of whom died in infancy.

Joseph Daniel Barnes attended the public schools in Champaign county and later the Sidney high school, subsequently entering the Cincinnati Law School, where he was graduated in May, 1890, afterward spending one year in the law office of Davies & Hoskins, at Sidney. Mr. Barnes then opened a law office in the Thompson building, at Sidney, and continued alone in practice until July, 1909, when he formed a partnership with D. F. Mills, which association continues under the firm style of Barnes & Mills. For twenty-two years Mr. Barnes has been engaged honorably in the practice of his profession in this city and at times has accepted public office when tendered him, serving efficiently as city solicitor from 1892 until 1895, and as prosecuting attorney from 1895 until 1901. He has ever been an active and interested citizen and an ardent supporter of the principles of the democratic party, for a number of years being entrusted with party management as chairman of the Shelby County Democratic Central Committee. He has four farms in his charge, but otherwise devotes himself entirely to his profession.

In December, 1900, Mr. Barnes was married to Miss Raeburn Eppler, a daughter of Thomas W. and Mary (Miller) Eppler. His fraternal connections include membership with the Masons, Odd Fellows, and the Elks. He maintains his office in the court house at Sidney, and owns an attractive and comfortable residence.

WILLIAM A. PERRY, president and general manager of the Sidney Steel Scraper Company at Sidney, O., an enterprise of large importance, backed by ample capital and officered with men of business experience and reliability, was born in Union county, Ind., November 24, 1865, and is a son of Russell Biglow and Eliza (Rider) Perry.

The father of Mr. Perry died when he was four years old and his widowed mother moved then to Hamilton, O., where, eight years later she married John Laughlin and shortly afterward the family removed to Sidney, where Mr. Laughlin became the head of the Sidney School Furniture Company. Mr. Perry was twelve years old when the family came to this city and here

he completed his education and began his business career in the office of the Sidney School Furniture Company, advancing from the position of book-keeper to be secretary and treasurer of that concern. It was a prosperous business enterprise which, on the death of Mr. Laughlin, was sold to the American School Furniture Manufacturing Company. Mr. Perry then went to New York City and for two years had charge of the collection department for that company and still further confidence was shown in his tact and ability by the company when they commissioned him to go to Mexico and there establish a branch house. His mission to Mexico was successful, but, on account of becoming interested there in mining, one year later he resigned his position with the above named company and devoted the following three years to developing Mexican mining properties. In the meanwhile he associated himself with Julius Balke, who is now vice president of the Brunswick-Balke Company, of Chicago, Ill., in a partnership for the manufacture of school and church furniture, under the firm name of the Mexican School Furniture Company, operating in conjunction with the American School Furniture Company. Six months after starting their factory was destroyed by fire and the partners decided to return north instead of rebuilding, Mr. Balke going to Chicago and Mr. Perry to Sidney.

The Sidney Steel Scraper Company was established at Sidney many years ago by the late William Haslup and after returning to Sidney Mr. Perry identified himself with this concern, which was subsequently incorporated with a capital of \$200,000. For ten years Mr. Perry served as secretary and treasurer and also as sales manager of this company, and, on the death of Mr. Haslup, in 1912, succeeded him as president. The other officers are: Ben Strauss, vice president, and W. L. Snyder, secretary and treasurer.

Mr. Perry was married at Sidney, O., to Miss Clara Epler, who is a daughter of Thompson W. Epler, a prominent citizen. They have one son, John Perry. Fraternally Mr. Perry is a Mason and politically a republican and unquestionably is one of the reliable and conscientious citizens of the community in which his life has been mainly spent and where his dearest interests are centered.

WILLIAM H. WAGNER. In every community there is some one family which stands out prominently among the other inhabitants and in the history of Sidney that family is Wagner. They were originally French, born in Alsace, then a northern province of France, and came to this country in 1830, three sturdy brothers, Joseph, Peter and Mathias. Mathias Wagner first saw the light of day in Alsace, April 24, 1818, and in 1830 came to America and drove a team through to Pittsburg, where he met his father who had preceded him by stage from Baltimore. After working there awhile he came to Ohio, to Columbiana county, and there his father engaged in farming. Mathias came on to Allen county in 1837 and a year later to Sidney, when he opened up a meat market and engaged in other enterprises until he became one of the strongest financial men of the town. In 1844 he married Miss Mary Rauth, born in Germany, and became the father of twelve children,

eight of whom are living. Two brothers of Mathias were born in Ohio, John and George, and came to this county in the fifties. Mr. Wagner died in June, 1888.

William H., the second child of this union, was born in Sidney, May 24, 1855, attended parochial and public schools in Sidney and supplemented this with a course at St. Mary's Institute at Dayton. He married Miss Sophia Cable, of Sandusky, in 1880, who died leaving a son, Cable, who is now associated with the Wagner brothers in the Wagner Manufacturing Company. In 1887 he married Miss Ina Graber, of Findlay, who became the mother of seven children, one of whom died at the age of two years. Mrs. Wagner died a year ago, January 26, 1912, universally beloved. His oldest son, Mathias, is now an interne at St. Frances hospital in Pittsburg, an honor graduate of medicine from the St. Louis University, in 1912. His second child, Marcelle, graduated with the B. A. degree from St. Mary's Institute three years ago, matriculated with the M. A. degree from the Catholic University at Washington and is now taking a theological course in Cincinnati. William is now at St. Mary's and the daughter, Rose Evelyn, the youngest, with two sons, Richard and Alfred, are attending school in Sidney.

Mr. Wagner lives next the old Wagner homestead on North Miami avenue, and while a very busy man, finds time to cultivate the higher side of his nature in his love of music, pictures and books. He was for many years the tenor soloist in Holy Angels church and is now one of its wardens.

Mr. Wagner is now and has been president of the First National Exchange Bank since its organization in 1899. President of the People's Savings and Loan Association for the last ten years and for twenty-four on its board of directors.

He has been president of the Wagner Manufacturing Company since its organization twenty-two years ago. This company makes high grade polish and nickel-plated and aluminum kitchen utensils. Mr. Wagner is also president of the Sidney Telephone Company and a director in the Sidney Tool Company and the Monarch Machine Company. He was president of the Commercial Club in 1906 and has always taken an interest in civic utilities and is foremost in advancing public spirited enterprises. Proof of his business capacity is shown in the success which has attended his efforts and which has made his name a familiar one in marts of trade at many points.

WILLIAM T. JOHNSTON, who is a well-known resident of Shelby county, residing on his valuable farm of 190 acres, which is situated in Green township, five miles southeast of Sidney, O., was born on this place in 1849 and is a son of Joseph and Hannah (Dorn) Johnston.

Joseph Johnston was born and reared in Virginia and came from there, in early manhood, to Shelby county and bought the present homestead when he could secure land at eight dollars an acre. To the development and improvement of his property here he devoted the rest of his life, his death occurring when well advanced in years. He was a sturdy type of citizen and was held in





GEORGE MENTGES



respect by those with whom he was so long associated. He married Hannah Dorn, who was born in Butler county, O., and was brought to Shelby county when five years old. Mrs. Johnston still survives, being now in her eighty-sixth year. To Joseph Johnston and wife a family of ten children was born, seven daughters and three sons: Jane, William T., Ella, Edward, Callie, Anna, Ollie, Grant, Nettie, and a babe that died. There are six survivors: William T., Callie, Anna, Ollie, Grant and Nettie.

William T. Johnston as the oldest son of the family, was early called to his father's assistance in clearing and cultivating the home farm, attending the local schools, in the meanwhile, as opportunity offered. Since the property came into his possession he has erected different farm structures along the line of improvement, not having, however, to build a new residence as his father had already provided a comfortable one. Mr. Johnston has devoted his attention to diversified farming and has raised much good stock. Always having taken care of his land it has never worn out but is in a better condition at present than ever before. In his political views, Mr. Johnston is a republican and at times has served as a member of the township school board, belonging to that public body when the substantial high school building in this section was erected. For over forty years he has been identified with the Masonic fraternity and is a charter member of the local body of Elks. Mr. Johnston is unmarried.

GEORGE MENTGES, proprietor of the Mentges Folder Company, manufacturers, at Sidney, O., is one of the leading citizens and representative business men of Shelby county. He was born at Sidney, March 24, 1866, and is a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Haas) Mentges.

The parents of Mr. Mentges were born in Germany and from there came to Ohio and were united in marriage at Cincinnati. Jacob Mentges was a cabinetmaker by trade and established himself in business at Sidney in 1863, for many years afterward conducting a furniture store and undertaking business. His death occurred at Sidney, July 4, 1897, his two sons, Jacob and George succeeding him as undertakers.

George Mentges attended school at Sidney and afterward assisted his father whom he succeeded but as early as 1897 had become also interested in starting his present manufacturing business to which he has devoted a large part of his time since disposing of his interest in the undertaking business in 1909. As the name indicates, The Mentges Folder Company manufactures newspaper folders, and the enterprise was started in a small way in a building on South Main avenue, Sidney, about 1897, development following to such an extent that enlargement became necessary and in 1906 the company erected a fine modern building on the corner of Oak and Poplar streets, securing what was supposed to be adequate accommodations, but since then the amount of floor space has been doubled. While Mr. Mentges personally superintends his large manufacturing plant at Sidney, where fifteen skilled mechanics are constantly employed, he still finds time to manage his

valuable farm in Orange township, on which the summer home of the family is maintained.

Mr. Mentges married Miss Hattie Bull, who is a daughter of Francis Bull, formerly a prominent man in Orange township, where his death occurred in 1906. Mr. and Mrs. Mentges have two children: Leona and Gertrude, aged eight and two years respectively. As a citizen Mr. Mentges holds a high place in the esteem of his fellow citizens. He is a man of social tastes and is identified with both the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias.

ALMON BALDWIN CARRINGTON HITCHCOCK says in his reminiscences that he was born from necessity, not having voluntary control of that important event, in the obscure town of West Haven, Vermont, October 13, 1838, and can not discard the idea that there is something unlucky in the number thirteen, and the superstition grows with his passing years. Townships are called towns in New England and this town was bounded nine miles on the west by Lake Champlain. The obscurity and comparative unimportance of West Haven prevented its being dignified with a place even on the map of the geographies, and no steamer on the charming lake paused for a moment to take on or let off passengers at West Haven, but plowed its way from Whitehall for fifteen miles to Benson without stopping.

He was the middle living child of Almon and Emily Barber Hitchcock, having one sister younger and one older than himself. He went to a district school until fourteen years of age, and being large for his years, and above the average pupil in most of his studies, was solicited at that tender period to teach a four months' term in an adjoining district at ten dollars a month and board around. When he came to settle for his four months' work the treasurer said there were only thirty-six dollars on hand, so he took that without a murmur. With his money he bought a broadcloth coat, a double-breasted satin vest, a pair of doeskin trousers, a green neckerchief as big as a stand cover, and thus was gorgeously equipped and had a few dollars left. The envy of his boy companions from which he suffered was more than compensated for by the increased favor the girls bestowed on account of his stunning toggery. As he was now elevated above going to a district school any longer his career as a common pupil closed and Troy Conference Academy at Poultney, Vermont, was the place selected to continue his education. It might be of interest to the youth of the present day to state that his father deposited the sum of forty dollars with which to pay his tuition, board, lodging and washing for twelve weeks' schooling. True, his room, which was a back one in the fourth story, was not inviting, with its uncomfortable bed, two modern chairs, and a warped table, nor was the board a Delmonico spread, but their intellects were especially lively, as the blood, not being called upon for much digestive work, went to the brain. Being rather an expert at base ball, foot ball and quoit pitching, favorable acquaintances were soon formed, for a long drive with a bat, accurate throwing and a sensational catch of a fly is quickly noised abroad and puts one in the front rank among students.

After two terms at Pultney he went a term at Castleton Seminary and three terms at Fort Edward Institute, in New York. In the latter part of the fifties he made a visit to Illinois and taught school two winters near Chicago.

Among his most treasured recollections are his visit to Lincoln at Springfield, Illinois, after his nomination in 1860. He was with him alone in his unpretentious home and says that the mien of that sad-eyed man seemed to prefigure a martyr's end. He heard him speak in the afternoon at their fair grounds and returning to Chicago heard Stephen A. Douglas make his last speech as candidate for the presidency on the northern ticket of the Democracy.

Mr. Hitchcock came to Sidney in 1861, which has been his home ever since. He enlisted in the army but was rejected on account of a bad knee gotten in a wrestling match and paid a substitute \$100 a year in addition to the army pay to take his place. On settling in Sidney his father bought the place now owned by W. B. McCabe on the Hardin hill where they lived for many years. To show the advance in real estate in the city the old Honnell farm, one mile northeast of Sidney, of one hundred acres his father bought for \$20 an acre and the Carey farm of 170 acres, comprising the Orbison hill, now a delightful suburb of Sidney, for \$45 an acre.

Mr. Hitchcock was identified with the schools of Sidney two different times as principal of the high school, many years county and local examiner of teachers, and for more than thirty years a writer for the Sidney Journal, the Gazette and Sidney Journal Gazette.

He has been too credulous, thinking that men are better than they are, has sung at more funerals than any man in the county, written more obituaries and filled more sporting columns with base ball accounts than any other writer in these parts. He is a great lover of poetry and the best of literature, a mind rich with the masterpieces of the ages and an author of a book of poems called "Waifs," which contains some rare bits of philosophy.

In politics he has always been a republican, though the political complexion of the county has not been nor is not of the hue to inspire nor foster republican aspirations. A member of the Presbyterian church and a leader of its choir for thirty years.

He was married October 20, 1864, to Margaret Jane Edgar and had three children, Jane, now Mrs. Harry Van De Grift; Wade, deceased, and Ruth.

As Thanksgiving time is approaching and trees are bare it is not deemed inappropriate to insert a poem on autumn from his booklet:

The autumn leaves are falling  
 Because it's time to fall;  
 That must be the reason  
 For there's scarce been frost at all,  
 Just lost their hold and grip it seems  
 Obeyed the parting call.

Have they got tired swinging,  
 On branches to and fro?  
 The sport of wanton breezes  
 That had a mind to blow,  
 And so come reeling downward  
 To find a rest below?

Or do they grieve to see their hue  
 Fading every day?  
 Their green turning to yellow  
 Brown or ashen gray?  
 The tints which say you're growing old  
 And hastening to decay.

The happy birds all summer  
 Have caroled sweetest songs  
 Among the leaves upon the trees;  
 But to the south they've gone,  
 And now the only music,  
 Is a rustle of their own.

The rosy smile of morning  
 The hushed air's restful calm;  
 Refreshing dews, reviving rains  
 Were welcomed as a balm,  
 The moon's pale beams, and starlight gleams,  
 They caught in eager palm.

But now the summer's over,  
 The leaves have had their day;  
 Their shade's no longer needed,  
 Thus has it been always,  
 That they must fall and be the sport  
 Of vagrant winds at play.

Baldwin Hitchcock, as he was more familiarly known, closed his eyes forever December 26, 1912, a little past seventy-four years of life. The infirmities of age did not invade the realm of his intellect nor befog his memory, so he was never old.

The following article on the death of Mr. Hitchcock was written by Judge H. T. Mathers, of Sidney, and was read at the funeral services:

"Notwithstanding the sorrow I feel over the decease of my friend, it affords me a deep satisfaction publicly to attest, as I have often done privately, the loyal friendship and lovable characteristics of him whom we have lost awhile. The unconscious influences of life are more constant and more potent than we realize. As teacher and newspaper writer Mr. Hitchcock

served his day and generation well. Again and again have I met his old scholars, who, when they learned I lived in Sidney, asked me about him and gratefully acknowledged their obligation for the instruction and inspiration he had given them. There are many successful business men today whose commercial education began under his tutelage, which gave the first and correct impulse to their subsequent training. No man connected with the press of this country, no matter how small the town or humble the publication, who appreciates its capacity for patriotic service, can fail to render that service, in some degree at least, if his literary activities are appreciable and rightly directed. And Mr. Hitchcock's were both large and rightly directed. His editorial and literary work was never malicious, usually helpful and always wholesome. His was a gentle spirit, which was imbued with the philosophy of the Master, whether he realized it or not, and which would rather return good for evil and when reviled revileth not again. Nathaniel-like, it was without guile, and was simple and lovable. His was a sunny spirit, whose coming was always a joy and whose going a regret, whose presence made some of life's disappointments less keen and its darker outlooks brighter. His magnificent voice, for so many years employed in the church services, lent an impressiveness to the lines of our majestic hymns that, I have no doubt, carried their meaning to many minds not influenced by the spoken word; and that same voice in reading or recitation, expressing, as it always did, the selections of excellent taste, was a delight and a benediction to those fortunate enough to hear him and helped one to realize the true, the beautiful and the good in literature. Can any doubt that that gentle, sunny spirit, that magnificent voice, that exquisite taste, that lovable and loving comradeship he was always willing to indulge with his friends and with those who needed it, was needed elsewhere in God's universe, and so God took him there?"

F. M. DEAM, whose fine farm of 147 acres lies in Green township, the Deam turnpike which passes his door having been so named in honor of his father, was born in Orange township, Shelby county, O., three and one-half miles south of Sidney in 1855, and is a son of Harmon and Angeline (Reynolds) Deam.

Harmon Deam was born in Montgomery County, O., and came to Shelby county in 1848 and afterward followed farming in Orange township until his death, at the age of seventy-three years. He married Angeline Reynolds and six children were born to them: Henry, Ella, John L., Frank M., Andrew H. and Kate.

Frank M. Deam left home to see the world soon after his school days were over, went West and for some time found employment on cattle ranges in different states and brought cattle over the trail from Texas. He met with many adventures while taking part in the rough life incident to freighting and railroad building, and by 1895 was ready to settle permanently and follow the peaceful pursuits of agriculture. Consequently he returned to his native section and in 1901 purchased his present valuable farm, which lies five miles

southeast of Sidney. To the improvement of his place, Mr. Deam has devoted time and money and probably no farm in this part of the county has more comfortable, convenient or more attractive buildings and surroundings.

Mr. Deam married Miss Kate E. McGrane, who was born in Nebraska. They are members of the Roman Catholic church. He is a democrat in his political opinions and is a member of the Shelby County Fair Board. Mr. Deam is identified with no fraternal organizations except the Knights of Columbus.

L. C. WILSON, who carries on general farming and stock raising in Green township, has spent almost all his life on the homestead, which he is operating for his mother, who is a highly esteemed resident of Fletcher, O. Mr. Wilson was born at Covington, Miami county, O., and was two years old when his parents, Joshua and Lydia (Brown) Wilson, came to this property. The father was a native of Montgomery county, O., and after coming to Green township placed all the improvements on this farm, on which he continued to live as long as active, moving then to Fletcher, where his death occurred at the age of seventy years. Both his sons, L. C. and Stanley, are farmers in Green township.

L. C. Wilson and brother attended the district schools in Green township and assisted on the home farm of 126 acres, after which he operated the same for six years and since his father's death has continued its management in his mother's interest. He owns 137 acres just north of this farm but he has rented it to a good tenant and continues to live on the old homestead. Mr. Wilson married Miss Anna Bennett and they have four children: Foster, Ethel, Lowell and Edith. Being an independent thinker, Mr. Wilson has not identified himself with any political faction and casts his vote as a free American citizen, entirely according to his own judgment after intelligent consideration of public issues. All local matters of public concern receive his attention and the public schools and their advancement particularly interest him.

WILLIAM M. CAVEN, whose finely improved farm of seventy-nine acres, is situated in Green township, twelve miles southeast of Sidney, O., came from one of the old and representative families of Miami county, where he was born August 1, 1871, a son of James M. Caven, who subsequently became a well-known resident of Orange township, Shelby county.

William M. Caven was educated in the public schools and grew to manhood on his father's farm and remained there until 1894, when he settled on his present place. Mr. Caven has so improved his property that it arouses favorable comment and he undoubtedly has the finest set of farm buildings in Green township. He carries on a general farming line, raising grain and stock, and a pleasant prosperity seems very apparent and evidently has been brought about by Mr. Caven's excellent management.

Mr. Caven married Miss Maggie Covault, a daughter of Erastus Covault, who was a farmer in Miami county. Mr. and Mrs. Caven have three children: Foster L., Franklin C., and William Garner. The family belongs to the

Christian church. Mr. Caven has served with efficiency in the office of township trustee, elected to the same on the democratic ticket.

A. STACKHOUSE, a well-known general farmer in Green township, residing on a fine tract of sixty-five acres, lying ten miles southeast of Sidney, was born in Clinton County, O., August 28, 1852, and is a son of Elisha and Sarah J. (Hyatt) Stackhouse.

Elisha Stackhouse was born also in Clinton county and was of English extraction, the family in early times possessing a coat of arms. He married Sarah J. Hyatt, who was of Scotch extraction and was born in Fayette county, Pa. They came to Shelby county when their son was fourteen years old but later lived in Van Wert county for nine years, and then settled on the present home tract. This land Elisha Stackhouse improved and resided on until his death, at the age of sixty-four years. His widow survives and lives on the homestead, being now in her eighty-third year. They had two children: A. and Myra Ann, and the family all remain on the old place. General farming and moderate stock raising are carried on, the soil being kept in good condition and proving very productive.

Mr. Stackhouse married Miss Anna Wiley and they have three children: Jennie, Kenneth and Sarah. In politics Mr. Stackhouse is affiliated with the republican party and for four years he has been a member of the township school board. When a young man he became interested in the aims of the fraternal order of Odd Fellows and has been identified with the same for twenty years, belonging to Osceola Encampment at Sidney, O.

PETER J. EILERMAN, who is a general farmer residing in section 26, Cynthian township, Shelby county, O., was born on this farm of eighty acres, September 13, 1888, and is a son of Henry and Anna (Bauer) Eilerman.

Henry Eilerman was born in McLean township, Shelby county, and was a farmer all his life. After his marriage he settled first on a farm one mile east of Fort Loramie, in McLean township, but afterward sold and bought sixty acres one mile north of Newport, which he also sold and then purchased the farm of eighty acres in Cynthian township on which the remainder of his life was spent. He was a well-known and highly respected man, a devout and faithful member of the Catholic church at Newport, O., and a useful citizen. He served one term as township trustee, being elected on the Democratic ticket. Mr. Eilerman's death occurred on June 30, 1912, his age being fifty-seven years, five months and twenty-eight days and his burial was in the Catholic cemetery at Newport. He married Anna Bauer, who survives, and eight children were born to them, three of whom, Frances, Laurence and Bertha, are now deceased. Those living are: George, who was born April 15, 1872; Frances, who is the wife of Henry Sherman, of McLean township; Peter; and Gertrude and Agnes, both of whom live at home.

An interesting event in the life of Henry Eilerman was his visit to the World's Fair at St. Louis, Mo., in 1904. Leaving Ohio by wagon, June 1, 1904, he made the trip in twenty-one days, camping by the roadside on the way.

He stayed at St. Louis three weeks and then drove back to Shelby county, Ohio, making the return trip in seventeen days. On March 7, 1908, Henry Eilerman with his family went to California, staying there seven months and then returning to Ohio. On January 21, 1912, he with his wife and son George, went to Florida to spend the winter there, returning to Ohio March 20, 1912.

Peter J. Eilerman with his brother (and sister) attended the township schools, and the sons then assisted their father and since his death have been associated in carrying on the farm industries, crop and stock raising. The land is all cleared but is not yet all drained but under their good management it will no doubt become one of the finest farms of this section. The brothers like other members of the family are faithful Catholics and belong to the church at Newport. In politics Mr. Eilerman is a democrat and is now serving as clerk of the board of education of the Turner Special School District, elected to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of John Sherman, and in this position is giving entire satisfaction.

FRANK ERNST, who is one of the representatives and substantial men of McLean township, was born in this township February 13, 1864, and resides on his farm of 160 acres, which lies in section 10, and owns a second farm of 100 acres, in section 11, both being situated in the Sherman Special School District, in which he secured his education.

After his school days were over, Mr. Ernst applied himself entirely to agricultural pursuits and at the time of marriage settled on his present home farm which he operates himself while his second farm, above mentioned, he has placed in charge of a tenant. His surroundings indicate thrift, good management and comfort and with the exception of the residence, which he remodeled, all the buildings have been erected since he took possession. He raises grain and stock but uses about all he produces of the former to put the latter in good condition. In politics a strong democrat he takes an interest in the success of his party but desires no offices for himself.

Mr. Ernst was united in marriage with Miss Mary Sherman, a daughter of John Sherman, of one of the old county families, and eight children have been born to them, namely: Katie, Frank, Jr., John, Sophia, Ida, Bertha, Agnes and Albert. Mr. Ernst and family are members of St. Michael's Catholic church.

T. M. BEAMER, M. D., an experienced medical practitioner now somewhat retired from professional activity, resides on his well-kept farm of sixty acres, situated six and one-half miles southeast of Sidney, O. He was born at Fletcher, O., in 1854, and is a son of Dr. Thomas M. and Jane (Runkle) Beamer.

Dr. Thomas M. Beamer was born in Virginia and for twenty-five years was a valued physician and surgeon at Fletcher, O., and was prevented from becoming a soldier in the Civil war on account of being the only medical practitioner in the above town at that time. His death occurred at the age of



forty-five years, while living in California. He married Jane Runkle, who was born in Mad River township, Clark county, O., and eight children were born to them.

T. M. Beamer was seven years old when he was sent to the home of his grandparents in Illinois, where he remained for three years, attending school in the meanwhile, then returned to his father and afterward went to Iowa with his brother, and again returned to Fletcher. While with his brother he learned the principles of medical science and about this time had one term of lectures in the Cincinnati Medical College. During the next year he practiced medicine in Missouri, after which he returned to Ohio and completed his medical course and entered into practice at Fletcher. On March 27, 1879, he located at Plattsville, in Shelby county, and continued until 1902, when he accepted a position as manager of a sanitarium at Springfield, O., for the cure of alcohol and drug addictions, conducted by the Willowbark Company, removing later with the same company, to St. Paris, and after two years, to Piqua, but shortly afterward decided to engage in agricultural pursuits and moved to the Sarver farm in Green township, Shelby county. After his many years of professional work and during a number of years meeting with many distressing cases, Dr. Reamer found the quiet country life most beneficial, and in 1910 purchased the farm on which he now resides and where agricultural industries greatly interest him. He still continues to practice to a certain extent, in his neighborhood, but no longer makes his profession his main occupation.

Dr. Beamer was married in 1879 to Miss Anna Elizabeth Williams of Plattsburg, and they had one son, born October 13, 1880, who is deceased. In politics Dr. Beamer is a republican and ever since he came to Green township has been township treasurer and also is a member of the school board. For many years he has been identified fraternally with the Odd Fellows.

JOHN SCHWARTZ, whose fine farm of 109 acres lies in section 19, Cynthian township, was born at Fort Loramie, O., December 16, 1876, and is a son of Adam and Elizabeth Schwartz. The mother of Mr. Schwartz is deceased but the father survives and resides with his son on the above mentioned farm.

John Schwartz attended school in the Berlin special district and afterward, for one year, worked at the butcher trade but later turned his attention to carpentering and afterward settled down to farming as his main occupation, locating on his personal place following his marriage. He has made many substantial improvements here and has drained and placed under cultivation all of his land except fifteen acres of woodland pasture. The wheat and oats he grows generally is conveyed to market but his corn is mainly fed to his stock of which he raises quite an amount each year.

Mr. Schwartz was married to Miss Mayme Ecabert, a daughter of Julius and Elizabeth Ecabert, of Newport, O., and they have a family of four children: Omer, Loretta, Persell and Ruth. Mr. Schwartz and family are members of Sts. Peter and Paul Roman Catholic church at Newport, O. In politics

a democrat, Mr. Schwartz always consistently gives democratic candidates his political support. He has never accepted any offices for himself except those connected with educational matters in his own community and for some six years prior to January, 1912, was president of the board of education of the Basinburg Special School District. He is a highly respected and valuable citizen of Cynthian township.

AUGUST CARITEY, whose fine productive farm of 114 acres is situated in Cynthian township, one-quarter mile west of the St. Mary turnpike road, two miles south of Fort Loramie and two miles north of Newport, O., was born in France, May 4, 1840, a son of August and Louisa (Ducette) Caritey.

The parents of Mr. Caritey were born in France and there the mother died when aged twenty-five years, leaving but the one child. The father married (second) Josephine Velyon, and they came to America in 1850. For the first five years after reaching the United States, Mr. Caritey and family lived at Ironton, O., moving then to Shelby county and living first in Cynthian and later in McLean township. Mr. Caritey and wife then moved to a western state, where she died and he then returned to Shelby county, locating first in Loramie township but afterward moving into Cynthian township, where he died in his sixty-sixth year. His burial was in the cemetery at Newport, connected with St. Peter and Paul's Catholic church of which he had been a member. Three of his sons survive: Julius, August and Joseph, while two, Ezebiah and Amiel, are deceased.

August Caritey was ten years old when his father brought the family to America and his early schooling was secured at Portsmouth and Ironton, O. Afterward he was variously employed and being willing and industrious had no difficulty in securing work by the day. After his marriage he located for a time at Fort Loramie and then bought a farm of sixty acres in the Sherman Special School District and operated it until he had a chance to sell to advantage, when he came to his present place. Here he has made many improvements, putting up all the substantial buildings now standing, has done considerable draining and has kept his soil in fine condition through his experienced methods of cultivation. With the exception of twenty-three acres he has all his land under cultivation and carries on a general farming line.

Mr. Caritey married Miss Gertrude Brucken, who was born in Germany, and they have had the following children: Christina, who is the wife of Albert Berry, residing in Turtle Creek township; Elizabeth, who is the wife of Henry Varno and they live in McLean township; Mary, who is the wife of Frank Mosey, living at Sidney; Jane, who is the wife of Albert Snyder, of Dayton, O.; Catherine, who is the wife of Joseph Brady, of Dayton; Sophia, who married Oliver Davis, lives at Sidney; and Clara, Josephine, Joseph and Emeline, all of whom live at home. Mr. Caritey and family belong to St. Peter and Paul's Catholic church at Newport, O. This is a very well-known family and collectively and individually they have many friends. Mr. Caritey

is a democrat in politics and for three years served as road supervisor in McLean township, reside in section 8, on his valuable farm of 148 acres, District Board.

PATRICK DUNDON, one of the enterprising and successful farmers of McLean township, resides in section 8, on his valuable farm of 148 acres, situated three and one-half miles east of Fort Loramie. He was born in Turtle Creek township, Shelby county, O., March 4, 1874, and is a son of John and Margaret (McEvoy) Dundon.

John Dundon was of Irish extraction and was a young man when he came to Shelby from Licking county, O. After marriage to Margaret McEvoy, who was born in Shelby county, he settled on the present home site but the 148 acres of productive land was then but a wilderness. It was through his industry and perseverance that the place was cleared and put under cultivation. The buildings yet standing he placed here and lived to enjoy some years of rest after his long period of hard labor, passing away in his fiftieth year. His widow survived into her sixty-sixth year. They were devoted members of the Catholic church and belonged to St. Patrick's congregation. They had eight children born to them, namely: James and Emma, both of whom are deceased; and Patrick, Elizabeth, Annie, Mary Ellen and William, and an infant that died.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Dundon attended school in St. Patrick's Special School District and after the father's death they took charge of the home farm and carried on all its industries, Patrick and William being particularly interested at the present time. They all are democratic in their political opinions and as a united family belong to St. Patrick's Catholic church.

JOHN SIEGEL, one of the representative men of McLean township, president of the Sherman special school district board of education, is a successful general farmer and resides in section 10, where he owns 128 acres of valuable land. He was born in Cynthian township, Shelby county, June 21, 1867.

Mr. Siegel secured his education in the schools of his native township and in the Sherman school district, after which he learned practical farming and has made farming in all its branches his business. Since his marriage he has lived on his present farm, which he purchased of the Sherman estate, and many of the improvements have been placed here since taking possession. The farmhouse was in good repair but Mr. Siegel found it necessary to build a new barn and other structures. He has cleared about 100 acres and has drained the same and put down tiling, the other twenty-eight acres being yet in valuable timber. His property is favorably situated as he has a market at Fort Loramie, which is only three miles west and the Sherman turnpike road gives him fine transportation facilities.

Mr. Siegel married Miss Mary Barhorst, a daughter of Henry Barhorst of McLean township, and all their seven children were born on this farm, namely: Elizabeth, Caroline, Frank, Henry, Raymond, Josephine and Rhine-

hart. The family belongs to St. Michael's Catholic church. In politics a strong democrat, Mr. Siegel has frequently been elected on his party ticket to important township offices and for four terms was turnpike superintendent and for about five years has been president of the school board. He has associated with him other leading men of the township, as follows: Adolph Sherman, Clemens Wolke, Henry Ernestes, Barney Ernst and Benjamin Barhorst, William J. Meyers succeeding Mr. Barhorst at the last election.

HARRISON M. POTTS, proprietor of a saw mill at Sidney, O., and also owner of a fine farm of 160 acres, lying in Washington township, two and one-half miles southwest of Sidney, is a leading citizen of Shelby county and a justly honored veteran of the great Civil war. He was born in Miami county, near Fletcher, O., February 27, 1846, and is a son of Jackson and Cynthia Ann (Lusena) Potts. Jackson Potts was born in Warren county, O., and his wife at Maysville, Ky. He engaged in farming in Miami county but died early, his widow surviving until after their son's return from the Civil war, when she became the object of his filial care.

Harrison M. Potts remained on the home farm until he was sixteen years of age, in the meanwhile attending the district schools, afterward doing general farm work in the neighborhood until he enlisted for service in the Civil war, on August 15, 1862, in Company E, 110th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. His regiment was a part of the Second Brigade, Third Division, Sixth Army Corps, Army of the Potomac. He was then only a lad of seventeen years and practically had never previously known any hardships. At the battle of Winchester, Va., shortly after his enlistment, he was captured by the Confederates and was confined in Libby prison for two days and two nights, afterward being sent to Belle Isle, where he was kept from June 14, 1863, until July 27, 1863, when he, with other prisoners, was sent to Annapolis, Md., to await formal exchange, which, not taking place in three weeks, brought about such a state of weariness and homesickness that the young soldiers, only boys in years, determined to take matters into their own hands and await exchange and parole in their own homes. While this was against military law it was natural and forgivable, for the three lads who slipped out of camp when the guards were not looking, had no idea of deserting. They practically walked the entire distance from Annapolis to Fletcher, with the exception of seventy-five miles, keeping to the National turnpike unless they had reason to fear capture, when they made detours, as they were aware that the provost guard, for the sake of discipline, would return them to camp before permitting them to make the longed for visit to their homes. When about seventy-five miles east of Columbus they fell in with a farmer, who, after learning the facts, took them home with him and not only fed and sheltered them but gave them railroad fare to within ten miles of Columbus. Unfortunately for the boys' hope of quiet escape, there was a company of sol-



HARRISON M. POTTS



HARRISON M. POTTS' RESIDENCE

diers on board the train and the captain of the company, thinking the youths were deserters, promptly put them under guard, and on reaching Columbus they were taken to the State House and given the marble floor for a bed. From the surrounding but sleepy guards the youths managed to escape in the early morning and continued on their way to Fletcher. For several weeks they remained in their homes and then their own colonel, Colonel Foster of Piqua, who was then visiting his home, sent for them and advised them to return to the prisoner's camp, which they did and were officially exchanged with their company and with his regiment. At the time of the New York riot, afterward, Mr. Potts was with his regiment when it was sent to that city and he continued until the close of the war, participating in many battles and serious engagements.

After his honorable discharge, Mr. Potts returned to his mother at Fletcher, and with the money he had saved in the army he purchased a team and went to farming. Later he moved on a farm in Turtle Creek township, paying a fair rental for the same and it was while there that he entered into the timber and saw mill business. After selling the interests he had acquired there he came to Sidney and entered the spoke and bending business and since then he has been in the same business at Ogden, Ind., at Greensburg, Ind., and a second time at Sidney. Mr. Potts is one of the best known timber and lumber men in Shelby county and is listed with the leading and representative men. In addition to his lumber business he successfully operates his farm and also finds time to investigate into public matters pertaining to his own locality and to serve frequently in responsible positions where his business capacity is of great value to his fellow citizens. At times he has filled the office of treasurer of Turtle Creek township, and is a member of the board of trustees of the Sidney Water Works.

Mr. Potts was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Wakeman, a daughter of the late Henry Wakeman, of Turtle Creek township, and two sons were born to them: Elmer and William, the last named dying May 7, 1912. Mr. Potts is identified with the Knights of Pythias.

JOSEPH C. ROYON has been among the most active and influential of the citizens of Shelby county for more than thirty years; as a lawyer, agriculturist and manufacturer. In 1878 he was graduated from the law department of the University of Michigan and practiced his profession for a time at Greenville and later at Sidney, in association with the late Judge Jacob S. Conklin and during four years he was solicitor for the city of Sidney. His large interest in other things, especially manufacturing, requiring his attention he withdrew from active practice in 1891 and removed from Sidney to his farm near Houston.

In 1879 he married Mollie A. Flinn, daughter of David Flinn, of Loramie township and together they spent ten months in a tour of Europe, visiting among other places, the ancestral home of the Royon family in France.

His career has been distinguished by its constructive qualities and by an appreciation of the worth of probity of character in affairs of business. He has been active in support of education in its broader lines and in its local development. All of his children, on reaching the suitable ages, have been graduated from or are now attending advanced schools of learning; his daughter, Josephine, having graduated from the Maryland College for Women at Lutherville, Md., near Baltimore, while his son Joseph C. Royon, Jr., a graduate of the law department of the Ohio State University, has for some time past been a member of the firm of Carr, Stearns, Chamberlian & Royon of Cleveland, and his son Edward, a graduate of the College of Mechanical Engineering of Ohio State University, is following his profession in the same city.

Mr. Royon has been president of The R. Givens & Son Company since its organization with a capital stock of \$300,000 and with an annual business of approximately a half million dollars. He has been the president of the board of education of the Houston school district, in which there has been erected a new and model school building and at which the first centralization of schools in the county has taken place. He is also interested in other manufacturing corporations in Sidney. He has at all times been an influential factor in the republican politics of the county and state and it may be well said that he has been active in all lines calling for the higher ideals of citizenship.

C. F. HICKOK, a prominent citizen of Sidney, Ohio, and one of her substantial and representative business men, is a manufacturer and wholesale dealer in confectionery, and has been a resident of this city for the past thirty years. He was born at Jefferson, Ashtabula county, Ohio, April 10, 1856, and is the only surviving child of his parents, Henry F. and Harriet M. Hickok, both now deceased. Henry F. Hickok operated a grist and saw-mill in Ashtabula county, where he died at the early age of twenty-eight years.

C. F. Hickok attended school until he was about fourteen years of age and then began work as a clerk in a grocery store at Ashtabula, where he remained four years, when he became a traveling salesman for a Cleveland firm, with which house he continued five years, after which he was employed two years as a cigar salesman for a Detroit firm. In 1882 he came to Sidney and embarked in a retail cigar and confectionery business and for a number of years continued as a retail merchant but since 1901 he has given all his attention to his manufacturing and his wholesale trade, having been in these lines for twelve years. His business has had a rapid but healthy growth. In 1900 he erected his fine factory, his first building having dimensions of 40x70 feet, to which an addition of 125x20 feet, four stories high, was added, and in 1908 another addition was made of 125x20 feet, also four stories high, the location being on the corner of Poplar and Franklin streets. His normal number of employes is 150 people, twelve salesmen also being kept on the road. He makes a specialty of manufacturing a high grade of chocolates, and one brand, Maple Chews, has a sale that covers the territory from coast to coast



in the United States. Considering the fact that Mr. Hickok started into business with a small capital, one that he earned for himself, his progress has been unusual and demonstrates that he is a business man of ability. Sidney takes especial pride in such citizens, their reliability being assured and their influence being beneficial in every direction.

Mr. Hickok was married October 15, 1880, to Miss Ella Hessin. She was born at Lisbon, Ohio, October 23, 1854, and died at her home on South Ohio avenue, Sidney, after an illness of about four weeks. She was a daughter of the late Horace P. Hessin and was the last of her family, her father, mother and two brothers having previously passed away. She was widely known and much beloved in this city both inside her family and intimate social circle and outside, her warm heart and sympathetic nature having caused her to interest herself in many avenues of beneficence. She was a member of the executive committee of the Business Girls' Association and was devoted as a member of the Presbyterian church. She is survived by two daughters, Harriet Marr and Willa Hessin, the former of whom is the wife of John E. Lamaster, and the latter, of Harry L. Rice, of Sidney.

In politics a staunch republican, at different times Mr. Hickok has accepted public office, has served four years as a member of the city council and also of the board of education, and for many years has been a member of the Sidney Commercial Club and its president in 1911. He belongs to Temperance Lodge, F. & A. M., and to chapter and commandery, all at Sidney.

D. G. POLHAMUS, township trustee of Washington township, and one of the substantial citizens of this section, resides eight miles southwest of Sidney, O., where he owns 125 acres of excellent land. Mr. Polhamus was born on the old family homestead here fifty-eight years ago, and is a son of Stephen and Mary (Booher) Polhamus.

Stephen Polhamus came to Ohio from New Jersey. He settled first in Montgomery county and came then to Washington township, Shelby county, where he died at the early age of thirty-five years. His widow survived him and they had five children: D. G., George, Alonzo, Kate and John, all surviving except George and John.

D. G. Polhamus attended the school near his father's farm and then spent two years assisting on the farm of his uncle, George Booher, and after this a part of the old homestead came into his possession on which he made many substantial improvements. He carries on general farming and raises some good stock. He married Miss Ella Carpenter, and the following children have been born to them: Ida, who is now deceased, was the wife of Lewis Snow; Frank, who married Floyd Gabriel; John; Daisy, who married Emory Pot-  
torf; and Clarence. Mr. Polhamus and family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics he is a republican and is serving as a member of the township board of trustees and was formerly township clerk.

EMORY FRANKLIN MARRS, well known as a representative and substantial citizen of Shelby county, resides on his farm of 100 acres, situated in

Perry township and owns two additional farms in the same township. He also is a stockholder in the Farmers Telephone Company. He has spent the greater part of his life in Ohio, but his birth took place in Illinois in October, 1855. His parents, William and Margaret (Robison) Marrs, were natives of Ohio and they both died here and their burial was in Graceland cemetery, at Sidney. They were members of the United Brethren church. The following children made up their family: Mitchell; Elizabeth, deceased, who was the wife of Samuel Dorn; Emory Franklin; Ella and Nettie, both of whom are deceased; and Mary, deceased, who was the wife of Jonas Valentine.

After his period of school attendance was over, Emory F. Marrs assisted his father on the home farm until he was twenty-four years of age. After starting out for himself he lived one year on the Maxwell farm, then rented land in Perry township on his present farm for fifteen years and has lived here since. Subsequently, with his wife, bought the two other farms in Perry township, one of eighty-one acres and the other of eighty-two acres, all valuable property.

On September 11, 1879, Mr. Marrs was married to Miss Jennie Key, a daughter of John and Anna (Rinehart) Key. Mr. and Mrs. Marrs have the following children: Myrtle; Emory B.; Anna, who is the wife of Clarence Shroyer; and Fatima R., who is the wife of Harry Johnston. Mr. Marrs and family are active in the Methodist Episcopal church. He was a member of the school board of Perry township and has served also, by appointment, as a trustee. The family and all its connections are highly respected members of society in their various communities.

GEORGE D. ANDERSON, who resides on his well-improved farm of seventy-nine acres, situated near Ballou, Shelby county, O., owns another farm of seventy acres, which lies in Miami county one mile south of where he lives. He was born in Green township, Shelby county, in 1859, and is a son of William B. and Elizabeth (Dorsey) Anderson.

Both parents of Mr. Anderson were natives of Shelby county and their lives were spent here, the father dying when his son, George D., was two years old, and the mother in 1883. The father was a farmer. Eight children were born to them, namely: John, who is deceased; Mrs. Elvira Hume, who lives in Green township; T. J., who lives in Champaign county; Clara, who is deceased; W. H., who lives in Green township; Mary and Charles, both of whom are deceased; and George D., the youngest born.

After his school days were over, George D. Anderson decided to become a farmer and remained at home until he was twenty-four years of age and then went to Kansas and for seventeen years was a resident of that state, with varying fortunes, and then returned to Shelby county and ever since has been interested in improving his properties and in carrying on his agricultural industries. He erected a new residence on his Miami county farm and placed everything in excellent repair on his place near Ballou, and it is probable that Ohio will continue his permanent home notwithstanding the advantages that

other sections may offer. During a part of his term of residence in Kansas, Mr. Anderson served in the office of justice of the peace.

Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Hannah A. Wert, who was born in Green township, Shelby county, and they have the following children: W. O., Mrs. Florence Hagerman, Ray, Leroy and Earl. In politics Mr. Anderson is a democrat. He gives liberal support to the Christian church to which he and family belong, and he is identified fraternally with the Odd Fellows at Platts-ville.

HENRY A. EILERMAN, who is one of the reliable and substantial citizens of Cynthian township, where, for seven years he has been president of the board of education of the Short Special School District, resides on his excellent farm of 118 acres, situated two and one-half miles southeast of Fort Loramie, O., was born in McLean township, Shelby county, May 19, 1875. His parents, Frank J. and Catherine Eilerman, were of German extraction and for many years well known and respected residents of McLean township.

Henry A. Eilerman went to school in the Sherman Special School District and afterward worked on the home farm. Since his marriage he has lived on his present farm which he has improved in many ways. He built a new residence and remodeled the barn, put up much fencing and attended to the draining of the land wherever he found it desirable, and now has not only a profitable property but an exceedingly comfortable and attractive home. His business is mixed farming.

Mr. Eilerman married Miss Mary Dreses, who was born in McLean township, a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Dreses, and they have six children: Ada, August, Clara, Mary, and Jennie. Mr. Eilerman has been one of the leading advocates of school advancement in his neighborhood and has devoted much time and thought to making the schools of this district what they now are. He and family are members of St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort Loramie.

DANIEL TOY, one of the prominent citizens of Sidney, O., representing the second ward in the city council and an influential factor in democratic politics in Shelby county, is a native of Sidney, born November 14, 1876. He is a son of W. M. and Mary (Haslup) Toy.

Daniel Toy was reared at Sidney and attended school here, afterward learning the printer's trade, entering the office of the Sidney Daily News on the day of its first issue. For four years Mr. Toy worked as a printer and afterward, for a couple of years, was in the employ of the Sidney Steel Scraper Company, finally entering the shops of the Philip Smith Company, where he learned the machinist's trade and is now foreman of these same shops.

Mr. Toy married Miss Emma Louise Pfefferle, a daughter of Carl Pferfferle, and they have one son, Harold. Mr. Toy comes naturally by his mechanical skill, his father and his grandfather having been identified with mechanics and manufacturing during the greater part of their lives. He has always been interested in public matters, a strong democrat in his political belief, and has

served as a member of the Shelby County Democratic Central Committee and also has been a member of the Sidney Democratic Executive Committee. When D. H. Warner resigned as alderman of the Second ward, in order to become the director of public service, in January, 1912, Mr. Toy was immediately selected to fill out Mr. Warner's unexpired term and has proved a useful member of the city council.

JOSEPH DRESES, who lives retired on his valuable farm of sixty acres, situated in Cynthian township, two and one-half miles south of Fort Loramie, was born in Germany, February 10, 1836, and is a son of Theodore and Elizabeth Dreses, both of whom died in Germany, the mother when he was but two years old.

Joseph Dreses went to school and helped his father on the little home farm until he was old enough for military service after which he was in the army for eight years and during that time took part in the wars in which his country was engaged. He was thirty-six years of age when he left Germany and came to the United States. As a farm hand he worked for two years and eight months in Kansas, and from there came to Ohio and became a farmer in Shelby county, near Fort Loramie, where he soon married and for five years afterward lived in McLean township, west of the village. From there he moved on the Johnston Ginn farm and then operated the Schlater farm for one year and the Holthaus farm for four years, after which he bought his present farm of the Barlage heirs, of Fort Loramie, and cleared a part of it. At present he has all of it under cultivation except nine acres of woodland and the larger part of the land is well drained and tiled. The present comfortable farm house he built after taking possession and he remodeled the barn and other farm buildings. A general line of farming is carried on, some stock and the usual grains of this section being produced. Mr. Dreses is a democrat in his political views and is a good and law abiding citizen.

Mr. Dreses was married to Miss Mary Elizabeth Merkentrop, who was born in Germany, a daughter of Bernard and Elizabeth Merkentrop, and came to America when twenty-six years old. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Dreses, namely: Katie, who died at the age of ten months; Mary, who is the wife of H. A. Eilerman; Lena, who is the wife of Clay Eilerman, of McLean township; Anton, who died in his tenth year; and Elizabeth, who died when aged seven years. Mr. Dreses' daughters were educated in the Short Special School District. The family belongs to St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort Loramie.

EARL A. YATES, M. D., who has been established at Sidney, O., in the practice of medicine and surgery since 1906, enjoys the confidence of the public here in marked degree. He was born on a farm in Miami county, O., near the town of Conover, March 11, 1874, and is a son of Samuel and Phebe (Shanks) Yates.

Samuel Yates and wife were both born in Miami county, he on April 30, 1830, and she on October 4, of the same year. Her death occurred in Septem-

ber, 1904, and his less than two years later, on April 18, 1906. They were farming people whose interests were centered in their home and family and they lived long and worthy lives.

Earl A. Yates attended school at Conover, and was graduated in 1893 from the Lena and Conover high school, and during the winter of 1893-94 attended the Ohio State University at Columbus, his studies from 1894 until 1897 being directed along the line of medicine, and his graduation with first honors took place in the last named year. On September first following he opened an office at Kirkwood, Shelby county, where he remained in practice until 1906, when he came to Sidney, taking his place among the skillful medical men of this city, the profession being well represented here.

On August 19, 1897, Dr. Yates was married at Lena, O., to Miss Martha Denman, a daughter of Dr. H. B. and Rose (Brecount) Denman. Mrs. Yates was born July 9, 1875, and was graduated from the Lena and Conover high school in the same class with Dr. Yates. He is a member of the Shelby County Medical Society, the Ohio State Medical Association and the American Medical Society. Politically he is a democrat and fraternally a Mason and an Odd Fellow. Both he and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

J. W. JOHNSTON, whose large acreage of farming land lies in both Loramie and Cynthian townships, was born on his home farm which lies on the Washington and Dayton road in Loramie township, near Houston, O., November 22, 1872, and is a son of Thomas and a grandson of William Johnston.

William Johnston was born in Ireland and was one of the early settlers in Loramie township where his family was reared. Thomas Johnston grew to manhood here, followed farming all his life and died at the age of fifty-eight years and his burial was in the Houston cemetery. He was a member of the Christian church at Houston. He married Mary Jane Black, a daughter of William Black, and two children were born to them: Elizabeth, wife of J. M. Klase; and J. W. The mother, now in her seventy-eighth year, still resides on her homestead. She is a very highly esteemed lady in the neighborhood and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

J. W. Johnston was reared in Loramie township and was educated in Loramie township, which was then known as the West Jefferson School District. He was fifteen years old when his father died and as he was the only son he had to go right to work, at farming, and, with his mother, successfully carried on the farm industries. He is progressive and enterprising in this direction and is numbered with the judicious and successful farmers of this section. The improvements on the place were made by Mrs. Johnston.

Mr. Johnston was married to Miss Oda Flinn, who was born at Houston, O., a daughter of W. N. and Mary Ann Flinn, who now lives in Loramie township. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnston:

Josephine, Leontine and Oda, the eldest of whom is a student in the Houston Special District. Mr. Johnston and his family are members of the Christian church. He is a republican but has never been active in political life.

HENRY A. APPLE, a highly respected citizen of Loramie township, Shelby county, O., a retired farmer living on one of his two farms lying in Loramie township, was born one mile east, February 15, 1849, and is a son of Henry S. and Katie (Gephart) Apple.

Henry S. Apple was born in Jackson township, Montgomery county, O., a son of John Apple and a grandson of Henry Apple, whose father, John Apple, came to America from Germany and settled in Pennsylvania. Henry S. Apple married Katie Gephart, a daughter of George Gephart, who was a pioneer in Jackson township, Montgomery county, and they came as pioneers to Loramie township, Shelby county. Here Henry S. Apple developed a farm from the wilderness and became a well-known and respected man, spending forty subsequent years in this section and dying at the age of sixty-six years. His widow survived to the age of seventy-two years and their burial was in the cemetery at Covington, O. They had seven children born to them, Henry A. being the fourth in order of birth.

Henry A. Apple was reared in an excellent home and attended the Beech Grove school in the winter time, until he was seventeen years of age, after which he gave his father valued assistance in the heavy task of clearing his large acreage of land. After marriage he settled on the farm of 140 acres on which he yet lives and still owns another farm in this township, while he has also given each of his children a farm. When he first came here he and wife went to housekeeping in a log cabin of one room and during the next two years he was so busy that he could do little more in the way of building than to keep the cabin warm and comfortable and the barn equally so in order to shelter his few cattle. He then built his present substantial barn and after twelve years put up his present handsome brick house which he has made into a comfortable modern home. At first he had seventy-seven and one-half acres in his farm and to that he kept on adding until he owned a large amount of property and extensively engaged in farming and raised stock and cattle. His home farm is all under cultivation except nine acres of timber, and it is situated two miles east of the Darke county line.

On October 21, 1869, Mr. Apple was married to Miss Mary C. Mader, who was born in Loramie township, Shelby county, O., August 27, 1848, and is a daughter of Frederick Christopher and Margaret (Crosby) Mader, both of whom died in Loramie township. On April 5, 1870, Mr. and Mrs. Apple took up their residence on this place and here all their children have been born, namely: William E.; Louisa C., who is the wife of Henry C. Kelch and they live in Loramie township; and Hulda J., who is the wife of J. Walter Brown and they live in the Greenwood Special School District. Mr. Apple and wife belong to the Lutheran church in which he was an official for twenty-one years. In national affairs Mr. Apple has always been a democrat but in local matters in recent years has been disposed to vote independently. At the time

this brief sketch of this representative citizen of the county of Shelby was written, he is filling no public office, but, like all the members of this old and solid family, his influence is considerable and his judgment on all matters is valued by his fellow citizens.

J. J. APPLE, a retired farmer and highly respected citizen of Loramie township, Shelby county, O., who owns two farms in the Beech Grove Special School District, one of seventy-seven acres and the other of 100 acres, was born in this township August 29, 1846, and is a son of Henry S. Apple and a grandson of John Apple and a great-grandson of Henry Apple.

Henry Apple was born in Pennsylvania and was a son of John Apple, who was born in Germany. The second John Apple, grandfather of J. J. Apple, was born after his father had settled in Montgomery county, O., and was one of a family of thirteen children. John Apple (2) married Diana Saylor, who was born in Montgomery county and they passed their lives there, where he had 160 acres of land. His death occurred on that farm and that of his wife soon afterward, both being aged sixty-six years, they being separated but two weeks. This farm lies one mile north of Farmersville, Montgomery county, O., and probably yet belongs to the family. Mr. Apple was a man of local prominence and at one time or another filled about all the local offices. To him and wife six children were born, namely: Henry S.; William, who died at Versailles, O., was a farmer in Darke county and married Clovina Miller; Katie, who married Jacob Gephart and they lived in Loramie township for twenty-five years and then settled on the grandfather's farm in Montgomery county; Jacob S., who died in Loramie township; Ullery, who lived first in Shelby county and then moved to Bunker Hill, Ind., and from there to Oregon, where he subsequently died and was buried there, in early manhood having married Martha Davis, of Montgomery county, O.; and Sarah,, who is the wife of Jonathan Esler and they live at Peru, Ind.

Henry S. Apple, father of J. J. Apple, was born in Jackson township, Montgomery county, O., where he was reared and attended the early schools. He was married there to Katie Gephart, whose father owned a farm three miles from the Apple farm, George Gephart being one of the pioneers of the township. After their marriage Henry S. Apple and his wife came to Loramie township and settled on eighty acres of land, the same farm on which their son, J. J. Apple, now lives. He had already put up a hewed log house on the place and thus had made suitable provision for family comfort. To Henry S. and Katie Apple the following children were born: Peggy, who married William Routson, and both died in Miami county; J. J. and G. H., twins, the latter of whom is deceased; Henry A., who is a retired farmer in Loramie township; Louisa, who is the wife of David Kaiser, of Loramie township; Lavina, who is deceased, was the wife of David Fessler, of Miami county; and Elias, who died when three years old. Henry S. Apple cut down the first tree ever felled on the 160 acres which lie south of the present home farm, on the county line, and on that place he died at the age of sixty-six years, six months and sixteen days, and his burial was on the fortieth anniversary of his

coming to Loramie township. His widow survived him and died in her seventy-second year, and both now rest in the Covington cemetery. They were members and liberal supporters of the Lutheran church. Henry S. Apple was, for his day, an extensive raiser of horses and cattle together with sheep and hogs, being exceedingly successful in his management of stock.

J. J. Apple was reared in Loramie township and obtained his education in the Beech Grove School District and from boyhood had his tasks assigned him on the farm and as he grew older assisted in doing some of the clearing. During many years of active agricultural life he pursued farming and stock raising and success in these lines rewarded his industry. He has lived on his present place ever since his marriage, on October 1, 1868, to Miss Lavina Apple. She was born in Wayne township, Darke county, O., October 11, 1851, and is a daughter of George and Katie (Rocher) Apple, natives of Montgomery county, who moved to Darke county after marriage and there their nine children were born, six of whom survive.

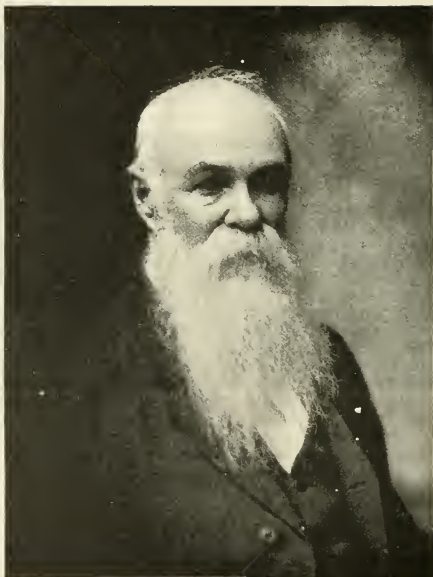
The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Apple: George Henry, who lives at West Alexander, O., married Amanda Loxley and they have one son, John; Isaiah, who lives at Sidney, married Ida Routson and they have the following children: Agnes, Eden, Ivan, Chalmer, Delmer, Lavina, Reuben and Lulu; Mary Catherine, who is the wife of Louis Brown, residing in Darke county and they have three children: Silva, and Inez and Ivan, twins; a twin sister of Mary, who is deceased; and Perry, who lives on and operates his father's 100-acre farm, married Christina Reed and they have two children—Bertha and Treva. Mr. Apple and wife are members of the Lutheran church. Politically he is a democrat and on numerous occasions has been elected to township offices, serving six years as township trustee and several years as school director and as road supervisor.

H. H. APPLE, who is one of Loramie township's most respected citizens and able men, for a number of years serving most acceptably as township clerk and also on the board of education, belongs to an old and substantial family that was established in Shelby county, O., by his grandfather, John Apple. He was born on his present farm in Loramie township, where he has ninety-five acres, November 2, 1861, and is a son of Jacob S. and Sarah E. (Creager) Apple.

Jacob S. Apple was born in Montgomery county, O., and was fifteen years old when he came to Loramie township, Shelby county. Here he subsequently secured 160 acres of land for \$500, and on this he cut the first tree and erected a pioneer cabin for a home. He cleared his land and as it required draining he at first used oak timbers for pipes but later put down tile and his soil became mellow and productive. He became a man of ample means and his fellow citizens recognized his sterling character, electing him to offices of trust and responsibility. He served as township trustee and township treasurer and also was a member of the school board and was universally esteemed for his honesty and consulted in important matters as a tribute to his good judgment. He became an extensive farmer and also was a successful dealer in







WILLIAM A. RUSSELL

horses. At the time of death, in 1902, when aged sixty-seven years, he owned three farms, aggregating 320 acres and had previously sold two eighty-acre tracts of land in this township and bought 160 in Kansas and later another 160 there. He was a staunch democrat and the success of his party was always a matter of pleasure to him as long as he lived. He married Sarah E. Creager, who was born also in Montgomery county, O., where her father, William Creager, died before she came to Shelby county. Three sons were born to this marriage: John W., who lives in Missouri; H. H.; and G. E., who lives in the old home in Loramie township.

H. H. Apple and his brothers all attended the Beech Grove school in boyhood and later he and his brother, G. E. were students in the Ohio Normal School at Ada, O., following which H. H. Apple taught two terms of school in his native township. After his first marriage he settled on the east ninety-five acres of the homestead and has made all the improvements here with the exception of building the residence, his father having completed that. All his land is in excellent condition and all under cultivation with the exception of twenty-five acres which is valuable as a wood lot.

H. H. Apple married Miss Carrie Allgire, who was born in Franklin county, O., and died in Loramie township, Shelby county, June 23, 1891, aged twenty-six years. She was a member of the Christian church at Houston, where her burial took place. Her parents were Henry H. Allgire and wife, formerly of Franklin county and later of Loramie township. One daughter was born to this marriage, Bertha, who is the wife of W. E. Baumgardner, a business man of Russia, O. In 1893, Mr. Apple was married (second) to Miss Florence Cook, who was born in Montgomery county, O., a daughter of Ezra Cook, and five children have been born, two of whom, Ada and Roy, the oldest and the youngest, are now deceased. Edgar W., Arthur F. and Clifford L. all survive. Mr. Apple and family belong to the Lutheran church at Bloomer.

The Apple family in Shelby county has been notably devoted to the Lutheran church and no less so to the democratic party and H. H. Apple has upheld family tradition and custom. On the democratic ticket he was first elected township clerk of Loramie township, in 1887 and served until 1891, when he was appointed clerk for J. H. Cruse in June, 1906, served that term, and in January, 1907, was elected clerk and served in the office until January, 1912. Fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Pythias at Versailles, O., and is a member of the D. H. T. Association, of which he is also secretary.

WILLIAM A. RUSSELL for many years has been a representative man in Shelby county, O., teacher, farmer, stock raiser and public official and is well known, particularly in Clinton and Turtle Creek townships, and in the former of which he owns twenty-seven acres of good land and in the latter has 297 acres. He was born here March 30, 1837, and is a son of Joshua and Jane (McClure) Russell.

Joshua Russell and wife were born in Virginia and after coming to Ohio he engaged during all his active life in farming and stock raising.

He was one of the leading members and liberal supporters of the Presbyterian church. His children were as follows: William A.; Moses James; Cyrus H.; John A.; Mary J., who married Adam Russell; Margaret E., who is deceased; and Martha E., who married William E. Russell.

William A. Russell attended the district schools and afterward taught school very acceptably for six years and many of his old pupils have lived to reflect credit on him. He then turned his attention to farming and stock raising and these industries he successfully followed for many years. In his political views he is a Republican and at different times he has been chosen for important political offices in the township and has served as land appraiser of Turtle Creek township and through two terms was treasurer of that township.

Mr. Russell was married in September, 1865, to Miss Laura A. Beck, who is a daughter of Edward Beck of Turtle Creek township. Her one sister, Martha E., is the wife of James Russell, brother of William A. Russell. To William A. Russell and wife the following children were born, all of whom are prominent socially and otherwise. Edward J., who formerly represented this district in the state senate; Jennie; Cora, who is now deceased, was the wife of Edison Richards; Nathan A., who is in the leather business at Sidney, O.; Chester B., who is connected with a western business house; Nettie, who is a trained nurse, now at Minneapolis, Minn.; and Maude, who is an educator connected with the schools of Cincinnati, O. The family attends the Presbyterian church.

H. W. APPLE, who is one of the representative citizens of Loramie township, Shelby county, O., interested in all important matters in his community and especially concerned in educational advancement, resides on the old family homestead of 175 acres, all improved with the exception of about twenty acres yet in valuable timber. He was born on this farm on August 16, 1868, and is a son of George Hiram and Elizabeth (Apple) Apple.

George Hiram Apple was born one mile west of the above farm, also in Loramie township, August 29, 1846, a son of Henry S. and Catherine (Gebhart) Apple. Henry S. Apple was born in Montgomery county, O., and was reared there and married into a neighboring family, Miss Catherine Gebhart becoming his wife and subsequently the mother of their six children, namely: Peggy (Elizabeth), who became the wife of William Routson, residing near Rangeville, in Miami county; Hiram S.; Jacob J., who was a twin of Hiram S.; Henry A., who married Kate Mader and lived in Loramie township; Louisa, who became the wife of David Kaiser, residing in Loramie township; and Lavina, who is deceased, was the wife of David Fessler, of Miami county. After marriage, Henry S. Apple and wife moved to what was then a wild region, Loramie township, in Shelby county and settled in the woods, securing 160 acres of virgin land. Here he cleared off enough for a home site and afterward replaced the first log structure with what was probably the first brick house ever built in this township, the bricks for the same being made on his farm. Here his death occurred at the age of sixty-five years, five

months and six days, and his burial was at Covington. His wife lived to the age of seventy-two years. They were early members and liberal supporters of the Evangelical Lutheran church at Bloomer, O. George Hiram Apple became a farmer and thresher as his father had been and developed into a man of like sterling character. He continued the clearing of the land which his father had commenced and made many improvements on the place and spent his life here, his death occurring at the age of fifty-five years. He was a most worthy member of the Lutheran church and his resting place is in the church cemetery at Covington. He married Elizabeth Apple, a daughter of Enoch Apple, of Montgomery county, O., and she survives, being now in her sixtieth year, a resident of Indiana. Two of the family of six children are deceased, twin sons, the youngest born, the survivors being: H. W.; Catherine, who is the wife of John Ortman, of Loramie township; Alice, who is the wife of William Shock, of North Manchester, Ind.; and J. V., who is a resident of Dayton, O.

H. W. Apple has spent his life in this section of Shelby county and hence is well known and, like all the Apple family, he is held in respect and esteem. He attended school in the Beech Grove Special School District of which, in mature life, he became a valued official and at present is in his fifth year as a member of its board of education and has already served both as president and as vice president of this important body. When he came into possession of the homestead it had already been cleared and while he has never ceased making improvements of some kind, he had no great burden of this nature placed on him when he started out for himself. Immediately after marriage he lived on land situated directly across from the homestead which he sold prior to purchasing this farm, which is situated five and one-half miles north of Covington. In addition to engaging in a general farming line, Mr. Apple raises and deals in cattle and draft horses. His business interests are largely agricultural and he is numbered with the judicious and prosperous business men of this section.

Mr. Apple married Miss Corda Grise, who was born in Darke county, O., a daughter of Peter and Margaret Grise. The father of Mrs. Apple, who is now deceased, at one time was the largest landowner in Darke county. When he died, at the age of eighty-three years, he left the sum of ninety thousand dollars to his family, together with eleven highly improved farms. All this wealth he accumulated himself, being a shrewd financier and a man of unceasing industry during all his active life. His burial was at Gettysburg, O. He was a native of Montgomery county but his first wife, Matilda Wyison, was a native of Darke county, as was also his second wife, Margaret Mann. The latter survives and resides at Gettysburg, O., where Mr. Grise, in his later years, owned the First National Bank. Both wives were the mothers of twelve children and of the two families there are seventeen children still living, Mrs. Apple being one of the heirs to her father's very large estate.

Mr. and Mrs. Apple have had four children: Clarence, Ralph, Martha and Orville, the last named being now deceased, having been accidentally

drowned when aged six years. Mr. Apple and family belong to the Lutheran church. In politics Mr. Apple has been a lifelong democrat and at times has consented to serve in township offices, especially on the school board, and has also been turnpike superintendent.

H. W. CAVEN, one of the best known citizens of Orange township, Shelby county, O., now serving in his second term as township trustee, resides on his mother's farm of 100 acres, which lies six miles southeast of Sidney, and here he was born in 1877.

James M. Caven, father of H. W. Caven, was born in Miami county, O., three miles south of the present farm of the family, and after reaching manhood engaged there in farming until 1874, when he came to Orange township, purchasing 100 acres of land and cultivating and improving it until 1904, when he retired and then moved to Fletcher, O., where his death occurred in 1908, when he was aged seventy-three years. He had put the farm in fine condition, erecting all the buildings which now stand except the residence, which he remodeled. He married Annetta S. Sayers, who was born in Miami county and is now a highly esteemed resident of Fletcher. They had four children, namely: William M., who lives in Green township; James S., who is a resident of Miami county; H. W.; and Mrs. Bertha M. Wyatt, who lives at Detroit, Mich.

H. W. Caven attended the public schools of Orange township and afterward a business college at Piqua, O., being thus well prepared for other lines of activity than agriculture, but farming and stock raising perfectly satisfies him and he makes a success of the business, taking care of the home farm for his mother. Grain, hay, fruits and other products are raised and Mr. Caven usually has some as excellent stock as is found in the township.

On March 11, 1903, Mr. Caven married Miss Lottie E. Fergus, who was born in 1878, on a farm west of Kirkwood, in Shelby county, O. She is a daughter of T. H. and Mary (Valentine) Fergus, one of a family of four children, the others being: Frank P., Leonard C. and Mrs. Olive Knox, the latter of Dayton, O. Mr. and Mrs. Caven have three children: Frances S., who was born April 20, 1905; Vertus V., who was born August 20, 1908; and Kathryn Lois, who was born September 15, 1911.

In his views on public questions, Mr. Caven has always been a democrat, and his party standing and the place he occupies in the regard of his fellow citizens, may be indicated by the fact that since he was elected township trustee in 1909, he has been continued in office.

PETER PAULUS, who is one of the leading men of Loramie township, a successful farmer and for eight years a member of the school board of the Huffman Special School District, lives on the north side of the east and west road, where he owns eighty-two and one-half acres of excellent land. He was born one and one-half miles north of Frenchtown in Wayne township, Darke county, O., February 29, 1872, and is a son of John and Lena Paulus.

Peter Paulus attended the public schools of Wayne township and after-

ward learned the carpenter trade and then went into the threshing business which he followed for eleven years in Shelby county after having successfully followed the business for five years in Darke county. He then purchased his present farm, all of which with the exception of ten acres of woodland, he has drained and tiled, fenced and otherwise improved, and here carries on general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Paulus married Miss Elizabeth Francis, who was born in Loramie township, a daughter of Stephen and Catherine (Pepiot) Francis, who reside in the Francis Special School District. Mr. and Mrs. Paulus have had children as follows: Catherine, Lawrence, Thomas, Stephen John, deceased, Stephen, Martha and Christine. The children have enjoyed excellent school advantages as their father has always believed in general education. They give great promise as to future usefulness. Mr. Paulus has been a lifelong democrat and several times has been elected to important township offices by his party and has served most acceptably as supervisor and road superintendent. With his family he belongs to the Roman Catholic church at Russia, O.

HENRY F. SHERMAN, president of the board of education of the Turner Special School District in Cynthian township, is a prominent farmer, owning 100 acres of fine land situated in section 27, all of which, with the exception of ten acres of woodland, he has under cultivation. Mr. Sherman was born in McLean township, Shelby county, March 30, 1868; and is a son of Joseph and Mary (Rottinghaus) Sherman.

Joseph Sherman was born in Germany October 22, 1816, and was sixteen years old when his parents came to the United States and settled in Shelby county, O., locating in McLean township. There he grew to manhood and married Elizabeth Gehr, of Minster, O., and of the ten children born to that marriage there is but one survivor, a resident of Troy, O. His second marriage was to Mary Rottinghaus and of the ten children born to this union there are five survivors, namely: Elizabeth, wife of John Zimmerman; John, residing in Cynthian township; Henry F.; Frank, residing in Cynthian township; and Annie, wife of Frank Turner of Cynthian township. Mr. Sherman owned a farm of 150 acres and there passed the larger part of his life, his death occurring in his seventy-seventh year. His second wife lived to be thirty-eight years of age. They were faithful members of St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort Loramie. During many years he was elected to township offices on the democratic ticket and was known to be an upright, honorable man.

Henry F. Sherman continued on the home farm for three years after his father's death and then sold his interest and since his marriage has lived on his present farm in Cynthian township. Through his own efforts this place has been brought to its fine condition as to productiveness and improvements, including a complete system of drainage and tiling. He raises both grain and stock, using his corn for feeding purposes but selling wheat and oats, his land producing more than the average in grain.

Mr. Sherman married Miss Lucy Gaier, who was born in McLean town-

ship, and they have the following children: William, Emma, Edward, Leo, August and Ida. Mr. Sherman and family are members of St. Peter and St. Paul's church, at Newport, O., of which he was warden for four years. In politics Mr. Sherman is a democrat. For four years he was one of the trustees of Cynthian township and during two years of that period was president of the board, while he has been president of the board of education of the Turner Special School District for about six years.

T. C. SKILLEN, who is a representative citizen of Loramie township and for three years treasurer of the board of education of the Houston Special School District, resides on his valuable farm of 140 acres, eighty of which lies in the Oran Special School District, and an additional thirty-seven acres of fine woodland. He was born in Loramie township, Shelby county, O., December 19, 1850, and is a son of Thomas Skillen and a grandson of William Skillen.

Thomas Skillen was born in Westmoreland county, Pa., and he accompanied his parents and several other families to Ohio, a part of the journey being made on rafts on the Ohio river. They all finally settled in Loramie township and here William Skillen reared a large family of children, one of whom subsequently became a probate judge. Thomas Skillen was married three times, his second wife, Amanda Griffis, being the mother of but two children: T. C. and Oran, who died in infancy. The mother died when aged thirty-seven years, T. C. being then aged eighteen months. Both parents were members of the Presbyterian church. Thomas Skillen was born in 1815 and died in 1900, his burial being at Houston, O.

T. C. Skillen was reared in Loramie township and attended the public schools, which have always been better conducted and supported here than in many sections, and afterward found farm duties awaiting him. He has followed agricultural pursuits all his life and since his marriage has lived continuously at Dawson.

Mr. Skillen married Miss California M. Cox, who was born in San Joaquin county, California, a daughter of I. S. and Catherine Cox, both of whom died in Loramie township. Mr. and Mrs. Skillen have but one surviving child, Theodore Benson, who is a bright pupil in the public school. Others died in childhood, Thomas, Forest S. and Pearl LeRoy. Mr. and Mrs. Skillen are members of the Presbyterian church at Dawson, in which he is an elder and also a member of the board of trustees. In his later years the father of Mr. Skillen was a republican and the latter belongs to the progressive wing of the party. He served eleven years as a notary public, and, as indicated above, has taken a deep interest in educational matters. Mr. Skillen as a citizen is held in high esteem and commands the respect of his fellow citizens by those evidences of a sterling character which Americans are proud to claim as a national characteristic.

LEVI D. FESSLER, who is one of the leading citizens of Loramie township, Shelby county, O., for many years has been especially interested in the



public schools and their advancement, and is a general farmer, his forty acres of well-improved land lying one mile north of the Miami and Shelby county line and nine miles from the city of Piqua, O. Mr. Fessler was born on this farm, August 28, 1862, and is a son of John J. and Catherine (Ganger) Fessler.

John J. Fessler was born in Baden, Germany, February 21, 1825, and was twenty-one years old when he accompanied his widowed mother, Salome Fessler, to America. His father died in Germany leaving ten children, the eldest of whom, George Fessler, was the first of the family to cross the Atlantic ocean and begin life in the United States. When the mother and nine children followed they all lived at Cincinnati, O., for a time, while they sought a desirable section in which to settle permanently, finally selecting eighty acres in Loramie township, Shelby county, forty acres of which Levi D. Fessler now owns. They were among the pioneers when they came here, very little clearing having been done in the township and neighbors were few. They went through all the hardships of pioneer life but never parted with their land and each year made it more valuable.

John J. Fessler married Catherine Ganger, who was born in Montgomery county, O., April 1, 1831, and her death occurred January 10, 1895, and her burial was in the Bloomer cemetery in Miami county, and by her side her husband was laid five years later, his death taking place in March, 1900, his age being seventy-five years, one month and seven days. They were members and conscientious supporters of the Lutheran church. Politically he was a democrat and on two occasions was elected a trustee of Loramie township and served with fairness and honesty. They settled in Loramie township and here their children were reared as follows: Margaret, Mary, Barbara and Catherine, all of whom are now deceased; Louisa, who lives in Cynthian township; John, who is a resident of Elkhart, Ind.; Jacob, who is in business at Piqua; Levi D.; William, who also lives at Piqua; and Minnie, who is the wife of J. H. Fritz, of Loramie township.

Levi D. Fessler attended the district schools and remained on the home farm and took care of his parents until they passed away and then purchased the south forty acres of the homestead. Since then he has greatly improved his property and all the substantial buildings here were erected by him and all other improvements made. Like his father he has always been a democrat and has taken a good citizen's interest in township affairs and has felt especially responsible concerning the permanence and efficiency of the public schools, serving for seven years as clerk of the board of education of the Beech Grove Special School District. He served three terms as assessor of Loramie township and for four years as a trustee, during the second two years being president of the board.

On June 5, 1892, Mr. Fessler was married to Miss Barbara Elizabeth Wehneman, who was born in Loramie township, April 2, 1864, a daughter of John H. and Ann Elizabeth Wehneman, and they have five children: Clarence Ferdinand, Mabel Ruth, Alice Pearl, Ruby Leona and Clissie Marie. These children are all bright students in the same school their father attended. The family belongs to the Lutheran church.

GEORGE N. FRANCIS, one of the enterprising young agriculturists of Loramie township, where he works eighty acres of well improved land, owned by his father, has spent his life in his native county and belongs to a well known family here. He was born at Russia, Shelby county, January 13, 1883, and is a son of Celestine and Rosalie (Cordonnier) Francis, who are residents of Russia, O.

After his school days were over, George N. Francis learned the carpenter trade at which he worked throughout Shelby county, living at Russia from 1908 until 1911, when he put aside his tools with which he had proved himself very skillful, and since then has been engaged in general farming and has all this land under cultivation with the exception of twelve acres still in timber. Mr. Francis is a democrat in politics and is one of the leading and active citizens of his township. Since January, 1912, he has been clerk of Loramie township and also a notary public, and for two years has been clerk of the Russia Special School District.

On June 2, 1908, Mr. Francis was married to Miss Leontine Monnin, a daughter of Justin and Emelia (Millet) Monnin, and they have three children: Lyndon, Yvonne and Linus. Mr. Francis and wife are members of the Catholic church at Russia. Until the order of Knights of St. John was discontinued at Russia, Mr. Francis was secretary of the organization.

CHARLES A. WOLAVER, president of the board of trustees of Loramie township, is a well known resident of Houston, O., where he follows the carpenter trade, his pleasant home and comfortable residence being situated on the east side of the Piqua and St. Mary's turnpike road. He was born two miles west of Newport, O., in Cynthian township, Shelby county, February 9, 1863, and is a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Dunn) Wolaver.

Henry Wolaver died on his farm in Loramie township, when in his fifty-fifth year and was laid to rest in the cemetery of the Christian church, being a member of that religious body. He married Elizabeth Dunn, who was born in Loramie township and still resides on her farm there, her son, John R., carrying on the farm industries. To Henry and Elizabeth Wolaver four children were born: Charles A., John R., William H. and Laura A., who is the wife of Henry Wick.

Charles A. Wolaver was educated in the schools of Cynthian and Loramie townships, and since 1882 has been a permanent resident of the latter township, where he has farm interests. Since February, 1912, he has occupied his present home. For the past two years he has been president of the Farmers Elevator Company, of Houston, of which he is a director and was one of the founders, and for the past three years he has been agent for one of the latest improved cream separators, an indispensable article for dairymen.

On December 27, 1890, Mr. Wolaver was married to Miss Annie E. Cromes, who was born in Miami county, O., June 30, 1869, and is a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Cromes, both of whom are now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Wolaver three children were born: Forrest Raymond, a resident of Houston, who married Florence E. Flavert; Arthur Emerson, who is in the

Houston high school as a student; and Walter Elwood, who attends the public schools. Mr. Wolaver has been a lifelong democrat, as was his father, and is now serving in his second year as a member of the township board of trustees, having been president of this body since January, 1912. He is recognized as one of the reliable men of Loramie township, ever ready to perform any public duty and honest and efficient in whatever he attempts, whether in business or as a public official.

B. S. CECIL, who is a well known citizen of Dawson, where he is engaged in the blacksmith business, is a native of Shelby county, born at Oran, O., a son of E. R. and Sarah (Whitney) Cecil. The father died in Cynthian township at the age of forty-four years and the mother died when aged thirty years. They had five children, three of whom are deceased, the two survivors living in Shelby county. The father was a veteran of the Civil war and his record was that of a brave man.

B. S. Cecil celebrated his forty-fifth birthday on October 5, 1912. He was reared on the home farm and obtained his education in Cynthian township and at Oran and in early manhood engaged in farming but later learned the blacksmith trade and has been established in his own shop at Dawson for the past sixteen years. He is known as an excellent workman and there is never a time when he is not busy. He not only does blacksmith work but all kinds of repairing.

Mr. Cecil married Mrs. Florence Louella (Cornell) Mills, widow of Charles Mills, and they have had the following children: Goldie May, deceased; Albert E., Lester C., Clifford L., and Murrey Leo, deceased. Mr. Cecil belongs to the independent wing of the republican party but has never been willing to accept any office other than membership on the school board, for the past four years having been president of the Houston Special School District of Loramie township. He is one of the town's sturdy and reliable citizens and is held in general esteem.

GEORGE W. FOSTER, a prosperous agriculturist and representative citizen of Loramie township, resides one and one-quarter mile south of Houston, O., on the Piqua and St. Mary's turnpike road, where he owns 120 acres of fine land, was born February 28, 1860, at Canton, O., and is a son of John H. and Augusta Foster.

John H. Foster and wife were born in Germany and when they first reached the United States, settled at Wheeling, W. Va., and in a short time came to Canton, O., and in 1863 to Piqua, from which city, in 1870, they came to Loramie township, where they passed the rest of their lives. They were members of the Brethren church at Piqua. John H. Foster died when aged fifty-nine years and his wife when ten years older and their burial was at Houston. They were parents of five sons and one daughter and four of the sons survive.

George W. Foster attended the public schools of Piqua and in the Beech Grove District in Loramie township. Afterward he became a farmer and

lived five years in Washington township prior to his marriage, and twelve years afterward, and then came to his present farm in Loramie township. When he settled here his land was covered with brush and thickets and it required much hard toil and a considerable expenditure of money to clear, cultivate and drain, and to place the many substantial improvements here. Farming and stock raising employ Mr. Foster's attention, his two youngest sons now assuming many of the heaviest responsibilities.

Mr. Foster married Miss Anna Snavely, who was born in Washington township, a daughter of the late Washington Snavely, and they have three children: Theda B., who married E. H. Billing, of Swanders, O.; and Guy E. and Marion O. Mr. Foster and family are members of the Presbyterian church at Mt. Jefferson, in which he is an elder and is also church treasurer and a trustee. He is a republican in politics.

HENRY ACHBACH, whose well cultivated farm of forty acres lies in section 22, Cynthian township, Shelby county, O., was born on this farm, November 5, 1865, and is a son of George and Louisa (Seing) Achbach.

The parents of Mr. Achbach were born in Germany, were reared and educated there and were married two years before coming to America. When they reached the United States they located on land in Kentucky, it being the intention of George Achbach to follow farming, but conditions did not satisfy them where they first settled and they then moved to Patterson township in Darke county, O. Afterward they came on into Shelby county and here Mr. Achbach secured the present home farm, three acres of which had been cleared and a log cabin erected. Very soon afterward he erected a better log house and with the help of his sons as they grew old enough, succeeded in entirely clearing the land, keeping four acres as a wood lot. This land has been put into fine condition through proper draining and tiling and would command a high price if put on the market. On this farm George Achbach died at the age of fifty-eight years, having led a very laborious life. His widow survived to the age of eighty-four years and both were interred in the Lutheran cemetery. During the Civil war he was a brave soldier, serving for three years and three months, and, although ever at the post of duty, escaped all injury. George Achbach and wife had seven children, namely: Charles, who was born in Germany; Mary, who is deceased, was the wife of John Stifel; and Julius, Caroline, Annie, Henry and Amanda.

Henry Achbach attended school in the Grisey Special School District and afterward engaged in farming, working the home place and also renting an adjoining farm. For the past six years he has lived continuously on this farm, carrying on a general agricultural line, but for nine years previously he worked in the spoke factory at St. Mary's. He married Miss Mary Hecht, who was born in Patterson township, Darke county, O., a daughter of Henry and Pauline Hecht, the former of whom is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Achbach have six children: William, who was born in Cynthian township; Clara, Anna and Clarence, all of whom were born at St. Mary's; Elizabeth and Ethel, who were born on the present home farm. Mr. Achbach and fam-





P. O. STOCKSTILL

ily belong to the Lutheran church. He is a democrat in politics and is happy to have his neighbors agree with him on public questions but he has never been willing to serve in any office except as a member of the board of education, to which he was elected in January, 1911.

P. O. STOCKSTILL, one of the progressive agriculturists of Orange township, Shelby county, O., whose valuable and well improved farm of eighty acres is situated two miles southeast of Sidney, was born where he now lives, in 1867, and is a son of Thomas and a grandson of Elias Stockstill, who was one of the pioneers in Shelby county, coming at a very early day from near Midway, in Miami county, where possibly he was born. He settled near Maplewood, in Shelby county, and he and wife died here. They were solid, reliable people and their descendants have reflected credit on them to the present day.

Thomas Stockstill was born on his father's farm near Maplewood in Shelby county, and in manhood moved to Orange township, where he carried on general farming for many years and then retired to Sidney, but still owns two valuable tracts of land, one of eighty acres and a second one of thirty acres. He married Martha Mitchell, who passed away about 1906, the mother of eleven children, nine of whom are yet living.

P. O. Stockstill was reared and educated in Orange township. When prepared to go into business on his own account he purchased a part of the old homestead from his father, paying \$10,000 for this eighty-acre tract. He has improved the same since it came into his possession, having rented it for ten years previously, and here carries on farming and stock raising according to scientific methods and has one of the most productive farms in this section of the county.

Mr. Stockstill married Miss Estella Fergus, who was born in Shelby county, and a family of seven children has been born to them, namely: Ethel, Martha, Clem, Joseph, Blanche, Robert and Roger. The eldest daughter married Earl Applegate, who is a well known educator in this county, and they have one son, Ralph. Mr. Stockstill and family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church at Sidney, of which he is a trustee. Not only is Mr. Stockstill a progressive farmer but he is also a progressive citizen, wide awake to public questions and having sensible and convincing opinions of his own. For fourteen years he has been a member of the township school board and at present is serving most acceptably in the office of justice of the peace. For the past twenty-two years he has been identified with the Odd Fellows and belongs also to the Red Men.

LOUIS P. RATERMANN, who carries on general farming and stock-raising on the old Ratermann homestead, consisting of seventy-three acres situated in section 8, St. Patrick Special School District, in McLean township, Shelby county, O., was born on this farm, April 5, 1880, and is a son of Henry and Sophia (Wehinger) Ratermann.

The Ratermann family originated in Germany and the first of those to

come from Hanover was John Henry Bernard Ratermann, who was accompanied by his wife, Anna Maria Ratermann, and their one son, Ferdinand. They settled in McLean township, Shelby county, O., southeast of Fort Loramie, and there the other children were born, namely: Henry; Philip, who formerly was county surveyor of Shelby county; Bernard, a school-teacher who died at the age of twenty-three years; and Joseph, who is a resident of Sidney, each son receiving the gift of a farm from his father. The latter was one of the pioneers of St. Michael's Catholic church and in early days baptisms and other church offices were frequently performed in his dwelling. He died at the age of sixty-seven, his wife surviving him by nine months.

Henry Ratermann was reared on the old farm and has heard his father say that when he settled there but one house had been built in what is now the busy and important town of Fort Loramie. He attended the Berlin district school and afterward continued his studies alone, purchasing books so that he could advance farther in general knowledge. After his marriage Henry Ratermann settled on the farm now occupied by his youngest son, clearing the land and making improvements and on that place his death occurred in 1881, at the age of forty-six years. Like his father before him he was a democrat and all his life he was a worthy member of St. Michael's church. On June 4, 1867, Mr. Ratermann was married to Miss Sophia Wehinger, who was born in Wuertenberg, Germany, April 14, 1849, and was five years old when her parents, August and Frances (Rupprecht) Wehinger brought her to America. They lived for some time at Fort Loramie, O., and then moved to a small farm west of the town, and there the mother of Mrs. Ratermann died when aged forty-five and her father when aged forty-nine years. They were parents of five children; all reared in the Catholic church; Rosa, who is deceased; Hilda, who is a resident of St. Patrick; Madeline, who is deceased; Sophia; and Anton, who lives at Mansfield, O.

To Henry Ratermann and wife the following children were born: William, who died at the age of twenty-seven years, married Elizabeth Gerling and left one daughter, Wilhelmina, who lives with her grandmother; John Bernard, who lives at Sidney, married Catherine Zimmerman and they have six children—Henrietta, Jerome, Catherine, Hilda, William and Francis; Adolph, who is in the banking business at Fort Loramie; Anna, who is a competent stenographer employed at San Francisco; Frank, who is a physician at Fort Loramie; and Louis P. After the death of her husband Mrs. Ratermann remained on the farm as her sons were able to carry on its industries while she became a school teacher. For eleven years she continued to teach the St. Patrick public school, retiring from educational work and resuming domestic duties in 1895. In 1906 she took charge of her son Adolph's home at Fort Loramie. She was much beloved as a teacher, being of pleasing manner and of intellectual strength, perfectly capable in the line of work she followed for more than a decade. It is worthy of mention that she was teaching at the same time that three of her sons were also so engaged, these being Frank, Bernard and Adolph. Mrs. Ratermann has a wide and pleasant social



circle at Ft. Loramie, and is an earnest member of St. Michael's Catholic church.

Louis P. Ratermann received his education at St. Patrick's district school and afterward took charge of the home farm and has continued to successfully conduct it, keeping up the improvements and raising satisfactory crops and cattle. He married Miss Anna Hoying, who is a daughter of Anthony Hoying, a farmer in Turtle Creek township. They have three children: Mary, Henry and Ludowicka. With his family Mr. Ratermann belongs to St. Patrick's Catholic church. He is a democrat in politics and takes a hearty interest in public matters but is filling no office, finding his business important enough to take up all his time.

GEORGE M. BAKER, who owns and operates the old Baker homestead of eighty-eight acres, situated in Washington township, Shelby county, O., was born on this farm in 1875 and is a son of Ephraim and Nancy (Cain) Baker.

Ephraim Baker was born also in Shelby county and spent forty-four years of his life on the above mentioned farm, doing the larger part of the clearing. In addition to farming and stock raising, he also worked at the ice business for a time. His death occurred here in his seventy-fourth year. He married Nancy Cain, who came from West Virginia and they had the following children: Junie, Mrs. Flora Saunders, Albert, Leo, Franklin, George M., Mrs. Peter Higgins and M. L., the last named being a resident of North Dakota. The four survivors of the family include George M. and M. L. and Mrs. Saunders and Mrs. Higgins;

After his school days were over Mr. Baker was engaged in a grocery business for some ten years. In 1908 he decided to turn his attention to farming and with this end in view bought the interests of the other heirs in the homestead and since then has been successfully carrying on general farming and stock raising, cultivating his own land and an adjoining eighty acres.

Mr. Baker married Miss Adelle Filler and they have two children: William and Alfred. Mr. Baker and family are members of the United Brethren church at Lockington, O. Politically he is a republican and fraternally he is identified with the Odd Fellows at Kirkwood and belongs to the Encampment at Sidney.

JOHN BORGER, a retired farmer of McLean township, also president of the board of Berlin school district, was born in McLean township, this county, May 15, 1858. His father Christopher Borger, came to America from Germany when a single man and after arriving here found employment on various public works. He married in Cincinnati and from that town moved with his wife by horse and wagon to Shelby county, stopping at a farm north of the present family homestead. He then purchased eighty acres of land at \$2.50 per acre, which he registered at the land office at Chillicothe, O., walking there and back. This land is now owned by his son, J. Bernard Borger. His entire subsequent holdings included tracts of 120, 160, 80, 107 and 80

acres, which are now divided among his children. He died at the age of sixty-four years. He was a member of St. Michael's Catholic church. Though not active in politics, he always took an intelligent and useful interest in local affairs. His wife died at the age of seventy-five years. She was a native of the same town in Germany as himself. They had five children, namely: Catherine, deceased, who was the wife of Joseph Tepe of Cincinnati; Henry, now deceased, who was twice married, his second wife being Rosa Sherman; J. Bernard, who is a farmer in McLean township, married Johanna, daughter of W. J. Scherman; Mary, deceased, who was the wife of John Branlage; and John, who resides at Ft. Loramie, this county, and who married Maria Sherman, daughter of W. J. Sherman.

John Borger received his schooling in McLean township, Shelby county, O. From the age of seventeen he resided at Fort Loramie with his mother, working on a farm, but about six years later began the business of buying and selling live stock, and continued until the year 1900, when he retired from that occupation and was later occupied with agricultural matters, and farming during this time residing at Fort Loramie. He married Mary Sherman, a daughter of William J. Sherman of Fort Loramie, O., and their children have been as follows: Gertrude and Amelia, both unmarried; John, who died at the age of sixteen years; Peter, who died when two months old; Paul, who is unmarried; Teresa, Mary and Carl.

Mr. Borger owns 200 acres in McLean township and has cleared all of one of the farms into which this land is divided, except twenty acres, on this farm being now engaged in draining and tiling. On the other farm, eighty acres have been drained and tiled, ten acres being left in woodland. On each farm is a good set of buildings. Both farms are located on the turnpike about one and a half or two miles east of Fort Loramie, in McLean township. Mr. Borger is a member of St. Michael's Catholic church. In politics he has been a life long democrat. He has served as president of the board of education for twenty years and has also served a number of years as member of the town council. His residence is on South Main street, on the east side of the canal, at Fort Loramie, and in this neighborhood he has numerous warm friends and agreeable acquaintances.

PERCY R. TAYLOR, attorney at law and a representative citizen of Sidney, O., was born in the great city of Birmingham, England, January 8, 1872, and is a son of F. D. and Catherine (Campbell) Taylor.

F. D. Taylor was born in England and became a mining and civil engineer and in a professional capacity came to Canada and while there was married. Afterward he went back to England but subsequently returned to Canada, where his wife died in March, 1888, he surviving until 1895. They had four children: Percy Radcliffe; Nora, who is the wife of Charles Price Green, of Toronto, Canada; Claud, who is manager of a branch of the Union Bank of New Liskeard, Canada; and Naomi, who is the wife of Gordon McCullough, of Toronto.

Percy Radcliffe Taylor was the second born in the above family and dur-

ing two years of early life, lived in Switzerland. He was ten years old when the family came from England to Toronto and up to the age of thirteen years he was instructed by a governess in his home. He then spent one year in the public schools of Ontario and for two years was a student at Bishop's College, at Lenoxville, province of Quebec, completing his high course there. His first business experience was as a bookkeeper for a contracting firm for the Canadian Pacific Railroad. On July 4, 1892, he came to Sidney, O., where he accepted a position as reporter on the old Sidney Journal and remained with that publication until June, 1898, in August of the following year becoming editor of the Piqua Dispatch, at Piqua, O., and additionally, until April, 1900, was interested in the publishing of law books with the Lanning Publishing Company. Mr. Taylor then became proofreader for the Western Publishing Company at St. Paul, Minn., and continued until March, 1901, when he accepted a position as traveling salesman, his territory being Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia, and afterwards Ohio, and continued on the road until the fall of 1905. In the meanwhile he had utilized all his spare moments in the study of law and in 1903 he took the bar examination at Columbus, having been encouraged in this ambition by his wife, and passed very creditably and on September 1, 1905, opened his law office at Sidney, where he had already a wide circle of friends. On October 1, 1905, he reentered the employ of the Western Publishing Company and in one month organized a department for them and then returned to his professional work at Sidney, where he has resided ever since and has rapidly built up a practice. He is a member of the Shelby County Bar Association and has been active and energetic in furthering the interests of the Commercial Club at Sidney and served as its president from 1910 until 1911.

Mr. Taylor was married February 27, 1897, to Miss Dorothy Cary, of Sidney, and they have one daughter, Claribel, who was born October 12, 1906. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor attend the Episcopal church. Fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Pythias and the D. O. K. K. In politics he is a republican, and he stands high both as a citizen and as a member of the bar.

D. A. McKINSTRY, one of the successful farmers of Cynthian township, resides on the old McKinstry farm in section 26, which comprises eighty acres of well tiled, productive land situated seven miles from Sidney, O. He was born in Mifflin county, Pa., February 22, 1872, and is a son of David and Sarah (Hoover) McKinstry.

The parents of Mr. McKinstry were born in Pennsylvania and resided in Mifflin county until 1886, when they came to Shelby county, O., and purchased the present home farm in Cynthian township, on which they still reside, living somewhat retired. Their four children were all born in Pennsylvania, namely: Allen, Elizabeth, D. A. and Addie, D. A. being the only survivor. David McKinstry is a democrat in politics. He and wife are members of the Brethren church.

D. A. McKinstry was fourteen years of age when he accompanied his parents to Shelby county, and he completed his education here by attending school for one year afterward in Turtle Creek township. His time has been largely given to attending to the various farm industries. He is a staunch democrat and is willing to work for the success of his party but has never consented to fill any political office other than one connected with the public schools and for seven years he has been treasurer of the Forest special school district board of education. He and parents are widely known and all are held in esteem by their neighbors.

J. F. EMERT, justice of the peace and a prominent citizen of Cynthian township, is one of the best known insurance agents in Shelby county, is a large landowner and is also an honored veteran of the great Civil war. Mr. Emert was born in Loramie township, Shelby county, O., May 13, 1844, and is a son of Benjamin and Mary (Methard) Emert, both of whom passed away on the old home farm in Loramie township.

On both paternal and maternal sides, J. F. Emert can trace his ancestry to the original home in Germany. On the maternal side, the great-great-grandparents emigrated from Germany early in the seventeenth century and settled at Frederick, Md. There Bartholemew Booher and his wife Margaret, reared a family of fourteen children, the names of thirteen being preserved: Catherine, Daniel, Peter, Margaret, Bartholemew, Leah, Mathias, Rachel, Barbara, Elizabeth, Mary, Solomon and John. Frederick Fox, a great-grandfather, was born at Frederick, Md., May 10, 1751, married Catherine Booher, and they reared a family of seven children: Christeena, Rosine, Mary M., George, Daniel B., Joseph and Elizabeth. The maternal grandfather, George Methard, was born at Two Bricken, Germany, December 6, 1760 and emigrated to the United States and settled at Frederick, Md. He married Christeena Fox and they reared a family of six children: Jacob, George, Elizabeth, Catherine, Mary M. and Jonathan.

The paternal grandfather, Martin Emert, emigrated from Germany and settled in Berks county, Pa. He was a jeweler by trade. He married Catherine Knoop and they reared a family of four children: Benjamin, John, Catherine and Andrew. Benjamin Emert was born June 23, 1795 and was married January 25, 1831 to Mary M. Methard, and they were the parents of four children: Catherine, George, Benjamin and J. F. Emert. Among the ancestors of Mr. Emert were men who served with honor in the War of the Revolution.

J. F. Emert was reared and attended the district schools in his native township and afterward assisted his father on the home farm prior to enlisting for service in the Civil war. He was a member of Company F, Benton Cadets, Missouri Volunteer Infantry, and during this first enlistment was a member of General Fremont's body guards. His second enlistment was in Company B, 50th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in which he served two years and eleven months and participated in all its engagements, taking part in the great battle at Franklin, Tenn., and continued until he was honorably discharged

(serving three years in all) and escaping without injury although fifty per cent of the regiment was killed.

In 1875 Mr. Emert came to Cynthian township and here he married Miss Almira Blanchard, who was born and reared on an adjoining farm, a daughter of Eliphalet and Mary Jane (Penrod) Blanchard. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Emert: George I., Eliphalet, Martin, John, and Julian. Martin and Julian are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Emert are members of the Presbyterian church.

When Mr. Emert purchased the farm on which he lives, which is situated in section 33, Orange Special School District, Cynthian township, two and one-half miles southeast of Newport, O., it was wild land and he not only cleared it but has placed here all the present improvements, including substantial buildings. A fire destroyed his first barn but he quickly rebuilt it. Mr. Emert owns three separate farms aggregating 300 acres, and these lie in three townships, Cynthian, Loramie and Orange, all of this property being well improved. Mr. Emert no longer attends personally to the cultivation of his land, having all of it rented to good tenants. He is well known in insurance circles and has covered Shelby county in the interests of the Miami Mutual Fire Association and the Ohio State Tornado and Wind Storm Company. Politically he is a republican and for the past two years he has been a justice of the peace and for three years he served Cynthian township on its board of trustees.

S. J. BOOHER, a leading citizen of Washington township, Shelby county, O., a prominent republican and a substantial farmer, lives ten miles southwest of Sidney, O., where he owns a valuable farm containing seventy-one and one-half acres. He was born in 1859, in Washington township and is a son of George B. and Naomi (Pohlamus) Booher.

George B. Booher has been identified with Shelby county from an early day, followed farming activities all his life and became the owner of 600 acres of valuable land, his death occurring on his homestead in Washington township, his age being sixty-five years. He married Naomi Pohlamus, who died three years before her husband. Ten children were born to them, namely: Mrs. Emma Carpenter, Mrs. Lizzie Jones, S. J., George E., Mrs. Laura A. Everley, Mary K., William F., Charles E., Arthur B. and Floy J.

S. J. Booher has been engaged in farming ever since his school days ended, passing his first ten years on one of his father's farms. During three years he resided at Lockington, and then bought the Wilkinson place, afterward was interested in an elevator business at Lockington and in 1898 settled on his present farm in Washington township. He carries on general farming and raises stock and horses and specializes in poultry. In the poultry industry he has been well satisfied, his fancy fowls bringing him thirty premiums in the last Shelby county fair and sixteen prizes at the Troy fair.

Mr. Booher married Miss Helen Hoopes, who was born in Chester county, Pa., and they have one son, Dwight, who gives his father assistance. Mr. Booher and family attend the United Brethren church. He has been a leading

political factor for a number of years in this section and served several terms as township assessor and in 1890 was land appraiser. At present he is the candidate of the republican party for county commissioner, an office for which Mr. Booher is seemingly particularly well qualified.

JOSHUA FRANKLIN COLE, whose 160 acres of fine farming land lies in Turtle Creek township, belongs to one of the old pioneer families of Shelby county. He was born on this farm, which has been in the possession of the family since 1822, on March 24, 1865, and is a son of Broad and Rebecca (Stanley) Cole, and a grandson of Joshua Cole.

Joshua Cole was born near Baltimore, Md., July 3, 1789, a son of Broad Cole. While yet young his father settled in Kentucky, where he remained until 1798, then moved to Ohio, locating first in Fairfield county but later removing to Pickaway county and there Joshua grew to manhood. On February 7, 1811, he married Susannah, daughter of Daniel and Rachel Ranier, then residing in Pickaway county but a native of New Jersey, where she was born January 9, 1792. On August 22, 1812, he enlisted in the command of Captain Reed and served six months in the War of 1812. In 1819 or 1820 he came to Shelby county and entered the southeast quarter of section 6, Turtle Creek township, and then returned to his home in Pickaway county. In 1821 he came back to his land and with the help of two men who accompanied him, cleared about nine acres, when he again returned to Pickaway county. In March, 1822 he brought his family to Shelby county and stopped at Ebenezer Stephens' place, near Hardin, until he could erect a cabin, into which when completed he moved his family in the following month. For some time after he settled here he had no neighbors to the north nearer than eleven miles. He remained on this farm, clearing and improving until 1845, when he rented it and moved with his family to Sidney, where they lived until 1851. In that year he returned to Turtle Creek township and settled with his family on a farm joining his old home farm on the west, on which he passed the rest of his days. His wife died September 15, 1876, and his death occurred on October 20 following. They reared a family of seven children: Cynthia, Nancy, Rachel, Broad, Nathan W., Susannah and Joshua R. The last mentioned died of cholera August 3, 1854.

Broad Cole, son of Joshua and father of Joshua Franklin Cole, was born in Pickaway county, O., April 11, 1820, and was brought by his parents to Shelby county in 1822. On March 1, 1842, he married Miss Rebecca Stanley, then of Shelby county but a native of Ross county, O., where she was born June 28, 1823. After the death of her father she accompanied her mother to Shelby county in 1835. Mr. and Mrs. Cole settled on his father's home farm and remained until 1845, when they moved to Sidney, where he engaged in a mercantile business until 1849, when they returned to the home farm in Turtle Creek township and during the remainder of his life he gave his attention to farming. In his political views he was a republican and for several years served as a trustee of Turtle Creek township. Broad Cole and wife had children as follows: Orlando Isaac, who was a soldier in the Civil war and

died in service, at Pittsburg Landing, from typhoid fever; Augusta, who married John McDonald; Eva, who married George B. Toland; Gertrude, who married Robert McClelland; Clara, who married T. L. Ginn; Margaret and Joshua F.

Joshua Franklin Cole attended the public schools in Turtle Creek township and later the Sidney schools and then gave his father assistance on the home farm and before his father's death purchased eighty acres of the same and afterward bought the interests of the other heirs in the property and has continued general farming and stock raising here ever since. This is one of the fine old farms of the county and its owners have always been representative men and sterling citizens.

In 1886 Mr. Cole was married to Miss Olive Burns, who was born in Gentry county, Mo., a daughter of David and Rebecca (Carroll) Burns. The father was a railroad engineer. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Burns were: Roland; Agnes, wife of Oscar Kennard; Olive, wife of Mr. Cole; Mary, deceased, wife of Charles Marr; Ellen, wife of William Preston; and Othello. Mr. and Mrs. Cole are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he is a church trustee. Politically he is a republican and has served two terms as township trustee. He is identified with the Knights of Pythias at Sidney, O.

EDWARD C. MADER, a general farmer in Loramie township, Shelby county, O., where he owns forty acres of excellent land, lying in Beech Grove Special School District, three and one-half miles southeast of Russia, O., was born in Loramie township, July 20, 1865, and is a son of Andrew and Elizabeth B. (Brehm) Mader.

Andrew Mader was born and grew to manhood in Germany and was twenty-one years of age when he came to the United States. He worked on the construction of the Miami & Erie Canal and thus came to Ohio. He married Elizabeth B. Brehm, who was also born in Germany and was three years old when brought to America by her parents, John E. and Margaret (Schautchner) Brehm, who came to Shelby county, O., and settled on the farm which is now the property of Edward C. Mader, he buying it from his grandfather Brehm. Andrew Mader died here in his seventieth year and his burial was at Black's cemetery, in Loramie township. His widow survives, being now in her seventieth year, and she still lives on the homestead.

Edward C. Mader has spent his life on the home farm, all of which is under cultivation except ten acres in valuable timber. Both grandfather and father did some clearing and Mr. Mader completed it and also attended to draining the land and has a very productive farm. He makes no specialty but raises enough stock for himself and the usual grains, hay and potatoes, crops that do well in this section.

On March 18, 1894, Mr. Mader was married to Miss Ida E. Cook, who was born in Montgomery county, O., April 12, 1869, a daughter of Ezra and Sarah (Stiver) Cook. Mrs. Mader was fourteen years old when she accompanied her parents to Loramie township, where they still live. The five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Mader all survive, namely: Clarence A., Goldie E.,

Emerson G., and Bertha J. and Walter H., twins. Mr. Mader and family belong to the Lutheran church. In politics Mr. Mader has been a lifelong democrat, as was his father, and at times he has consented to hold township offices when his party has wished to honor him. At the present time he is a member of the board of trustees of Loramie township, and is also treasurer of the Beech Grove Special School District.

JACOB MUNK, who is clerk of the board of education of the Huffman Special School District, in Loramie township, owns a valuable tract of sixteen acres of land, situated in section 13, which he devotes to the growing of berries and broom corn, utilizing the product himself as he is a maker of brooms. He was born May 9, 1854, in Bethel township, Miami county, O., and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Wurtz) Munk.

John Munk was one of the loyal and patriotic men who entered the service of their country only to later lose their lives. He enlisted in a Springfield, O., company, in the One Hundred and Tenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was recruited there for service in the Civil war, and he fell on the field of battle at Winchester, Va., when aged forty-seven years. He left a widow and an only son. The widow moved into Shelby county when her son was about eleven years old and here her death occurred February 27, 1895, and her burial was in the cemetery at Houston, her age being eighty-four years. She was a member of the Reformed church.

Jacob Munk was reared in Shelby county and attended school until old enough to engage in farm work and has lived in Loramie township since he was eleven years of age. After marriage he settled on his present place, which he has comfortably improved, and has been engaged in broom manufacture for about one year. For many years he has served on the local school board and it was partly through his efforts that the Huffman was made a special school district, this arrangement carrying with it many benefits for the community. Since 1905 he has been clerk of the board of education.

Mr. Munk married Miss Elizabeth Voisard, who was born in Loramie township, Shelby county, a daughter of Joseph and Mary Jane Voisard, and the following children were born to them: Clara, who is the wife of Alonzo Fritz, of Tippecanoe City, O.; Charles, who lives at Piqua, married Myrtle McConnell; James, who is a resident of Piqua; an infant daughter, deceased; William, who lives at Hamilton, O., married Josephine Wrigley; Nellie, who died when aged six years; and Roy, Lottie, Ruth and Thadedorra. The family belongs to the Reformed church. In politics Mr. Munk is a republican.

ANTHONY HIEGEL, who is one of the prominent and substantial men of Shelby county, O., where he owns four separate farms, aggregating 320 acres, three of which lie in Loramie and one in Cynthian township, resides in section 5, in the former township, on the St. Mary and Piqua turnpike road, north of Houston, O. He was born July 27, 1857, in Alsace, Germany, a son of Joseph and Margaret (Schuster) Hiegel, whose family consisted of five sons and two daughters. The parents passed away in Germany and but two







AUGUST WISE

of the children are yet living: Anthony and Charles, the latter being a resident of Springfield, O.

Anthony Hiegel was fifteen years of age when he and his brother, Joseph Hiegel, left Germany and came to the United States, and soon after came to Loramie township, Shelby county, where Anthony decided to locate permanently. Here he worked with farmers until he learned the business and after he married, settled on his present home farm. Afterward he moved to the range line and lived there for four years and then came back to his old farm. All his land is well improved and he erected the substantial buildings which stand on the home place, all of which is under cultivation except ten acres yet in valuable timber.

Mr. Hiegel married Miss Sarah A. Ortman, who was born in Loramie township, a sister of John A. Ortman and a daughter of Henry Ortman, a well known family in this locality. Mrs. Hiegel died August 27, 1911, and her burial was in the cemetery at Houston. She was a most estimable lady, respected and beloved by all who knew her, and a member of the Lutheran church. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hiegel: Joseph, who lives in Cynthian township, married Isabella Doren; Charles, who lives with his family in Loramie township; William, who is a resident of Dark county, O., married Tracy Leymen; and John, Mary and Lawrence, all of whom are at home. In politics Mr. Hiegel has been a democrat since reaching mature years and once served as township trustee of Loramie township and for some years has belonged to the Mills special school district board of education for both Loramie and Cynthian townships and is assistant treasurer of the same.

AUGUST WISE, one of the well known business men of Shelby county, who operates a saw mill and deals in hardwood lumber, at Fort Loramie, was born and reared in this section and is a son of August and Thesia Wise, the former of whom was born in Holland and the latter in Germany.

August Wise attended school at Fort Loramie and early began to be self supporting, for two years driving a pair of mules in the lumber regions, when not more than fifteen years of age. In 1881 the father of Mr. Wise started a saw mill business one mile north of Fort Loramie and the son went to work in the mill which his father in 1892 removed and rebuilt at Fort Loramie and conducted until his death, in 1902. Since that time August Wise has continued the business alone, and to some degree has expanded the same, giving employment to seven men at the present time. The mill has the following dimensions: 36 x 116 feet, and 22 x 80 feet, with engine room of 40 x 44 feet. All kinds of custom sawing is done, and handles are manufactured, as many as 80,000 of the handles being turned out annually. Mr. Wise is ready to purchase timber in any amount when he can secure suitable tracts and hires teams when the hauling is more than his own two road and log teams can handle. He is a wide awake business-man and one who, through business integrity, has won the confidence of all with whom he is associated in this way.

Mr. Wise married Miss Catherine Rice, who was born at Fort Loramie in 1871, a daughter of Joseph and Madeline Rice, and they have a family of five children, namely: Esther and Tracy, twins, who are eight years old; Hilda, who has celebrated her fifth birthday; Edward, whose four years prevents him from yet going to school; and Veronica, who is the one-year-old baby. Mr. Wise and family belong to St. Michael's Catholic church. In politics he is nominally a Democrat but as an intelligent and thinking man, often shows that he is somewhat independent of party. He belongs to the Knights of Columbus and the Knights of St. John and has a creditable record in both organizations. Mr. Wise is interested to some extent in the Loramie & Minster Railway Company.

ORA A. MARTIN, one of the substantial and well informed men of Loramie township, resides on his valuable farm of 101 acres, a fine property which lies not far distant from Versailles, O. He was born in Adams township, Darke county, O., October 22, 1874, and is a son of John B. and Catherine Martin, the former of whom is now deceased.

Ora A. Martin obtained his education in the public schools and since then has continuously followed an agricultural life. Since February 22, 1910, he has resided on his present place, which was improved by the former owner, the late George Rhoades, his father-in-law, and here he successfully carries on diversified farming and grows stock for his own use.

Mr. Martin was united in marriage with Miss Lucinda T. Rhoades, who is the youngest daughter of the late George and Matilda Rhoades, who were well known people of Shelby county, O. Mr. and Mrs. Martin are members of the Lutheran church and they have a wide acquaintance in this section and many friends. Mr. Martin like his late father is a democrat but has never been willing to accept any political recognition except membership on the school board, and as such, in September, 1911, was elected treasurer of the Greenwood special school district and continues to serve.

JOHN W. LORTON, who is engaged in farming and stock raising in Loramie township, owns 100 acres of productive land, situated in section 18, two miles from Russia, O. He was born in Clinton township, Shelby county, O., December 15, 1860, and is a son of George Allison and Catherine (Glasford) Lorton.

George Allison Lorton was born in Shelby county and died at the age of sixty years, his burial being at Sidney. All his life he worked hard as a day laborer, never having had any educational opportunities in his youth, but was universally respected for his many excellent traits of character. He married Catherine Glasford, who was born in Germany and was brought to Montgomery county, Ohio, when seven years old. She now lives in Turtle Creek township. They became the parents of thirteen children, and of this large family three sons and two daughters are living. They were members of the Lutheran church.

John W. Lorton was reared in Clinton township and secured his school-

ing there, and as soon as old enough began to be self supporting, working on farms or in any way that was honorable, for six years being a railroad employe. After marriage he settled at Houston and as soon as he had accumulated enough money bought eighty-five acres in Loramie township. He later sold that property and in 1910 purchased his present farm.

Mr. Lorton was married to Miss Louisa Wintringham, who was born at Houston, a daughter of George and Christiana (Ervin) Wintringham, both of whom died in Loramie township. Mr. and Mrs. Lorton have four children: Freeborn F., who married Ina Hoover, who died leaving a daughter, Evelyn; Blanche, who is the wife of Jesse Wilbaum, of near Anna Station, by whom she has two children, Ellen and Laurence; John E., who first married Minerva Langston, deceased, and later Tracey Stout of Noble county; and Walter, who lives at home. They are also rearing a youth named Roy Grimes. Mr. Lorton has been a lifelong republican but has never been very active in politics. He takes an interest in all local matters as becomes a good citizen and cheerfully assists in supporting the schools of Huffman special school district. The family belongs to the Christian church at Houston.

HERBERT E. SHEETS, of the Sheets Manufacturing Company, of Botkins, O., one of the large and important industrial enterprises of the place, was born here, October 5, 1884, and is a son of Philip and Catherine (Thuman) Sheets.

Philip Sheets, who founded the Sheets Manufacturing Company, died September 6, 1905, Herbert E. Sheets succeeding as head of the concern. This company manufactures wood wheel material for wagons, carriages and automobiles and employment is given eighty men, the plant covering five acres of ground. Mr. Sheets has been identified with the business ever since he completed his education. He has other important interests, being president of the Shelby County Bank at Botkins, vice president of the Sidney Manufacturing Company, and, in association with his brother, E. S. Sheets, owns the Sheets Grain Company of Botkins. He is an energetic, wide awake business man and commands the respect of all with whom he is associated.

Mr. Sheets married Miss Helen Baughman, of Jackson Center, O., in 1911, and they have a very attractive home at Botkin. He is prominent in the Masonic fraternity, Knight Templar and Shriner, and has attained the Thirty-second degree. He belongs also to the Odd Fellows.

J. H. M. SCHURR, undertaker and furniture dealer, at Botkins, O., continuing a business established by his father twenty-four years ago, was born on a farm in Auglaize county, O., four miles northwest of Botkins, August 7, 1877, and is a son of Christian and Margaret (Bimel) Schurr.

Christian Schurr and family moved to Botkins in 1888, at which time he established the business above referred to and carried it on until 1899 when he was succeeded by his son, J. H. M. He still survives, being now in his seventy-fifth year, and is one of Botkins' most highly esteemed citizens. He was twice married and of his ten children born to his first union eight survive.

one son, J. H. M. and seven daughters. Three sons were born to his second marriage.

J. H. M. Schurr attended the public schools of Botkins and then entered his father's employ in the undertaking business, to which he finally succeeded, later became a qualified embalmer and has a complete outfit for this branch of the business. He has proper vehicles and equipments of all kinds including a handsome funeral car and his services are sought from all over Shelby and Auglaize counties. On August 20, 1899, he embarked in the furniture line, and as demand arose, from time to time added wall papers, linoleums and rugs to his other stock and now does the largest business in this line that is done in three townships.

Mr. Schurr was married to Miss Emma Amelia Moothart, who is a daughter of John Moothart, president of the Botkin school board, and they have three children: Edison Luther, Helen Naomi and Ruth Mildred. Mr. Schurr and family are members of the Lutheran church.

JOHN MOOTHART, a highly respected citizen and retired farmer living in his comfortable home at Botkins, O., is serving as president of the Botkins special district school board, giving to the duties of this office the beneficial experience gained through many years of interest in the public schools. He was born on a farm in Franklin township, Shelby county, O., one mile south of Anna, December 31, 1849, and is a son of Peter and Sarah (Fost-night) Moothart.

Peter Moothart was born in Pennsylvania and was young when he came to Shelby county where he spent his life as a farmer. His widow, who survives and is now in her eighty-eighth year, was reared in Shelby county, O., but was born in Pennsylvania. They were of German extraction, and Mrs. Moothart attends the Lutheran church, probably being the oldest member at Anna, O.

John Moothart was reared on the home farm in Franklin township and during his entire active life followed farm pursuits. After his marriage he settled on the old Balsler Hagelberger farm in Dinsmore township, Shelby county, two miles south of Botkins, where he successfully carried on general farming and stock raising. In 1906 he turned the farm industries over to his sons and retired to Botkins. For eighteen years he served as a member of the school board in Dinsmore township and has served on the Botkins board for five years, being president of this body for the past year.

Mr. Moothart was married November 19, 1874, to Miss Julia Ann Hagelberger and they have nine children living, namely: William Edward, Louis Albert, Emma Amelia, Milton, Jennie May, Oliver Milard, Harvey, Alfred and Clara Louella. Emma Amelia is the wife of J. H. M. Schurr, and Jennie May is the wife of James R. Cox. Mr. Moothart and family are members of the Lutheran church and he belongs to the board of deacons in the same. He has never been very active politically but has always aimed to be a useful member of his community and has always enjoyed the trust and respect of friends and neighbors.

CHARLES L. WINDLE, a valued and experienced member of the board of county commissioners of Shelby county, O., has been a representative citizen of Orange township for the past nineteen years. He was born in Clinton township, this county, November 16, 1870, and is a son of Henry and Mary Elizabeth (Buirley) Windle.

Mr. Windle was but one year old when he lost his father by death and during the following five years he lived with his maternal grandfather in Clinton township. He was six years old when his mother married H. H. Wilson, and they moved to Green township, and he continued with his mother and step-father until he was twenty-three years of age, in the meanwhile securing a good common school education. He was reared to be a practical farmer and has followed agricultural pursuits ever since, in 1892 purchasing his present farm of forty acres, which lies in a favorable section of Orange township.

In 1894 Mr. Windle was married to Miss Daisy Arbogast, of Green township, Shelby county, a daughter of Lewis and Henrietta (Maderris) Arbogast, the former of whom is now deceased, the latter still living. Mr. and Mrs. Windle have one son, Lewis, who attends to the farm when his father is engaged with his official duties. This farm is a part of the tract which Mr. Windle's maternal great-grandfather, William K. Buirley entered from the government, and, except for eight years preceding its purchase by Mr. Windle from a Mr. Watkins, has never been out of the family.

It is usually from the solid, thinking men of a township that the members of the board of county commissioners are selected, the office being one of considerable responsibility and great importance. Mr. Windle has long been active politically and has served on many political committees in the democratic party, and in the fall of 1910 was first elected to his present office and in the spring of 1912 was reelected. For seven years prior to this he had served as a trustee of Orange township.

GEORGE HAGELBERGER, president of the Shelby County Fair Board, is one of the solid, reliable men that have earned for this section the respect and confidence of other parts of Ohio. Since 1903 he has been a resident of Anna, O., but he was born on a farm in Dinsmore township, Shelby county, three miles north of this village, May 28, 1855, of French and German parentage. His father, Balsar Hagelberger, was born in Alsace, when that much coveted territory belonged yet to France, while his mother, Frederika (Fogt) Hagelberger, was born in Baden, Germany.

On both sides the grandparents were the pioneers of these families in America and Balsar Hagelberger was six years old when his parents brought him to the United States, and his wife was a child of ten years when she and her parents crossed the Atlantic ocean. They were reared in Ohio and settled early after marriage in Shelby county, where Mr. Hagelberger carried on farming until he retired, his death occurring in 1903, being then a resident of Anna, O. His widow survives and is now in her seventy-eighth year.

George Hagelberger grew up on the home farm and the larger part of his

life has been spent in carrying on his agricultural industries. He lived for twenty-eight years on his farm of 160 acres, lying on the corporation edge of Anna, and owns another farm of 160 acres, in partnership with a brother-in-law, Charles C. Toland, situated in Jackson township. His many years of experience and his interest in all that promises to be of advantage to the agricultural community, particularly qualifies him for the honorable office he holds as president of the Shelby county fair board, to which he was elected in 1906. He occupies other positions of trust and responsibility, being a member of the board of directors of the Children's Home in Shelby county and also of the Orphans' Home at Richmond, Ind. He has long been an important factor in democratic politics and is a member of the democratic county committee, has served as a member of the town council at Anna and for at least fifteen years has been a valued member of the school board.

Mr. Hagelberger was married to Miss Lydia Moothart, of Shelby county, a daughter of Peter and Sarah Moothart, formerly of Franklin township, the latter of whom survives, being now aged eighty-eight years. Mr. and Mrs. Hagelberger have one son, Harry, who is in the clothing business at Anna, O. He married Miss Rosa Landwhere and they have one child, Anna Lois. Mr. Hagelberger and family belong to the Lutheran church. He was one of its organizers at Anna and was an active member of the building committee of the present church edifice.

HENRY JONES, who resides on his well-improved farm of ninety acres, situated in Washington township, has spent almost all his life in this state but his birth took place in Dauphin county, Pa., March 20, 1854, a son of John and Louisa (Wagner) Jones.

John Jones was born in 1830, in Pennsylvania, and came from there to Miami county, O., where he was engaged in farming and dairying for fifty-two years, and died there July 31, 1912, aged eighty-two years. He married Louisa Wagner, who passed away many years ago, the mother of ten children, as follows: Mrs. Wilkinson, of Piqua; Henry; Josiah and John, both deceased; Mrs. Thompson; William; Laura, who lives on the old homestead, and three who died as infants.

Henry Jones had the usual country boy's opportunities of schooling in his youth and afterward assisted his father until he was twenty-four years old and then came to Shelby county and settled on the farm on which he now lives and here spent fourteen years, moving then back to Miami county, where he passed the next ten years. In 1902 he returned to his Washington township farm and here has made many improvements, including since that time, the erection of a fine barn. He owns a second farm, containing eighty acres, which is situated in Spring Creek township. While he has been a busy farmer and a very successful one, he has found time to take a good citizen's interest in public matters, and on the republican ticket has been elected to important township offices, formerly serving as a trustee and now is treasurer.

Mr. Jones married Miss Belle McKinney and they have three children:



May, who married J. Moore, of Indianapolis, Ind.; Roy, who married Ethel Higgins; and Harley, who assists his father. Mr. Jones and family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church at Lockington, O.

JOHN B. SHERMAN, a prosperous general farmer and a well-known and respected citizen of Cynthian township, Shelby county, O., who resides on his excellent farm of eighty acres, situated in section 27, belongs to one of the old settled families of Shelby county. He was born January 25, 1865, and is a son of Joseph and Mary (Rottinghaus) Sherman.

Joseph Sherman emigrated to this county in 1835 and was a son of John W. and Elizabeth Sherman. He was born October 22, 1816, and brought up as a farmer. His first wife was Elizabeth Geehr, his second wife was Mary, daughter of John B. Rottinghaus. Their children are Joseph H., Catherine, Mary E., John B., Mary C., John H., Mary J., Mary M., Henry F., Mathilda, Annie and Louise. He has been supervisor for four years and township trustee six years. He died October 22, 1893, aged seventy-seven years.

John B. Sherman was reared on his father's farm in McLean township and attended school in the Sherman school in the Sherman special school district. His interests have always been of an agricultural nature, first on the homestead and after marriage he carried on farming for himself on a tract of eighty acres, situated on the Hale turnpike road and during his eight years of occupancy made many improvements there. He then sold and moved on the farm he now occupies all of which he cultivates with the exception of eight acres. His land is well drained and tilled and under his methods of farming is very productive and he raises grain, cattle and hogs.

Mr. Sherman was married October 29, 1895, to Miss Frances Mueller, a daughter of Carl and Amelia (Heilich) Mueller, of Darke county, and they have had the following children: Mary, Joseph, John, Clara, Louis, Anna, Magdalene, Francis, Theresia and Margaret, all surviving except Mary and Joseph. Mr. Sherman and family are members of SS. Peter and Paul Catholic church at Newport, O. In politics he is a democrat but has never been willing to accept any other public office than one connected with general education. For eight years he served as clerk and as a member of the board of education of the Turner special school district. To serious minded and responsible men like Mr. Sherman much credit is due for the general excellence of the public schools through Shelby county.

J. P. LALLEMAND, who is treasurer of the Grisez special school district in Cynthian township, and formerly president of its board of education, resides on his excellent farm of eighty acres, situated in section 23, two and one-half miles northwest of Newport, O. He was born in Darke county, O., April 27, 1866, and is a son of Peter Lallemand and his wife Mary (Poiret) Lallemand.

The parents of Mr. Lallemand were born in France. The father came to the United States when aged twenty-five years and after marriage settled in Darke county, O., where three sons and one daughter were born. The

mother died at the age of thirty-nine years and the one daughter is also deceased. The father lives retired at Newport, O., having moved to Shelby county with his family about 1867.

J. P. Lallemand was about one year old when his parents came to this county and he attended school in the Turner district and assisted his father to clear and cultivate the farm he now occupies. He has lived here for twenty-three years and has devoted himself to farming and stock raising, having all his land under tillage with the exception of fourteen acres in valuable timber.

Mr. Lallemand married Miss Elizabeth Meyer, a daughter of Henry Meyer and they have had the following children: Lawrence, Beatrice, Mary, Marion and Margaret, twins, Margaret (2) and Francis. The first Margaret died in infancy. Mr. Lallemand and family are members of SS. Peter and Paul Roman Catholic church at Newport, O. In politics he is a democrat. He served for two years as president of the board of education and since January, 1912, has been treasurer of this body, as mentioned above. He is a highly respected and trustworthy citizen.

JESSE E. BORDER, whose high standing as a citizen of Cynthian township, Shelby county, may be judged by the honorable office he fills, that of president of the board of education of the Grisez special school district, resides on his valuable farm of forty acres, the old homestead, on which he was born on September 13, 1874. He came near the end of a family of eleven children, the tenth, one of twins, born to his parents who were Amos and Martha C. Border, the former of whom died at the age of sixty-eight years. The latter survives and is a resident of Willow Dell, Darke county, O.

Jesse E. Border attended school near his father's farm and also at Willow Dell, and afterward turned his attention to farm life. For five years after his marriage he lived at Bloomer, O., and for two years engaged in farming in Wabash township, Darke county, and then returned to the homestead where he has remained. Originally this farm contained thirty-two more acres, but forty acres carefully tilled and well managed, is a large enough tract to keep the ordinary man well supplied with occupation. This land is naturally productive and under Mr. Border's intelligent cultivation yields abundant crops.

Mr. Border married Miss Amanda Achbach, who is a daughter of Julius and Emma Achbach, of Cynthian township, and they have three children: Ralph, Lawson and Lowell, all satisfactory pupils at school. Mr. and Mrs. Border are members of the Lutheran church at Willow Dell. In his political preferences Mr. Border is a democrat. He has never been willing to accept public office outside membership on the school board, his interest in educational matters leading him to serve on this body, election to the same being considered a signal honor in Cynthian township. Mr. Border was elected a member and made the president in January, 1912, of the board of education of the Grisez special school district.





D. N. PRINCE, SR.

D. N. PRINCE, Sr., who resides on his valuable farm of eighty acres, situated in Green township, eleven miles southeast of Sidney, is one of the township's most esteemed citizens and is deservedly honored as a surviving veteran of the great Civil war. He was born in Champaign county, O., in 1831, a son of William and Sarah (Nauman) Prince.

The father of Mr. Prince was born in Kentucky, not far from the city of Lexington, and from there, in early manhood, made his way to Champaign county, O. He engaged there in farming until his accidental death, at the age of forty-one years. His widow survived for a time but also died in Champaign county. Of their family of eight children but two survive: D. N. and Benjamin F., the latter being a resident of Springfield, O.

D. N. Prince attended the country schools and later the more advanced schools at Springfield, after which, for ten years, he followed school-teaching. In 1861 he enlisted for service in the Civil war, entering Company I, Forty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in which he served as a brave soldier for three years and three months. He participated in many hard fought battles including: Prestonsburg, Stone Gap, Chickasaw Bluff, Thompson's Hill, Port Gibson, Raymond, Champion Hills and Vicksburg. Although ever at the post of duty, which often was in the thickest of the fighting, Mr. Prince escaped all serious injury and returned to Champaign county unharmed. In the following winter he came to his old homestead farm of 160 acres, lying just east of his present one, the same having been divided with his children.

Mr. Prince married Miss Mary Jones, of Champaign county, who died in March, 1900, aged sixty-one years. They had six children: W. H., who is a farmer in Green township; Charles, who lives in Orange township; Mrs. Sarah R. Cain, who keeps house for her father; D. N., Jr., who lives in Miami county; and two who are deceased. Mr. Prince is a member of the English Lutheran church. Since manhood he has voted with the Republican party and on many occasions was chosen for responsible offices by his fellow citizens, serving for twenty-five years on the school board, one term as township treasurer and was twice elected justice of the peace.

HERMAN KLOEKER, whose well-improved farm of 120 acres lies in section 7, McLean township, one-half mile south of Fort Loramie, is one of the well-known and highly respected residents of this section. He was born May 1, 1850, at Covington, Ky., and is a son of Herman Henry and Anna Mary Gertrude (Krutzman) Kloeker.

The parents of Mr. Kloeker were natives of Germany and in 1848 set sail for America. They had a family of seven children. Two of these died at sea and later two more died at Covington, where the family lived for a time. Henry Kloeker died two years ago. Two sons still live: Herman and Ferdinand. Herman Henry Kloeker settled on a farm of fifty acres in Jackson township, Auglaize county, when he came first to Ohio, purchasing the same and living on it for twelve years, in 1863 moving to McLean township, Shelby county. At that time the present homestead was almost

all timberland and it required much hard labor to place it under cultivation and reap profitably for the effort expended. He served creditably as a Union soldier during the Civil war. He lived to the age of sixty-two years and his widow to the age of sixty-nine years. They were laid to rest in St. Michael's church cemetery, both having been devoted members of that church. While living in Auglaize county he served as school director but never accepted any office in Shelby county.

Herman Kloeker obtained his education in the Egypt schools in Auglaize county and then helped his father, and when the latter died, took charge of the farm which is now his property. He is considered a first-class farmer and has everything very comfortable about him, his many improvements including the erection of the buildings now standing. He has always been a democratic voter and for six years was township trustee.

Mr. Kloeker married Miss Mary Elizabeth Rottinghaus, who was born in McLean township, Shelby county, and is a daughter of J. B. and Mary Elizabeth (Unterbrink) Rottinghaus, the father being deceased and the mother living, being aged ninety-one years. Mr. and Mrs. Kloeker's children have all been born on this farm, namely: Annie, who is the wife of Anton P. Raterman of McLean township; Elizabeth, who is the wife of Frank Lindhaus; J. H., who represented the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, married Cilley Myers and lives at Cleveland, O.; William, who lives in Cynthian township, married Mary Eilerman; John B., who assists his father on the home farm; Regina, who is the wife of Clyde H. Peffley, a resident of Dayton; and Joseph A., who is a school-teacher, lives at home. Mr. Kloeker and his entire family are members of St. Michael's Catholic church.

HENRY F. HOELSCHER, one of the leading men of Cynthian township, Shelby county, O., who has been clerk of the board of education of the Short special school district for six years and is interested in all matters of public moment in this section, was born September 23, 1876, in Cynthian township, and is the second eldest son of Henry and Mary (Ernst) Hoelscher, and a grandson of Joseph Hoelscher, who was a native of Germany and came from there in 1835. The parents of Mr. Hoelscher reside in Cynthian township on the old family homestead, the same adjoining his own farm, which lies in section 16, two and one-half miles southeast of Fort Loramie, on the north side of the Farmers turnpike road.

Henry F. Hoelscher was educated in the public schools of Cynthian township and until his marriage he continued to assist his father on the home farm. Afterward he settled and has resided on his present place, where he has a fine property which he purchased from George Short, Sr. He has made all necessary repairs and has done a large amount of improving, including building and remodeling of the different farm structures, has also drained and tiled his land, and here carries on general farming along modern lines.

Mr. Hoelscher was married to Miss Elizabeth Fleckenstein, who was

born in McLean township, Shelby county, a daughter of George and Tracy (Bower) Fleckenstein, and they have three children: Agnes, Helen and Martha. Mr. Hoelscher, like his father and grandfather, is a staunch democrat but has never accepted any political office except one relating to the public schools. The family belongs to St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort Loramie.

PHILIP W. YOUNG, who has been continuously in the general hardware and farm implement business at Anna, O., for forty-three years, is one of the best known business men of Shelby county and a prominent republican politician of Franklin township, of which he has been clerk, and also has served for twelve years as a justice of the peace. Mr. Young was born on a farm in Mercer county, O., December 10, 1842, a son of Adam and Mary (Noland) Young.

Adam Young was born in Pickaway county, O., a son of Philip Young, who settled at an early day on Plum Creek, in Franklin township, Shelby county. Philip W. Young was a boy when his father, Adam Young, came to his father's place on Plum Creek, and here in the woods, Adam and his brother Philip, built a log house. Philip W. Young can remember the fearful howling of the wolves in the near-by forest, when he was a boy. Here he grew up and when he could be spared from work on the farm, attended the district schools until he was eighteen years of age, when the outbreak of the Civil war determined the course of his life for the three succeeding years. On September 27, 1861, he enlisted in Company B, Twentieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry and soon accompanied his comrades to the front, and during his long service participated in twenty-two battles and other engagements, escaping all injury until July 22, 1864, at the battle of Atlanta, he was shot in the right breast, the bullet passed through the upper lobe of the lung and coming out through his shoulder blade. After this serious accident he was incapacitated for the first time and was honorably discharged and mustered out on September 27, 1864.

Mr. Young even then was only a boy in years although he had bravely borne the responsibilities of a man. He returned to Anna and afterward taught school for four years and then embarked in his present business and for forty years has occupied the same store site. Here he carries hardware including stoves and farm implements and washing machines and through forty-three years of business dealing has enjoyed the reputation of being honest and upright in all transactions. He is a leading member of the Grand Army of the Republic in this section.

Mr. Young was married in 1869 to Miss Libbie I. Cole, of Anna, who died in 1887, survived by two children: Mary Eva, who is the wife of W. E. Shearer; and Don C., who is associated with his father. Mr. Young's second marriage was to Mrs. Sarah J. Elliott, widow of Joseph D. Elliott. Mr. and Mrs. Elliott had two children: a daughter who died in childhood, and Charles B. Mr. and Mrs. Young are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mr. Young is secretary and treasurer.

HENRY F. HARROD, one of the leading citizens of Cynthian township, treasurer of the Basinburg special school district, resides on his well-improved farm of ninety-two acres, located one and one-half miles northwest of Newport, O. He was born November 13, 1861, in Miami county, O., and is a son of John and Elizabeth Harrod, both of whom died in Miami county.

Henry F. Harrod was reared and received school and farm training in his native county. When he came to Shelby county he worked on farms prior to his marriage and for one year afterward lived in Cynthian township and then moved to Darke county. After two years there he returned to Shelby county and located on his present farm, upon which he lived as a tenant for twenty-one years and then purchased and now owns ninety-two acres in one tract and twenty-three in another. In addition to cultivating all his land with the exception of fourteen acres, which is one of the finest timber tracts in the county, he rents 100 acres lying directly across the road from his own property, for the past six years having also utilized this land in carrying on his agricultural industries. For twenty years he has been interested in handling stock, buying in Darke and Mercer as well as in Shelby county. Mr. Harrod also operates profitably a large gravel pit on his land. He has comfortable surroundings and substantial buildings and well represents in his practical management of his large affairs, that class of Ohio farmers who succeed through industry and thorough knowledge of farming as a business.

Mr. Harrod married Miss Rachel Short, a daughter of I. N. Short, now deceased, formerly of Cynthian township, and they have the following children: May, Elizabeth, Harry, Webster, Viola, and Cora and Dora, twins. All the children have been given educational advantages, the Basinburg special school district offering excellent opportunities. Mr. Harrod being one of its officials for the past three years and taking much interest in advancing its efficiency. He has always voted the democratic ticket and on many occasions has been called to public office, serving six years as assessor of Cynthian township, and elected in 1909 treasurer of this school district. Mr. Harrod and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Newport, O.

FRANK J. ALTENBACH, who is a leading contractor and builder at Sidney, O., may almost be said to have been born in the business as his father was so engaged and he has been continuously associated with it since he was fourteen years of age. His birth took place at Sidney April 23, 1867, a son of Joseph Altenbach, for many years very prominent here in the building trades.

Frank J. Altenbach attended the public and parochial schools at Sidney until his father deemed him old enough to begin to be self-supporting, after which he continued his studies for some time in the night schools. Beginning early he acquired a thorough knowledge of the building business and later could enter into contracting as a man of experience and for a number



of years has carried on an extensive business as general contractor. He keeps a large force of men employed including ten skilled carpenters. Mr. Altenbach has erected many handsome buildings here, including his beautiful modern home at No. 240 South Miami street.

Mr. Altenbach was married at Sidney to Miss Mary Fares, who is a daughter of the late J. S. Fares, who was formerly well known in the lumber industry in Shelby county. One son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Altenbach whose name is Fares J. Mr. and Mrs. Altenbach and son are members of the Roman Catholic church. He is identified with that patriotic organization known as the Catholic Knights of America.

HENRY HOELSCHER, Sr., who is one of the well-known residents of Cynthian township, lives on his valuable farm of eighty acres, which lies three miles southeast of Fort Loramie, on the south side of the township line road. He was born in McLean township, Shelby county, O., on the site of the present Loramie reservoir, September 11, 1843, and is a son of Joseph Hoelscher, a native of Germany.

Joseph Hoelscher came to the United States and to Ohio in 1835 and bought a tract of eighty acres of uncleared land in McLean township and the deed for this land his son, Henry Hoelscher, still preserves. He married and with his family lived on that place until the time of the overflow that sent the back waters of the Miami and Erie canal into what is now the Loramie reservoir, on which occasion his children had their lives endangered and had to be rescued by means of boats. When Joseph Hoelscher first settled on the farm owned by his son in Cynthian township, it was covered with heavy woodland but with the help of his sons he cleared it and developed a productive farm during his life time. He married Clara Eilerman, who was also a native of Germany, and they had four children: Henry; Mary, wife of Henry Schlater, of Fort Loramie; John, residing in McLean township; and Joseph, living in Cynthian township. The family was one of the early ones that helped to found the Catholic church in this section. Joseph Hoelscher died when aged about fifty-four years and was survived many years by his wife, her death occurring in her seventy-fifth year, and they both were interred in the Catholic cemetery at Fort Loramie.

Henry Hoelscher attended the district schools in both McLean and Cynthian townships when he could be spared from home, for, as his father's eldest son, many responsibilities fell on him in youth. He has spent his life in Cynthian township, on the present farm, and has carried on farming and stock raising with very satisfactory results. All the substantial farm buildings now standing, Mr. Hoelscher placed here and he has taken considerable pride in keeping his property in a fine state of repair.

Mr. Hoelscher was married in early manhood, to Miss Mary Ernestes, who was born in McLean township, Shelby county, O., a daughter of Joseph Ernestes, one of the early German settlers there, and eight children were born to them, as follows: Frank, who resides at Carthagena, Mercer county, O., married Mary Barhorst; Henry F., who is a farmer in Cynthian

township; Katie, who is the wife of Conrad Fleckenstein, deceased; John, who lives at Dayton O., married Mary Ulerman; Joseph A., who lives in Cynthian township, married Rosa Fleckenstein; Rosa, who is the wife of Casper Hess, and they live in Carthage, Mercer county, O., and Maggie and Lena, twins, who live at home. Mr. Hoelscher and family are members of St. Michael's Catholic church at Fort Loramie. He has been a lifelong democrat, always giving his party active support but never asking for political honors for himself. The Hoelscher family is one of the old and most respected ones of this section.

PERRY MOYER, who resides three miles west of Houston, O., where he carries on general farming on 240 acres of rented land, situated in Loramie township, Shelby county, O., was born on this farm July 3, 1883, and is a son of George W. and a grandson of George Moyer.

George W. Moyer was born in Cynthian township, Shelby county, O., March 5, 1834, a son of George and Sarah (Zemer) Moyer. His parents were both born in Pennsylvania, the father coming to Cynthian township in 1816, prior to marriage. Afterward they settled on a tract of eighty acres and spent their lives there, the father dying when over sixty-two years of age and the mother surviving to be eighty-four years old. They had ten children and of these George W. was the youngest. Early in the Civil war he enlisted in Company K, First Ohio Volunteer Heavy Artillery and remained in the service until the war closed, although deafness resulted from his special line of duty. After he returned to Cynthian township he married Orella Day, a daughter of Jonathan Day, a native of Virginia, who later became a farmer in Loramie township. They had six children: Eleanor and Edward G., both of whom are deceased; Sarah; Emma, who is the wife of Edward Moracra; Anna, who is the wife of Edward Guier; and Perry. Two years after marriage George W. Moyer and family came to the farm in Loramie township on which he has lived retired for some fifteen years. In politics he is a democrat but has never accepted any office except that of school director in the Huffman special school district. He is a widely-known and respected citizen. He belongs to the G. A. R. at Houston.

Perry Moyer attended the local schools until ready to assume the management of the home farm for his father and has been so engaged ever since, finding very little improving to do as his father had already made all that was necessary. Mr. Moyer married Miss Cora Charpie, a daughter of Peter Charpie, and they have three children: Ray and Ralph, both of whom are bright students in the Huffman special school district; and Norval. Mr. and Mrs. Moyer are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics Mr. Moyer is a democrat.

FRED A. CLAWSON, one of the representative citizens of Loramie township, residing in section 6, carries on general farming and owns a valuable tract of eighty acres, lying in the Mills special school district. He was born January 19, 1872, in Cynthian township, Shelby county, and is

a son of William and Rachel Ann Clawson. William Clawson was born also in Cynthian township and for many years was a farmer there but now lives retired at Oran, O. His wife is deceased. Of the eight children two sons died, one in infancy, and the other at the age of nineteen years.

Fred A. Clawson attended school near Newport, in Cynthian township, and afterward assisted his father until his marriage, when he came to his present home farm, which is situated three miles northwest of Houston. This property was formerly known as the Houser farm and for seven years he rented it and then purchased. On his farm he has made many improvements, it being tiled and the buildings put in order, and as his land is well adapted to dairying he keeps many cows and makes this quite a feature of his operations. He is one of the busy and prosperous men of this section, is widely known and has both business and personal friends among his fellow citizens.

Mr. Clawson was married in 1894 to Miss Clara May Charpiat, who was born in Cynthian township, a daughter of Peter and Emma Charpiat, residents of Newport, O., and they have had five children, namely: Elfa Mercella, Pearl Marie, Charles Edward, William Peter and Waldo, the eldest born being deceased. Mrs. Clawson is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, which Mr. Clawson attends and to which he gives a liberal support. He has always been identified with the democratic party and formerly served in the office of constable while living in Cynthian township, and in 1910-1911 was township assessor and for several years was a member of the board of education and its clerk, of the Mills special school district. He was a candidate for county commissioner in 1912, on the democratic ticket, and was defeated at the primary by so small a majority that he believes that when he again becomes a candidate the democrats of Shelby county will nominate him for this office.

L. E. BLAKELEY, postmaster at Botkins, O., successor of his father, the late A. E. Blakeley, in this office, and also succeeding him as editor and owner of The Botkins Herald, one of the leading weekly newspapers of Shelby county, was born at Botkins, March 10, 1882, a son of A. E. and Emma (Cochlin) Blakeley.

A. E. Blakeley was born at Botkins when it was little more than a village, June 25, 1856, and was a son of John and Elizabeth (Elliott) Blakeley, the former of whom was from Pennsylvania and one of the pioneer settlers in this part of Shelby county. John Blakeley followed farming but later retired and lives at Botkins, one of its oldest residents, being now in his ninetieth year. A. E. Blakeley was reared on a farm, later taught school, and then went into the newspaper business, first at Sidney, in 1898 coming to Botkins, where he established The Botkins Herald and had made it a leading organ of his party before his death, which occurred in January, 1912.

L. E. Blakeley was reared and educated at Botkins and after completing the high-school course entered his father's newspaper office and continued in this connection, succeeding to his father's interests and responsibilities

as above mentioned. In April, 1912, he became postmaster, having received the highest grade at the civil service examination, thereby gaining the office. Mr. Blakely married Miss Ollie Giams, daughter of A. P. Giams, of Botkins, and they have one child, Geraldine. Mr. Blakeley is a member of the Botkins school board, and fraternally is identified with the Odd Fellows and the Woodmen of the World.

O. L. KERR, who has held the office of postmaster at Houston, O., since June, 1902, and is also ticket agent of the Big Four railroad at that place, was born in Northwood, Logan county, O., July 29, 1868, a son of D. P. and Charlotte E. (Carter) Kerr. Both his parents were natives of Logan county, the mother's family residing at Huntsville, O., and in that county they were married. Mrs. D. P. Kerr was a daughter of K. G. and Nancy A. (Cooper) Carter; her father, K. G. Carter, who came from Virginia, died at Cherokee, Logan county, this state. Her mother, Nancy A. (Cooper) Carter, the maternal grandmother of O. L. Kerr, died at Huntsville, Logan county.

Mr. Kerr's parents resided for a short time at Bellefontaine, in Logan county, from which place they removed to Northwood in the same county, and then to Harper, also in that county, where D. P. Kerr was engaged for some time in mercantile business. Afterwards he carried on the same business at Big Springs, Logan county, O., and was postmaster there for a number of years. He next moved to Alvada, O., and after a short stay came back to Logan county, settling at Wharton, where he conducted a store. This he subsequently sold and taking up his residence again in Bellefontaine, spent the rest of his days in that place, where he died August 3, 1910, at the age of seventy-three years and one month. He was buried in the old Harrod cemetery, near Huntsville, O. He was married to Charlotte E. Carter September 15, 1864. He and his wife were members of the Presbyterian church, and at one time he studied for the ministry but was obliged to relinquish his studies on account of poor health. He was a republican in politics and while a resident of Bellefontaine, served as assessor of his ward. He and his wife were the parents of two children: Minnie, who died in infancy, and O. L., the subject of this sketch.

O. L. Kerr in his boyhood attended school at Harper and Big Springs, O., and then attended the Agosta Normal School at Agosta, Marion county, O. He then began business life as clerk in his father's store. He later began the study of telegraphy in the employ of the old "Bee line" and a year later was taken on as extra agent. In April, 1890, he was made station agent at Houston for the Big Four, formerly the old "Bee Line," which position he has since held, having performed his duties in a manner satisfactory to the company. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., Piqua Lodge, No. 8, of the O. R. T. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, in which he holds the office of deacon and clerk. In politics he is a republican, as was his father.

O. L. Kerr was married August 22, 1893, to Mary P. Ginn, who was





GRANT E. RUSSELL



MRS. GRANT E. RUSSELL

born west of Fort Loramie, O., March 9, 1875, a daughter of John and Ella A. (Wilson) Ginn, of McLean township, who are now residents of Houston, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Kerr have had children as follows: Paul Ginn, born August 9, 1895, who died July 24, 1896, and is buried in Houston cemetery; Dean Burwell, born September 18, 1898, who is now a pupil in the eighth grade of the Houston school; Dale Wilson, born August 2, 1902, who is in the fifth grade of the same school; and Vesta Agnes, born October 27, 1905, who is in the second grade, Houston special school district. Mr. and Mrs. Kerr have resided in Houston since their marriage, where they have many friends. Mrs. Kerr is a member of the Presbyterian church, and an active member of the W. C. T. U., being president of the local branch.

EDWARD J. SHAFER, member of the firm of Paul & Shafer, operating a grain elevator at Botkins, O., is an enterprising and representative business man of this section and is well known in this and adjacent counties. He was born on his father's farm near Lock No. 2, in Auglaize county, O., December 18, 1869, and is a son of Jacob and Susan (Keister) Shafer.

Edward J. Shafer was reared on the home farm in Washington township and engaged in agricultural pursuits until March, 1906, when he came first to Botkins and for six months afterward drove a team for the Paul & Sheets elevator. Afterward, for several years, he was connected with the Wapakoneta Grain Company at Wapakoneta, O., coming again to Botkins and purchasing his present business from its former owners, Taylor & Marx. Later he became a partner and half owner with Mr. Paul, under the present firm name of Paul & Shafer. In July, 1912, the old elevator was burned but was immediately replaced and business was interrupted for only a short time. The firm enjoys the confidence of the community and they do a large business.

Mr. Shafer married Miss Nora Weisley, of Washington township, and they have one daughter, Evaline. Mr. Shafer is not very active politically although he is ever ready to give support to movements that seem to him beneficial for the country. He has been identified with the Odd Fellows for a number of years.

GRANT E. RUSSELL, who is one of the representative citizens and well informed and successful agriculturists of Clinton township, Shelby county, O., where he owns and operates 160 acres of excellent land, was born in this township, March 2, 1860, and is a son of Moses James and Martha (Beck) Russell, the family being a leading one in this section.

Moses James and Martha (Beck) Russell were the parents of the following children: Harry W., who is a well known attorney at law, at Dayton, O.; Fred J., who is in the mill business at Sidney; Jessie, who is the wife of John Blake; Daisy E., who is the wife of Frank M. Sayer, who is secretary and treasurer of the Farmers Grain and Milling Company at Sidney; Bertha E., who is the wife of Elmer Sturn; Dana G., and Grant E.

Since his school days Grant E. Russell has been engaged continuously in agricultural pursuits. When he reached manhood he was married to Miss Ida M. Blake, who was born at Sidney, a daughter of Oliver B. and Mary A. (Ensey) Blake. Mrs. Russell died in September, 1894, leaving two children: Howard Blake and Homer Clifford. Mr. Russell's second marriage was to Florence Green and they have one child, Bonnie Ensey. The father of Mrs. Russell was formerly a butcher and later a farmer, and now lives retired at Sidney. Mr. and Mrs. Russell are members of the Presbyterian church, taking a conscientious interest in all its work. Politically he is a Republican but has never accepted any office except that of school director, and fraternally he is identified with the Masons.

SOLOMON SPRINGER, whose sixty acres of fine land are situated in Clinton township, is one of the successful farmers and respected citizens of this section. He was born in Berks county, Pa., September 12, 1861, and is a son of Solomon and Lena (Wise) Springer.

The parents of Mr. Springer were also natives of Pennsylvania and there spent their lives. The father was an industrious man and in his neighborhood was well known and respected. He cast his vote with the republican party and in his religious sentiments was a Lutheran as were his parents. To Solomon and Lena Springer the following children were born: Mary, who is the wife of Richard Link; Elizabeth, who is the wife of Solomon Knabler; Ellen, who married John Dolman and after his death, Daniel Specht; Hettie, who is the wife of Albert Merkle; and Solomon and Emma, twins, the last named becoming the wife of George Weinert.

Solomon Springer attended the public schools and afterward worked at different tasks for some time, by the day, and was eighteen years of age when he came to Shelby county, O., where an uncle lived, with whom he made his home for some time. He became a farm hand and continued to work by the day. After marriage Mr. Springer and his young wife went to house-keeping in a log cabin and he kept on working by the day, always being busy, and then bought twenty-five acres of land from David Oldham. This first purchase he sold to advantage and in 1896 bought his present farm of Alvina Fulton and here has engaged in general farming and moderate stock raising ever since. He is a practical, common-sense farmer and the results of his industry are very satisfactory.

On February 28, 1882, Mr. Springer was married to Miss Catherine Amanda Willauer, who died July 5, 1912, and her burial was in Graceland cemetery at Sidney. This estimable lady was born in Clinton township, a daughter of Andrew and Amanda (King) Willauer, the eldest of their family, the others being: Lavina, wife of I. B. Bussard; Margaret, deceased; Callie, deceased, formerly Mrs. Williams; and George.

Mr. and Mrs. Springer had the following children: Mayette, who resides at home and looks after her father's comfort; Pearl, who is deceased; Lena, who is the wife of Sylvester Rauhouse; Charles A.; George Albert; Clarence Willauer; Raymond E.; Theron Harold; Clement Theodore; and Adele



Rucile, Robert Andrew and Catherine Isabel. Mr. Springer and his children are members of the Lutheran church. In politics he has always been a democrat but has never accepted any public office except that of school director. He is identified with the order of the Modern Brotherhood of America.

FREDERICK R. McVAY, physician and surgeon, at Botkins, O., has built up a satisfactory practice here and has established himself in the confidence of the people both personally and professionally. He was born on a farm in Salem township, Shelby county, O., one mile northeast of Port Jefferson November 21, 1883, and is a son of James and Sarah (Frederick) McVay.

The McVay family is an old and honorable one in Shelby county and was founded in Salem township by the grandfather, James McVay, who, at the time of his death, in 1908, was one of the most venerable residents of the county, being then aged ninety-eight years and six months. James McVay, Jr., was born in Salem township, followed an agricultural life and died there March 29, 1907.

Frederick R. McVay was educated in the country schools and those of Port Jefferson and after graduating from the Port Jefferson high school entered the Ohio Northern University at Ada and afterward taught school for two years, following which he took a course of four years in the Medical College of Ohio at Cincinnati, where he was graduated in 1909 and immediately came to Botkins. During his senior year at college he practiced in the Ohio Maternity Hospital at Cincinnati. He carries on a general practice in both medicine and surgery.

Dr. McVay married Miss Maybelle Lochard, who is a daughter of J. W. Lochard. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In his fraternal relations he is a member of Stokes Lodge No. 305, F. & A. M., at Port Jefferson, and of the Woodmen of the World at Botkins.

JOHN C. KOENIG, whose business interests are largely centered at Botkins, O., where he is in the hardware line, being the senior member of the firm of Koenig Bros., proprietors of the Botkins Hardware Company, was born on a farm in Auglaize county, O., one and one-half miles north of Botkins, September 19, 1880. His parents are John H. and Margaret Koenig, who are well-known and highly esteemed residents of Botkins.

John C. Koenig was reared on the home farm and attended the country schools. His first business experience away from home was as a traveling salesman for the International Harvester Company, of Fort Wayne, with which corporation he continued for two years, when he came to Botkins to make a permanent business establishment, in which commendable undertaking he was associated with his brother, Michael Koenig, and they, under the firm style of Koenig Bros., bought the hardware business then conducted by Jacob Paul. For the past seven years they have operated their present store, enlarging their stock as demand has arisen and probably have one

of the largest and best equipped stores in the general hardware line, in this part of Shelby county. John C. Koenig is a member of the Catholic church and is identified with the Knights of Columbus at Sidney. Mr. Koenig is unmarried.

ERNEST J. ROETH, a general farmer who is successfully cultivating a valuable tract of eighty-four acres of land which is situated in Loramie township on the range line turnpike road, is a well-known and highly respected citizen of this section of Shelby county. He was born in Germany August 10, 1875, and is a son of Carl F. and Catherine (Wagner) Roeth.

The parents of Mr. Roeth were also born in Germany and came from there to the United States in 1881 and settled on the farm above mentioned when there were but few permanent residents in Loramie township. By trade the father was a carpenter but later became a farmer and in clearing and putting his land under cultivation as fast as possible, spent the rest of his life, his death occurring at the age of fifty-two years. He was a most worthy man, a consistent member of the Lutheran church to which religious body his wife belongs, her present place of residence being Covington, O. In Germany seven of their family of ten children were born, three others being added after they came to Ohio. Annie, the eldest, who is now deceased, was the wife of Simon Wehneman. Henry and Mary both reside in Miami county. Reynold is deceased; Ernest J. is the fifth in order of birth; Fred lives in Loramie township; Louis and Albert, both are residents of Chicago, Ill.; Alma lives in Miami county, and Edward, the youngest, is now deceased.

Ernest J. Roeth was six years old when his people came to Shelby county and settled in Loramie township. With his brothers and sisters he attended the Beech Grove school and afterward, until his father's death, hired out to neighboring farmers and subsequently, with his brothers, took charge of the home farm, where he still continues his management, and his success has given him the reputation of being one of the most capable farmers of the township.

Mr. Roeth married Miss Anna Fessler, a daughter of the late Martin Fessler, and they have the following children: Ada, Forest, Clara, Naomi, Eva, Dora and Herbert. Mr. and Mrs. Roeth have lived on this place since 1902 and he has greatly improved it, remodeling the residence and building the substantial barn. In politics he is a democrat but has never accepted any public office except membership on the school board of the Beech Grove special school district, to which he has belonged for three years. He is justly proud of his father's record as a soldier in the Civil war, he having served for three years as a member of the One Hundred and Fifty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, receiving an honorable discharge and was mustered out on July 3, 1866. Mr. Roeth and family belong to the Lutheran church at Houston.

M. C. SULLIVAN, who is one of the best known residents of Shelby county, O., for thirty-seven years has been continuously engaged in educa-

tional work and at present is a valued teacher in the public schools of Botkins, O. He was born at Webster, in Darke county, O., February 22, 1856, and is a son of Marcus and Mary (Kelly) Sullivan.

M. C. Sullivan was about two years old when his parents moved on a farm situated one mile south of Botkins, the father being a railroad man. M. C. Sullivan attended the district schools in Dinsmore township and afterward attended the Ohio Normal, now the Ohio Northern University at Ada, O., largely providing for his own expenses and, being very ambitious, making the most of his opportunities. He was only sixteen years old when he taught his first school, this being at Glynwood, in Auglaize county, O., and he continued to teach in that county, although not continuously, for about thirteen years, being at Freiberg for two years, otherwise he has taught mainly in Shelby county. As an educator Mr. Sullivan has few equals in this section and is held in great esteem. Teaching has been his life work and he has found his greatest pleasure in imparting instruction and in watching the seeds of knowledge he has planted develop into the educational standards which have prepared hundreds of his pupils for successful careers in life. A democrat in his political views, Professor Sullivan has frequently been called upon by his party to accept the burdens of public office and when he has done so his duties have been performed with the efficiency which marks his life. While residing in Dinsmore township he served as clerk of the township and at the present time is filling the same position at Botkins.

Mr. Sullivan was married to Miss Catherine O'Neil, who was born in Canada and was two years old when she was brought to Shelby county. They have had five children: John M., who resides at Lima, O.; Neal; Ruth; Raymond, who died at the age of three months; and Mary Louisa. Mr. Sullivan and family are members of the Catholic church. He is identified with the Woodmen of the World, and has frequently served on charitable boards, and has addressed educational bodies.

JOSEPH H. BARHORST, one of the leading citizens and successful agriculturists of Cynthian township, owner of a fine farm of 120 acres, situated in section 34, three miles southwest of Newport, O., is a member of the township board of trustees and has also served on the board of education. He was born in McLean township, Shelby county, January 20, 1872, and is a son of Joseph and Mary (Schultze) Barhorst.

Joseph H. Barhorst was reared on his father's farm and attended school in the Berlin special school district. Since his marriage he has resided on his present farm, which he purchased from his father who had bought the same from George Wishwitz, and has done the most of the improving. He has a very fine barn, 80x40 feet in dimensions and other substantial buildings. In addition to carrying on general farming, Mr. Barhorst keeps a herd of high grade cattle for dairy purposes and sells his milk to the New Bremen Creamery.

Mr. Barhorst was married to Miss Anna Ungruhn, who was born and reared at St. Rose, a daughter of Joseph and Catherine Ungruhn, and they

have had nine children: Magdalena, Bernard, Veronica, Frank, Clara, Freda, August, Joseph and Mary, all of whom survive except August, the third youngest, who died at the age of five months. All the other children have attended school in the Turner special school district, which is a tract of forty acres, on the northwest corner of this farm, of which it was originally a part. Mr. Barhorst and family belong to the Catholic church at Newport, O. In politics he has always been a democrat and personally is looked upon as one of the solid and reliable men of this section.

F. I. MONNIN, treasurer of the board of education of the Huffman special school district of Loramie township, is the owner of a well-drained and tiled farm of eighty acres, which is situated two and one-half miles northeast of Russia, O. He was born February 13, 1869, in Loramie township, Shelby county, O., and is a son of Frank and Henrietta (Thiebeau) Monnin, both of whom died in this township.

F. I. Monnin spent his first year of school life in Cynthian township but afterward was a pupil in the Loramie schools and when old enough to assume such responsibilities learned the principles and has ever since followed farming. He came to his present place following his marriage and improved the property to a considerable extent and is numbered with the successful agriculturists of this section. He cultivates all but ten acres of his land and that makes a valuable wood lot.

Mr. Monnin married Miss Rosa Mary Perin, who was born in Cynthian township, a daughter of Jule and Rosa Perin, and they have had six children born to them, namely: Amos, who died when aged three and one-half months; Albert; Emma; Agnes, who died when in her sixth month; and Elmer and Wilfred. Mr. Monnin and family belong to the Catholic church at Russia, O. In politics a lifelong democrat, Mr. Monnin has been no office seeker but has consented to serve on the school board, of which he has been a member for three years and its treasurer for the last two years.

PROF. WEBSTER C. KING, superintendent of schools of Botkins, O., is one of the younger educators of the state and through scholarship and executive ability of a high order, has reached a very prominent position as a teacher. He was born on a farm in Montgomery county, O., June 15, 1884, and is a son of Adam F. and Rose E. (Goode) King.

In 1888 the parents of Mr. King moved to Shelby county, locating for a short time at Sidney, and then moved to the old Dr. Silver farm in Clinton township, where they resided for a number of years. Subsequently they lived on a farm in Orange township and then moved to Port Jefferson.

Webster C. King attended the public schools, rural and village, and afterward taught school for seven years, first in Salem township and then in Logan county, and after satisfying himself that a career as an educator would be a congenial one, he entered the Ohio Northern University and there thoroughly prepared himself. Since completing his course there he has taught in different high schools and prior to coming to Botkins in 1910

he taught for three years at Lake View, in Logan county. Under his superintendence the schools of Botkins have made marked advances and he not only has won the confidence of the pupils but the respect and cooperation of his teachers and the public.

In 1907 Mr. King was married to Miss Cora Nettleship of Port Jefferson, a daughter of A. L. Nettleship, and they have one child, Maurice. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is identified with the Odd Fellows and is more or less interested in various educational organizations in different parts of Ohio.

HON. JOHN B. STOLLY, mayor of Botkins, O., a justice of the peace, and a representative business man of the place, is a native of Shelby county, O., born on a farm in Jackson township August 11, 1849, and is a son of Frank J. and Susanna (Seiter) Stolly.

Frank J. Stolly was born in Alsace, France, and after coming to the United States first located in Stark county, O., removing from there to Jackson township, Shelby county, when very few settlers had yet secured homes here. He followed farming all his active life and died in advanced age at Botkins, O.

John B. Stolly was fourteen years old when he left Jackson for Dinsmore township and in 1867 came to Botkins, where he learned telegraphing, afterward working for the C. H. & D. Railroad for eight years, following which he did teaming for a time and then embarked in the meat business, and ever since has conducted it along his own lines, doing his own slaughtering, and retaining old customers who have never used stock yard products from other places. So successfully has Mr. Stolly conducted his own business affairs, during all these years keeping the confidence of his fellow citizens, that it is not remarkable that they should place reliance in him in public affairs and honor him by electing him to the highest municipal office in their gift. Mr. Stolly was elected mayor of this pleasant and progressive town in the fall of 1911, on the democratic ticket, and took charge of affairs on January 1, 1912. His policy is the same that has brought him prosperity in his private undertakings and Botkins is to be congratulated on having so sensible, courageous and judicious a mayor. Some twenty years ago he served two terms as a justice of the peace and is now serving in his fifth year in the same office.

Mayor Stolly was married to Miss Augusta Hemmert, who was born and reared in Dinsmore township, Shelby county, a daughter of Aquelin Hemmert, and they have six children: Albert, Victoria, Matilda, Annie, Nora and William. Mayor Stolly and family belong to the Catholic church.

GENERAL BENJAMIN LeFEVRE, the subject of this somewhat extended biographical sketch, is a thorough Buckeye, having been born on a farm in Salem township, ten miles northeast of Sidney, October 8, 1838. His parents were pioneers and the ancestral acres of great fertility Ben has owned for years and has recently erected a spacious farm house, approached by a drive shaded with an arcade of maples.

From the ample porch of this delightful rustic abode he can sniff the aroma of the apple blossoms of his nearby orchard and the fragrance of its ripening fruit.

Higher criticism, with its convenient elasticity, had not been developed rendering it possible to interpret the plain injunction of Scripture to multiply and replenish the earth to mean race suicide, so the God-fearing LeFevre household was filled with a large family of stalwart boys and girls, with appetites commensurate with their healthy out-of-door activities and digestion that an ostrich might covet, thus furnishing a home market for the surplus products of the farm.

Though he was not born with a gold spoon in his mouth, as that article was not plenty in those pioneer days of nearly a century ago, he never felt the grip of poverty for the home domain was ample. As the virgin land furnished employment in all seasons, Satan, who gets in his work where there are idle hands, steered clear of that busy, industrious household.

Ben's pockets were not distended with an annoying surplus of pin money, as filthy lucre was not a profuse commodity in those days, and did not admit of liberal distribution to such an extent as to invite burglarious invasion, but the larder was never empty and its products were dispensed freely in those hospitable times.

He was by nature optimistic, kept himself on the silver lining side of life clouds and shadows, was full of hope and as his sky was thickly set with lofty ideals he bent every energy to achieve and realize their fruition; and his life attest how successful he has been. In his lexicon there was no such word as "fail."

What crude privileges the log country schoolhouses afforded he embraced, but the three R's were the extent of the curriculum, and to the rule of three was the limit of the pedagogic ability to instruct.

In due time he was sent to Sidney for advanced instruction, attended several terms and subsequently taught school and became a student at the Miami University at Oxford.

An episode in his pedagogical career illustrates his natural tact and diplomacy which has served him so well in untying hard knots and straightening tangles. He had one very refractory pupil who gave him a world of trouble, and, feeling that forbearance had ceased to be a virtue, he kept the miscreant in the schoolhouse one evening for substantial settlement. When about ready to administer a deserved castigation, Ben looked out of a window and caught a glimpse of the irate mother, who was a terror in skirts, sidling up to the schoolhouse with a stride that meant business. She paused a while to listen to the interior proceedings. Not relishing the red hot fury of a woman, Ben at once changed his tactics and in a voice that could be distinctly heard outside, said: "Jim, I wish you would suppress your animal spirits and mischievous ways, for you have marked ability and noble qualities. I did not keep you in for punishment but to have a good talk and appeal to your better nature. You are the hope of your kind and indulgent mother who would do anything for your welfare and solicitous as she is through the

day for you I have no doubt that she remembers you in her prayers each night, and I am doing my best to help her make of you an honor to her and a useful man." At this the mother burst in the door, totally disarmed, and poured the contents of her vial of wrath, intended for Ben, upon her son. This diplomatic stroke endeared Ben to her not only the rest of the term but ever afterward.

When the slogan of the Civil war sounded Ben's quick and patriotic ear heard it, and he joined the Benton cadets, went to Missouri, and served in General Fremont's brief campaign, going as far as Springfield in that state. When the cadets were mustered out he came home as lieutenant and when the Ninety-ninth Ohio regiment was organized joined at Lima, serving as major in the army until the final surrender of the rebel host. He returned to Sidney, studied law with Smith and Cummins, leading attorneys of Sidney, and was admitted to the bar, but having a stronger taste for politics than of legal practice he was elected to the state legislature from Shelby county.

At the close of his term he was appointed governor of the territory of Washington by President Johnson, but which was changed to a consulship to Nuremburg, Bavaria. At that time Andrew G. Curtis, Pennsylvania's war governor, was minister to Russia, and Elihu Washburn, minister to France, and the three became fast friends.

Upon his return to this country he was employed by Col. Thomas A. Scott to look after the revenue cases of the Pennsylvania railway and remained until he resigned to run for democratic congressional nomination from this district, composed of Shelby, Miami, Darke, Mercer and Auglaize counties. A mass convention was held in Sidney, and after a fierce fight of three days and nights, the time Jonah spent in making interior observations of the whale, Ben was victorious by one and a half votes on the two hundred and eighteenth ballot for the forty-sixth congress, and triumphantly elected in November.

While serving his first term the district was changed to comprise Shelby, Auglaize, Allen, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Defiance and Van Wert counties. Five of these counties were represented by W. D. Hill, who was up for renomination, but Ben won on the first ballot. The district was again changed and Ben served continuously for eight years. It is safe to say that no representative ever served his constituents with more fidelity than General LeFevre, or procured more lucrative employment for democratic boys in republican administrations than he. His diplomacy and suavity did the work. Milton E. Ailes, who subsequently became assistant secretary of the treasury under Lyman D. Gage, was one of his boys from Sidney.

Upon entering congress he served on the committee on agriculture and the committee on military affairs, and introduced the first bill for the suppression of contagious diseases among domestic animals. He introduced the resolution creating the department of agriculture and always espoused the cause of the soldiers, and was ever at his post.

At the close of his congressional career he was engaged by the Erie railway to look after claims, and for twenty-three years was in its service,

resigning in the summer of 1909, much to the regret of the railroad managers, as letters show.

Many of these years his vacations were spent in Europe, and he has crossed the Atlantic over twenty times and visited all the countries of the continent and nearly all the cities, and sipped the waters of its famous springs. Being a great pedestrian, he mingled much with the peasants and common people studying their habits and modes of life, and has made foot-prints, man's size, in the soil from Italy to Finland, not giving Sweden and Norway the go-by. His views afoot if written out would fill volumes.

After Mr. LeFevre's resignation as a railway official, he again set sail for Europe, and pausing long enough to get breath, started on an overland trip to the Orient. It was more of a leisurely saunter than trip, as he took his own time and avoided the water as much as possible. He left France, traversed Austria and Hungary and the Balkan states to Constantinople, where he spent two weeks. A religious festival was in progress and the supply of Moslem prayers seemed to be largely in excess of the demand. He next went to Smyrna and to Jerusalem, where he stayed three weeks, visiting all the places of interest and some not so interesting. It seemed as if all the beggars were expecting him, from the welcome they gave him, and had an idea that he had a souvenir for each one. Ben donkeyed and cameled it across Arabia and sailed across the Arabian sea to Bombay, India, a most wonderful city, with the finest architecture in the world. The hotel Taj Mahal is not excelled for artistic beauty by any on earth, and is owned by a parsee. He made the acquaintance of several parsees, who are the merchants of the city. He journeyed to Delhi and at Agra saw the famous tomb Taj Mahal, built for an Indian princess at a cost of \$20,000,000. When Lord Curzon was viceroy of India he had a lamp that had been destroyed or taken from the tomb replaced, but could find only two men that could do it. One of these was brought from Persia, and they were about two years in fashioning it. He passed through Lucknow and Cawnpore on his way to the sacred city of Benares, on the Ganges, where he paused for several days. From thence he went to Calcutta, at the delta of the Ganges on the Bay of Bengal. It is the most interesting city that he saw so far on his journey, and its jute mills are the largest in the world, employing 57,000 men. The experts in these mills get twelve cents a day and the others less. They live on rice the year around, a most monotonous diet, and it goes without saying that they do not buy it in Sidney nor Dayton. From there he sailed diagonally across the Bay of Bengal, rounded the peninsula of Malacca, passed Singapore on his way to Borneo, Hong Kong and Canton, a most interesting city, where half a million people live on boats, briefly viewed the Philippines on his way to Japan, where he remained for some time, then took a Pacific steamer for San Francisco, halting for awhile at the beautiful flower-embowered city of Honolulu. From San Francisco he went to Southern California and returned by way of Texas to Sidney, where he was most warmly greeted by his many friends after a year's absence. Abstemious in his habits, careful in diet, drinking Vichy water as a beverage, the year was one of unbroken health and enjoyment.







CHRISTOPHER ENDERS

How one so genial and a social favorite has managed to elude Cupid's darts seems strange, but he has, and is as ever in "maiden meditation and fancy free," with no obvious symptoms of change for "better or for worse."

A. B. C. HITCHCOCK.

GEORGE W. ZEDEKER, residing on his valuable farm of 120 acres, situated in Salem township, Shelby county, O., was born in Montgomery county, O., January 30, 1864, and is a son of John W. and Mary (Brandenberg) Zedeker. He has one brother, Oliver C. Zedeker, who is also a well-known resident and successful farmer of Salem township. The parents live retired in Franklin township.

George Zedeker was about ten years old when his parents moved to Shelby county and here he completed his school attendance. With his brother he assisted on the home farm and continued with his father until five years after his marriage, moving then to his wife's old home farm. Later he bought a one-half interest in the same which he subsequently sold, then bought his present farm from the Widow Davies and ever since has been actively engaged in general farming and stock raising, such as horses, cattle, hogs and sheep which demand good prices.

In 1888, Mr. Zekeker was married to Miss Martha West, a daughter of William and Lavina (Conover) West, farming people of Shelby county. The mother of Mrs. Zedeker was born in Miami county but the father came from Virginia. Mrs. Zedeker had four brothers and one sister: Elizabeth, wife of Shelby Brandenberg, and John, Edward, Charles and Lester, the last named being deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Zedeker five children have been born: Ethel, Hazel, John, Wilbur and Charles, all of whom have been given school and other advantages. The family attends the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics Mr. Zedeker is a democrat and for some four years he served as a member of the Shelby county fair board.

CHRISTOPHER ENDERS, for many years was a well known and respected citizen of Shelby county, where he became a man of large estate, at the time of his death, June 24, 1901, owning 214 acres of fine land in Franklin township, the result of his own industry and frugality. He was born in Elsass, Germany, in April, 1837, a son of Christopher Enders, who, with his wife, died in Germany.

When sixteen years of age, young Christopher Enders came to the United States and made his way to Shelby county, O. Here he worked for a time at weaving and wagonmaking and still later, when able to buy land, became a farmer and afterward, until death, followed an agricultural life. Quiet, self respecting and industrious, he was well known to his neighbors and he set an example of thrift and good citizenship. He was twice married, first to Miss Margaret Dornmeyer, and four children were born to them: Jacob, George, Charles and Emma, the last named being a trained nurse. His second marriage was to Miss Barbara King, who was born in Butler county, O., and still resides on the

homestead, in which she has a life interest. Her parents, John and Magdalena (Sallsman) King, are now deceased. They were old residents of Butler county, who moved from there to Iowa, but at the time of death were buried in Graceland Cemetery at Sidney, O. Mrs. Enders is the youngest of her parents' family, the others being: Elizabeth, wife of John Houndrick; Mary, wife of Jacob Meyers; Catherine, wife of John Gram; and Joseph. To Mr. and Mrs. Enders four children were born, all surviving: Sadie E., who is the wife of Charles Richards, and they have two children—Jennette and Frances; Mary, who is a trained nurse; Herman, who operates the farm for his mother; and Catherine. Mr. Enders was a member of the Lutheran church and Mrs. Enders and all of the children belong to this religious body. He was never active in politics and never willing to serve in public office but voted with the democratic party and his sons follow his example.

MARTIN F. DENMAN, whose own farm of ninety-five and one-half acres is located in Green township, Shelby county, O., eight miles southeast of Sidney, O., also operates his wife's farm of fifty-seven acres in the same vicinity. He was born on his present farm, September 9, 1863, and is a son of Moses and Barbara (Hauser) Denman.

Moses Denman was born in Miami county, O., near Piqua, and was twenty-one years old when he came to Shelby county and settled on the farm in Green township on which his entire subsequent life was spent, his death occurring here, when he was aged eighty-two years. He married Barbara Hauser and she became the mother of five children, passing away in her sixty-sixth year. Two of these survive: Martin F. and Mrs. Harvey-Millhouse.

Martin F. Denman obtained a public school of training and is one of the well-informed and substantial citizens of this section where he has engaged in farming and stock raising ever since reaching man's estate. He has kept up repairs but has had no buildings to erect as his father had made all improvements. Mr. Denman married Miss Abigail W. Grosvenor, and they have three children: Araminta, Della and Harry. Mr. Denman and family are members and supporters of the Christian church. In politics he is a democrat.

GEORGE H. WAGNER, one of the leading citizens of Loramie township, Shelby county, O., who resides on his excellent farm of forty-three acres, situated one-quarter mile north of Houston, O., lying on the north side of the Piqua and St. Mary's turnpike road, in section 5, was born January 9, 1854, in Clark county, O. He was one year old when he was brought to Shelby county by his parents, Jacob and Celina Wagner, who settled south of Houston.

George H. Wagner obtained a district school education and then assisted his father until his own marriage, after which he still worked on the homestead for one more year and then moved to a place one mile west of Houston. After four years there he moved on the Flynn farm and operated that for four and one-half years. Later, after a period in which he was engaged in a general mercantile business at Houston, he moved to the Block farm, on the

township line, where he remained for eight years. He then came to his present place, in 1907, where he has made many improvements. He has all his land under cultivation with the exception of four acres of pasture. For many years he has been a leading factor in democratic politics and has given most efficient service in such offices as turnpike superintendent, township trustee and school director, and for the past three years has been road superintendent.

Mr. Wagner married Miss Alice Stoker, who was born and reared in Loramie township, a daughter of W. F. and Libby Stoker, both of whom died in this township. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Wagner: Verna, who died at the age of two years; Charles; Mollie; Bertha; Edith, who died in infancy; and Ruth. Mr. and Mrs. Wagner are members of the Christian church. They are well-known people all through this section and have a wide circle of friends.

GEORGE FAULDER, who has recently retired after many years of active life on his farm of eighty acres, situated in Salem township, Shelby county, O., now occupies his comfortable residence on South Main street, Sidney, O. He was born February 16, 1833, in Frederick county, Md., and was two years old when his parents, James and Louisa (Applebee) Faulder, brought him to Shelby county.

James Faulder was a cooper by trade and in his day the making of barrels, casks and hogsheads by hand was a very remunerative business. He followed his trade until within twenty years of the close of his life, when he turned his attention to farming. He was one of the useful and reliable men of his neighborhood and, while never consenting to hold office, gave his support to all public spirited movements when they seemed to him to be of a character to benefit the community. He was the father of the following children: William H.; George; James; Joseph; Wilbur; Sarah, wife of John Morter; Louisa, wife of Amos Stiger; Mary, wife of Leander Halter; and Susan, wife of William Sims.

George Faulder attended the district schools in boyhood although he never had the advantages which children of the present day have thrust upon them. When he started out to take care of himself, he engaged at farm work by the month for about six months and then went into a saw mill, and for twelve years worked there by the day. After that he settled down to farming and also did considerable business in building turnpike roads under contract. Mr. Faulder, with his many interests, has been a very busy man and seemingly is entitled to a period of rest. In politics he is a republican and at times served as school director in Salem township and for two years was assessor.

In 1865 Mr. Faulder was married to Miss Caroline E. Fergus, who was born in Shelby county, a daughter of Joseph and Barbara (Allery) Fergus, both of whom are deceased, their burial being in Graceland cemetery. Mrs. Faulder has the following brothers and sisters: R. H.; Sarah C., wife of William Valentine; John S.; W. Alonzo; Mary M., wife of Thomas Mitchell;

J. L.; Scott; Charles E.; Wealthic E., wife of Peter Stockstill; and Laura A., wife of Samuel Knoop. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Faulder are: Harry B., who married Ella Shaw; Charles V., who married Mellie Gauze, and they have one son, Forest Faulder; Edward L., who married Ella Williams, and they have one child, Audrey; Taylor A., who married Katie Burton; Clemie C., who is the wife of Elmer Shroyer; Nellie B., who is the wife of Earl Fristoe; Mary H., who is the wife of Terry Wones and they have one child, Mildred; Donnie F., who is at home; and George B., who is a student at Ann Arbor, Mich. Mr. Faulder and family attend the Methodist Episcopal church. George Faulder was a soldier in the Civil war, having been a member of 134 Regiment. O. V. I.

EARL D. FRISTOE, whose farm of 138 acres of valuable land lies in Perry township, Shelby county, O., belongs to an old Shelby county family and was born in this township, January 21, 1879. His parents were Milton and Mahala (Fahnestock) Fristoe.

Milton Fristoe was a highly respected citizen, and a successful farmer. His death occurred in September, 1901, and his burial was at Port Jefferson. To his first marriage with Lyda Mericle four children were born: John, Anna, Libbie and Phebe. His second marriage was to Mrs. Mahala (Fahnestock) Spangy, widow of Philip Spangy, who had two children, Frank and Clara. To the second marriage but one child was born, Earl D. and his mother resides at Sidney.

Earl D. Fristoe attended the public schools and all his life has been more or less engaged in agricultural pursuits. The first land he ever owned was forty acres situated in Orange township, which he sold and then bought sixty acres in Perry township and after selling that, bought his present farm, in 1909, at sheriff's sale, it being known as the old Henry English farm. He made all necessary improvements, including the building of a new and substantial barn and is successfully interested here in raising Jersey cattle and Percheron horses.

Mr. Fristoe was married in November, 1900, to Miss Nellie B. Faulder, who was born in Shelby county, July 16, 1880, a daughter of George and Caroline (Fergus) Faulder. They are farming people in Salem township and their children are: Harry B., who is a physician at Wapakoneta; Charles, Edward, Taylor, Clementine, Nellie B., Mary, Donna, Chester and Benjamin. To Mr. and Mrs. Fristoe one son was born to whom the name of Lawrence Theodore was given, but his little span of life covered only five weeks. In politics Mr. Fristoe has been active as a republican and served three years as a county central committeeman, and is serving in his second term as vice president of the county fair board. He is identified with the Knights of Pythias at Maplewood and Knights of Khorassan of Sidney, O.

E. A. DUNN, who resides on an excellent farm of eighty acres one-half mile south of Plattsville, O., in a desirable section of Green township, was born in Orange township, Shelby county, in 1858, and is a son of John and Susan (Razor) Dunn.

John Dunn was born in Pennsylvania and came to Ohio when young and after living for some years in Montgomery county, came to Shelby and settled on a farm in Orange township, where he died in his sixty-fifth year. He married Susan Razor and they became parents of seven children.

E. A. Dunn obtained a district school education, often attending school under conditions that his children would deem exceedingly uncomfortable, entailing long walks in inclement weather and a schoolhouse devoid, in large measure, of any of the present-day comforts that are now considered necessities. He remained on the home farm until he was sixteen years old and then worked through the neighborhood for different farmers. He has been established on the present place for the past eleven years and here very successfully carries on general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Dunn married Miss Callie Simes and they have two daughters: Bertha and Ruth. In politics Mr. Dunn is a democrat. For a number of years he has been identified with the Odd Fellows, attending the lodge at Kirkwood.

CONRAD CRUSEY, proprietor of the Crusey Grocery Company, operating a first-class grocery store on the corner of Walnut and Fair avenues, Sidney, O., is one of the representative business men of this city and has practically spent his life here. He was born at Sidney, November 28, 1853, and is a son of Stephen and Agnes (Sousa) Crusey.

Stephen Crusey and wife were born in Germany. In the fall of 1849, Stephen Crusey with his own family and with his father, John Crusey, and two brothers, John and Michael Crusey, set sail for America and during the voyage that lasted fifty-five days, forty-two of the passengers died of cholera. Finally the survivors were landed at New Orleans and took passage on a Mississippi river steamboat for Cincinnati. The germs of the deadly cholera, however, were in the system of the aged father and he suffered a severe attack but finally recovered and subsequently lived in robust health into advanced age, his death occurring at Muncie, Ind. After reaching Cincinnati the travelers proceeded by canal to Piqua and from there came to Sidney by wagon. Stephen Crusey was a machinist by trade but the circumstances that surrounded him on reaching the United States did not favor his securing employment at this trade and for some years he was variously employed, but always industriously. At one time he purchased a small farm in Auglaize county, O., but as it was in the woods he never worked it but kept it until he could sell to advantage and made seventy dollars by his prudence. His first job of work after coming to Sidney was on the Wapakoneta turnpike road, his wages being eight dollars a month. Afterward he started in the business of selling stoves, traversing the country in a wagon and carrying the stoves with him to the farms where he found customers and when he made one dollar a day and his expenses, he considered that he was doing a very satisfactory business and was able to save money. Later he worked for a foundry as cupola tender and afterward was employed for a short time at the old still house, where he fortunately saw the dangerous character of the work in time to leave it, three other workmen less observant being killed on the following

day. He assisted in putting in new machinery and became night engineer and turned the first wheel that ever revolved in the still house. Later Stephen Crusey and his brothers opened a brickyard, its site being what is now known as Gramercy Park, and for many years he carried on this business. Retiring at last he spent some quiet, restful years prior to his death in January, 1910, when aged eighty-eight years, having survived his wife since 1888. One son, Edward, who was born in Germany, is now in the grocery business at Sidney.

Conrad Crusey attended the public and parochial schools at Sidney and as a boy worked in his father's brickyard and afterward, for eighteen years, was in the liquor business. In 1906 he embarked in the grocery line and carries a large and carefully selected stock, catering to the city's best trade.

Mr. Crusey was married in 1875 to Miss Nettie Wise, of Muncie, Ind., a lady reared at Sidney from the age of seven years, and they have three children: Agnes Jane, who is the wife of Bert E. Binckley, of Cleveland, by whom she has five children—Helen, Dolores, Marion, Paul and Sarah; Milton S., who married and lives at Sidney, has three children—Frances Marie, Jennette Rose and John Anthony; and Nicholas John, who married Agnes Redindo, lives at Sidney and has two sons, Adrian and Nicholas. Mr. Crusey and family are members of the Holy Angels Catholic church.

ELIAS J. GRIFFIS, a lifelong resident of Shelby county, O., and a very prominent business man of Sidney, interested in many of the important enterprises of this section, was born in Cynthian township, Shelby county, March 8, 1862, and is a son of J. S. and Mary (Babylon) Griffis.

J. S. Griffis was born in Butler county, O., a son of Jacob and Rachel Griffis, who came to Shelby county when their son, J. S., was a boy and settled on the present site of the Loramie reservoir. J. S. Griffis engaged in the grain business at Dawson, O., in 1880, and was a well known business man. He was the first postmaster at that place. He died in 1904 at the age of seventy-two years. He married Mary Babylon, who was reared in Miami county, O., and died in 1905 at the age of sixty-eight years. Her parents were Daniel and Eliza Babylon, old residents of Miami county. To J. S. Griffis and wife four children were born: Warren A., who died of typhoid fever, in 1895, survived by a widow and one daughter, was in partnership with his brother, Elias J., in the grain business from 1887 until the time of death; Jennie E., who is the wife of E. T. Custolenborder, of Sidney; Wilson, who died in infancy; and Elias J.

Elias J. Griffis was educated in the local schools and at Ada Normal and from 1880 to 1885 alternated teaching with school attendance and afterward was interested in the grain business at Dawson for several years. In 1887, in partnership with his older brother, Warren A., he purchased the grain business of Nutt Bros., operating an elevator known as the Old Stone Bridge Elevator. The Griffis brothers did an immense business both in coal and grain. In 1895 the old building was replaced by the present one, the new elevator being the best in this part of the state. The business was continued after the death of Warren A. Griffis, the firm name being E. J. Griffis & Co.



In 1898 a flour mill was erected with a capacity of ninety barrels, and Mr. Griffis continued to devote his time to this enterprise until 1904, when he sold out to E. E. Nutt.

A large number of the successful business enterprises of Sidney have had the fostering care of Mr. Griffis and his interest in many of these continues. He was one of the promoters and one of the first officers of the Commercial Club, serving as its second president; is a stockholder and director in the Sidney Tool Company; a stockholder and director of the Monarch Company; a stockholder in the Sidney Manufacturing Company, and, in association with W. E. Wenger, owns the Standard Clutch Company, of Sidney. In 1895 he entered the newspaper field, purchasing the old Sidney Journal, which was founded in 1832, and consolidated it with the Sidney Gazette, then owned by Mr. Williams, the new paper being issued as the Sidney Journal-Gazette, and during the four years that he remained connected with it, the policy of the paper was progressive and tended to assist in furthering the interests of this section. Mr. Griffis is first vice president of the Shelby County Building & Loan Association, and he also owns two fine farms in his native county.

In 1888, Mr. Griffis was married to Miss Rhoda V. Boyle, a daughter of S. H. and Elizabeth Boyle, old residents of Cynthian township, and they have one son, Forest H. The latter was educated at Sidney and is shipping clerk for the Sidney Tool Company. He married Miss Mabel Struble and they have a handsome residence at No. 119 Walnut street, Sidney.

In his political affiliation Mr. Griffis has been an active republican but has never sought political honors, accepting only membership on the board of health, in which office he has served with efficiency for the past twelve years. Both he and wife are members of the Presbyterian church. The only fraternal organization with which he has ever identified himself is the Improved Order of Red Men. Mr. Griffis is largely a self-made man, his success having been mainly the result of his own unaided efforts.

R. O. BINGHAM, superintendent of the Wagner Manufacturing Company of Sidney, O., a member of the library board and a citizen of sterling worth, was born at Baltimore, Md., August 25, 1850, and is a son of Alfred Hugh and Rebecca (Evans) Bingham, the former of whom, for some years, was superintendent of cotton mills in Maryland.

In the infancy of Mr. Bingham, his parents moved to Alexandria, Va., and there he attended school. He afterward served an apprenticeship of four years to the machinist trade and worked in cotton mills until 1871, when he came to Sidney, O. Here he entered the machine shop of G. G. Haslup & Brother, where he remained for seven years, in the meanwhile being first made foreman and later superintendent. During these seven years the business name had been changed to the Sidney Manufacturing Company. In 1888 he went to Marion, Ind., with Mr. Gould and Mr. Fruchey, on account of inducements offered by capitalists in that city, and for three years the partners conducted works for the manufacture of hollow ware and stoves, when their plant was burned. Mr. Bingham then came back to Sidney and

ever since has been identified with the Wagner Manufacturing Company as its superintendent. This important business enterprise of Sidney started with twenty men and at present 300 are given employment, all of whom, in their industrial activities, come under the careful superintendence of Mr. Bingham.

In 1881 Mr. Bingham was married at Sidney to Miss Alice Conklin, a daughter of the late Judge Conklin, and they have two children, Florence and Hugh, both of whom have been afforded exceptional educational advantages. Miss Florence was educated in Miami University at Oxford, O. Hugh is a graduate of the Wesleyan University at Delaware, O., and during 1910-11 was an instructor in the Sidney high school, and at present is a student of law in the Western Reserve College. The mother of these children died in March, 1908.

Mr. Bingham has always taken a public spirited interest in city improvements since he came to Sidney and for thirteen years served as a member of the school board, in 1910 being its secretary and its president in the following year. He has held other municipal offices and for many years served as a member of the board of trustees of the city waterworks. As a member of the Commercial Club, Mr. Bingham has encouraged its aims and on many occasions his sound business advice has been followed. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and a Knight Templar in Masonry.

KIRBY THRELKELD, who has been identified with the grain business at Jackson Center, O., for eight years and conducts a mill and grain elevator here, was born at Shelbyville, Shelby county, Ky., December 29, 1872, and is a son of Elijah and Mary Ellen Threlkeld, both of whom survive and now reside at St. Joseph, Mo.

Kirby Threlkeld was four years old when his parents moved to Missouri, where he was reared and attended the public schools and later Hardin College. Afterward he came to Fayette county, O., to learn telegraphing and subsequently was made operator and agent at Jackson Center for the D. T. & I. A., and continued for eight years. For about eighteen months he was with the Baughman Lumber Company of Jackson Center as manager, and then became assistant cashier of the old Farmers & Merchants Bank, which, after reorganization, became the First National Bank of Jackson Center. Mr. Threlkeld remained with the bank for a year and a half and then purchased a one-half interest in the mill and elevator of G. E. Allinger & Son, the mill plant having been erected by Allinger & Woodcock. The firm of Allinger & Threlkeld succeeded and continued for three years, when Mr. Threlkeld purchased his partner's interest and assumed entire ownership. He did an extensive business but a fire that attacked his plant in December, 1912, swept everything away, his elevator at that time having about fifteen thousand dollars worth of grain destroyed. Steps will probably soon be taken to rebuild and possibly on a still larger scale. Mr. Threlkeld is not a man to permit business disasters to discourage him. He has always been an active and public spirited citizen and enjoys public confidence and esteem. A democrat in politics, he has always declined public office for himself.

Mr. Threlkeld married Miss Nevada E. Hall, a daughter of John and Elizabeth Hall, the former of whom is deceased, but the latter lives at Jackson Center, where Mrs. Threlkeld was born. Mr. and Mrs. Threlkeld have one son, Wayne Hall. They have a very handsome residence which is situated on South Main street, Jackson Center. He is identified with the Odd Fellows.

GEORGE P. STALEY, who is probably one of Shelby county's best known citizens, prominent in political life and popular as an educator, was born in Jackson township, Shelby county, O., April 6, 1871, and is a son of George W. and Sarah C. (Erven) Staley, both of whom reside in Jackson township. The Staley family is an old and substantial one of this section.

George P. Staley secured his early education in Jackson township, in district No. 6, and afterward attended Lebanon University. He then entered the educational field and taught school for twenty-three years, in the meanwhile acquiring a teacher's life certificate. Since his marriage he has been a resident of Montra, O. A lifelong democrat, Mr. Staley has been very loyal to his party and has frequently been honored by the same with election to responsible offices. He served for two years as assessor of Jackson township, for six years was a member of the board of county school examiners, being the clerk and president of this body, and in November, 1912, was elected county auditor of Shelby county, for which office he is undoubtedly well qualified. For the past eight years he has also been clerk of Jackson township and his official duties in this direction will engage him for one more year.

Mr. Staley has been a factor in the literary life of his social acquaintance and is one of the oldest members of the Shelly County Reading Circle.

HENRY H. EVERSMAN, who was born in 1871, resides on his birth-place farm, which is situated in Van Buren township, Shelby county, O., and is a well known, public spirited and highly respected citizen of this section. He is a son of Herman and Elgian Eversman. The father was born in Germany but the mother is of American birth. Of their seven children, Henry H. is the fourth in order of birth. William, the eldest, was a resident of Auglaize county, O., where he died. He married Louise Rehn, who survives. John died at the age of twenty-three years. George married Magdalena Katterheinrich and they live at New Bremen, O. Fred Erick married Dora Katterheinrich and they live at New Knoxville, O. Philip married Sarah Schroe-lucke and they live in Auglaize county, O. Sarah, the youngest of the family, is the wife of William Koge and they live in Auglaize county.

Henry H. Eversman was educated in the public schools and ever since, with the exception of two years during which he lived at New Knoxville, he has been engaged in agricultural pursuits in Van Buren township. He owns a well improved farm of eighty acres here and additionally has a farm containing seventeen and one-half acres situated in Auglaize county.

Mr. Eversman married Miss Anna Settlage, a daughter of William and Mary Settlage, the other members of their family being: August, who mar-

ried Elizabeth Snethcamp, now deceased, and for his second wife, Grace Holcroft and they live at New Bremen; Herman, who is deceased, married Anna Knierim; William, who lives in Auglaize county, married Ida Wellman; Henry, who married Mary Grether and they live in Wisconsin; Sarah, who is the wife of William Elshoff, of Shelby county; Caroline, who married John Geiger and they live at St. Mary's; Matilda, who married John Wagoner, of Auglaize county; Flora, who married Wesley Katterheinrich and they live in Auglaize county; Elizabeth, who is the wife of Louis Hoge and they live in Indiana; and Paulina, who lives with her brother, William, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Eversman have four children: Walter, Florence, Wesley and Arnold. Mr. Eversman and family belong to the Reformed church. Politically he is identified with the progressive party and takes a very decided interest in public affairs both local and countrywide.

PHILIP SMITH, president of the Philip Smith Manufacturing Company, one of the most important business enterprises of Sidney, O., giving employment to a large number of men and thereby adding to the general prosperity of the city, is one of the solid, stable, reliable men of Sidney. He was born at Harrisburg, Pa., September 7, 1839, and is a son of Reinhardt and Catherine Smith. Reinhardt Smith and wife were natives of Pennsylvania and probably were of German parentage. He was a foundryman by trade and after his son Philip had started his foundry at Sidney, came here with another son, Michael, and they became partners in the business.

Philip Smith was reared in Dauphin county, Pa., through his school period and then came to Ohio, and in a foundry at Dayton learned the molder's trade and remained there until he was almost twenty-one years old, when he came to Sidney, and here started out in business for himself on a capital of \$25, practically among strangers. He was able to purchase the ground on which an old foundry had formerly stood but had been destroyed by fire, and in 1859 he put up his first shop and from that time until the present has been in the manufacturing business and is the oldest manufacturer in the city. Industrious, persevering and possessed of mechanical skill, Mr. Smith gradually broadened his business field until his plant had been developed into one of such importance that it became advisable to form a company, and thus the Philip Smith Manufacturing Company came into existence and its capitalization is \$130,000, Mr. Smith owning the majority of the stock, his partners being L. M. Studevart and B. D. Heck. The business carried on is the manufacture of elevator machinery and employment is afforded from eighty to one hundred workmen. Mr. Smith retained the active management until 1907, when he retired but with no loss of interest. When a man has built up a business like that of Mr. Smith, no formal retirement from some of its responsibilities can cause him to lose his interest in its continued prosperity. At various times Mr. Smith invested in farm land and in town property and both are now exceedingly valuable and his investments aggregate 270 acres. For some years after starting



PHILIP SMITH



into the manufacturing business Mr. Smith operated a spoke plant together with his foundry, and also a hollow ware factory, but sold the latter to the Wagner Manufacturing Company and discontinued the former. Mr. Smith has always been too busy a man to take a very active part in politics, but at times has consented to serve on the city council, where his business judgment has been highly valued. He is one of the oldest members of the Odd Fellows in this section.

WILLIAM FRANKLIN RHOADES, a man of character and standing in Loramie township, Shelby county, O., who for seven years has been president of the Beech Grove special school district and still earlier a member of the board, was born December 13, 1864, in Newberry township, Miami county, O., and since the age of twenty-one years has resided on his present valuable farm of 210 acres, lying in section 25, Loramie township.

John Rhoades, father of W. F. Rhoades, was born in Pennsylvania and at the age of twenty-one years came to Miami county, O., and settled on 160 acres in Newberry township, where he cut the first tree ever taken from the native forest in that section. In Montgomery county he married Miss Barbara Apple, and ten children were born to them, not all of whom, however, survived her. One of her sons, Henry Rhoades, died while serving as a soldier in the Civil war. The second marriage of John Rhoades was to Elizabeth Schneck, who was born in Pennsylvania but was reared in Montgomery county, O., and she became the mother of five children, dying when aged seventy-five years. Of the second marriage W. F. Rhoades was the second born.

W. F. Rhoades, with his wife, moved on the farm of eighty acres they purchased in the spring of 1886 and in the year 1889 purchased fifty acres adjoining the home place. He cleared eighty acres of his farm and tilled all of it. In the year 1897 they built the large bank barn and erected the wind pump with supply tanks and hydrants. In the year of 1904 they built the large buff pressed-brick house, with all modern improvements, which is their present home. In 1909 they purchased the Apple homestead of eighty acres, this farm being well improved with a large brick house and bank barn.

Mr. Rhoades was married in Miami county, O., to Miss Lucinda B. Loxley, who was born in that county, a daughter of Benjamin and Phebe Ann (Kaylor) Loxley. The mother of Mrs. Rhoades is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Rhoades have two children: Grover Franklin and Orville Leslie, and they also reared a niece, Myrtle Loxley, now the wife of Morris Cothran. Mr. Rhoades and family are members of the Lutheran church at Bloomer, in which he is a deacon and is assistant superintendent of the Sunday school. A lifelong democrat, Mr. Rhoades has been a loyal party worker but has accepted few offices except those concerned with the public schools, in which he has been deeply interested. He belongs to the Bloomer Horse Thief Association, of which he was president, is a member of the Knights of Pythias, attending the last named lodge at Versailles, O. Mr. Rhoades is president and for the past eight years has been manager of the Bloomer Home Tele-

phone Company, and is one of the charter members of this enterprise. Few men in Shelby county are better known in the quiet walks of life.

CHRISTOPHER SHEARER, who is one of Franklin township's most highly respected citizens, a retired farmer, was born in Montgomery county, O., six miles from Dayton, in Wayne township, May 4, 1826, and is a son of Moses and Mary (Martin) Shearer, a grandson of Valentine Shearer.

Moses Shearer was born in Bedford county, Pa., and probably was of German descent. He followed farming as an occupation through life, first in his native state and later in Montgomery county, O. He was a man of good standing in his neighborhood and was a member and supporter of the Reformed church. In politics he was a whig. He married Mary Martin, who was born in Maryland, and the following children were born to them, many of whom became well known in Shelby county: Elizabeth Catherine, who married F. E. Munger; Marian, who married Asa Grimes; Christopher; Susannah, who married Samuel Wright; Julia Ann; George W.; Sarah Jane, who married William Eckert; Henry E.; William H. and David Edward.

When Christopher Shearer was a boy the matter of securing an education was much more difficult than at present but, in spite of disadvantages, the essentials were taught and the foundation thus laid was built upon as later opportunity offered. After his school days were over, Mr. Shearer gave his father assistance until he was twenty-three years old, when he married and for five subsequent years worked for his father on the home farm on shares. He then purchased 114 acres in Montgomery county and lived on that property for two years and then sold, and in 1856 came to Shelby county and took possession of a farm he had bought in Jackson township. On that farm he remained for eight years and then sold and purchased the farm in Franklin township on which, with the exception of four years spent in Montgomery county, he has lived ever since, selling the same to his son Edward in 1910.

On December 19, 1849, Mr. Shearer was married to Miss Harriet Wright, who was born in Miami county, a daughter of Asabel and Martha (Sweney) Wright. The parents of Mrs. Shearer were natives of Vermont and they had children as follows: Edmund, Samuel, Sarah, John Quincy, Warren, Harriet and William. To Mr. and Mrs. Shearer a large family was born, the record being as follows: Albert L., John H., Martha Alice, Mary Florence, Samuel Edward, Clara Bell, Charles M. and Minnie Louella, twins, William Everett, Effie Grace, Warren Wright and Frances Harriet. Albert L. married Julia Folkerth and they have one daughter, Edith. John H. married Alvena Miller and they have two children, Ethel and Howard. Charles M. married first Grace Russell and she left one child, Dorothy Grace. His second marriage was to Frances E. Burritt. Minnie Louella married Dr. E. McCormick and they have two children, Lowell and Eugene. William Everett married Eva Young and two children were born to them, Mildred and Frederick W., the former of whom is deceased. Warren Wright married Helen Hackman, who is deceased. Frances Harriet married E. W. Richards.

Mr. Shearer was reared in the Reformed faith and all through his long



life has retained his membership in this religious body and in younger years served as a church official. He remembers well the organization of the republican party and has supported its policies and candidates for many years.

FOREST D. CHRISTIAN, who conducts what is generally acknowledged to be the best equipped drug store in western Ohio, located at Sidney, has been a resident of this city since the summer of 1897, with the exception of a few months, during which period he managed a drug store at Nicholasville, Ky. Mr. Christian was born September 3, 1873, at Versailles, O., and is a son of Samuel and Lydia E. Christian, his father being a farmer and stock dealer in Darke county.

Forest D. Christian attended the public schools at Versailles and after graduating there entered upon an apprenticeship to the drug business under J. G. Steinle, an old and experienced drug man, and during 1895 and 1896 was a student in the Cincinnati College of Pharmacy, and after completing his professional course returned to Versailles and from there on July 5, 1897, came to Sidney. He accepted a position with H. W. Thompson, druggist, and remained with him until September, 1899, in September of that year going to Nicholasville, Ky., where he managed a store, as alluded to above, returning to Sidney on April 6, 1900, when he took over the management of Mr. Thompson's store. In 1904 he purchased a one-half interest in the store, and on July 30, 1908, after Mr. Thompson's death, bought the latter's interest and has been sole proprietor since that time. In addition to carrying the most complete line of drugs and drug sundries in northwestern Ohio, Mr. Christian handles a complete line of patent medicines of known merit, together with a complete line of physicians' supplies, doing a very extensive business in this department in this and adjoining counties. He also caters to public convenience by devoting space to books, stationery, periodicals, perfumes, camera supplies and other sundries, his stock covering all that is usually found in a modern drug and book store and is one that has been carefully selected with a view to pleasing a very discriminating public.

Mr. Christian was married to Miss Florence E. Hardman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sol Hardman of Versailles, O., on May 12, 1897, she at that time being a popular teacher in the Versailles schools. Mrs. Christian is an accomplished musician and since coming to Sidney has been one of the active members of the city's leading musical organizations. She is prominent in social and church affairs. Mary Bess, the daughter and only child, is spending her first year in the city high school, a pleasant little lady taking particular interest in her music and getting along nicely in her regular school work. Mr. and Mrs. Christian and daughter are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons and Knights of Pythias, being past chancellor in the latter organization, and is a member of the local branch of the United Commercial Travelers. He has shown his public spirit in many ways since becoming a permanent resident of Sidney and is an active member and a former director of the Sidney Commercial Club.

CHARLES PEPPER, a general farmer operating seventy-two acres of land situated in Perry township, Shelby county, O., which he rents from W. A. Johnston, of East Sidney, is one of the prosperous agriculturists of this section. He was born in Perry township, November 19, 1881, and is a son of John H. and Margaret A. (Roe) Pepper. The father was born in Champaign county, O., and came to Shelby county at the age of eighteen years and has spent his subsequent life here. In politics he is a democrat. He married Margaret A. Roe, who was born in Miami county, O., and three sons were born to them: Frank, Charles and William. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Charles Pepper has had experience as a farmer ever since his school days ended. Until he was twenty-one years of age he assisted on the home farm and for four years afterward worked for his father on shares, following which, in 1907, he rented his present farm from Mr. Johnston and has successfully and profitably conducted it for five years. He is one of the stockholders in the Farmers Telephone Company.

On October 1, 1905, Mr. Pepper was married to Miss Martha Heath, who was born in Logan county, O., a daughter of David and Sarah (Kress) Heath. Mrs. Pepper has brothers and sisters as follows: Reatha, Viola, Orvie, Alva, Rachel, Jaazaniah, Ollie, Earl and Minerva. Mr. and Mrs. Pepper are the justly proud parents of twin children, Cable and Mabel, who were born August 26, 1907. Politically Mr. Pepper is a staunch democrat and is now serving in his second term as township trustee. Mrs. Pepper belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church.

EMORY E. BAKER, whose successful operating of the home farm, consisting of 235 acres, which is situated in Perry township, Shelby county, O., places him among the competent young agriculturists of this section, was born in Perry township, October 24, 1880. He is a son of Lewis W. and Julia (Booze) Baker.

Lewis W. Baker is a son of William Baker, one of the early settlers in Shelby county. From early manhood until 1893 he engaged in general farming, but in that year he went into the elevator business at Maplewood, Shelby county, O., with M. D. Burke of Pemberton, O., under the firm name of Burke & Baker. In 1904 he bought out Mr. Burke and continued in business by himself until 1909, when he sold to Simmons, Faulkner & Cook. In 1911, he and Mr. A. F. Rust bought two elevators at Haviland, Paulding county, O., and are operating them under the name of the Haviland Grain Company. He married Julia Booze, a daughter of Hezekiah Booze, and they have two children: Emory E. and Edna, who is the wife of John J. Drewery, of Jackson township, and they have one daughter, Beulah.

Emory E. Baker obtained his education in the public schools and afterward was employed for five years by the firm of Burke & Baker, elevator operators. Mr. Baker then took charge of his father's large farm and has managed its various industries in a very satisfactory manner ever since. He has progressive ideas and follows the most modern methods with the assistance of

improved machinery, devoting the land mainly to crop raising, growing only stock for his own use.

Mr. Baker was married November 15, 1900, to Miss Lavina J. Young, who was born in Shelby county and is a daughter of Adam P. and Mary J. (Allen) Young, Mr. Young being a substantial farmer in this county. Mrs. Baker is the third in a family of five children: Elza, Earl, Lavina J., Minnie and Grover, Minnie being the wife of William Cox.

Mr. and Mrs. Baker have four children: Wilda L., Harold L., Carl E. and Ralph E. The family attends the Disciples church. In politics Mr. Baker is a democrat but has always been too busy attending to his own affairs to feel at liberty to accept public office, although well qualified for the same. He takes an interest in several fraternal organizations and belongs to the Knights of Pythias at Maplewood and to the D. O. K. K., at Sidney.

JOSEPH FRANKENBERG, who owns one of the fine farms of Dinsmore township, Shelby county, a beautiful, fertile tract of 200 acres, situated two miles east of Botkins, O., was born in this township in 1858, and is a son of Harmon and Louisa (Alkermire) Frankenberg. Harmon Frankenberg, the father, who died in 1862, was a highly respected man and by trade was a carpenter and cabinetmaker. He left six children: Julius, John, Elizabeth, Joseph, Mary and Theresa. Some time after the death of her first husband, Mrs. Frankenberg married Barney Wempe and four children were born to that marriage: Josephine, Catherine, John and Barney, John being deceased.

Joseph Frankenberg was educated in the district schools and then worked on his step-father's farm and was sixteen years old when the latter died. He then took charge of the farm for his mother and operated it until he was twenty-two years of age, at which time he married. He had inherited forty acres from his father's estate and then settled on that tract and erected a residence and shortly afterward bought forty acres more. Three years later he bought still another forty acres and his next purchase was a tract of eighty acres. He made all the improvements on his land and devotes it to general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Frankenberg married Miss Frances Greve, who is a daughter of Harmon and Louisa Greve and the following children have been born to them: Clara, John, Louis, Joseph, Frances, Aloysius, Catherine and Clemens, all of whom live at home with the exception of Frances and Clara, the former of whom is the wife of Paul Smith and they live in Shelby county. The latter married Frank Switzer and they live in Auglaize county and have three children: Richard, Alfred and Hilda. Mr. Frankenberg and family belong to the Catholic church. Politically he is a democrat. He is one of the reliable, substantial men of the township and one of its best and most progressive farmers.

WILLIAM G. MURPHEY, a well known resident of Shelby county, O., who, for fourteen years has operated the Daniel Curtner farm in Franklin township, was born on this farm November 13, 1865, and is a son of Henry

and Nancy (Cole) Murphey. Henry Murphey is a highly respected retired farmer now living at Port Jefferson, O. He was twice married, first to Nancy Cole, who died in 1875, and second to Rhoda Busic. To his first marriage three children were born, namely: Clara, who is the wife of John Lochard; Minnie, who is the wife of Rev. Harrison Thompson, of the Christian church; and William G. To the second union one son was born, Charles.

William G. Murphey obtained his education in the schools of Franklin township and afterward followed farming with his father and grandfather until his marriage. He owns an excellent farm of eighty acres, situated in Salem township, but it has suited his convenience to remain on the Curtner farm, where he carries on a general farming line, raising only enough stock, however, for home use.

In January, 1881, Mr. Murphey was married to Miss Minnie Staley, who is a daughter of George W. Staley and wife of Jackson township, Shelby county, who had the following children, all well known people of this section: Edward; Mrs. Murphey; Milton; Alice, who is the wife of Rowe Buracre; George; Mark; Isophene, who is the wife of L. G. Shanley, of Pemberton, O.; Bessie, who is the wife of Albert Linker; and Mary, who is the wife of Clarence Rinehart. Mr. and Mrs. Murphey have two children: Clay, who is a student of osteopathy, in college, at Kirksville, Mo.; and Bessie, who resides at home. The family belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. In his political affiliation Mr. Murphey has always been a republican.

GEORGE KIES, who successfully carries on general farming and stock raising in Dinsmore township, Shelby county, O., owns an excellent farm of 160 acres, situated two and one-half miles southeast of Botkins, was born in this township and is a son of Michael and Frederica (Seamans) Kies.

The parents of Mr. Kies were born in Germany and in their native land and afterward, in the United States, were highly respected people. They were the parents of the following children: Adam, Henry, Mary, Anna, John, Sophia, George and Catherine. Adam married Ann Shuler, and they live at Botkins, O. Henry married Louisa Groves and they live three miles from Botkins. Mary married Jacob Elsass of Auglaize county, O. Anna married David Rheinhardt and they live also in Auglaize county. John, who died at the age of fifty-seven years, married Caroline Groves. Sophia is deceased. Catherine is the widow of Louis Zeble and lives at Wapakoneta, O.

George Kies attended the public schools in Dinsmore township and ever since, with the exception of twelve years, has followed farming. He owns a beautiful property which is kept in the best of condition, his buildings being attractive and substantial and all his industries are carried on according to the latest methods. In visiting a model farm like Mr. Kies' it is easy to see why an Ohio agriculturist may be classed with the most independent and contented of men. Productive fields, bountiful orchards, healthy cattle and stock, abundance in every direction, with order and comfort reigning in the home, this presents a pleasant picture.

Mr. Kies was married first to Miss Caroline Wilt, and they had two chil-

dren, Emma Elizabeth and Martha M. The latter died in infancy. Emma Elizabeth married George Elsass and they live in Auglaize county and have three children: Edna, Amelia and Leona. Mr. Kies' second marriage was to Miss Maggie Meyers, a daughter of Casper and Margaret Meyers. Mrs. Kies had two brothers, Henry and John, the former of whom is deceased and the latter lives at Portland, Ind. Mr. Kies and wife belong to the Lutheran church, in which he has been a trustee for a number of years and of which he is a liberal supporter.

MICHAEL A. ROTH, whose valuable and well stocked farm of 110 acres is situated one-half mile northeast of Botkins, O., in Dinsmore township, is one of the representative men of this section, in which he has served for seven and one-half years as a justice of the peace. He was born at Botkins, O., May 26, 1872, and is a son of Antony and Elizabeth (Leabling) Roth.

Antony Roth was born at Palestine, O., and died October 24, 1911, at the age of seventy-five years. His father was born in Germany and came to the United States at the age of fourteen years, and his mother about the same time. She was born on the River Rhine, Germany, and her maiden name was Salinger. Anthony Roth married Elizabeth Leabling, who was born at Dayton, O., and still survives, being in her seventy-sixth year and a resident of Botkins. Her father was born in Hesse and her mother in Wittenberg, Germany. The following children were born to Antony and Elizabeth Roth: Josephine, George, Jacob, Henry, Frank, Joseph, Elizabeth, Michael A., Anna and Alphonse. Josephine, who lives at Botkins, is the widow of William B. Stelzer; George died at the age of nineteen years; Jacob married Kate Geotz and they live at St. Mary's, O.; Henry died in infancy; Frank married Lena King and they live at Wapakoneta, O.; Joseph married Bertha Baldus and they live at Genessee, Idaho; Elizabeth married Peter Schaaf and they live at Dayton; Anna married William Hemmert and they live at Botkins; and Alphonse married Matilda Schullen and they live at Ottoville, O.

Michael A. Roth obtained his education in the public and parochial schools at Botkins and later took a course at Rensselaer College, Ind. He then went into the sawmill and contracting business, in which he continues to be interested, and, additionally, carries on his farming operations with a large amount of success. He is justly proud of his pure-bred cattle and hogs, believing that there is more profit in fine stock than in the ordinary or inferior breeds. He is one of the active citizens of his neighborhood, always ready to do his part in all public movements and through natural gifts and education is capable of doing so. He was first elected to the office of justice of the peace when but twenty-four years old and has proved a valuable and efficient official.

Mr. Roth married Miss Clara Baker, a daughter of Andrew and Mary (Hasser) Baker. The father of Mrs. Roth was born in France and her mother at Fremont, O. The grandfather served under Napoleon in the Russian campaign, after which he came to Ohio and died here in his eighty-sixth year. The grandmother died at Fremont, O., in her ninety-ninth year. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Roth: Marie, Rosella, Claretta,

William, Eugene, Joseph and Gregory, the last named dying at the age of five years. Mr. Roth and family are members of the Catholic church at Botkins, O.

WILLIAM FINKENBINE, one of the representative citizens and substantial and practical business men of Franklin township, was born in Shelby county, O., February 18, 1859, and is a son of John and Barbara (Schiff) Finkenbine, who now live retired in Franklin township. They are well known and highly esteemed people and are among the leading members of the German Lutheran church.

William Finkenbine was the eldest born of his parents' family of ten children and he remained with his father on the extensive home farm until he was thirty years of age, in the meanwhile attending the district schools in the neighborhood. After his twenty-first birthday he worked for his father for \$100 a year and as he never drew one cent of his wages until he married, had a snug capital with which to start out for himself. For nine years after marriage he rented farm land from his father but later purchased his present farm of eighty acres, on which he has profitably engaged in farming and stock raising ever since.

Mr. Finkenbine was married first on November 1, 1888, to Miss Ida M. Ludlum, who died March 31, 1894. She was a daughter of Eliakim and Sarah (Persinger) Ludlum. Three children were born to the above marriage: Bonnie, who is deceased; Margie, who is the wife of Wilbur Schiff; and Wilbur, who is deceased. On March 4, 1897, Mr. Finkenbine was married (second) to Miss Emma C. Losch, a daughter of George and Sarah (Harmon) Losch, the former of whom died on his farm in this county and his burial was in the Pearl cemetery. The mother of Mrs. Finkenbine still resides in Franklin township, her children being: Jacob, George, Emma C., Lydia, Callie, John and Clara. Mr. and Mrs. Finkenbine have two children: Freda Clara and Mary May. The family belongs to the German Lutheran church, which has been the family church for several generations. Mr. Finkenbine, like his father, is a strong democrat in his political views.

JOHN M. SCHIFF, JR., one of the representative citizens of Franklin township, Shelby county, O., who is serving in his seventh term as township assessor, resides on his valuable farm of 112 acres, where he engages in general farming. This is his birthplace, born January 19, 1866, and is a son of John M. and Leanda (Moothart) Schiff.

John M. Schiff, the father, was born in Germany. For many years he was a farmer in Franklin township, where his death occurred in advanced years. He was a worthy member of the Lutheran church and his burial was in Pearl cemetery. He married Leanda Moothart, who was born in Pennsylvania and now lives at Anna, O., a much esteemed lady and a member of the Lutheran church there. They had the following children: William, who is deceased; Lydia, who is the widow of John Fogt; Henry L.; Lena, who is





MR. AND MRS. JOHN F. CAMPBELL



deceased, was the wife of George Gueths; Callie L., who is the wife of William Hagelberger; and John M.

John M. Schiff, his father's namesake, grew up on the home farm and assisted his father during the latter's lifetime and since then has devoted himself exclusively to his farm industries, always having been an industrious man and is one who is credited with excellent judgment in business and other affairs. In 1886 Mr. Schiff was married to Miss Louisa Knasel, who, at death, left the following children: Melvin C., who married Bessie Ike; and Ladonna May, who is the wife of William Harmon and they have two children: Kenneth Eugene and Marion Lester. Mr. Schiff's second marriage took place in 1898, to Miss Caroline B. Zorn, who was born in Shelby county, a daughter of Jacob and Margaret (Merklin) Zorn. The father of Mrs. Schiff was born in Shelby county and died on his farm in this county. The mother was born in Germany and now lives in Jackson township, Shelby county. To Mr. and Mrs. Zorn the following children were born: Lena, who is the wife of Jacob Helmlinger; Catherine, who is the wife of Philip Helmlinger; Jacob Henry; Elizabeth, who is the wife of Alfred Waltz; Mary, who is deceased, was the wife of Jacob Waltz; and Caroline B., who is the wife of Mr. Schiff.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Schiff are: Mamie Louella, Iva Marie, Elmer Harold and Erma Grace. The family belongs to St. Jacob's Lutheran church. Always a staunch democrat, Mr. Schiff has frequently been useful in the councils of his party and when he has been elected to office has proven honest and thoroughly efficient. He is known all over the county and stands high with his fellow citizens.

JOHN F. CAMPBELL, who is a member of one of the old and representative families of Shelby county, O., is one of the substantial citizens of Turtle Creek township, where he owns 370 acres of very valuable land. He was born in this township, December 26, 1836, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Brown) Campbell.

John Campbell and wife were born in Shelby county and were very early settlers in Turtle Creek township, where he followed farming until his death in 1841. His widow subsequently married Edward Beck, who was also a farmer and well known resident of this township. To her first marriage the following children were born: Joseph, Robert and Jackson; Elizabeth, who was accidentally drowned when eight years old; Susan, who married Kinley Sissell; Margaret, who married William Millinger; John F.; and Mary, who married Martin Burress. To her second marriage four children were born: Martha, who married James Russell; Raper; Laura, who married William A. Russell; and Frisby, who was accidentally killed by falling from a wagon.

During boyhood John F. Campbell attended the district schools and afterward worked for his step-father on the home farm until he was sixteen years of age and then worked two years longer for his board. He was eighteen years old when he started out for himself and remained with his first employer for three years, receiving wages of eleven dol-

lars a month, and as soon as he had enough money hastened to invest in land, his first purchase being eighty acres. Mr. Campbell has always believed that good land is a wise and sensible investment and has followed out that policy and now owns 370 acres of producing property. He is no longer actively engaged but for many years was a hard working and has always been provident, and while he has been able to accumulate a large property, has done so through his own unassisted efforts. He is also a stockholder in the churn factory at Sidney.

In 1865 Mr. Campbell was married to Miss Melinda Strouse, who was born in Montgomery county, O., a daughter of Adam and Barbara (Dare) Struouse, the former of whom was a tailor in early life but later became a farmer. Both he and wife are deceased. They had the following children: Mary, wife of Lewis Hohn; Sarah, wife of Shedrach Burton; Rebecca, wife of Jacob Zimmers; and Melinda, wife of Mr. Campbell. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell have two children and three grandchildren: Little Dell, who is the wife of William Widney and they have one son, John; and Sheridan S., who married Mary Marshall and they have two daughters, Sadie E. and Emma Marie. Mr. Campbell and family belong to the Presbyterian church. He is a democrat in his political views and has served two terms as township trustee. In business, social and church relations Mr. Campbell has always been held in esteem.

JOHN H. MOWRY, a general farmer and stock dealer, well known in Franklin township, resides on his finely cultivated farm of eighty-five acres, and was born at Sidney, O., September 17, 1853. His parents were Daniel and Elizabeth (Davis) Mowry, and both are now deceased. They were people of sterling character and upright life, leading members of the Methodist Episcopal church and were widely known. Their children were: Lyda, wife of Louis Johnston; Anna, wife of William Counts; Clara, wife of Bert Patton; Alice, wife of George Pfaadt; Eva, wife of Charles Quinn; and Edward, Thomas C. and John H.

John H. Mowry obtained his education in the country schools near his present farm, on which he has spent all his concious life, remaining with his parents until they passed away and then purchasing the interests of the other heirs in the old homestead. He devotes his attention to general agriculture and also, as did his father, does some stock dealing. He is regarded as one of the able and practical farmers of his section.

Mr. Mowry was married to Mrs. Sallie (Maderis) Clark, widow of John Clark and daughter of John Maderis, whose wife was a Miss Woods. He formerly was a well known stock buyer in Shelby county. Mr. and Mrs. Mowry are members of the Plum Creek Methodist Episcopal church. They have a wide circle of friends to whom their hospitable home is ever open. Mr. Mowry casts his vote with the republican party and as a citizen is intelligently active but is no seeker for office for himself.

LEWIS H. FINKENBINE, general farmer and well known citizen of Franklin township, whose well improved sixty-acre farm is situated in a desirable section, not far from Sidney, was born in Franklin township, Shelby county, O., November 22, 1877, and is a son of John and Barbara (Schiff) Finkenbine. The father of Mr. Finkenbine was born in the city of Philadelphia, in 1831, and was one year old when his parents, who were natives of Baden, Germany, brought the family to Shelby county, O. The mother was six years old when her parents, also of Baden, Germany, crossed the Atlantic ocean to the United States and made their permanent settlement in Shelby county. Of their family the mother was the youngest born. Mr. and Mrs. Finkenbine are among the best known and most highly respected residents of Franklin township and are leading members of the German Lutheran church.

Lewis H. Finkenbine was the ninth born in his parents' family of ten children and he remained with his father, whose agricultural interests are yet very large, until he was twenty-three years old, in the meanwhile securing a good public school education. After his marriage he moved to his present farm, which his wife had inherited from her father, and here, with much success, carries on general farming and moderate stock raising, taking advantage of modern inventions to save labor and increase production.

Mr. Finkenbine was married in December, 1900, to Miss Della M. Wells, who was born in Clinton township, Shelby county, a daughter of Sylvester S. and Sarah J. (Estey) Wells, who were both early settlers and prominent people in the county. Mrs. Finkenbine is the youngest of their children, the others being: Lilley, who is the wife of William Schlayman; Dacie, who is the wife of Charles B. Miller; and William A. and Arthur.

Mr. and Mrs. Finkenbine have three children, Marie, Emory and Goldie. The family belongs to the Lutheran church. Politically Mr. Finkenbine is a democrat, although in local matters he exercises his own excellent judgment in supporting candidates, seldom accepting any office for himself, although he has served four years as township trustee and also as school director.

CHARLES A. JOHNSTON, who may well be numbered with the substantial and representative men of Perry township, Shelby county, O., resides on his valuable farm of 120 acres and is interested in local enterprises, holding considerable stock in the Farmers Telephone Company. He was born in Perry township, July 18, 1862, and is a son of Fielding and Rebecca (Stephenson) Johnston.

Fielding Johnston was born also in Shelby county, while his wife was a native of Champaign county. She survives and resides with her son Charles A., but Mr. Johnston passed away some years ago, his burial being in Cedar Point cemetery, in Perry township. Three children were born to them, namely: Alice, who is now deceased, was the wife of Lewis M. DeWeese; and William A. and Charles A., twins.

Charles A. Johnston attended the public schools of his native township and then gave his father assistance on the home farm, afterward rented it and

after the death of his father, bought the homestead and has continued here. He carries on general farming and is one of the extensive hog raisers and dealers of this section. His preference is for the Poland China breed and raises from 100 to 140 head a year and feeds many more. Mr. Johnston has a handsome residence and substantial barns and sheds and an air of pleasant thrift prevails. No large farm or extensive stock business can be carried on advantageously without hard work and sensible direction and Mr. Johnson appears to have completely understood the situation.

In 1896 Mr. Johnston was married to Miss Alta Keesecker, who died in the following year survived by an infant son, Ray O. On June 1, 1904, Mr. Johnston was married (second) to Miss Edith Lickliger, who was born in Champaign county, O., a daughter of William and Jane Lickliger, farming people. Mr. and Mrs. Johnston attend the United Brethren church. He is identified with the democratic party and is a very active citizen in local matters and interested in all that concerns the welfare of Perry township. For seven and one-half years he served with the greatest efficiency as township trustee and has been a member of the school board for four years.

JOHN THOMAS STALEY, who resides on his home farm of 140 acres, situated in Salem township, Shelby county, O., owns two other farms in this township, all three aggregating 300 acres. Mr. Staley now lives retired, having all his land satisfactorily rented. He is one of the township's best known and most highly respected men, born here March 26, 1844, a son of Nicholas and Mary (Baker) Staley.

The Staleys were early settlers in Ohio and Nicholas Staley was born near Dayton, in Montgomery county. After marriage with Mary Baker, who was born in Salem township, Shelby county, he engaged for the remainder of his life in agricultural pursuits in this section. They were estimable people and devout members of the Christian church. They died on their farm near Port Jefferson and their burial was in the cemetery at that place. Their children were as follows: Margaret, who is the wife of John Bruner; Henry; Sarah Jane, who is the wife of Port Blue; Susan, who is the wife of John Ward; Nicholas and John Thomas.

John Thomas Staley attended school irregularly in youth, a building for school purposes having been built on his father's farm, but in his boyhood no opportunities were afforded as at the present day. He remained at home assisting and working for his father until he was thirty years of age, at which time he purchased, in partnership with his brother, Henry D. Staley, 160 acres in Green township, which they cultivated together for five years. Henry Staley then bought his brother's interest and the latter returned to Salem township, where he first purchased 130 acres, to which he has added until he now owns the large acreage above mentioned. General farming and stock raising were carried on by Mr. Staley while actively engaged and the same industries are continued on the land by his tenants.

In 1875 Mr. Staley was married to Miss Jennie Cargill, a daughter of John and Margaret (Strahlem) Cargill. The father of Mrs. Staley was a

farmer in early manhood but during the larger part of his life carried on a tanning business. Both he and wife are deceased, the following children surviving them: Jennie, who is the wife of Mr. Staley; Mary, who is the wife of John Hughes; Emma, who is the wife of Martin Wones; Bell, who is the wife of Guy Steenrod; and Ellen, who is the wife of D. R. Gibbs.

Mr. and Mrs. Staley have had four children: Ida May, who is deceased; Cora Olive, who is the widow of Dr. Dickerson; Dottie, who is the wife of Dr. Claude Harmon; and Goldie, who is the wife of Dr. Lucas. The family are active members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics a democrat, Mr. Staley has been interested at all times in the success of his party but has seldom accepted any public office for himself, although one time serving as a township trustee.

JOHN C. STANGEL, who is very efficiently serving Shelby county in a public capacity, being a member of the board of county commissioners, first elected to this representative body in the fall of 1910, was born on a farm in Pickaway county, O., February 9, 1864, a son of Christian and Rachel (Kah) Stangel.

The parents of Mr. Stangel moved to a farm in Jackson township, Shelby county, in 1866, and he comes that near to being a native of the county in which he has lived ever since. The father died in Jackson township and the son was eight years old when his mother removed with him to Sidney, where he attended school for six years. He then started out to be self supporting and worked at first on a farm in Franklin township, but after his marriage entered the Sidney Wheel Works at Sidney, where he continued until 1892, when he moved on a farm of 120 acres, situated in Franklin township, where he successfully carries on the usual farm industries.

In 1888 Mr. Stangel was married at Anna Station, O., to Miss Anna Brideweser, a daughter of Philip Brideweser, at that time a substantial farmer of that section, and the following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Stangel: Lawrence, Wallace, Perry, Maud, Luella, Carrie, Glenna, and Roy Wilson, the last named born October 25, 1912.

Mr. Stangel has always been an interested citizen of his neighborhood but has never been unduly anxious to hold office, in fact never accepted but one political position prior to his first election as a county commissioner, that being assessor of Franklin township, in which office he had served for two years when he resigned in order to accept his present one. Mr. Stangel was honored by re-election to the office of county commissioner, in 1912, and hence will continue his public service through a second term.

F. M. WILDERMUTH, cashier of the First National Bank of Jackson Center, O., is one of the representative men of Shelby county and a useful and influential citizen of Jackson Center. He was born on a farm in Jackson township, Shelby county, three and one-half miles northwest of Jackson Center, June 11, 1875, and is a son of George and Magdalena (Harmon) Wildermuth.

George Wildermuth was born in Germany but was married after coming to Shelby county, O. During his long life he has followed agricultural pursuits and he and wife still reside on their farm, which is situated three and one-half miles northwest of Jackson Center. They have been the parents of twelve children, nine of whom survive.

F. M. Wildermuth attended the public schools in Jackson township, later the Jackson Center schools and afterward the normal school at Angola, Ind., following which he taught school in his native township for nine years. Mr. Wildermuth first became associated with the First National Bank in the capacity of assistant cashier, then becoming cashier, in which office he has served continuously since 1909. He has additional business interests, being a member of the J. M. Pence Grain Company, of Ansonia, O., and the junior member of the Runyan & Wildermuth Hardware Company of Jackson Center. In politics Mr. Wildermuth has been a lifelong democrat and for a protracted period served efficiently in responsible offices in Jackson township, for two years being assessor and for three successive terms, township treasurer. He has served Jackson Center also as city clerk and during two terms was a member of the city council.

Mr. Wildermuth married Miss Christiana Sherer, who is a daughter of John and Louisa (Allenbarch) Sherer, and they have three children: Ruby Marie, Willis Arlington and Forest Elmer, all of whom were born in the family residence on North Main street, Jackson Center. Mr. and Mrs. Wildermuth are members of the Lutheran church.

GEORGE W. STALEY, who is one of the well known citizens of Shelby county, a retired farmer, owns eighty-five and one-half acres of fine land in Jackson township, situated one mile north of the southern township line. He was born in Franklin township, Shelby county, August 29, 1841, and is a son of John and Catherine (Young) Staley and a grandson of Joseph Staley, who was a native of Virginia and from there came to Montgomery county, O., at that time having but one child. He was twice married and became the father of twenty-two children.

John Staley was born in Montgomery county, O., and remained there into young manhood, when he came to Shelby county and entered eighty acres of land in Franklin township. He married Catherine Young, who was born in Ohio, a daughter of Philip Young, who married twice and had twenty-two children. To John Staley and wife the following children were born: Henry C., Susanna, George W., Nancy Jane, Milton and Sarah Elizabeth. From Franklin township John Staley moved into Jackson township and there his death occurred at the age of sixty years and his burial was first in the Wesley Chapel cemetery but later removal was made to the new cemetery at Port Jefferson and he was reinterred by the side of his wife.

George W. Staley attended school in Jackson township and was not much more than a boy when he enlisted for service in the Civil war, entering Company B, Twentieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served under Captain Frey for thirteen months when he was discharged on account of disability. He

then returned to the homestead in Jackson township and has lived here ever since and during his active agricultural life did a large amount of general improving and all the land is under cultivation by his tenant, Stewart Swiger, with the exception of ten acres still in valuable timber. All the substantial buildings now standing on the farm were placed here by Mr. Staley and his farm stock has always compared favorably with that of other farmers of this section. He has some other interests, including stock in the Farmers Telephone Company.

On November 3, 1864, Mr. Staley married Miss Sara C. Erven, who was born in Union township, Union county, Ind., December 21, 1841, a daughter of James and Lucretia (Campbell) Erven, and when Mrs. Staley was eight years old her parents moved to Shelby county. Her father died in Jackson township when aged seventy-one years, and her mother when aged eighty-six years, six months and twenty-two days, and their burial was in Salem township. Since his marriage Mr. Staley has lived on his present farm and here his children have been born and reared as follows: Edwin L., who lives at Maplewood, O., married Etta Arbigast and they have one son, Hugh A.; Milton E., who is a resident of Auglaize county, married first Edith Elliott, who became the mother of two children—Huber and Ralph E., the former deceased, and married (second) Lulu Hobby and they have one child, Twila; Minnie M., who is the wife of William G. Murphy and they live in Franklin township and have two children—H. Clay and Bessie; George P., who married Anna Maria Ambos and they have two children—Welland A. and Bertram Lowell; James M., who lives in Salem township, married Hattie Stephenson, and they have three children—Edith, Edna and George L.; Alice J., who married William Buroker of Pemberton, O., and they have six children—Thelma, Ethel, Mabel, Dorothy, William W. and Elizabeth; Isophine C., who is the wife of L. G. Shanley, of Pemberton, O., and they have four children—Grant Theodore, Jennie C., Charles Elwin and Staley; Bessie, who is the wife of Albert Linker of Dinsmore township and they have one son, Eugene; and Mary, who is the wife of Clarence Rhinehart, of Kirksville, Missouri. From the age of three years Mr. and Mrs. Staley have reared their grandson, Ralph, who was then left motherless. He has been carefully educated and has developed into a fine specimen of young manhood and is a pride and comfort to his grandparents. In the fall of 1912 he started into business for himself at Dayton, O. Mr. Staley and family are members of the United Brethren church. In his views on public questions Mr. Staley is liberal to some degree except in the matter of temperance and his opinions on this vital subject have made him a voter with the prohibition party. For nine successive years he served as a member of the school board and during seven of these was president of this body of representative men, and for five years he served as township constable and for four years was a trustee of the township.

W. E. COLEMAN, general farmer and a highly respected citizen of Jackson township, who works 120 acres of fine land in section 35, which

belongs to Mrs. Margaret Gilfillen, his mother-in-law, was born November 11, 1861, one mile southeast of St. John's, in Auglaize county, O., and is a son of Arnold and Sarah Ann (Miller) Coleman.

Arnold Coleman and wife are now deceased and their burial was at St. John's. In his young manhood he was a farmer and later he became a soldier in Company B, Twentieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and although he lived to return from the Civil war, it was with shattered health which caused his death a few years later. It is customary to call those who fall on the field of battle the nation's heroes but those who gave their strength and health may just as truly be named as heroes and there are those who will ever recall them as such.

W. E. Coleman attended the public schools of Jackson township and farming has been his business all through life and he has been very successful. His present home is the old Gilfillen homestead and he owns fifty-five acres adjoining this farm. His industries include a moderate amount of stock raising and the growing of crops which experience has taught him do best in this locality.

Mr. Coleman was married to Miss Emma Gilfillen, who was born in Salem township and is a daughter of William and Margaret Gilfillen, the former of whom is deceased but the latter resides with Mr. and Mrs. Coleman. Two sons were born to Mr. and Mrs. Coleman: Arnold, who lives on a farm lying southwest of the home place, married Etta Hawkins; and Roy, who is a student in the Ohio State Business College at Columbus. The family belong to the United Brethren church. A republican in his political views, Mr. Coleman has loyally supported his party's candidates but has desired no public recognition for himself, in fact has never accepted any office except membership on the board of education, to which he has belonged for four years and has been faithful to the duties involved.

HENRY SHROYER, who is now living in comfortable retirement at Maplewood, O., is an example of what may be accomplished in securing success and independence in life by the exercise of prudence and self-denial in youth and persistent industry through the years when the vital powers are at their best. Mr. Shroyer is a self-made man and through his own efforts built up from nothing a fortune that included the possession of more than 500 acres of land in the best sections of Shelby county. He was born in August, 1835, in Miami county, O.

The parents of Henry Shroyer were of the same name although not related, Joseph and Mary (Shroyer) Shroyer. Joseph Shroyer was born in Ohio while his wife was a native of Maryland. After marriage they lived in Miami county but later came to Salem township, Shelby county, where both passed away on their farm and their burial was in the cemetery belonging to the Reformed church, the church site having been given by Mr. Shroyer. They had a large family of children, the record being as follows: William, Thomas, Jacob, John, Henry, Elizabeth, Catherine, Eliza and Matilda, the last named being the only surviving daughter and she is the wife of Samuel



Giffin. Elizabeth was the wife of Samuel Roberts, Catherine was the wife of Frank Maxwell, and Eliza was the wife of Joseph Dodds.

Henry Shroyer had but meager schooling when he was a boy, partly because of the lack of school facilities in the neighborhood of his father's farm and partly because his services were needed, with those of his brothers, to help carry on the agricultural industries that then had to be conducted, more or less, without the help of much labor-saving machinery. He started out for himself as soon as he became independent and for five years afterward worked in Miami county for \$12 and \$13 a month. He then came to Shelby county and continued to work by the month on farms until he was twenty-eight years of age. For about five years after marriage he rented farming land and by that time had accumulated enough capital to buy his first eighty acres, situated in Salem township, and this tract he still owns. With continued prudence he became able to add farm to farm until over 500 acres belonged to him, all earned through his own unassisted efforts. Mr. Shroyer proved then to be a generous father for he divided this large estate among his children, happy in thus providing for them and giving each a good start in life.

On May 18, 1865, Mr. Shroyer was married to Miss Mary Strahlem, at the parsonage of the German Reformed church, by Rev. Jeremiah Heller. She was born in Ohio, a daughter of Gotleib and Elizabeth (Clapper) Strahlem, the father a native of Germany and the mother of Ohio, her parents having come here from Maryland. Mrs. Shroyer was the youngest of her parents' children, the others being: Jacob, Henry, David, Susan, Abraham, Isaac and Samuel. Susan married James Moreland. To Mr. and Mrs. Shroyer six children were born, namely: Clara, who is the wife of William Rubert; Eliza Ellen, who is the wife of John C. Wones; Harriet, who is the wife of George W. Rose; and Elmer, Nelson C. and Harry. Mr. Shroyer and family belong to the Reformed church, in which he was a deacon for many years. In politics he is a democrat and has always given an active support to the candidates of his party.

E. McCORMICK, M. D., physician and surgeon, with residence and office on the corner of College and Lincoln streets, Jackson Center, O., has a practice which extends north, east, south and west of the city. The father of Dr. McCormick died at Rosewood, O., at the age of eighty-eight years. His mother, however, died in his infancy and he was reared by the late T. B. and Elizabeth B. (Hawver) McCormick, the latter of whom survives and resides near Dr. McCormick.

In the public schools of Jackson township the youth first had educational privileges and afterward became a student of medicine under Dr. Edward McBurney, at Jackson Center, subsequently entering the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati. After graduating in medicine he located first at Santa Fe, in Auglaize county, later removing to another location, and remained in practice in Auglaize county for fifteen years, during which time he was a member of the Auglaize County Medical Society. In 1905 he came to Jackson

Center. He is now a member of the Northwestern Ohio Medical Society. Dr. McCormick is a democrat in politics and is a member of the town council. He is surgeon for the Detroit, Toledo & Ironton Railroad.

Dr. McCormick married Miss Minnie Sherer, a daughter of Christian Sherer, and they have two children: Lowell, who will graduate from the Ohio Western University at Delaware, O., in the class of 1914; and Eugene, who is a graduate of the Jackson Center high school. Dr. McCormick is an Odd Fellow and has passed the chairs in Lodge No. 736 at Jackson Center.

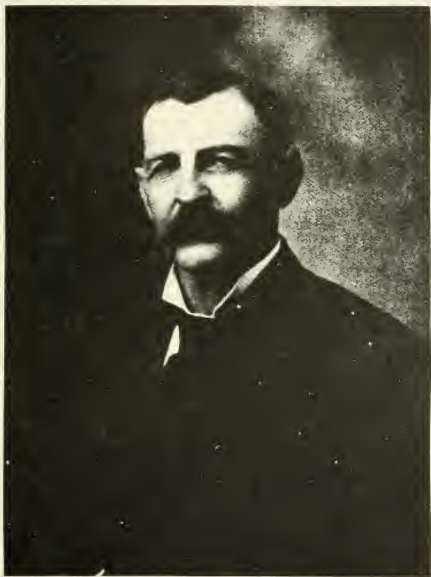
LEWIS PHILLIP GROSS, one of the substantial citizens of Salem township, who owns 103 acres of very fine land and is one of the stockholders in the Farmers Telephone Company, was born in Auglaize county, O., June 11, 1864, and is a son of Phillip C. and Catherine (Schuler) Gross.

Phillip C. Gross was born in Ohio but it is probable that his father, Phillip Gross, was born in Germany. The former married Catherine Schuler, who came from Germany, and they now live in comfortable retirement at Jackson Center, O., where they are members of the Lutheran church. They had children as follows: William, John, Lewis Phillip, Godfrey, Catherine, wife of Jacob Wilt, and David.

Lewis Phillip Gross attended the district school in boyhood and then helped his father on the home farm until he was twenty-one years old, when he started out for himself. He first rented a farm in Salem township and lived on it for one year and then spent a year in Jackson township and the following year in Auglaize county. During the next six years he lived at Botkins, Shelby county, and then moved to Maplewood but in the following year returned to Botkins and two years afterward rented land in Salem township and then moved again to Jackson township and lived there for six years, when, in 1905, he once more came to Salem township, purchasing his present farm from Jennie North. He found the residence needed remodeling and did that and other improving and now has a very desirable property and devotes his land to general farming and moderate stock raising.

Mr. Gross was married in March, 1887, to Miss Nellie Mallahan, who was born in Shelby county and is a daughter of Charles and Anna (Elliott) Mallahan, to whom but two children were born: Nellie and Frank. The second wife of Mr. Mallahan was Mary Counts and they have had three children: William, May, wife of William Garrett, and Louis, deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Gross three children were born, two sons and one daughter: Charles Phillip, who died at the age of eighteen years; Minnie Gertrude and Howard Henry. The family attends the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Gross is a democrat in politics but is not active beyond the bounds of good citizenship.

JACOB NEWTON VAN DEMARK, owner and proprietor of Avondale Farm, containing 220 acres and situated in Clinton township, has other property in the county, 560 acres of valuable land lying in Washington township also belonging to him. Mr. Van Demark is one of the capitalists of this section



JACOB NEWTON VAN DEMARK



of Ohio and one of its best known men. He was born March 22, 1853, in Orange township, Shelby county, and is a son of Henry B. and Susan (Boyer) Van Demark.

Henry B. Van Demark was born in Shelby county in 1815 and died in Clinton township in 1899. He was a farmer and stock raiser all his active life and was numbered with the successful business men of the county. He married Susan Boyer, who was born in Shelby county in 1821 and died in 1894. They were members of the Presbyterian church. To them were born the following children: Arvesta, who is the widow of Capt. E. E. Nutt; Daniel W.; Clymelia, who is deceased, was the wife of S. S. Mcready; Henry Lewis, who died at the age of eleven years; and Jacob Newton.

Jacob Newton Van Demark enjoyed educational advantages in the public schools, spending three winters as a student in the Sidney high school, after which he assumed duties on the home farm and has continued his agricultural industries ever since. General farming is carried on and extensive cattle and stock raising, a good grade of hogs, sheep, cattle and horses being developed. Mr. Van Demark owning enough land to profitably care for many flocks and herds. In addition to his possessions above listed, he owns a cottage and ten lots on Orchard Island, and is a stockholder and a director in the Citizens National Bank at Sidney.

In 1882 Mr. Van Demark was married to Miss Catherine Hicks, who was born in Michigan, a daughter of Richard and Catherine Hicks, who were farming people in that state. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Van Demark, namely: Florence V.; Henry V., who married Caroline Coon; and Jennie M., who married George Brandywie. The family attend the Presbyterian church. Like his late father, Mr. Van Demark is a republican although he frequently uses his own judgment in casting his vote, many intelligent men declining to be always guided by party leaders.

J. E. MERANDA, who is one of the representative men of Jackson township as evidenced by his election to the presidency of the township school board, is a general farmer here, who owns forty acres of land and 120 acres more in association with J. K. Clayton. He was born in Jackson township, Shelby county, three miles south of Jackson Center, July 4, 1869, and is a son of J. S. and Sarah (Maddux) Meranda, who still reside in Jackson township.

J. E. Meranda was reared in his native township and attended the public schools and afterward taught school until April, 1900, a period of twelve years, at the close of which he came to his present farm, which is situated one mile west of Jackson Center on the south side of the Arnett turnpike road. This beautiful farm bears the name of Sunset Farm, eighty acres of which belongs to J. K. Clayton, and he makes his home with Mr. and Mrs. Meranda. Its situation is admirable and Mr. Meranda carries on his farm industries with the intelligent interest and judicious methods which bring abundant success.

Mr. Meranda married Miss Hattie Clayton, who was born in the old

pioneer log house which still remained on this farm, and is the only surviving child of J. K. and Mary Clayton. They have one daughter: Mary Hazel, who attends school at Jackson Center. Mr. Meranda has been a lifelong democrat but has consented to serve in few public offices. He was the man who secured the route out of Jackson Center, and it was through his efforts that the petition for free rural delivery was granted. He has been on the educational board since January, 1905. He is a Mason, belonging to Lodge No. 458, F. & A. M., of Jackson Center, and both he and wife are members of the Eastern Star. They have many pleasant social ties in the neighborhood and belong to the Methodist Episcopal church.

GEORGE W. BOYER, who owns 170 acres of fine land in Dinsmore township, Shelby county, O., resides on one farm of 120 acres, situated two miles southeast of Botkins, O., his other farm of fifty acres lying not far distant. He was born in Dinsmore township in 1846, and is a son of Samuel F. and Elizabeth (Veach) Boyer. Samuel F. Boyer was born in Pennsylvania and his wife in Virginia. After they came to Shelby county they resided on their farm and reared ten children, the record being as follows: Jane, George W., Samuel F., William H., Henry, Harriet, Christina, Frances, Anna and Edward.

George W. Boyer is probably one of the youngest surviving soldiers of the Civil war who entered the service in 1861, for he was only fourteen years old when he enlisted at Sidney, under Colonel Wilson, and served out his first enlistment and was honorably discharged at Vicksburg, when he re-enlisted and served as a veteran until his second honorable discharge in 1865, when he was mustered out at Columbus, O. So young that only a boy's judgment controlled his actions, soldier Boyer lived up to the measure of a man and on many a battlefield proved his patriotism and courage. After the war he returned to Shelby county and ever since has been interested in farming and stock raising and additionally, for many years, ran a threshing machine. He has made all the improvements on his farms and all his land is valuable and productive.

Mr. Boyer married Miss Nancy Blue and they have had the following children: William E., who married Lena Bonnowont and they live in Dinsmore township; John H., who is also a resident of this township, married Margaret Finkenbine; James E., who is a farmer in Dinsmore township, married Millie Schurr; Della G., who married Michael Munger and they live at Botkins, O.; and Grace E., who is the wife of Augustus Bush, of Botkins. The parents of Mrs. Boyer were natives of Ohio. She had two brothers and two sisters, namely: James K.; Oliver C.; Mary, who married F. Stough; and Nora, who married Jack Stenrod. Mr. Boyer and family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church and they are well known people throughout Shelby county.

WILLIAM F. BILLING, who is one of the well known and respected citizens of Dinsmore township, resides on his finely improved farm of 170

acres, which lies one and three-fourths miles southeast of Botkins, O. He was born in Franklin township, Shelby county, and is a son of Frederick and Salome (Knasel) Billing.

Frederick Billing was born in Germany, in the neighborhood of Baden, and came in early manhood to the United States and settled in Ohio. He married Salome Knasel, who was born here and they had the following children: John, George, William F., Edward, Susan, Sophia, Louisa and Lena. John married Louisa Pfaddt and they live in Dinsmore township; George H. married Lizzie Gerber and they live in Salem township; Edward married Anna Fogt and they live at Detroit, Mich.; Susan married Samuel Hagelberger, and they live at Anna, O.; Sophia and Lena are both deceased; Louisa is the wife of William Fogt and they live in Dinsmore township.

After his school days William F. Billing assisted his father like a dutiful son and following his marriage settled on his present place, about sixty acres of which he inherited, purchasing the rest. He immediately began improving and has continued until he has made this a beautiful property, with fine modern residence and substantial barns. He keeps thoroughly posted on all agricultural movements and applies new methods after being convinced that they are the proper ones to use on his land. Diversified farming is carried on and some excellent stock raised.

In 1890 Mr. Billing was married to Miss Louisa C. Bartsch, who is a daughter of Christian and Sarah (Harmon) Bertsch. The father of Mrs. Billing was born in Baden, Germany, and the mother in Franklin county, O. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Billing; Clarence E., who assists his father; Emory, who is teaching school; and Arthur, who is a high school student at Botkins. The family belongs to the Lutheran church. Politically Mr. Billing is a democrat and is serving on the township election board. For many years he has been a school director and for nine continuous years was superintendent of roads and has also been supervisor, in all these positions performing his duties with efficiency and to public satisfaction.

P. WRIGHT QUIGLEY, one of the enterprising young farmers of Franklin township, who, in association with his mother, owns 163 acres of very fine land, was born in Miami county, O., December 25, 1883, and is a son of Silas and Anna (Waggoner) Quigley.

Silas Quigley and wife were born in Pennsylvania and after marriage came to Ohio, settling in Miami county, where their only child was born. He followed farming until his death on October 17, 1905, his burial being in Pearl cemetery, in Franklin township. He was a much respected man and a consistent member of the Lutheran church. In politics he was a democrat but was never a seeker for public office.

P. Wright Quigley was given educational advantages, passing from the common schools into the Troy high school, where he was graduated and then became a student in Wittenberg College, where he spent three years but was recalled before graduating, on account of his father's death. In the spring of 1905 the family had removed to Franklin township and thus the responsibili-

ties attending the managing of this large farm here fell upon the student's shoulders, a few months later. He assumed them with energy and fulfilled them with marked success and is numbered with the prosperous farmers and stock raisers of this section.

Mr. Quigley was married December 25, on his birthday, 1910, to Miss Harriet Miller, who was born in Shelby county and is a daughter of George and Mary (Mason) Miller. The father of Mrs. Quigley is deceased but the mother survives and resides in Turtle Creek township. Mr. and Mrs. Quigley have one son, who has been given the name of Harold and was born October 25, 1911. They attend the Lutheran church. Mr. Quigley belongs to the order of the Knights of the Golden Eagle at Anna, O. In politics he does his own thinking and votes according to his matured judgment.

JOSEPH P. STALEY, who is one of the well known and substantial citizens of Shelby county, O., a general farmer and formerly an extensive dealer in fine stock, resides on his farm of 174 acres, which is situated in Franklin township, and owns a second farm, containing eighty acres, lying in Salem township. He was born in Montgomery county, O., May 10, 1852, and is a son of Daniel and Margaret (Jackson) Staley.

Daniel Staley was born in Montgomery county, O., and lived there until after marriage, coming to Shelby county in 1868, where he followed farming until the close of his life. He married Margaret Jackson, who was born in Pennsylvania and who also died in Shelby county, their burial being at Port Jefferson. They had three children: Joseph P., Julia and Daniel.

Joseph P. Staley grew up on the home farm and attended the local schools and for some time afterward assisted his father. He then decided to see something of the western country and in his travels visited not only the interesting sections of his own land but also Mexico and Central America. In 1897 he went to the gold fields of Alaska and was one of the fortunate prospectors, returning from the Klondike region with an ample fortune. In all Mr. Staley has made ten trips to the far West, in the meanwhile carrying on his stock operations and prior to making his most recent trip sold stock, in two sales, that netted him \$13,000. Mr. Staley is well known in the Masonic fraternity and has taken the thirty-second degree. His father was a republican and Mr. Staley has always given his political support to this party. Mr. Staley is unmarried.

GEORGE A. FRAZIER, one of the prosperous farmers of Franklin township, where he owns 136 acres of valuable land which is particularly well adapted to stock raising, was born January 12, 1860, in Green township, Shelby county, and is a son of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Woods) Frazier. The parents of Mr. Frazier were well known and respected residents of Green township for many years, where the father followed the mason trade. Both passed away some years ago and their burial was in the cemetery at Plattsville. They were members of the Universalist church and reared their family in that liberal religious faith. Their children were:



Beulah, who is the wife of Thomas Buchanan; John; Harriet, who is the wife of Rudolph Peppers; Amy, who is the wife of Edward Emley; George; Alfred; and Ida, who is the wife of James Eldredge.

After his school days were over, George A. Frazier learned the plastering trade, which he followed for fifteen years, during which he bought forty acres of land in Green township. He resided on that place for sixteen years but in 1900 sold it and then purchased his present property in Franklin township, from Abe Emley. The residence needed but little remodeling but a new barn was required and Mr. Frazier erected a commodious one which probably is the most modern barn in the township. He has a complete water system which he controls with a gas engine. For some time he has been interested in raising Jersey cattle and Duroc hogs and is making preparations to go into the stock business extensively.

In January, 1884, Mr. Frazier was married to Miss Hannah Hill, who was born in Miami county, O., a daughter of John and Hannah (Howell) Hill, well known people in that part of the state, and beside Mrs. Frazier they had three other children: Josephine, who is the wife of Frank Pence; Eugenia, who is the wife of James McCormick; and Telford. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Frazier: Genie, who resides at home; and Kate, who is the wife of Lyman Allen, who is a farmer in Franklin township, and they have one son, George. Mr. Frazier and family attend the Universalist church. He is identified with the democratic party but is not a man to seek political honors for himself, although in every way well qualified for the same.

ELZA A. BAKER, residing on his valuable farm of 143 acres, which is located in Perry township, Shelby county, O., was born in this township, October 31, 1883, and is a son of Martin and Christena (Smith) Baker. Martin Baker was a well known farmer in Perry township for many years, his death occurring in February, 1909. His widow and their three children all survive, she being a resident of Jackson Center, O. The family consisted of one daughter and two sons: Ida, who is the wife of Cory Hoak; Orla A., a farmer and business man at Port Jefferson; and Elza A.

Elza A. Baker secured a public school education and then assisted his father until he was twenty-two years of age, when he rented land in Logan county for one year. He then returned to the home farm, which he inherited at his father's death, and which had been the home of his parents for twenty-four years. He carries on general farming and does considerable business in the way of buying and selling stock, and is generally looked upon as one of the township's successful farmers and progressive citizens.

On December 29, 1905, Mr. Baker was married to Miss Guernie LeFevre, a daughter of Jacob and Dulcina (Line) LeFevre, who formerly were prominent farming people of this county. They had the following children: Edward, William, and James; Warren, who is deceased; Alice, who is the wife of Allen Baker; Minnie, who is the wife of Lafe Vester; Guernie, who is the wife of Elsa A. Baker; and Cora, who is the wife of Samuel

Ritter. Mr. and Mrs. Baker have two children: Ruth Estella and Pauline Edith. Mr. and Mrs. Baker attend the Disciples church. He is independent in his political attitude. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias at Maplewood and the Knights of Khorasan at Sidney.

ALLEN MAURER, county surveyor of Shelby county, O., and a well known and valued citizen, has been a resident of Sidney, O., since 1909, coming from Van Buren township, where he was born December 19, 1885. His parents were Adam and Caroline (Sunderman) Maurer. Adam Maurer was born also in Van Buren township, Shelby county, a son of Philip Maurer who had come to this section from Germany. Adam Maurer followed an agricultural life and died on his farm in Van Buren township in February, 1895. He married Caroline Sunderman, who was born in Auglaize county, O., and still survives.

Allen Maurer grew to manhood on the home farm and secured his primary education in the country schools. Developing an unusual mathematical talent he decided to study civil engineering and became a student in the Ohio Northern University at Ada, O., where he was graduated in 1909. He immediately was appointed deputy county surveyor and the experience gained in that capacity prepared him for the office to which he was elected in 1912, on the democratic ticket, the duties of which he will assume on the first Monday in September, 1913. He is a young man of enterprise and marked ability.

In 1910 Mr. Maurer was married to Miss Gertrude Lucas, of Van Buren township, Shelby county. They attend the Evangelical church. He is identified with several fraternal organizations including the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of the Golden Eagle, and some social and political bodies.

L. CABLE WAGNER, who not only belongs to a somewhat noted family of Shelby county, O., but in his own person is a representative business man and citizen of Sidney, O., was born at Sidney and is a son of W. H. Wagner, president of the Wagner Manufacturing Company.

L. Cable Wagner attended the public schools in his native city and after graduating from the Sidney High School became a student at Villa Nova College near Philadelphia. After he returned to Sidney he assumed business responsibilities and is a director and one of the large stockholders in the Wagner Manufacturing Company. He is one of the active and dependable members of the Sidney Commercial Club.

Mr. Wagner was married in 1908 to Miss Louise Fitzgibbon, who was born at St. Louis, Mo., and they have two children: Mary Jane and James. Mr. Wagner was reared in the Catholic church and he is a member of the fraternal order of Knights of Columbus.

ANTHONY J. ALLEN, whose ninety acres of fine land lie in Franklin township, is one of the well known and representative agriculturists of this

section. He was born in York county, Pa., July 24, 1843, and is a son of Edmund K. and Alice (Harkins) Allen.

Edmund K. Allen was born in York county, his people having been early settlers in Pennsylvania, probably of English extraction, and he spent his entire life in his native section, where he followed agricultural pursuits. He married Alice Harkins, who was born in Hartford county, Md., and she also died in York county. They had the following children: Anthony J., William L., Robert F., Thomas H., Joseph L., Hannah and Martha Jane. Hannah married Joseph Strawbridge and Martha Jane married Charles Robinson. The parents of the above children were members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Anthony J. Allen attended the district schools near his father's farm and afterward was a student for one year in the Stewartstown Academy, York county, and for several succeeding years was mainly engaged in teaching school, both in Pennsylvania and Maryland. After learning the miller's trade he followed that for some four years and in 1876 came to Shelby county, settling first in Washington township. Mr. Allen remained in that township for eight years and then took advantage of a favorable offer and sold his property there and came to Franklin township and bought his present farm from Joseph Barnes, it being locally known as the William Reed farm. Here Mr. Allen has prospered both as a farmer and as a dairyman. He maintains his dairy with Holstein cattle and operates a milk route, sending his wagon to Sidney daily and disposing to regular customers twenty gallons of rich milk. He raises other good stock but not more in quantity than he requires for his own use.

Mr. Allen was married first in 1865, to Miss Eleanor Gorsuch, a daughter of Stephen Gorsuch, who moved with his family from Maryland to Ohio. To this marriage the following children were born: Martha Jane, who is the widow of Frank Fee; Anna Bell, who is the wife of John Yinger and they have two children: Elmer LeRoy and Neva May; Elva May, who is the wife of Thomas White and they have three children: Norma Allen, Mary Lee and Ruth Annabel; Nora B., who is the wife of Walter Brandenburg, and they have one son, Stanley Allen; Bertha Pearl, who is the wife of Roy Allton, and they have one daughter, Evaline Lois; and Minnie, who is the wife of Frank Pfaadt, and they have one child, Martha Elizabeth. In 1887 Mr. Allen was married to Miss Laura E. Davis, a daughter of Hiram and Emeline (Trine) Davis, and they have two children: Lyman Davis, who married Kate Frazier; and Vera. Mr. Allen and family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church in which he is a local preacher. He has long been active and deeply interested in religious work and is additionally serving as church trustee, class leader and district steward. In politics Mr. Allen has always been in sympathy with the principles of the republican party.

WILLIAM H. FORRAR, one of Shelby county's most respected citizens, who has passed the greater part of his long and useful life in Dins-

more and Franklin townships and owns the old Forrar homestead of seventy acres, now lives retired in Swanders. He was born in Dinsmore township, Shelby county, in 1842, and is a son of Jacob and Mary (Good) Forrar.

Jacob Forrar was a well known and respected citizen of Dinsmore township for many years. He was twice married, first to Mary Good and after her death to Mrs. Elizabeth (Hilbern) Boyer, widow of George Boyer. To his first marriage the following children were born: John, William H., Martha, wife of Henry Sisler, and Isaac. Two sons were born to the second union, Nelson and Jacob, the last named being deceased.

William H. Forrar attended the district schools when a boy and remained on the home farm with his father. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Co. H, 99th O. Vol. Inf., for service in the Civil War, contracting for three years. The hardships endured during the first nine months brought on such serious illness that he was discharged on account of disability and he returned then to the old homestead. With this exception and two years spent at Sidney, Mr. Forrar always lived on his farm until he retired to Swanders.

In February, 1870, Mr. Forrar was married to Miss Frances Swanders, who is a daughter of David and Lydia Swanders, one of the old and substantial families of this section. To Mr. and Mrs. Swanders the following children were born: Edward, Aaron, Alfred, Jefferson, James, Christiana, Sarah, Savilla, Susan, Rebecca and Frances. Sarah is the wife of David Baker, and Savilla, who is deceased, was the wife of Frank Shafer. Mr. and Mrs. Forrar have two children: Albert Ward and Edward. The latter married Leora Minnear and they have one child, La Brieta. Mr. Forrar and family belong to the Reformed church. In politics he was reared a democrat by his father but frequently he casts his vote according to his own matured judgment rather than at his party's demand. For seven years Mr. Forrar served as turnpike supervisor, for two terms as a member of the school board, two terms as township trustee and declined to be a candidate for county commissioner. He is a member of the Reformed church and in his church relations he has also been shown confidence and esteem, being now one of the elders and was church treasurer for twenty-eight years.

DELPHIS R. MILLIETTE, M. D., physician and surgeon at Anna, O., who has been established here since 1903 and through professional skill and sterling personal traits of character has built up a fine practice, was born in Logan county, O., August 19, 1872, and is a son of Frank and Sarah Jane (Curtner) Milliette.

The parents of Dr. Milliette moved from Logan county to a farm in Clinton township, Shelby county, when he was an infant, and the family lived there for about seven years and then removed to Franklin township and still later to Dinsmore township. His primary education was secured in the country schools and after coming to Anna in 1884 he became a student here and in 1893 was graduated from the Anna high school. Afterward for a number of years he taught in the country schools and also at Anna and Botkins, in the meanwhile doing preliminary medical reading, and in the fall of 1899



DELPHIS R. MILLIETTE, M. D.



entered the Ohio Medical College, at Cincinnati, and immediately after graduating from that well known institution, established himself at Anna, where he has since carried on a general medical practice. He is a member of the Shelby County Medical Society and keeps thoroughly abreast with the times in scientific investigation and discoveries.

In June, 1903, Dr. Milliette married Miss Elle Fitzgerald, who was born at De Graff, Logan county, O., and they have three children: Gerald, Agnes and Martha. In politics Dr. Milliette is a democrat and is a very active citizen, serving as a member of the town council and also as clerk of the school board.

GOTLEIB GRAU, whose valuable farm of 103 acres lies in Franklin township, is well known in this section and as man and citizen is held in high esteem. Mr. Grau was born in Germany, June 14, 1852, and was twenty-one years old when he came to the United States. He is a son of Matthev and Dora Grau. The father died when Gotleib was two and a half years old. The mother remained in Germany until she was seventy years of age and then joined her son in Franklin township, Shelby county, and here saw sixteen more years of peaceful life, passing away in her eighty-sixth year, her burial being in the Pearl cemetery, in Franklin township.

For the first eighteen months after coming to Ohio, Gotleib Grau lived in Tuscarawas county, then spent a few weeks in Indianapolis, Ind., and from there came to Shelby county, where he has lived ever since. He had learned a trade in Germany and at Sidney he secured work with John Conner, with whom he remained for three years and then started a shop of his own at Anna, O., where he lived for twenty-five years. Mr. Grau then bought the Steeley farm which he still owns and lived on the same for six years when he rented it to a good tenant and for his own home rented another farm, containing 154 acres, also in Franklin township, on which he carries on a general agricultural line.

On February 26, 1878, Mr. Grau was married to Miss Caroline Shie, who was born in Shelby county, a daughter of Christian and Frederica (Slatser) Shie. Mr. Shie and wife were natives of Germany and both died in Shelby county. By trade he was a stone mason. The children of Christian Shie and wife were: John, who lives three miles west of Sidney; Emma, deceased, who was the wife of George Steinle; Caroline, who is the wife of Mr. Grau; Henry; Rachel, who is the wife of Andrew Delscamp; George, deceased; Charles; and Katie, deceased, who was the wife of Walker Holly, all of Shelby county. Mr. Grau was the youngest of his parents' children, three of their family being residents of Crawford county; Godfrey, John and Rosa, who is the wife of Andrew Drakert. His eldest sister, Eva, is now deceased, was the wife of John Weller, and one other sister, Dora, is the wife of Michael Nagel, and they both live in Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Grau have three children: Christian G., Freda and Dora. Christian G. married Emma Shafer and their adopted daughter, Edith, is the wife of Andrew Harmon and they have a son, Gotleib. Freda is a school teacher in Franklin

township, and Dora is a member of the class of 1914, in the Sidney High School.

In politics Mr. Grau is a democrat but he never permits party rule to interfere with his own judgment. He served as a member of the town council at Anna and was also on the school board there and at present is serving as president of the school board of Franklin township.

The family belongs to the Lutheran church, of which Mr. Grau has been a trustee several times and for a number of years has been church treasurer.

PARKER L. STAFFORD, who is one of the leading business men of Maplewood, O., where he owns and conducts a general store, was born in Salem township, Shelby county, O., March 11, 1877, and is a son of Robert and Bicey (Louthain) Stafford. The father was born in Virginia but passed the greater part of his active life on his farm of 109 acres, which he still owns in Salem township, and now lives retired at Maplewood. In politics he has always been a democrat.

Parker L. Stafford, the only one of his parents' children to survive childhood, obtained his education in the public schools. When twelve years old he went to work in the store of J. K. Dunson, at Maplewood and continued until 1896, when, in partnership with O. A. Dunson, he bought the store of his employer. The firm of Stafford & Dunson continued until 1900, when Mr. Stafford bought his partner's interest and has since been sole proprietor. As an additional business interest he operates a huckster wagon through the county.

In 1901 Mr. Stafford was married to Miss Myrtle Stephenson, who was born in Salem township, a daughter of James and Della (Stiles) Stephenson, farming people, well known and highly respected. Mrs. Stafford has two younger sisters: Ethel, who is the wife of C. C. Steenrod; and Alma. Mr. and Mrs. Stafford have three sons: Donald E., James Arthur Cecil, and Harold Robert. Mr. Stafford is one of the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal church at Maplewood, to which the family belongs. He is identified fraternally with the Knights of Pythias and the Knights of the Golden Eagle, both of Maplewood. At present Mr. Stafford is serving with entire satisfaction as treasurer of Salem township, elected to this important office on the democratic ticket.

JOHN D. PARTINGTON, whose name carries weight all over Shelby county, O., where he is known as a representative and substantial citizen, resides on his farm of 131 acres which is situated in Perry township and owns also a farm of eighty acres, lying in Miami county, and additionally owns large blocks of stock in the Farmers Telephone Company, was born in October, 1860, in Green township, Shelby county.

The parents of Mr. Partington, Edwin and Jemima (Partington) Partington, for many years were highly respected farming people of Shelby county, in which the mother was born and still survives, being now in her eighty-third year, and a cherished member of the household of her son, John



D. Partington. The father was born in Indiana and died in Shelby county, O., in November, 1904, his burial being in the Pascoe Cemetery. His children all survive, as follows: Joseph H., John D., Mary, William E., Edward W. and Mark E., Mary being the wife of William Middleton.

In the public schools of his native county, John D. Partington secured his education and continued to work for his father until he reached his majority and afterward, for three years, worked with him on shares. He then started out for himself and in 1903 purchased the homestead from the other heirs and has continued here. On March 21, 1896, he was married to Miss Letha M. Chrisman, who was born in Shelby county, a daughter of David and Sarah E. (Latimer) Chrisman, the former of whom, a native of Miami county, O., is now deceased, his burial taking place at Plattsville. The mother of Mrs. Partington resides on a farm in Green township, her children being: Letha M.; Albert E.; Harriet I., who is the wife of Fred Hagerman; and Joseph C. Mr. and Mrs. Partington have one child to whom they are giving parental love and care although he is not their own. He was born in October, 1909, and his name is Leo Millard, and since he was eight weeks old he has been fortunate enough to find a tender father and mother in Mr. and Mrs. Partington and judging by his beauty and intelligence, he gives promise of becoming a great comfort to his foster parents. They are members of the Universalist church. In his political views, Mr. Partington is a democrat.

MARCELLUS N. LUCAS, a representative citizen of Perry township, Shelby county, O., a member of the township board of trustees and the owner of seventy acres of fine farming land here, was born April 12, 1867, one and one-half miles northeast of this farm, and is a son of Patrick Good and Thurza (De Weese) Lucas.

Patrick Good Lucas was a well known farmer in Perry township and was a son of one of the early settlers of Shelby county. He was identified with the republican party but merely as a citizen, never desiring to hold office. His wife was also born in Shelby county and she survives, her husband, passing away on June 25, 1906, his burial being at Port Jefferson. They had two children: Ethel, who is the wife of Calvin Boyer and they reside with her mother on the home farm; and Marcellus N.

Marcellus N. Lucas secured a public school education and worked on the home farm until his marriage, after which he went to Logan county and remained ten months. After returning to Shelby county he rented land for ten years, then bought a farm and later sold it and in 1903 purchased his present farm from Dr. Milholland. A general line of farming is successfully carried on and enough good stock for home use is raised, no effort being made to do more in this direction.

On January 1, 1890, Mr. Lucas was married to Miss Sarah Nichols, a daughter of William and Catherine (Criffield) Nichols, substantial farming people of Shelby county. Mrs. Lucas had the following brothers and sisters: John, Frank and William, and Belle, who is now deceased, was the wife

of David Speece. Mr. and Mrs. Lucas have four children: Norma B., Grace A., Vesta and Doris. The entire family belongs to the Baptist church. In politics Mr. Lucas has always cast his vote with the Republican party.

ORLANDO BURTON KEY, who is one of the well known and substantial men of Perry township, a stockholder in the Farmers Telephone Company and the owner of 120 acres of well developed land, was born on this farm, the old Key homestead, in Shelby county, O., May 25, 1870, and is a son of John and Anna (Rinehart) Key.

John Key, father of Orlando B. Key, was a son of John Key, who was born in Virginia in 1781 and came to Montgomery county, O., in 1800, where he died in 1815, leaving his wife with four children, although the youngest, John, was not born until 1816, six months after the father's death. His mother remained in Montgomery county until 1836, when she came with him to Shelby county and they lived about one year in Jackson township and then went back to Montgomery county, where he lived until 1840, after which he lived continuously in Shelby county. In 1841 occurred his first marriage, to Newillie Lucas, who died in July, 1846, leaving two children, Norman and John H. In 1847 John Key married Anna Rinehart and seven children were born to them: Amanda, wife of William DeWeese; Rachel, wife of Dr. D. N. Whitmire; Margaret Elizabeth, wife of John Maxwell; Martha Jane, wife of Frank Marrs; David R.; Thomas Levi, who died aged two years; Abraham Sherman; and Orlando B.

When John Key came to Shelby county he had fifty dollars as his sole capital and with this sum he entered forty acres of land in Jackson township, then went to work by the day and month and kept on until he had saved one hundred dollars, with which he entered eighty acres of land in Indiana. He kept on working and saving, and after accumulating another one hundred dollars entered another tract of land in Indiana and afterward traded his Indiana land for eighty acres in the woods of Shelby county. The latter place he then cleared and improved and later added two other eighty-acre tracts, making his home place consist of 240 acres. Here he erected a sound brick dwelling house and kept on improving his land in every way, subsequently, through his industry and good judgment acquiring other farm land and valued real estate in Sidney and Millerstown.

Orlando B. Key attended the public schools in Perry township and afterward took a business course in a commercial college at Dayton, O., following which he spent three years in the western states. Finding no section of the country more satisfactory than his own, Mr. Key then returned to Shelby county and has ever since been engaged in farming and stock raising in Perry township. He is an independent voter in politics and has never accepted any public office except once when he was appointed a member of the local school board.

In 1895 Mr. Key was married to Miss Bessie Stockstill, a daughter of John P. and Mary (Miller) Stockstill. In early manhood the father of Mrs. Key followed the trades of tinner and carpenter but later became a farmer in

Shelby county. He was twice married, first to Mary Miller and second to Jennie Varner. To the first union two children were born: Carrie, who died young, and Bessie, who became the wife of Mr. Key. Two children were born to the second marriage: Newton and Varner. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Key: Fred Miller, John Otis and Max Allan. Mr. and Mrs. Key attend the United Brethren church at Pascoe, O. He is identified fraternally with the Masonic lodge at Port Jefferson and also the Odd Fellows and is a member of the Encampment at Sidney, O.

SQUIRE NICHOLAS STALEY, an enterprising general farmer of Perry township, Shelby county, O., who not only successfully operates his own farm of 126 acres, but also one of eighty acres which he rents, belongs to the old and respected Staley family of Salem township, where he was born April 26, 1862, and is a son of Nicholas and Mary (Baker) Staley. His mother was born in Salem township while his father came from Montgomery county, O., but spent the larger portion of his life as a farmer in Salem township. Of their family of six children, Squire Nicholas was the youngest born.

Squire Nicholas Staley obtained his education in the public schools and afterward remained with his father assisting in the general farm industries, tilling of the soil, stock raising and moderate dairying, and in the course of time inherited his land from his father and, as indicated above, prospers in his agricultural undertakings.

Mr. Staley was married first to Miss Ida Redinbo, who died in 1887. On November 3, 1890, he was married (second) to Miss Tena Brendel, a native of Auglaize county, O. Mr. and Mrs. Staley have had four children: Bonnie May, Pearl, Clay, and Robert Roy, who died when aged six weeks. The family belong to the Disciples church. Mr. Staley is not active in any political party, preferring to be an independent voter, but in any matter of public importance he may be depended upon to bear the responsibilities of a good citizen.

WILLIAM ENOS GILFILLEN, who, in association with John A. Wones, does a large business at Maplewood, O., under the firm name of the Maplewood Elevator Company, dealing in grain, grass seed, coal, lime, cement and other commodities, was born in Salem township, Shelby county, O., September 21, 1873. The parents of Mr. Gilfillen, William and Margaret A. (Baker) Gilfillen, were residents of Shelby county, the father for many years carrying on agricultural industries with success. He died in Jackson township, where his widow still lives. They had the following children: Emma D., wife of W. E. Coleman; Elizabeth, wife of Logan Clayton; and William Enos.

William E. Gilfillen obtained his education in the public schools and afterward worked with his father on the home farm until he was twenty-

five years old, after which he rented land and carried on general farming until March, 1912, when he became the junior partner in the firm of Wones & Gilfillen, by purchasing the interest of E. E. Young in the Maplewood Elevator Company. The business is in a prosperous condition and is on a safe financial basis.

In 1893 Mr. Gilfillen was married to Miss Rhoda Davis, who was born in Auglaize county, O., but was reared in Shelby county. She is a daughter of Harvey and Catherine (Morris) Davis whose other children were: Louie, who is the wife of Hamer Wagner; Floyd; Eliza, who is the wife of Albert Thompson; Charles; Mabel, who is the wife of H. A. Stahler; Fannie, who is the wife of Frank Reese; John; and Pearl, who is the wife of Henry Dosic. Mrs. Gilfillen was the third born in the above family. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Gilfillen: Raymond and Vernon. He is nominally a republican but reserves the right to exercise his own judgment in political matters and frequently votes accordingly. He has served on the school board, having a good citizen's interest in the public schools. For some years he has been identified with the Odd Fellows at Jackson Center, and both he and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

JOHN K. DUNSON, a well known resident of Maplewood, O., has been identified with business interests here for a number of years. He was born at Port Jefferson, Shelby county, O., November 3, 1862, and is a son of Abraham A. and Rosanna (Lodge) Dunson. Abraham A. Dunson was born in Virginia but has passed the greater part of his life in Ohio and still survives, being now in his eighty-first year. In early manhood he followed the cabinetmaker's trade but later became a farmer. He married Rosanna Lodge, who was born in Montgomery county, O., and is now deceased. They had the following children: John K.; Luella, who is now deceased, was the wife of F. E. Pool; O. A.; M. D.; Estella, who is the wife of A. F. Rust; and Effie B., who is the wife of W. E. Thompson.

John K. Dunson was educated in the public schools of Shelby county. For some years he was engaged in manufacturing tile at Maplewood and for six years conducted a general store here, since which he has devoted his time and attention to agricultural pursuits. He owns a very fine farm of 136 acres, situated in Salem township, and a second farm containing 120 acres, which is located in Logan county. Mr. Dunson is listed with the substantial citizens of this section. Politically a democrat he has occasionally accepted office when made a party candidate, and served one year as constable and three years as township trustee.

In December, 1891, Mr. Dunson married Miss Sarah L. Huber, who was born in Logan county, a daughter of Allen and Anna Magdalena (Hall) Huber, the former of whom is deceased, but the latter resides at Bellefontaine, O. To Mr. and Mrs. Huber the following children were born: Delmar A., Sarah L., W. T., Nancy, C. S., Anna Pearl and Forest M. Nancy is the

wife of O. S. Robinson, and Anna Pearl is the wife of Dr. J. M. Patterson, of Lima, O. Mr. and Mrs. Dunson have two sons: Huber A. and Charles A. The family belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Dunson takes an interest in all that concerns the public welfare of his town and fellow citizens and when called upon, in any public emergency, accepts responsibility. He is a member of the order of Knights of Pythias at Maplewood.

SANFORD C. RETTER, who leads in the hardware line at Maplewood, O., being owner and proprietor of a well stocked store at this place, is one of the town's prosperous young business men, a property owner and reliable citizen. He was born in Jackson township, Shelby county, O., April 3, 1880, and is a son of Albert and Mary (McCord) Retter.

Albert Retter is a merchant doing business at Maplewood, having a large general store and supplying commodities of all kinds to both town and adjacent country. He married first Miss Mary McCord, who died in 1882, leaving but one child, Sanford C. Mr. Retter's second marriage was with Rebecca Shade and they have one child, Bonnie.

When his school days were over, Sanford C. Retter gave his father assistance in his store and added to the mercantile experience secured there by five years as a clerk for P. L. Stafford. In 1905 he erected a handsome building for himself and in 1906 embarked in his present line. He handles general hardware and all kinds of agricultural implements and also does tinning and spouting work.

On April 3, 1908, Mr. Retter was married to Miss Cora LeFevre, a daughter of Jacob and Dulcina (Line) LeFevre, farming people, who had other children as follows: Edmund, William and James; Warren, who is deceased; Alice, who is the wife of Allen Baker; Minnie, who is the wife of Lape Vesper; and Guernie, who is the wife of Elza A. Baker. While nominally a democrat, Mr. Retter uses his own judgment in local politics. He is identified fraternally with the Knights of Pythias at Maplewood.

JOHN C. WONES, who is the senior member of the firm doing business at Maplewood, O., under the name of the Maplewood Elevator Company, is a representative citizen of this community and enjoys a large measure of respect and public confidence. He was born in Champaign county, O., January 19, 1862, and is a son of Simon and Jane (Smith) Wones.

Simon Wones was born in Champaign county, O., and his wife in Yorkshire, England. He was a farmer for many years and was well known in Champaign county. Both he and wife are deceased, their burial being in the cemetery at Port Jefferson. Their children were as follows: John C.; Phyllis, wife of John F. Howell; Martin G.; Malissa, wife of Frank Calhoun; Matthew; William R.; Ernest; Simon T.; and Ona, wife of Robert Sharp.

After his school days, John C. Wones worked at farming and became interested in stock, doing a large business in that line for twenty years and continues it to some extent together with his grain business, with which he became identified in 1902, when he built the elevator at Maplewood. For

one year he had Dr. Loffer and William Stewart associated with him; then J. W. Shearer bought Mr. Stewart's interest and afterward Mr. Shearer and Mr. Wones bought Dr. Loffer's interest and together they operated for nine years, when Elza Young bought the Shearer interest but later sold it to W. E. Gilfillen. The company deals in grain, grass seed, flour, coal, lime, cement, plaster and wire fencing and do an extensive business.

On New Year Eve, 1884, Mr. Wones was married to Miss Ella E. Shroyer, who was born in Shelby county and is a daughter of Henry and Mary (Strawlen) Schroyer, formerly farming people but now retired residents of Maplewood. Mrs. Wones has brothers and sisters as follows: Clara, wife of William Rubert; Ella; Elmer; Nelson; Hattie, wife of George W. Rose; and Harry. Mr. and Mrs. Wones have three children: Raymond, who married Eda Keifer; and Cyril and John Conery. The family belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church in which Mr. Wones is a Sunday school teacher after having served for nine years as superintendent. Fraternally he is identified with the F. & A. M. at Port Jefferson, the Odd Fellows also at Port Jefferson, the Knights of Pythias at Maplewood, the Knights of the Golden Eagle, the Sons of Veterans and Poplar Knob Grange.

ORRIE W. COOK, who has numerous business interests at Haplewood, O., is one of the representative men of Salem township and came from one of the old families of Champaign county. He was born there May 25, 1878, and is a son of William I. and Mary C. (Curl) Cook. William I. Cook, who, for many years was a prosperous farmer in Champaign county, was born in Shelby county but spent his married life in the former county, where he died, his burial being at Quincy, O. He married Mary C. Curl, who was born in Champaign county and lives on her home farm there. They had three children: Daisy, who is the wife of Samuel D. Yoder; and Orrie W. and Elmer W.

After completing the common school course in Champaign county, Orrie W. Cook went to Indianapolis, Ind., where he received a commercial training and from there entered the Ohio Northern University at Ada, where he was a student for five terms and completed his school course in the higher branches, in Glover Institute, at West Liberty, O. For eight years of the above period he alternated teaching with school attendance and continued until he became interested in a grain business with the firm of Simmons, Faulkner & Cook. Since 1908 he has been sole owner and proprietor of the grain elevator at Maplewood, and additionally deals in coal, lime, cement, New American fencing, red cedar and steel fence posts, lubricating oils and the popular brand of flour known as the Pride of Lima. He is a very enterprising business man and is a prominent factor in everything of importance at Maplewood.

Mr. Cook was married in June, 1902, to Miss Daisy A. Yost, who was born in Champaign county, a daughter of Elisha and Caroline (Weimer) Yost, who now live retired at Sidney, O. They had the following children: Ethie, Myrtle, Dora, Belle, Mary, Daisy and Norma. Mr. and Mrs. Cook





GEORGE C. SCHIFF



MRS. GEORGE C. SCHIFF



have two sons: Harold E. and Robert W. They attend the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically Mr. Cook is a republican and has served as treasurer of Salem township. He is identified with the Masons at Port Jefferson and the Knights of Pythias at Maplewood.

GEORGE C. SCHIFF, who owns 162 acres of valuable land situated in Franklin township, and is a director and stockholder in the Anna Bank, at Anna, O., is one of the substantial men of this section and one who is held in respect and esteem. He was born in Franklin township, Shelby county, O., August 25, 1859, and is a son of Christian and Catherine (Fogt) Schiff.

The parents of George C. Schiff were born in Germany but spent their married life in Ohio and died at Anna where they had been living retired. Their burial was in the Pearl cemetery in Franklin township. They were good, Christian people, devout members of the Lutheran church. To them were born the following children: George C., Michael, Caroline, Jacob, Louisa, Lena, Albert C. and Clara, the last named being the wife of William Minton. Albert C. is a Lutheran minister at Columbus, O. Jacob and Louisa are deceased, the latter having been the wife of William Stuber. Caroline is the wife of Christina Hagedberger, and Lena is the wife of Joseph Bennett.

George C. Schiff has spent his life on his present farm, in early years assisting his father and after the latter's death purchasing the property, or seventy acres, as he inherited ninety acres. The father owned seven farms and gave a farm to each child. Mr. Schiff also carries on general farming and also deals in livestock.

On October 18, 1883, Mr. Schiff married Miss Matilda Machlitt, born at Painesville, O., a daughter of Henry and Rosa (Muschulsky) Machlitt, the latter of whom died in October, 1912. They had the following children: Augusta, wife of J. L. Ferguson; Matilda; Louis, deceased; Emma, wife of Thomas McVay; George, deceased; John; and Minnie, deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Schiff have three children: Stella, who is the wife of M. C. Finkenbine and they have four children—Tehkla, Wilbur, Velma and Luther; Laura, who married Elmer Stuckman and they have two children, Dorothy and Hazel; and Wilbur M., who married Marjorie Finkenbine. The family belong to the Lutheran church at Anna and when the new edifice was put up Mr. Schiff was a member of the building committee and is now church treasurer. In politics he is a democrat and has served honestly and efficiently in public offices. For eight years he was a justice of the peace and for nine years served on the county fair board.

CHARLES A. HIEGEL, president of the board of education of Greenwood Special School District, is one of the leading citizens of Loramie township, Shelby county, O., and resides on his well improved farm of eighty acres, on which he was born, February 22, 1882. He is a son of Anton and Sarah Hiegel.

Charles A. Hiegel was three years old when his parents moved into the Mills Special School District and there he was educated and then he came

back to the home farm on which he has been established ever since, carrying on general farming and raising stock for his own use. He married Miss Cora Ream, who died at the age of twenty-four years, her burial being in the cemetery at Houston. Her father, J. W. Ream is a resident of Newport, O. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hiegel: twin sons, deceased; and Floyd Emerson, a bright lad of seven years who is attending school. Mr. Hiegel has been a democrat ever since casting his first vote and at each election does his part in supporting party principles and candidates. He belongs to the order of M. W. A. at Versailles, O. He has always taken much interest in educational matters in his neighborhood and as president of the school board is vigorous in pushing forward local legislation.

JAMES E. SMITH, a representative citizen and leading business man of Maplewood, O., where he owns and conducts a general store, was born in Logan county, O., November 2, 1868, and is a son of Ralph Newton and Huldah (Davis) Smith. Ralph Newton Smith was a very well known man and followed farming and was also a veterinary surgeon. He was a man of temperance principles and gave his political support to the Prohibition party. Both he and wife died in Logan county, all of their children surviving except Elizabeth and Elliott. The others are: Laura, who is the wife of William T. Rairdon; Elbridge; Talitha, who is the wife of Perry A. Hill; Edwin, and James E.

James E. Smith attended the public schools and afterward taught one term of school. He remained at home and gave his father assistance until 1904, when he embarked in his present business. He carries a large and carefully selected stock, comprising dry goods, notions, shoes and groceries, and as his methods of business have encouraged trade his customers come both from the town and the surrounding country. Mr. Smith is an enterprising and progressive business man but in his own success does not lose sight of the general welfare, being ever ready to do his part.

On October 16, 1892, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Clara Smith, this similarity of name being merely a coincidence as the families are in no way related. Her father, William F. Smith, was a farmer and a veteran of the Civil War. He married Mary Mattox and two children were born to them: W. E. and Clara. Mr. and Mrs. James E. Smith have four sons: Paul, Franklin, Kenneth and Carl. The family belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church, and they occupy a pleasant social position in the town.

GEORGE WENGER, who is well and favorably known all over Shelby county, O., where almost his entire life has been spent, is one of the substantial farmers of Salem township, where he owns 240 acres of valuable land. He was born near Columbus, O., November 21, 1854, and is a son of Andrew and Magdalena (Billing) Wenger.

Andrew Wenger and his wife were born in Germany. Both came to America in youth and were married in the United States. They came to Shelby county in 1856 and Andrew Wenger followed farming here during

the rest of his active life and both he and wife died and are buried in Franklin township. They had the following children: Louisa, who is the widow of Samuel Harmon; George; Mary, who is the wife of C. E. Fogt; Sophia, who is the wife of Jacob J. Shilling; Andrew; and Lena, who is the wife of Benjamin Denning.

George Wenger attended the district schools in boyhood and remained on the home farm until he was twenty-one years of age, starting out then for himself. He has made farming and stock raising his business and through industry and good judgment has been successful in his undertakings and is now numbered with the substantial men of his community. In addition to his large acreage in Salem township, he has a tract of twenty-five acres in Franklin township, and he is also a stockholder in the Farmers Telephone Company.

On June 3, 1875, Mr. Wenger was married to Miss Sophia Barbara Fogt, who was born in Shelby county, a daughter of Jacob and Julia Fogt, both now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Fogt the following children were born: John H., Philip J., Peter, Samuel, Catherine, Julia Ann and Sophia Barbara. Julia Ann is the wife of Jacob Pfaadt, Catherine is deceased, and Sophia Barbara is the wife of Mr. Wenger. Mr. and Mrs. Wenger have four children: William E., Minnie, Emma J. and Laura, at home. William E. Wenger is a leading citizen of Shelby county and served for six years as county recorder. He married Alice Miller and they have two children: Esther and Wilma. Minnie is the wife of George H. Zimpfer and they have two children: Richard and Rosella. Mr. Wenger and family belong to the Lutheran church and he is a deacon in the same. In politics he is a democrat.

OLIVER C. ZEDEKER, owner of the well known Locust Side Farm, a valuable property containing 102 acres, which is situated in Salem township, is one of the representative men of this section. He was born July 6, 1862, in Montgomery county, O., a son of John W. and Mary (Bradenburg) Zedeker, who now live retired in Franklin township. Their family consisted of but two sons, Oliver C. and George W., the latter of whom is a farmer also in Salem township.

Oliver C. Zedeker had common school advantages and afterward assisted his father on the home farm until he was twenty-two years old. For the next three years he rented land and then, in partnership with his father, bought his present farm from Nathan Stout, subsequently purchasing his father's share and is now sole owner. In general, farming has been his main business although he also raises some excellent stock, this being principally for his own use on the farm. His land is beautifully situated and under his methods of advanced farming is very productive.

Mr. Zedeker was married April 2, 1884, to Miss Maggie E. Lawhead, who was born in Shelby county, a daughter of Philip and Mary (Fordyce) Lawhead, both now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Zedeker two children have been born: Ella E., who married O. A. Baker, and they have one son, Ralph Emerson; and Clyde B. Mr. Zedeker and family attend the Methodist Epis-

copal church at Port Jefferson. In politics he is a democrat and at times has been elected to local offices, serving very acceptably for two terms as township trustee and at present is a member of the school board. He is identified with the Odd Fellows, attending the lodge at Port Jefferson.

CHARLES M. McCASHEN, whose many interests make him a widely known man is one of the leading citizens of Perry township, where is situated his well improved farm of eighty acres. He was born in Shelby county, O., October 5, 1867, and is a son of James and Mary (Stephenson) McCashen. The parents of Mr. McCashen are now among the highly valued retired residents of Sidney, O. For many years they resided on their farm and there their children were born, three in number, namely: Charles M.; Leona, who is the widow of A. F. Pence; and Frank, who is a resident of Cleveland. Mr. and Mrs. McCashen are members of the Baptist church at Sidney.

Charles M. McCashen attended the public schools and assisted his father and, with the exception of seven years, during which period he was a traveling salesman for a blank book firm, he has been continuously interested in agricultural pursuits. He is a stockholder in a number of substantial business concerns, including: the Booker Gibbs Plow Company of Canton, O.; Charles Harris Company, importers of fine wearing apparel at Canton; and The Geiger-Jones Company, also of that city, an investment company.

Mr. McCashen was married in September, 1890, to Miss Cora A. Woolley, a daughter of William and Jennie (Johnston) Woolley, and they have one daughter, Agnes, who is a student in the high school at Pemberton. The father of Mrs. McCashen was a wagonmaker by trade and engaged in farming during the most of his life. Mr. and Mrs. Woolley reared the following children: Charles; Ora, wife of John Lorton; James; Daisy, now deceased, formerly the wife of Chester Staley; Frank; Harry; Grace, wife of Wallace Lochard; William; and Cora A., wife of Mr. McCashen. As a citizen Mr. McCashen stands high and is president of the board of education in Perry township. He and family are active members of the Baptist church, of which he is financial secretary and is also a member of the board of deacons.

LEWIS GRANT SHANELY, a member of the board of education in Perry township, and a leading business man of Pemberton, is owner and proprietor of the L. G. Shanely elevator which he built here in 1903. Additionally he deals in all kinds of farm implements. Mr. Shanely was born in Champaign county, O., February 13, 1869, and is a son of Isaac and Barbara (Shaffer) Shanely. The father of Mr. Shanely was also born in Champaign county and has been a farmer all his active life. He married Barbara Shaffer, who was born in Germany, and they have had five children: Lewis Grant, Caroline, Jennie, George and Newton, the survivors being the oldest and the youngest. Isaac Shanely and wife are members of the United Brethren church.

After he completed the common school course, Lewis G. Shanely took a

commercial course at the Nelson Business College, but prior to this taught one term of school in Champaign county. After that he remained on the home farm until he came to Pemberton, where his business interests have been expanding ever since.

Mr. Shanely was married in 1901 to Miss Isophene Staley, who is a daughter of George W. and Sarah (Irvin) Staley, who were early settlers in their section of Shelby county, their other children being: Edward L.; Minnie, wife of W. G. Murphy; Milton; George P.; J. Mark; Alice, wife of W. M. Buroker; Bessie, wife of Albert Linker; and Mary, wife of Clarence Rinehart. Four children make up the family of Mr. and Mrs. Shanely: Theodore Grant, Jennie, Charles and Staley. The family is well known in the pleasant social circles of the town and is active in all the work of the Methodist Episcopal church. Nominally Mr. Shanely is a republican but his political activities are frequently along the line of his own judgment, especially in local matters. For three years he served as clerk of Perry township and gave careful attention to the duties of office and made many personal friends during that time.

JACOB M. FINKENBINE, a substantial and well known citizen of Dinsmore township, Shelby county, O., who owns a valuable farm of 120 acres, situated one and one-half miles east of Anna, O., together with improved property in that town, was born on this farm April 27, 1854, and is a son of Louis and Sarah (Fogt) Finkenbine, for many years well known and highly respected residents of this township.

Jacob M. Finkenbine obtained his education in the district schools and has spent his entire life amid his present home surroundings. Remaining at home and assisting his father, when the latter died he fell heir to the homestead, and hence has never had reason to leave what he is convinced is one of the finest farming sections of the state. As soon as the property became his own he began the improvements which have made it both more valuable and very attractive, new buildings of modern type having been erected and other changes made, all in the direction of development and added material comfort. Mr. Finkenbine gives his personal attention to his different farm industries and is numbered with not only the busiest but also the most successful agriculturists of this neighborhood.

Mr. Finkenbine married Miss Sophia D. Billings, who died May 2, 1910 and was buried in Pearl cemetery in Franklin township. Her father, Frederick Billings was born in Germany. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Finkenbine: Frederick, Lena and Nora, the only survivor being Lena, who remains with her father. He is a member and liberal supporter of the Lutheran church. In politics he is a staunch democrat but at present is serving in no political office although his reputation as an intelligent, upright and trustworthy man would indicate that any public trust would be safe in his hands.

WILLIAM L. ALLTON, who is associated with his son in the ownership of the elevator at Swanders, O., is one of the well known and reliable business men of Franklin township. He was born in Logan county, O., February 3, 1856, and is a son of Albert G. and Martha M. (Wheeler) Allton.

Albert G. Allton was a farmer and lumber man and belonged to a pioneer family of Logan county. He married Martha M. Wheeler and they had the following children: William L., Alfred, Seymour, John W., Wheeler, James, Anna and Emma Florence, all surviving except Alfred, Seymour and Wheeler. Anna is the wife of James McMillen, and Emma Florence is the wife of C. J. Graver. The grandfather of the above family was Reason Allton, who was probably born in Pennsylvania. Albert G. Allton reared his family in the faith of the Baptist church and instilled political sentiments in his sons that made them all republicans.

William L. Allton obtained a district school education and at first started out for himself as a day laborer and then went to work in a saw mill. He continued in the lumber business for twenty-eight years and was still thus interested when he first embarked in the elevator business, which was in April, 1896. He had then an old plant which was subsequently torn down, the present one being erected by the firm of William L. Allton & Bros., in 1901, Mr. Allton's first partner being Rinehart Smith, of Sidney, O. A large business is done at Swanders, it being a fine shipping point, and Mr. Allton largely controls the grain trade.

On October 26, 1882, Mr. Allton was married to Miss Mary Conover, who was born in Shelby county and is a daughter of Benjamin and Maria D. (Wells) Conover, who were prominent people here. Mr. and Mrs. Allton have the following children: Emory LeRoy, who married Bertha Pearl Allen, of Shelby county, and they have one child, Eveline Lois; Clifford Conover; and Pearl and Agnes. Two children are deceased, Alice, who died at the age of eighteen years, and her twin brother, who died in infancy. Mr. Allton and family belong to the Reformed church. Although a very active citizen, Mr. Allton has never accepted political office except on one occasion when he served one term as trustee of Turtle Creek township. He is identified with the Knights of Pythias at Sidney.

JEREMIAH D. FERREE, whose valuable farm of 137 acres lies in Perry township now lives retired after a long and busy life, and is known and respected all through this section of the county. He was born in Salem township, Shelby county, April 28, 1845, and is a son of Daniel and Eliza (Dixon) Ferree.

Daniel Ferree was born in Adams county, Pa., and died in Miami county, Ind., in March, 1892. He married Eliza Dixon, who was born in Lancaster county, Pa., and who lived to the unusual age of 103 years, passing away on January 12, 1912, at the home of her son, Jeremiah D., where she had been tenderly cared for for fifteen years previously. Daniel Ferree and wife had three children: Anna, who is the wife of George M. Gamble; Jeremiah D.; and Edwin A., who lives in Kentucky.

Jeremiah D. Ferree was still young when he enlisted for service in the Civil war, becoming a member of Co. G, 1st O. Vol. Cav., in which organization he was promoted to be first sergeant, and during the whole period of service was a brave, efficient and obedient soldier, winning the admiration of his comrades on many occasions and the approbation of his commanding officers. During one part of his service he was engaged in very dangerous work, although the entire period of a soldier's life is filled with danger, but on this occasion the hazard and danger were more than usual. A call for volunteers came for a secret mission and Mr. Ferree was one of those who exhibited courage and enlisted for this mission under Capt. Yeoman. The first indication of the nature of their work was when all were given Confederate uniforms and thus they marched in a certain direction all through one day up to midnight, when the captain told them that their mission was to capture Jefferson Davis, for whom a reward was offered by the Government, amounting to \$100,000. Although every man at this stage was given a chance to retire from the pursuit not one gave up, and such was their diplomacy that they mingled every day with Confederate soldiers without having their disguise penetrated, and each day a secret courier was sent back to General Wilson, their commander. The subsequent capture of Davis is a matter of history and the prize money was distributed between the soldiers of the 4th Michigan, the 1st Wisconsin and Captain Yeoman's brave squad of thirty-five men. Mr. Ferree took part in all the closing events of the war in which his regiment participated and was honorably discharged at Columbus, O., September 27, 1865. After his return from the army he completed his education and took a commercial course at Dayton, O., following which he taught one term of school in Shelby county. Later for some years he was in the saw mill business in Shelby county and then took up farming and continued until he retired from hard work.

Mr. Ferree was married September 29, 1870, to Miss Arvesta Line, who was born in Shelby county and is a daughter of D. M. and Sarah A. Line, and a granddaughter of Henry C. Line and of Solomon and Hannah (Rutman) Robeson. Mr. Ferree's paternal grandparents were Jacob and Elizabeth (LeFevre) Ferree, and the maternal, Haines and Elizabeth (Souder) Dixon, the former of whom was a Methodist preacher. Mrs. Ferree was the eldest born of her parents' family, the others being: Easton, Henry and Charles S.; Agnes I., who became the wife of Jacob Piper; Dewitt F., Ellwood S. and Morris Robison; and Olive May, who married Arthur T. Culbertson.

Mr. and Mrs. Ferree have four children, all of whom occupy rather prominent positions in life. The eldest son, Ernest Franklin, is a well known attorney in Indiana. Judson A. is a successful physician of Dayton, O. He married Minnie Connor and they have two children: Marjorie and Virginia. Clarence E. is a man of scientific attainments and is professor of psychology, at Bryn Mawr College, Pa. Grace Agnes, the youngest, is a teacher in the school of domestic science at the Ohio State University at Columbus. Mr. and Mrs. Ferree were reared in the Methodist faith and attend that church.

Politically Mr. Ferree is a republican and for nine years served as a justice of the peace. He is a Knight Templar Mason, attached to the Commandery at Sidney, O.

ORLA A. BAKER, who is one of the substantial men of Shelby county, O., the owner of two farms aggregating 204 acres, situated in Perry township, and a member of the firm of Baker & Harris, implement dealers at Port Jefferson, O., is one of the enterprising young business men of this section. He was born on his father's farm in Perry township, August 31, 1881, and is a son of Martin A. and Christena (Smith) Baker. The father died in February, 1909, but the mother survives and resides at Jackson Center. The family consisted of three children: Ida, who is the wife of Cory Hoak; Orla A., and Elza A.

In the public schools of Perry township Orla A. Baker secured his education, after which he became interested in agricultural pursuits and successfully carried on farming and moderate stock raising, confining himself to the same until 1910, when he became interested additionally at Port Jefferson and since March 1, 1912, he has been the senior member of the firm of Baker & Harris. This firm carries a full line of hardware and handles all kinds of agricultural implements. While Mr. Baker cannot be regarded as a politician, he is a staunch democrat and gives loyal support to his party's candidates and without asking for political preferment for himself.

On December 31, 1903, Mr. Baker was married to Miss Ella E. Zedeker, who was born in Shelby county and is a daughter of Oliver and Margaret (Lawhead) Zedeker. Mrs. Baker has one brother, Clyde. Mr. and Mrs. Baker have one son, Ralph Emerson, who was born May 3, 1906. They are members of the Disciples church. He is connected with the Knights of Pythias at Maplewood, and with the Knights of Khorasan at Sidney, O.

ORRIN C. STALEY, who resides on his well improved farm of 100 acres which lie in Salem township, additionally, in partnership with his brother, Roger W., owns a valuable tract of thirty-eight acres, situated in Perry township, and is one of the well known men of Shelby county, belonging to a family established here by his grandfather eighty-one year ago. He was born in Salem township, Shelby county, O., east of Port Jefferson, January 17, 1871, and is a son of Oliver C. and Anna (Cargill) Staley.

Oliver C. Staley was born in Shelby county in 1847, a son of William Staley, who was born in Montgomery county, O., in 1821, and came with his father, John Staley, to Salem township, this county, in 1831. In 1844 William Staley married Barbara Harshbarger, daughter of Jonas and Hettie (Jacobs) Harshbarger and they had four children. In 1869 Oliver C. Staley married Anna Cargill and two sons were born to them: Orrin C. and Roger W. The mother of these sons still lives on the homestead on section 20, Salem township, but the father died in February, 1911. He was a representative man in his township and county, was a school teacher in his youth and later served in numerous township offices and for four years was county treasurer.







MARTIN QUINLISK

Orrin C. Staley attended the public schools in Salem township and afterward, for four years, the schools of Port Jefferson. Both he and brother early began to give practical assistance on the farm and after their school days were over the entire management was turned over to them. During the mother's lifetime the homestead of 209 acres belongs to her but, by the terms of the father's will, the sons are expected to finally come into the property. Mr. Staley is an enterprising and intelligent farmer and takes pride in keeping his place in fine condition. His father was one of the organizers and was president of the Farmers Telephone Company and Mr. Staley is a member of its board of directors and one of the stockholders.

On September 20, 1893, Mr. Staley was married to Miss Blanche Leapley, who was born in Shelby county, a daughter of Otho H. and Mary (Stone) Leapley. Mrs. Staley has three brothers and one sister: Charles E., Quinn, J. R., and Anna, who is the wife of A. N. Wooley. Mr. and Mrs. Staley have three children: Lova, Homer and Mary, all of whom are being given every advantage in the power of their parents. In politics Mr. Staley is a democrat but in local matters exercises discretion in casting his vote. He has served in the councils of his party on several occasions and has long been a member of the school board. Fraternally Mr. Staley confines his interest to the order of Odd Fellows and is identified with the lower branch at Port Jefferson and the Encampment at Sidney. With his family he attends and gives a liberal support to the Baptist church at Sidney.

HON. MARTIN QUINLISK, a retired farmer now residing at Sidney, O., occupying his comfortable residence of No. 433 S. Main street, is one of the leading men of Shelby county and for many years was active and useful in public office. He was born in Ireland, August 1, 1845, and is a son of Patrick and Catherine (Gleason) Quinlisk.

In 1848 the parents of Mr. Quinlisk came to America and for several years they lived on a farm in Butler county, O., in 1852 coming to Shelby county and renting a farm in Orange township for ten years. Patrick Quinlisk then bought a farm in Green township, containing 120 acres and continued to live there until the close of his life, when aged about sixty years. He and wife were members of the Catholic church.

Martin Quinlisk was only a boy when his father rented land in Orange township, and he became so attached to that place that in later years he bought the same farm, containing 160 acres. He attended school when his father could spare him and helped to clear and drain the Green township farm. He owns 230 acres all located in Orange township and carried on farming and stock raising until in February, 1911, when he came to Sidney. He has always been a staunch democrat and an effective party worker and in 1893 was elected a member of the board of county commissioners and served until September 19, 1900, a period of six years and nine months. He served also on the fair board for four years, for three years being president of that body. His party had higher honors still for Mr. Quinlisk, in the spring of 1912 placing him on the democratic ticket for state representative, and his election followed in

November, 1912. Mr. Quinlisk is admirably qualified for high public office, being a man of superior judgment and of known personal integrity.

In 1877 Mr. Quinlisk was married to Miss Elizabeth Maloney, who was born in Miami county, O. They are members of the Catholic church and Mr. Quinlisk belongs to the fraternal order of Knights of Columbus.

PAUL HARRIS, who is one of the younger business men of Port Jefferson, junior member of the firm of Baker & Harris, dealers in hardware and farm implements, was born on his father's farm in Logan county, O., April 4, 1888. He is a son of John W. and Matilda (Shick) Harris.

The Harris and Shick families are representative ones in Logan county and the older members had much to do with the making and carrying out of laws and statutes for the general welfare. Like other pioneer families of their day they engaged in road making and school and church building and made law abiding communities in which to rear children who now reflect honor on them. John W. and Matilda Harris had the following children born to them: Emmett, Elizabeth, Iva, Chester and George.

Paul Harris was reared and educated in Logan county and mainly spent his time on the home farm prior to March 1, 1912, when he came to Port Jefferson and entered into his present partnership. The firm of Baker and Harris handles both shelf and heavy hardware and all the leading makes of agricultural implements, and their patronage comes from a wide surrounding territory.

In politics Mr. Harris is a democrat but is no seeker for office as at present he finds his time sufficiently employed with his own business problems. Fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Pythias and he was reared in the Methodist faith. He is an enterprising young man in his business relations and through a pleasing personality has many friends in social life.

WYANT A. DE WEESE, who is operating his wife's farm of eighty acres, which is a part of the Gearhart estate and lies in Perry township, Shelby county, O., is one of the best known and highly regarded citizens of the county in which for over twenty-five years he has been a successful school teacher. The De Weese name is well known throughout Shelby county in other connections for the family has long been one of sturdy character in this section. He was born on the land that his grandfather entered from the Government as early as 1804, on October 1, 1867, and is a son of Leonidas and Margaret (Thompson) De Weese.

Leonidas De Weese was born on his father's pioneer farm in Perry township, and now lives retired at Sidney, O. His first marriage was to Margaret Thompson, who died January 18, 1891, and she was the mother of eight children, namely: Laura D., who married A. L. Gibbs; Hamilton G.; Wyant A.; Thoruton N., who died September 25, 1910; Hattie M., who married A. C. Dill; Lagurna, who married W. L. C. Sturm; Bertha, who married O. S. Vance; and Thurman G., who is a bookkeeper in a bank at Norwalk, O. The second marriage of Mr. De Weese was to the widow of his brother, N.

W. De Weese, Mrs. Mary Ellen De Weese, who died in February, 1911; and the third marriage was to Lucy Mowen, and they now reside at Sidney.

Wyant A. De Weese completed the common school course and then entered the Normal School at Ada, O., where he prepared for the profession of teaching, receiving his first certificate from A. B. C. Hitchcock. Since 1866 he has spent a part of every year in the educational field, mainly in Shelby county but also in Logan county, and in every neighborhood he finds a friendly welcome from some who have, at one time or another, profited under his instruction.

On February 14, 1897, Mr. De Weese was married to Miss Marilla Gearhart, a daughter of Anthony and Elizabeth A. (Burditt) Gearhart. They were Ohio people and the father of Mrs. De Weese was born in Miami county and the mother in Hancock county. The latter resides in the home of Mr. and Mrs. De Weese, the father having died some years since. They had two children: Marilla and George L., the latter of whom owns eighty-four acres of excellent land in Perry township. Mrs. De Weese is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically he is a staunch democrat, as is his father, and he has served two terms as township trustee and on many occasions has been chosen as an official of educational organizations. His only fraternal connection is with the Knights of Pythias at Quincy.

SAMUEL MILLER, whose three tracts of land, all lying in Perry township, aggregate 170 acres, is one of the well known and representative men of this section and belongs to an old and respected Ohio family. He was born in Perry township, Shelby county, August 26, 1850, and is a son of Henry R. and Catherine (Beasley) Miller. Henry R. Miller and wife came to Perry township, from near Springfield, O., where they had married. During his early married life he followed the blacksmith trade but afterward became a farmer and both he and wife died here and their burial was at Cedar Point. They had three children: Samuel; John; and Mary, who is the wife of John Doren.

Samuel Miller attended the district schools in boyhood and then gave his father assistance on the home farm until his own marriage at the age of twenty-two years. After that event he rented farm land for over twelve years and then purchased the 100-tract on which his son Charles now resides. He inherited sixty acres from his father and subsequently purchased twenty additional acres. His land is devoted to general agriculture but Mr. Miller no longer is active in carrying on the farm industries, his son and a son-in-law very capably bearing the responsibilities.

On June 27, 1872, Mr. Miller was married to Miss Nancy Jane Young, a daughter of Samuel and Jane (Johnston) Young. Mr. and Mrs. Young's children were: Lucinda, Ellen, Elizabeth, Margaret, Nancy Jane, Retta Jane, James and Frank. To Mr. and Mrs. Miller three children have been born, namely: Charles, who was married first to Ola Jenkins and after her death to Macey Mennier; Grace, who married Harvey De Weese and they have two children: Roy and Millard; and Jennie Catherine, who resides at home. Mr.

Miller and family are active members of the United Brethren church. In politics Mr. Miller, like his late father, is a republican and has served his township in local offices. He has been particularly interested in the public schools and in forwarding the movement for good roads.

ROBISON JAMES DEWEESE, who is a well known citizen of Shelby county, O. and a prominent resident and substantial farmer of Perry township owns 136 acres of very fine land. He was born on this farm, and is a son of Newton William and Sarah Jane (Thompson) DeWeese.

Newton William DeWeese was born in Miami county, O., but for many years was a farmer in Shelby county and died here in advanced age. His first marriage was to Sarah Jane Thompson, who was born in Shelby county, of Virginia parents. To this marriage the following children were born: John Bunyan, deceased; Smallwood Thompson, deceased; Robison James; Lewis McKelvey; Margaret Susannah, wife of David N. Spiece; and Sarah Jane, wife of Benjamin F. Struble. After the death of his first wife, Newton DeWeese married Elizabeth Epler and two children were born to them: Leota E., who is the wife of Jacob B. Strayer; and Erma, who died young. The family belonged to the Baptist church and the burial of the parents was in Glenn cemetery at Port Jefferson, O.

Robison J. DeWeese attended the district schools and afterward worked for his father on the home place for three years. He then embarked in the hardware business at Port Jefferson, where he continued for twenty years and for two years was in the same business at Piqua, and for one year, engaged in manufacturing elbows for tin spouting, being a tinner by trade. Finding an advantageous opportunity to dispose of this business he sold and in 1904 returned to the home farm, purchasing the interests of the other heirs in the same and ever since has devoted himself to agricultural pursuits here.

In 1891 Mr. DeWeese was married to Miss Sarah Margaret Dutton, who was born in Shelby county. Her parents were Thomas and Mary (Field) Dutton, natives of England, the father being a miller by trade. Mr. and Mrs. Dutton had the following children: Frances, who is the widow of Abraham Allabaugh; Mary A., who is the wife of John W. Baker; William, who served in the Civil war, died shortly after its close; Edward, who is deceased; Elizabeth, who is deceased; Sarah Margaret, who is the wife of Mr. DeWeese and Laura, who married D. F. Moreland of Sidney. Mr. and Mrs. DeWeese have two children: Mae Agnes, and Roy Newton, residing at home, the latter being a member of the senior class in the Sidney high school.

In politics Mr. DeWeese is a democrat and at present is treasurer of Perry township and for five years was a member of the school board in this township. He is president of the Farmers Telephone Company and is a member of its board of directors. For many years he has been identified with the Odd Fellows at Port Jefferson and belongs to the encampment at Sidney.

DAVID T. CLINEHENS, one of the prominent men of Perry township, who owns the fine farm of 100 acres on which he resides, was born in Shelly county, May 6, 1853, and is a son of George and Eva (Muth) Clinehens.

George Clinehens was born in Baden, Germany, where he was reared and from there came to the United States before his marriage. He was a farmer all his life, for many years being a respected resident of Dinsmore township, Shelby county, where his death occurred, and his burial was by the side of his wife in Pearl cemetery at Swanders, O. They were members of the Reformed church. The following children were born to them: Nicholas, deceased; Mary, wife of George Wenger; Conrad; George, deceased; Elizabeth, wife of W. R. Park; John; David T.; and Philip R., deceased.

David T. Clinehens attended the district schools through boyhood and then worked for his father on the home farm until he was twenty-two years old when he started out for himself, buying the interests of the other heirs in the homestead, which he held until 1902 when he sold it and bought a one-half section in Salem township. After living there for six years he sold and then bought his present farm from Thomas Kiser. After improving to some extent and remodeling the farm residence, Mr. Clinehens now owns one of the most attractive homes on the Dingman turnpike road. He has other property north of Sidney and also is a stockholder in the Farmers Telephone Company.

In 1880 Mr. Clinehens was married to Miss Ida J. Lochard, who was born in Champaign county, O., a daughter of Thomas and Eliza (Ellis) Lochard. Mrs. Clinehens had two brothers and one sister: John W., Isaac A. and Ella, who is now deceased and formerly was the wife of John Forry. To Mr. and Mrs. Clinehens the following children have been born: Ada May; Warthen Miller, who married Clara Clayton, died March 20, 1911, they having two children—Ralph C., and Ruth Luella; Charles E.; Raymond W.; Gertrude Hazel and David Ellis. The family belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically Mr. Clinehens is a democrat and has served in several township offices, for two terms being a member of the school board, and for two years turnpike superintendent.

GEORGE L. GEARHART, who carries on general farming and stock raising on his valuable farm of eighty-four acres, which lies in Perry township, Shelby county, O., was born in this township, January 18, 1870, and is the only son of Anthony and Elizabeth (Burditt) Gearhart. The father, who is now deceased, was born in Miami county, O., and the mother in Hancock county and the latter resides with her only daughter, Marilla, who is the wife of Wyant A. DeWeese.

George L. Gearhart remained on the home farm assisting his father after his school days were over, until he was twenty-three years old and then started out for himself. He began by renting 164 acres in Perry township, which he cultivated until his father died when he inherited his present farm of eighty-four acres and settled here. Many improvements seemed desirable and as rapidly as possible Mr. Gearhart brought them about, these including the tiling of the land in many places, the remodeling of the barn and the erection of a handsome residence with many modern comforts installed. He is a wide awake, progressive farmer and is prosperous.

In December, 1892, Mr. Gearhart was married to Miss Lavina J. Fogt, who was born in Shelby county, a daughter of John B. and Isabel (Ragan) Fogt. They were farming people of this county and the father died on his farm in Franklin township and his burial was in the Pearl cemetery. The mother survives and is a resident of Pemberton, O. They had the following children: Minnie, who is the wife of Frank Young; Elizabeth; Albert; Elmer; and Bertha, who is the wife of Charles Knief. Mrs. Fogt subsequently married William Line and they have one daughter, Ona, who is the wife of W. J. Foster.

Mr. and Mrs. Gearhart have two children: Gladys Ruth and Joy Marie. They attend the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Gearhart has always been a democrat in his political preference, and fraternally is identified with the F. & A. M. at Port Jefferson, O.

HENRY J. ZIMPFER, a very successful agriculturist and a well known and highly respected citizen of Dinsmore township, Shelby county, resides on his well improved farm of 165 acres, which lies two miles north of Anna, O. He was born on this farm in 1875, and is a son of John and Margaret (Beamer) Zimpfer. The family is of German extraction but both parents were born in Ohio, the mother being a native of Franklin township this county. For a number of years the father carried on farming in Dinsmore township, where he was a leading member of the Lutheran church and a highly respected man. His death occurred July 2, 1912. On November 25, 1869, he married Margaret Beamer, who died November 14, 1912, and they spent their entire married life in Dinsmore township. They had four children: Henry J., John, Jennie and Arthur, John and Arthur being deceased.

Henry J. Zimpfer secured his education in the public schools. He has always resided on the home farm and learned all the practical details of farming under his father, and since the property came into his hands has not only continued the old industries but has widened his interests, improved on old methods and has made this one of the fine farms of the county.

Mr. Zimpfer was married in 1896 to Miss Mertie Boyer, and all their children survive, the record being: James Arthur, born in 1898; Thelma Ruth, in 1901; Sylva Ruberta, in 1903; Robert, in 1904, and Claude, in 1906. Mr. Zimpfer is giving them every advantage in his power and they are bright, representative young Americans with every promise of usefulness in the future. Mrs. Zimpfer had four brothers and two sisters: John, William, Elmer, Della, Grace and one who died in infancy. Mr. Zimpfer and family are members of the Lutheran church. Like his late father, Mr. Zimpfer is a staunch democrat. He is treasurer of the Zimpfer special district school board.

WILLIAM C. BAKER, who is one of the valued citizens of Jackson township, is a general farmer and lives one and one-half miles south of Montra, on the west side of the Hussey turnpike road, where are located his 200 acres of well improved land. He was born on this farm, July 22, 1847, and is a son of Jefferson Baker and a grandson of Philip Baker.



Grandfather Philip Baker was born in Pennsylvania and when he came first to Ohio he settled in Clark county, four miles from Springfield. He married Mary Elizabeth Kessler, whose parents were natives of Germany, and their children were all born and reared in Clark county, namely: George, William, Jacob, Jefferson, James, Elizabeth, Sarah, Mary and Susan. Of the above family, Sarah lived to the remarkable age of ninety-three years. Philip Baker died a few months before the birth of his son, Jefferson Baker. His widow survived until 1869 and her burial was in the old cemetery at Port Jefferson.

Jefferson Baker came into the world fatherless but he was blessed with a careful mother and she gave him every educational advantage in her power. He became a scholar, for those days, and taught school and penmanship, being an expert with the old-fashioned goose quill, which has not been altogether succeeded by the steel pen, there yet being found old fashioned scribes who prefer the flexible goose quill of long ago. Mr. Baker became a farmer, acquiring eighty acres of the large property above alluded to, and subsequently he purchased forty more acres and partly cleared his 120 acres but did not survive into advanced age, his death occurring in his forty-fifth year. His burial was in the Howell cemetery at Montra. In politics a staunch democrat he was elected on the democratic ticket to the office of township trustee and also served as school director. His marriage was with Margaret Critten, who was born in Virginia, a daughter of William Critten. She lived to be fifty-four years of age and was the cherished mother of the following children: William C.; Mary Elizabeth, who married Marion Rhynard and they live at Ashley, Mich.; F. M., who died in May, 1909, in Michigan; John H., who is a resident of Lake View, O. The youngest born, a son, died when aged three years.

William C. Baker attended the district schools in Jackson township and also a select school at Port Jefferson, and afterward followed farming on the homestead during the summers and for thirteen terms taught school in the winter seasons. During this time he married and afterward lived for one winter on his father-in-law's farm in Perry township and then came on the homestead. The present residence and barn were built by Mr. Baker's father in 1870 but he has enlarged and improved them and completed the clearing of the land and, as a business, carries on a general agricultural line. Very often he has been called to positions of public responsibility and on the democratic ticket was elected county commissioner and served six years; served two terms as land appraiser; was township clerk and a trustee of Jackson township and for twenty-five years has served on the school board. He is interested in the Farmers Telephone Company.

Mr. Baker was first married to Miss Mary C. Thompson, a daughter of the late James Thompson of Perry township. She is survived by one son, Allen, who married Alice Lefever. Mr. Baker's second marriage was to Miss Eureka Schmidt, and to this union the following children were born: Nora, who is the wife of Clarence Steenrod, residing at Maplewood, O.; Milton, who is a resident of Maplewood, married Eva Clinehens; May, who lives at

home; Leo and Lina, twins, the former of whom married Lillie Fogt and the latter, Sidney Ailes; Roscoe, who was a student at Harvard University, Boston, who is a natural mechanic, is in the well digging and pump repairing business at Montra; Ida, who lives at home; and Bessie and Clara who are yet in school. The family belongs to the Disciples church. He is identified with the local Grange and with the K. O. T. M. Mr. Baker and family are among the most representative people in this part of Shelby county.

ALLEN BAKER, general farmer and stock raiser, residing in Perry township, where he owns a farm of eighty-four acres, was born October 16, 1874, in Jackson township, Shelby county, and is a son of William C. and Mary (Thompson) Baker.

William C. Baker was a well known citizen of Shelby county. After the death of his first wife, when their one child, Allen, was eighteen months old, William C. Baker married Miss Eureka Schmidt, of Jackson township and of German ancestry. To the second union the following children were born: Nora, wife of Clarence Steenrod; Milton, who married Effie Clinhens; May; Leo and Lina, twins, the former of whom married a Miss Fogt, and the latter, S. Ailes; and Boston, Ida, Bessie and Clara.

Allen Baker obtained a common school education and remained with his father until he was twenty-one years of age, moving then to his present property, which was an inheritance. In November, 1896, he was married to Miss Alice LeFevre, who is a daughter of Jacob and Delcina (Line) LeFevre. The LeFevre family is one well known in Shelby county, substantial farming people, and it is connected by marriage with a number of the other old families of this section. Mrs. Baker had the following brothers and sisters: Edward, who married Gertie Pulmure; William; James, who married Edna King; Warren, who is deceased, married Callie Baker; Minnie, who is the wife of Lafe Vester; Lagurney, who is the wife of Elza A. Baker; and Cora, who is the wife of Samuel Retter. Mr. and Mrs. Baker have three children: Leroy Allen, Velma Alice and Mary Catherine. The family attends the Church of Christ. In his political views, Mr. Baker is a democrat. He is a well known and highly respected citizen of this community and should he carry out a plan he has under consideration, that of removing, early in 1913, to Salem township, this neighborhood will have lost a good resident and a reliable and dependable man.

C. A. JACKSON, farmer; P. O. Sidney, O.; son of Jesse S. and Mary E. (Sturm) Jackson, was born on the 15th day of April, 1861, in Wabash county, Ind. He is of German descent on his father's side and of Irish extraction on his mother's. His education is what could be obtained in the common schools of his youth and by close application to his studies at home. For a number of years he actively carried on the farming industry but, to some degree, has shifted his responsibilities to the shoulders of his sons in later years. As a side line he has been writing insurance for a number of years and has the bulk of that business, locally. He is an active citizen, possessing the confidence and esteem of those with whom his life has been spent.

Mr. Jackson has frequently been called upon to accept public office. For four years he was a justice of the peace of Greene township, Shelby county, and at the present time is township assessor. In his views on public questions, he is a progressive republican.

Mr. Jackson married, June 18, 1885, to Miss Lucy E. Monroe, who was born at Pemberton, O., March 9, 1868. The following children have been born to them, namely: Harry W., in 1886; Jesse C., in 1887; Mrs. Nora E. Manning in 1888; James E. in 1890, died in 1891; Lee M., born in 1892; Harvey, in 1894; Lyda R., in 1897; and Wilbur H. in 1902. Mr. Jackson and his entire family are members of the Christian church at Palestine, O., and for many years he has been superintendent of the Sunday school. Fraternally, he is an Odd Fellow, identified with both the lower branch and the encampment, belonging also to the auxiliary order of Rebeccas. He is a member of the Knights of the Golden Eagle, and its auxilliary, Ladies of the Golden Eagle; of the Improved Order of Redmen; and the Modern Workmen of America.

WALLACE S. DU VALL, who, with his father, owns a valuable farm containing 163 acres, situated in Salem township, Shelby county, O., was born on this farm, November 28, 1874, and is a son of Elias L. and Amanda (Scott) Du Vall.

Elias L. Du Vall was born also in Salem township, October 2, 1848, and is a son of Nimrod and Amassie (Le Fever) Du Vall, and was reared to an agricultural life. He had two brothers, Jacob and Manford, and three sisters, Adeline, Sarah and Malissa. In 1873 Elias L. Du Vall married a daughter of John and Nancy (Keith) Scott and their only child is Wallace S., of Salem township.

Wallace S. Du Vall worked for three years on the home farm after his school days were over and then became a commercial traveler, going on the road for the Standard Tie Company, of Detroit, Mich. He continued with that house for three years and afterward traveled for seven years for the Page Fence Company, of Adrian, Mich., after which he returned to the farm and ever since has taken a practical interest in general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Du Vall was married March 17, 1894, to Miss Clara Faulder, who died September 19, 1900. She was survived by two children, Hazel M. and Bertha I., and the following brothers and sisters: Mrs. O. G. Shroyer, Frank Faulder, Harry, William, Mrs. Elza Pence, John, Mrs. Charles Valentine, Mrs. Dottie Bland and Wallace. Mr. Du Vall was married (second) in June, 1902, to Miss Ella M. Blue, a daughter of Henry Blue. Mrs. Du Vall had two brothers William and George, both deceased, and two half sisters: Mrs. DeWitt Bush, of Sidney, O., and Mrs. Gus Schnell, of Portland, Ore. Mr. and Mrs. Du Vall have one daughter, Anna M. Nominally Mr. Du Vall is a republican but exercises his own judgment when he casts his vote. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias lodge at Maplewood, as does his father.

JOHN W. ZEDEKER, who is one of the best known citizens of Shelby county, now living retired on his farm of 190 acres, which is situated in Franklin township, came here thirty-eight years ago and has been a continuous resident. He was born in Montgomery county, O., six miles north of Dayton, O., February 18, 1836, and is a son of Jacob E. and Mary M. (Campbell) Zedeker.

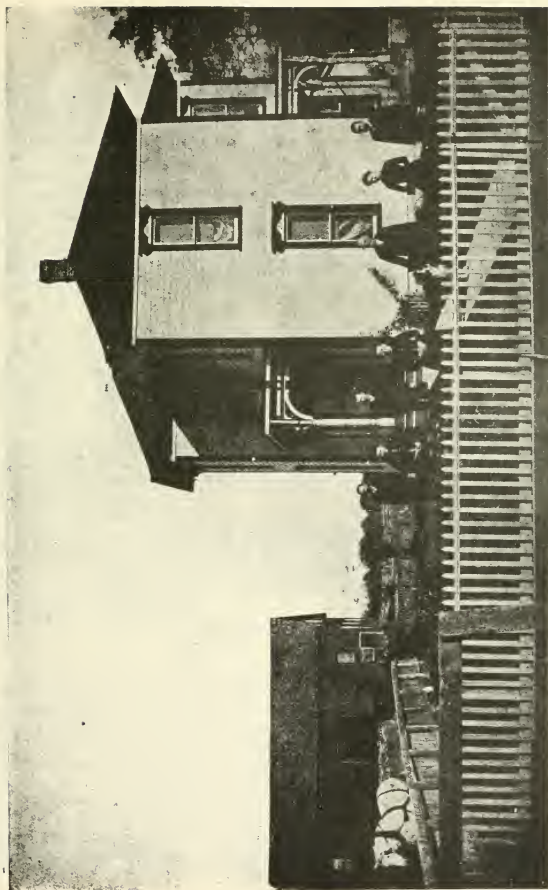
The Zedeker family was a pioneer one of Montgomery county and the father of John W. Zedeker was born on the old homestead there and remained through life on the same place on which his parents settled in 1805, passing away in his eighty-fifth year. He married Mary M. Campbell, who belonged to an old family of Highland county, O., and the following children were born to them: Eliza Jane, John W., Elizabeth, Mary, Sarah, Daniel S., Jacob E., Martha and Julia. They were among the founders of the Dunkard faith in Montgomery county and were liberal in church support.

John W. Zedeker had district school advantages in boyhood and from youth took part in the farm industries, which he found congenial, and continued throughout all his active life. In 1874 he came to Franklin township, Shelby county, at which time he purchased his present farm from William Bryant.

On August 20, 1862, Mr. Zedeker was married to Miss Mary Brandenburg, who was born in Montgomery county, a daughter of Samuel and Catherine (Brewer) Brandenburg, who came to Shelby county when Mrs. Zedeker was four years old. Samuel Brandenburg was born in Maryland and his wife in Virginia. They had the following children: Louis, Betsey, Samuel, Dorothy Ann, Christiana, Joseph, Catherine and Mary. They were members of the German Reformed church. Mr. and Mrs. Zedeker have two sons: Oliver C. and George W. The former is a resident of Salem township and has one daughter, Ella, who is the wife of Orla Baker and they have two children, Ralph and Clyde. The second son married Mattie Wess and they have five children: Ethel, Hazel, John, Wilbur and Charles. Mr. Zedeker and wife attend the German Reformed church. Nominally he is a democrat but in many campaigns Mr. Zedeker has exercised his own judgment in casting his vote but has always taken an interest in public matters and tried to be useful as a citizen. For seven years he served as township trustee and has favored plans for increasing the benefits of the public schools. He is one of the stockholders in the Farmers Telephone Company.

J. HENRY QUELLHORST, whose fine farm of 170 acres is situated one and three-fourth miles northwest of Kettlersville, in a desirable section of Van Buren township, is a well known and highly respected citizen. He was born October 4, 1855, in German township, Auglaize county, O., and is a son of J. D. and Sophia (Neiter) Quellhorst.

The parents of Mr. Quellhorst were born in Germany and both came to the United States in their youth and were residents of New Bremen, O. A family of ten children was born to them and named as follows: Henry, Mary, Herman, Anna, Ferdinand, J. Henry, Minnie, Deidrick, William and



JOHN W. ZEDEKER AND FAMILY



Caroline. Herman married Minnie Egbert and they live in Van Buren township and have had two children, Sophia and Anna, the latter deceased; Anna, who is deceased, was the wife of Harmon Ollerman; Minnie, who is deceased, was the wife of F. C. Roettger; William, who is a resident of Kettlersville, married Henrietta Bartenstein; and Caroline is the wife of J. F. Roettger and they live in Van Buren township. The others, with the exception of J. Herry, are deceased.

J. Henry Quellhorst obtained a district school education and farming and stock raising have been his business and occupation ever since. He inherited all but forty acres of his valuable farm, purchasing that tract, but has made all the improvements here and they are of a very substantial character. Mr. Quellhorst is a democrat in his political views and naturally takes pride in the great success of his party in the election of 1912. He belongs to the Evangelical church at Kettlersville, O. Mr. Quellhorst has never married.

J. E. WHITE, who has been a lifelong resident of Green township, Shelby county, O., resides on the farm of eighty acres, situated ten miles southeast of Sidney, on which he was born, in 1881, and is a son of G. M. and Mary E. (Moore) White.

G. M. White was a native of Miami county, O., born in 1837, and came to Shelby county with his bride and lived on the present farm through a long and worthy life, his death occurring in his seventy-second year. He married Mary E. Moore, who resides on the homestead with her son, being now in her sixty-fifth year. There were but two children: W. E., who resides on an adjoining farm; and J. E.

In the public schools of Green township Mr. White and brother secured educational training and both then devoted themselves to farm pursuits, J. E. White devoting his entire time and attention to the management, development and improvement of his farm, having sensible and practical ideas which bring him very satisfactory results. He raises wheat, corn, ryè and oats and enough stock for his own use.

Mr. White married Miss Maggie Minniear and they have one child, Treva. In politics Mr. White is a democrat.

J. A. HELMAN, whose well improved farm of fifty acres lies two miles east of Newport, O., on the south side of the Sidney and Newport road, running through Cynthian township, is serving as a member of the board of trustees of Cynthian township and otherwise is a representative citizen of this section. He was born in Indiana county, Pa., but in infancy was brought to Ohio, his parents, Silas and Almira Helman, settling in Darke county, where the father died. The mother survives and is a resident of Bradford, O.

J. A. Helman attended school in both Darke and Miami counties. He was seventeen years of age when he came first to Cynthian township, which has been his continuous home with the exception of five years when he lived at Bradford, in Miami county. He purchased his excellent farm from the Carpenter heirs. Although he found the land in good condition, Mr. Helman

was not satisfied with the house and its surroundings and has made many improvements. He expended \$200 in building an additional bed room and a pantry, on the west side of his residence, and on the east side built a 32-foot veranda, thereby adding greatly to its appearance. He also has laid cement and gravel walks and driveways to all approaches. He carries on a general agricultural line, including grain growing and stock raising and makes a specialty of potatoes.

Mr. Helman was married to Miss Mary Alice Cromer, who was born in Miami county, O., near Fletcher, and they have had six children: Harley H., Earl F., Ivan C., Leslie J., Agnes A. and Clarence S., the fifth born being now deceased. Mr. Helman and family are members of the Church of the Brethren. Politically he is a republican. For eight years he served as a member of the board of education of the Oran special school district, for two years being clerk of that body, and in March, 1912, was appointed township trustee to serve out the unexpired term of the late James Wolaver.

THOMAS L. HIGGINS, whose excellent farm of sixty-five acres is situated five and one-half miles south of Sidney, O., was born March 2, 1873, in the Russell Settlement, in Turtle Creek township, Shelby county, O., and is a son of the late J. V. and Elizabeth (Dunn) Higgins, the former of whom is now deceased, but the latter lives on the old Dunn homestead.

Thomas L. Higgins was educated in the public schools and ever since has devoted himself to farming and stock raising, remaining on the home place until his marriage, when he came to his present farm and occupied it for two years and then moved into Miami county, where he rented farm land until 1907, when he returned and bought this place after renting it for five years, it formerly belonging to his father-in-law. Mr. Higgins is a careful, intelligent, experienced farmer and his crops and stock compare very favorably with any others in this section.

Mr. Higgins married Miss Eva Hauver, who is a daughter of the late J. C. Hauver, who came here from Maryland and was a well known farmer in Orange township. Mr. and Mrs. Higgins have four children: Bessie, Howard, Wayne and Catherine. In politics he is an independent voter and fraternally he is connected with the Odd Fellows at Kirkwood.

WALKER ZIMPHER, one of the enterprising citizens and excellent farmers of Perry township, Shelby county, O., now serving in his first term as a member of the board of township trustees, is operating a farm of 100 acres, belonging to his father-in-law, J. J. Maxwell, and has other interests. He was born in Shelby county, O., in 1872, and is a son of George and Susan (Dill) Zimpher.

George Zimpher, who now lives retired at Pemberton, O., was a farmer in Shelby county for many years and both he and wife were natives of the county. Her death occurred in 1907. They had the following children: John; Lewis; Hannah, wife of Elmer Killian; Clara, wife of Frank Spangy; Walker; and Lucy, wife of Harry Wirick.



Walker Zimpher went to school during boyhood and youth and since then has been engaged in agricultural pursuits, after reaching manhood working for two years for his father, and, following that, operated rented land until 1910, when he took charge of Mr. Maxwell's farm which he is conducting along modern methods, with good results.

Mr. Zimpher was married October 20, 1892, to Miss Maude Maxwell, a daughter of J. J. and Elizabeth (Key) Maxwell, and they have four children: Harry, who is employed by a telephone company; Bonnie, who, with her sister Helen, attends school; and Mabel, who is the youngest and still at home. Mr. Zimpher and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically he is a democrat and fraternally is an Odd Fellow, belonging to the order at Quincy and the Encampment at Rosewood. Mr. Zimpher is one of the stockholders in the Farmers Telephone Company.

JOHN W. HERRING, who is one of the reliable and representative men of Salem township, Shelby county, O., resides on his excellent farm of 114 acres which he devotes to general agriculture. He was born in Salem township, August 23, 1859, and is a son of Alexander and Sarah (Studebaker) Herring.

Alexander Herring was a prosperous farmer and well known man in Salem township, where, for many years he also followed threshing. Both he and wife died here and their burial was at Port Jefferson. Their surviving children are all well known and respected people and mainly residents of Shelby county: Henry; Isaac; Thomas; John W.; Laura, who is deceased, was the wife of William Frey; Bell, who is the wife of Frank Smith; Clara, who is the wife of Byrl Roach; Daniel; and Jennie, who is the wife of R. O. Weeks.

After his school days were over John W. Herring gave his father assistance on the home farm until he was thirty-eight years of age, at which time he came to his present property on which he has made many substantial improvements.

On March 13, 1898, Mr. Herring was married to Miss Louie Arthur, who was born in Stokes township, Logan county, O., a daughter of John N. and Mary R. (Taylor) Arthur. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur now live at Lake View, in Logan county, he having been a farmer during all his active life. Their family consisted of the following children: Arnold; Malissa, wife of Nicodemus Preston; William; Thomas; Mrs. Herring; Libby, deceased, who was the wife of Samuel Kemp; Austin, who is deceased; and Orlando. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Herring: Wesley Van; Karl, who died when aged two years and seven months; and Marion Robert. Mr. and Mrs. Herring are members and liberal supporters of the Christian church, of which Mr. Herring is a trustee. He was reared an old-time democrat but is a man who studies political questions for himself and is apt to vote entirely as his own judgment dictates, but in any event, whichever way he decides, he is a quiet, law supporting citizen.

J. W. THOMPSON, who operates his father's farm of 258 acres, situated nine miles southwest of Sidney, O., in a pleasant part of Washington township, Shelby county, was born in this township and is a son of Freeborn and Mary (Flynn) Thompson, who have lived retired at Piqua since 1909. The family contained three children: J. B., R. W. and J. E., the last named being deceased.

Since the end of his school days, R. W. Thompson has been continuously engaged in agricultural pursuits on this place, having no particular specialties but following both farming and stock raising. The Thompsons have all been farmers since the family was established here in 1818.

R. W. Thompson married Miss Edna C. Burnett and they had one daughter, Nina E., who died when a babe of eight days. In his political sentiments Mr. Thompson has always been a republican and has been active and useful as a citizen and at present is serving as a member of the township board of trustees.

WILLIAM F. SALM, a leading citizen of Clinton township, Shelby county, O., a member of its board of trustees, is one of the representative business men of Sidney, being associated here in the furniture line with his father. He was born at Sidney, O., July 1, 1876, and is a son of Fred and Catherine (Drescher) Salm.

There are few better known or more highly respected men in Shelby county than Fred Salm, who, for forty-seven continuous years has been in the furniture business at Sidney, and also, is the senior member of the firm of Salm & Taylor, undertakers.

William F. Salm was reared at Sidney and was educated in the parochial school belonging to Holy Angels' Catholic church. Immediately afterward he entered his father's store and learned the furniture business in every detail and later became his assistant in the undertaking business and holds an embalmer's license. The quarters occupied are situated on West Poplar street, Sidney, where the largest display of fine furniture is afforded the public in the county. The business policy continues the same which has brought prosperity for almost a half century.

Mr. Salm was married to Nora Knapke, who was born at Coldwater, O., and they have three children: Mary Elizabeth, John William and Richard Louis. Mr. and Mrs. Salm are members of the Catholic church and he is identified with the Knights of Columbus and with the Elks. He is one of the township's influential democrats and is serving in his second term as trustee.

WALDO M. GAINES, M. D., physician and surgeon, at Pemberton, O., has been professionally established here since June, 1910, and has built up a very satisfactory practice, and, as a permanent citizen, has identified himself with the best interests of the place. After completing the high school course at Covington, O., he entered the Ohio Northern University at Ada, and subsequently the College of Physicians and Surgeons, at Indianapolis, Ind., where he was graduated in the class of 1905. For five years he was engaged

in medical practice at Covington and from there came to Pemberton. Dr. Gaines is a son of Dr. Charles E. and Laura (Stevens) Gaines, the former of whom has been engaged in medical practice at Covington for twenty-five years. The other two members of the family are residents of Covington, namely: Mabel, wife of Clifford Townsend, and Theodora.

In 1908 Dr. Waldo M. Gaines was married to Miss Lena Brown, who was born in Miami county, O., a daughter of William and Mary (Tobias) Brown. The father of Mrs. Gaines was a contractor in Miami county and died there. She has one sister and one brother: Cora, who is the wife of George Thompson; and Edward. Dr. and Mrs. Gaines have one daughter, Mary Frances. They attend the Methodist Episcopal and Baptist churches. Dr. Gaines is identified with the leading medical organizations of the county, is a republican in his political views, and fraternally is connected with the Knights of Pythias at Covington.

GEORGE STENGEL, who is one of the substantial citizens of Franklin township, Shelby county, O., owns a valuable farm of ninety-five acres and a comfortable residence at Sidney, O., situated on the corner of St. Mary's and Maple streets. Mr. Stengel was born on this farm, December 31, 1856, and is a son of John M. and Sarah (Schiff) Stengel.

John M. Stengel and wife are both deceased. They were well known and highly respected people of Franklin township and the following children were born to them: Michael, who is deceased; Mary, who is the wife of J. P. Fogt; Barbara, who is the wife of John Brightweaver; Lena, who is the wife of Joseph Beemer; Sophia, who is the wife of Andrew Bertsch; Caroline, who is the wife of L. F. Fogt; Margaret, who is the wife of Solomon Staley; and George.

George Stengel attended the district schools when he was a boy and early began to give his father assistance on the farm and has continued to be interested in farm industries all his life. His property is valuable, the location of his farm being a favorable one as regards transportation and under his methods is as productive as any land in Franklin township.

On September 22, 1882, Mr. Stengel was married to Miss Nancy Arena Shaffer, who was born in Shelby county, a daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Blakely) Shaffer. To Mr. and Mrs. Stengel the following children have been born, all of whom survive: Edward, who married Anna Davis and they have three children—Mary, Viola and Agnes; Lewis Franklin; Elizabeth, who is the wife of Ira Slusser and they have three children—Irene, Unice and Gale; Bonnie, who is the wife of James Taylor and they have one child, Ileen; and Ora, who is the wife of Clarence Sturm and they have one child—Lois; and Walter and Milton. Mr. Stengel and wife were reared in the Lutheran faith and they and children belong to this church. Like his father before him, Mr. Stengel is a democrat.

HON. WILLIAM C. WYMAN, probate judge of Shelby county from 1876 until 1882, was born in County Wexford, Ireland, September 29, 1832,

and was eleven years old when his homesick, boyish eyes rested last on the green shores of his native land from the ship Keying, that was bearing him away to that land of promise across the sea—America. He left his parents, Patrick Cousins and Mary (Furlong) Wyman, behind, and they spent many more years there, the father dying when aged ninety years and the mother when still five years older.

As a cabin boy, with his brother John, on the brig Keying, bound from Liverpool to Newburyport, Mass., with a load of salt, William C. Wyman no doubt learned many hard lessons of life before land was reached. John Wyman later was given charge of one of Captain Cushing's vessels and again went to sea, but William started to complete his education in what was known as the West Male Grammar School. When he left school he once more became cabin boy on a vessel which sailed from Beverly, Mass., to Charleston, S. C., reaching port after a fearful struggle with the elements off Cape Hatteras. Later he once more went to sea, making two more trips across the Atlantic ocean, between Charleston and Liverpool. By this time he was tired of the sea and through a happy combination of circumstances, was led to find his way to Cincinnati, O. There his first work was done as a clerk in a grocery store and afterward he learned the plastering trade and followed that until 1853. Chance brought him to Sidney and fortunately he was pleased with the good people he met and with the evidences of thrift and business opportunity and shortly afterward came here as a permanent resident, becoming a contracting plasterer and gradually acquired not only a heavy financial standing but became a citizen who was justly regarded with confidence and esteem. In 1876 he was elected probate judge and served six continuous years. In 1884 he was elected a trustee of Clinton township and in 1885 was elected mayor of Sidney and served through two years, also becoming librarian of the public library, continuing for eight years. For many years he served as a justice of the peace and more recently has been health officer of Sidney. Judge Wyman was active also during the Civil war and served as lieutenant of the military organization known as the "Squirrel Hunters."

On October 6, 1856, Judge Wyman was married to Miss Ellen E. Ryan, who was born and educated in Boston, Mass., and was the first teacher in the Catholic school at Sidney. She is a daughter of John S. and Bridget Ryan. Judge and Mrs. Wyman have five children living: Mollie, Nellie, Celia, Sidney and Charles. The second born, John, died in young manhood, when just ready to be admitted to the bar. During his whole life Judge Wyman has been a democrat in politics and a Roman Catholic in religious faith. He is a very versatile man and, among his other capacities, at one time added school teaching, being a very acceptable substitute teacher on one occasion in Orange township. At present he is a notary public and is engaged in the insurance business, including fire, plate glass and accident protection.

PRESTON R. HUNT, who is a well-known resident of Plattsville, O., where he has lived for the past eighteen years, pleasantly occupies a part of his time in overseeing the industries successfully carried forward on his



PRESTON R. HUNT AND FAMILY



valuable farm of 143 acres, which adjoins the village. He was born in Green township, Shelby county, O., one mile south of Palestine, December 25, 1845, and is a son of Heman R. and Anna (Conover) Hunt.

Heman R. Hunt was one of the pioneer settlers of Shelby county. He was born in Butler county, O., and became a permanent resident of Shelby county in 1832, always afterward following farming and stock raising on his original farm until the close of his life, when aged seventy-five years, being survived by his wife for five years. They had but two children: Preston R. and his brother, Bruce S., who is a physician at Sidney.

Preston R. Hunt obtained a district school education, reading, writing and arithmetic being its main elements, and afterward, for a short time before settling down to farming, taught school in Green township. For many years he carried on extensive operations by himself on his large acreage but for some years all heavy responsibilities have been turned over to his son.

Mr. Hunt married Miss Rosannah Search and they have five children: Mrs. Florra F. Cornell, of Orange township; Charles Walter, who married Clara Martin; Viola, wife of L. L. Knoop; Kate J., wife of Findley Webster Brown and Heman Earl, who resides at home. In politics Mr. Hunt and sons are republicans. At times he has consented to serve in public office and for ten years was clerk of the Board of Education and for seven and one-half years was township clerk. Mr. Hunt is a member of the Universalist church.

ROGER W. STALEY. Perhaps there is no old family name better known or more highly respected in Salem township than that of Staley, which has been familiar here for eighty-one years. Roger W. Staley, who resides on his farm of 109 acres and has a one-half interest in a thirty-eight acre tract lying in Perry township, is a member of this family, the younger of two sons born to his parents, Oliver C. and Anna (Cargill) Staley. His birth took place at Port Jefferson, June 20, 1874.

Oliver C. Staley was born in Shelby county in 1847, a son of William Staley, who was born in Montgomery county, O., in 1821, and came with his father, John Staley, to Salem township in 1831. In 1844 William Staley married Barbara Harshbarger, a daughter of Jonas and Hettie (Jacobs) Harshbarger and they had four children. In 1869 Oliver C. Staley married Anna Cargill, the latter of whom still lives and occupies the old homestead of 209 acres, situated on section 20 Salem township. The death of the father occurred in February, 1911. He was a representative citizen of this section, was a school teacher in his youth and later served in numerous township offices and for four years was county treasurer.

After his school days Roger W. Staley assisted his father on the home farm and later, with his older brother, Orrin C. Staley, took entire charge of it. The only heirs are the two sons. Mr. Staley is an energetic and progressive farmer and a well informed citizen. In 1900 he began the breeding of draft horses and thoroughbred Duroc Jersey hogs and at the present time is one of the most active and successful breeders in his community.

On December 23, 1896, Mr. Staley was married to Miss Grace Inskeep,

who was born in Perry township, a daughter of Joseph and Ellen (Lindley) Inskeep, both now deceased. The other members of their family were: Nettie, wife of John Dingman; Jerry; Minnie, wife of Dr. J. E. Johnston, of Piqua; Bertha, wife of John R. Bentley; Charles and Grace. To Mr. and Mrs. Staley two children have been born: Laird and Kenneth. Mr. Staley and family are members and supporters of the Baptist church at Sidney. They are hospitable people and have a wide circle of friends in this section. In politics Mr. Staley is a democrat as have been the older members of the family for generations.

FRANK G. HENEISEN, who is a successful general farmer residing in Dinsmore township, where he owns 160 acres of very fine land, situated one and one-half miles southeast of Botkins, O., was born in 1879, in Van Buren township, Shelby county, and is a son of Martin and Ellen (Gibson) Heneisen.

Martin Heneisen, like many other well known and respected men of Shelby county, was born in Germany. He came to this section a young man and was married to Ellen Gibson, who was born in Shelby county. The following children were born to them: Catherine, who is the wife of George Smith and they live at Dayton, O.; Joseph, who died young; Phillip, who died at the age of seventeen years; Rosa, who is the wife of Henry Sitzman, and they live at Botkins, O.; Mary, who died at the age of eight years; Martin, who is a soldier in the U. S. Army; Nora, who is a Catholic Sister in Mercer county, O.; and Frank G., who was the third in order of birth.

Since his school days, Frank G. Heneisen has followed farming and stock raising, now owning the old homestead which he purchased from the other heirs. He is an enterprising and progressive agriculturist and understands how to make his industries profitable. Mr. Heneisen married Miss Louise Jakob, whose father was born in Germany and whose mother was born at Minster, O. She was one of the following family: Caroline, Anna, Edward, Antoinetta, Mayne, Frank, Louis, Rosa, Vincent, Frances, Urban and Louise. Mr. and Mrs. Heneisen are members of the Catholic church. Politically he is a democrat and possesses the confidence of his party, at present serving as central committeeman for Dinsmore township.

JACOB M. LE FEVRE, a highly respected retired farmer living at Port Jefferson, O., where he has a comfortable residence, owns also a fine farm of eighty acres situated in Salem township, Shelby county, O., and on that farm he was born, May 31, 1843. His parents were Henry Jackson and Elenore (Morgan) Le Fevre.

Henry Jackson Le Fevre was born in Warren county, O., and after marriage moved to Salem township, Shelby county, where he engaged in farming until his death, in 1848. After his decease his widow married Thomas Stewart. To her first marriage four children were born: Mary Jane, Morgan, Jacob M. and Henry J. To her second marriage three children were born: John M., Millard F. and Ansel M.

Jacob M. Le Fevre attended the district school when he could be spared



from farm work. He was five years old when his father died and when yet a boy worked for two years on a farm in Warren county. When the civil war broke out his step-father, a half brother, and two full brothers enlisted and Jacob M. then came back to the homestead and remained helping his mother until the close of the war and after her death purchased the property. He is a self made man, few advantages having been afforded him in youth, but in making his own way in the world he has found many friends and has won the confidence and approval of those with whom he has had business relations. Mr. Le Fevre was twice elected a trustee of Salem township, on the republican ticket, and also served usefully and efficiently as township supervisor and on the school board.

On December 20, 1866, Mr. Le Fevre was married to Miss Dulcinna Line, a daughter of Solomon Line, of Perry township, the other members of the family being: Florence M., Ella, Alice, Nancy, Esther and O. T. To Mr. and Mrs. Le Fevre the following children have been born: Edwin Justin, William O., James T., Jennie, Alice, wife of Allen Baker, Minnie, wife of Lafe Vesper, Guernie, wife of Elza Baker, and Cora, wife of Sanford Retter. Mr. Le Fevre and family attend the Disciples church. He belongs to the Odd Fellows and attends lodge at Port Jefferson.

SAMUEL M. KNOOP, who is one of the trustees of Salem township, conducts a butcher shop at Port Jefferson, O., and also gives attention to his valuable farm of 120 acres, situated in Salem township. He was born in Orange township, Shelby county, O., April 21, 1869, and is a son of John and Margaret (Martin) Knoop. John Knoop, who still resides on his farm in Orange township, was born in Miami county, O., and is a well known and respected citizen. He was married first to Margaret Martin, who is deceased. She was the mother of the following children: Samuel M., Lee, John, William, and Dora, wife of George Leckey. Mr. Knoop's second marriage was with Celia Burton.

Samuel M. Knoop obtained his education in the public schools and from youth has been interested in farm pursuits. He carries on a general farming line on his property in Salem township, deals to some extent in stock, also bales hay and for the past two years has additionally been engaged in the meat business at Port Jefferson. Not only is he a man of business activity and ability, but he is also one who has been recognized as trustworthy by his fellow citizens and as a member of the township board of trustees carries business methods into public matters to the advantage of all concerned.

In November, 1891, Mr. Knoop was married to Miss Laura Fergus, who was born in Shelby county and is a daughter of Joseph Fergus. Mr. and Mrs. Knoop have eight children, namely: Ralph, Clifford, Grace, Arvesta, Lloyd, Mary, Edna and John Joseph. The family attends the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically he is a republican and fraternally is an Odd Fellow, attending the lodge of this order at Port Jefferson.

PHILLIP BONNORONT, whose excellent farm of ninety acres lies one-quarter mile east of Botkins, O., in a favorable section of Dinsmore township, is one of the prosperous and progressive agriculturists of this section. He was born in 1870, in Shelby county, and is a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Bierline) Bonnoront.

Jacob Bonnoront was born in Germany and for a number of years was engaged in business at Botkins, O. He married Elizabeth Bierline, who was of German ancestry but was born in Ohio, and ten children were born to them: George, Jacob, John, Peter, Christian, Catherine, Caroline, Elizabeth, Lena and Phillip. George married Mary Linker and they live at Botkins; Jacob married Sophia Kflopstein, who is deceased; John married Mary Kies, who is deceased, and lives in Dinsmore township; Peter lives at Wapakoneta, O., and married Dora Kaylor; Christian married Emma Seitz and they live at Botkins; Catherine, who lives at Wapakoneta, is the widow of Frederick Alenbaugh; Caroline is the wife of Lawrence Thuman and they live in Auglaize county; Elizabeth, who is deceased, is survived by her husband, William Elsass; and Lena, who is the wife of William Boyer, lives in Dinsmore township.

Phillip Bonnoront attended the public schools and afterward engaged in business with his father at Botkins and later embarked in the same on his own account and continued there for nine years, after which he bought the farm on which he lives and here carries on general farming and dairying. He made all the improvements here, which are excellent, fine substantial buildings with all necessary equipments, and all his operations are conducted along modern lines and with much success.

Mr. Bonnoront married Miss Elizabeth Schuman, a daughter of William and Barbara (Gau) Schuman, and they have three children: Gaylord, Corien and Helen. Mrs. Bonnoront had the following brothers and sisters: Caroline, who married John King, lives in Dinsmore township; George, who married Minnie Kentner, lives in Auglaize county; Louis, who married Louisa Ruck, lives in Auglaize county; William, who married Louise Elsass, lives in the same county; Henry, who married Anna Cooper, lives in Auglaize county; and Amelia, who married Christian Elsass, and they also live in Auglaize county. Mr. and Mrs. Bonnoront are members of the Lutheran church, of which he is treasurer and is also a deacon in the same. Politically he is a democrat but the only public office he has accepted is membership on the school board.

JOSEPH HUBER, whose valuable farm of 158 acres lies in Dinsmore township, adjoining the corporate limits of Botkins, on the north, is a representative citizen of this section and is something of a leader in democratic politics although never a seeker for political prominence. He was born in Auglaize county, O., in 1855, and is a son of Clement and Rosa (Weaver) Huber.

The parents of Mr. Huber were natives of Germany and they came to America in 1840, and lived for a time in Auglaize county, O., and afterward

in Shelby county. There were eight children in the family, of whom Mary, Rosa and Matilda are deceased. Of the survivors: Catherine married Frederick Bauer and they live at Botkins. Theresa married Joseph Koenig and they live in Auglaize county. Elizabeth is a sister in a convent at St. Joseph, Missouri. Philomena also chose a religious life and is a sister in a convent at Phoenix, Arizona.

Joseph Huber was educated in the public and parochial schools and his occupation has always been farming. He received his property from his father's estate, which he has improved until it is one of the finest farms in this part of the county. Mr. Huber is a member of the Catholic church and for fourteen years has been treasurer of the same at Botkins. He is unmarried.

JUDSON WARD SIMMONS, owner and proprietor of a grain elevator at Pemberton, O., and a dealer in coal and farm implements, is one of the well known business men of Shelby county. He was born in Miami county, O., May 19, 1875, and is a son of Benjamin Franklin and Rachel Jane (Sanders) Simmons.

Benjamin Franklin Simmons and wife were born in Miami county and still reside there, well known and highly respected people, Mr. Simmons engaging in farming and stock raising. He is a democrat in his political views and he and wife are members and liberal supporters of the Christian church. The following children were born to them: Effie, who is deceased, was the wife of A. E. Wilson; Judson Ward; Harry E., who married Daisy Miller; Frederick, who married Ella Lotz; and Charles, who married Guirtude Motter.

After leaving school, Judson W. Simmons turned his attention to assisting his father and remained on the farm until he was twenty years of age, when he accepted a position as manager of a grain elevator at Fletcher, O., for the Slauson Grain Company, of Piqua, and remained there for two years. He then leased the Robert Hasting elevator at Botkins, O., continued there for two years and then came to Pemberton and in 1900 purchased his present plant of M. D. Burke and has continuously been engaged here, sometimes alone and at others having partners, the firm style for a season being Simmons, Faulkner & Cook. Mr. Simmons finds time also to look after the management of his two farms, the one in Jackson township containing 100 acres, and the second farm, in Perry township, comprising 160 acres, all valuable property.

On October 20, 1897, Mr. Simmons was married to Miss Minnie McKnight, a daughter of William J. and Mary J. McKnight. William J. McKnight is a farmer in Miami county. His first marriage was to a Miss Bull and they had three sons: Thomas J., William R. and Edward. To his second marriage the following children were born: Leota, Minnie, Lillian, wife of Oral Walburn, and all are residents of Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Simmons have one daughter, Marjorie Aileen. They attend the Baptist church, Mr. Simmons being one of the church trustees. In his political affiliation he is a

democrat and has always been an active citizen and his usefulness to his township has been more than once proved. He is no office seeker but has served two terms as township treasurer.

• FRANCIS MARION CLAYTON, who successfully operates his father's farm of 160 acres, situated in Perry township, belongs to old county families which have been leading ones of this section for many years. He was born in Jackson township, Shelby county, O., September 27, 1866, and is a son of Henry and Lucy (Stewart) Clayton.

Henry Clayton and wife were born and reared in Shelby county and now live retired at Pemberton, O. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and their children were reared in this faith. They are five in number, as follows: Dora, who is the wife of Albert A. Bell; Francis Marion; Reuben Nelson; Elzina, who is the wife of Dr. Seth Rogers; and Merlie, who is the wife of Harley Weatherhead.

Francis M. Clayton obtained his education in the public schools and then engaged in farming until he was twenty-two years of age, after which, for five years, he was concerned in the manufacturing of tile at Jackson Center, as a member of the firm of Gross & Clayton. After selling his interest there, Mr. Clayton took charge of his father's farm and has continued here ever since. He carries on a general farming line and raises stock for his own use. Mr. Clayton has always been identified with the republican party but takes no active part in campaign work, his aim being to give support to those candidates who are best qualified to carry out the principles of government in which he believes.

On January 24, 1889, Mr. Clayton was married to Miss Luella Littlejohn, who was born in Shelby county, a daughter of George W. and Emily (Smith) Littlejohn. George W. Littlejohn is a retired farmer, was formerly postmaster at Jackson Center, O., and is a veteran of the Civil war, as is also the father of Mr. Clayton. To Mr. and Mrs. Littlejohn the following children were born: Harry; Denton; Luella; Ollie, wife of John H. Stahler; Orla; Charles; Eva, wife of L. P. Heintz; and Nellie, wife of Clyde Runyon. To Mr. and Mrs. Clayton four children have been born: Homer, Eunice, Hollis and Ralph, all surviving except Hollis. Mr. Clayton and family attend the Methodist Episcopal church at Pemberton.

ISAAC MITCHELL WILKINSON, who owns one of the best farms in Perry township, containing 124 acres, is one of the enterprising and progressive young agriculturists of this section. He was born at Pemberton, O., May 6, 1885, and is a son of Joseph and Dorcas Ann (Lilley) Wilkinson.

Joseph Wilkinson followed agricultural industries throughout his entire life, accumulated a competency and was known as a man of sterling character. He was a member of the Baptist church and at death his burial was in Cedar Point cemetery in Perry township. His first marriage was to Louisa Nutt and she was survived by two children: Anna and Nellie, the latter being the wife of W. E. Meyers. His second marriage was to Dorcas Ann Lilley.





TREX'S ALEXIS ESHMAN

who left but one child, Isaac Mitchell. His third union was to Mrs. Sallie Ross.

Isaac Mitchell Wilkinson, after completing the common school course, became actively interested in farming, taking possession of the ninety-three acres which he inherited and adding thirty-three acres which he purchased from G. H. Monroe. He has inaugurated many substantial improvements on his place and is justified in feeling proud of its appearance and of the productiveness of his land under his intelligent methods of cultivation.

In 1909 Mr. Wilkinson was married to Miss Tima Faye Halboth, a daughter of J. A. and Emma B. (Baughman) Halboth, the father of Mrs. Wilkinson being a merchant at Pemberton, O. She has one brother, Clay B. Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson have an engaging little daughter, Ruth Elizabeth. They attend the Baptist church. As was his father, Mr. Wilkinson is a republican in politics, and fraternally he is identified with the Masonic lodge at Port Jefferson, O.

R. M. TOLAND, whose well improved farm lies one mile north of Anna, O., where he owns sixty-seven acres, situated in Dinsmore township, Shelby county, was born in this county, in 1844, and is a son of E. B. and Nancy Toland. E. B. Toland was born in Virginia, and his second wife, the mother of R. M. Toland, was a native of Ohio. By two marriages E. B. Toland became the father of fifteen children, the survivors of his first union being: John, Anna and Nancy, and of his second; Robert M., Alfred, George, James, Charles, Susanna and Martha. Prior to 1833 Mr. Toland followed farming in Miami county, O., and afterward in Shelby county, where he spent the rest of his life.

R. M. Toland worked on his father's farm until he was seventeen years of age and then enlisted for service in the Civil war and for three years performed every duty, dangerous or otherwise, that was assigned him. His first captain was J. C. Frey, of Sidney, O., and under his leadership Mr. Toland took part in the battles of Fort Donelson and Shiloh and many others equally serious, and was honorably discharged. Since the close of his military service he has followed an agricultural life and is numbered with the prosperous farmers of Dinsmore township.

Mr. Toland married Miss Hannah Elliott, a daughter of Samuel Elliott, and they have four children: Nellie, Clarence, Claude and Virgil, all living at home except Clarence, who is a resident of Piqua, O. Mr. Toland and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In his political views he is a republican.

HON. IRENUS ALEXIS ESHMAN, probate judge of Shelby county, O., and an honored resident and leading member of the Sidney bar, was born September 5, 1870, on his father's farm in Loramie township, Shelby county, O., and is a son of Francis J. and Margaret (Chavre) Eshman.

The father of Judge Eshman was born in Switzerland, grew up there and entered the Swiss army and after his obligatory service was over and

he had received his honorable discharge, in 1842 he came to America. His first home in the United States was at Massillon, O., and from there he moved to Detroit, Mich., and in March, 1865, came to Shelby county, and purchased a farm in Loramie township on which he lived during the remainder of his life, his death occurring in June, 1888, at the age of seventy-five years. He married Margaret Chaivre, who was born in the province of Alsace, France, and was a daughter of Louis and Margaret (Otili) Chaivre, who became residents of Detroit, Mich., after coming to the United States. In St. Ann's cathedral, in that city, she was united in marriage, in 1849, with Francis J. Eshman, and they became the parents of eleven children. Mary became the wife of Xavier Eshman of Loramie township. Margaret was the wife of Irenus De Broff, of McLean township, Shelby county. Frances, now deceased, was the wife of Joseph Rousiau of Versailles. Joseph, Odill and perhaps another died in infancy. Frank died in 1892, unmarried. Caroline is the wife of Sylvester Gigandet and they reside on a farm west of Sidney, O. Eugenia was the next in order of birth. Julia, who is now deceased, was the wife of Louis Piquignot, of Versailles, O. The youngest member of the family was Irenus Alexis. The mother died in May, 1897, being then sixty-eight years of age.

Irenus Alexis Eshman attended the public schools of Loramie township and the Versailles high school and later the Lebanon normal school, after which he studied law under Hon. George Marshall until 1895. From 1899 until 1902 he taught school but as far back as 1894 became identified with educational matters, being then appointed a member of the board of school examiners and served in that capacity for six years. From 1902 until 1905 he was connected with the law office of Charles Marshall at Sidney, and in the latter year was first elected to the bench, and in 1912 re-elected, his earlier judicial record having been eminently satisfactory to his party and fellow citizens. Some cases have been carried to the supreme court, but so far none of his decisions have ever been reversed. He is a staunch democrat and has been active in politics since he reached manhood and in November, 1892, when only twenty-one years of age, was elected a justice of the peace. Although, as stated above, a strong party man, he is personally popular and in the election of 1905, in one precinct in which there are 106 normal votes, he received 104 of these, showing great public sentiment in his favor.

Judge Eshman was married in 1896 to Miss Margaret Guillott, a daughter of Henry and Leona (Larmanie) Guillott, and the following children have been born to them: Raymond, Irenus, Francis, Robert, Margaret, Florence, James, Rosemary, Henrietta, Lawrence and Virginia, several of whom died in infancy. Judge Eshman and family are members of the Roman Catholic church. Fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Columbus, the Elks and the Eagles.

DAVID R. KEY, whose fine farm of 122 acres lies in Perry township and adjoins the old homestead on which he was born in October, 1858, is one of the well-known men of this section and a representative of one of the old





DAVID R. KEY



MRS. DAVID R. KEY



and sturdy families of Shelby county. He is a son of John and Anna (Rhinehart) Key and a grandson of John Key. Grandfather Key was born in Virginia in 1781 and about 1800 came to Ohio, settling in Montgomery county, where he died fifteen years later. He left a widow and five children, a son, John, being born six months after his death.

John Key, father of David R. Key, was born in Montgomery county, O., in 1816 and remained in Montgomery county with his mother until 1836 and then came to Shelby county, but returned to Montgomery county one year later and lived there until 1840, when he again came to Shelby county and rented land for several years, saving his money and then buying more land. He had but fifty dollars when he came here the first time, and this money he invested in land, entering forty acres in Jackson township and later, through industry, thrift and good judgment, securing the means to enter 160 acres in Indiana. That land he subsequently traded for eighty acres in Shelby county and to that tract he later added until his farm contained 240 acres. He improved all that land together with 300 acres in Perry township, 140 acres in Champaign county, and also acquired realty at Sidney and Millerstown. He at one time owned 983 acres in this and Champaign county. His first marriage was in 1841, to Lillie Lucas, who, at death, left two sons: John H. and Norman. In 1847 he married Anna Rhinehart for his second wife and seven children were born to them: Amanda, Rachel, Elizabeth, Jane, David R., Sherman and Orlando B.

David R. Key attended the district schools through boyhood and then assisted his father and thus gained a very practical knowledge of farming. He has always been engaged in agricultural pursuits and for some years in the past dealt in stock but now confines himself to a general farming line and the raising of stock for home use only.

In 1883 Mr. Key was married to Miss Maggie M. Heffner, a daughter of William and Sarah (Sargent) Heffner. The father of Mrs. Key was a soldier in the Civil war and there lost his life, and her mother died while she was a child. The other members of her parents' family were: Mary, wife of William McLean; Jasel, deceased; David L.; George and William, Mrs. Key being the youngest of the family. To Mr. and Mrs. Key four children have been born: Grace, who is the wife of L. E. Ranck; Mary Robinson; and Maurice H., who are twins; and Laura Murriel. The family attends the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Key is a republican in politics but has never been willing to accept public office.

COL. JAMES B. TUCKER, a prominent citizen of Sidney, O., and one of the city's leading manufacturers, is president, treasurer and general manager of the Tucker Woodwork Company, one of the largest business enterprises of this section. He is a native of Kentucky, a son of Thomas M. and Mary B. Tucker, the paternal line belonging to Southern Indiana and the maternal to Kentucky.

Colonel Tucker received his primary education in private schools and when he reached the proper age, entered DePauw University at Greencastle,

Ind., where he was graduated with the class of 1886. He then engaged in the drug business for two years at Mt. Sterling, Ky. In the early nineties he located at Greencastle, Ind., where he organized the Greencastle Manufacturing Company, for the making of bicycle wood rims, but his factory was destroyed by fire in 1897. He then erected a temporary factory at Roachdale, Ind., where he continued his manufacturing until the completion of a new factory, at Urbana, O., and to that place he removed with his family in 1898. Again his plant was destroyed by fire, a conflagration taking place October 17, 1902. Colonel Tucker was not discouraged, however, but began prospecting for a new factory site, finding it at Sidney, where he located his new buildings and opened for business in 1903. The product of the factory, bicycle, sulky and automobile rims, is shipped to various points both at home and abroad and employment is given to from sixty to 140 men. His present plant consists of two buildings of brick construction, with dimensions of 60x200 feet, one of these being two stories and the other three stories in height. Colonel Tucker has devoted his life as a business man to manufacturing. He is largely a self-made man, at the beginning of his career starting out on borrowed capital, but it was entirely safe, as he is possessed of that something which is known as business sense and has always been successful despite the losses he has sustained through accident.

Colonel Tucker married Miss Amelia Langdon, a daughter of Daniel Langdon, of Greencastle, Ind., and they have had two children; Harold L. and Grace, the former being in school and the latter being deceased. The residence of Colonel Tucker, which bears the name of Bonyconnellan, is the handsomest residence in the county. In its building it was patterned after a castle of that name situated near the estate of a friend, in the vicinity of Cork, Ireland, who suggested the very appropriate name for the American home. In politics Colonel Tucker is a republican. He is a member of the Sidney Commercial Club, a member of the Fellow Craft Club of Detroit, Mich., the Toledo Club, Toledo, O., and formerly was a member of the Columbia Club of Indianapolis, and was active as a committeeman when the new buildings were erected there. He has always believed in life insurance and is one of the largest policy holders in Shelby and perhaps in adjoining counties. He carries more than \$100,000, and has one policy of \$50,000 in the Northwestern Life Insurance Company. He stands high in citizenship at Sidney and is a leading factor in both business and social life, has ever been liberal in his contributions to charity, and his high sense of justice has made him companionable with all classes.

BERNARD P. WAGNER, president of the Wagner Park Conservatories Company, and vice president of the Wagner Manufacturing Company, both very important enterprises of Shelby county, is one of the solid, reliable and representative men of this section of Ohio and belongs to a prominent family of the state. He was born at Sidney, O., February 1, 1865, and is a son of Mathias and Anna M. (Rauth) Wagner.

Considering the world-wide fame that the name of Wagner has brought to

Sidney, it is interesting to know that Mr. Wagner was not only born here but secured his educational training here also, attending both the public and parochial schools, and proving an apt and attentive student. His entrance into business life was when he assisted in the organization of the well remembered department store known as the Wagner Arcade, which was located in the building which is now occupied by the Wagner Hotel. He was interested in the establishing of the factories of the Wagner Manufacturing Company, of which he has been vice president since the company was incorporated, and from that time until 1900, when he was instrumental in founding the Wagner Park Conservatories, he devoted all his time and attention to the manufacturing business. This is the most extensive manufacturing plant at Sidney and its wares find a market in every part of the civilized world. The products are aluminum cooking utensils and employment is given to more than 300 workmen.

The Wagner Park Conservatories at Sidney were started in 1900, the main mover in this great enterprise being Bernard P. Wagner, whose natural gifts as a landscape gardener and whose inherent love of flowers had been marked from boyhood. When the present company was incorporated, with a capital of \$100,000, the following officers were selected: B. P. Wagner, president and treasurer; W. H. Wagner, vice president; and H. L. Brown, secretary, and these officers, with M. M., L. R. and J. F. Wagner and A. M. Brown, make up the board of directors. In the newly erected office building particular attention has been given to the admission of light for drafting room purposes and to the conveniences and comforts which modern business men enjoy in their surroundings. The greenhouses have 15,000 square feet of space under glass and a modern hot water system of heating is employed. In these greenhouses are found palms, roses of all varieties and other tender plants, not only grown but in many cases originated here. The growing fields are over 100 acres in extent and here flowers, shrubs and trees of all varieties are cultivated for the market, in the busy season seventy-five men being required to attend to the cultivation and shipment of these. The landscape department of the business is a very important feature and the taste and skill of landscape experts from this company have not only many times been employed in laying out the beautiful grounds for some of Sidney's handsomest residences, but persons in every state of the Union have also profited by the service of these experts. A visitor to the park will immediately become interested in one of the recent additions to its attractions—the arboretum, where every species of shrub and tree that can be grown in this locality will be grown for display. Evergreens and plants, flowers and shrubs from all countries, France, Germany, Holland and Japan. There has already been planted over 300 varieties of evergreen, 600 varieties of shrubs and 250 varieties of trees. This arboretum extends the width of the grounds and doubles back, following the west park boundaries. Another unusual and interesting feature is the Isle of Nippon gardens. Mr. Wagner's own idea was followed out in the formation of an artificial lake containing islands, and the building of a real Japanese garden, in which Nippon flowers, many

having been imported direct from Japan, are grown. Should a native of that far off, beautiful land visit this park and stand before the typical Japanese gate built of logs and catch a glimpse of the placid lake within, and surrounded with winding walks and rustic bridges, he could not fail to express pleasure and wonder at the faithful reproduction that has been made. To Bernard P. Wagner the credit must be given for the inception and subsequent development of this remarkable business.

Mr. Wagner married Miss Jennie Freschard, of Owensville, O., and they have three children: Jerome, Bernard and Elizabeth. They have a beautiful home, their handsome brick residence being located on North Walnut avenue, on an eminence overlooking Sidney, Mr. Wagner completing its construction in 1895 and placing it in the center of a well kept park. Its outside attractions harmonize with its inside adornments for Mr. Wagner and family are people of culture and artistic tastes and their surroundings give evidence of the same. Perhaps no private collection of paintings in this part of Ohio have more value than those Mr. Wagner has hung on his walls and not only enjoys himself but, with justifiable pride, exhibits to other lovers of real art. Artists of world-wide fame have painted the following pictures which he considers the choice of his collection: "Dutch Bargain" by Jane M. Dealy; "The Little Housekeeper" by Ridgeway Knight; "The Canyon Trail" by H. F. Farney, the great artistic portrayer of Indian life; "Highland Sheep" by William Watson; and "Loch Lomond" by Alfred De Breanski.

While his private interests are so absorbing, including the enterprises above partially described, and in addition having large real estate holdings at Sidney, where he has erected at least 100 handsome residences, Mr. Wagner still finds time to perform all duties of good citizenship, taking a particular pride in the good name of his native place. He is not, however, a politician in the real sense of the word. He was reared in the faith of the Roman Catholic church, and is a valued member of the Catholic organization, the Knights of Columbus. To some degree, also, Mr. Wagner is engaged in literary work, having contributed to magazines and published a book entitled "Landscape Gardening for Amateurs," which is found in many a home where flowers are loved and successfully cultivated. He has given his name to a certain method of landscape gardening which has become a standard and may be thus briefly described. The Wagner method means the treatment of the selected land in a pictorial way with large effects; flower borders and masses, shrubs and plants being introduced in such a way as to add to the repose and simplicity of the whole, harmony of color being especially studied, unsightly outlooks being obliterated, vistas being formed and illusions being manufactured by art.

GEORGE W. FALER, one of the best known and most respected residents of Dinsmore township, Shelby county, O., who now lives in comfortable retirement on his farm of 130 acres, which is situated three and one-half miles northeast of Anna, O., was born in 1833 in Pennsylvania, and seventy

years ago was brought to Dinsmore township by his parents, John and Elizabeth (Burkett) Faler. John Faler was of American birth but his wife was born in Germany. They were among the pioneers in Dinsmore township and for years were well known but have long since passed away. They had three sons and four daughters: George W., John, Christopher, Susan, Mary, Elizabeth and Catherine.

George W. Faler attended the early schools under the conditions that then prevailed in Dinsmore township, and afterward learned the carpenter trade, at which he worked for many years, and also followed farming and stock raising. He was successful in his undertakings and acquired a competency and for some years has lived retired from active labor, his sons assuming his responsibilities and carrying on the farm industries in a capable manner.

Mr. Faler married Miss Mary Ann Taylor, a daughter of John and Rebecca Taylor, and ten children were born to them, namely: John F., Margaret E., Jacob A., Amanda, Minnie, Alabel, Mary A., Dillie, Alonzo and Nora. John F. married Lillie Kepplinger and they live in Jackson township; Margaret married William Wilferd and they live east of Anna, O.; Jacob lives on the homestead; Mary A. married John Lease and they live in Dinsmore township; Dillie and Alonzo live at home; Nora married Michael Metz and they live in Dinsmore township. Amanda, Alabel and Minnie are all deceased, Alabel having been the wife of Luther Whited. Mr. Faler has always been a citizen in whom his neighbors could rely and he has served the township in such offices as road supervisor and trustee. He is one of the pillars of the Reformed church, so to speak, and has long been a deacon in the church at Swanders, O.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS PENCE, farmer and stock dealer, residing in Salem township, where he owns the old Pence homestead of eighty acres, was born at Springfield, O., September 14, 1850, and is a son of Jesse G. and Elizabeth (Bare) Pence.

Jesse G. Pence was born in Virginia and came to Ohio in early manhood. In 1861 he moved on the farm above mentioned, coming from Tremont, Clark county, a pioneer settler in this section. He was married in Ohio to Elizabeth Bare, who was born in Pennsylvania.

For many years they lived in Salem township, Shelby county, quiet farming people, good neighbors and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church. When they passed away in the course of nature, they were laid to rest in the cemetery at Port Jefferson. They had the following children: Samuel B., John Q. A., Hosea, Louvisa, Lucinda and Emanuel. Louisa became the wife of Jay Smith, and Lucinda married J. McCormick.

John Quincy Adams Pence had district school advantages and afterward remained assisting his father on the home farm until the latter's death. For eleven years following he worked on farms by the month and then bought the old homestead, and all told has since spent thirty years here engaging in general farming and also dealing in stock.

Mr. Pence was married in 1880 to Miss Sarah E. Kizer, a daughter of Philip and Phoebe Kizer, who were farmers in Champaign county. Mrs. Pence is the sixth of their children, the others being: John Joseph; James; Elizabeth, wife of John Hesselgesser; Catherine, wife of Edwin Russell; Matilda, deceased; Etta, wife of Tobias Foltz; Lillie, wife of John Philips; and George. Mr. and Mrs. Pence have one son, Forrest K., of Zanesville, O., who married Bertha Price, and they have a daughter, Dorothy Louise. Mr. Pence and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In voting with the republican party, Mr. Pence follows the example set him by his honored father.

JOHN C. GERBER, one of Dinsmore township's most substantial and best known citizens, was born on his present home farm of 160 acres, in Shelby county, O., October 7, 1837, and is a son of Peter Gerber, who was a pioneer here. Peter Gerber was born in Switzerland and probably lived in Pennsylvania after first coming to the United States, as his wife was born in that state. They were married at Miamisburg, O., and came later to Dinsmore township, Shelby county, settling in the wilderness, and, as all pioneers, had to battle with many difficulties. They passed the rest of their lives on this farm. Three children were born to them: Samuel, John C., and Lucinda, John C. being the only survivor.

John C. Gerber had but meager educational opportunities in his youth but whenever his father could spare him in boyhood, attended the district schools. Farming in all its phases and stock raising engaged his attention until within a few years, since when he has lived in comfortable retirement. His home farm of 160 acres lies four miles northeast of Anna, O. and his total aggregate of land in Dinsmore township is 740 acres. These farms have been well improved through his own industry and with the assistance of his sons.

Mr. Gerber married Miss Mary Catherine Smith and they have had a family of nine children born to them, one of whom died in infancy. Sarah, the eldest daughter, married George Metz, and they live near Jackson Center, O. Lizzie married George Billing and they live in Salem township. Edward married Elizabeth Metz and they live near Jackson Center. Albert married Catherine Sherer and they live four miles southeast of Botkins, O. Clara married Samuel Fogt and they live in Dinsmore township. George, Henry and Anna all reside at home. Mr. Gerber and family belong to the Lutheran church. Politically he is a democrat and his sons are of the same faith. During his long life spent in Dinsmore township he has seen many changes take place and old families and customs pass away and his reminiscences are exceedingly interesting. He has proved in his own case and his own family that investments in land are safe and profitable and that agriculture gives prosperity and contentment when intelligently and persistently followed.

A. E. APPLEGETT, an enterprising and prosperous general farmer who owns two farms in Green township, Shelby county, O., one of forty-five



acres and the other of seventy-two acres, resides on and is operating Joseph Bolinger's farm of eighty acres, which lies also in Green township, twelve miles southeast of Sidney, O. He was born in Miami county, O., January 12, 1862, and is a son of Goff and Hannah Ann (Davis) Applegett.

Goff Applegett was born in Hamilton county, O., and in early manhood went to Miami county, where he followed the carpenter trade all through his active life. He is a highly respected resident of Lena, O., and is now in his eighty-sixth year. He married Hannah Ann Davis, who also survives, and they had eight children, seven of whom are living.

A. E. Applegett has been a general farmer practically all his life and not only manages his own land advantageously but brings satisfactory results to the owner of the acres he rents. A general line of farming is carried on and considerable stock is grown.

Mr. Applegett married Miss Emma Bolinger, a daughter of Joseph Bolinger, an old settler of Shelby county, and they have two children: Myrtle, who is the wife of Clyde Harbaugh; and Mary, who resides with her parents. In politics Mr. Applegett is a republican and has served in the office of township trustee. Fraternally he is connected with the Red Men and the Knights of the Golden Eagle.

WILSON DILL, whose finely located and well improved farm of 162 acres lies one mile north of Anna, O., is one of the well known and enterprising farmers of this section. He was born in Dinsmore township, Shelby county, O., in 1854, and is a son of James C. and Martha (Bodkin) Dill.

The parents of Mr. Dill were born in Ohio, to which state their parents had come as pioneers. Nine children were born to them, as follows: Russell B., Olive, Elmer, Oliver, Harry, Charles, Burton, Carrie and Wilson. Russell, who is deceased, is survived by his widow, formerly Emma Brower, of Missouri, who now lives at Sidney. Olive married Richard Cannon and they live in Auglaize county. Elmer, who is a resident of Illinois, married Callie Meyers, of Anna, O. Oliver died at the age of twenty-eight years and Harry died in infancy. Charles is a resident of New York and Burton of Kansas City. Carrie is the wife of James House and they live at Wapakoneta, O.

After completing his district school education, Wilson Dill learned the mason trade, which he followed for some time, but for the past thirty-five years has devoted his attention mainly to his agricultural affairs. His fine farm is easily reached, as the Ohio Electric Railroad passes in front of his handsome residence, which, with all other improvements, was placed here by Mr. Dill. He follows modern methods in carrying on his farm industries and his land responds with bountiful crops and his stock is far above the average.

Mr. Dill married Miss Elizabeth Fletcher, a daughter of S. F. and Delilah (Slegle) Fletcher, and they have five children: Homer, who assists his father on the home place, married Clara Weaver; Addie, who is the wife of Melvin Boyer, and they live near Botkins; William, who is a resident of Wapakoneta, married Pearl Boyer; Harry is a resident of Denver, Colo.; and Zoe, who is

the wife of William Diersberger, of Delphos, O. Mr. Dill and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he has been a trustee and steward for eighteen years. Fraternaly he is identified with the Knights of the Golden Eagle and politically is a member of the progressive wing of the democratic party.

WILLIAM M. YOUNG, proprietor of a prosperous grocery business with quarters at No. 215 North Pomeroy street, has been a resident of Sidney, O., for seven years and is a native of Shelby county, born in Franklin township, July 2, 1879. His parents were William and Loretta (Rairdon) Young.

William Young, Sr., was born in Pickaway county, O., August 31, 1819, and came to Shelby county with his father, Adam Young, who secured a claim on a small tract of land in Franklin township. When these pioneer settlers, William Young, Sr., being then a lad of twelve years, reached their new homestead, November 12, 1832, the only shelter they found was under the branches of an oak tree and cold weather came upon them before they could complete their log cabin. Pioneers, however, in those days were made of courageous men and women who did not fear hardship or expect much material comfort. Two years later they moved to Dinsmore township on which place William Young, Sr., spent his subsequent life, living to be over eighty-seven years of age and dying December 17, 1906. He was a farmer and also a local preacher in the Methodist Episcopal church. He married Loretto Rairdon, who was born in Logan county and died in Shelby county, May 27, 1888.

William M. Young was reared in Franklin township and attended the country schools until he was fifteen years of age, after which he worked for his father until he was twenty-one years old. He had, however, an ambition to learn the art of telegraphing and when he became legal master of his own time, entered the Ohio Normal University at Ada and studied telegraphy and later continued at Edgerton, O. On October 14, 1901, he went to work for the Chicago & Northwestern railroad at Bertram, Ia., being then transferred to Des Moines; and in all spent two years in Iowa, coming then to Anna, O., and in 1903 went to work for the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton railroad, continuing with them at Lima, Troy and Tiptecanoe City. For six years he was with the Big Four railroad, at Sidney, and was also agent at Sidney from July 10, 1909, to January 12, 1910; cashier for the Big Four until June 30, 1911, and from July to December 15, 1911, was train dispatcher for the Western Ohio Electric railroad, his headquarters being at Wapakoneta. After this varied railroad experience he decided to become a permanent resident of Sidney and bought his present mercantile business from E. J. Evans, taking possession on January 1, 1912.

In 1903 Mr. Young was married to Miss Faye Knief, of Bloom Center, Logan county, O., and they have three children: Lucile, Warren and Wallace. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

JONATHAN STOUT,\* one of the substantial and representative citizens of Salem township, Shelby county, O., now serving in his second term as a member of the township board of trustees, was born in Salem township, in December, 1847, and is a son of Abraham and Jelesie (Fly) Stout.

The parents of Mr. Stout were farmers in Salem township for many years and were worthy of the universal respect in which they were held. They were liberal supporters of the Methodist Episcopal church and at death they were buried in the Methodist cemetery at Port Jefferson. They had the following children: Elizabeth, who is deceased, was the wife of John Lerton; Nathan; Malinda, who is now deceased, was the wife of George Fox; Sarah, who is now deceased, was the wife of Andrew Cargill; and Jonathan.

Jonathan tout attended the district schools in boyhood and afterward worked for his father on the home farm and subsequently acquired and still cultivates land of his own. His well developed farm of forty acres is situated three miles east of Port Jefferson and in this town he has twenty more acres and two residences. Mr. Stout is well known all over Salem township and enjoys the esteem of a wide circle. In 1889 he married Miss Sallie Stockstill. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Stout married Miss Nancy Wilkinson. They attend the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically a democrat, his party, on more than one occasion, has called upon him to accept offices in its gift and in the faithful performance of official duties, he has won the approval of all his fellow citizens, irrespective of party. He belongs to the order of Golden Eagles, at Maplewood, O.

NICHOLAS CHARLES ENDERS, who at this time (April, 1913) is serving his third term as clerk of Perry township, Shelby county, O., owns over ninety-four acres of land near Pemberton, which he devotes to general farming and stock raising. He was born at Sidney, O., March 16, 1874, and is a son of Christian and Margaret (Dornire) Enders.

Christian Enders was born in Lengsfeld, Germany, April 7, 1838. At the age of seventeen he came to America and located at Sidney. He was for several years engaged in weaving with his brother Henry, in East Sidney. In the early days of the Civil war he enlisted in Schultz's battery, First Ohio Light Artillery, and was at Shiloh, Murfreesboro, and in several minor engagements. Having received an honorable discharge he returned to Sidney and engaged in wagon making, his place of business being on North Ohio avenue. Soon after engaging in this trade he was married to Margaret Dornire of Green township, with whom he lived until her death, September 20, 1878. To this union were born six children, four of whom are still living: Nicholas C., the subject of this sketch; Jacob H., a farmer in Perry township; George C., dean of the Christian Biblical Institute at Defiance, O.; and Emma E., superintendent of Flower Hospital at Toledo, O.

In 1875 Christian Enders gave up his trade as wagon maker and devoted the remainder of his life to farming, living first in Perry, and later in Franklin township, where he died June 24, 1902, his burial being at Swanders. In

1879, he married Barbara King of Butler county, who is still living at his late home. To this union four children were born: Sadie, wife of Charles Richards, a farmer of Franklin township; Mary, a professional nurse; Herman, a farmer; and Catherine, a school teacher.

Nicholas C. Enders attended the public schools and afterwards was a student in the university at Lebanon, O., for several months, during which time he pursued a commercial course. Previous to this time, he had learned the trades of painter and paper hanger, and after his return from Lebanon he followed these trades for seven years, when he bought his farm in Perry township, upon which he has since engaged in farming.

In February, 1902, Mr. Enders was married to Miss Daisy Pence, a daughter of Noah and Clara (Wibel) Pence, the former of whom is a retired farmer living at Sidney. Mrs. Enders has one sister, Mary. Mr. and Mrs. Enders' only son, Christian Henry, was born June 26, 1910, and died the same day, but a daughter, Clara Margaret, born April 9, 1912, is living. The democratic party claims Mr. Enders' fealty in national affairs but in local matters he uses his own judgment. He and wife are members of the Baptist church at Pemberton, O.

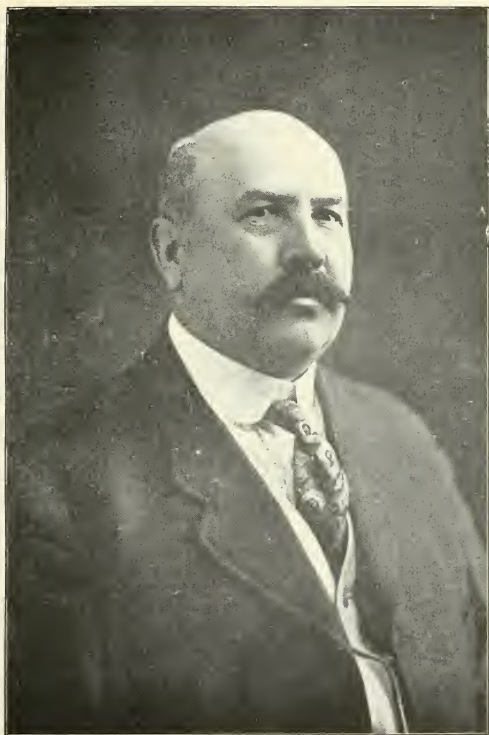
LOUIS R. WAGNER, secretary and general manager of the Wagner Manufacturing Company, of Sidney, O., a very important industrial enterprise of Shelby county, was born at Sidney, October 12, 1871, a member of one of the old county families.

Louis R. Wagner was educated in the schools at Sidney and St. Mary's College at Dayton, O., and since earliest manhood has been identified with business enterprises of this section. He now devotes his entire time to the interests of the Wagner Manufacturing Company, with which he has been connected since its organization. At the plant of the Wagner Manufacturing Company three hundred men are employed, with good wages and constant work, the product of the plant being cast aluminum cooking utensils, known as the famous "Wagner Ware."

In 1892 Mr. Wagner was married to Miss Catherine Burkhardt, who was born at Dayton, O. They are members of the Roman Catholic church and Mr. Wagner is a fourth degree member and is deeply interested in that noble organization, the Knights of Columbus, of which he was its first grand knight, Sidney council.

ROBERT V. JONES, postmaster at Sidney, O., where he has other interests, owns property and is connected with church and fraternal organizations, has been a resident of Shelby county for twenty-two years. His birth, however, took place in Carmarthenshire, Wales, December 5, 1856, and he is a son of Rev. David Jones, D. D.

Rev. David Jones was a Congregational minister. He was liberally educated in his native land and remained there until 1869, when he came to America. His first charge was at Cambria, Wis., where he remained for one year and was then transferred to Gomer, O., where he was in charge for



ROBERT V. JONES



eleven years. In 1880 he became pastor of the Welsh congregation in Cincinnati, where he labored for fifteen years, retiring then to Granville, O., where his death occurred in 1904. His venerable widow, now in her eighty-ninth year, lives at Lima, O. Of their eight children, five reached maturity and two survive: Robert V., and Elizabeth, who is residing at Lima.

Robert V. Jones attended the public schools of Lima, O., completing the high school course before he embarked in the hardware and lumber business, having interests both at Lima and Sidney, and in 1890 took up his residence at the latter place, continuing his lumber business here. In June, 1898, he was appointed postmaster and he has an unblemished record as a public official. Mr. Jones is widely known and at present is serving in the office of president of the National Association of second and third class postmasters. In politics he is a republican.

In 1884 Mr. Jones was married to Miss Anna Williams, who is a daughter of John and Margaret Williams, of Pennsylvania. They have no living children. Mr. and Mrs. Jones are members of the Presbyterian church. His fraternal connections include membership with the Masons, the Knights of Pythias and the Elks.

JACOB METZ, who is one of Jackson township's most respected citizens, has spent almost all of his long and busy life in Ohio but his birth took place in Alsace, Germany, April 21, 1839. He was but one year old when his parents, Jacob and Catherine (Elsass) Metz brought him to America. They settled in Stark county, O., with their seven children and two more were born after coming to the United States. Jacob, the eldest, died in Germany; Philip and Christian live in Jackson township; Catherine is the widow of Peter Regula; Sophia is the widow of Jacob Wildermuth; Elizabeth, deceased, was the wife of Philip Helmlinger; Jacob; Caroline died when aged six years; and Christiana died in infancy.

The father of the above family followed farming in Stark county for nine years and then moved into Shelby county and located two miles north of Jackson Center, on a tract of eighty acres, in Jackson township, its situation being on the north county line between Shelby and Auglaize counties. He improved that farm and bought several other tracts so that he was able to give each son a farm of 160 acres. He was an earnest member of the Lutheran church and gave his assistance in the erection of the log church edifice in Jackson township, the first Lutheran church. He never learned the English language but this made little difference as the larger number of the neighbors were also Germans. He died at the home of his son Jacob, in 1864, when aged sixty-seven years, survived by his widow who lived to the age of eighty-one years.

Jacob Metz remained on the home farm and took care of his parents as long as they lived. He attended school before leaving Stark county and afterward, for one winter, went to school in Dinsmore township. All his later youth was given to work on the farm which he assisted his father to clear, and in the course of years became a man of large possessions, owning

some nine hundred acres of land. As his father before him had done, he gave each of his children a valuable farm, retaining only thirty-nine acres for his own home, which lies in section 5, in Jackson township.

On December 24, 1861, Mr. Metz was married to Miss Catherine Gross, who was born December 13, 1842, in Clay township, Auglaize county, a daughter of Philip and Barbara (Norrit) Gross, the former of whom was born in Germany and died in Clay township, while the latter was born in France and died in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Metz. Mrs. Metz was one of a family of eight children and she has one living brother and sister: Nicholas, who lives at Santa Fe; and Elizabeth, who is the wife of Philip Zorn, of Jackson township. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Metz: Catherine, who is the wife of Henry Kempfer, of Dinsmore township, and they have three children—Caroline, Albert and Luella; Jacob J., who married Lena Pulfere, lives in Auglaize county and they have, Albert, Roy and Harley; Elizabeth, who married John Wildermuth of Jackson township and they have—Clarence, John, Harley, Clara, Arvel and Melvin, twins, Edna and Roy; Philip, who married Catherine Banhart, lives in Logan county and they have—Carrie, Emma, Edna, Tressie, Lenora and Lester Philip; Christian; John, of Jackson township, married Ella Fogt; Barbara, who married Nathan Shroyer of Logan county, and they have, Velma, Ernest and Chrystal; Lewis J., who lives in Jackson township, married Cora Ambos and they have two children, Wilma Marie and Luetta Viola; William, of Jackson township, who married Ida Boyer and they have three children—Ralph, Florence and Evelin Loraine; Sophia, who died at the age of twenty-one years; Caroline, who died when aged two years and four months; and Christiana, who died in infancy.

Mr. Metz has always been a farmer and still enjoys looking after his little property which his son Christian, who still lives at home, practically manages. He has been a very liberal man and has a family that holds him in loving esteem. In politics a stanch democrat, he has served at times in such local offices as school director and road supervisor. He has been a consistent member and generous supporter of the Lutheran church ever since boyhood.

EMANUEL J. STRUBLE,\* who is one of the representative citizens of Perry township, Shelby county, O., a large land owner and a public official for many years, was born in Perry township, October 30, 1851, and is a son of Peter and Susan (Kiser) Struble, both parents being now deceased. The father died away from home and his burial was in Minnesota. He followed farming as his occupation. The mother died in Perry township. Of their nine children the three survivors are: Benjamin, Jessie and Emanuel.

Emanuel Struble had district school advantages in boyhood and afterward devoted himself to agricultural pursuits for a number of years and owns two farms in this township, both containing eighty acres, both being now rented to good tenants, Mr. Struble having his time taken up with official duties. He served three years as a justice of the peace and is turnpike superintendent



and township assessor. Mr. Struble is a stockholder in the Farmers Telephone Company and, as a good citizen, frequently has given encouragement to local enterprises.

In 1873 Mr. Struble was married to Miss Sarah L. Hensel, who was born in Shelby county, O., a daughter of Jacob Hensel and wife, the other members of the family being: George; Jacob; Rose, wife of Adam Fredley; Callie, wife of James McManaway; Susan, wife of Jacob Rosier; and Anna, wife of Mark McCauley. To Mr. and Mrs. Struble five children have been born, the survivors being: Bessie, wife of George Wallcott; Harley, who married Grace McMillan; and Frank, who married Leila Enders. Mr. Struble and family attend the Baptist church. He is a democrat and is more or less prominent in local politics.

CALVIN O. BOYER, a successful agriculturist of Perry township, Shelby county, O., where he manages the old Lucas farm of fifty acres and his own farm of thirty-two acres, known as the Locust Grove farm, was born March 31, 1873, in Dinsmore township, Shelby county. He is a son of Samuel Fisher Boyer and his first wife, Emma (Botkin) Boyer.

Samuel Fisher Boyer was a general farmer in Dinsmore township and a man of standing in his community. His first wife died October 24, 1878, and her burial was in Dinsmore township. His second marriage was to Clara Botkin and children were born to both unions, four to the first and eight to the second: Calvin O. and Melvin, twins; Charles, Stanley, Clarence, Edith, Ida, Willard, Herbert, Alvin, Vernon and Thelma. Of the above all survive except Edith. Ida is the wife of William Metz. Samuel Fisher Boyer died October 25, 1912, and his burial was at the Loramie Valley cemetery.

Calvin O. Boyer attended the public schools until old enough to enter the factory at Botkins, O., where he worked for three years and afterward, for the same length of time, was in the livery business in that village. For eight years prior to coming on the farm he was in the employ of the Sheets Manufacturing Company. Mr. Boyer is thoroughly interested in an agricultural life and devotes close attention to his industries here, raising excellent crops and a sufficiency of stock for his own use. The Lucas farm belongs to his mother-in-law, Mrs. P. G. Lucas and the other Lucas heirs.

Mr. Boyer was married May 6, 1900, to Miss Ethel Lucas, a daughter of P. G. and Thirza (DeWeese) Lucas, both of whom were born in Shelby county. The father of Mrs. Boyer was a substantial farmer and highly respected citizen. His death occurred June 25, 1906, and his burial was at Port Jefferson. His two children survive: Marcellus N., who owns seventy acres situated in Perry township; and Ethel, who is the wife of Mr. Boyer and they reside with Mrs. Lucas on the homestead.

Mr. and Mrs. Boyer have three children: Ralph, India and Howard. He was reared in the Methodist Episcopal church; Mrs. Boyer is a member of the Baptist church at Pemberton. In politics he has never been very active but votes the republican ticket as did his father. He belongs to Lodge No. 63, Knights of the Golden Eagle at Anna Station.

JOHN DEITERS, whose valuable farm of 100 acres lies in sections 20 and 29, McLean township, Shelby county, O., resides on the north side of the Deiter turnpike road, five miles northeast of Minster, O. This is the old homestead of the Deiters and here he was born, October 17, 1855, a son of Bernard and Mary (Humbers) Deiters.

Bernard Deiters was born in Hanover, Germany, and was about nineteen years of age when he accompanied his mother and step-father to the United States. The family lived for a time in the city of Cincinnati and during that period Bernard worked along the Ohio river as a teamster. Then they took passage on the canal boat and in that way reached Minster and from there to Shelby county. Bernard Deiters bought sixty acres of wild land in section 20, McLean township, which under other conditions now is a part of the son's farm. He found that one acre had been cleared and started immediately to clear the other fifty-nine acres and succeeded in accomplishing the task. He continued to live in the old log cabin until his death, his tastes being simple and the house comfortable, and there he died at the age of sixty-eight years. He was about twenty-five years old when he was united in marriage with Mary Humbers, who was also a native of Hanover, Germany, where her parents died. In the log cabin referred to, their six children were born and there the mother died at the age of seventy years. Herman, the eldest, died at Gary, Ind., a merchant at the time, a blacksmith by trade. He married Katie Bower of St. Patrick Special School District. John was the second in order of birth. Catherine is the wife of Frank Lehmkuhl of McLean township. Mathias is a merchant at Cincinnati. Mary is the wife of Henry Danzig, of Cynthian township. Agnes, who is now deceased, was the wife of Henry Dickman, of Minster, O. The parents of the above family were faithful members of the Catholic church, at Minster, O.

John Deiters attended school in the Deiter Special School District, which was so named in honor of his father, and afterward remained at home to give his father needed assistance, and in the course of years he came into possession of the homestead. He erected the comfortable farmhouse now standing but the barn, built by his father in 1872, is yet usable, Mr. Deiter keeping his different structures in good repair. With the exception of ten acres of woodland, all the land is under cultivation and the land produces satisfactory returns for the careful attention given it.

Mr. Deiters married Miss Mary Lineman, a daughter of Bernard and Mary Lineman, of St. Rosa, Mercer county, O., where the father died at the age of seventy-two years. The mother survived for a time and died at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Deiters at the age of seventy-six years. Mr. and Mrs. Deiters have six children: Bernard, who lives at home; Catherine, who lives at Dayton; Henry, Amelia, Herman and Rosa, all of whom live with their parents. They all have enjoyed school advantages in the Deiter Special School District and their father, at different times has been a member of the school board. In politics he is a democrat and has served in the office of turnpike superintendent. The family belongs to the Catholic church at McCartville, Shelby county.

J. G. THIE, residing on his finely improved farm of 160 acres, which lies one-half mile west of Anna, O., in Dinsmore township, Shelby county, was born in this township in 1855, and is a son of John H. and Frederica (Zimpher) Thie.

The parents of Mr. Thie were born in Germany but they spent many years in Shelby county, where they were highly respected. They had five children: Jacob, who lives at Anna, O.; Margaret, who died at the age of fourteen; Julia, who is the wife of W. Moothart, of Anna; Caroline, who lives with her brother Jacob, neither having ever married; and J. G.

J. G. Thie is well known all through this section as prior to embarking in business he taught school for a number of years. He spent some time as a student in what is now known as the Northern Ohio University at Ada where he was prepared for teaching. Afterward he became a merchant for a few years and then returned to the farm. In 1900, he was married and settled on his present farm which he has so improved that it is denominated the model farm of this part of the county. Progressive and enterprising in every way, he carries on his agricultural operations according to scientific teachings and prospers accordingly.

Mr. Thie married Miss Emma Bertsch, a daughter of Christian and Magdalena Bertsch, who were born in Germany, and they have four children: Alma, Herman, Mabel and Ernest, all of whom live at home and are receiving educational advantages. Mr. Thie is a member of the school board of Anna, which maintains a high school. With his family he belongs to the Lutheran church of which he is secretary and is also a member of the board of deacons. He is an unswerving democrat in his political views. In every way he is a representative and useful citizen.

ELMER E. HARBOUR, senior member of the firm of E. E. Harbour & Son, operating a grain elevator at Pemberton, O. and dealing also in farm implements at this place, and additionally the owner of 360 acres of some of the finest land in Perry township, Shelby county, was born in Perry township, March 18, 1866, and is a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Persinger) Harbour.

Henry Harbour was born in Champaign county, O., but lived many years in Shelby county, where his death occurred in 1906, at the age of eighty-three years, his burial being in Cedar Point cemetery. He was a veteran of the Civil war and was widely known. He married Elizabeth Persinger, who is now a resident of Pemberton, and they had four children: Charles William Beatty, Elmer E., Harry P. and Wallace Royal.

Elmer E. Harbour obtained his education in the public schools, afterward worked on his father's farm and for a number of years has been connected with the elevator and implement business. He built his first elevator in partnership with L. G. Shanley, subsequently selling it to L. G. Shanley & Co., and afterward built the one he now owns and operates. As a business man Mr. Harbour has been successful and enterprising and, as the handling of farm implements and grain are among the most important business activities

of Pemberton, he may almost be said to be the father of the town. He is interested also at Dayton, O., where he owns a coal yard. He owns considerable valuable realty at Dayton O., and at Pemberton, including a number of dwellings and well-improved lots and his holdings in association with his wife, in Shelby county, aggregate about 700 acres. In politics he is a republican, and, although no office holder, has always taken a useful part in the affairs of the community and has given hearty support to all public movements that have promised to be beneficial in a large way.

In 1889 Mr. Harbour was married to Miss Fay Wilkinson, who was born in Shelby county and is a daughter of Isaac T. and Cynthia J. Wilkinson, this being an old county family. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Harbour: Kenneth W., Florence and Mary. Mr. Harbour and family attend services at the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Harbour has been for many years a free contributor to both churches, Methodist and Baptist. He is a thirty-second degree Mason and well known to the fraternity all over the state, and belongs also to the Knights of Pythias, attending the De Graff lodge, in Logan county.

HENRY WAGNER,\* vice-president and general manager of The John Wagner & Sons Brewing Company, of Sidney, O., may be said to have been associated with this concern since boyhood, it having been founded in 1854 by his uncle, Joseph F. Wagner and ever since has been in the family. Henry Wagner was born at Sidney, O., July, 1858, and is a son of John and Mary A. Wagner.

John Wagner was born in Columbiana county, O., and died at Sidney, in 1881. In early life he was a tallow candler and later learned the butcher business. He was a poor boy at that time, in fact, when he had learned his trade and wished to move to St. Mary's and open a meat shop there, he had to borrow the money with which to do so. In 1859 he came to Sidney and rented the brewery that his brother had established, and in 1860 bought an interest in the business and in 1876 bought the entire plant. He was a shrewd and able business man and very soon enlarged the original plant and through his energy and enterprise built up a great business. From his death in 1881 until 1896 the brewery was operated by his sons under the name of John Wagner's Sons, when it was incorporated as The John Wagner Sons' Brewing Company, with Mary A. Wagner, widow of John Wagner, as president; Henry Wagner as vice-president and general manager; and Edward J. Wagner as secretary and treasurer. In the winter of 1911-12 the company installed some of the latest and finest bottling machinery in use in the United States, the capacity of their plant permitting them to bottle 100 barrels of beer every ten hours.

John Wagner was married in 1857 to Mary Ann Mayer, who survives and lives in the old home at Sidney, and nine children were born to them, two of whom, Henry and Edward J., are interested with their mother in the brewery.

Henry Wagner began to work in his father's plant as soon as his school

days were over and is a practical brewer and brewmaster. He married Miss Josephine Eme, of Fort Wayne, Ind. He maintains fraternal relations with the Elks and the Eagles and belongs also to the United Commercial Travelers.

Edward J. Wagner, secretary and treasurer of the above company, was born at Sidney, January 6, 1860, and, like his brother, has been connected with this brewery during his entire business life. He married Miss Elizabeth Kraft, of Sidney, and they have two sons: Carl J. and George E. Mr. Wagner belongs to the Eagles, the Elks and the United Commercial Travelers Association, and is more or less active in local politics and during 1884, 1886 and 1888, served in the city council. Both he and brother are solid, reliable business men, and in both public and private life are trustworthy in every particular.

HARRY E. BENNETT, who is manager of The Oldham-Bennett Realty Company, and the junior partner, is one of the representative business men of Sidney, O. He is a son of Milton and Ella (Emley) Bennett, and born November 5, 1873, in Franklin township, Shelby county, O., three miles north of Sidney, on land that his great-grandfather, Nehemiah Bennett, had entered from government.

Nehemiah Bennett was born in Pennsylvania but farther back the family records have not been preserved. He married Sarah Slusser in 1817, of Franklin county and came to Shelby county in 1820. He located on a farm in Franklin township which became the family homestead. His son, Charles Bennett, was born here, October 25, 1825, and married Nancy M. Dickensheets. Their son Milton Bennett was born December 19, 1851, and married Ella Emley, their son Harry E. being born on the same homestead.

In the course of time Milton Bennett became a well-known business man and later admitted his son Harry E., to a partnership and for twelve years conducted his business under the firm name of M. Bennett & Son, dealers in gravel and sand. Milton Bennett is, at present, president of The Oldham-Bennett Realty Company, which was incorporated on July 1, 1912.

Harry E. Bennett was educated in the public schools, living in Franklin township until he was nine years old and then moving to Clinton township and, with the exception of two and one-half years, has been a life-long resident of Shelby county. For five years prior to the consolidation of The Oldham-Bennett realty interests, Mr. Bennett was associated with John Oldham in the real-estate business. He is a wide-awake business man and a great believer in the future of Shelby county.

In 1894 Mr. Bennett was married to Miss Mary Joslin, a daughter of C. R. and Lou V. Joslin, and they have two children: Ruth and Milton. Mr. Bennett is identified with a number of civic bodies for the public welfare and in every way is a useful citizen and fraternally is identified with the Odd Fellows.

D. J. THOMPSON, one of Shelby county's most highly respected and universally esteemed citizens, a veteran of the great Civil war and for forty years a successful educator of the youth of this county, now lives in comfortable retirement on his farm in Washington township, ten miles southwest of Sidney, O. He was born on this farm August 25, 1829, and is a son of James and Elizabeth (Jeffrys) Thompson.

James Thompson, father of D. J. Thompson, was born in Ireland and was brought to America in his boyhood by his father, John Thompson, settling in Pennsylvania where he grew to manhood and where he married Ellen Briggs. To this union were born four sons: Freeborn, James, John and A. Wesley. His wife dying, he was married secondly to Elizabeth Jeffries and moved to Warren county, Ohio, but remained there only one year and then came to Shelby county in 1824. The Thompsons were among the pioneer settlers and became identified with the county's early civilizing agencies. Of the issue of his second marriage five children grew to maturity: Huldah, Eleanor, D. J. Thomas and Arza B. D. J. Thompson is the only survivor.

D. J. Thompson married, June 17, 1852, Miss Sarah K. Diltz, a native of New Jersey and a daughter of William Diltz, who came to Shelby county in the early 'forties. Mrs. Thompson died January 1, 1905, and was the mother of eleven children, six sons and five daughters, as follows: Warren B.; David B., who died at the age of thirty-two years; John M.; James L.; William M. P.; Thomas S.; Mrs. D. W. Gearhart of Piqua, O.; Mrs. D. M. Pruden of Sidney, O.; Mrs. J. C. Suber, of Fletcher, O.; deceased; Huldah Catherine, who died at the age of fifteen years; and Sadie who died aged six years.

Mr. Thompson attended the district schools in his youth and had two terms of instruction in the Piqua schools, and afterward began to teach school. For his services he at first received the sum of twelve dollars a month, which was then considered ample pay, and according to the custom, was given boarding and lodging in the homes of his patrons, each in turn taking care of the teacher for a specified period. Very vividly does Mr. Thompson recall his first primitive school houses, the rooms having no desks but instead slab benches, and greased paper taking the place of glass in the window apertures. He found congenial work in teaching and for forty years gave his life to his profession and all through Washington and Lorainie townships and in other parts of the county, there are happy and successful women and men who remember him with regard as their beloved and patient teacher. He also recalls them with warm-hearted feelings and has always taken an interest in the careers of those with whom his close association as an instructor, through so long a period, made him well acquainted. In 1862, heeding his country's call, he enlisted as a private for service in the Civil war, entering Company B, Fiftieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. While engaged in the service he was unanimously elected first lieutenant of his company, in which he served until March 22, 1863, being a participant in the great battle of Perrysville. After this battle, a captain's commission was tendered him, which he declined. At the close of his military service he returned and resumed teaching and also took charge of the home farm which his son now

operates. Mr. Thompson, in the evening of his life, is surrounded by seven living children, fourteen grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, and a wealth of domestic affection, and cannot fail to be proud of his numerous, bright, attractive and intelligent descendants. He is one of the old members of the Methodist church at Lockington, in which he has held all the offices at various times and to which he has given liberal support. In politics he is a republican and frequently has served as township assessor and as township trustee, and has long been one of the men whose advice and clear judgment have been consulted in local affairs. He is identified with the Grand Army of the Republic and has attended many reunions. He is now spending his latter days on the home farm with his youngest son, Thomas S. and his wife Emma (Hinskey) Thompson, and two loveable grandchildren, Davis J., Jr., his namesake, and Mary Adyline.

CHARLES W. BENJAMIN,\* junior member of the reliable old business firm of C. R. Benjamin & Son, handle manufacturers, and manager of the same, is additionally interested in business as a dealer in coal, lumber and cement, at Sidney, O. He was born at Lakewood, N. Y., November 10, 1870, and is a son of C. R. and Mary (Johnson) Benjamin.

In 1884 C. R. Benjamin came to Sidney and deeming it a promising business point, established here his handle factory and the success of his enterprise justified his judgment. For years he has been numbered with the city's most reliable and substantial citizens and has interests aside from his manufacturing, being one of the directors of the Citizens National Bank at Sidney. Although for some time considerably hampered by failing vision, he has kept in the business field, but in 1912 the misfortune of blindness settled on him occasioned by cataract. While this is deplored nevertheless his advice and business judgment is still at the service of the firm and the calamity is thus largely personal. On June 17, 1912, the factory for the manufacturing of shovel handles was completely destroyed by fire. At the present writing it is being rebuilt on a larger scale and when completed as many as forty workmen will be employed in carrying on the industry.

Charles W. Benjamin was fourteen years old when his parents came to Sidney and here his education was completed and his business career begun and continued. He married Miss Nellie Robertson and they have two children: Charles R. and Mary Emily. Mr. Benjamin is identified fraternally with the Knights of Pythias, the Elks and the United Commercial Travelers. Of genial, pleasing personality, Mr. Benjamin has many friends and is one of the city's most popular citizens.

FERNANDO W. APPLE, a farmer and stock dealer of Perry township, Shelby county, O., has lived in this section of the state for the past thirty-two years and is well known in township and county. For many years he was active in farming and handling stock and still retains 298 acres of valuable land. He was born in Champaign county, O., August 16, 1858, and is a son of John and Sarah Jane (Pence) Apple.

The parents of Mr. Apple were of solid old Pennsylvania German stock. They lived in Champaign county, O., for many years and died on their farm there and their burial was in Spring Grove cemetery at Millerstown, O. They belonged to the Evangelical Lutheran church. Fernando W. was their eldest child, the others being: Charles N.; Mary Alice, wife of William Circle; Otta and Walter.

Fernando W. Apple obtained his schooling in Champaign county and afterward assisted his father on the farm, doing much hard work as in those days much of the labor-saving machinery now in use was not on the market. In 1880 he came to Shelby county and for sixteen years contented himself with renting land but then started to buying and continued until he had 298 acres, all of which is fine, arable land. While he no longer engages in the labor of the farm, he remains interested in all its industries and is anxious that it should be brought to the highest state of production.

Mr. Apple was married in 1879, to Miss Ella Wibel, who was born in Champaign county, O., a daughter of Jacob and Anna (Plank) Wibel. Mr. Wibel was a prominent farmer near Millerstown. Both he and wife are deceased and their burial was in the Spring Grove cemetery. They had four children: Mary, wife of Daniel Brubaker; Clara, wife of Noah Pence; Albert; and Ella, wife of Mr. Apple. To the latter have been born three children, namely: Carl, who married Pearl Fahnstock; Chloe, who married Vern Ward and they have one son, Virgil Richard; and Anna, who is the wife of Frank Peppers. Mr. Apple has always given his political support to the democratic ticket. He and family attend the Methodist Episcopal church at Pemberton, O.

WILLIAM HOEWISHER, who is one of the heavy tax payers of Franklin township, where he owns 225 acres of fine land, has been a continuous resident since 1893, with the exception of two years, and as a raiser of high grade stock is known all over this part of the state. He was born in Auglaize county, O., February 18, 1862, and is a son of Henry and Gustina (Lampding) Hoewisher.

Henry Hoewisher was born in Germany and there attended school and afterward learned the carpenter trade. He was only seventeen years of age when he came to America but was a good workman and followed his trade until he acquired land and afterward gave his attention to farming. He married Gustina Lamping, who was born in Auglaize county, and died in 1893, having been the devoted mother of a large family, as follows: Gustave; Frederick; Matilda, who is the wife of L. C. Langhorst; William; George; Henry; John; Mary, who is the wife of August Fritz; Emma, who married (first) Henry Miller, and (second) Henry Brandt; Edward; Lizzie, who is the wife of August Kettler; and Ida, who is the wife of Edward Tecklenburg.

William Hoewisher attended the public schools and afterward remained assisting his father until he was twenty-five years old. He then rented land from his father for five years, when he retired from farming and during the next two years was engaged in a mercantile business at Kettlersville. He





WILLIAM HOEWISHER AND FAMILY



found, however, that an agricultural life was more congenial and in 1893 bought his present property from George Malcolm, and ever since, with the exception of two years during which he returned to the home place when his father retired to New Bremen, where he still lives, Mr. Hoewisher has actively pushed his industries on this farm. He grows grain to some extent but is more interested in his fine stock, among which are some thirty head of imported Percheron and Belgian horses.

Mr. Hoewisher was married April 21, 1887, to Miss Sarah Roettger, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Koch) Roettger, farming people of Shelby county, who have the following children: Sarah; Anna, who married Henry Sollman; Katie, who married Henry Hoewisher, a brother of William; Charles; Henrietta, who married Frederick Edgbert; Malinda, who married Henry Isenhut; Elsie, who married Benjamin Solomon; and Alfred, Mary, Esther, Herbert and Minerva.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoewisher have five children: Harry, Elda, Harvey, Walter and Sarah. The family belongs to the Lutheran church at Sidney, O. In politics Mr. Hoewisher is a staunch democrat. While living in Van Buren township he served one term as assessor and has been a school director in Franklin township.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK of Jackson Center, O., was organized June 19, 1895, under the style of The Farmers & Merchants Bank of Jackson Center, with Shelby Baughman as president, and P. R. Clinhents as cashier. The first account was opened by the Jackson Center Elevator Company, and the second name on the books of the institution was John Johns.

After a service of two years, P. R. Clinhents died and Frank Baughman succeeded him as cashier and F. M. Wildermuth became assistant cashier in 1905. Mr. Baughman resigned on October 19, 1909, and was succeeded by F. M. Wildermuth. In the meanwhile, on February 1, 1907, the business was reorganized, the bank becoming The First National Bank of Jackson Center, when it entered upon a new and still more prosperous career. The initial capitalization was \$10,000, while its present capital is \$33,000, and according to its statement of September 4, 1912, it has assets of \$392,830.92, surplus \$66,000, and \$45,000 undivided profits. The bank owns its own substantial building and it is equipped with a screw-door safe, the wall being twenty inches in thickness. The officers of the bank are. Shelby Baughman, president; G. A. Swikard, vice-president; F. M. Wildermuth, cashier, and Walter C. Meranda, assistant cashier, with a board of seven directors.

WILLIAM O'LEARY,\* who, as chief of police, occupies a very responsible position, at Sidney, O., is a man well qualified for the same both by experience and through those personal traits and natural endowments that are absolutely necessary for official position of this nature. He was born in Green township, Shelby county, O., March 25, 1871, and is a son of Thomas and Mary (Kelley) O'Leary. Until Chief O'Leary was ten years old his

parents lived on the farm of his birth but then came to Sidney and lived in this city during the remainder of their lives.

William O'Leary attended the Catholic school at Sidney and under the direction of the gentle sisters became a well informed youth. He then learned the blacksmith trade with his brother, Hugh O'Leary and continued to work as a blacksmith until 1892, when he joined the police force and was gradually advanced in rank until, fourteen years ago, he was made chief of the department. Firmness and efficiency have marked his administration and perhaps there is no city of its size in Ohio that is better policed or in which the life and rights of its citizens are more securely guarded.

Chief O'Leary was married to Miss Emma Simmons and they have three sons: William, Emerson and Hugh. The family belongs to the Catholic church. For a number of years Chief O'Leary has been identified with the Knights of Columbus and he belongs also to the Elks.

EDWARD H. BILLING, postmaster at Swanders, O., and proprietor of the leading general store of the town, is a representative citizen of this part of Shelby county. He was born in Franklin township, Shelby county, November 30, 1881, and is a son of Jacob and Philipina (Geib) Billing.

Jacob Billing and wife were of German ancestry and for many years they were respected residents of Franklin township, and there both died, their burial being in the cemetery of the Lutheran church to which they belonged. They had a family of seven children: Edward H., Minnie, Albert, Harry, Dora, Webster and Myrtle.

Edward H. Billing attended the public schools in Franklin township, afterward taking a commercial course in a business college at Sidney, and this was followed by two years of work on the home farm. He then came to Swanders and for two years worked for J. B. Wyatt, then proprietor of his present store, from whom he purchased in July, 1907, and has conducted it ever since. In politics he is a democrat and for the past five years has been postmaster here.

On September 25, 1907, Mr. Billing was married to Miss Theda Foster, who was born in Shelby county, a daughter of George W. and Anna (Snawley) Foster. Mrs. Billing has two brothers, Guy and Marion. Mr. and Mrs. Billing have one son, George Foster. They attend the German Reformed church.

FRED D. CLARK, D. O., who has been engaged in the practice of osteopathy at Sidney, O., for the past two years and is in the enjoyment of a large and lucrative one, was born at Piqua, O., June 23, 1880, and is a son of Dr. George W. and Sallie (Maderis) Clark.

The father of Doctor Clark was born in Clark county, O., the family being a pioneer one of that section. He practiced at Piqua, O., a graduate of the Fort Wayne College, married Sallie Maderis, and died when their one child was but two years old. His widow survives.

Fred D. Clark was afforded excellent educational advantages and early

developed an inherited tendency toward the healing art. For five years of early manhood, before entering the College of Osteopathy, at Kirksville, Mo., he was secretary of the St. Mary's Machine Company, St. Marys, O. In the class of 1910 he was graduated from the American School of Osteopathy, at Kirksville, the venerable founder of which still survives, and then came to Sidney, where he has met with truly gratifying success. Since graduation he has kept closely in touch with medical and surgical progress all over the world and is identified with all the leading organizations of his special system; the American Osteopathic Association, the Ohio State Osteopathic Society and the Missouri Valley Osteopathic Society. Doctor Clark belongs to Temperance Lodge No. 73, F. & A. M., at Sidney; Summit Lodge, Knights of Pythias, at Sidney; the Knights of Korassen and the Commercial Club, and also retains membership in his college society, the Iota Tau Sigma fraternity.

Doctor Clark was married in 1901, to Miss Eva Davenport, a daughter of C. P. Davenport, of Hardin, Shelby county, O., and they have one daughter, Juanita. Doctor and Mrs. Clark are members of the Presbyterian church at Sidney.

BROACHEY T. BULL, who is one of the representative business men of Shelby county, has important interests in several directions and has been a leading citizen of Sidney for the past twelve years. He was born on his father's farm in Green township, Shelby county, O., September 30, 1861, and is a son of David T. and Lucinda H. Bull, the former of whom died in the fall of 1904, the latter surviving.

Broachey T. Bull was reared on the home farm and attended the country schools and one year at Ada, O. Farming and stock raising have largely claimed his attention and he is one of the best known stock men in this section of the country and is at the head of the firm of B. T. Bull & Co., meat dealers at Sidney. Mr. Bull owns a large amount of valuable land in the county, his well improved farms lying in Green and Orange townships.

Mr. Bull was married in 1885 to Miss Lottie Sleeter, who is a daughter of F. H. Sleeter, a retired farmer now residing at Sidney. Mr. and Mrs. Bull have one son, Sleeter Bull, who, at present, is an instructor in the agricultural department of the University of Illinois. He is a graduate of Buchtel College, at Akron, O., and also of the Ohio State University at Columbus, and additionally is a post graduate of the Pennsylvania State University and took his degree of master of science in that institution. He is married but has no children. Sleeter Bull is a fraternity man, being a Mason and an Odd Fellow, and grand president of his college fraternity.

Broachey T. Bull is identified prominently with several fraternal bodies, being past grand in the order of Odd Fellows, an encampment member I. O. O. F., and a member of the Red Men. Although never very active politically, Mr. Bull is an earnest and thoughtful citizen and has given support to public policies which have been approved by his judgment, but his larger interests have been along agricultural lines and his usefulness to his section in developing farm industries and in improving stock is very generally acknowledged.

GEORGE A. RHEINISH,\* who is engaged in the tin, iron work, sheet metal and furnace business at Sidney, O., including spouting and roofing work, is a well known, reliable and necessary business man of this place where he has been established for about ten years. He was born at Cincinnati, O., April 1, 1871, and is a son of George Rheinisch.

The father of Mr. Rheinisch was born in Germany and there learned the brewing business and after coming to the United States worked at the same in the city of Cincinnati. In 1875 he moved with his family to Sidney and was engaged as brewmaster by the Wagner Brewing Company and under his direction the first lager beer ever produced by this company was brewed. His death occurred at Sidney where his widow still lives.

George A. Rheinisch was four years old when his parents came to Sidney and here he was reared and attended the parochial school. For four years he worked in the Sidney Wheel Works and learned wheel making, after which he started to learn the tinner's trade with James Ristron with whom he worked for eleven years and then engaged in business for himself. He is qualified to do any kind of sheet metal work and in his different lines is called all over the county when work of this kind is of special importance, having four men beside himself and a bookkeeper constantly employed. Mr. Rheinisch belongs to the Catholic church.

SINCLAIR JOHNSON HATFIELD, a man of many public achievements and numerous professional honors, for many years was an honored member of the Sidney bar. He was born in Wayne county, O., September 21, 1845, and died October 30, 1911, the eldest son of George D. and Matilda (Patterson) Hatfield. The other members of the family were: Margaret, James, Robert, William, Alice and Sarah Adelaide, the last named being the wife of Dr. D. J. Satterfield.

Sinclair Johnson Hatfield spent his early life on a farm near Apple Creek, where he attended the common schools and afterward taught for several years. His literary tastes and mental quickness being recognized by his parents, he was sent for several years to Vermillion Institute, at Hayesville, O., and afterward attended Western Reserve College at Hudson which he left at the end of his junior year. He subsequently entered the law school of Michigan University at Ann Arbor, where, in 1875, he was graduated, in the fall of the same year coming to Sidney. After admission to the bar of Ohio, he entered upon the practice of the law. At the time of his death he was the oldest member in years of practice of the bar association.

On September 3, 1868, Mr. Hatfield was married to Miss Caroline McClure, who was born in Wayne county, O., a daughter of Samuel B. and Sabina (Carey) McClure. The father of Mrs. Hatfield was a substantial farmer and well known citizen of Wayne county. She was the youngest in a family of five children: Alfred; Mary E., wife of George Jameson; Jemimah, wife of Isaiah Dunlap; and Susan, being the others. To Mr. and Mrs. Hatfield three children were born: George Avery, who is superintendent of the water works at Sidney, O., married Florence Nealey and they have one

daughter, Gertrude Matilda; Gertrude, who is an instructor in the Ohio State School for the Deaf and Dumb, at Columbus; and Alfred Sinclair, who died in his first year.

In politics Mr. Hatfield was an ardent and active member of the republican party and was its candidate for representative and prosecuting attorney. Governor Bushnell appointed him a member of the State Board of Pardons, an office he held for more than ten years, in which he distinguished himself by the wisdom and humanity of his views and by the care and attention he gave to his duties. Shortly before his death he was appointed a member of the board of trustees of the Shelby County Children's Home.

Mr. Hatfield was a learned man, a sound lawyer, well versed in the fundamentals of law and equity, and seeks only to do justice between man and man. A firm and wise counselor, he ever maintained the rights of his clients, but did so with true courtesy and the utmost consideration for those to whom he was opposed professionally. It has been said of him that his kindly humor more than once brought about the solution of many an otherwise difficult situation. Virtually, all his life he was a member of the Presbyterian church, to which his family also belongs. While he never tolerated evil, his gentle Christian nature was such that he abhorred the wrong while forgiving the wrongdoer. A man of such kindly consideration for others naturally made a legion of friends who responded in kind to his genuine affection. To sum up, he was an honorable, high-minded Christian gentleman, who all his days sought to do his full duty. His death was universally regretted.

SAMUEL D. CRUMBAUGH,\* one of the well known business men of Sidney, who has been identified with the farm implement trade for the past thirteen years and has been an individual dealer since 1909, was born on a farm in Perry township, Shelby county, O., December 10, 1866, and is a son of Daniel and Naomi (Keplinger) Crumbaugh.

The Crumbaugh family is a pioneer one of Perry township, Grandfather John Crumbaugh securing the present Crumbaugh homestead by entry, at an early day. Daniel Crumbaugh was born on that farm and spent his life there, his death being accidentally caused by a runaway team, in 1899. His wife was also a native of Shelby county, a daughter of Mathias Keplinger, who came here from Clark county.

Samuel D. Crumbaugh remained during his father's lifetime on the home farm and after his death sold the property and entered his present business and was engaged in selling farm implements until he embarked in this line for himself, purchasing the store and stock of Homer Wright. He carries the goods of those standard companies which experience has proved to him as most in demand, having a complete stock of the International Harvester goods and the products of the Weber Wagon Company.

Mr. Crumbaugh was married to Miss Viola Hoover and they have had two children: Harry, who died when aged seven years; and Forrest, who is in the jewelry business with E. E. Kay. Mr. Crumbaugh in his active interest in local public matters follows in the footsteps of his honored father and was appointed to fill out his father's, unexpired term as township trustee. In

every way he has shown a disposition to be a useful citizen. In early manhood he became identified with the Odd Fellows and his interest in this fraternal organization continues.

MILTON BAKER, a general farmer in Salem township, Shelby county, O., who is serving in his second year as turnpike superintendent, operates a farm of eighty-six acres, one-third of which he owns. He was born in Shelby county, November 15, 1881, and is a son of William C. and Frederika (Schmidt) Baker.

The parents of Mr. Baker reside on their farm in Jackson township, Shelby county, and Mr. Baker is a well known man and prominent politician and for six years served as a county commissioner. He has been twice married, first to a Miss Thompson who was survived by one son, Allen. To his second marriage the following children were born: Leo, Roscoe, Boston, Nora, Milton, May, Lina, Ida, Bessie and Clara. Nora is the wife of Clarence C. Steenrod.

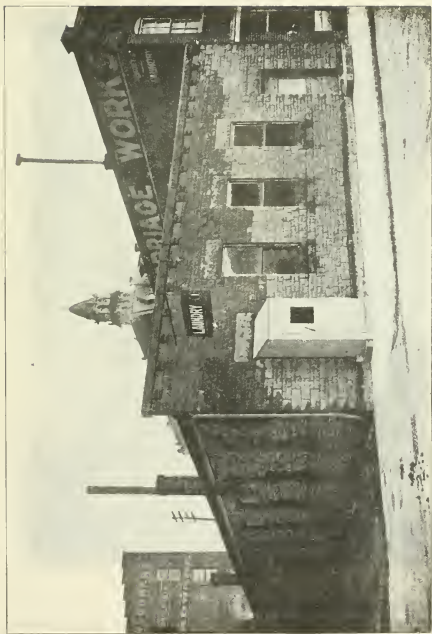
Milton Baker obtained a good public school education and since then has engaged continuously in farming and stock raising. In February, 1903 he was married to Miss Eva Clinehens, a daughter of Conrad and Catherine Clinehens who have other children, namely: Edith, wife of Ernest Wones; and Elmer, Chester, Harry, Omer and Roscoe. Mr. Clinehens' first wife was a Miss Mead and they had one daughter, Emma, who is the wife of John Piper. To Mr. and Mrs. Baker four children have been born: Mabel, Alma, Chloe and Elmer, the older ones attending school. Mr. Baker is identified with the democratic party. He is a man of good standing in his neighborhood and his fellow citizens recognize the fact that when he is elected to an office its duties will be performed honestly and efficiently.

GEORGE R. LOUDENBACH,\* one of the well known business men of Sidney, O., who operates a general repair shop and is a bicycle dealer, came first to Sidney in 1883, and has been a permanent resident since 1892. He was born on a farm in Champaign county, O., March 4, 1849, and is a son of Emanuel and Anna (McCoy) Loudenbach.

Emanuel Loudenbach and wife came to Ohio from Virginia, now West Virginia, and the father engaged in farming in Champaign county, where his death occurred. His widow survived and died at Oakley, Ill., while on a visit, being then aged eighty-two years.

George R. Loudenbach grew up on the home farm and early discovered that he possessed not only mechanical aptitude but mercantile ability, the latter being shown when he easily sold farm implements and this led him to engage in the business at Urbana, where he continued for two years. He then was engaged as a traveling salesman for the Long-Alstater Company, manufacturers of farm implements, of Hamilton, O., and traveled for that house for eleven years, his territory being northern Ohio and Illinois, and during this period his first visit was made to Sidney. When he retired from the life of a commercial traveler and desired to go into business for himself





CROFT LAUNDRY



LOUIS G. CROFT

he came to Sidney, where he dealt in farm implements for twenty years, closing out that branch of his business in 1908. He keeps busily occupied repairing bicycles, automobiles, sewing machines, vulcanizing and in similar work and also sells bicycles for which there is a steady demand, this handy vehicle yet claiming many votaries of healthful exercise.

Mr. Loudenbach was married first to Miss Ida Dickensheets, a daughter of John D. Dickensheets, March 8, 1883, who died in 1900, survived by one daughter, Margaret. At Sidney, O., Mr. Loudenbach was married (second) to Miss Mabel Snyder, in August, 1912. Politically a democrat, Mr. Loudenbach has, at times, been called upon to serve in responsible offices and for seven years was a trustee of the water works and on two occasions was elected a member of the board of public service. Fraternally he is identified with the Red Men and the Tribe of Ben Hur and belongs to both branches of Odd Fellowship. Mr. Loudenbach enjoys out door sports and is a member of the Shelby County Deer Hunters' Association.

LOUIS G. CROFT, proprietor of Croft's Steam Laundry, the largest, most modern and best equipped laundry in Shelby county, is an experienced man in this business, in which he has been concerned for twenty-six years. He was born at Anna, Shelby county, O., November 2, 1871, and is a son of Christian and Mary Croft, who came to Sidney when he was a babe of six months.

Mr. Croft's career is an interesting one to consider in that it shows how a poor boy, left an orphan at the age of eight years, managed, through his own inherent sterling qualities, to secure an education and to maintain himself in the respect and confidence of those with whom it was his lot to live. After his parents died he resided with an aged man by the name of H. Enders, who was a potter and also worked at gardening, and the otherwise homeless youth worked for him for about seven years and shared his fortune. He then became an employe of the Sidney Steam Laundry, where he continued for four and one-half years, after which he worked in a similar place for nine months at Findlay. From there he went to St. Mary's, O., and there invested in a hand laundry, which he conducted successfully for six months and then started a steam laundry, admitting F. M. Smith as a partner. After three years he sold out to Mr. Smith and started a laundry at Piqua, O., which he operated for two years and then returned to Sidney. It must have afforded Mr. Croft considerable satisfaction to be able, at this time, to buy the Sidney Steam Laundry, the same concern in which he had been first employed, and afterward he changed the name to Croft's Steam Laundry, which he has since conducted with great success. In 1907 he erected his fine cement laundry building and has installed all modern equipments including the Troy and American laundry machinery, and here steady employment is afforded from fifteen to eighteen men and women, and in delivering and collecting both a wagon and an automobile are used. This laundry is a monument to Mr. Croft's industry. He knows every detail of the business and has forgotten nothing and in times of great stress does not disdain to once more work the

shirt ironing machine or other laundry device with his well-paid employes.

Mr. Croft was married first to Miss Minnie Salm, of Sidney, who died January 14, 1904, leaving four children: Frederick, Martha, Leo and Edna. His present wife was formerly Mrs. Mary Stolle, and they had one son, Edward. Mr. Croft belongs to the Elks, the Red Men and the Knights of Columbus, and is a leading member of the Ohio State Laundrymen's Association. He is a consistent member of the Roman Catholic church. He is serving at present as a member of the city council, being councilman at large.

C. D. McCULLOUGH, a substantial citizen and general farmer of Shelby county, O., resides in section 22, Cynthian township, where he owns 160 acres of fine land well adapted for both farming and stock raising. He was born January 13, 1869, in Auglaize county, O., and is a son of Robert and Margaret (Downy) McCullough.

Robert McCullough was born and reared in Columbiana county, O., but moved to Auglaize county soon after he was first married. He followed farming all through his active life and owned 116 acres of land in Auglaize county and later bought forty acres in Turtle Creek township, Shelby county. His death occurred on the latter farm when aged seventy-nine years, eleven months and eighteen days. His first marriage was to Jane Hoey, who died in Auglaize county, the mother of five children: Susan, Margaret, Sophia, James and John. His second marriage was to Margaret Downy Guilbert, who was born in Clark county, O., and died in Auglaize county, nine years after her husband, when aged seventy-nine years, six months and twenty-four days. She was a widow when she married Mr. McCullough and had three children: Walter D., James and Mary A. Guilbert. To her second marriage two children were born: Alice, who is the wife of Isaac Anderson, of Wapakoneta, O.; and C. D. McCullough. Mr. and Mrs. McCullough were estimable people in every relation of life and were members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Hardin, O. Their burial was in the Olive Branch cemetery in Auglaize county.

C. D. McCullough was eight years old when his parents moved on the farm in Turtle Creek township and he attended the common schools there and afterward assisted his father until his own marriage, since when he has resided in Cynthian township. His present farm had been somewhat improved by his father-in-law, the late Jonathan Wegley, and the supplementary improvements made by Mr. McCullough have been of a very substantial character. With the exception of fifteen acres in timber, all the farm is well drained and Mr. McCullough raises excellent crops and stock. He has always devoted his main attention to agricultural interests and for seven years has been a member of the Shelby county Fair Board and for two years served as vice-president of this body.

Mr. McCullough was married to Miss Sarah A. Wegley, a native of Mercer county, O., a daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Wegley. Mr. Wegley married Sarah Circle, of that county, in which they continued to live until 1876, when they moved to Washington township, Shelby county, and lived there until

1885, when they removed to Cynthian township and settled on a tract of 170 acres. The parents of Mrs. McCullough remained on that farm until the death of the father, in 1892, when aged fifty-five years, when the mother retired to Lockington, O. and later to Piqua, where her death occurred in 1911, the burial of both being in the cemetery at Lockington. They were members of the United Brethren church and much esteemed people wherever they lived. They had the following children: James, Mary, Emanuel, Fred, Joseph, Eva, Sarah A., Daisy and Olive.

To Mr. and Mrs. McCullough seven children have been born, namely: Carrie Margaret, deceased; and Warren C., deceased; Sarah Josephine; Wilma; Robert Ross; Mabel and Harold. All were given educational opportunities in the Hopewell special school district.

HOWARD VERTNER,\* who is associated with his father in business at Sidney, O., conducting the Vertner hardware store, is one of the enterprising young men of the city, of which he has been a resident for several years. He was born on a farm near Beaver Dam, Allen county, O., June 24, 1881, and is a son of Samuel and Ida Vertner.

Howard Vertner was reared on the home farm and remained there until he was twenty years of age, in the meanwhile attending the schools near his home and the Beaver Dam high school. His first work that called him away from home was in the oil fields around Beaver Dam. His next employment removed him still further as he went to Detroit, Mich., where he was in the employ of the A. T. & T. Telephone Company and remained for two years, returning then to Beaver Dam and from there came to Sidney in August, 1910. In partnership with his father he bought out the old established hardware house of Line & Davis. Mr. Vertner has made a very favorable impression on the people of Sidney as a business man and he carries a full stock of all goods in his line, including stoves.

Mr. Vertner married Miss Bessie M. Main, of Addison, Mich., and their attractive residence is at No. 514 South Main street, Sidney. Mr. Vertner is identified with the Masonic fraternity. He is not very active in politics but he keeps fully abreast the times in all that concerns solid, reliable and honorable citizenship.

JOHN MAY, JR., who is one of the well known and highly respected citizens of Van Buren township, in which he is a heavy landowner, having three valuable farms which aggregate 220 acres, was born in this township, in 1857, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Baumbauer) May.

The parents of Mr. May were born in Germany and when they came to the United States, in the forties, settled near New Bremen, O. Of their fourteen children only three survive: John, Henry and Adam. Henry resides also in Van Buren township, where he married Sophia Keck. Adam, who is a resident of Wapakoneta, married Flora Quellhorst.

John May, Jr., obtained his education in the public schools. He may be numbered with the most successful and progressive farmers and stock raisers

of this section of Shelby county, and for a number of years he has also been engaged in stock buying. All his land is highly improved, handsome dwellings, barns and other farm buildings showing forth the justifiable pride he takes in his property and in no less degree he is active as a citizen, being liberal and public-spirited.

Mr. May was married first to Miss Caroline Mauer, who died in 1893, the mother of two children: Emma and Caroline, the latter of whom is deceased. The second marriage of Mr. May was to Mrs. Augusta (Mauer) Burmeister, widow of William Burmeister, who had one daughter, Dora. The parents of Mrs. May were Charles and Mary (Shafer) Mauer. To this marriage eight children were born: Bertha, Harry, Clara, Alma, Clarence, Homer, Florence and Frances. Of these, Harry, Clarence, Homer, Florence and Frances live at home. The other children of Mr. May are married, as follows: Emma is the wife of Carl Kettering and they live at Wapakoneta; Bertha is the wife of Lloyd Catterman and they live at Lima, O.; Clara is the wife of Henry Deigle and they live in Auglaize county; and Alma is the wife of Irvin Gritzmaker and they live on the old home farm in Van Buren township. Mr. May and family are members of the Lutheran church and he belongs to its board of trustees. In politics he is a democrat and in local circles exerts considerable party influence although too busy a man to consent to serve in public office.

ROBERT K. BEAMAN, general farmer and reliable and representative citizen of Orange township, resides on and operates the J. N. Woodmancy farm of 140 acres, situated five miles south of Sidney, O. Mr. Beaman was born in Orange township, in 1877, and is a son of John and Anna (Pruden) Beaman.

John Beaman was born at Boston, Mass., was well educated there and was about twenty years of age when he came to Shelby county and has followed farming here ever since and is a well known and highly respected citizen. The family of nine children all survive.

Robert K. Beaman obtained his education in the public schools and learned the principles of farming through assisting his father, remaining with him until his own marriage, when he came to the farm of his father-in-law, which he has successfully managed ever since, developing its productive possibilities to the highest extent and raising a sufficiency of good stock for home use.

Mr. Beaman was married in 1905 to Miss Laura Dale Woodmancy, who is a daughter of J. N. Woodmancy, one of the well known men of this section. They have three children: John Walter, Bernice Irene and Dorothy Dale. He has never been an office seeker but has taken an active interest in all matters pertaining to section and country at large and casts his vote with the republican organization. For some years he has been identified with the Odd Fellows at Kirkwood, O.

ANTHONY BENSMAN, who owns eighty-eight acres of fine land in Turtle Creek township, is one of the well known citizens and successful agri-

culturists of this section. He was born December 16, 1867, at Minster, Auglaize county, O., and is a son of William and Catherine (Densing) Bensman.

William Bensman was born in Germany and came early to the United States, and during a large portion of his life was a farmer in Auglaize county, O., where he died. His wife, Catherine Densing, died in 1880. To this union six children were born: William, Henry, Herman, John, Anthony and Charles. In politics he was a democrat and in religious faith a Catholic.

Anthony Bensman attended the public schools until he was fourteen years of age and then gave all his time to work on the home farm. When he married he purchased his present place in Turtle Creek township. He found the property needed a great deal of attention and immediately set about making improvements and these included the remodeling of the farm house and the erection of a new barn and other farm buildings, and all these have been completed in a substantial manner. He makes no feature of stock-raising, producing only enough for home use, but carefully superintends his crop growing, using methods that produce very satisfactory results. Mr. Bensman is a very industrious man and looks after his affairs in a careful and practical way. He casts his vote with the democratic party.

On May 18, 1892, Mr. Bensman was married to Miss Anna Schmitmeyer, who was born March 29, 1870, in Shelby county, O., a daughter of Frederick and Liesetta (Lamping) Schmitmeyer, who had other children as follows: Elizabeth, Mary, Barney, John, Louis, Stephen, Joseph, Henry and Anthony. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Bensman: Julius, Mary, Jerome, Leonard and Lietta. The family belong to the Catholic church at McCartyville, O.

MARION ROBERTS,\* who is a worthy representative of one of the old and respected families of Salem township, Shelby county, O., lives on the home farm of eighty acres with his widowed mother, was born on this place, August 14, 1876, and is a son of Andrew and Florence (Hartman) Roberts.

For many years the father of Mr. Roberts carried on farming and stock raising here and was one of the solid and reliable men of this section, and in business affairs as well as in social and family life was held in high esteem. His death occurred September 22, 1911, and his burial was in the Port Jefferson cemetery. In politics he was a republican and in religious faith he was a Methodist. In early manhood he married Florence Hartman, who survives, and they had the following children: Emma, Marion, Cora, Blaine, Oliver, Minnie, Lettie and Lela. Cora is the wife of Lloyd Case.

Marion Roberts secured a common school education and until he was twenty-three years old continued to assist his father on the home farm. He then started out independently and for the next six years worked by the month for farmers in Shelby county and then returned to the home farm of which he has had charge since his father's death. A general farming line is carried on and stock for home use is raised, all the different industries being well looked after. Mr. Roberts is identified with the Masonic fratern-

nity at Port Jefferson and with his mother attends the Methodist Episcopal church there. He was reared to believe in and support the republican party.

LAFAYETTE MERRICK STUDEVANT, who is vice-president of the First National Exchange Bank, at Sidney, O., has additional banking interests and is also a leading manufacturer of Shelby county and one of the foremost men of this section. He was born in Whitley county, Ind., June 21, 1858, and is a son of John F. and Mary Wood (Cochrun) Studevant.

John F. Studevant was born at Emporia, Va., and now resides, in his eighty-seventh year at Sidney, O. In 1847 he married Mary Wood Cochrun, who was born in Green county, O., in 1829, a daughter of Elisha and Sarah Cochrun, natives of Kentucky. Mrs. Studevant died August 23, 1910, after sixty-three years of happy wedded life and left many to mourn her loss, she being an admirable woman in every relation of life. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Studevant lived in Ohio and then moved to Indiana and from there, in 1875, removed to Anna, Shelby county, O. Several years afterwards they settled permanently at Sidney, Mr. Studevant being a cabinetmaker by trade. Five children were born to them, Lafayette M. being the only one to survive the age of five years.

Until he was seventeen years of age, Lafayette M. Studevant devoted himself mainly to his school books. Afterward he was variously employed for a time, keeping continually occupied, and for several years he followed the painting trade. After his parents moved to Sidney, he learned the printing trade in the office of the Sidney Journal, having previously, however, taken a course in the Normal School, passed the teacher's examination satisfactorily and taught one winter term.

In 1879 Mr. Studevant went to Columbus Grove, where he purchased a newspaper, although then but twenty-one years old, and conducted it for one year but not with the success that encouraged him to devote his life to journalism. In 1880 he entered a commercial school at Lima, O., where he took a business course and then accepted a position as bookkeeper in a bank, this being the beginning of his banking connection. The business proved congenial and he continued to advance until he became cashier of a bank at a village called Ridgeville. While the place was small and offered little field for endeavor, he there gained banking experience and it proved valuable. From there he came to Sidney again and accepted a position with Philip Smith, who conducted a machine shop and continued and at present is vice president of the Philip Smith Manufacturing Company. He soon developed business astuteness in other directions. In January, 1886 he started into the fire insurance business, and in October of the same year organized the Peoples Saving & Loan Association, being managing officer of the same, and on September 1, 1899, organized the First National Exchange Bank, of which he was cashier for seven years.

The Peoples Saving & Loan Association is the largest enterprise of that class in any town of the size of Sidney, in Ohio, and none in that state have





LAFAYETTE MERRICK STUEVANT



been more successful. This enterprise is capitalized at \$50,000, with a surplus of \$110,000 and its present standing is shown by the January 1-1913 statement to be: capital, surplus and deposits, \$1,463,088.97, which means that its resources are larger than both of the National banks at Sidney. Mr. Studevaut continues to be secretary of this remarkably successful concern. He is president also of the Eclipse Folding Machine Company and is a director in the following prospering industries: the Sidney Tool Company, the Sidney Manufacturing Company, the Monarch Machine Company, the Royal Manufacturing Company, The Philip Smith Manufacturing Company and the Sidney Telephone Company.

On May 28, 1891, Mr. Studevaut was married to Miss Abbie Benjamin, a daughter of C. R. Benjamin, and they have raised two children: Mary Helen and Thomas F. Both have been given exceptional educational advantages. Thomas F. graduated from the Howe Military School in the spring of 1911 and at present is in the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor. Mary Helen completed her education at Mrs. Stewart's School for Girls, an exclusive institution at Washington, D. C. Mr. Studevaut and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics he is a democrat and he served in the town council for one term, and was National Bank Examiner during Cleveland's last term. He is a charter member of the Commercial Club and is president of its board of managers. His fraternal affiliations include membership in the following orders: Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Elks, Red Men and all the Masonic bodies. As may be seen Mr. Studevaut is one of Sidney's most valuable citizens, awake to every public duty and capable of meeting every business responsibility.

JAMES J. EPPERSON, an old and respected resident of Shelby county, O., and a veteran of the Civil war, resides on a well improved tract of three acres situated in Turtle Creek township and owns a farm of fifty acres located farther westward. He was born May 20, 1844, in Harrison county, Ky., and is a son of John and Maria (Elizer) Epperson.

John Epperson was born in Virginia and followed an agricultural life. He married Maria Elizer, who was born in Missouri, and they were parents of the following children: William, Sarah, wife of Mahlon Leggett; Martha, Stephen, Mary, wife of Purnel Slade; Nancy J., wife of Purnel Hill; and James J. The parents of the above family were members of the Methodist Episcopal church (North).

James J. Epperson had but meagre educational opportunities in his boyhood compared to those of the present day. He was assisting his father on the home farm when civil war was declared and on October 21, 1861, enlisted in Company I, Twentieth Kentucky Volunteer Infantry, and remained in the service until honorably discharged, September 18, 1865. Ever since then until he retired, with the exception of four years, Mr. Epperson has been an active farmer. On July 22, 1869, he was married to Miss Melissa Humphrey, who was born in Kentucky, where her people were farmers and members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Her father was Emanuel

Humphrey, who married Louisa Toadvine, and the children born to them were the following: James, Melissa, Purnel, Ellen, Robert, William, Johanna, wife of Benjamin Brown; Belle, wife of Charles Stewart; Thomas; and Sallie, wife of George Patricks.

Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Epperson, all of whom are married, namely: Nellie, who is the wife of Robert Criswell, and they have two children, Ernest and Lucinda; Alva, who married Blanche Shelley, and they have two children, Melvin and Austin; Claude, who married Bertha Green and they have two children, Edith and John; Samuel, who married Sadie Eaton; Effie M., who is the wife of Milton Lennox and they have one daughter, Mildred. The family belongs to the Presbyterian church and Mr. Epperson is much interested in the Sunday school and serves as assistant superintendent. He is a republican in his political views and served four years as trustee of the township. He and family are people of standing in their community and are more or less known all over the county.

WILLIAM J. SMITH, whose excellent farm is situated three-fourths of a mile west of Jackson Center, on the north side of the Arnett turnpike road, devotes much of his attention to raising Jersey thorough-bred cattle and also Plymouth Rock poultry. Mr. Smith was born in Jackson township, Shelby county, O., on a farm that adjoins his own on the south, November 24, 1861, and is a son of Hardin A. and Rhoda (Jenkins) Smith.

Hardin A. Smith was born in Virginia and lived there until thirteen years of age when he accompanied his father, John Smith, to Clark county, O. After leaving Clark county, Hardin A. Smith went to Champaign county and there married Rhoda Jenkins and they had twelve children, ten of whom survive: Elizabeth, who is deceased, was the wife of W. V. Hughes, of Jackson Center; Martha, who died when three years old; Jane, who is the wife of Milton Meranda; Mary, who is the widow of Wesley Pence; Christina, who is the widow of Martin A. Baker; Lydia, who is the wife of J. F. Davis; Minerva, who is the wife of R. W. Davis; William J.; Albert, who lives at Jackson Center; Laura, who is the wife of D. W. Ware; George, who lives two miles south of Jackson Center; and Frank, who lives one mile east of Montra. Hardin A. Smith is one of the pioneers of Jackson township, having moved here in 1858. He was one of the early mail carriers between Urbana and Springfield, making the trip on horseback. Few men are better known in Jackson township.

William J. Smith grew to manhood and attended school in his native township and then learned tanning and harnessmaking with his father, the latter having started a tannery in 1858. William J. Smith continued the tannery until 1911, when he removed this old landmark in order to build a barn on the site for some of his valuable cows. For many years this tannery was one of the leading business enterprises of the township. This farm is probably one of the most carefully drained properties in this section and all the improvements were placed here by its present owner. Both as a cattle and poultry farm it

is widely known and Mr. Smith may reasonably be very proud of the success that has attained his undertakings.

On September 27, 1883, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Marie Cox, who was born at Port Jefferson, a daughter of Noah and Mary E. (Brown) Cox. The father of Mrs. Smith died at the age of seventy-two years and the mother when aged sixty-eight years and their burial was in the Pleasant Hill cemetery at Jackson Center. Mr. and Mrs. Cox had seven children: Joshua, residing at Lima, O.; Rosanna, deceased; Marie and John, twins, the latter dying when five years old; George living at Lima; Triphena J., deceased; and Daniel, of Lima. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have had four children: Roy E., who died at the age of seven weeks; Warren L., who died when aged three years; Edward Franklin, who is a successful teacher in Jackson township; and Oliver L., who is a student in the Jackson Center high school. Mr. Smith and family are members of the Christian church. He is a democrat in political preference but is perfectly satisfied to have others than himself assume the worries as well as the emoluments of office.

WALLACE A. LOCHARD,\* one of the industrious and successful young agriculturists of Salem township, Shelby county, O., who operates the Walnut Grove Farm belonging to his father, a valuable tract of 160 acres, was born in Salem township, February 1, 1886, and is a son of Isaac A. and Alma (Fox) Lochard.

The parents of Mr. Lochard are well known people of Shelby county and when they removed from the farm in Salem township they retired to Sidney, where they still reside. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Sidney. Their family consisted of three children: Wallace A., Iva and Charles.

Wallace A. Lochard was educated in the public schools and the Western University at Delaware, O., in which institution he remained one year and then returned to his father whom he assisted until he was twenty-two years of age. Afterward, for three years, he rented and operated a farm in Perry township and then took charge of the Walnut Grove Farm, all but twelve acres of which lies in Salem township. Farming and stock raising are the industries carried on and Mr. Lochard is meeting with the success his energy and progressive methods justify him in expecting.

On October 22, 1908, Mr. Lochard was married to Miss Grace Wooley, a daughter of William and Jennie Wooley, of Perry township. Mr. and Mrs. Lochard have one daughter, Beulah. They attend the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Lochard is a wide awake citizen and is interested in all that promises to make better conditions all over the country, but he feels that he has no time for office holding. Like his father he votes the democratic ticket.

LEWIS J. METZ, who is a well known and highly respected citizen of Jackson township, a member of the township board of education and a general farmer, resides on his 160 acres of well developed land that lie three and one-

fourth miles northwest of Jackson Center, O. He was born one mile north of this farm, in Jackson township, March 28, 1878, and is a son of Jacob and Catherine (Gross) Metz.

Jacob Metz was born in Germany and was brought to America by his parents when an infant. They located in Stark county, O., but later moved to Shelby county and settled in Jackson township. In early manhood Jacob Metz married Catherine Gross, then a resident of Jackson township, and they had twelve children born to them, nine of whom are living. Mr. Metz has been a very successful business man and has given each of his children a farm and retains one of 39 acres just north of the farm of his son, Lewis J. Metz.

Lewis J. Metz attended the public schools in Jackson township and afterward assisted his father on the home farm. He has been on his present place ever since he has carried on farming for himself. On December 13, 1905, he was married to Miss Cora Lee Ambos, who was born at Montra, in Jackson township, Shelby county, July 12, 1887, and is a daughter of Jacob and Charlotta (Allenbach) Ambos. Jacob Ambos was born in Germany and was brought to the United States when eight years old. In Auglaize county, O., he was married to Charlotta Allenbach. To them were born eight children, seven of whom are yet living. The family home was at Montra for many years as he was a skilled carpenter and builder and many of the substantial barns all over the county are of his construction. He was a veteran of the Civil war and was a valued member of the G. A. R. Both he and wife belonged to the Lutheran church and were people held in the highest respect. Mr. Ambos lived to the age of sixty-nine years.

Mr. Metz has a fine property, well drained and well improved and a general line of agriculture is successfully carried on, all of his land being under cultivation with the exception of forty acres still preserved in valuable timber. Two little daughters make up the family, Wilma Marie and Luetta Viola. Mr. and Mrs. Metz belong to the Lutheran church at Montra and have a wide circle of friends and acquaintances. In politics a democrat, Mr. Metz takes pleasure in the success of his party but has never accepted any public office for himself except in school matters and since February, 1911, he has been a member of the board of education of Jackson township.

ELMER D. KISER, who is serving Shelby county most efficiently in the office of county treasurer, is one of the representative citizens of Sidney. He was born on the home farm in Miami county, O., not far from Fletcher, May 8, 1868, and is a son of B. L. and Mary Ann Kiser.

For many years B. L. Kiser was a farmer in Miami county and his death occurred just prior to his son's removal to Sidney, his decease being induced to some degree from the ravages of disease contracted while he was loyally serving as a soldier during the Civil war. He enlisted in 1861 in Company E, Seventy-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served out his first enlistment, then reenlisted and continued until the close of the war, in the meanwhile taking part in all the important battles in the western army. His family consisted of three sons and one daughter: Elmer D.; F. D., who is a practicing



ELMER D. KISER





physician at Casstown, O.; I. C., for a number of years a physician at Fletcher, in November, 1912, was elected to the Ohio State Senate; and Minnie, who is a resident of Piqua.

Elmer D. Kiser had only common school advantages in his youth. For some years his father was in an invalided condition, and, as he was the eldest son, many responsibilities early fell on his shoulders. Later on the other two younger brothers were sent to college and both became physicians. Elmer D. Kiser, however, did not profit in this way. His inclinations were directed by a very practical mind and after coming to Sidney, in 1895, he sought a business opening and after working in one of the manufacturing plants for a short time, opened a butcher shop and continued a dealer in meats until his election to his present responsible office, in the fall of 1910, to which, in November, 1912, he was reelected by the largest vote received by any candidate in Shelby county. Mr. Kiser is a prominent factor in the democratic party in this section of the state. He has long been recognized as an upright citizen and public approval has been given of his management of the county finances. To the management of public matters he has applied the sound business principles that he has found secure the best results in his own affairs.

Mr. Kiser was married in 1888, to Miss Lulu D. Bird, a daughter of S. R. and Celina J. Bird. Mrs. Kiser was born and reared on a farm in Green township, Shelby county, but her parents moved to Sidney in 1894 and here her father died in the following year. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kiser: Dale, who died at the age of sixteen years; John B., who continues his father's meat market at Sidney; and Hilda L., who lives at home. Mr. Kiser is well known and valued in fraternal circles, having membership with the Masons, the Odd Fellows, lower branch and Encampment, the Knights of Pythias and the Red Men.

THOMAS H. WARD, who resides on his well cultivated farm of eighty-nine acres, which is situated in Perry township, Shelby county, O., was born on this place December 21, 1856, and is a son of Thompson and Lucinda (Cargill) Ward.

Thompson Ward was born in Ohio and during his active years was both blacksmith and farmer. He was an excellent citizen, interested in all that concerned the general welfare, voted with the republican party and liberally supported the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he was a member. He married Lucinda Cargill, who was born in Zanesville, O., and a large family was born to them, the most of the children still living and the majority being well settled in life. The eldest, Mary, married Charles Gearhart; Ellen is the wife of James Monroe; Martha married Samuel Kiser; Addie married Joseph Kerns; John; Lucy is the wife of Samuel S. Crumbaugh; Charles is deceased; Thomas H.; Alice is the wife of Elmer Maxwell; Belle is the wife of Jacob H. Baker; and David.

Thomas H. Ward has always lived on his present farm and has practically had charge of it since his school days, carrying on a general line of agriculture. He has made many improvements here in the way of tiling and fencing and

erected the present comfortable and attractive residence. He is a man of enterprise and owns stock in the Farmers Telephone Company.

Mr. Ward was married November 11, 1880, to Miss Ida Forsythe Smith. Her father, Pearson Forsythe, gave her when a babe of ten weeks, on the death of her mother, to her aunt, Mrs. Maria Smith, whose name became practically hers although she was never adopted. She had four brothers and one sister: William, Ethan, George, Edward, and Maria, the last named being the wife of John Ogden. Mr. and Mrs. Ward have four children: Edna, who is the wife of James Woolley; and Cora, Lola and Donald. Mr. Ward has served several times as road supervisor, elected on the republican ticket, and is much interested in that subject, realizing that good roads are a necessity to an agricultural community. With his family he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. He is identified with the local organization known as the Protective Association.

HENRY CARGILL,\* who is one of the old and substantial business men of Port Jefferson, O., where he has conducted a general store for the past fifty years, and, in association with his son, owns five farms in Shelby county, was born at Zanesville, O., April 25, 1833, and is a son of David and Mary A. (Wyant) Cargill. They were natives of the state of New York. Their family consisted of three children that grew to maturity: Andrew, Henry and Mrs. Ward.

Henry Cargill attended the schools of Zanesville, afterward worked on a farm and at the cooper trade until he embarked in his store enterprise. In 1849 the family moved from Zanesville to Piqua and in the same year he came to Port Jefferson. In 1850 his parents moved on a farm north of this place and he made his home there until permanently established in his present business. He married Louisa Elliott, who was born in Shelby county and died here, her burial being at Port Jefferson. Four children were born to them, three of whom are deceased, the one survivor being David Judson, who is a representative citizen of this place.

David Judson Cargill, who, for a number of years was a veterinary surgeon in active practice but now professionally retired, was born in Shelby county, O., September 1, 1867. After completing the common school course at Port Jefferson he attended the Normal School at Lebanon, O., for two terms and subsequently the Ohio Veterinary College, at Cincinnati, from which he was creditably graduated. Since then his home has been at Port Jefferson and he resides in the old homestead with his father, in association with whom he owns five valuable farms in Shelby county. He is identified fraternally with the Masons at Port Jefferson and belongs to the Commandery at Sidney, O., and also is a member of the Knights of the Golden Eagle at Maplewood, and the Odd Fellows at Port Jefferson. Both father and son are republicans and the latter served as town treasurer for a number of years and for several years past has been treasurer of the cemetery at Port Jefferson. Henry Cargill is one of the pillars of the Methodist Episcopal church at Port Jefferson and the enviable reputation among those who know him best and with whom

he has spent the greater part of his life is that of a man of unswerving honesty, upright in thought and deed.

THOMAS STOCKSTILL, a highly respected citizen and retired farmer, residing at No. 806 South Main avenue, Sidney, O., for many years carried on large farming operations in Orange township, two miles south of Sidney. He was born on a farm in Miami county, O., May 11, 1833, and is a son of Elias W. and Elizabeth (Schroyer) Stockstill.

Elias W. Stockstill moved with his family to Shelby county, and settled in Salem township in 1834, where he owned over 300 acres of woodland, which, with the help of his sons in after years, was cleared and a large part put under cultivation. He was the father of eleven children, eight sons and three daughters, seven sons of the family still living, Thomas being the second in order of birth, a daughter being the first-born.

Thomas Stockstill was reared in Salem township from the age of one year and remembers going to school in the old log school house near his father's farm. The first work he ever was seriously engaged in was clearing off land and following the various industries carried on on the home place. Farming continued his main business during his entire active life and he still owns 110 acres of his former farm of 160 acres. At one time he owned another farm of forty acres directly south of Sidney but he has disposed of it. In 1863 he moved into Orange township and at first rented land but later purchased the farm directly across the road, which he greatly improved, doing a large amount of clearing and ditching on the same. He made a specialty of raising fine hogs and in all his farm activities was counted a successful man. In 1911 Mr. Stockstill retired and moved to Sidney August 8, 1912.

Mr. Stockstill was married in 1853 to Miss Martha Ellen Mitchell, who was born in Miami county, O., a daughter of Wilson and Lottie Mitchell, who moved to Shelby county when Mrs. Stockstill was a girl. Eleven children were born to this marriage, namely: Addie, who died over thirty years ago, was the wife of Peter Rodecker and she left one child, Edith, who is the wife of Dr. C. O. Young, and they have one child, Mamie, the only great-grandchild in the family; Elizabeth Belle, who keeps house for her father, is the widow of J. H. Keplinger, who was born in Shelby county in 1852 and owned eighty acres of fine land in Green township, and died February 16, 1912, and they reared Mrs. Dr. Young; Elias, who is a retired farmer of Jackson Center, O.; Sarah Minerva, who is the wife of Louis Nauswander, who is one of the gardeners employed at the Toledo Asylum; Celia May, who died at the age of twenty years; William, who is a resident of the state of Washington; Peter O., who lives in Orange township; Webster, who is a minister in the Methodist church, is stationed at Bryan, O.; Etta, who is the wife of Charles Elliott, of Toledo, O.; Winters, who is a veterinary surgeon, lives in Clinton township; and Herman, who is a resident of Toledo—a large and creditable family. Mr. Stockstill has been almost a lifelong member of the Methodist Episcopal church. For many years he has been identified with the Masonic fraternity, in which he is a Knight Templar. He and family are known all over Shelby county.

WALLACE ROYAL HARBOUR, one of the excellent farmers of Perry township, Shelby county, O., where he owns 139 acres of well improved land, was born in this township, March 19, 1882, and is a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Persinger) Harbour. The father, who was a veteran of the Civil war, died in 1906. He was born in Champaign county but carried on farming in Shelby county for many years and was widely known. He married Elizabeth Persinger, who was born in the latter county and still survives, and they had four children: Charles William Beatty, Elmer E., Harry P. and Wallace Royal.

After his school days were over Wallace Royal Harbour assisted his father until the latter's death, when he inherited sixty-eight acres, and on this land started out for himself. Subsequently he sold that property and then purchased his present farm of 139 acres and here has ever since carried on general farming and moderate stock raising, frequently inaugurating improvements in farm methods and taking the intelligent interest in all that pertains to his business that is the real factor in success in any line.

In June, 1902, Mr. Harbour was married to Miss Edith De Weese, a daughter of Frank and Lottie (Barnes) De Weese. The father of Mrs. Harbour was born in Shelby county and the mother in Logan county. They were substantial people of this county and Mrs. Harbour and her two brothers, both younger, Hamilton and Grover, were all born on the home farm. Mr. and Mrs. Harbour have two very attractive and intelligent daughters, Velma and Lucile. The family belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church at Pemberton. Mr. Harbour belongs to the Quincy lodge of Knights of Pythias, and politically is a republican.

T. K. MINNIEAR, who is a representative of one of the old pioneer families of Shelby county, now lives somewhat retired, having four acres of land surrounding his comfortable residence at Plattsville, still continues to oversee, however, the operating of his two farms, both situated in Green township. He was born in Orange township, Shelby county, in 1851, and is a son of Thomas and Lydia (Johns) Minniear.

Thomas Minniear was born in Miami county, O., and came very early in his life to Orange township, Shelby county, securing several heavily timbered, well watered tracts and at the time of death, when aged eighty-four years, owned about 100 acres of cultivated land. He married Lydia Johns, who died when aged eighty-one years. They had the following children: William, Mrs. Nisha Glasford, Mrs. Maggie Seibert, Mrs. Mary Francis, two babes that died in infancy, and T. K., the only survivors being the last named and his sister, Mrs. Glasford, who lives near Sidney, O.

T. K. Minniear attended school in his boyhood in a school house on one of his father's farms and afterward erected additions to the same and lived on that place for fifty-one years, his children attending the same school. For thirty-six years after marriage he lived in the old school house. He owns two farms, one of eighty acres and the other of forty-two acres and general farming, stock raising and fruit growing have been the industries which have

mainly taken up his attention. While his heavier responsibilities have been shifted to younger shoulders, Mr. Minniear still continues to be interested and in caring for the small tract around his village home, finds pleasant recreation.

Mr. Minniear married Miss Katie Atkinson and ten children have been born to them, namely: Mrs. Macy Miller; Mrs. Grace Middleton; Lee, a resident of Dayton; Joseph, who lives in Plattsville; Mrs. Maggie White, of Green township; David, who lives at Sidney; Stanly, who is a resident of Plattsville; Charles, who lives in Green township; Hannah, who remains with her parents, and Harry, who died at eleven months of age. The family belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics Mr. Minniear has always been a republican and is known as an earnest and reliable citizen. He has served in local offices and has been township trustee.

H. P. AILES,\* one of the representative men of Shelby county, who has served in the office of justice of the peace in Jackson township since 1882, has been engaged in the mercantile business for a number of years. He was born on the old home farm in Franklin township, January 25, 1853, and is a son of Alfred and Melissa Jane (Young) Ailes, and a grandson of Moses H. Ailes, who was the pioneer of the Ailes family in this section.

Alfred Ailes was born at Parkersburg, W. Va., and from there accompanied his father, Moses H. Ailes, to Shelby county, the latter settling five miles southwest of Montra. For a number of years Alfred Ailes was a school teacher and afterward acquired a one-half interest in a saw mill, which he operated until 1868, when he retired to his farm, and then moved to Montra, where he lived during the remainder of his life. He was a man of importance in his section and on the democratic ticket was seven times elected assessor of Jackson township and was also a justice of the peace from 1870 until the time of his death in 1882. He was a lifelong democrat and his sons have followed in his footsteps. In his early years he united with the Seventh Day Baptist church. At the time of death he was aged fifty-seven years and his burial was in the Wesley Chapel cemetery. He married a daughter of Philip Young, a pioneer settler in Shelby county, and she survives and resides with her son.

H. P. Ailes attended school in Jackson township and later moved with his father to Montra and was associated with him in the saw mill business. From 1886 until 1907 he engaged in clerking in a general store, with the exception of two years, and then spent three years in other pursuits, after which he returned to the same store and continued his mercantile life.

Mr. Ailes married Miss Rebecca Jane Beech, who was born at St. John's, Auglaize county, a daughter of E. and Anna Beech, who still reside at St. John's after two years spent in Jackson township. Four children of Mr. and Mrs. Ailes survive and one is deceased. Mr. Ailes has served as a justice of the peace for thirty continuous years, succeeding his father in the office, and has also been road supervisor in Jackson township, but only for one year. He belongs to the order of Maccabees, attending the lodge at Anna, O

J. W. SHERER, whose three farms, all situated in Jackson township, aggregate 360 acres of land, is one of the well known and reliable men of Shelby county. He was born in Stark county, O., four miles east of Canton, October 18, 1863, and is a son of Jacob and Catherine (Barnhart) Sherer.

Jacob Sherer and wife were born in what is now Alsass, Germany, and were seven years old when they accompanied their parents to America and settled in Stark county, O. After reaching maturity they married there and lived for some time in Stark county and then moved to Shelby county, settling in the Montra special school district. Later they disposed of their land and moved to Logan county and they died in Bloomfield township at the age of fifty-eight years, separated by but one year. They were members of the Lutheran church and their burial was in the Port Jefferson cemetery. In politics the father was a democrat but he never held any public office in Shelby county. Of their seven children four are yet living: J. W.; Matilda, who is the wife of G. H. Clayton of Salem township; George, who married Carrie Bruner, and they live in Logan county; and Orlando, who lives in Logan county, married Flossie Coie.

J. W. Sherer attended school in Logan county and assisted his father on the Logan county farm and afterward engaged in farming for his father-in-law, Thomas Wright, in Jackson township, Shelby county. Afterward, when his father gave him his present home farm of 240 acres, he began to raise stock and makes a specialty of thoroughbred Percheron horses. Many improvements have been made on this farm and his other properties and he has nineteen buildings in use. He built the first farm elevator in Shelby county. For the past sixteen years he has occupied his present home farm and utilizes all of his land with the exception of twenty-five acres still in valuable timber. A part of his other land he rents to a tenant and another farm he rents by the field, all providing a satisfactory income on his investments. For about nine years Mr. Sherer was connected with the Maplewood Elevator Company, owning a one-half interest, and he is also interested in the Farmers Telephone Company.

On February 18, 1894, Mr. Sherer was married to Miss Ida M. Wright, who was born April 26, 1874, a daughter of Thomas and Della (Littlejohn) Wright. Thomas Wright was born in Franklin county, O., and was eleven years old when he accompanied his parents, John and Sarah (Schultz) Wright, to Delaware county. They were natives of Pennsylvania. In 1865 the Wrights moved to Logan county, where Mr. Wright lived on the home farm of 320 acres. His first marriage was to Della Littlejohn, who was born in Jackson township, Shelby county, and died at the age of twenty-six years, her burial being in the Pleasant Hill cemetery near Jackson Center. She was a devoted mother to her two children, Ida May and Alice, the former of whom is Mrs. Sherer and the latter is the wife of Elwood Dunson, of Van Wert, O. Mr. Wright's second marriage took place December 31, 1881, to Elizabeth Geyer, a daughter of Philip and Amelia (Herpst) Geyer, natives of Germany. Mrs. Wright died without issue, in 1889, and her burial was at Port Jefferson cemetery. On October 14, 1892, Mr. Wright married

Barbara Johnston, of Franklin county. Mr. and Mrs. Wright live in the eastern part of Jackson township. He owns two valuable farms, one of 160 and the other of 116 acres, both improved, and both rented to good tenants. Since the age of fourteen years Mr. Wright has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

To Mr. and Mrs. Sherer the following children have been born: Ralph, Wright, Roy Thomas, Leo Harry, Ray William, Opal Mildred and John Franklin, all of whom survive except two, Ralph and Wright. Mr. Sherer and family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically he has always been identified with the democratic party but outside of agricultural positions, has accepted no office of a public nature. He is a member of the Grange, is a thirty-second degree Mason, and from 1902 until 1912 was a member of the Shelby county fair board. He is one of the well balanced business men and reliable and useful citizens of the county.

ELMER SHROYER, whose excellent farm of 104 acres is situated in Salem township, Shelby county, O., has spent his life here and is numbered with the representative men of Salem township. He was born in this township, May 15, 1876, and is a son of Henry and Mary (Strohm) Shroyer.

Henry Shroyer was born in Miami county, O., a son of Joseph Shroyer, who was also born in Ohio, of German parentage. For many years Henry Shroyer was one of the heaviest tax payers in Shelby county, owning over 500 acres of land, and after dividing his large estate with his children, still owns a farm of 160 acres in Salem township and a pleasant and comfortable residence in Maplewood, where he and wife now live retired. To Henry and Mary Shroyer the following children were born: Clara, wife of William Rubert; Ellen, wife of John C. Wones; Hattie, wife of George W. Rose; and Elmer, Nelson and Harry.

Elmer Shroyer obtained his education in the public schools and afterward remained at home assisting his father until his marriage. For fourteen years afterward he rented his present farm from his father and then bought it and ever since coming here has carried on general farming and stock raising, meeting with excellent success. In 1895 he married Miss Clementine C. Faulder, who was born in Shelby county, O., and is a daughter of George and Caroline (Fergus) Faulder. Mr. and Mrs. Shroyer attend the German Reformed church. Mr. Shroyer is a democrat, all the male members of his family being identified also with this political organization.

S. H. ROGERS,\* D. V. S., who is established at Jackson Center, O., is an experienced and thoroughly trained practitioner in his line of medicine and surgery, and is, probably, one of the best known professional men of Shelby county. He was born December 20, 1876, in Logan county, O., two miles southeast of Bloom Center.

After completing his public school education at Lewistown, Doctor Rogers became connected with the firm of Harper Bros., implement dealers at Pemberton, and afterward was with the L. G. Shunberg Company, following

which he entered the Cincinnati Veterinary College, from which he was creditably graduated March 30, 1909, and secured his state license in the following July. Since January, 1911, he has been a member of the Ohio State Veterinary Medical Association, and in February of that year he came to Jackson Center. Perhaps in no profession has science made such rapid strides as in the one to which Doctor Rogers has dedicated his life work. He has an extensive practice which extends over a radius of ten miles from the city.

Doctor Rogers was married to Miss Elzana Clayton, a daughter of Henry and Lucy Clayton. They enjoy a very attractive home, its location being on the corner of North Main and Jackson streets, Jackson Center. Doctor Rogers is identified politically with the republican party but has never had any taste for political office, and the only fraternal body with which he is connected, outside professional societies, is the Modern Woodmen of America.

LOUIS F. WAGNER, who has been identified with the John Wagner Sons Brewing Company at Sidney, O., all his business life, and is its collector and one of its directors, belongs to a very prominent family of Shelby county. He was born at Sidney, on the site of the present office of the company, August 13, 1866, and is a son of John and Mary A. Wagner.

Mr. Wagner was educated in the parochial school at Sidney and at St. Mary's Institute at Dayton, O., and afterward went into the meat trade, learning the business from the bottom up. He then entered into partnership with John Young in the meat business, but within one year his brother desired him to close out his meat interests in order to assist in the greatly increasing brewery business and he has been so connected ever since and has proven himself an able and effective business man.

Mr. Wagner was married first to Miss Nellie Dorsey, of Shelby county, and they had two sons: J. C. and C. O. Both sons are veterinary surgeons, the former being located at Fostoria, O., and the latter being now connected with McKillip's Veterinary College, at Chicago. The mother of these sons died in 1900. Mr. Wagner's present wife was formerly Miss Sarah Boydston, of Wooster, O. He is identified with the Elks, the Eagles and the United Commercial Travelers.

GEORGE HEMM, capitalist, and for many years identified with the nursery business in Shelby county, O., belongs to one of the old and substantial families of the county and is the only surviving son of the late George Hemm, who was one of the most highly respected and worthy men of this section for many years. George Hemm, the younger, was born at Sidney, O., March 31, 1865, a son of George and Bernadina (Dickas) Hemm.

The mother of Mr. Hemm were born in Bavaria, Germany, and still survives. The father was a native of Baden but was reared in Bavaria and from there entered the German army and was attached to a cavalry regiment during his allotted term of service. He learned the butcher's trade but when he came to America, probably in 1852, he found himself more interested in







WILLIAM D. DAVIES

other lines open to him in America, and after a year spent at Buffalo, N. Y., he made his way to Toledo, O., where he engaged in the nursery business, and one year later came to Sidney. Here, in partnership with Mr. Moore and Mr. McCullough, he established the Sidney Nurseries, in 1885, in which he continued to be interested until his death, in 1893. He was a devoted Catholic and a worthy and well known man. He married Bernadina Dickas and three children were born to them: A babe that died in infancy; George; and Nettie E., who is the wife of Milton M. Wagner.

George Hemm was reared at Sidney and was educated in the parochial schools and afterward assisted his father in the nursery business, in which he is still interested. He and mother still own the old nursery farm of 135 acres, situated in Clinton township. They occupy the handsome residence on South Main avenue, which the older George Hemm erected in 1875, during a part of the year, but Mr. Hemm passes the winters in Florida and Houston county, Alabama, near Dothan, where he has property and banking interests. Mr. Hemm and his mother are members of the Catholic church. He is identified with the Elks and with several social organizations.

WILLIAM D. DAVIES, who, for twenty-seven years was a representative member of the bar at Sidney, O., was born at Iowa City, Iowa, January 20, 1848, came to Sidney in 1875, and died in March, 1902. He was a son of David and Mary Davies, and a grandson of Thomas Davies, both natives of Wales. David Davies and wife had three children: Thomas; Sarah, who married Thomas Davies; and William D.

William D. Davies passed his early youth on his father's prairie farm. Later he attended the Iowa State University, read law for three years and in 1870 was admitted to the bar in Iowa City. Afterward, until 1875, he traveled for different railroads, then came to Sidney and purchased the office and business of Judge Thompson and continued in the active practice of the law in this city until his death. He made an honorable record and at different times was professionally identified with much important litigation.

Mr. Davies married Miss Isabelle Mathers, who was born at Mifflintown, Pa., a daughter of James and Amelia (Evans) Mathers, and a granddaughter of Gen. Lewis Evans, who was prominent both in military and professional life in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Davies had one sister and two brothers, namely: Margaret, who is the wife of Dr. L. E. Atkinson, of Mifflintown; Lewis E., who died in 1873 was cashier of the Citizens Bank at Sidney; and Orlando Owen, now deceased, who was auditor of Shelby county for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Davies had one daughter, Amelia, whose young life closed in her twentieth year, having survived her father but two years. Mr. Davies was a consistent member of the Congregational church all his life. He was an open-hearted, broad minded man and had a wide circle of attached and admiring friends. He was a Knight Templar Mason.

A. W. DAVIS, postmaster at Jackson Center, O., to which office he was appointed in 1907 and has served with the greatest efficiency, was born at

Jackson Center, Shelby county, O., July 22, 1876, and is a son of I. L. and Mary L. Davis and a grandson of Luther and Jane Davis.

After completing the public school course at Jackson Center, A. W. Davis became a student at Alfred University, near Hornell, N. Y., but left college with the Third N. Y. Vol. Inf., to serve in the Spanish-American war and after his military service was over attended Bond Institute in New York City, graduating in 1904. He possesses a natural artistic taste and this led to his learning window trimming and he traveled over several states in professional work, but, owing to a fall received while so engaged, was obliged to give up that line of business. He then was in the employ of the Buckeye Clothing Company until he received his appointment as postmaster. He has always been a republican but has never accepted any other public position than the one he so acceptably fills. He has made many improvements both in the service and in his office equipments and Mrs. Davis is his very capable assistant.

Mr. Davis married Miss Florence Darnell, of Adrian, Mich., a daughter of William Darnell and a granddaughter of David Darnell, a pioneer of Jackson township. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have one daughter, Evelyn. He is identified with the Odd Fellows and the Masons, belonging to the blue lodge at Littleton, N. H., and the Royal Arch at Lisbon, N. H., this being the first state he became a citizen of after becoming of age. He also belongs to the Sons of Veterans at Atlantic City, N. J.

EDD McVAY,\* a leading citizen of Sidney, O., where he is engaged in the contracting business, has spent the larger part of his life in Shelby county and was born in Perry township, in the old log house in which his mother was also born, on his maternal grandfather's farm, March 14, 1864, and is a son of Lewis B. and Marian B. (Redinbough) McVay.

The McVay family is of Scotch-Irish extraction and from its earliest records has been a sturdy and long-lived one. At the time of death the ages of the paternal grandfather and his four brothers aggregated over 400 years. His name was James McVay and he came early to Shelby county and lived here into extreme old age, being within two years of the century mark at the time of decease. He probably was a native of Pickaway county, O., and his occupation was farming. The name of his wife was Hannah Lamasters and she was of Welsh extraction. They had the following children: Rachel, who was the wife of A. A. Dunson; Jesse R., who has been a resident of Cass county, Neb., since the Civil war; Louis B.; Martha, who is the widow of John Cargill, resides at Port Jefferson, O.; James, who died in Salem township, was a farmer; and Jane, who is the wife of Lewis Wills, a farmer in Salem township, Shelby county, near Maplewood.

Lewis B. McVay was born in Shelby county in 1839, on the old family homestead in Salem township. In his earlier years he was a butcher by trade but from 1868 until he retired he was engaged in building and has been a resident of Sidney for the past twenty-one years. He married Marian B. Redinbough, a daughter of David and Peggy (Lucas) Redinbough. Her father was of German parentage but was born in Pennsylvania. Three of

his children died early and of those who grew to maturity, Mrs. McVay is the only survivor. One brother, Solomon D., died at Piqua, O. One sister, Mary Ann, who was the wife of Thomas Eltington, died at Port Jefferson. To Louis B. McVay and wife seven children were born, the eldest of the family being Edd McVay, of Sidney. The next in order of birth, Frank Miller, is a molder by trade and a resident of Sidney. He married Catherine Dunn, who died in the fall of 1910. Anna Mary, the eldest daughter, is Mrs. Stiles, of Evansville, Ind. The four children next born all died in infancy: Kilty, James, Burney and Burley, the two last named being twins.

Edd McVay attended the country schools in Perry township and also had school advantages at Port Jefferson up to the age of fifteen years, at which time his father considered him old enough to learn a self-supporting trade and he became a butcher and followed that trade for many years. Since 1890, however, he has been engaged in a general contracting business. In politics he is a republican and is influential in local matters, a wide-awake and intelligent citizen, interested in all movements that tend to improve general conditions in this section. In January, 1910, he entered upon his duties as a member of the board of public service, at Sidney, and continued until January, 1912. Mr. McVay has some other business interests and represents Shelby county for the Indiana & Ohio Livestock Insurance Company.

On May 2, 1889, Mr. McVay was married to Miss Lillian L. Cargill, who was born in Shelby county, a daughter of Oliver and Rosanna Cargill, residents of Jackson Center, O. Mr. and Mrs. McVay have had four children, two of whom are now deceased: Jessie, who lived but one year, and Willis C., who died in infancy. The two survivors are: Bessie, who graduated from the Sidney high school bearing off the highest honors of the class of 1911, and is now a student at the Miami University; and Louis O., who is a student in the Sidney high school. Mr. McVay is quite prominent in fraternal circles and belongs to a number of the leading organizations. He is a member of Summit Lodge No. 50, Knights of Pythias, at Sidney; Sidney Lodge No. 60, Odd Fellows; Osceola Encampment No. 63, Sidney; Sidney Lodge of Elks No. 786; Helsherf Temple, D. O. K. K., No. 32, Sidney, and others.

JOHN F. AILES, who is one of the well known and representative men of Shelby county, owns and oversees his well improved farm of eighty acres situated in Jackson township, of which he has been a resident since he was three years of age. He was born in Franklin township, Shelby county, May 19, 1858, and is a son of Alfred and Melissa Jane (Young) Ailes, and a grandson of Moses H. Ailes. The father of Mr. Ailes is deceased and the mother resides with her son.

John F. Ailes was reared in Jackson township and received his education in the public schools and in the Southern Ohio University, Lebanon, O. For thirty-two years Mr. Ailes taught school, for thirty-one years in Jackson township and one year in Dinsmore township, devoting his energies entirely to his native county, but not confining himself exclusively to his educational

work. Mr. Ailes has very often been called into public life and to every position has devoted his best effort. For three years he served as deputy county auditor, for one year was deputy probate judge assisting Judge Hoskins, for eight years was clerk of Jackson township and for the same number of years has served as a member of the board of county school examiners, his last appointment being in September, 1912. In politics he is a democrat, of that school which prefers the doctrines of the fathers, based on the experience of the ages, to the untried theories of innovators. Mr. Ailes traces his family back to the founding of Philadelphia, through the following ancestry: Alfred Ailes, Moses H. Ailes, William Underwood Ailes, Stephen Ailes, and Stephen Ailes who came from Wales.

Mr. Ailes was married to Miss Lovina Drumm, who was born in Hardin county, O., a daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth Drumm, both of whom are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Ailes have four children: Melville, who is a physician and surgeon practicing at Garrettsville, O.; Arlington, who is a physician at Jackson Center; Sidney, who is a school teacher in Jackson township; and Helen, who lives at home. For twenty years Mr. Ailes has been identified with the order of Odd Fellows at Jackson Center and Sidney, for four years representing the thirty-seventh district of Ohio in the grand lodge.

JAMES W. CLANCEY, who is one of the well-known and highly respected retired residents of Shelby county, O., has long been one of the heavy tax payers of Franklin township, where he still resides and owns land in the county aggregating 344 acres. Mr. Clancey was born March 4, 1836, in Green county, O., and was brought to Shelby county when a babe of one year by his parents who were William and Rachel (Steele) Clancey.

William Clancey was born in Kentucky. He was a cooper by trade and a good workman but when the business was no longer profitable after factories began to make barrels and casks that formerly were entirely fashioned by hand, he turned his attention to farming and so spent the remainder of his life. He married Rachel Steele, who was born in Virginia and both died in Shelby county, James W. being their only child. They were members of the United Presbyterian church.

James W. Clancey attended the country schools and later the Union school at Sidney, and following his school days engaged in agricultural pursuits continuously until he retired from active labor, with the exception of two years during which period he was in the grocery business at Sidney. He inherited eighty acres of his land and with that as a nucleus added tract after tract until he became one of the largest land owners in Franklin township. The main industry of his farm has always been the raising of crops, largely grain, there always being, however, enough good stock every year to fully supply the home demand. Since he has retired, his son-in-law, S. W. Mead, operates the large farm and resides with Mr. Clancey.

In 1862, Mr. Clancey was married to Miss Malvina Shaw, who was born in Montgomery county, O. and died in 1905, her burial being in Graceland cemetery, Sidney. Her parents were Thomas and Nancy (McDonald) Shaw,

and they had children as follows: Malvina; Margaret, who died young; Elizabeth, who is the wife of George McVay; Eliza, who is the wife of David Hume; and John C. To Mr. and Mrs. Clancey three children were born, namely: Capitola, who is the wife of J. A. Parker and they have two children—Clancey and Metta Marie; Nannie, who is the wife of S. M. Wead; and William S., who married Glenna Wead. In politics Mr. Clancey is a Republican.

WILLIAM T. McLEAN of the Slusser-McLean Scraper Company, was born in Sidney, March 16, 1852, and is the son of Benjamin and Elizabeth S. Taylor-McLean. His father was born in Shippensburg, Pa., March 9, 1821, and settled in Dayton, O., when it was a small village. His mother was born in Sidney, O., October 4, 1826, and was the daughter of Jason and Sarah J. Skillen-Taylor. The first business experience of our subject was with Taylor Brothers, hardware merchants, with whom he remained four years. From 1874 to 1880 he was a traveling salesman for Crawford & Zellers, cracker manufacturers of Mansfield, O. In the early part of 1880, he returned to Sidney and formed a partnership with Benjamin Slusser in the manufacture of wheeled and drag scrapers. From 1882 to 1884 he was manager and one-third owner of the Forest City Cracker Company, Cleveland, O., alternating his time between the two cities.

Since May, 1891, he has been secretary of the state board of public works, and was recently appointed for the tenth time. He married Mary A. Slusser, daughter of Benjamin and Anne (Korns) Slusser, on May 21, 1874. Benjamin Slusser was born in Franklin township on June 6, 1828, and was the son of Jacob and Mary Woodsing-Slusser. Jacob Slusser was born in Pennsylvania, and was the fifteenth pioneer family in Shelby county. Anne Korns was born in Sidney, and was the daughter of Silas and Mary Austin-Korns. Anne Korns-Slusser died in 1868. Benjamin Slusser married for his second wife, Martha L. Armstrong. Mr. and Mrs. McLean have four children: Ben F. C.; Taylor T.; Bertha J. and Frederick A.

Mr. McLean is high in the councils of Masonry, having received all the degrees to the thirty-second inclusive. He has been honored by promotion to the highest office in all the Masonic bodies of Sidney, and is at present the grand captain general of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Ohio, and grand master of the Most Illustrious Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Ohio. Mr. Slusser was also a member of Temperance Lodge, No. 73. Benjamin Slusser was the original inventor and patentee and manufacturer of road scrapers made from sheet steel, the pattern now so universally used by all manufacturers. The first scraper was made in Cincinnati in 1876. The following year he moved to Sidney. These scrapers are household words with contractors, railroad graders, etc.

WILSON CAROTHERS, one of the proprietors of the Buckeye Churn Company is a native of Wyandot county, O., where he was born, July 20, 1855. His father, William Carothers, was born in 1814, and his mother,

Mary Jackson-Carothers, was born in 1818. His education was received in the schools of his native country, where he remained on the farm till the age of nineteen when he began clerking in a drug store at Carey, O. In November, 1874, and in September, 1876, he bought the store where he was clerking, and continued to conduct the drug business until 1891, when he sold out and moved to Sidney, O., and since that time has given his entire time to the business of the Buckeye Churn Company, of which he and James Anderson are the sole proprietors. This company was organized in 1887, at Carey, O., by Messrs. Anderson, Carothers and E. S. Denham, the latter selling out to the present proprietors. This company has been highly successful from the start, which is due to the present proprietors and their able management. On November 25, 1877, Mr. Carothers was married to Miss Emma J. Keller, who was born in Wyandot county, April 27, 1854. She received her education in the schools of that county. To this union have been born four boys, all of whom are living. Mr. Carothers is a supporter of the principles of the republican party, and fraternally he belongs to the Masonic lodge. As a citizen and business man he ranks among the best in Sidney.

GEORGE M. BAKER,\* who owns and operates the old Baker homestead of eighty-eight acres, situated in Washington township, Shelby county, O., was born on this farm in 1875 and is a son of Ephraim and Nancy (Cain) Baker.

Ephraim Baker was born also in Shelby county and spent forty-four years of his life on the above mentioned farm, doing the larger part of the clearing. In addition to farming and stock-raising, he also worked at the ice business for a time. His death occurred here in his seventy-fourth year. He married Nancy Cain, who came from West Virginia and they had the following children; Junie, Mrs. Flora Saunders, Albert, Leo, Franklin, George M., Mrs. Peter Higgins and M. L., the last named being a resident of North Dakota. The four survivors of the family include George M., M. L., Mrs. Saunders and Mrs. Higgins.

After his school days were over Mr. Baker was engaged in a grocery business for some ten years. In 1908 he decided to turn his attention to farming and with this end in view bought the interests of the other heirs in the homestead and since then has been successfully carrying on general farming and stock-raising, cultivating his own land and an adjoining eighty acres.

Mr. Baker married Miss Adelle Filler and they have two children: William and Alfred. Mr. Baker and family are members of the United Brethren church at Lockington, O. Politically he is a republican and fraternally is identified with the Odd Fellows at Kirkwood and belongs to the encampment at Sidney.

JOSEPH KAISER, one of the representative men of Cynthian township, Shelby county, O., resides two and a half miles south and one-half mile west of Fort Loramie, where he owns 136 acres of well improved, valuable land.



He was born in Auglaize county, O., northwest of Minster, December 26, 1858, and is a son of Theodore and Elizabeth (Stegemann) Kaiser.

Theodore and Elizabeth Kaiser, parents of Joseph Kaiser, were natives of Germany, he having been born in Hersbruck, Prussia, March 25, 1805, and Mrs. Kaiser at Handorf, Westphalen, March 19, 1822. Several years after his father died, Theodore Kaiser came to the United States with his mother and his brother, and the latter's family. They arrived in Glandorf, Putnam county, O., August 14, 1836, where they stayed more than a year, then moved to Minster, Auglaize county, O. Theodore Kaiser then helped to dig the Miami and Erie canal. Elizabeth Kaiser came to the United States with her parents, her grandmother, three sisters and one brother, in 1836. They passed through Cincinnati, O., on their way to Minster, Auglaize county, and Elizabeth, with her next oldest sister remained in Cincinnati to work, as their parents were not financially able to take their whole family to Minster. They remained there a few years, then also moved to Minster where they gave their parents help on their rented farm. Theodore Kaiser was married at Minster to Elizabeth Stegemann, in 1840, and they made their home on a farm two and one-half miles northwest from Minster, O., now in possession of their son, John Kaiser. At the time of their marriage, they had but a part of the farm as it now is, later adding to it until it consisted of 100 acres. They became parents of the following children: Henry; William; Bernard; Mary; Anna; Mary; John; Joseph; Frank; and Anton. Of these children: William and the two named Mary died in infancy and were buried in the St. Augustinus Catholic graveyard at Minster; and Henry, who died on his farm about one and one-half miles northwest of Chickasaw, Mercer county, O., January 29, 1892, aged forty-nine years, six months and twenty-seven days, and was buried in St. Sebastian's graveyard. Theodore Kaiser, father of the subject of this sketch, died on his farm, August 30, 1880, aged seventy-five years, four months and five days. His widow remained on the home farm a few years, then went to the home of her son, Frank Kaiser, about one and a half miles southeast from Sharpsburg, Darke county, O., where she died on July 12, 1908, aged eighty-six years, three months and twenty-three days. Theodore Kaiser and his wife were laid to rest in St. Augustinus Catholic graveyard at Minster. They were good, wholesouled, kind-hearted people, and were devout members of the Catholic church at Minster. The mother of Theodore Kaiser, both parents of Elizabeth Kaiser and her grandmother also died in Minster, and were buried in St. Augustinus Catholic graveyard at that place.

Joseph Kaiser attended school in boyhood at Minster, O., and afterward gave his father help on the farm. After the father's death, the mother, by will, gave the farm to her son Joseph, it being the farm he now owns in Cynthian township, his father having purchased the same before his death. It was partly improved at that time and its present owner has remodeled the farmhouse and repaired all the other farm buildings, making the place comfortable and attractive. All of his land is under cultivation except twenty-

eight acres yet in timber and, with all of it well watered by the canal and Loramie creek, he finds it well adapted to both crop and stock-raising.

Joseph Kaiser was united in marriage with Miss Mary Housfeld, February, 16, 1887, in St. Peter and St. Paul's Catholic church at Newport, Shelby county, O., by Rev. Father Nicolous Poirey. Mary Housfeld was born July 7, 1865, near Minster, Auglaize county, O., and is a daughter of Joseph and Caroline Housfeld. Her parents were both natives of Auglaize county, O., he having been born in 1837 and his wife on January 28, 1846. He died on the farm on which he was born, the date of his death being March 11, 1881, when aged forty-four years, and he was buried in St. Augustinus Catholic graveyard. He was always a devout member of the Catholic church at Minster. Mr. and Mrs. Housfeld had the following children: John, Mary, Caroline, Joseph, Henry, Elizabeth, Bernard, Clemens and Rosa. Of these children, all survive except: Clemens, who died in infancy; John, who died in Cincinnati on September 4, 1900, aged thirty-six years, seven months and ten days; and Henry, who died at St. Mary's, O., on November 25, 1912, aged forty-one years, eleven months and twenty-five days. The last named and Clemens were buried in St. Augustinus Catholic graveyard, and John was buried in a Catholic cemetery at Cincinnati, O.

Joseph and Mary Kaiser became parents of the following children: Cecelia, Elizabeth, Louis, Mary, Julia, Paulina, August, Amelia, Rosa and Emma. All were born on the home farm and all are living but August, who died June 11, 1901, aged two years, five months and twenty-three days; and Amelia, who died December 30, 1900, aged fourteen days. They were both buried in St. Michael's Catholic graveyard at Fort Loramie. Mr. Kaiser and family belong to St. Michael's Catholic church at Ft. Loramie. Mr. Kaiser is a democrat.

P. F. VERDIER,\* who resides on a part of the old homestead farm, having eighty acres of the same, situated nine miles southeast of Sidney, O., in Green township, was born on this place in 1877, and is a son of P. F. and Sarah E. (Hand) Verdier.

P. F. Verdier came to Shelby county from Clark county, O., when a young man and entered this farm from the government, subsequently clearing a part of it. He engaged in farming and also taught school and music and became one of the best known men in this section. He lived to the age of eighty-one years his widow, who was formerly Sarah E. Hand, still surviving and making her home with her children, by whom she is much beloved. They were seven in number, namely: Mrs. Carrie Frazier, Mrs. Julia Worthington, Mrs. Martha H. Shaw, Mrs. Stella Watkins, P. F., Mrs. Laura M. White, and Cyrus O., who is deceased.

P. F. Verdier assisted his father on the home farm after his school days were over and has followed agricultural activities here ever since. The present substantial buildings replaced the ones erected in earlier days by his father, and in addition to making many other improvements, Mr. Verdier cleared twenty acres of the land and has made a fertile tract of it.

Mr. Verdier married Miss Pearl Houser and they have two children: E. F. and J. Lucile. Mr. Verdier is a democrat in his political opinions.

H. B. DIRKSEN, one of the well-known citizens of Shelby county, O., who carries on general farming on his valuable property containing 120 acres, situated in section 4, McLean township, one mile south and two and one-half miles west of Minster, O., was born in McLean township, December 31, 1851, and is a son of Herman and Elizabeth Dirksen.

Herman Dirksen and wife were both born and reared in Germany. He came to Minster, O., when a young man, where he married and lived for a time and then bought forty acres of land in Auglaize county. At a later date he sold his first farm and bought the farm of 120 acres on which his son now lives and here he died at the age of sixty-five years and his burial was in the Catholic cemetery at Minster, O. His wife had died in Auglaize county.

H. B. Dirksen was educated in the school district that was named in honor of his uncle, the late Bernard Dirksen, once a prominent man at Minster, O. His mother died when he was only twelve years old and he still remembers her with filial affection. He learned how to be a successful farmer from his father and in 1870 relieved his father of the responsibility of the farm and operated it for him until his death. He has continued here, making many improvements including the erection of the present substantial farm structures, and the draining and tiling that have served to sweeten his land and make it productive in the highest degree. He carries on all kinds of farm work and gives considerable attention to raising grain and cattle and hogs.

Mr. Dirksen married Miss Mary Horstman, who was born at Minster, O., September 8, 1857, a daughter of John Albert and Mary Horstman, both now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Dirksen have four children: John, Arnold, Celia and Katie. The family belongs to the Catholic church. In politics he has always been a democrat. He is an excellent citizen and has always taken a great interest in the public schools and served for eleven years as school director of the Dirksen special school district.

C. O. REDINBO,\* whose excellent farm of sixty-four acres is situated six and one-half miles southeast of Sidney, Shelby county, O., is a well-known citizen of Orange township, in which he has spent almost all his life. He was born in 1866, in Bond county, Ill., and is a son of Aaron and Elizabeth (Voorhees) Redinbo.

Aaron Redinbo was born in Shelby county, O., where he attended school, grew to manhood and married and afterward moved to Bond county, Ill. From there he returned to Shelby county and located in Orange township, where his death occurred at the age of seventy-seven years. He married Elizabeth Voorhees, who was also born in Shelby county. Her death occurred on the present home farm, in 1887, when in her forty-sixth year. They had four children: Anna B., who resides with her brother; C. O.; Samuel R., who died young and a babe that died unnamed.

C. O. Redinbo first attended school in his native state and completed his

education in Shelby county. Afterward he assumed the agricultural responsibilities of the home farm and has continued here ever since. An intelligent farmer like Mr. Redinbo finds that Shelby county land can be made very productive and some very fine stock has also been raised on his place and for twelve years he has also grown tobacco.

Mr. Redinbo married Miss Nora Riley, who was born in Madison county, Ind., and they have three children: Iona E., who is the wife of A. G. Wheaton; Frank C., who assists his father; and Victorine, who is equally useful to her mother. Mr. Redinbo has been identified with the republican party during his entire political life, but takes no very active part in campaigns; although any local agitation concerning the proper administration of law in order to make this a peaceable neighborhood, finds him wide awake and ready for responsibility.

WILLIAM MARION SNOW, a well-known citizen of Shelby county, who has given much attention to dealing in stock for many years, resides on his valuable farm of ninety acres, situated in section 22, Cynthian township, ten miles distant from Sidney. He was born in Miami county, O., October 4, 1850, and was six years old when his parents, George and Nancy (Chrowel) Snow, brought him to Shelby county.

The parents of Mr. Snow were well-known people, living into old age in Shelby county, where the mother died in her seventy-fifth year and the father when aged eighty years. The father was born in Germany and came to America when aged seven years, and the mother was born in Virginia. They were members of the Dunkard or German Baptist church. Of their nine children, W. M. is the only survivor.

W. M. Snow obtained his educational training in the Hopewell special school district and then began work as a farmer on the farm he now owns. When thirty-two years old he began to buy stock, in association with John Borger, and they continued together for nine years, Mr. Snow operating alone since then. His buying territory extends through Shelby, Darke, Auglaize and Miami counties and the volume of his business annually is very heavy.

Mr. Snow married Miss Henrietta Miller, who was born in Lancaster county, Pa., a daughter of C. K. Miller, later of Cynthian township. Mr. and Mrs. Snow have no living children. They attend the Christian church. In politics Mr. Snow has always been a democrat and in the fall election of 1912 was elected to the office of county commissioner of Shelby county and will assume the duties of the same in September, 1913. Prior to this he has frequently been elected to public office, being a man of wide acquaintance and unquestioned popularity, and acceptably served two terms as a trustee of Cynthian township, in 1910 was land appraiser, and for two terms was treasurer of the Hopewell district school board.

ANTON RIETHMANN, who is one of the highly respected and well informed citizens of McLean township, Shelby county, Ohio, and for four successive years president of the Deiter Special School District, resides in



WILLIAM MARION SNOW



section 19, on one of his two farms, which together aggregate eighty-two acres. He was born in Germany, November 28, 1848, and lived in his own land through his school period, after which he determined to seek his fortune in America.

It was in 1866 that Mr. Riethmann reached the United States and made his way to Auglaize county, Ohio, and for some years he made his home at or near Minster. In 1872 he settled on the farm which he has occupied ever since, his first work being the clearing of thirty-eight acres and this was followed by ditching, draining and tiling, all of his property being under cultivation with the exception of about ten acres which is covered with valuable timber. He carries on a general farming line and is one of the township's solid and substantial men. Through his own efforts he has acquired property and through his sterling character has gained the respect and confidence of his neighbors. In these days every progressive community is very anxious to give school privileges to its children and is pretty careful in selecting those who have the management of this matter, and that Mr. Reithmann for so long a period kept his place at the head of the educational board, speaks well for the value placed on his services by his fellow citizens.

Mr. Reithmann was married to Miss Mary Sohmann, who was born in Auglaize county, a daughter of H. H. Sohmann, of McLean township, Shelby county. They have had the following children born to them: Anna, Mary, Henry, Frank, Elizabeth, Josephine, Joseph, Frances, Regina and an infant daughter, now deceased. Mr. Reithmann and family are members of St. Augustus Roman Catholic church at Minster. In politics he is a Democrat.

J. C. ELDREDGE, V. S.,\* who, for thirty-five years has been engaged in the practice of his profession and is one of the best known citizens of Shelby county, Ohio, resides on his well improved farm of ten acres, which is situated six and one-half miles southeast of Sidney, Ohio. He was born in Orange township, Shelby county, on his father's farm, two and three-fourths miles west of the one he owns, and is a son of John and Margaret (Line) Eldredge.

John Eldredge was born in Virginia and was nine years old when his parents came to Shelby county among the pioneers. John Eldredge was a farmer and also a veterinary surgeon while living on his farm in Shelby county, after which he spent three years at DeGraff, Ohio, and the last ten years of his life at Piqua, Ohio. He married Margaret Line, who died in middle age, the mother of seven children, namely: Henry, who died in infancy; Jonathan and Elijah, both of whom are deceased; Mrs. Isenberger, who lives at Dayton, Ohio; J. C.; Shelby E., who lives in Orange township, Shelby county; and Zelola, who is deceased.

Until he was seventeen years old, J. C. Eldredge attended the district schools during the winter seasons, assisting on the farm in the summers. His father's professional duties became so heavy at this time that the youth frequently was called on to help and in this way began to learn the science to which a large part of his subsequent life was devoted. When he was con-

sidered competent, the father of Dr. Eldredge placed much confidence in him, giving him a part of his territory and for many years they worked together. Dr. Eldredge learned practical surgery from his father and has been a student of works written on all subjects pertaining to veterinary science and keeps thoroughly informed concerning his profession. He is considered one of the most skillful veterinary surgeons in all this section and his practice covers a wide territory. He has made all the improvements on his property and has a very comfortable home.

Dr. Eldredge was married to Miss Laura A. Linn, daughter of Adam Linn, a representative of one of the old county families, and six children have been born to them, as follows: Mrs. Flora Robbins, Clyde T., Walter Jeson, Mrs. Jennie Denise, Mrs. Hattie Harbaugh, and Forest. Since 1862 Dr. Eldredge has been a member of the Baptist church. Although not identified with any political party he is an interested and active citizen and when he casts his vote it is for a candidate thoroughly approved by his own judgment.

HENRY BAMBAUER, deceased, whose well improved farm of 120 acres is situated in Van Buren township, Shelby county, Ohio, four and one-half miles northwest of Botkins, was a well known and respected citizen. His son, Henry A. Bambauer, was born on this farm in 1874 and has spent his life here. The latter is a son of Henry and Barbara (Paul) Bambauer.

Henry Bambauer was born in Germany and after coming to the United States located in Ohio and subsequently was married at New Bremen. A family of eleven children was born to this marriage, three of whom, John, Peter and Mary, are deceased. The record of the others is as follows: Henry A.; Edwin F., who lives three and one-half miles west of Botkins, married Matilda Kuck; Harvey H. married Bertha Langebrake, who died May 12, 1912; Callie, who is the wife of Henry Valentine and they live in Auglaize county; Rosina, who is the wife of Edward Geib, of Van Buren township; Ida, who is the wife of Julius Stine, of Sidney; Minnie, who is the wife of Frank Mauer, of Sidney; and Bertha, who is the wife of Lafayette Melter, of Lima, Ohio. The father of the above family died in 1906. The mother, who was born in 1845, still survives.

Henry A. Bambauer attended the public schools and from boyhood has been interested in agricultural pursuits. He carries on general farming and stock raising and has given considerable attention to the improving of this place. He married Miss Ida Tangeman, a daughter of Herman and Elizabeth Tangeman, natives of Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Bambauer have had two children, Viola and Homer, the latter of whom died in infancy. Mrs. Bambauer had two brothers and one sister: Theodore, who married Maude Stone of New Bremen, and they reside at Wapakoneta, where he is prosecuting attorney; George, who lives at Junction City, Kansas, married Mae Dike; and Lida, who died when aged twenty-two years. Mr. Bambauer and family belong to the active membership of the Lutheran church and he formerly held the office of deacon in the same.



HARRY COTTERMAN,\* one of the respected citizens and prosperous agriculturists of Dinsmore township, Shelby county, Ohio, whose well improved farm of eighty acres lies two miles northwest of Anna, Ohio, was born in Paulding county, Ohio, in 1888, and is a son of Henry and Almaretta (Beck) Cotterman. Harry Cotterman is one of a family of seven children, the other members being: Judson, who lives in Miami county, Ohio; Rudolph, who lives in Dinsmore township, Shelby county; Effie, who lives at Bradford, Shelby county; Arthur, who is in business in Michigan; Jessie, who resides with her brother Harry; and Carl, who has always lived in Dinsmore township.

Harry Cotterman secured a common school education. With the exception of two years, during which he was employed at Anna, Ohio, Mr. Cotterman has devoted all his mature life to agricultural pursuits and these he carries on according to modern methods and has been signally successful. On December 23, 1911, Mr. Cotterman was married.

MARTIN LACEY, who has been a resident of Sidney, Ohio, since 1866, now lives retired in his very comfortable residence at No. 431 South Ohio avenue, was born November 11, 1830, at Knockscamolin, County Wexford, Ireland, and is a son of James and Mary Lacey.

Martin Lacey was seven years old when brought to the United States and he attended the public schools at Cincinnati, Ohio. He afterward learned the machinist trade, his instructor being Morris Greenwood, an early manufacturer there of fire engines. Mr. Lacey continued to work at his trade in Cincinnati for fifteen years, when he came to Sidney, where he went to work in a sawmill and became a manufacturer of chairs, later established a small factory and conducted this business for about seven years. Mr. Lacey then began to do some building and erected about twelve houses at Sidney, they being on his own property and he still owns and rents them, they occupying the old site of his sawmill. He also was in the grocery trade for about twenty years, retiring from the same in 1900. Mr. Lacey is a well known and highly respected citizen and during his long business career was noted for his sterling honesty.

At Sidney, April 17, 1869, Mr. Lacey was married to Miss Annie Harrison, who was born in this city, a daughter of John Harrison, who left Ohio in her infancy and in 1849 started for California and died on the plains while on the way. Mrs. Lacey was adopted by a childless resident of Sidney and this city has always been her home. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Lacey: Mayme; Bertha, who is the wife of John McNeff, of Lima, and they have one child, Mary Margaret; Dorothy, who died in 1898, when aged twenty-two years; and Jessie, who died in 1890, when aged eleven years. Mr. Lacey has never been very active in politics, although always a good and mindful citizen in a quiet way, and has usually cast his vote with the Republican party.

LOUIS KAH, JR., who is second vice-president of the Shelby County Building and Loan Association, at Sidney, Ohio, and a director of the same

and practically its first promoter, belongs to one of the stable old families of the county, of German extraction. He was born on a farm in Dinsmore township, Shelby county, ten miles north of Sidney, Ohio, September 21, 1855, and is a son of George and Dorothy (Zimpfer) Kah.

George Kah and wife were born in Germany and the latter was only three years old when her parents came to the United States and located sixteen miles east of Columbus, Ohio. When she was eight years old they came to Shelby county and settled on land east of Anna, where her father, Jacob Zimpfer, secured land. Mrs. Kah still survives, but Mr. Kah died at Sidney, to which place they moved in 1864, and there he carried on a shoe business until the close of his life.

Louis Kah, Jr., attended the public schools of Sidney and afterward assisted his uncle, Louis Kah, Sr., for whom he was named, in conducting a general store at Anna. After returning to Sidney and finding no business opening that was satisfactory, he accepted a position as bookkeeper in a town in Georgia, where he remained for two years when he again returned to his home in Sidney. Here, in 1880, he embarked in the tin and hardware line in which he continued for nine years, in the meanwhile becoming interested in the electric lighting business. His enterprise and public spirit induced him to purchase a site across the river where he installed an electric light and water plant, in 1900, which was of the greatest utility and was known under his name. Mr. Kah subsequently sold the same to the Sidney Electric Light Company, since which time he has been somewhat retired. It was largely through his efforts that the business men of Sidney became interested in the papers to secure subscribers. The company was organized in December, organization of the building and loan company which has developed into so important a business factor here, Mr. Kah personally presenting the first 1895, and began business in the Metcalf building, removing in 1901 to a fine modern structure of their own.

In 1876 Mr. Kah was married to Miss Alfaretta E. Anderson, who is a daughter of William H. Anderson, of Sidney, and they have six children, namely: Harland Edward, who is connected in a business way with the Sidney Building and Loan Association; Ralph C., who is assistant secretary of the above organization; Julia; Carrie, who is the wife of R. M. Moore, lives in Tennessee; William H., who is a watchmaker by trade; and D. C., whose business interests are connected with wall paper at Sidney. Mr. Kah is a leading member of the Sidney Commercial Club.

C. E. WATKINS,\* a general farmer and representative citizen of Green township, Shelby county, Ohio, managing and operating the old Verdier homestead of eighty acres, was born in Miami county, Ohio, near Piqua, and is a son of Asbury and Rebecca (Moon) Watkins.

Asbury Watkins was well known in several counties for he not only was a recognized preacher in the Christian church but was also a farmer and for many years practiced veterinary surgery. His death occurred on his homestead, May 10, 1882, at the age of sixty-three years. His marriage was

with Rebecca (Moon) Chapman, widow of Nathan Chapman. His widow and three children survive, C. E. being the second in order of birth. An older brother, E. A., lives at Albany, Missouri, and a younger, E. H., resides in Ohio, a farmer in Champaign county.

C. E. Watkins obtained his educational training in Miami county, after which he followed farming on the homestead until after his marriage. Since then, with the exception of four years spent in Tennessee, he has resided in Green township, taking charge of his mother-in-law's farm in 1910. General farming is carried on here including crop and stock raising.

Mr. Watkins married Miss Mary Estella Verdier and they have four children: Veva, Dale, Clyde and Ethel. The family belongs to the Christian church. In his political affiliations Mr. Watkins is a Republican.

HERBERT R. McVAY, the efficient superintendent of the Sidney schools, was born in Athens county, Ohio, the day that Abraham Lincoln was assassinated, April 14, 1865.

His parents were Wallace Webster McVay and Anna McCune McVay. His grandparents and great-grandparents on both sides came from Pennsylvania and settled in Athens county in the early part of the 19th century. Both branches of the family were of Scotch Irish descent of the Calvinistic faith and were ever among the social and religious leaders of their respective communities.

When fifteen years of age the subject of this sketch moved with his parents and four sisters from the farm which had been his birthplace and that of his father to Athens, the county seat as well as the seat of Ohio University. Here he and his sisters attended the public schools and in time all graduated from the university, Mr. McVay with two degrees, that of Bachelor of Philosophy and of Pedagogy. He afterward did post graduate work in the University of Chicago, and has just finished a course in pedagogy in Columbia University for he is in truth a progressive and is ambitious to keep abreast of the times.

Before taking up the supervision of schools he worked in the office of the county newspaper, read law, taught in the county schools and was a teacher in the Athens County Children's Home. His work as superintendent comprised one year at Frazeyburg, six years at Somerset and Reading townships, four years at Washington, C. H., whence he came to Sidney in 1902.

Mr. McVay has not stagnated in the vacation times for he taught in the summer schools at Miami University in 1907 and 1908; has been a lecturer in Teachers' Institutes, an active member of the National Educational Association whose meetings he always attends, President of the Ohio Teachers' Association and of the Ohio Superintendents' Round Table. He is Past Chancellor Commander of the Knights of Pythias, member of the lodge of Elks and belongs to the Beta Theta Pi College fraternity, a prominent member of the Sidney Commercial Club and a Presbyterian in faith.

Professor McVay is a teacher by native inclination and has brought to his work an unusual amount of power. He is unceasing in his efforts to train and stimulate his teachers and his hobby is the teaching of pedagogy and the study of child nature. He has succeeded in making the Sidney schools a social center by interesting the parents in the work of the children and has been rewarded with the longest term of service of any survivor of the Sidney schools. He has seen the enrollment of the Sidney high school increase more than one hundred per cent since his coming and has largely contributed to its taking first rank among the schools of the state which means that the school holds membership in the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, and that such schools accept its graduates without examination. This rank is given by the State Commissioner of Schools for a generally accepted standard of excellence.

Mr. McVay was married at Somerset, Ohio, August 20, 1898, to Miss Dora J. Scott, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Scott, and lives in a tasteful home on Walnut avenue. He has three children, Martin Scott, born June 2, 1900; Mary Elizabeth, May 3, 1905; and Dorothy Ann, July 18, 1907.

Mrs. McVay's grandparents came from Maryland and Pennsylvania and were among the founders of the village of Somerset and Perry county and donated four hundred acres of land on which was established the Dominican convent of St. Josephs. Her grandfather, Dettoe, erected in Somerset a building in 1817 in which he established a dry-goods store. His son-in-law, Martin Scott, took up the business in 1843 and continued it in the same room until his death in 1895. When Mr. Howe, author of Howe's Historical Collections of Ohio, made his second trips over the state revising his work in 1888, he stated that Mr. Scott's was the most remarkable business career in the entire commonwealth. No other resident of the state could be found who had for so long a time, fifty-two years, changed neither his business nor location. It was in this store that little Phil Sheridan clerked when a boy and it was through Mr. Scott's efforts in his behalf that he was recommended by the Congressman of that district, General Ritchie, to an appointment at West Point.

The magnificent high school building, now in course of erection, is largely due to the efforts of Mr. McVay who worked first to secure the splendid site and then to get through the \$100,000 bond issue to build the school.

LOUIS H. SCHNELLE,\* one of the representative citizens of Turtle Creek township, Shelby county, Ohio, who owns eighty acres of well cultivated land situated in this township, was born October 15, 1866, in Van Buren township, Shelby county, and is a son of Christopher and Elizabeth (Ruese) Schnelle.

Christopher Schnelle was born in Germany and came to America as a young man. The larger part of his subsequent life was spent in Ohio, where he married and reared his family and for many years carried on farming in Van Buren township, Shelby county, where he died. His widow still resides on the old homestead. They were early and liberal supporters of the

Lutheran church. Their family consisted of the following children: Henry, who is deceased; William; Minnie, who is the wife of Henry Soloman; Anna, who is deceased, was the wife of Henry Brandt; Louis H.; Elvina, who is deceased, was the wife of William Soloman; and August.

Louis H. Schnelle attended the district schools in his boyhood and afterward remained at home working on the farm for his father until he was twenty-nine years of age and then bought the farm he now occupies. Here he made many changes, his improvements including the building of substantial barns and the erection of the handsome brick residence, which has many modern comforts and conveniences. He carries on a general farming line and raises stock for his own use. All his industries are in a prosperous condition and Mr. Schnelle is numbered with the thrifty and judicious farmers of this section.

In December, 1895, Mr. Schnelle was married to Miss Elizabeth Soloman, who was born in Shelby county and is a daughter of Herman and Caroline (Whipling) Soloman, whose other children were: Henry, William, Louis and Theodore; Mary, widow of August Egbert; Anna, wife of Henry Oberwith; Louisa, wife of August Schwabero; and Emma, wife of Henry Schoe. Mr. and Mrs. Schnelle have three children: Caroline, Eliza and Marie. The family belongs to the Lutheran church. In politics Mr. Schnelle is a sound democrat and has served one term as road superintendent and has always taken an interest in the public schools.

LEWIS HOHN, who is one of the well known and highly respected citizens of Clinton township, now living retired and in the enjoyment of the ease won by many years of persistent industry, has been a resident of Shelby county since 1852 but his birth took place August 13, 1827, in Montgomery county, Ohio. His parents were Daniel and Mary (Gebhart) Hohn.

Daniel Hohn was born in Maryland and was six years old when his parents brought him to Ohio, and he was reared on one of the pioneer farms of that early period and farming was his occupation through life. When he reached manhood the whig party was a force in politics and he became a member of it, but in his later years was a democrat in his views. He married Mary Gebhart, who was born in Pennsylvania, no doubt of German parentage, and was but one year old when the family came to Ohio, where her subsequent life was spent. They had three children: Lewis, Elias and Lorette, the last named being the wife of John J. Stetler. The family belonged to the Lutheran church.

Lewis Hohn had but meager educational advantages, partly because his father needed his help at home and also because in his boyhood not much provision had yet been made for the schooling of the children, a few months in the winter seasons being all they could expect in the way of instruction. He then settled down as a farmer, spending his summers in cultivating the land and his winters in the forests chopping cord-wood. When he came first to Shelby county he settled in Turtle Creek township and lived there for twenty-five years, where he owned sixty acres of land. In 1877 he bought

the farm on which he still lives, in Clinton township, and retained his other farm until 1903, when he sold it and in later years rented out his present one, his tenant carrying on a general farming line here and raising enough stock for home use only.

Mr. Hohn was married first in 1849, to Miss Mary Straus, who died October 6, 1892, the mother of the following children: Mary, who is the widow of John A. Russell; William; Franklin L.; and Malinda, who is the wife of Michael Albert King. Mr. Hohn was married (second) on May 12, 1898, to Miss Louisa Tridle, who was born in Miami county, Ohio, but was reared in Shelby county, a daughter of John and Harriet (Yinger) Tridle. Mr. and Mrs. Tridle had the following children: Corwin, Margaret, Louisa, Elmer, Aaron, Elnathan, Yinger and George. Mr. and Mrs. Hohn are members of the Presbyterian church. He has always voted the democratic ticket and continues his interest in public affairs. During his long life he has witnessed many changes and can recall many very interesting events of past days concerning the old families and the settlement of the county.

G. A. POPE,\* postmaster at Lockington, O., and proprietor of the leading general store here, has been identified with the interests of this place ever since he has been in business. He was born in 1871 in Cynthian township, one mile north of Dawson, Shelby county, O., and is a son of George W. and Mary (Hughes) Pope, both now deceased.

George W. Pope was born in New Jersey and was a young man when he came to Ohio, and for many years was a farmer in Cynthian township, Shelby county. His death occurred at Dawson, O., in 1906, when he was aged seventy-two years. He was married first to Mary Hughes, who was the mother of six children: William, Charles, E. C., Cora A., G. A. and Lulu. The second marriage was to Mrs. Mary Brown.

G. A. Pope attended the public schools in Shelby county and in 1891 was a student at Ada, O. In 1898 he embarked in business at Lockington and gradually has increased the scope of his mercantile interests until they include a full line of merchandise, and the volume of business done amounts to \$15,000 annually. Since 1906 Mr. Pope has been postmaster and is a satisfactory public official. He has frequently been elected to local offices on the republican ticket and at present is the only republican serving on the school board.

Mr. Pope married Miss Daisy M. Wegley and they have three children: Cloyd, Ethel and Leona. The family belongs to the United Brethren church. He is identified with several fraternal organizations both at Lockington and Piqua, O.

HENRY KUETHER, proprietor of the Sidney Dairy, at Sidney, O., one of the large and successful business enterprises of Shelby county, owns 120 acres of fine land in Clinton township and eighty acres in Turtle Creek township and keeps about fifty head of Shorthorn and Polled Durham cattle.



HENRY KUETHER AND FAMILY



JOHN OLDHAM AND SON RALPH



He was born in Auglaize county, O., January 6, 1861, and is a son of Henry and Angeline (Shumacher) Kuether.

The parents of Mr. Kuether were born in Germany and came to America when young and were married in Ohio. They were farming people in Auglaize county and were devout members of the Catholic church. Of their children, Henry was the first born, the others being: Caroline, who is the wife of William Kovermann; Catherine, who is the wife of Charles Broermann; Rosa, who is the wife of John Suter; John; Anthony; and Josephine, who is the wife of Henry Voskuhl.

When he was thirteen years of age, Henry Kuether left school and began work for his father on the home farm and remained there until he was thirty years old and then came to Shelby county. His first purchase of land was a tract of eighty acres, to which he added another eighty, afterward forty acres. In addition to carrying on general farming and raising stock for his own use, Mr. Kuether operates his large dairy, as before mentioned, making a daily shipment of fifty gallons of milk to Sidney, where he disposes of it wholesale. He is one of the enterprising business men of this section, paying careful attention to his own affairs and prospering accordingly.

In February, 1891, Mr. Kuether was married to Miss Mary Winover, who was born in Mercer county, O., a daughter of Henry and Anna (Hubert) Winover, who were farming people in Mercer and Henry counties. They had seven children: Mary, Martin, Geard, John, Anna, Elizabeth and Rosa. To Mr. and Mrs. Kuether three children have been born: Henry, Rosa and Anna. The family belongs to the Catholic church at Sidney. In politics Mr. Kuether is a democrat.

JOHN OLDHAM, attorney at law, a well-known and representative citizen of Sidney, O., where he has numerous business interests, was born here, October 28, 1882, and is a son of David and Sarah E. (Everett) Oldham. The father of Mr. Oldham was born in 1854, in Miami county, O., and now resides on his farm in Clinton township, Shelby county, while he maintains his law office at Sidney. The mother of Mr. Oldham was born at Sidney, a daughter of Grosvenor Everett. The four survivors of the family of six children are: Harry, who is a law practitioner; John; Robert, who is a resident of Dayton, O., and Mary Ethel, who lives with her parents.

John Oldham was reared at Sidney and after his graduation from the Sidney high school in 1900, entered the Ohio State University at Columbus, where he passed the year 1904-05 in the law department, having had two years of previous study under his father, and was admitted to the bar in 1905. For two years afterward he was associated with his father in the practice of law. For a short period he was in the collection business but in February, 1907, he embarked, with Harry Bennett, in the realty and loan business. His present responsibilities, membership in the firm of John Oldham & Co., dealers in real estate, and official position with the Oldham-Bennett Realty Company, as secretary and treasurer, indicate his high commercial standing. In 1912 the Oldham-Bennett Realty Company was incorporated with a capital of

\$40,000, with Milton Bennett as president; Elmer D. Kiser as vice-president; John Oldham as secretary and treasurer; and H. E. Bennett as general manager. The company handles both city and country real estate; owns a ten-acre gravel pit; makes its own building material, manufacturing cement blocks, brick, etc; erects its own houses and also deals in gravel and sand, at the present time furnishing these materials for the construction of the new high school building in course of erection at Sidney. As a business man in the full sense of the word, Mr. Oldham has displayed energy and foresight, while in a purely professional way he has met with flattering success.

Mr. Oldham married Miss Rose Bretches, a daughter of Samuel Bretches, a retired farmer of Shelby county, and they have one son, Ralph.

ALBERT J. FOSNIGHT,\* whose valuable farm of 155 acres lies in Turtle Creek township, Shelby county, O., is one of the well-known men of this section, a successful farmer and enterprising, intelligent and thoughtful citizen. He was born in Van Buren township, Shelby county, June 6, 1862, and is a son of Absalom and Sarah Layton (Cotterell) Fosnight. The father, a native of Clark county, O., was a farmer all his life and both he and his wife died in Van Buren township. They had the following children: Henry; Albert J.; and Anna, who married Joseph Ellis and after his death married Joseph Reed.

In the public schools of Van Buren township, Albert J. Fosnight pursued his studies until fifteen years of age, in the meanwhile assisting his father on the home farm. At that time the father died and Albert J. and his elder brother assumed the responsibilities and together they operated the farm until the former was twenty-three years old, when he took entire charge and carried on farming operations until his marriage, when he purchased the interests of the other heirs. Later he sold the homestead and then spent four years engaged in farming in Oklahoma and after his return to Shelby county bought his present farm in Turtle Creek township. He raises grain and other products that do well in this climate and also enough stock for home use. Mr. Fosnight thoroughly understands everything pertaining to successful agriculture and his methods are those which ensure success.

In 1882 Mr. Fosnight was married to Miss Sarah Jane Feree, who was born in Shelby county, a daughter of Jeremiah and Lena (Staley) Feree. Mrs. Fosnight has two brothers, Grant and Joseph. To Mr. and Mrs. Fosnight the following children have been born: Clara, who is the wife of Clyde McClure; Frank, who married Alna Hensel; Edna, who is the wife of Lafayette Verdier, her first husband having been Frank Kneed; Charles; Cloy, who is the wife of John Reed; Lulu, who is the wife of Wayne Baker; and Lottie, John, Dessie and Clarence. In his views on public questions Mr Fosnight is very broad minded and is identified with the socialist party.

FRED J. RUSSELL, whose numerous and important business interests have made him widely known, is a member of the firm of Russell & Blake, and with his partners, John M. Blake and F. M. Sayre, owns and operates



FRED J. RUSSELL AND FAMILY



The Farmers Grain & Milling Company, of Sidney, O. He was born in Clinton township, Shelby county, O., February 16, 1872, and is a son of Moses J. and Martha E. (Beck) Russell.

Moses J. Russell was a prominent citizen of Clinton township and a large landowner, having farms aggregating 420 acres. He was born in that township and spent his entire life there, dying February 17, 1903, a son of Joshua Russell, one of the early pioneers. Moses J. Russell married Martha E. Beck, who was born in Turtle Creek township and died December 19, 1911, her father, Edward Beck, having been one of the earliest settlers in that township.

Fred J. Russell was reared on the home farm in Clinton township and in boyhood attended the country schools and later the Sidney high school. Until he entered into his present business, on January 22, 1912, Mr. Russell devoted the larger part of his time to agricultural pursuits and still maintains his home on his farm of 120 acres, in Clinton township. Also, with John M. Blake, he owns eighty acres more, also situated in Clinton township, and, with the same party, is the owner of the Farmers Feed & Sales Stables. The Farmers Grain & Milling Company manufactures the Triumph brand of flour, and also handles grain, seed, salt, coal, cement, plaster, hay, tile and straw, each partner attending to a specific end of the business. Mr. Russell being the grain man, Mr. Blake the flour man, while Mr. Sayre, who is secretary and treasurer, attends the office business, each partner being particularly well fitted through experience for his special duties. They are members of one family, being brothers-in-law.

Mr. Russell married Miss Caddie D. McClure, of Turtle Creek township, a daughter of William A. and Loretta McClure, substantial farming people of that section, and three children have been born to this marriage: Daisy, Frances and James Mack. In politics Mr. Russell has been a consistent republican since he became a voter and for two years served in the important office of chairman of the republican county committee. He is president of the board of education of Clinton township and is also serving in the office of road supervisor.

WALTER E. FRETZ,\* senior member of the firm of Fretz & Lininger, dealers in furniture and undertakers, with quarters in the Ames building, Sidney, O., is one of the representative business men of this place and as a citizen is reliable, interested and useful. He was born at Garrett, in DeKalb county, Ind., March 18, 1882, and is a son of George and Eva Fretz, his father being now a retired farmer.

Walter E. Fretz spent his early years on the home farm and in the country schools prepared for college and later graduated from the Tri-State Normal College at Angola, Ind. Following the termination of his educational period he taught school for about five terms during the winter seasons, in the summers paying some attention to undertaking, after which he entered the Barnes School of Anatomy and Sanitary Science and Embalming, at Chicago, from which standard school he received his diploma as an embalmer in 1904.

He resided at Garrett and at Auburn prior to accepting the position of manager of a large undertaking establishment at Kokomo, Ind., where he remained for three years, and from there came to Sidney, October 8, 1908, where he purchased the interests of the Mentges Brothers, the oldest undertaking firm in the county. Here Mr. Fretz associated himself with Mr. Lininger and since August 3, 1910, they have added dealing in furniture to the undertaking business. Mr. Lininger is also a graduate of the Barnes School and prior to entering into partnership with Mr. Fretz, was a member of the firm of Daily & Lininger, at New Holland, O.

In June, 1906, Mr. Fretz was married to Miss Pearl Daniels, of Waterloo, Ind., and they have one son, Robert L. Mr. Fretz belongs to some organizations pertaining exclusively to his business and is also identified with the Knights of Pythias.

JOHN F. WENGER, who lives on his well-cultivated farm of 170 acres, which lies in Dinsmore township, Shelby county, O., three miles north and one mile west of Anna, O., was born here July 14, 1869, and is a son of George and Caroline (Bartch) Wenger, who had also three daughters: Louisa, Mary and Caroline, all of whom live in Dinsmore township. Louisa married William Zengler; Mary married Philip Staley; and Caroline is the widow of William F. Kah.

After his school days John F. Wenger remained at home and helped his father, being the only son, and succeeded to the homestead. He has taken a great deal of interest in his various activities here and has spent time and money in improvements, erecting a handsome residence and substantial barns, tiling his land, fencing it and, where necessary, enriching the soil. He carries on his operations with marked success, adopting modern methods and making use of the latest improved machinery. Although a busy man with his own affairs, Mr. Wenger is also mindful of public needs and for the past eight years has served as a member of the school board, elected to this office on the democratic ticket.

Mr. Wenger married Miss Margaret Bridweiser, who is a daughter of John and Barbara Bridweiser, natives of Ohio, of German ancestry, and additionally they had one more daughter, Carrie, and three sons: John, Charles and Louis. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Wenger, namely: Myrta V., Louella, Bessie, Minnie, Della, Clyde and Orville W., all of whom still live at home, a pleasant, happy family group. They are kind, neighborly, hospitable people and it is pleasant to be privileged to know them.

W. O. PENCE,\* a well-known resident and successful general farmer of Shelby county, lives on his well-improved farm of forty acres which lies seven and one-half miles southeast of Sidney. He was born in Champaign county, O., in 1876, and is a son of Frederick and Elizabeth (Blackford) Pence.

Frederick Pence belongs to a family that settled early in Champaign county, O. During the Civil war he enlisted from there and after his honor-

able period of military service returned to Champaign county and became a farmer but has been a resident of Shelby county for many years and now lives retired at Pasco. He married Elizabeth Blackford and the following children were born to them: Mary Jane, Rhoda Ann, Delilah, Russell, William O., Emma Jane, Minnie Ruth, Naome, Frederick, Hattie, Harry, a babe that died in infancy and all the others survive with the exception of Mary Jane and Russell.

William O. Pence was educated in the public schools and afterward assisted on the home farm and in other sections of the county engaged in farm industries until his marriage, when he settled on the farm he now owns, on which he carries on a general line of agriculture. He is an industrious, capable farmer and so manages his land and stock that both prove profitable.

Mr. Pence married Miss Alma A. Moore, a daughter of George W. Moore, an old settler of Shelby county, and they have two children: Della and Forrest, aged respectively twenty and eighteen years. In his political views Mr. Pence is a democrat and once served his township in the office of road supervisor but otherwise has accepted no public office.

HUGH B. SLOAN, who is a representative business man of Hardin, O., where he conducts a first class general store, was born in Washington township, Shelby county, O., August 13, 1863, and is a son of William H. and Letitia (Miller) Sloan.

William H. Sloan was born in Pickaway county, O. By trade he was a shoemaker and for many years he followed the same. At the time of death he lived near Piqua, O., and his burial was in Swift Run cemetery. After some years his widow married James Chambers and when she died her burial also was in Swift Run cemetery. Four children were born to her first marriage: Washington M., Isaiah P., William J., and Hugh B, who is the only one living.

Hugh B. Sloan attended the public schools through boyhood and afterward was engaged as a farmer until 1896, when he embarked in a general store business at Hardin Station, where he continued for three years. He sold that store and then started into the implement business at Sidney but in 1901 came to Hardin, where he opened up a general store which he has continued ever since. He carries a large and well-selected stock and as his mercantile experience covers a long period he has a wide circle of well-satisfied customers. Mr. Sloan is not married but resides with a foster sister. He is treasurer of the Methodist Episcopal church at Hardin and is also a member of its board of trustees. Politically he is a republican and fraternally is connected with the Odd Fellows at Sidney, O.

WILLIAM WATT LAUGHLIN,\* who is a well-known resident of Turtle Creek township and one of the three heirs to a valuable farm of 160 acres, was born in Logan county, O., in 1871, and is a son of John M. and Jennie (Leapley) Laughlin. The father was a farmer and also a carpenter. The mother still resides on the old home farm but the father died on May

5, 1911. The family consisted of but two sons: William Watt and Arthur, the latter of whom lives in Washington township.

William Watt Laughlin had excellent educational advantages, after completing the common school course going to the Northern Ohio University at Ada and remaining a student there for several terms. He then returned to the home farm, on which the family has lived since he was seven years old, and practically assumed charge, relieving his father and since the latter's death has managed all the industries for himself, mother and brother. He raises an excellent grade of stock but not more than is needed for home use, and devotes his land to general farming.

In politics Mr. Laughlin is a democrat and exerts considerable influence in local affairs. He served two terms as township assessor and is serving in his second term as township trustee. Mr. Laughlin is known as an honest, intelligent and upright man and good citizen. With his mother he attends the Methodist Episcopal church. His only fraternal connection is with the Knights of the Golden Eagle.

ANDREW J. HESS, son of Andrew and Mary (Berger) Hess, was born at Columbus, O., September 23, 1864. In 1873 he came to live on a farm near Sidney and attended the country schools in the winter seasons until sixteen years old, when he began and for four years continued to teach schools in the western and northern parts of the county. On September 23, 1884, he was married to Belle Gray, daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Grove) Gray of Botkins, O. Three sons, Royon Gray, Harry K., and Percy A., and four daughters, Bertha, Zoe, Margaret and Dorothy, constitute an unbroken family circle. In October, 1884, he entered the law department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and was admitted to the bar of Ohio March 5, 1885, since which time he has continuously practiced law at Sidney. His law practice has been general and varied, but largely in the fields of corporation and financial interests and affairs, his clients including many corporations and railways, banks and financial institutions. He has been distinctly active in the development of the industrial industries of the town and is a stockholder in and director of many corporations. As member of the board of education and school examiner he has served his community and to the general advancement in education and culture he has contributed by his efforts. With S. L. Wicoff and S. J. Hatfield he founded and built the Childrens' Home under a commission from the Hon. John E. Richie as common pleas judge. He has held no political office except the minor position of member of the state executive committee of the republican party. To this party he had always given his support and has worked for its policies. He is a Presbyterian, deeply attached to and proud of the history and quality of his sect, but with a broad charity for all men and for all religious faiths. His abilities and conscientiousness as a lawyer have been generally recognized in his section of the state and in his profession he has found sufficient room for effort and reward.





ANDREW J. HESS



JOHN M. KLASE,\* one of the well-known and busy men of Loramic township, Shelby county, O., who not only carries on farming but also is in the general contracting line, was born in Darke county, O., May 23, 1864, and was reared and educated there.

John M. Klase continued to live in his native county until he was twenty-six years old, when he married and came to Shelby county and settled on his present finely improved farm of eighty acres and with the exception of one year passed at Versailles, O., when he conducted a butcher shop, he has resided here. This land is particularly well adapted to raising stock and Mr. Klase pays considerable attention to that profitable industry. He is a general contractor in brick and cement work and in this line does a very considerable amount of business annually. He takes only a good citizen's interest in politics, keeping thoroughly posted but not desiring office for himself, and always votes the democratic ticket. His farm is easily reached on account of its favorable location, lying three miles southwest of Houston.

Mr. Klase married Miss Lizzie A. Johnston, who was born and reared in Loramic township, and they have four children: James, Joseph, Leonard and Mary. Mr. Klase belongs to the Odd Fellow's lodge at Greenville and to the encampment at Sidney, O.

MILTON VALENTINE, a highly respected retired farmer of Orange township, Shelby county, O., who resides on his valuable farm of 127 acres, was born on this place, July 27, 1844, and is a son of David Valentine, and a grandson of Daniel Valentine, who was born in New Jersey. He came to Shelby county in 1809, being the fourth settler in the territory now included in the county, entering land from the government and occupying it for many years. His death occurred, however, at Lockington, while he was visiting a son.

David Valentine was born on the land above mentioned and lived on the old homestead until he was twenty-six years of age, when he purchased the farm in Orange township which belongs to his son, Milton Valentine. He died on the old home place at the age of fifty-seven years, having bought it from the other heirs and moved back there. He married Nancy Cecil, who survived into her eightieth year and they had eight children, the three survivors being: John H., who lives at Piqua; Cynthia A., who lives at Salem, Ore.; and Milton.

Milton Valentine passed his boyhood days on his father's farm, having the usual country boy's duties and attending the district schools. Afterward he worked for six years for his father on his farm north of Hardin, and then returned to the place on which he was born and has continued here ever since. The larger part of the substantial improving was done after he took charge. Mr. Valentine was an active and successful farmer for many years but now has the place rented out and justifiably takes life easy, having formerly been a very busy man. In politics he is a republican and served for two terms as justice of the peace, satisfactorily to all concerned.

Mr. Valentine was married to Matilda Meyers, in early manhood, who

died without issue. His second marriage was with Mary Deye, who was born near Houston. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Lockington, O.

CHARLES C. MARSHALL,\* a foremost member of the bar of Sidney, O., and special counsel to the attorney-general of Ohio, at Columbus, is numbered with the forceful men of Shelby county, one who through natural ability, trained faculties and thoroughly aroused public spirit, is assisting in making history in his native state. He was born at Sidney, O., April 9, 1876, and is a son of Armstrong Logan and Margaret (Walker) Marshall.

Charles C. Marshall is well known to the people of Sidney for here he grew to manhood, attending the city schools and graduating from the Sidney high school in the class of 1895. In the fall of the above year he entered the Ohio State University, from which he was graduated in the spring of 1898, immediately afterward showing his faith and loyal interest in his native place by choosing it as the scene of his professional labors. His professional ability was early recognized and he has been a prominent figure in many of the legal controversies arising in the courts of Shelby county. In November, 1906, he was elected prosecuting attorney of Shelby county, in which responsible office he displayed such firmness and unerring judgment that he was re-elected and served out two terms. In political faith a democrat, Mr. Marshall has long been an important factor in the councils of his party in Ohio and at present is an influential member of the Ohio state democratic executive committee. He has been active and useful in civic life, cherishing high ideals and having the courage to espouse reformatory measures even when, at times, they may be to some degree unpopular. For some years he has been a member of the board of county school examiners.

At Sidney, O., on May 19, 1903, Mr. Marshall was married to Miss Alma F. Wagner, who is a daughter of John and Mary A. Wagner, the former of whom is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Marshall have two children: Mary M. and John Logan. Mr. Marshall is identified with several fraternal organizations, including the Red Men, the Knights of Pythias and the Elks and in the last named body for two terms served as district deputy for northwestern Ohio.

GEORGE M. WYATT,\* general farmer and stock raiser, who successfully carries on his industries on his valuable tract of sixty-one acres, situated in section 33, Cynthia township, two miles north of Dawson, O., was born in Loramie township, Shelby county, O., December 21, 1871, and is a son of J. M. and Mary Catherine (Green) Wyatt.

George M. Wyatt obtained his education in the public schools, attending mainly the West Jefferson school in Loramie township, and afterward assisted his father, who is now deceased. He has given almost his entire attention ever since to farming and stock raising and has proved that agriculture, properly carried on, is a profitable business in Shelby county. For ten years





MR. AND MRS. LEWIS W. BAKER

following his marriage he remained on the old homestead in Loramie township and then came to his present well-improved place.

George M. Wyatt married Miss Mary R. Huffman, who was born in the western part of Loramie township, a daughter of William W. and Harriet (Edwards) Huffman, both now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Wyatt have one daughter, May Laura, who is a student in the Oran special school district. Mr. Wyatt has been treasurer of the board of education of this district since January, 1912. He is a democrat in politics and served three terms in the office of road supervisor while living in Loramie township. He is one of the solid and reliable citizens of this part of Shelby county.

JOHN LENGERICH,\* general farmer and representative citizen of Cynthian township, Shelby county, O., where he owns fifty-four acres of fine land, lying in section 19, three miles south of Fort Loramie, was born near Minster, in Auglaize county, O., September 6, 1867, and remained in his native county until he was twelve years old.

Prior to coming to Fort Loramie in 1879, Mr. Lengerich had attended school at Minster and afterward completed his education under the teaching of L. Notis and thus secured a very fair knowledge of books. He then worked as a farm hand for C. B. Danbrison & Son seven years, and afterward was engaged in farm work for seventeen years in Mercer, Darke and Shelby counties, and came to his present place in 1910. Here he has expended considerable money in making excellent improvements, including the draining and tiling of his land and thereby has probably almost doubled its original value. He carries on general farming and raises stock for his own use.

Mr. Lengerich was married at Cincinnati, O., to Miss Frances Brockamp, who was born in Shelby county, O., a daughter of Bernard Brockamp, and the following children have been born to them: Bernard, George, Catherine, Lorena, Laurence, Clara, John, Marie, Louis and Edward, the last two named being deceased. Mr. Lengerich and family are members of SS. Peter and Paul Catholic church at Wynant, O. In national matters Mr. Lengerich votes with the democratic party but in local affairs he is independent. He is an interested citizen in all that concerns the welfare of his section and since January, 1912, has been a member of the board of education of the Basinburg special school district.

LEWIS W. BAKER, who for many years has been a prominent citizen of Salem township, now lives in comfortable retirement at Maplewood but retains possession of several valuable tracts of land. He was born in Perry township, Shelby county, O., November 14, 1859, and is a son of William and Elizabeth (Laudenback) Baker.

William Baker was born in Clark county, O., in 1815 and his wife was born in Champaign county, O. In 1842 he moved on the farm in Perry township, Shelby county, which Lewis W. Baker now owns. He and wife died at the home of this son, their burial being at Port Jefferson. They had the following children: Daniel; Jonas; Sarah J., wife of Peter Hartman;

Mary E., wife of Enos Wagner; Margaret, wife of William Gilfillen; Martin A.; Allen and Lewis W. The parents were members of the Baptist church. The father was a democrat in politics and his sons are of the same political faith.

Lewis W. Baker secured a district school education, attending regularly in the winter seasons until he reached manhood. He then gave his father assistance until 1893, remaining on the homestead until then although as early as 1879 he had commenced to work for himself. When his father first settled on the farm in Perry township he had 120 acres but he continued to invest in land until he had 235 acres, the extent of the present farm which is now the property of Lewis W. Baker, by inheritance. He owns also a farm of 120 acres in Jackson township, which he bought from William Hogan, and he the present farm which is now the property of Lewis W. Baker, by inheritance. owns a third tract, containing twenty acres, which lies on the edge of Maplewood, on which he resides.

In December, 1878, Mr. Baker was married to Miss Julia E. Booze, who was born in Allen county, O., and was eight years old when her parents, Hezekiah and Mary Catherine (Hill) Booze, brought her to Shelby county. They were natives of Pennsylvania. The father of Mrs. Baker died in Oklahoma and the mother in Shelby county, her burial being in Pleasant Hill cemetery. They had the following children: John and Uriah; Maria E., wife of George Kirtley; Julia E.; Martha, wife of William Warner; and Christian, Hezekiah, Lewis and Thomas.

To Mr. and Mrs. Baker two children were born: Emory E., who married Lavina Young, and they have four children—Wildie, Harold, Carl and Ralph; and Edna, who is the wife of John J. Drury, and they have one daughter, Beulah. Mr. Baker and family belong to the Disciples church. Among his business interests in his ownership of stock in the Haviland Grain & Hay Company of Haviland, O., and he is also a stockholder and director of the First National Bank of Jackson Center. While never anxious to hold political office, he consented to serve two terms as township treasurer of Salem township and his interest in the public schools caused him to remain on the school board for twelve years. He has always been a man of social instincts and qualities and enjoys his membership with the Knights of Pythias, attending the Maplewood lodge of this order.

JOHN F. GRISEZ,\* general farmer and carpenter, who resides in section 15, Cynthian township, Shelby county, O., where he owns forty-five acres of excellent land, was born in Darke county, O., January 8, 1876, and is a son of Frank and Mary Grisez. The father was born in France and the mother in Ohio and there were seven children in the family.

John F. Grisez was six years old when his parents brought him to Shelby county and he attended school at Sidney and afterward learned the carpenter trade. He resided at Dayton, O., until 1907, following his trade and then came to Cynthian township, Shelby county, and purchased the farm he now occupies. The buildings on the place required to be remodeled before they



satisfied Mr. Grisez and he has done other improving and now has all his land, with the exception of five acres in timber, under fine cultivation.

Mr. Grisez married Miss Clara Stifel, who was born in Darke county on a farm that adjoined that of his father, and is a daughter of John Stifel. While residing at Dayton, Mr. and Mrs. Grisez had three children born to them: Henry, Louis and Anna, and after coming to the farm two daughters were born, Bertha and Margaret. Mr. Grisez and family belong to St. Peter and Paul Catholic church at Newport, O. A staunch democrat, Mr. Grisez has frequently been elected to positions of responsibility by his party and served one term as road supervisor and for five years has been a member of the board of education of the Grisez special school district, of which, at present, he is clerk, this district having been named in honor of his family.

JAMES H. RHODEHAMEL,\* one of the representative men of Cynthian township, Shelby county, O., who has been president of the board of education of the Forest special school district, resides on his excellent farm situated in section 34, on the township line, one mile northeast of Dawson, O. He was born at Greenville, in Darke county, O., April 12, 1855, and was one month old when brought to Cynthian township by his parents, Jacob and Mary J. (Hauser) Rhodehamel.

Jacob Rhodehamel was born and reared at Piqua, O., and was married in Miami county to Mary J. Hauser, who was born in Cynthian township, Shelby county, and is now a resident of Sidney, O. To this marriage ten children were born, as follows: Mary Elizabeth, Margaret Jane, Eliza Ann, Josephine, William, James, Laura Belle, Lilly E., Charles B. and Ida M., all surviving except William. After marriage Jacob Rhodehamel and wife moved to Illinois, and while living there he enlisted for service in the Civil war, entering Company E, 75th Ill. Vol. Inf., and was killed in battle, in May, 1863, and his burial was in an orchard adjoining the scene of strife. His widow then returned to Cynthian township with her children and they were mainly reared in Shelby county. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, as was her husband.

James H. Rhodehamel attended school in Cynthian township until old enough to be self-supporting and ever since has devoted himself to farm pursuits, including farming, stock raising and threshing. His farm is valuable both as to fertility and location and he is numbered with the prosperous agriculturists of this section.

Mr. Rhodehamel was married to Malvina Cornell, who was born in Orange township, Shelby county, O., a daughter of Harvey and Rosanna Cornell, and to them the following children have been born: Lily M., Harry L., Sadie, Cora E., Grace M., Charles D., Chester O., James Clifford and Homer Forest. The family belongs to the Christian church at Oran, O. In politics Mr. Rhodehamel has been a republican since attaining manhood, but has never been willing to serve in any public office except one connected with educational matters and in his present position is careful, active and honest, and the efficiency of the schools in this district proves that their interests are looked after with good judgment.

CHRISTIAN SHELLENBARGER, who is one of Jackson township's most respected and reliable citizens, for twenty years, with the exception of an interval of three years, a member of the board of education, is a stock-raiser and farmer, owning 400 acres of fine land. His home farm in Jackson township, contains 160 acres, while his farm in Dinsmore township contains 240 acres, this being the farm on which he was reared. He was born in Wittenberg, Germany, September 9, 1845, and was six years old when his parents settled in Jackson township, where they died. During the great Civil war, John Shellenbarger, father of Christian, served in the 20th Ohio battery. He was an old German military man and his previous army experiences had taught him much about warfare.

From the age of eight years, Christian Shellenbarger lived with strangers, being then bound out to George Reynolds, where he found a good home and kind treatment and remained with Mr. Reynolds until his marriage, when aged twenty-four years. He then located in Dinsmore township, west of Montra, O., three-fourths miles distant from Mr. Reynolds' farm, purchasing eighty acres, and lived there until after the birth of his fourth child, when he moved to Jackson township and after the birth of another child, his first wife died, aged thirty-seven years. Mr. Shellenbarger has lived in Jackson township ever since the fall of 1882. His 400 acres of land have all been improved except thirty acres in Jackson and forty acres in Dinsmore township and in large degree the work of improving has all been done by Mr. Shellenbarger. While he carries on general farming very successfully, he has always been more interested in raising thoroughbred cattle and all kinds of stock, giving particular attention to Shorthorn cattle, Chester White hogs, Shropshire sheep and Hambletonian and Percheron draft horses. Mr. Shellenbarger attends to his own farm industries in Jackson township, while his son Arthur operates the farm in Dinsmore township. Mr. Shellenbarger is a stockholder in the Snider-Poole Company store of which he was the owner for one and a half years and then sold to the Snider-Poole Company. He also is a stockholder and a director of the Decatur-Springfield Electric railway. Politically a democrat, he has been loyal to his party and effective as a citizen, and has served on several occasions as road supervisor and three terms as township trustee.

Mr. Shellenbarger was married first to Miss Anna K. Foster, who was born in Clark county, O., but was reared in Jackson township. Her parents were William C. and Mary (Smith) Foster. Five children were born to this marriage: George O., Emma F., Mary C., Arthur C. and William E. His second marriage was to Miss Amanda Taylor, a daughter of John and Margaret Taylor, the former of whom was born at Harrisburg, while his wife was a native of North Carolina. They came to Shelby county in 1832 and found one log house representing the settlement of Sidney. Mr. Taylor entered land in Dinsmore township, and found Indians plentiful but they were kindly treated at his log cabin and continued harmless. He died when aged eighty-one years and his wife at the age of seventy-nine years and they were buried in Wesley Chapel cemetery. Of their eleven children, six sur-



CHRISTIAN SHELLNBARGER



SAMUEL J. DUNCAN

vive and three live in Shelby county. Mr. Shellenbarger and family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church at Jackson Center and for many years he was a church official.

WILLIAM D. SANDERSON, V. S.,\* proprietor of Sanderson's Veterinary Hospital, together with livery and feed stables, at Sidney, O., is a trained professional man and one who has a wide reputation through Shelby county. He was born at Toronto, Canada, April 30, 1877, and is a son of Rickman and Dina (Smith) Sanderson.

The father of Doctor Sanderson was born in Yorkshire, England, and the mother in Scotland, and they were married in Canada. He was a graduate of the celebrated veterinary college of Edinburgh, Scotland, and practiced during many years of his life in Canada, where his death occurred in 1896.

William D. Sanderson was practically reared in his present profession, beginning to assist his father when a boy, and later was graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College at Toronto, in the class of 1901, subsequently taking a post graduate course in 1908-09, at McKillip's Veterinary College, at Chicago, Ill. Immediately after his first graduation he located at Sidney, which is his main field of work, although he practices all over this county and is called also to Miami, Darke and Champaign counties. For nine years prior to purchasing his livery and feed barns, he had conducted a hospital on East Poplar street, but in 1911 he moved to his present location. He keeps his automobile ready for use in urgent cases when time is a factor. He is a scientific and successful practitioner.

Doctor Sanderson was married at Sidney to Miss Matilda Kaser, a daughter of Jacob Kaser. He belongs to the Ohio Veterinary Association and is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Knights of Khorassan.

S. J. DUNCAN, one of the leading and substantial citizens of Orange township, whose farm of 240 acres is one of the most valuable properties in this section, was born in Orange township, near Kirkwood, O., August 26, 1863. His father, Thomas Duncan, who now lives in comfortable retirement, having reached the age of eighty years, came to Shelby county in early manhood and during all his active life followed farming.

S. J. Duncan has been engaged in farming and stock raising ever since leaving school, beginning on the home farm and afterward coming to his present one, on which he has done a large amount of improving. It requires considerable practical knowledge and a large measure of good judgment to successfully operate as large an estate as that owned by Mr. Duncan. Not only is he numbered with the prosperous agriculturists, but he has long been considered one of the township's representative men in public affairs and has served with the greatest efficiency as turnpike superintendent and as township treasurer.

Mr. Duncan was married to Miss Minnie McIntosh, who is a daughter of William McIntosh, one of the substantial farmers of this county, and they have two children: Anna, who married Clyde Portoff, and Pansy. Mr. Dun-

can and family are members of the Baptist church. He has always been identified with the democratic party.

C. J. WINEMILLER,\* dealer in groceries, meats and country produce, on the corner of Park and Oak streets, Sidney, O., is a merchant of many years' experience and is one of the representative business men of this city. He was born on a farm in McLean township, Shelby county, O., June 11, 1873, and is a son of George and Dorothy (Hook) Winemiller, and a grandson of Jacob Winemiller, who came from Germany and was an early settler in Shelby county.

C. J. Winemiller was reared on his father's farm and attended the public schools of McLean township. Other members of the family became farmers but he chose school teaching for his business and for eight years taught very successfully in McLean, Cynthian, Turtle Creek and Van Buren townships, all through which sections he still has many friends. He then embarked in a mercantile business, although for three more years he continued to teach, and also managed his store and was postmaster at Uno, in Turtle Creek township. When the rural mail routes were established many of the smaller postoffices were abolished, Uno being one of these, and in December, 1907, Mr. Winemiller came to Sidney, where he found a wider business field. He carries a large and well-selected stock and enjoys a liberal amount of patronage.

Mr. Winemiller was married to Miss Carrie Markley, who was born and reared in Turtle Creek township, a daughter of John and Kate Markley, and they have one son, Carl. Mr. Winemiller is identified with the fraternal order of the Woodmen of the World and belongs to both branches of Odd Fellowship. He has never been active in politics but may always be found among the citizens who stand for law and order and for civic betterment.

ARTHUR SILVER, M. D.,\* physician and surgeon, who is one of the younger members of his profession at Sidney, O., succeeding his eminent father, was born at Sidney, June 19, 1880, and is a son of Dr. David R. and Jennie E. (Fry) Silver. For many years Dr. David R. Silver, whose death occurred December 8, 1911, was prominent in both business and professional life in Shelby county.

Arthur Silver attended the public schools in his native city and was graduated from the Sidney high school in the class of 1899 and then entered Miami University, where he secured his degree of A. B., graduating in 1904. He then became a student of medicine in the Medical College of Ohio, where he was most creditably graduated four years later. For eighteen months he served as an interne in the City Hospital of Cincinnati, afterward becoming assistant to the celebrated Dr. H. J. Whitacre, a noted surgeon of Cincinnati. The death of his father called the young physician home and he has ever since been engaged in a general practice at Sidney. He is a member of the Shelby County Medical Society, the Ohio State Medical Society and the American Medical Association and keeps thoroughly informed concerning the wonderful developments that are taking place in his science. He is

identified with the Masonic fraternity and retains college membership in the Beta Theta Pi, the Nu Sigma and the Nu Medical organizations.

DANIEL RUNKLE, president of the Farmers & Merchants Bank Company of Anna, O., is one of the capitalists and representative men of this section of Ohio and for many years has been also extensively interested in farming and cattle raising in Auglaize county. He was born on a farm in Fairfield county, O., March 24, 1846, and is a son of George and Mary (Ware) Runkle, who came to Ohio from Pennsylvania.

Daniel Runkle remained on his father's farm in Green township until he was twenty-one years of age and then took charge of a farm of 120 acres, a gift from his father, situated in Auglaize county, where he continued to reside until 1907, when he came to Anna. From the age of twenty-four years he engaged in raising fine cattle and in this industry was known all over this part of the state, having added to his land at times and still owns three farms, aggregating 360 acres. The Farmers & Merchants Bank Company of Anna, O., was incorporated in 1907, under the laws of the state of Ohio, with a capital of \$25,000, with the following officers: Daniel Runkle, president; R. D. Mede, vice-president, and J. W. A. Fridley, cashier. The directors at that time were Daniel Runkle, president; R. D. Curtner, cashier; Geo. D. Fridley, vice-president; W. C. Heinrich and E. M. Martin. In 1910 the directorate was raised to seven members. The board of directors for 1912 was as follows: R. D. Mede, Daniel Runkle, C. C. Toland, George C. Schiff, William Runkle, E. M. Martin (not sworn in), and J. W. A. Fridley, all men of ample fortune and thoroughly representative of this section's best interests.

Daniel Runkle married Miss Mary D. Lusk and they have two sons, William McKendry, who is dead, and George Albert, who remains on the homestead in Auglaize county. Mr. Runkle is a broad-minded, liberal man and he was welcomed to Anna as a valuable addition to the town's citizenship. He is identified with the Masonic fraternity and belongs also to the Royal Arcanum.

CHARLES WINNER,\* president of the board of education of the special school district in McLean township, Shelby county, O., resides in section 3, McLean township, on the east side of the road, where twenty-seven acres of his farm of 127 acres lies, and he was born in this township, December 4, 1857. His parents are Anton and Caroline Winner.

Anton Winner, who is now retired and residing on his farm of 140 acres, situated in section 5, McLean township, was born in Oldenburg, Germany, November 3, 1833, and was brought to America when one year old by his parents, Frank and Catherine Winner. They settled in the southeastern part of Auglaize county, O., on a tract of 120 acres of woods, and afterward much clearing was done and on that place Frank Winner died, at the age of forty-five years. His widow lived for many years afterward, dying in her seventy-second year. They were faithful Catholics and his burial was at

## HISTORY OF SHELBY COUNTY

Minster, O., while hers was in Egypt cemetery. Anton Winner lived at home until he was twenty-one years old and then married Caroline Hoying, and they had the following children: Charles, Fred, Kate, Henry, Joseph, Clement, Mary and Anton, the last named dying in his fourth year. After marriage Anton Winner and wife settled on a farm of 120 acres which he had to clear before he could improve it and now has all under cultivation except about twenty acres of wood land. He bought this property of Henry Rolves and for many years carried on general farming and stock raising but has now retired. His wife died in her seventy-second year and her burial was in St. Joseph's Catholic cemetery.

Charles Winner was studious as a boy and attended school in the Dirksen special school district and also in Jackson township in Auglaize county, afterward carrying on farming on the home place until his marriage, when he came to his present farm, all of which he has placed under a fine state of cultivation except twenty acres that he has preserved in valuable trees. With the exception of the residence, which had been built in the previous year, Mr. Winner erected all the substantial buildings on the property and is justly proud of what he has succeeded in accomplishing in twenty-eight years, taking as it did, a vast amount of hard work and considerable exercise of patience and good judgment. In addition to raising grain and other farm products, Mr. Winner gives attention to livestock and always has a sufficient number of cattle and hogs on his place.

Mr. Winner married Miss Catherine Burns, a daughter of Herman and Mary Burns, all of McLean township, and they have had six children, all of whom survive except the second, Denia, who died at the age of five years, the others being: Anton, Annie, John, Emma and Alice. Mr. Winner and family belong to St. Joseph's Catholic church at Egypt. In politics he is a democrat but has never accepted any public office, except membership on the school board, and for seven years he has served continuously in the Walkey special school district, and by appointment has two more years to serve as president of this body. Mr. Winner is one of the representative and useful men of McLean township.

J. W. BROWN,\* who is one of the intelligent men and successful farmers of Loramie township, Shelby county, O., owning 130 acres of well-developed land, ninety of which lie in the Greenwood special school district, of which he is a valued official, was born near Gettysburg, Darke county, O., June 24, 1877, and is a son of Reuben and Anna Brown, who are highly respected retired residents of Versailles, O.

J. W. Brown was nine years old when his parents came to Loramie township, Shelby county, and he completed his education in the Greenwood special school district. He entered into business as a farm hand, working by the month, and then for one year raised tobacco, and after this experiment embarked in agricultural activities for himself and has so continued. He devotes his land to general farming and moderate stock raising and is num-



bered with the prosperous and contented farmers of this part of Shelby county.

On September 14, 1899, Mr. Brown was married to Miss Hulda J. Apple, who was born also in Loramie township and is a daughter of Henry A. Apple, one of the old and well-known citizens and wealthy men of the township. On this farm the three children of Mr. and Mrs. Brown were born: Erma Eleanor, Goldie Irene and Mary Henrietta. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are members of the Lutheran church. In politics he has always been a democrat but has never accepted any public office except membership on the school board, his first experience being when he served for two years, filling out the unexpired term of John Boyd, after which he was elected for a period of four years, which ensures his service on this body until 1916.

JOHN WILLIAM RAUSENBERGER, one of Shelby county's well-known and highly respected citizens, is numbered with the substantial and reliable men of Perry township, where he owns two valuable farms, one of 149 acres and the other of 162 acres. He is also a stockholder in the Ralston Car Company of Columbus. He is a native of Champaign county, where he was born in 1856, the son of John M. and Dora (Rexer) Rausenberger, who came to this country in 1844.

John M. Rausenberger was born in Wittenberg, Germany, August 6, 1819, where he attended school and was apprenticed at the age of fourteen to a butcher. At that time this meant serving two years without pay or, to be accurate, John had to pay forty dollars to his master for his training. His faithfulness was rewarded in being allowed to buy and sell stock for his employer and thus he saved enough to buy his own clothes. After nine years as a journeyman in Porcheim, Frankfort-on-the-Main, and Antwerp, he set sail from Rotterdam, Holland, and after a voyage of forty-eight days, landed in Baltimore with two dollars in his pocket, which after three years' work he increased to \$850.

This sum being sufficient in those early days for a matrimonial venture, he married Miss Dorothy Rexer, a native of Mahnsheim, Germany, and came to Logan county, in 1848, where Mrs. Rausenberger had an uncle living.

An enterprising farmer, with careful investments, Mr. Rausenberger succeeded in accumulating considerable land and raised a family of six children: George J., born in January, 1850, married Laura Mohr and died January 17, 1903, leaving four children; Andrew J., born in March, 1852, married Mary Detrick, died March 30, 1900, survived by three children; Catherine, the next born, who became the wife of John Ziegler, died, leaving one child; John W., the subject of this sketch, born February 1, 1856; Sarah C., the wife of Upton Moore, who survived her husband with three children; Dorothea, now Mrs. Samuel Huber of Logan county, who has four children. The mother died January 25, 1902, living to be eighty-two years of age. After his family left home Mr. Rausenberger disposed of his farm and is spending the declining years of his life with his daughter, Mrs. Moore, at Degraff, O., honored for a life of ninety-three years well spent. He was a liberal supporter of the Lutheran church and an ardent democrat in politics.

John William Rausenberger attended the district schools, assisted his father in his business enterprises until 1883, when he married Miss Emma Huber, March 11, and brought his bride to a farm in Perry township, bought of Adam Grep in 1882, which has been his home ever since. Five children were born in this household, one of whom, born February 5, 1889, died in infancy. The others are: Florence Henrietta, born June 13, 1884; Ada, November 4, 1890; Sarah Anna, July 10, 1892; and George H., born November 22, 1896. Like his father, Mr. Rausenberger is a democrat of the Jacksonian type, though never an office holder, and an ingrained Lutheran, his family being worshipers of St. John's Evangelical congregation in Sidney.

The father of Mrs. J. W. Rausenberger, George Huber, was born in Wittenberg, Germany, May 10, 1825. After working at various occupations, he set sail for America and landed in New York, May 28, 1846, with only a few dollars. He engaged in the milling business in Pennsylvania, and, in 1849, married Henrietta Schwilke of Lancaster, and in 1853 came to Logan county, O., where he now resides on a farm in Union township. Twelve children were born to this union, eight of whom reached maturity and are living in Shelby and Logan counties. Those living are: Lewis; Samuel; Emma Catherine; Sophia; Anna, now Mrs. E. C. Hurst; Andrew and Daniel. Mrs. Huber died August 20, 1886. Mr. Huber has been a successful farmer, honorable in his dealings, and is now living with his daughter, Sophia, at the age of four score and seven years. Both were Lutherans, but united with the Church of the Brethren in Logan county.

CHARLES F. YAGER,\* one of the old and reliable business men of Sidney, O., who has been identified with carriage and buggy manufacturing, including painting and blacksmithing, for forty-five years, is at the head of one of the most important manufacturing plants of this city. He was born at Middleboro, Elkhart county, Ind., October 2, 1849, and is a son of Clark and Margaret Ellen (Linn) Yager.

Clark Yager was a miller and in his son's infancy moved from Indiana to Three Rivers, Mich., where he took charge of the Three Rivers House, where a good business was done for several years, the railroad line being built through there at that time. He removed from there to Carrollton, O., where he operated a mill for a few years and later conducted one in Wapakoneta, and from there went to New Hampshire and there operated both a saw and grist mill until the fall of 1861, when he came to Shelby county and took charge of what is now the Miami Valley Grain & Mill Company's mill, and brought his family here in the following year.

Charles F. Yager was thirteen years of age when the family came from New Hampshire to Shelby county, old enough to give his father assistance in his mill, the old Walker mill south of Sidney. He then learned his trade, including body and wheel making and for twenty years after worked for H. Miller. There are few men now in the business who understand its every detail like Mr. Yager and he attributes much of his business success to his practical knowledge. He carries on the manufacture of buggies and carriages,





I. H. THEDIECK

where his large plant includes his blacksmith and paint shop, its location being Nos. 124-126 South West street, Sidney, and gives constant employment to from ten to fifteen men. He has made improvements according to the time but has never changed his business policy, that of giving honest, reliable goods, and takes pride in the fact that when his name is attached to a vehicle, a customer feels that no further endorsement is needed.

Mr. Yager was married in 1871, at Sidney, to Miss Nannie L. Yinger, and they have had three children: Mary, who is the wife of George M. Peffer, of Piqua, O., and they have one son, Morris; and Fred C., who is a student in Miami University, at Oxford, O. Mr. Yager and family are members of the Presbyterian church. He is identified with the Masonic fraternity, the Elks and the order of Ben Hur, and belongs also to the United Commercial Travelers. One child died in infancy.

I. H. THEDIECK, proprietor of Sidney's large and up-to-date department store, was born in Alfhausen, Germany, January 30, 1855, a son of C. F. G. and Bernadine (Sudendorf) Thedieck, his father being a successful merchant of that place. Coming to America at the age of sixteen, the subject of this sketch resided for a short time in Cincinnati and then went to Dayton, O., where he spent some five or six months in the public schools. Returning to Cincinnati, he obtained a position as clerk in a business house and was thus occupied for three years, in the meanwhile studying the English language and American business methods. In September, 1875, Mr. Thedieck came to Sidney and in company with Philip Raterman opened a dry goods store in a small frame building that stood on the present site of Herzstam's clothing store. The business was carried on under the style of Thedieck & Raterman and rapidly increased in size and importance, so that in the following year it was found necessary to remove to more spacious quarters. These were found in the Thompson building, in the room now occupied by the Montanus shoe store. In February, 1878, Mr. Raterman retired and Mr. Thedieck then carried on the business alone. In a few years increasing prosperity made another removal necessary and in 1882 Mr. Thedieck took up his quarters in the east room of the present fine building now occupied by him. The subsequent history of the concern has been one of increasing success. More space has been required from time to time, until now the entire building, consisting of three large double floors and basement, is devoted solely to the business. All the most practical modern conveniences have been installed: the store has its own steam heating plant; its own electric light plant and the most improved cash delivery system, while a fine passenger elevator furnishes transit between the various floors. There are also a rest room, toilet rooms and free telephone service for the convenience of the store's patrons.

Mr. Thedieck carries a most complete stock of almost everything needed for the personal use of man, woman or child, in addition to household goods and many other articles demanded by necessity, comfort or luxury. In the variety and quality of the stock, the prices asked, the service, and in its fittings and appointments, the Thedieck Department Store will bear comparison with

almost any store of its kind in the larger cities. Its trade extends widely into surrounding counties, its outside patrons being especially attracted by the reliable quality of the goods sold—a fact that has had perhaps the most to do with the marvelous growth of the business. The large outlet gives an immense purchasing power to the establishment, which enables it to buy for less money and consequently to sell for less. Large surplus lots are often purchased from the manufacturers at special price concessions, an advantage that is always shared with the customers. The building up of such a business is an achievement in which Mr. Thedieck can take a just pride—not merely from the fact that in so doing he has advanced his own personal fortunes, but still more in that he has conferred a real and substantial service upon his fellow citizens and knows that it is appreciated. It is unnecessary to pay any long rhetorical tribute to his business ability or force of character. What he has done speaks for itself. Such concerns as he has successfully established are not built up by weaklings or second-rate men. They are the work of great business generals—commercial Napoleons, so to speak. Aside from his own personal business interests, Mr. Thedieck takes a keen interest in the general prosperity of the city in which he has made his home, and shows an enlightened public spirit in many matters affecting the moral and material betterment of the community. He is a man of courteous and genial manners and enjoys a wide popularity.

Mr. Thedieck was married October 18, 1878, to Miss Ida C. Wagner, a daughter of Matthias Wagner, now deceased. He and his wife have been the parents of four children, namely: Charles M., Frank P., Inez M. and Paul C., of whom Charles M. and Paul C. are now deceased. All the members of the family belong to the Catholic church, and move in the best society of Sidney.

J. FRANK RICHESON, D. D. S.,\* a foremost citizen of Sidney, O., president of the city school board, is also the leading dental practitioner here, where he has been established since August 22, 1896. Dr. Richeson was born at St. Paris, Champaign county, O., December 6, 1871, and is a son of Samuel and Mary (Strousburg) Richeson. The father still resides in Champaign county.

J. Frank Richeson was reared and attended school at St. Paris and continued his studies until he was graduated from the St. Paris high school in 1891. Afterward he became a clerk in a grocery store, in the meanwhile preparing for college, subsequently entering the dental department of the Ohio Medical University of Columbus and was graduated from that institution in the spring of 1896, a few months later coming to Sidney, where he has built up a very large and substantial practice. Dr. Richeson has a well-equipped office and is a scientific and skillful practitioner.

On June 22, 1898, Dr. Richeson was married at Sidney to Miss Anna Graf, who was born in Shelby county, O., and they have two children: Samuel and Janice. Dr. Richeson belongs to the Masons and the Knights of Pythias and also to professional organizations. He is an active citizen, with

progressive ideas, and for three years has been a valued member of the school board and an encourager of all movements looking to civic improvement.

WILLIAM A. GRAHAM,\* cashier of the Citizens National Bank at Sidney, O., has been in the banking business for thirty-eight years and is well known in this section of Ohio in the financial field. He was born at Sidney, O., November 14, 1852, and is a son of Thomas B. and Jane E. (Gimm) Graham.

The Graham family originated in Scotland and was founded in the United States by the great-grandfather, who settled in Pennsylvania, where the grandfather, James A. Graham, was born. He moved to Kentucky at an early day and from there moved with his family to Shelby county, O., in 1822. His six sons, Robert, William, John, Thomas B., James and Samuel, all lived to the age of eighty years except Robert, and his three daughters, Eliza, Mary and Sarah, also survived into old age, the youngest becoming the wife of Dr. John Stephens.

Thomas B. Graham was born at Marysville, Ky., December 8, 1810, and was twelve years old when his parents moved to Shelby county. He followed the carpenter trade up to the age of fifty years, but engaged in farming from 1861 until he retired, his death occurring at Sidney, O., February 8, 1895, his age being eighty-four years and two months. He married Jane E. Gimm, who was born in County Donegal, Ireland, May 10, 1825, and in 1835 accompanied her parents to the United States and resided in the western part of Shelby county until her marriage. Her father, William Gimm, died in Shelby county and her mother died at Piqua, O. William Gimm was thrice married, the children born to his first union being: Robert, Andrew, William, George, Jane E. and Eliza G., the last named still surviving and residing at Perryburg, O. The five children of the second marriage all survive, namely: John, James, Johnston, Mary and Francis. The mother of William A. Graham died April 12, 1908. To Thomas B. Graham and wife the following children were born: Samuel A., who is deceased; William A.; Alexander, who for a number of years has been a fruit grower at Ashland, Ore., was formerly in business at Sidney, O.; John C., who died at Denver, Colo., of tuberculosis, December 25, 1907, was a graduate of the normal school at Lebanon, O., and of Starling Medical College and spent several years abroad in medical study; George T., who was accidentally drowned June 3, 1876, in the Miami river, when aged ten years; Emma J., who has been librarian of the public library at Sidney for the past fourteen years; and Anna M., who died January 1, 1876.

William A. Graham completed his education in the high school at Sidney and for three years afterward taught school during the winters and assisted his father on the farm during the summers. His first industrial experience away from home was a short season in the Watt Bros. warehouse at Sidney, but on June 9, 1874, he entered into the business in which he has continued and for which he certainly has been well adapted. On the above date he entered the First National Bank of Sidney, where he remained until Decem-

ber 15, 1875, when he became assistant cashier of the German-American Bank, where he continued until January 15, 1881. In this year he became cashier of the Citizens, then a private bank, which received its charter as a national bank on September 1, 1905. Since January, 1881, Mr. Graham has occupied this position, covering a period of thirty-one years, and all who do business with this old institution esteem him highly and have the greatest confidence in his conservative performance of duty. In 1899 he served as president of the Ohio Bankers' Association, prior to which he had been vice president, and he prepared the article on banking, giving a complete history of banking in Ohio, which is held by the association as an authentic and complete exposition of the business in this state. Mr. Graham owns a farm but his entire time is taken up with his financial duties, in a business way, and possibly for the same reason, he has never accepted any political office, although a public-spirited and interested citizen at all times and a staunch republican.

Mr. Graham was married September 16, 1880, to Miss Ada E. Wyman, who was born in Shelby county, a daughter of Hon. Nathan R. and Mary (Hale) Wyman. The father of Mrs. Graham was captain of a company that served with the Ninety-ninth Ohio Vol. Inf. during the Civil war and later was probate judge in Shelby county. He was born in Vermont and died at Sidney, O., in 1886. To Mr. and Mrs. Graham the following children have been born: Ralph, who graduated from Miami University in the class of 1904, is employed in the office of the vice president of the United Railway Company, Portland, Ore., married Eva Rose of that city and they have one son, William G.; Anna E., who married Albert G. Horn, a prominent citizen of Lorain, O., and they have two children—Elizabeth and William Graham; and Robert M., who is a member of the class of 1913, Miami University, at Oxford, O. Mr. Graham and family belong to the Presbyterian church, in which he is an elder. He is identified with the Masonic fraternity and belongs to blue lodge, council, chapter and commandery, all at Sidney: He is a trustee of the public library and a director of the Sidney Commercial Club.

EARL LEE, \* a leading citizen of Shelby county, O., now serving in his third term as a member of the city council of Sidney, representing the Third ward, has important business interests as well, being extensively engaged in the real estate business and the sole owner of the Earl Lee Company, wholesale and retail liquor dealers and compounders of medicines. Mr. Lee was born at Wiley Station, Darke county, O., January 4, 1879, and is a son of Thomas and Emma Lee. The father of Mr. Lee was engaged in the timber business prior to 1891, when he retired to Sidney, and is now deceased.

Earl Lee accompanied his parents to different points in Ohio as best suited his father's business affairs, and when the family settled permanently at Sidney he entered the public schools here. In 1898 he embarked in the liquor business at Wapakoneta, O., where he continued until 1901, when he sold out and returned to Sidney and took charge of what is now the Earl Lee Company, the business having been founded by his brother, Val Lee, in 1891,



who is now chief deputy state fire marshal. The medicines compounded by the above company are all prepared according to the pure drug act and bear the U. S. government tax stamp, the remedies being known as the Leecuru medicines and they have a wide sale and are considered specifics for many diseases. In handling real estate, Mr. Lee makes auction and private lot sales a specialty and offers reliable realty, home owning and business investment propositions. His value to his fellow citizens as a member of the council, to which he was elected on the democratic ticket, is very generally recognized on account of his intense public spirit, and the business acumen which is needful in public matters as well as personal enterprises.

Mr. Lee was married to Miss Flora Heil, who is a daughter of Henry and Minnie Heil, and they have two children: Forest and Esther. In 1911 Mr. Lee erected his handsome modern residence on South Main avenue, Sidney.

JOHN F. GIVEN, \* vice president and general manager of the R. Given & Sons Company, at Sidney, O., manufacturers of saddlery and tanners, has been identified with this business since 1888. He was born at Sidney, O. October 9, 1863, and is a son of Robert and Catherine Given.

John F. Given was given no other educational advantage than those afforded by the public schools and he began his business life as a brakeman on the C. H. & D. Railroad, later becoming and working as conductor on the Big Four Railroad, leaving railroad life to enter his present line of business. When it was incorporated he became vice president and general manager and in this capacity travels all over the United States looking after the company's interests.

A brief history of this important business enterprise of Sidney may be of interest, illustrating as it does the results that follow business persistency, capacity and honesty. In the fifties a tannery already stood on a very small portion of the ground now occupied by the main building of the present plant, and there, in a somewhat primitive way, tanning was done. When Robert Given, father of John F., came to Sidney, in 1854, he took charge of the tannery, but a business association was not entered into by him until 1868, when, with S. Alexander Leckey, he purchased the plant and thus really founded the present business. At that time there was one small building, while now the buildings cover one-quarter of a square, not mentioning the machine shop across the street nor the tanyards and house on East avenue. The main building covers the lot 165x165 feet, three stories and basement, with one part four stories, thus making the floor space now occupied by the main building alone 108,000 square feet. Mr. Leckey died in 1881 and the business was taken over by Mr. Given and later, at his death, the enterprise was continued by his sons, John and Charles, with J. C. Royon. In 1901 the company was incorporated under the laws of Ohio as the R. Given & Sons Company and it has continued to prosper. At the present time of writing extensive additions are under way and when completed the present factory will be doubled in size.

Wherever collars are used for horses the R. Given & Sons tannery is known, a large trade being done throughout the Northwest, in Texas and all through the Central states and the products have also invaded the European market. The hides are secured from Cincinnati, Chicago and other points where great packing houses are established, and every known method that has satisfactorily stood the test is used in this great factory for the final production of its goods. To its general manager, John F. Given, must be attributed a large measure of the present undoubted prosperity. Sidney takes justifiable pride in this industry, for Sidney men and Sidney capital are the spirit and motive power, and its large pay roll contributes to Sidney's wealth.

Mr. Given was married to Miss Bessie B. Leckey, June 14, 1883, a daughter of the late S. Alexander Leckey, and they have two children: Gertrude and Edward. Mr. Given is a Republican in his political views and has frequently been called upon to fill responsible local offices, for ten years being a member of the board of equalization, president of the board of tax commissioners of Shelby county and a trustee of the Sinking Fund.

Although necessarily absorbed in business as a manager of the concern above described, Mr. Given has always taken a public spirited interest in his section as above indicated and has supported every movement, which, in his opinion, would promote the advancement of the community. His contributions to charity have been timely and liberal. He is a thirty-second degree Mason and a member of the Mystic Shrine and holds the office of exalted ruler in the local lodge of Elks.

JOHN CAREY CUMMINS, cashier of the First National Exchange Bank, at Sidney, O., a leading citizen and lifelong resident, was born here December 20, 1859, and is a son of John E. and Harriet K. (Carey) Cummins.

John E. Cummins was born at Mifflintown, Pa., a son of Joseph Cummins, a merchant and miller, whom he accompanied to Shelby county, O., in 1834. He died at Sidney in 1875, when aged forty-four years. He married Harriet K. Carey, a daughter of John W. Carey, and her death occurred in 1876, when she was aged forty-three years. Three sons survived them, namely: Joseph Knox, at one time auditor of Shelby county, who resides at Washington, D. C.; John Carey, subject of this sketch, and Frank C., who is a resident of Chicago, Ill.

John Carey Cummins was educated at Sidney, being graduated from the high school in 1875. During the greater part of his life he has been identified with the banking business, beginning in 1876 with the old First National Bank of Sidney. For a short time he was connected with the Big Four Railroad and then for twenty-five years was with the Citizens National Bank. Since November 1, 1906, he has been cashier of the First National Exchange Bank, his bank record covering a space of thirty-four years.

In 1881 Mr. Cummins was married to Miss Jennie A. Taylor, a daughter of O. J. Taylor, of Sidney, and they have three children: Harriet K., Taylor and Robert. Taylor Cummins is engaged in the practice of law. He was educated in the public schools, the Ohio State University and Miami Univer-

sity and afterward read law in the office of J. D. Barnes, at Sidney. He was admitted to the bar in December, 1909. Mr. Cummins was reared in the Presbyterian church. In politics he is a democrat and at times has served in the town council, being always a strong advocate of progress and reform. As a citizen he stands high, enjoying the confidence and respect of all with whom he has relations.

ORD OTTERBEIN LEMASTER, M.D., who is engaged in medical practice in Kettlersville, Van Buren township, is a son of Luman W. and Mary (Chew) LeMaster, the father a native of Shelby county, Ohio. His parents' family consisted of ten children—Beulah S., Luman C., William C., Mary E., Bertha T., Edith M., Una Maude, Arthur, Vernon W., and Ord O.—whose record in brief is as follows: Beulah S. married Lynn L. Rockwell and resides in Jay county, Indiana. Luman C. married Belle Wherley and they also reside in Jay county, Ind. William C. married Lotta E. Lewis and their home is at Montrose, Colo. Mary Elsie is the wife of Mathias J. Atkinson of Jay county, Ind. Bertha married John F. Yeager, principal of schools at Brazil, Ind., where they reside. Una Maude is the wife of Dr. G. W. Phillips and lives in David City, Nebraska. Edith M. married Henry Meinholtz and they reside in Okmulgee, Okla. Arthur R. married Maude McGlaughlin and their home is in Jay county, Ind. Vernon is attending school at Ann Arbor, Mich.

Ord O. LeMaster acquired his literary education in the public schools of Jay county, Ind., and the Portland Normal school, subsequently pursuing his medical studies at Starling Medical College, Columbus, Ohio. After his graduation he located in Kettlersville, this county, where he has since built up a very good practice. He owns some valuable property, including his own fine residence and makes use of an automobile in visiting his patients. Dr. LeMaster married Emma W. G. Gormhausen, a daughter of John and Mary (Strausburgh) Gormhausen, whose children, in addition to Mrs. LeMaster, were Florence, John, Edward, Charles, Anna, Benjamin, Ida, Otto, and Laura. Of the above mentioned Florence, John, Edward, and Otto are now deceased, Florence dying in 1912. Mrs. LeMaster is a member of St. Peter's Lutheran church. The Doctor is a Republican in politics. He keeps in touch with the latest discoveries in medical and surgical science, and as a citizen is ever ready to support any practical measures for the moral or material betterment of the community. He has advanced as far as the Chapter in the Masonic order.

HERMAN J. ALTHOFF, general merchant and postmaster at Kettlersville, O., was born on a farm near New Bremen, O., in 1852, son of George and Anna Althoff. His parents, who came to this country from Germany, had a family of ten children, namely: Laura, Henry, Catherine, John, Catherine (second), August, Herman, Christian, Henry (second), and Anna. Of the two daughters named Catherine, one married Frederick Soelmann and still resides in this county, her husband being now deceased. John married Anna Soelmann and they reside in Sidney, O. August died at the age of six years.

Christian was twice married. His first wife, Anna, dying, he married secondly Emma May and resides in Van Buren township. Henry first married Alvina Deckefust, who died, and he then married Katie Hersfeldt. They reside at New Bremen, O. Anna also lives in New Bremen, O., and is the wife of Henry Ellerman.

Herman J. Althoff was educated in the district schools and subsequently followed agricultural pursuits for many years, or until 1900. He then engaged in mercantile business in Kettlersville, this county, which occupation he has followed up to the present time, being recognized as a successful merchant. His prosperity has been achieved by honest dealing and close attention to business. He keeps a good stock of such goods as are likely to be called for in a rural community, and his many patrons find that they can obtain as good value for their money as they could by trading in the larger towns or cities. He was appointed postmaster of Kettlersville in 1905 and has conducted the office in such a manner as to satisfy both Uncle Sam and the residents of the village and vicinity. Mr. Althoff owns the building in which his store is located and also another block located opposite to same. In politics he is a Democrat and has served ably in local office, having been trustee, treasurer; was township trustee for six years; also served as assessor and as councilman of the village. He is a member of the Lutheran church, in which he has served as secretary for years.

Mr. Althoff married Doretta Meyer, a daughter of Conrad Meyer, and has had three children: Rosa, now deceased; Hermena, who married William Poppe and resides in Kettlersville, and Araminta, who married Edward Poppe and is also a resident of Kettlersville. The family is among the best known and most respected in this locality.

**JULIUS W. C. KETTLER**, a well known citizen and retired farmer, residing in Kettlersville, Van Buren township, was born in New Bremen, Auglaize county, O., in 1852, a son of William and Minnie (Donnerberg) Kettler. His parents were natives of Germany who came to America in the forties of the 19th century. Their family consisted of three children: Sophia, Matilda, and Julius W. C. Sophia, who became the wife of August Mauer, resides in Kettlersville, this county; Matilda married William Tangeman and resides in the state of Iowa.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the schools of New Bremen, O., and after his school days were over obtained a position as clerk in a hardware store, subsequently working for a while in a dry goods store. He then took a trip to Germany, and after his return was associated with his father in the store for three years. He then engaged in agriculture and was so occupied for a period of 34 years—from 1875 to 1909—at the end of which time, having amassed a fair competence, he retired and took up his residence in the village of Kettlersville. He owns a good farm of 150 acres and some favorably situated town property besides 22 lots within the corporation.

Mr. Kettler and wife Maria have been the parents of six children, namely: Clara, Mahala, Amelia, Laura, Emma and Herbert. Clara, who married

William Mauer, resides in Kettlersville. She is the mother of twin sons, Vernon and Ernest. Mahala married W. Breidweiser, and they reside in New Bremen. She has two children, Glenna, who is attending high school, and Oran, at home. Amelia is the wife of Aerny Tangeman and resides on her father's farm. She has two children, Marie and Helen. Laura married William Webber and lives in Lima, O. Emma is the wife of G. R. Brandt and lives in Dayton. She has one child, Carl. Herbert is a student at Ohio State University, Columbus.

Mr. Kettler is a Democrat in politics and served as township clerk for a period of fourteen years. He was also village clerk for four years. A member of the Lutheran church, he has acted as a trustee, secretary, and elder for years. He is a man highly respected throughout this part of the township.

WILLIAM VORDERMARK, a retired farmer residing in Kettlersville, O., was born in Germany in 1841, a son of Eberhardt and Catherine (Budde-meyer) Vordermark. His mother died in her native land, and her husband, the father of our subject, coming to this country, died only three days after arriving here.

It was in 1865 that William Vordermark landed in this country, after having acquired a practical education in his native land. He settled first in Cincinnati, O., where he resided for thirteen years, working mostly at his trade of brick mason. He then removed to New Knoxville, where he lived for a year and a half, after which he bought a farm in Van Buren township, Shelby county, O. Here he resided until 1909, where he retired from agricultural pursuits and took up his residence in Kettlersville, where he now owns his own home and is comfortably situated in life. He still, however, occasionally works at his trade. He was married in Cincinnati, O., to Christina Barkman, a daughter of Ernest Barkman, and he and his wife became the parents of a daughter, Sophia, who now resides at the home in Kettlersville. Mr. Vordermark is one of the prominent citizens of Van Buren township. He belongs to the Lutheran church, and is also a member of the County Fair board, on which, being a practical farmer, he has rendered good service. Politically he is a Republican. Of his parents' family, in addition to himself, there were four sons and five daughters, namely: Henry, Fred, Ernest, Adolph, Elizabeth, Catherina, Sophia, Fredrica, and Minnie.

CHARLES STEIN, a well known shoe merchant of Kettlersville, O., was born at New Bremen, O., in 1854. His father, Frederick Stein, was a native of Germany who, after coming to this country, located in New Bremen, Auglaize county, O. The subject of this sketch was educated in the district school, and at the early age of eight years began to make himself useful on a farm. He subsequently followed agricultural pursuits until his marriage, at which time he engaged in the shoe business in Kettlersville and has since remained thus occupied, being now one of the oldest merchants in the town. In addition to his store in Kettlersville, he owns some good property in Sidney, O. Mr. Stein married Louisa Bucholtz, a daughter of Ernest Bucholtz,

and of this marriage there were two children—Julius and Theodore. The former, Julius, married Ida Bumbauer, and has two children; they reside in Sidney, O. Mr. Charles Stein is a member of the Lutheran church, in which he is now serving as trustee and treasurer. Politically he is a Democrat. He has one full sister, Minnie, who married Henry Heator and resides in Urbana, Ohio. He has also a half sister, Rosa, who married John Misner, a Lutheran minister, her husband, however, being now deceased. A half brother of Mr. Stein's, Henry Mouch, married Mary Kah, and they are now residents of Shelby county. Frederick, a full brother of our subject, is now deceased. Mr. Stein is among the best known among Kettlersville's prosperous citizens and is highly esteemed in the community. A good business man, he has conquered success by his own efforts and is known throughout the community as a reliable merchant, with whom it is always safe to trade.

HON. CHARLES M. WYMAN, one of the most prominent business men of Sidney, O., who has been active also in political life, was born and reared in this city. He received his elementary education in the parochial school, and afterward attended the public schools, being graduated from the high school in 1892. He gained his first business experience as clerk in Thedieck's department store and was soon advanced to manager and buyer for the shoe department and finally to the position of advertising manager. Becoming active in politics he rendered good service to his party and was nominated and elected in 1908, as representative to the 78th General Assembly of Ohio. He is an eloquent and convincing public speaker, and as an energetic and capable business man has few superiors. His affable disposition and genial manners render him personally popular, and he has a wide circle of friends. He holds membership in a number of fraternal orders, including the following: Grand Lodge of Elks, being past exalted ruler of Sidney Lodge No. 786 and was its representative to the convention at Dallas, Texas; also deputy grand knight of Sidney Council, No. 659, Knights of Columbus, and secretary of the Fourth Degree Assembly; worthy chaplain of Sidney Aerie No. 1403, Fraternal Order of Eagles; Tawawa Tribe, No. 67, I. O. R. M.; and Alaphretta Council, No. 67½, Degree of Pocahontas.

CHARLES A. MAURER, county surveyor of Shelby county, O., and a well known and valued citizen, has been a resident of Sidney, O., since 1909, coming from Van Buren township, where he was born December 19, 1885. His parents were Adam and Caroline (Sunderman) Maurer.

Adam Maurer was born also in Van Buren township, Shelby county, a son of Philip Maurer who had come to this section from Germany. Adam Maurer followed an agricultural life and died on his farm in Van Buren township in February, 1895. He married Caroline Sunderman, who was born in Auglaize county, O., and still survives.

Charles A. Maurer grew to manhood on the home farm and secured his primary education in the country schools. Developing an unusual mathematical talent he decided to study civil engineering and became a student in the

Ohio Northern University at Ada, O., where he was graduated in 1909. He immediately was appointed deputy county surveyor, and the experience gained in that capacity prepared him for the office he now fills so well, to which he was elected in 1912, on the Democratic ticket. He is a young man of enterprise and marked ability.

In 1910 Mr. Maurer was married to Miss Gertrude Lucas, of Van Buren township, Shelby county. They attend the Evangelical church. He is identified with several fraternal organizations including: the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of the Golden Eagle, and some social and political bodies.

JACOB HELMLINGER, who resides on his well cultivated farm of 120 acres, in Jackson township, two miles north of Jackson Center, and who has served three years as township trustee, was born in this township, July 25, 1860, a son of Philip and Elizabeth (Metz) Helmlinger. His mother died December 15, 1910. Our subject was reared and attended school in this township and remained on his parents' farm until his marriage to Lena Zorn, a native of Jackson township, and daughter of Jacob and Margaret Zorn. He then settled on his present farm, on which he has made a number of substantial improvements. About 30 acres are still in woodland. Mr. Helmlinger is engaged in general farming and is one of the prosperous agriculturists of the township. He is a Democrat in politics and formerly served in the office of school director. His religious affiliations are with the Lutheran church. He and his wife have been the parents of children as follows: John Henry, William, Michael, Clarence, C. Helmlinger, Margaret and Mary. Mr. Helmlinger's large barn, measuring 80 by 40 feet, was erected by him. His farm is up-to-date in every respect and he is numbered among the useful and prosperous citizens of the township.

WILLIAM SCHNEEBERGER, a prominent citizen of Jackson township, now serving as president of the board of township trustees, was born in Dinsmore township, this county, three miles northwest of Anna, on February 2, 1861. His parents were Louis and Madolena (Koahl) Schneeberger. The father, a native of Germany, came to this country after his marriage and resided here many years, dying at the age of eighty-one; he was buried at Montra, this township. He was a member of the Lutheran church and a Democrat in politics, though not active as a politician. He was the father of four children who are now living. After the death of his first wife, the mother of our subject, he contracted a second marriage.

William Schneeberger was a babe of about eighteen months when he lost his mother, and at a comparatively early age he was obliged to make himself useful. He attended school for awhile in Auglaize county, and on arriving at a suitable age, learned the trade of carpenter, which he now follows, also being a contractor for the raising of barns, the moving of buildings and other similar work, in which line of industry he has been very successful. He owns eleven acres in the Montra special school district, with residence located on

the Murphy Pike extension. As president of the board of township trustees he is now rendering efficient service in looking after the general interests of the township and is a man in whom his fellow citizens have full confidence. Mr. Schneeberger married Madolena Allenbaugh, who is now deceased. She was the mother of one child, Louis E. Mr. Schneeberger subsequently married Amelia Korn, a daughter of John M. T. Korn, and of this union there is one child, Wilma. Since his second marriage he has been a resident of Montra.

JOHN M. HUGHES, a retired farmer residing in Jackson township, who has served two years as township trustee, was born in Miami county, Ohio, Dec. 18, 1850, a son of E. H. and Elizabeth Hughes. He was five years old when he accompanied his parents to this township. After acquiring a fair practical education in the local schools, he took up agricultural work on the home farm, where he remained until 20 years of age. He was subsequently engaged for nine years in farm work in Salem township. He then returned and settled on a farm of his own, adjoining that of the parental homestead, it being located in section 22, about two miles south of Jackson Center. This farm, which is known as "Woodland," contains 105 acres of good land, ten acres of which are still in timber. It is well improved and drained and the substantial buildings now standing thereon were all erected by our subject.

Mr. Hughes married Mary Cargill of Port Jefferson, O., a daughter of John Cargill. They have had children as follows: Kate, the wife of W. M. Zimpfer; Clay, who is now operating the farm; Flossie, wife of John Akers, and two who are deceased. Mr. Hughes is a Republican in politics and formerly served as school director. He is a man highly respected in Jackson township, of which he is one of the prosperous and representative citizens.



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Shelby County, Ohio

AND

Representative Citizens

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BY

A. B. C. HITCHCOCK  
SIDNEY, OHIO

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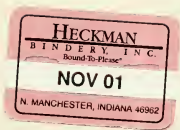












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