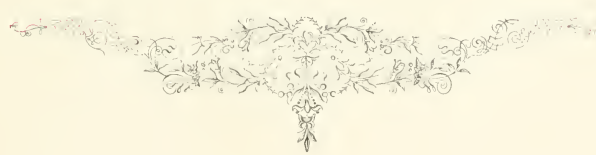
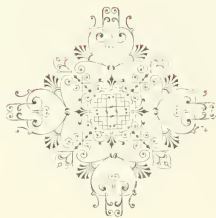




†LANGASTER COUNTY,†
NEBRASKA.





INTRODUCTORY.

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

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

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

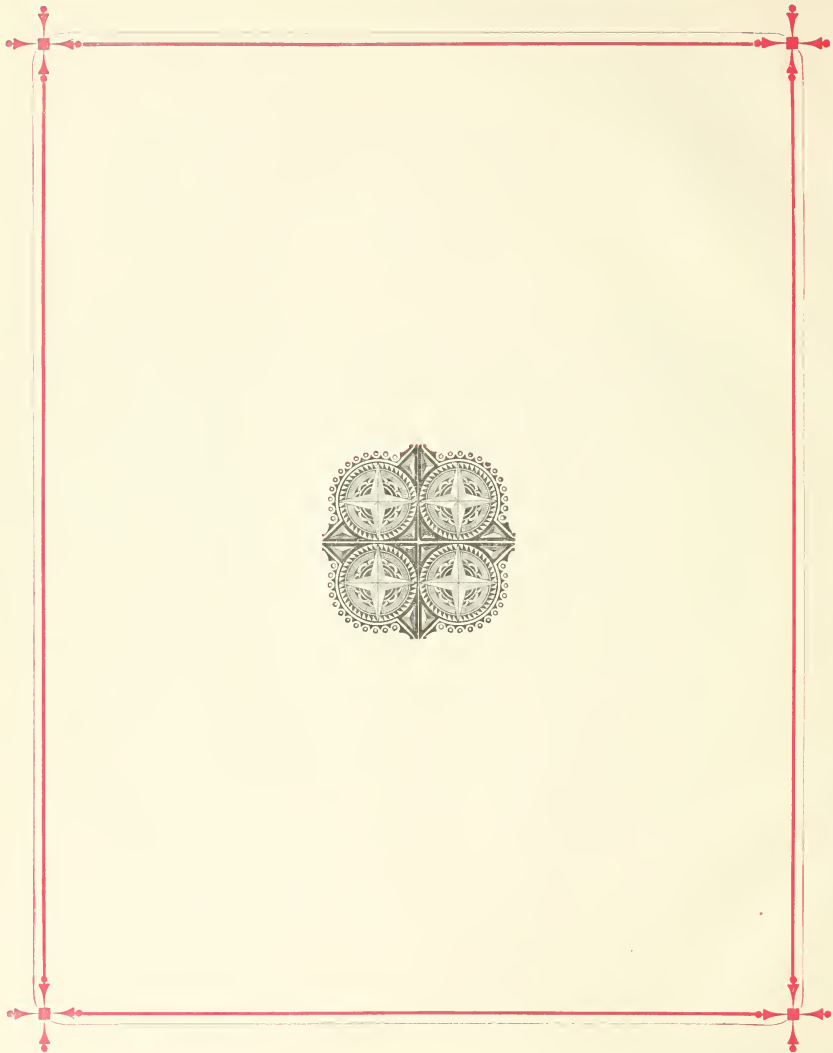
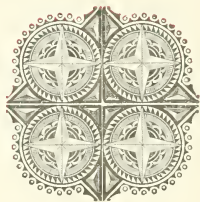
to perpetuate the memory of their achievements. The erection of the great obelisks were for the same purpose. Coming down to a later period, we find the Greeks and Romans erecting mausoleums and monuments, and carving out statues to chronicle their great achievements and carry them down the ages. It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

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

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

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

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





*Yours truly
J M Marquett*



BIOGRAPHICAL

TURNER M. MARQUETT, General Attorney for the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad Company in Nebraska, has his residence and business headquarters in the city of Lincoln, and is a man who thoroughly understands the details of his chosen profession, the law. A native of Clarke County, Ohio, he was born in the city of Springfield, July 9, 1831, and is the second son of a family of nine. The parents were natives of Virginia, and removed from the Old Dominion to Ohio during its pioneer days. On the father's side the ancestors were French and German; on the mother's side the ancestors were English and Scotch. His father was a farmer by occupation, and afterward removed to the Buckeye State, and carried on agriculture successfully in Clarke County, and there spent the remainder of his life.

Turner M. spent his days after the manner of the sons of pioneer farmers, acquiring a limited education in the primitive schools, which were carried on mostly in the winter seasons. At the age of twenty years, wishing to advance in the knowledge of the classics in the higher branches, he entered the Ohio University, at Athens, from which he was graduated in the scientific course, and in the spring of 1856 he left his native State, wending his steps

westward, and crossing the Mississippi, came into the Territory of Nebraska, stopping first at Plattsmouth, in Cass County, and occupied himself, first, during the winter of 1856-57, in the employ of William M. Slaughter, clerking in a store for his board. In the spring of 1857 he hung out his shingle as an attorney-at-law, and practiced in that vicinity until the year 1874. During his stay there he was elected a member of the Territorial Legislature, in which he served three terms, and was four years in the council of the Territory.

Mr. Marquett, in June, 1866, was elected as the Republican candidate for Congress from Nebraska, the State having previous to that date received the enabling act, and at that time voted upon the question of its admission as a State into the Union, and also elected a full set of officers, including one Congressman. The State was admitted on the 2d of March, A. D., 1867, and Mr. Marquett's term of office as Congressman simply lasted two days and three nights, in which time he had the pleasure of voting on all of the reconstruction acts passed over the veto of Andrew Johnson. In relating this part of his history Mr. Marquett said that he might under the law have served two years in Congress as well as two days; but under the circumstances he preferred the two days to the two years. It happened in this wise: "I was elected to Congress in June; the State was not admitted until the next general election in our State, which was in October. At that time it was thought best to elect a delegate for the Fortieth Congress, and also a Congressman. I was elected for delegate, and

John Taft for Congress. I went on in December, and worked hard for the admission of the State, which was admitted on the 2d of March. It then became a question of whether myself and the two Senators, who had been elected to represent the State, Gov. John M. Thayer and Thomas W. Tipton, should be sworn into the Thirty-ninth Congress or should wait until the 4th of March, and be sworn in on the Fortieth Congress. They both determined that they would wait for the Fortieth Congress. This would give them two years longer time. I could have waited and been Congressman for the Fortieth Congress, and as there was no law in the enabling act to elect but one Congressman, I knew that under the law I could hold my seat, and was advised by my friends not to be sworn in until the Fortieth Congress, and I admit it was something of a temptation to do as the Senators proposed to do, and which would give me two years instead of two days in Congress; but, on the other hand, I reflected that it would hardly be the right thing toward my friend John Taft, and hence, as soon as the State was admitted, I appeared on the floor of the House and was sworn in. Politicians from Nebraska looked at it as a foolish move; I deemed it but right. It was the right thing to do, but I never got credit for it. I believe there was no paper in Nebraska, that spoke of it at all, but what spoke of it as being foolish upon my part. I recollect one of the papers in commenting upon it said that the Senators were sharp enough not to be sworn in till the Fortieth Congress; I had no more sense than to go in and be sworn out of a two-years term of Congress. I looked upon it as the right thing to do, and would do it again." Mr. Marquett added, "You see I am a failure as a politician." But we think this but illustrated Mr. Marquett's character; he would rather do a square thing than be Congressman for two years.

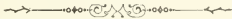
Our subject now returned to Plattsmouth, where he resumed the practice of law. He changed his residence to Lincoln in 1874, and soon afterward formed a partnership with Anasa Cobb. They practiced law until 1878, under the firm name of Cobb & Marquett, and sometimes under the firm name of Cobb, Marquett & Moore. Mr. Cobb was then appointed Judge of the Supreme Court,

and our subject continued the business mostly alone for some time. He is now at the head of the firm of Marquett, Deweese & Hall, and enjoying an extensive and lucrative practice of his profession. Mr. Marquett has been twice married; first in November, 1861, to Miss Harriet Border, a native of Illinois, who died at her home in Lincoln, in June, 1883, leaving four children: The eldest, Bell, is now the wife of Clifford Teft; Harriet married George H. Fawell; and Gertrude and John are at home.

Mr. Marquett contracted a second marriage in 1885, with Mrs. Asenath Stetson. The family residence is pleasantly located on the corner of P and Eighteenth streets, in this city, and Mr. and Mrs. Marquett enjoy the acquaintance and friendship of the cultivated people of Lincoln. On inquiry Mr. Marquett told the writer that he was not a rich man as some thought he was, but what he had he thought fairly represented what he had made under our free contract system. He had never been able to make anything by speculation. Mr. Marquett added, "My religion largely consists of the belief that a man ought to be satisfied with what he can squarely earn under the free contract system, dealing justly with all, and that the sin of our times is in the great efforts of so many trying to get something for nothing." He has always voted the Republican ticket, and has held his present position in connection with the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad since 1869, a period of nearly twenty years. He has been a close student and extensive reader, well balanced mentally, has made a good record in his particular field of labor, and we take pleasure in presenting his portrait in the most prominent place in this ALBUM.

Mr. Marquett's success as a lawyer depends upon the thoroughness with which he always understood his case, not only the general outline, but in detail. In the trial of a case he was original, and the opposite counsel might look for the case to take an unexpected turn at any time. I was told the following expedient of his to test the credibility of a witness: He was defending a man for murder; the murder had been committed by sending a bottle of whisky through the express office drugged with poison; the evidence of the prosecution depended

upon the express agent, who in the preliminary examination identified Marquett's client as the man who delivered to him the bottle. When this witness came upon the stand to testify in the case, Mr. Marquett got a person that favored his client to sit by his side while the witness testified, to whisper in his ear as though he was the accused, while the accused was sitting with his back to the witness and was busy writing. The witness identified the man that sat by the side of Marquett as the guilty man, and as the man that had brought the bottle in and delivered it to him. Thus the credibility of the witness was destroyed, and the accused acquitted. In the conduct of a case he is not content with following in the old beaten lines which are ordinarily followed in a trial, but goes outside and gathers up everything that bears upon the case or will aid his client; in short, his success has depended upon this thoroughness in all the details of a case, and the original manner in which he presented it.



CHARLES BUELOW. Among the men of Yankee Hill Precinct who might justly rank as representative farmers is Charles Buelow, who resides on section 7, Yankee Hill Precinct. His father and mother, Joachim and Dora Buelow, were both natives of Mecklenburg, Germany, where also our subject was born, Feb. 14, 1836. He had five brothers and sisters—Henry, Frederick (now deceased), Ricca, Mary and Annie. When Charles was about nineteen years of age his father was removed from the home circle by death. Some twenty years since his mother emigrated to America, and now resides in New Jersey. Our subject was well educated in the schools of his native country, and is thoroughly conversant with his native language. In 1858 he took passage from Hamburg in a sailing-vessel, and after six long dreary weeks of tossing upon the great Atlantic rollers, and anon groping through the fogs of the Newfoundland banks, he landed in New York. After the first awkwardness of suddenly entering into the midst of surroundings so new, strange, and often unintelligent, had been dispelled by more intimate acquaintance with the New World, he pro-

ceeded direct to Chicago, Ill., and for three years worked in the vicinity of that city as a farm hand. At the outbreak of the Civil War, while the echo of the cannon before Ft. Sumter was still reverberating through the land, stirring the heart and firing the brain of every true friend of the Union, our subject enlisted in the 6th Pennsylvania Regiment. After the necessary drilling and training he was ordered to the front, and took part in the engagement at Bull Run and several other of the early battles and minor engagements. At the close of his term he was honorably discharged, and took up his residence in Pennsylvania. He continued to reside in that State for many years, engaged at different times in the grocery business, and as owner of a canal boat. He has also spent much time in travel, which gave him many opportunities of educational value which he was enabled to utilize, and to-day possesses as the result a well-stored, vigorous mind, replete with information on a vast range of subjects gathered from many sources.

Mr. Buelow married in Pennsylvania, in 1862, a most estimable lady, like himself a native of the Fatherland. There has been born to them a large family of children, of whom, however, only nine survive—Ricca, Dora, Lizzie L., George, Charles, Anne, Minnie, Frederick and Lotta. He came to this county in the spring of 1877, and bought the land where he now resides, which comprises a farm of eighty acres, which has well repaid all the energies and care devoted to it. Whether we turn to the fields and mark the superior agricultural efforts, to the barns and stables with their improved stock, or to the house with its pleasant rooms, which reflect in their arrangement and order the well-directed, cheerful lives and dispositions of the inmates, we are satisfied that Nebraska must go on rapidly toward the grand future which is hers, and which must come to any country possessing such homes. In the beginning Mr. Buelow had many difficulties to contend with. His parents were far from wealthy, and just at the age when most eldest sons, needing a start in life, feel the pressure inseparable from a large family of brothers and sisters under such circumstances, the father, to whom he naturally looked for counsel and help in the early efforts of his young manhood, was taken from him by death.

Instead of sitting down in weakness and complaint, as so many have done, Mr. Buelow rose and gave battle to the unfavorable surroundings of adversity; untrained and untried, he rose to work and labor for self-improvement and self-advancement, linking with these the desire to help the mother left alone by the same great trial. It is not too much to say that whatever our subject may be to-day in intelligence, in property or social status, he owes, under Providence, to his own constant, intelligently directed efforts and perseverance. He has always remained in the communion of the Lutheran Church, in which he was reared in the old country. In politics Mr. Buelow is a Republican, but his votes are always cast more with a view to the improvement of the county and State, and the elevation of society, than the mere advancement to office of some member of his party, and yet withal there is no more ardent and consistent Republican than he.



THOMAS F. CHENOWETH. It is our pleasure to present in this sketch an outline of the history of the Superintendent of the Lancaster County Poor Farm, who also owns and works an exceptionally fine farm of forty acres on section 20, Oak Precinct, where he gives his attention to general farming and stock-raising.

The father of our subject was born Feb. 21, 1821, in Madison County, Ohio. Like the vast majority, at that time at least, his education was completed when he had gone through the classes of the common schools, and from that on his attention was given to farming and stock-raising. He has continued to reside in the same county, and still makes it his home. In the year 1842 he entered into a matrimonial alliance with Lucretia Sidner, who was born in Kentucky, in about 1826. Seven children have been added to this family, and they were named as follows: Joseph, John, Thomas, Mary, Simeon, Zenas and Foster. The second son died while serving in the army, in 1863; Mary was the wife of Harvey Clarridge, and died in the year 1873. With these two exceptions the remainder of the family circle are still living and well settled in life.

Hezekiah Chenoweth, the father of our subject,

who has now retired from the more active engagements of life, has been one of the most successful farmers of his native county. His father, John F. Chenoweth, grandfather of our subject, was born in Ross County, Ohio, and then removed to Madison County while a young man, continuing his residence in the latter until his death in 1887, aged ninety-three years and four months.

Our subject was born in Madison County, Ohio, in the vicinity of West Jefferson, Oct. 28, 1845. His education was obtained in the common schools, and after its curriculum had been finished his attention was turned to the farm and stock-raising. He continued to work with his father until he was about twenty-three years of age, when he went to Kansas, which occurred in 1869. There he continued for one year, and then went to Texas, where he made his home until the spring of 1873. From there he went on to Missouri, and thence to Colorado, where he remained until 1876, when he again made his home in Kansas and Iowa. In 1877 he came to this county, and decided in favor of making it his future home, believing that it offered more advantages as a whole than any other place he had seen. He therefore purchased a farm and erected a very substantial residence, frame building commodiously arranged, and in addition put up a large barn and the usual farm buildings.

One period of the life of our subject must not be passed without notice. Before leaving for the Far West he had heard the demand of his country for men to defend her honor and sustain the Union. In March, 1864, he enlisted in Company C, 40th Ohio Volunteers, and served until the close of the war. He saw active service in the Atlanta campaign, his company being engaged in all the battles and most of the skirmishes of that campaign. He also took part in the battles which occurred when Gen. Thomas was en route to Nashville with Gen. Hood after him. Also at Bulls' Gap, after which they went back to the camp at Cumberland River, near Nashville. Their orders next carried them via New Orleans and the Mexican Gulf into Texas, whence the company returned to be discharged at the close of the war.

Our subject was married to Miss Alice A. Brown, of this precinct, in November, 1881, and we would

refer the reader desirous of perusing the history of her parents and home previous to this time to the sketch of Alba Brown, her father. The issue of this union has been a family of three children, two only of whom, however, are living. Their names are May and Mary, and they were born in this precinct. Miss Brown was born in Fremont County, near Sibley, Iowa, Nov. 16, 1858, but her parents shortly after removed to Nebraska City, where she was brought up to the age of eleven; then she came with her parents to Oak Creek. Her education was commenced in the common schools, and afterward completed at Lincoln University. Upon her graduation from the latter institution she remained at home until her marriage. She is a lady in every way worthy of the high regard in which she is held, and capable of sustaining a high social status. The family is held in the highest esteem in the community. Our subject has held the office of Superintendent of the Poor Farm since September, 1887, and is filling that office in a way that is gaining for him the respect and confidence of the community. The county poor farm has been established some sixteen years, and comprises 240 acres of good land on the west side of section 43, possesses a good two-story frame building, 32x64 feet, and has some seventy head of cattle and eleven horses, about sixty head of grown hogs, beside other stock. The average number of inmates of the house in summer is twenty. This, however, is largely increased during the winter months. In addition to these it is customary to have some of the incurably insane upon the premises. There are two hired men constantly engaged in work about the premises.

In politics, Mr. Chenoweth is a strong and active Republican.



LEWIS BAKER is a worthy farmer residing on section 1 of Centerville Precinct. He is a son of Adam and Margaret Baker, his father having been a native of Virginia, and his mother of Pennsylvania. His parents were among the early settlers of Darke County, Ohio, our subject being the eldest child, his birth occurring on the 20th of January, 1826. When about thirteen or fourteen years old, death deprived him of that good

friend, comforter and adviser, his mother, and he remained with his father most of the time until he reached his majority. When he was twenty-one years old he began making brick in Ohio, and followed that business for some twenty years, most of the time conducting the business for himself. Being deprived of the advantages offered to young men nowadays, his education is somewhat limited, but he has profited much by his experience and the experience of others, and is not uninformed on the important topics of the day.

In October of the year 1850, our subject was married, in Ohio, to Nancy J. Dunwoodie, and they have become the parents of two children: Winfield S., residing in Lincoln, Neb., and Amanda, deceased. Some four years after his marriage he was deprived of the society and companionship of his first wife by the call which comes to cottage or mansion, to the low or the high in estate, that of the Angel Death, who will not be denied. On the 28th of April, 1859, our subject was married to Sarah E. Walker, by whom he has three children—Susan, Margaret J. and Adam (deceased).

In the spring of 1872 Mr. Baker came to Lancaster County, and a few years afterward he settled on his present farm, consisting of 120 acres of good land. He has freed it from all incumbrances, and although when he took possession of it there were but about twenty-eight acres under cultivation, he has worked untiringly and has succeeded in bringing it to its present fine condition, having made all the improvements himself. He is always glad to aid in promoting the cause of the community in which he lives, and as far as he is able he lends his support and influence to the development of the religious, educational and social advantages of the people.



JOSEPH BURGESS is one of the prominent young farmers of Lancaster County, owning a valuable farm on section 18, Yankee Hill Precinct. Although he is not yet thirty years old his high ambitions, seconded by his energetic and well-directed labors, have brought him much success in his calling, and he is already in possession of a comfortable property. He is a native

of England, born in Lancaster, Aug. 28, 1859, being a son of Joseph and Keziah (Howe) Burgess, the latter of whom is deceased. His father still makes his home in Lancaster. He has been twice married, and is the father of several children, of whom five are living, namely: Ada, Lois, Peter, Silas and Joseph.

The latter, who is the subject of this sketch, grew to a strong and vigorous manhood in his native country, receiving a good education in the public schools, and from his worthy parents a wise training in habits of self-reliance and industry. He had his own way to make in the world, and wishing to devote himself to agriculture, he felt that the rich farming lands of the Western States of America offered greater inducements for a man of small means than any other country, and in 1882 he left his native land, with its many pleasant associations, and his friends, and crossed the ocean to found for himself a home in the great State of Nebraska. He bought the farm on which he now resides, and although not many years have elapsed since then, he already has it under good cultivation. It comprises 160 acres of arable and highly productive land, which under his skillful management yields abundant harvests. After living here eighteen months he returned to Old England to claim the young lady who had promised to share his fortunes in the New World and aid him in building up a home, and they were united in marriage Sept. 12, 1883. To her brave and cheerful assistance our subject is greatly indebted for his present success. Her maiden name was Anne Beeley Shilton, and she was born in London, England, Nov. 4, 1859, being a daughter of William and Anne (Beeley) Shilton.

The marriage of our subject and his wife has been blessed to them by the birth of four children, as follows: Joseph, born Aug. 22, 1884, died July 20, 1885; William, born Oct. 10, 1885; Anne, Nov. 12, 1886; and Harry, Nov. 12, 1887.

Mr. and Mrs. Burgess are much respected and liked in the community where they have made their home, and with whose interests they are so strongly identified. They are valued members of the Christian Church, and are ever zealous in aiding its good works. Mr. Burgess is public-spirited, and strongly favors all schemes for promoting the ma-

terial prosperity of the county, or for elevating its social status. In politics he is a Prohibitionist, being himself a strict temperance man and standing loyally by his colors.

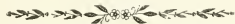
IPPE T. CONRAD has, since the spring of 1885, been operating to good advantage on eighty acres of fine farming land, pleasantly located on section 15. This he has redeemed from its primitive condition, it being a wild and unbroken tract at the time it came into his possession. The fields are now laid off and enclosed with neat and substantial fences, there are good buildings and a fair assortment of live stock, including cattle, horses and swine. A period of ten years has effected remarkable changes, and indicates with what perseverance and industry the proprietor of one of the neatest farms of Highland Precinct has labored.

Mr. Conrad was born in the Prussian Province of Hanover, on the 8th of June, 1852, and is the son of Dirk and Emma (Peppengo) Conrad, who were also of German birth and parentage, and immigrated to the United States with their family in 1857, when their son Ippe T. was a little lad five years of age. They began life in America upon a tract of land in Woodford County, Ill., where the father followed farming. A few years later they removed, first to Tazewell County, and then to Iroquois County, in the same State, removing from the latter to Nebraska in 1879. The parents are now residents of Butler County, and retired from active labor, the father having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-three years. The mother is seventy-seven years old, and both have retained their faculties to a remarkable degree. They have acquitted themselves in life honestly and uprightly, and still cling to the Lutheran religion in which they were reared. Politically, Dirk Conrad since becoming an American citizen has voted the Democratic ticket.

The parental household of our subject included seven children, of whom he was the youngest but one. The three sons and four daughters are still living, married and settled in comfortable homes of their own. Our subject soon after reaching

his majority secured a wife and helpmate, Miss Lena Heyen, to whom he was married Jan. 29, 1875. Mrs. Conrad is a native of the same Province as her husband, and was born Dec. 4, 1856. She came to the United States with her parents when a little girl ten years of age, they also locating in Woodford County, Ill., where she grew to womanhood. Later they removed to Iroquois County, where her marriage with our subject took place. Of this union there have been born five children, one of whom, Fredricka E., died when three years old. Those living are Emma E., John F., Henry D. and Fredricka E. (2d).

Mr. and Mrs. Conrad after their marriage located on a farm in Illinois, where they continued four years, and until coming to this county. Mr. Conrad, like his honored father, uniformly supports Democratic principles, and has officiated as Assessor in Highland Precinct. Both he and his excellent wife are members of the Congregational Church, and people who are universally respected wherever known.



JOSEPH W. BEARD is a representative farmer and stock-raiser of Denton Precinct, residing on section 15. His former home was Greenbrier County, Va., the place of his birth, Sept. 9, 1847. His parents, Christopher and Sarah Beard, still reside in Virginia, to which place his paternal ancestors came from Scotland at an early day. His father is highly esteemed, and has held some of the minor offices in the township, of which he is a resident. To Christopher and Sarah Beard there were born nine children, all of whom with but one exception are now living. The record of these eight surviving members of the family is: Joseph W., the subject of this sketch; Mary H., wife of J. Osborn, of Greenbrier County, Va.; Medora K., wife of F. Fertigue, of the same place; Nancy J., John A. and Elisha F., all in Virginia; Louisa A., wife of Thomas Fertigue, also in Virginia; and Robert E., of Denton Precinct, this county.

Mr. Beard continued to reside in his native State until he reached maturity, having received a

good common-school education, such as was afforded the youth of his day, having been brought up on a farm. When the time came when men must take up arms against each other in civil war, he gave his service in what he thought was a just cause, and enlisted in September, 1864, in Company D, 14th Regiment, McCauslin's Brigade of Confederate troops, and was connected with the army of Gen. Early from September until January of the following year. He participated in the battles of Cedarville and Front Royal, and was subsequently transferred to Beal's brigade at Petersburg, passing through the engagements at White Oak Ford and Five Forks. On the morning following the battle at Five Forks came the retreat, but our subject and about 100 other Confederates left Appomattox Court House the night before the memorable surrender occurred at that place. He then went home, and again engaged in the duties of a civilian.

In the year 1877 Mr. Beard went to Iowa, where he lived for a period of two years, after which he resided in Missouri some four years, where he was married, on the 17th of June, 1885, to Mary R. Handly. In the spring of 1887 he settled in his present home, and now owns nearly 200 acres of land under good cultivation. The same may be said of Mr. Beard as has been said of other residents of this precinct, that he is essentially a self-made man, having secured his property by his own industry and self-reliance. Serving his country to the best of his ability, generous enough to yield his life, if necessary, in the cause which he had espoused, but which fortunately was not required of him, he was ready to abandon the roving life of a soldier, and settle down in the home which he had prepared, and devote himself to the more peaceful pursuit of agriculture.

Of the various occupations in which men engage not one is so free from cares and anxieties of the world as the peaceful occupation in which our subject is now engaging. To watch the tiny seeds spring into life, developing into the strong plant, enhanced by the beauty of the blossoms, and finally enriched by the wealth of the ripened fruit and grain; to commune with Nature and Nature's God; and in the steady developments and improvements of outward life to see a forcible illustration of the

developments and improvements within the possibilities of the inward spirit, is a privilege granted to him only who devotes himself to rural occupations.

In matters of politics Mr. Beard is in favor of the platforms and opinions adopted by the Democratic party, believing that its careful and honorable administration tends only to the improvement and advancement of the country, and the welfare and best possible good of its inhabitants.



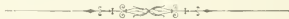
OTTELLO BAUMGART, who occupies a good position among the agriculturists of Highland Precinct, was born in Germany, Oct. 24, 1846, and is consequently a man in the prime of life and the midst of his usefulness. He received a good practical education in his native tongue, and continued a resident of the German Empire until twenty-seven years of age, occupied mostly in agricultural pursuits. Then, believing that he could better his condition, he came with his family to the United States, making his way westward across the Mississippi to this county, and worked first on a farm for a period of six years. During this time, by the exercise of prudence and economy, he had saved up the snug sum of \$900, which he invested in 160 acres of land in Olive Branch Precinct, in the southwestern corner of this county.

Our subject made some improvements upon this place and put up a good house, but later sold out and purchased his present farm, which consists of 240 acres, on sections 11 and 12, in Highland Precinct. Of this he has 160 acres in a highly productive condition, and has gathered around him a good set of frame buildings, with farm machinery, and the other appliances necessary to the progressive agriculturist. He has been greatly prospered in his labors, and represents a fine property. He is a man who attends strictly to his own concerns, meddling very little with matters outside, is honest and upright in his transactions, prompt to meet his obligations, and consequently held in due respect by his neighbors.

Conrad Baumgart, the father of our subject, was of pure German stock, and spent his entire life

upon his native soil, carrying on farming and carpentering, and dying when about fifty years of age. The mother, Clara (Lydheck) Baumgart, who was born and reared near the early home of her husband, survived him a few years, then she too passed away, at the age of fifty-five. The family included three children only, those beside our subject being: Felix, who is married, and a well-to-do farmer of Olive Branch Precinct, this county, and Martha, who is also married, and still lives in her native Germany.

Our subject was married, Sept. 7, 1880, in Olive Branch Precinct, this county, to Miss Charlotte Leckenmyer, whose birthplace was not far from that of her husband, and the date thereof in May, 1852. Her father died when she was a young woman about twenty years of age. The mother is still living in Prussia, and is about fifty-five years old. Mrs. Baumgart came to the United States with her brother when about twenty-six years old, and until her marriage lived in Lincoln. Of her union with our subject there have been born six children, two of whom, August and August H., died at the ages of three years and nine months and six respectively. Those surviving are all sons, viz: William, Herman, John and Benjamin, bright little lads, who form an interesting group of which the parents have every reason to be proud. Mr. Baumgart votes the straight Republican ticket, and, with his excellent wife, is a member in good standing of the German Methodist Church.



HARRY ABBOTT. Happy is that man who so conducts himself that he may not fear to have his children follow his own example. If the sins of the parents are to be visited upon the children to the third and fourth generation, how gratifying it is to know that just as truly may the virtues be transmitted by inheritance as well as by precept and example. The subject of this sketch may congratulate himself that for his conduct he has to serve as a precedent that of a worthy father—James B. Abbott, of whom a sketch appears in this ALBUM.

Harry Abbott is an energetic young farmer,

residing on section 14 of Denton Precinct. He was born in England on the 10th of May, 1857, and at the age of fourteen came with his parents to America. The State of his father's choice being that of his own, he has continued to reside in Nebraska since his arrival as a child with his father. In his efforts to assist in the establishment of a new home in a new country, he had not that time to devote to the acquiring of a classical education as might have been the case had he remained in the home of his youth, but he has received a fairly good business education, which enables him to successfully manage his estate, and take his rank among the representative farmers of this precinct.

On the 26th of April, 1881, Mr. Abbott was united in marriage with Clara Fusha, who came from the Province of Quebec, Canada. The parents of Mrs. Abbott, John and Clara Fusha, now reside in Cheyenne County, Neb. This new established home of the young couple has been brightened by the presence of the four children granted to them—George F., Clarence E. P., Eva and Harry. It is a source of gratification to the father and grandfather of these children, that they are surrounded with comforts and privileges altogether unknown in the earlier days of pioneer life. The fruits of industry are seldom lost, rather do they increase and radiate, and gather force to descend as a natural inheritance, a benediction on those who follow after. How wise would children be if they would manifest a due appreciation of the comfortable situation in which they are placed, not forgetting the untiring zeal, energy and philanthropy which has secured them all these benefits.

Mr. Abbott is the owner of eighty acres of good land, situated not far from the fine estate of his father. He is now serving in the capacity of Constable, and has for several years past been serving as Road Overseer. In matters of politics he gives his voice in behalf of the Republican party, because to him it embodies those principles necessary for the right government of a free country. Had we but the power to look before us for one or two generations, could we but see the exact light in which the future generations would regard our present actions, what a vast motive would be presented to us to govern our steps by the strictest

rectitude of word and example. What an inducement to go forth and labor earnestly and willingly at whatever our hands find to do, knowing that certainly the benefits will fall upon those for whom we would destine them. But without this present power, our knowledge being limited to the day that is, how much more admirable in those who put forth unceasing efforts in behalf of those whom they know not, whom perhaps they can never know, and yet for whom they are willing thus to spend the time allotted to them, confident that the reward, come when it will, upon whom it will, will be but a lasting monument to the glory and remembrance of their own good deeds.



WILHELM FRANCKE. The unpretentious home of this gentleman is pleasantly located on section 4, in Stoekton Precinct, and presents an attractive picture of rural life, replete with all its comforts, and evidently built up by the hand of persevering industry. The farm comprises 160 acres of productive land, a part of which lies in Stockton Precinct and eighty in Stevens Creek, across the line north. Upon the residence portion is erected a neat and substantial dwelling, with a good barn and the other necessary out-buildings, and the proprietor has supplied himself with the machinery and other appliances requisite for carrying on agriculture after modern methods.

Lancaster County has been particularly fortunate in the class of men who first came within its borders, men who were reared to habits of industry and economy, and inherited from their ancestors those traits of character which form the basis of all good society. Like many of his neighbors Mr. Francke is of German birth and ancestry, and first opened his eyes to the light in the Province of Pommern, July 25, 1823. His father was a farmer by occupation, and Wilhelm became familiar with agricultural pursuits during his boyhood, which he followed mostly until a young man twenty-three years of age. Then, not being contented with his condition or his prospects upon his native soil, he resolved to seek his fortune in the New World, and bidding adieu to his old friends and associations,

embarked at Hamburg on a sailing-vessel in the fall of 1846, and four weeks later landed upon American soil in the city of New York.

Our subject at once left the metropolis, and making his way westward, located first in Greenbush Township, Sheboygan Co., Wis., where he continued farming as before, and where he made his home until coming to this county twenty-five years later, in the spring of 1871. At that time he located in Stockton Precinct, where he has since remained. While a resident of the Badger State he was married, March 12, 1850, to Miss Catherine Knael, who, like her husband, is a native of Germany, and who was born in the Province of Holstein, Dec. 16, 1832. She came to America with a brother-in-law when sixteen years of age, and has proved the faithful and efficient helpmate of her husband in all his undertakings. The household circle in due time was completed by the birth of fourteen children, six of whom they have laid away in early graves, namely: Emma, Anna, Amanda, Juliana, Hermina and Mary. Those surviving are Henry, Albertina, Herman, Albert, August, Louisa, Alex and Laura. Four of these are at home with their parents. Louisa is the wife of Joseph Knadle, and lives in Stockton Precinct.

Mr. Francke cast his first Presidential vote for Pierce, and has since been a staunch adherent of the Democratic party. He is a man of more than ordinary intelligence, pleasant and agreeable in conversation, and impresses both stranger and friend as one whose highest aim has been to live an honest and upright life and become worthy of the good opinion of his friends and neighbors. It is pleasant to note that he is appreciated by the people of his community, among whom he bears an excellent reputation as one of their best citizens.



HENRY DEARDOFF, one of the leading farmers of Lancaster County, is classed among those men of force and rare ability who have been instrumental in developing the State of Nebraska into a powerful and opulent commonwealth, whose commercial, agricultural and mercantile interests are hardly surpassed by any of

her sister States west of the Mississippi River. He owns a large and valuable farm in Saltillo Precinct, a part of it being on section 12, and probably has more land under his direct supervision than any other farmer in this part of the county. It comprises 640 acres of land, under the highest state of cultivation, and amply provided with commodious and substantial farm buildings for every purpose. His large and conveniently arranged residence, of a pretty, modern style of architecture, pleasantly located in the midst of beautifully laid out lawns and orchards, is an ornament to the town. He erected his fine basement barn, 46x56 feet in dimensions, in 1880, and he has a large corn crib, with a capacity of 6,000 bushels of ear corn, the dimensions of the crib being 25x48 feet. The farm is well supplied with running water. Mr. Deardoff has an abundant supply of fruit-bearing trees and plants. He has a fine orchard comprising 225 apple, forty cherry and twenty plum trees, besides a vineyard of the choicest varieties of grapes, and a large bed of strawberries, everything about the place, from the architecture of the buildings to the lawns, orchards, etc., indicating that a master mind and hand have planned and executed all this, and that the owner has been pre-eminently successful in his life work.

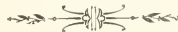
Our subject is a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Bartlett) Deardoff, and on his father's side he is of mingled French and German blood, and on his mother's side is of German descent. His grandfather Bartlett was a soldier in the War of 1812. After marriage the parents of our subject settled in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, where his father followed farming, and operated a distillery. He was a man full of enterprise, and soon became the owner of a farm, and was in a fair way to become a man of wealth when death intervened, and he passed away from the scenes of earth on Sept. 8, 1846, at 9 o'clock A. M. The very day that ended the life of the father was the one on which our subject first began life, as he was born at 7 o'clock that evening, the two tragedies of the birth and death of two human beings so nearly connected thus being enacted within a few short hours in that sad home.

The mother of our subject continued to live on the homestead for two years, and then the estate

was divided up. She married a second time, and moved to Crawford County, Ohio, and thence back to Tuscarawas County, where she and her husband lived for several years. They then removed to Minnesota, where she died in 1866, at the age of sixty-five, leaving thirteen children by her second marriage, our subject being the only child by the first marriage.

Henry Deardoff began to make his own way in the world at the age of thirteen, and his education after that was necessarily limited, as he only attended school in the winter. At the age of twenty-one he returned to Ohio to settle up the estate that he had inherited from his father, but he having been under different guardians during his minority, and the property having passed through a legal process, he found it greatly reduced. After he had attended to his business he went to Illinois, remaining a year, and there engaged to drive a team for Mr. Macklin to Nebraska. He was very much pleased with the appearance of the country here, and determined to locate here at some future time. He returned to Illinois, visited his friends in Minnesota and Ohio, and in the latter State was married, in 1869, to Miss Lydia Garber, who is likewise a native of Tuscarawas County, Ohio, having been born there Oct. 12, 1851. She is well educated, is a superior housewife, and to her judgment and ability is her husband greatly indebted for his prosperity, and for the enjoyment of a comfortable and well-appointed home. The year following his marriage, our subject and his young wife started for this State to make their home here, coming by rail to Nebraska City, and thence by stage to Lincoln. He took up eighty acres of land under the provisions of the Homestead Act, settled thereon in a log house which he built, and immediately commenced its improvement. In the years of depression that followed he manfully maintained his struggle for independence, bravely assisted by his wife, and managed to keep his head above water until better times came, when prosperity began to smile on him. By hard labor and judicious management, he contrived to add to his lauded estate at various times until he is now one of the most extensive real-estate owners in Lancaster County. His purchases are as follows: In 1872 he bought a

second 80-acre tract of land; in 1880, 160 acres more; in 1885 another 160 acres; and in the spring of 1887 he purchased still another tract of 160 acres of land. He is a man of strong character, vigorous and energetic, both physically and mentally, and possesses much sagacity and foresight. He is a respected member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Bennett Lodge. Politically, he sympathizes with the Democratic party.



LOUIS COLAS. The snug and well-conducted farm of this gentleman is pleasantly located on section 16, Yankee Hill Precinct, six miles from the village, and there he is successfully carrying on general agriculture and lives in the midst of comfort and plenty, enjoying an abundance of the good things of life, which he has accumulated through his own industry. A native of the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg, Germany, our subject first opened his eyes to the light Feb. 8, 1838, and spent twenty-seven years upon his native soil. His parents, George and Maria Colas, were of pure German descent and are now both deceased.

Young Colas, in common with the majority of German youth, was placed in school at an early age and gained a good education in his native tongue. He employed himself at farming during his early manhood, and July 16, 1866, was united in marriage with a maiden of his own country, Miss Mary Miller, who was born not far from his childhood's home, and whose parents are now deceased. Soon after their marriage our subject and his wife set out for America, embarking from the city of Hamburg on a sailing-vessel, and after an ocean voyage of six weeks landed in New York City.

After a brief sojourn in the metropolis, Mr. and Mrs. Colas made their way to Mauch Chunk, Pa., where our subject engaged in the carshops, and lived for a period of fifteen years. During this time their seven children were born, namely: Lena, Mary, Louis, Lizzie, Augusta, Emma and Willie. The latter died in Lincoln when thirteen months old.

Our subject, not yet quite content with his condition or his prospects, left the Keystone State in

the spring of 1878, and came to this county with his family. They took up their residence in the city of Lincoln, and Mr. Colas for about six years thereafter was employed in the roundhouse of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad. In the meantime he saved what he could of his earnings, and in the year 1884 invested his little capital in his present farm. He now has eighty acres of good land, upon which he has labored industriously and brought it to a good state of cultivation, besides putting up the buildings required by the progressive and intelligent agriculturist. He is a man who stands well among his neighbors, being prompt to meet his obligations and attending strictly to his own concerns. He does not meddle very much in politics, but usually casts his vote with the Democratic party.



JOHAN WATSON, one of the solid and reliable men of Grant Precinct, is comfortably located on section 9, where he owns and occupies eighty acres of good land, which by a process of careful cultivation yields abundantly the rich crops of Southeastern Nebraska. He came to this section of country in the spring of 1878, locating on his present farm, and during his residence of ten years among the people of Lancaster County has acquitted himself as an honest man and a good citizen.

Our subject is of excellent Scotch ancestry, a nationality of which any man has reason to be proud. His parents, Thomas and Jeannette (Smith) Watson, were natives of the city of Glasgow, and the mother died in her native land while a young woman, in 1836. The father four years later emigrated to the United States, and settling in Adams County, Ill., there spent the remainder of his life, his death taking place in 1883, when he was seventy-nine years old. The parental family consisted of two children only, our subject and his younger brother, James S. The latter is a grocer by occupation, and a resident of Berry, Pike Co., Ill.

John Watson is a native of the same city as his parents, being born in Glasgow, Scotland, on the 8th of May, 1833. He was three years of age at

the time of his mother's death, and seven years old when he crossed the Atlantic with his father. He lived with the latter in Illinois, both in Quincy and in Adams County, until coming to Nebraska, and in the meantime, when nineteen years old, began his apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade, which he followed until coming to this State. His education was acquired in the common school, and, naturally of an industrious and quiet disposition, when starting out for himself he was amply fitted for the future duties of life.

Mr. Watson, while a resident of Adams County, Ill., was united in marriage with Miss Nancy B. Mitchell, Oct. 19, 1865. Mrs. W. was born in Adams County, Ill., Oct. 30, 1843, and is the daughter of James W. and Nancy Mitchell, who were natives of Virginia. The father is deceased; the mother resides in Adams County, Ill. Their family consisted of four children, who are all living and reside in Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Watson began life together in Adams County, Ill., and while residing there became the parents of three children—Jeannette B., Thomas and Lethenia E. The second child, Thomas, who was their only son, died March 18, 1873, when two years old. Mr. Watson is a solid Republican, politically, and has served in his district as School Treasurer and also been Assessor of Grant Precinct. A man whose word is as good as his bond, he stands well among his neighbors, is in the enjoyment of a comfortable home, and is contributing his quota toward the welfare and prosperity of his adopted township.

At the time of the outbreak of the late Rebellion Mr. Watson was a resident of Adams County, Ill., and not long after the first call for troops enlisted, Aug. 12, 1861, in Company I, 2d Illinois Cavalry, in which he became Sergeant, and gave three years to the service of his adopted country. His regiment was a part of the Army of the Mississippi, serving under Gen. Grant, and their duties lay mostly in the States all along the line. Mr. Watson, in common with his comrades, saw much hardship and privation, and engaged in many important battles, but fortunately escaped wounds and capture, and at the expiration of his term of service was mustered out at Baton Rouge, La., and returning



*Yours truly
Nathan S. Harwood*

to Illinois resumed work at the carpenter's bench until coming to this State. About 1858 he identified himself with the Masonic fraternity, and is a member of the Royal Arch Chapter No. 5, at Quincy, Ill.



NATHAN S. HARWOOD, the subject of this sketch, and whose portrait appears on the opposite page, is senior member of the law firm of Harwood, Ames & Kelly, and President of the Lincoln National Bank. He is a native of St. Joseph County, Mich., and was born at Corey's Lake, near Constantine, June 18, 1843. The household of his parents, Nathan, Sr., and Nancy (Dorrance) Harwood, included nine children, of whom five are now living, and Nathan was the youngest born. Aurelia is the wife of Thomas Fitch, of Waterloo, Iowa; Louisa, Mrs. John Speese, lives in Winthrop, Iowa; Jane, Mrs. N. S. Fairchild, resides in Valparaiso, Ind.; Matilda is the widow of Frank Morton, and makes her home in Hastings, Neb.

Nathan Harwood, Sr., was born in Bennington, Vt., Jan. 6, 1794, and was the youngest son in a family of twelve children, ten sons and two daughters, the offspring of Zachariah and Lovina (Rice) Harwood. Zachariah Harwood, born in Hardwick, Mass., in 1742, was of English origin, being of the sixth generation from the first representative of the family in this country, namely, Peter Harwood, who, upon crossing the Atlantic, settled in Concord, Mass. Zachariah Harwood lived to the advanced age of eighty years. He served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and spent his last days at Bennington, Vt. The following obituary is from the *Vermont Gazette*, of June 19, 1821, published by Darius Clark, at Bennington: "Died, in this town, on the 6th day of June, instant, Mr. Zachariah Harwood, in the eightieth year of his age. He was one of the earliest settlers and fathers of this town, and was an industrious and worthy man. He was one of the heroes of Bennington battle, and through life maintained in steady practice the principles which early led him to espouse those political interests, and to aid those manly efforts which

resulted in the independence of his country. He has left many and respectable descendants, relatives and friends, to remember his usefulness and mourn their loss."

Nathan Harwood, Sr., spent his early days near Bennington. He enlisted as a volunteer in the War of 1812, and before the battle of Plattsburg, during a night of storm, crossed Lake Champlain in an open boat. A severe illness followed this exposure, an illness from which he never fully recovered. He was an invalid for life, fighting against odds to support a large family in a new country. He married Nancy Dorrance in 1815, and they lived in Bennington ten years, when the first move in the grand march westward was made. In 1825 he emigrated to Ontario County, N. Y., and settled near Lake Canandaigua, where he bought a small farm. There he lived until 1832, when he moved to St. Joseph County, Mich., then upon the frontier. The land he chose is now upon the borders of the town of Three Rivers. Here twenty years passed by before the next change was made. In 1855 a company of white-sailed prairie schooners, headed due west, crossed the Mississippi River and found safe harbor in Black Hawk County, Iowa. Nathan, Sr., was accompanied by his daughter Aurelia, Mrs. Thomas Fitch and her family, and by Matilda, afterward Mrs. Morton, and Nathan, Jr. He secured his land by a warrant received from the Government in payment of his services as a soldier in the War of 1812. Here he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring March 4, 1858. Nathan, Sr., was a Whig, politically, a member of the Congregational Church, and a man of sterling honesty. His wife, Nancy Harwood, was born in Bennington, Vt., in 1798, the daughter of William and Anne (McCormick) Dorrance. William was of Scotch-Irish descent, and Anne was born in Scotland. Her life was beautiful, not only in its devotion to her husband and children, but also for a certain large kindness of nature which was especially shown to the sick, for whose needs she had a fine intuition. She died in December, 1852, of an illness which followed her ministrations to a sick daughter.

The early days of the subject of this biography were spent under the home roof until the death of his mother, when he was but eight years of age.

The two following years he made his home with his sisters, then took up his abode with his father, in Black Hawk County, Iowa, where he assisted in the improvement of a new farm until the marriage of his sister Matilda two years later, when he went with her to her home at Janesville, and until the summer of 1860 spent his time at farm work and attending school. In the fall of that year, having been a studious lad, making good progress with his books, he became a student at the Upper Iowa University at Fayette, and making his home with the family of Prof. McKenzie, worked for his board during the first term, and the next two terms employed himself in different capacities around the college for the purpose of earning money to pay his way. The year following occurred the outbreak of the Rebellion, and young Harwood, in August, 1861, a youth of eighteen years, enlisted in Company G, 9th Iowa Infantry, and soon afterward went down the Mississippi with his comrades to St. Louis, where, after sojourning a short time at Benton Barracks, they were detailed to guard the railroads in the vicinity of Franklin, Mo., and on the 28th of January set out on the memorable march of the Pea Ridge campaign.

The exposure and hardships to which our subject was subjected produced an illness, on account of which he was not long afterward forced to accept his honorable discharge. He had, however, seen the smoke of battle at Pea Ridge, and with his discharge in his pocket advanced to participate in the fight. After it was over he remained in the hospital at Springfield, Mo., about six weeks, then tore up his discharge, and resumed his place in his regiment, going with it on the march to Helena, Ark., where he was again attacked by illness, which necessitated once more his abandonment of the military service. He returned home broken down in health, but in the winter of 1863 had recovered sufficiently to take up his studies again, attending school at Fayette, Iowa, until the winter of 1863-64, when he engaged as a teacher.

The war being yet in progress, Mr. Harwood could not content himself to remain at home while so many of the young men of his country were fighting in the field, and he rallied his energies once more, and, in the spring of 1864 raised part of a

company of infantry, of which he was commissioned First Lieutenant. This was named Company D, and was assigned to the 46th Iowa Infantry, being mustered into service on the 17th of June, 1864, at Davenport. They went directly to Memphis, Tenn., and were detailed to do guard duty on the Memphis & Charleston Railroad. Our subject was mustered out in the fall, there being no further need of his services, and again returned home.

Still intent upon securing an education, Mr. Harwood, in January, 1865, became a student of Hillsdale College, Michigan, from which he was graduated in the class of '69, in the classical course. In September following he entered the Albany (N. Y.) Law School, and was graduated from this institution in the class of '70. He supplemented his legal studies in the law office of Messrs. Brown & Patterson, at Marshall, Mich., where he remained until a short time before coming to Lincoln, in February, 1871.

Mr. Harwood now formed a law partnership with Samuel J. Tuttle, which was in existence until November, 1875, under the firm name of Tuttle & Harwood. At this time John H. Ames was added to the firm, but in the spring of 1877 Mr. Tuttle withdrew, and the firm continued as Harwood & Ames until the 1st of January, 1885. Then William R. Kelly was admitted. Mr. Harwood has stuck closely to his profession, declining to be a candidate for office; only once has he departed from this rule, when in 1876 he was a candidate before the Republican State Convention for the office of Attorney General, but was defeated by the then incumbent, George H. Roberts, who was renominated. Nevertheless, in addition to the practice of law, he has filled many positions of trust and responsibility since coming to this county, among whose people he occupies a position of the highest standing. He was Private Secretary for Gov. Garber in 1875-76, and Delegate-at-Large to the Republican National Convention held at Chicago in 1884, where he served as one of the committee on resolutions. In 1885 he was elected one of the Vice Presidents of the National Tariff Reform League, and has been identified with many of the leading enterprises of this county, among them the Lincoln Public Library Association, of which he was one of the founders and

the first President. He held that position until it was organized as the Lincoln Public Library, being one of the few who were instrumental in engineering a bill through the Legislature for the purpose of levying a tax for the support of libraries. Upon retiring from the Presidency he was selected Chairman of the Book Committee, and has always maintained a lively interest in this institution which forms so great a factor in the education of the people.

Mr. Harwood was admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court of the United States in December, 1883. He was elected President of Lincoln National Bank on the 1st of December, 1887. He belongs to the G. A. R. and the Loyal Legion, also the A. F. & A. M., as a member of Lancaster Lodge No. 54, and Scottish Rite, 32d degree. Politically, he has always affiliated with the Republican party, but is in favor of tariff reform, and for this reason not in sympathy with his party in this contest of 1888.

The first wife of our subject, to whom he was married May 29, 1872, was Miss Mary E., daughter of Hon. John P. Cook, of Hillsdale, Mich. Of this union there was born one child, a daughter, Helen, Oct. 17, 1874, who is now attending school at Lincoln. Mrs. Mary Harwood departed this life at Montague, Mich., in September, 1878. Mr. H., July 25, 1883, contracted a second marriage, with Miss Celia Harris, who was born at South Bend, Ind., in April, 1846, and is the daughter of George S. and Sarah (Bacon) Harris, whose family consists of ten children, and of whom Celia was the eldest. Their second child, George, was born in Brookline, Mass., Dec. 20, 1848; Ellen in Boston, Feb. 3, 1851; Charles L. in Boston, Nov. 5, 1853; Frederick L. in West Roxbury, Mass., Oct. 11, 1857; Edward K. in Boston, April 21, 1859; Sarah Butler, in Boston, July 18, 1860; John F. in Boston, Feb. 24, 1863, and Agnes, Feb. 20, 1866.

George S. Harris, the father of Mrs. Harwood, was a native of Caldwell, N. Y., and was born March 22, 1815, to Michael and Susan (Allen) Harris, being the third in a family of five sons. He was left fatherless at the age of five years, his care and early training devolving almost wholly upon his mother. For her he cherished the strongest affection, as one

who had made him what he was in after life. While still a youth he embraced the principles of Christianity, professing them before men, and made them the governing rule of his life.

In early manhood Mr. Harris engaged in mercantile pursuits, but his desire was for a professional life, and in 1836 he entered Oberlin College with the intention of preparing for the ministry. Circumstances, however, caused him to change his purpose and led him to remove to Boston, where for many years he was actively engaged in business, most of the time in connection with railroad interests, for the promotion of which his energies and abilities were admirably adapted. In 1859 he removed to the West and was variously engaged, first as Land Commissioner for the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad in Missouri, and subsequently acting in the same capacity for the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad in both Iowa and Nebraska.

In the summer of 1872 Mr. Harris was a passenger on the ill-fated steamer "Metis," which was wrecked on her voyage from New York City to Providence, and was rescued after remaining several hours in the water, during which he clung to a plank. From this shock to his system he never fully recovered, and died two years later at Lincoln, June 12, 1874, at the age of fifty-nine years. Mr. Harris was a man of large ideas and a benevolent heart, who took a kindly interest in every project calculated to benefit mankind and encourage by his means and influence, as far as he was able, the dissemination of both moral and substantial good. He affiliated with the Republican party, and was a member in good standing of the Congregational Church. Socially, he belonged to the I. O. O. F.

The mother of Mrs. Harwood was born in Southbridge, Mass., July 24, 1821, and is the daughter of Lement and Celia (Butler) Bacon, the latter of whom is a lineal descendant of Andrew and Mary (Germaine) Sigourney, who were married at Huguenot Fort, in Oxford, Mass., about 1701. She, like her husband, is a devoted Christian and a member of the Congregational Church. She is still living, making her home in the city of Lincoln.

The early life of Mrs. Celia Harwood was spent in Boston, where she attended its best schools, and developed into womanhood. She accompanied the

family to Hannibal, Mo., and subsequently to Burlington, Iowa, thence to Lincoln, this State, where they settled in 1872, and where she became acquainted with our subject, and was married. There have been born of her marriage with Mr. Harwood three children: Agnes, born April 12, 1884, who died when two days old; George Harris, who was born Aug. 10, 1885, and died Feb. 10, 1887, and Mary Dorrance, who was born April 6, 1887.

In June, 1882, Mr. Harwood embarked at Philadelphia on the steamer "Indiana," for a trip abroad, and after a safe voyage landed in Liverpool. He made a slow progress to London, stopping at Chester, Stratford-on-Avon, and the Birmingham manufactories. In London he was especially interested in Parliament, the Law Courts, the British Museum, the National Art Gallery, the Tower, the Kensington Gardens, and in an examination of statistics and facts in relation to the commerce and manufactures of Great Britain.

From London Mr. Harwood went to Paris, thence to Belgium, and made the enchanting journey up the Rhine to Switzerland. Later, he passed into Italy, visiting Milan, Venice, Florence and Rome, returning to Paris by the Mont Cenis tunnel. Revisiting London, he traveled northward into Scotland, finally embarking at the city of Glasgow upon the "Circassia," homeward bound. This trip was remarkable for happy escapes. In Switzerland, crossing the Tete-Noire, he was one of a party of three in a carriage drawn by a mule and a horse. The team ran away, throwing them all out, down a precipice of thirty feet, upon a narrow terrace, beyond which was an abyss almost unfathomable. Happily, no one was seriously hurt. On the voyage home, the "Circassia," in a dense fog off the banks of Newfoundland, suffered a collision with a sailing-vessel. Fortunately, no lives were lost, and the "Circassia" was not badly damaged.



HERMON H. BARTELS. There is existing from the period of the pre-Norman era of English history a prophecy to the effect that no three representatives of any dynasty can occupy the throne of England consecutively with-

out a revolution. The remarkable exception to the fulfillment of the above is found in the present dynasty of the Guelphs, an Hanoverian family, as will be remembered. Hanover, one of the old German Duchies, has not influenced the history of England alone, but that of other European nations, and from the less regal walks of life there have come citizens of that State who are among the most successful, steady, honorable and intelligent, of the settlers of our newer country. Among them may be mentioned Hermon H. Bartels, one of Centerville's prosperous farmers, who is a resident upon section 13.

In Hanover there lived a family, John H. Bartels and his wife, Adelheit, whose residence was situated near Hoja. Upon the 26th of January, 1848, their home was made glad by the birth of a son. This son was the object of affection's tenderest solicitude, and was reared carefully until the age when school life should begin, when he entered upon that experience. Having laid the foundation of his life in the halls of scholarly attainment, he passed to the sterner experiences of young manhood, continuing to reside with his parents until about twenty-three years of age, assisting with the various engagements of his chosen occupation of farming.

In 1867 our subject emigrated to America, taking passage at Bremen in a sailing-vessel, which was followed by seven weeks of an experience novel, moving and exciting, at the same time not lacking in some features of ennui. He landed in New York City and proceeded direct to Mason County, Ill., where he was occupied in farming, and saw considerable prosperity as the result of his labor. In 1873 he came to Nebraska, and settled in this county upon his present property, which comprises 160 acres of excellently improved and highly cultivated fertile land.

Two years prior to the removal to this county Mr. Bartels deserted the ranks of bachelorhood and was united in marriage with Miss Lizzie Steinke, on the 19th of October, at Savannah. This lady is the daughter of Renney and Rolrock Steinke, and was born at Hanover, in 1851. She is a lady of education and culture, possessed of those attractive and amiable traits which not only attract attention and admiration from true men and women, but retain continuously their friendship. Their union has

been happily cemented by the birth of seven children, whose names are subjoined: Anne, John, Henry, Lena, Dora, Hermon and Louisa.

Excepting only that education given him by his parents, and the faithful counsel and help of his wife, our subject has attained his present success as the result of his enthusiastic, constant effort. Mr. and Mrs. Bartels are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church, and held in high esteem. Their children are being instructed in the same religious tenets, and are developing elements of character that promise great things to come. In business circles, social and religious, our subject and family are accorded the entire confidence and regard of the community.



ALEXANDER BUCHANAN is the well-known farmer and stock-raiser, whose beautiful farm of eighty acres is located on section 12, Oak Township. He is a native of old Ireland, and the impulse which led him to the Western World is the same love of liberty and its institutions which is the cause of the agitation by Ireland's representatives in the Parliament at Westminster.

Our subject is the son of Alexander Buchanan, who was born in the beginning of the present century in Ireland. In his early days he was taught the trade of a tailor, and in after days continued to work at the same. In his young manhood he was united in marriage with Susan McElwee, who presented her husband with five children, of whom four came to this country. In the year 1863 Mr. Buchanan, Sr., departed this life, when a little over sixty years of age.

Alexander Buchanan, our subject, was born June 10, 1829, in Ireland. He received the tuition of his boyhood from the parish schoolmaster, and as early as possible he was put to farm work, and so continued at his native place until the year 1864, when the brilliant descriptions and the bright Utopian visions of the land beyond the sea led him to sever the ties that bound him to his native land and his home, and come to America. Upon landing he proceeded immediately to Nebraska, where

he entered his present farm as a homestead in 1868, having in the interim worked as a carpenter in what is now the city of Lincoln. Before coming to this country he had served three years as a tailor, and was enabled to find work at once in the new town.

Having decided to settle upon his land, our subject set to work first to frame some building which should serve the purpose of home until his present building could be erected, and also a barn and other out-buildings. Here his recent occupation did him good service, and he was speedily provided for. The property lies quite pleasantly, and contains some of the best land of the district. He was as careful and energetic in working his land as in the erection of his buildings, and has been by no means ill-rewarded.

Our subject was united in marriage to Lulisia Paulding, Jan. 7, 1877, in Lincoln, who died but a short time after their union. Afterward, on his present farm, he was united to Mrs. Sarah Lusk, of Lincoln. The maiden name of this lady was Hyland, and she was born in Kalamazoo, Mich., in October, 1832. She is the daughter of John Hyland, a native of Pennsylvania, and was born in the year 1795. As a young man he removed to Ohio, where he married Miss Hannah Ford, and removed to Michigan. To this union there came nine children, and they were privileged to bring seven to maturity. Of these our subject's wife was the fifth.

During the latter part of Mr. Hyland's life he retired from active farm work, and lived at Yankee Springs near Kalamazoo, where he died in 1865, having survived his wife about twelve years. It was at this home their daughter Sarah was born, in 1832, and where she received her education, and made her home until her first marriage, when she was united with a gentleman named Delurier, and with him made her home at Ypsilanti, Mich., until the death of her husband, when she was married in the year 1856 to Mr. Lusk, and went to Iowa, and there lived for fourteen years. The result of this union was a home circle comprising six children. During her widowhood Mrs. Lusk visited Lincoln and made the acquaintance of our subject, to whom she was married in 1882.

Mrs. Buchanan has been a resident upon the bor-

der all her life, and is perfectly familiar with its every phase. She has been always used to seeing Indians around her home, and had frequent dealings with them, but was never in any way molested, although upon several occasions her ready wit and inventiveness did her good service. Our subject and wife are both among the most prominent and at the same time devout members of the Raymond Presbyterian Church, and are among those who, by their intelligence and efficient labors, have caused Nebraska so quickly to have throughout the country so great a name for productiveness and fertility in any and every department of agriculture.

Our subject has for several terms been a member of the local School Board, and the greater part of the time of his settlement being also School Treasurer. He has also held the office of Supervisor. Politically, our subject has always been connected intimately with the Republican party, energetic in campaigns and loyal at the polls, but his careful study of the great question of temperance as it is before the nation led him to the decision that the ground of the Prohibition party was the true one, and with the manly honesty which has characterized his whole life, he made known the change in his views, and took his stand with the Prohibitionists, with whom he is to-day, esteemed alike by men of both parties and by those who differ from him, respected for having the courage of his convictions and acting upon them.



EDWIN K. YOUNG is one of the foremost of the young and enterprising farmers of the present generation, who are rapidly pushing to the front to assist their elders in sustaining the great agricultural interests of Lancaster County, and what he lacks in experience is more than made up by his energy, courage, good judgment, and ability to work. He is engaged in general farming on section 11, Lancaster Township, and his farm of 120 acres, admirably adapted to both grain and stock-raising, is one of the best in this locality where good farms abound.

Our subject is the son of the late John J. Young,

who was born Aug. 25, 1820, in Susquehanna County, Pa., and was there prosperously engaged in farming for many years. He married Urania Kingsley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roswell Kingsley, of Connecticut, who was a native of the same county as himself, and who was born on the fifth anniversary of his own birth, Aug. 25, 1825. They had a family of five children, four sons and one daughter, as follows: Hattie E., wife of Irving Snell, of Nebraska City, Neb.; Edwin K., John R., Elmer E. and Willie K., all of Lancaster. In 1878 Mr. Young settled up his affairs in his native State and started westward to look for land, having been attracted to this State by the many glowing reports that had come to his ears concerning the marvelous fertility of the soil and the healthfulness of the climate. While looking for a suitable location he was killed, June 18, 1878, at Sutton, in Clay County, Neb., by a railway accident, and thus closed the useful and honorable career of one who had ever been a faithful citizen and a good man.

Edwin Young, of this sketch, was born in Susquehanna County, Pa., Sept. 19, 1854, and his early years were spent on a farm in his native State. In 1878, in the fall of the year, he accompanied the other members of the family to this State, where he bought a farm. Jan. 25, 1887, the marriage of our subject with Miss Ella Maddox was celebrated. She is a daughter of Job H. and Mary A. (Brown) Maddox, of Benton County, Ind., and was born March 28, 1866. Her father was born in Ohio, Jan. 23, 1826, and her mother was born Jan. 6, 1826. They had a family of six children, of whom Mrs. Young was the youngest.

Mr. Young is paying much attention to stock-raising, and has his farm well stocked with cattle of good grades. He has also been quite successful in raising grain. The central location of his farm, within seven miles of the city of Lincoln, being thus near good markets and accessible to the great railways that cross the continent, makes it a very valuable piece of property.

Our subject is prompt and systematic in the management of his affairs, and is careful and considerate in his dealings with others. He has the moral, religious and material welfare of his community at heart, and earnestly uses his influence to

promote it. He is a valued member of the Baptist Church at Lincoln, and his wife is an equally valued member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Lancaster. In politics, Mr. Young is an enthusiastic Republican.

WILLIAM A. CADMAN is junior member of the firm of J. Cadman & Son, dealers in buggies, wagons, road-carts, hardware and agricultural implements, No. 233 North Tenth street. They carry a stock worth about \$10,000, and have an extensive and flourishing trade. Our subject is a native of Illinois, born in Jo Daviess County, May 1, 1850. He is a son of John and Frances (Bennett) Cadman, natives of Pennsylvania. His father was engaged in business in his native State as a merchant, and in 1840 he removed to Illinois, where he was prosperously engaged in the same vocation. In 1859 he came with his family to Nebraska, and located on a farm near Saltillo. This was when Nebraska was under Territorial government in the early days of its settlement, and he is, therefore, numbered among the pioneers of that first decade when the country was in a very wild state, still being considered a part of the great American Desert, so that to him and his contemporaries belongs the honor of having shown to the outside world the great possibilities that lay in the rich virgin soil of these vast prairies. He was one of the prime movers in establishing the overland wagon route. He afterward came with his family to Lincoln in early times, when it gave no indications of its present size and wealth, and he has contributed his share in promoting its growth. He is a shrewd, far-sighted man of business, and is highly respected in this community, where he is well known for his solid worth. In politics, he has long been a follower of the Republican party, and is to-day one of its sturdiest supporters. He is a prominent member of the Blue Lodge, being a Master Mason.

Our subject belongs to that large class who have been, so to speak, the architect of their own fortunes, the so-called "self-made men" of our country. He was reared to farming pursuits and obtained a practical education that enabled him to enter suc-

cessfully into business. In early life he had considerable experience of life in the wild West. On the 23d of June, 1887, our subject and his father bought out Messrs. Hovey & Peck, and established themselves in their present business, which they have already made an assured success, and from which they derive a good income.

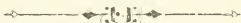
Mr. Cadman was married to Miss Katy A. Burks, Oct. 16, 1878, Elder H. T. Davis, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, performing the ceremony. She was born in Missouri in 1857, and is a daughter of John M. Burks. One daughter, Florence A., has been born of this marriage, her birth taking place in December, 1880. Our subject and his wife are pleasantly situated in their comfortable, commodious residence at No. 1228 T street, and they enjoy in the highest degree the esteem and confidence of all who know them. Mr. Cadman is a young man of good personal habits, is prompt and systematic in his business methods, and has always been found trustworthy and faithful. Religiously, he is identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is an honored member, and politically, he is allied with the Republicans of Lancaster County.

JAMES N. CLARK, Deputy Postmaster at Cheney, and dealer in drugs and groceries, a pleasant, affable and intelligent gentleman, was born in West Union, Ohio, June 20, 1858. His parents, Samuel E. and Sarah A. (Kirker) Clark, were natives of the same town as their son, where the father was employed at merchandising until the outbreak of the Civil War. Then, enlisting as a Union soldier in Company E, 91st Ohio Infantry, he was given a Captain's commission, and while leading his men in the battle of Cloyd Mountain, W. Va., was killed on the 9th of May, 1864. The mother is still living, and is now a resident of Creston, Iowa.

The parental family of our subject consisted of five children, namely: Mary, William A., Esther A., James N. (our subject) and Samuel K. James was but a little lad six years of age at the time of his father's death, and continued a resident of his native village until reaching manhood. His studies

were completed in the Normal University at Lebanon, Ohio, and he engaged as a teacher for nine years following, after which he clerked at different places in Ohio. In March, 1885, he started for the West, and coming to this county took up his residence in Grant Precinct, of which he has since been a resident.

Our subject, while a resident of the Buckeye State, was married in the town of Portsmouth, Scioto County, Sept. 3, 1879, to Miss Madge Tynes, who was born in Barbadoes Island, West Indies, July 11, 1861. Her parents, John B. and Margaret Tynes, were natives of Barbadoes, and are residents of Yankee Hill Precinct, this county. Our subject and his estimable wife are the parents of two sons, Arthur B. and Clarence K., who are now eight and six years old respectively. They have a neat and comfortable home, and enjoy the friendship and society of the best people of Cheney and vicinity. Mr. Clark is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics, supports Republican principles.



JOEL NEWTON CONVERSE, M. D. The Hebrew classic hath it, that "Pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall." One of the most startling proofs, perhaps, of the above, was the result of the War of 1776. England at that time was in the full strength of naval and military power; her arms were supreme throughout the whole of Europe; the Napoleonic power was broken at her feet, and her flag in every sea was saluted with the utmost deference and respect. The result to England was pride and haughtiness, and her counselors and king for the most part forgot that right is stronger than naval prowess and military power. Then from the Western Colonies there sounded out the answer to oppression and wrong which had been heaped upon them by the home Government—the Declaration of Independence, followed speedily by the noise of England's fall, the natural result of her ignorance and haughtiness. In spite of this it is a pleasure to remember that the common people were not with their rulers in this action, and that the common

people were the true nobles, who, in early days, peopled this country, and have transmitted to their sons and daughters a like nobility, so much so that, under the improved conditions of our sublime, free government every man and woman, unless they give themselves over to wrong, is noble in the highest sense of the word.

The subject of this sketch is the descendant of a family patriotic in the Colonial days, and there has been transmitted to him the nobility of character and indomitable energy characteristic of his ancestors. His father, Lathrop Converse, was born in Bridport, Vt., and was the son of Jeremiah Converse, a native of Massachusetts. The latter, when a young man, was ordained to the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which profession was eminently congenial to his upright character and devout spirit. Nevertheless, when the oppressor would come and devastate home and country, and the call went forth for defenders of the same, he was one of the first to respond with alacrity, and continued in the service with the full strength of patriotic manhood until disabled by a severe wound in the right shoulder. This marked him until he went to his last rest, mustered out of the army of mankind, and finished the battle of life. He breathed his last in Madison County, Ohio, in the home which he had made his, in 1814.

When he settled in Ohio Lathrop Converse was a young man. The long journey from Vermont was made in primitive fashion, with wagon and team, a method then full of labor and difficulty. The family were among the earliest settlers of that section, and their home, erected upon a tract of uncultivated land, was by no means pretentious. The walls of the dwelling were hewn logs, with the chinks and crevices plastered with clay; there was a stick and mud chimney, a puncheon floor, and greased paper for windowpanes. Could John Howard Payne have been acquainted with the pioneer's log cabin when he wrote "Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home?" The tract of land upon which this house stood comprised 200 acres, situated in Darby Township, and was purchased at the rate of \$1 per acre. Once after they had settled the journey was made by Mr. Converse to and from Vermont on horseback, the usual mode



Truly Yours
Margaret F. Conover



Truly yours
J. N. Converse M. D.

of travel in those days. Life in the new home was by no means easy, and the pioneers experienced all the difficulties incidental to new settlers, in the sale of their produce, being far from market; and, in spite of struggle and toil, at the time of his death, in 1822, Lathrop Converse was still in debt for his place, and his widow was compelled to sell the farm. After that liability was settled there remained \$40. The doctor's bill of \$100, consequent upon the long sickness of her husband, was paid with twelve head of cows and one horse. Thus was she left without means to fight for herself and four little ones, whose ages ranged from six months to six years.

The year following the death of her husband Mrs. Converse was married to Heman Wheeler, a native of Vermont, a farmer by occupation, and the owner of forty acres of land in the same township. Both Mr. Wheeler and wife were at this time devout members of the Methodist Church, and, although during the last six years of his life Mr. W. was not connected with any church, his Christian life and character were the same. He departed hence in 1842, his widow continuing upon the homestead many years. She finally took up her residence with her eldest son, with whom she remained until her death, in 1873.

Incidents innumerable might be noted, full of interest, regarding pioneer life, but one must suffice. Of course it was the custom of the mother of our subject to do all her own work. Cooking was performed by the open fireplace, and instead of a journey to the dry-goods store, the spinning and weaving were performed by the mother's hands, and the cloth or linen produced was the result of her own industry and ingenuity. Joel N., our subject, was once sent to the settlement with a fleece of lamb's wool, which was to be manufactured into a hat, and in payment carried twelve bushels of potatoes instead of our more convenient but then seldom used coin. What "store clothing" was used was paid for at a price which to us now would seem enormous.

At the time of his father's death our subject, having been born Dec. 13, 1820, was two years of age, and was reared by his stepfather. Whatever opportunities there were for giving him an educa-

tion were seized and made the most of. The school-house was the usual primeval log cabin with its puncheon or mud floor, rough benches and open fireplace, and yet we question whether our more refined modern institutions have turned out nobler and better men than have graduated from some of these old-fashioned school-houses. As soon as large enough Joel began to assist in the farm work, and continued thus employed until he was nineteen years of age, combining, however, with this during the winter, from his sixteenth birthday, the profession of teaching. In his nineteenth year he commenced the study of medicine, and was graduated, in 1845, from the Starling Medical College, at Columbus, Ohio. He continued to follow his chosen profession in Union and Madison until the year 1852, when he turned his attention to farming and railroad construction, in Randolph County, Ind. Upon the organization of the Union & Logansport Railroad Company he was first made Vice President, and shortly afterward President, and superintended the construction and operation of the road for a period of eight years; then in 1869 he came to Nebraska, and built and operated the railroad extending from Nemaha to York, via Nebraska City and Lincoln. In 1877 he leased the road and retired from active service. He had in the meantime made his headquarters at Nebraska City and Lincoln.

The first sojourn of Mr. Converse in this State was at Nebraska City, whence he removed to Lincoln, which remained his home until 1884; thence he removed to his farm in Elk Precinct in the fall of 1886. This farm comprises 1,280 acres of land, splendidly situated and very fertile, where a large area is devoted to general agriculture, and where Dr. Converse has ample facilities for his extensive operations as a stock-raiser. He now stands in the front rank of this industry in the county, having accommodation for over 300 head of cattle, and seldom having less than this number there. He is also a lover of fine horses, and has over 100 choice specimens of the equine race in his stables and pastures, including the Hambletonian and Norman breeds. In addition to this farm he owns large tracts of land in other parts of the State.

The residence of Dr. Converse is fully in keeping

with the extent and magnificent appointments of his farm in general. It is a very large and handsome gray stone building, noble in style of architecture, and standing upon an elevation which commands a fine view of the surrounding country, including the greater part of his own property. The attractiveness of the dwelling is increased by the stately forest trees in its vicinity, and the ornamental shrubs around it. The interior shows in every apartment the work of the modern artist and decorator, as do also the furnishings and general appointments. It is a home worthy of the man who has fought his way upward from the log cabin and pioneer school-house, depending solely upon his own resolution, and undaunted through difficulties and discouragements. The chief enjoyments of his home are largely due to the exquisite taste of his estimable and cultured wife, who possesses rare good judgment in the selection of those decorations suggestive of refinement and cultivation, and looked after with due care and attention. The grandson of Dr. Converse, Harry G. Reeder, a member of the family, is a young man of most excellent qualities, besides possessing rare abilities as an artist, his tastes largely turning to animal painting. Mrs. Converse, like her husband, is a descendant of English ancestry who crossed the Atlantic during the Colonial days. As a maiden she was Margaret F. Gaskell, and in education, culture and innate womanly qualities, is well fitted to be the companion of her husband. They were united in that closest relationship on earth Jan. 31, 1884. Mrs. Converse was born in 1848, in Quincy, Ill., and is the daughter of John P. Odom, who was born in Waldo County, Me., in 1813, and was the son of Capt. John Odom, also of the Pine Tree State. One of his ancestors was Sir John Oldham (as the patronymic was then written), a pioneer settler of the Province of Maine, who lost his life in a combat with the Indians.

Mr. Converse during his early manhood was a Whig, politically, and cast his first Presidential vote for "Tippecanoe and Tyler too." Upon the abandonment of the old party he placed himself fully in accord with the principles of Republicanism, to which he has strongly adhered. In the various campaigns since 1856 he has been an outspoken and

eloquent advocate of Republican principles, making himself master of the great questions of the day. Although in no sense a third-party man, he has always maintained the strictest temperance principles. He stands before the community as a man worthy of the confidence and esteem so heartily accorded him and his estimable wife, and which they both appreciate to the fullest possible extent.

The principles of the I. O. O. F. fraternity have for a period of over forty years found in Mr. Converse an able defender and exponent, he having become identified with the order as early as 1846. Six years later, in 1852, he also became a member of the Masonic fraternity, and some time since attained to the Royal Arch degree. In his religious views he is broad and catholic, believing in the final redemption of the human race. Using his own language, "this has been a beacon light to guide his footsteps for these many years." He is one of those men who believe that the richest results are obtained by a generous and liberal treatment of his fellowmen. His whole course of life has been actuated by the principles of the Golden Rule, while at the same time it has been distinguished by a persistent and indefatigable industry.

Considering the career of Mr. Converse it is not astonishing that success should have crowned his efforts. In his declining years it is meet he should be surrounded by those substantial and elegant comforts which he has so amply earned. The richest legacy, however, which he can leave to his friends and to posterity, will be that of his untarnished name. By those who know him best he is held in the warmest regard. It is with pleasure that we present to our numerous readers the portraits of Dr. Converse and his high-minded wife, together with the view of their beautiful home and its environments.

REV. JOHN BERK. The mightiest factor in civilization in the world, the power back of the institutions which distinguish civilization of the Christian era from that of any of its predecessors, the inspiration which has given to the wives, mothers and sisters of to-day, their

rightful place in society (*i. e.* by the side of man), is the Christian religion. By this we do not mean all classes under that name, but would restrict the meaning to that which is, at least, somewhat closely approximate to the unutterably sublime teaching and example of its founder. The men and women who have devoted themselves to the advancement of this cause, who have spread the knowledge of its truths and exhibited in their own lives and characters that of their Divine prototype, are therefore worthy of more honor than the ruler and the military leader. Great as are these two latter and extended as is the ability demanded to fill the positions, he who ministers as the servant of Christ is far beyond either.

In the present biography it will be endeavored succinctly to present in an outline the more prominent incidents in the life of one of Nebraska's clergymen, justly of more than usual celebrity. He is the son of Henry and Anna Maria (Weppelar) Berk. His father was born in the village of Rossbach, Kris Hersfeld, Germany, in 1794, his mother at Mengerlinghausen, of the same Province, about 1800, and died respectively in the year 1858, aged fifty years, and 1865, aged seventy-one years. His mother had been twice married, and had one child, Adam Heuppel, by her first husband. The second union was fruitful in the birth of three children, by name, Elizabeth, Catharine and John.

Our subject was born on the 23d of May, 1836, in Rossbach, Germany, and received in the schools of his native town his education, afterward giving his father the benefit of his ability and service upon the farm. His education was supplemented by a thorough religious training, and in due time he was confirmed in the Reformed Church. From the age of fourteen to seventeen years he remained with his father, and then came to the United States, where the difference in the religious atmosphere impressed our subject very much. He was pleased to miss the statuesque coldness of the German State Church, and his heart opened like the rosebud to the sunshine to receive the influences and enthusiasm of our more demonstrative and warmer religious exercise. He left his home and sailed from Bremen on the 22d of May on board the good ship "Anna," and after a comparatively quick passage landed in New

York, but pushed on rapidly to his destination, Lancaster, Grant Co., Wis., and there he engaged with his brother for two years, and there came under the influences which decided his life work, and gave Christianity and Nebraska one of its most earnest advocates and able ministers. The Rev. Dr. Bently, now of the Dubuque Theological Seminary, was delivering a series of sermons at Rockwell, Wis. These were heard by, and deeply affected our subject, and after two years he found rest and peace to heart and conscience, accepted the Divine Savior as his own, and was so affected thereby that he determined to devote the remainder of his life to the sharing of his new-found joy with others.

Business with Mr. Berk was now a thing of the past, and he decided to begin at once a course of study that would fit him for Christian work. He accordingly entered the Theological Seminary at Dubuque, Iowa, and took a seven-years course of study. Upon his graduation he was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Dubuque. His first call was to Richfield, Washington Co., Wis.; he there continued for four years, and at the close of the first year was ordained by the Presbytery of Milwaukee. During 1864 he was drafted into Company A, 6th Wisconsin. He lay in camp at Randall near Madison, and for several weeks did duty and attended drill with his companions, but found opportunity many times to preach to the soldiers of the camp. The chaplain of the hospital was his old friend, Rev. Bently, and with him our subject spent many happy hours. He was in the engagement at Hatchies' Run, Va., Feb. 6 and 7, 1865. His bravery and distinguished service attracted the attention of Gen. Bragg, who offered him a Captaincy upon the field, but the profession he had chosen being revealed, Col. Kellogg from La Crosse presented his name for the chaplaincy of the regiment, and this he accepted.

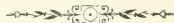
It was impossible for our subject to enter upon his new duties for about one month, owing to severe indisposition immediately after the battle, which confined him to the field hospital, but as soon as he was convalescent and was able to take charge, he did so, and from that time did not miss a single service until he was mustered out. He

was heroically indefatigable in his labors, both upon the field and in the hospitals. He was not content with speaking words of kindness, consolation and instruction, but found many occasions for raising the immortal memorial of good works among his sick and wounded comrades, administering the cooling draught to one, moistening a dressing or adjusting a bandage for another, writing the home letter for yet another, and so on, by day and night, bravely bearing the fatigue, discomfort and hardship incidental to such experience. At different times, also, he was the recipient of money, medicines, clothing and little delicacies for distribution where needed, and we need not add that the trust thus reposed was never violated, but their recipients, many of them still living, have given him a place in their hearts, and accord their warmest affection. He was finally mustered out of service, and almost immediately left for home, there to rejoin the wife and child from whom he had been so long separated.

Our subject was married first to Miss Catharine B. Plattner, in 1863. She was removed from him by death after a brief but very happy wedded life of four years, in 1867, leaving one child, Calvin, who is now a merchant in Hickman. His wife is Mary Offer, to whom he was united March 11, 1885, and who has presented him with two children, John Calvin and an infant unnamed. Calvin has now charge of one of our subject's farms. Our subject was married the second time on the 18th of October, 1869, the lady of his choice being Miss Emily Triller, daughter of David and Gustini Kant. Both parents and daughter were natives of Germany, Miss Triller being ushered into life in Nuertitz, Saxe-Altenburg, on the 17th of May, 1848, and came to America with her parents at the age of eight years. Her education was begun in Germany when she arrived at the youthful age of six years and was continued in this country at Menomonee Falls, Wis., where she was confirmed at the usual age. It was in this city that our subject made her acquaintance and learned to love her for the beautiful character, devout spirit and lofty religious aspirations which fitted her so eminently for the companionship of one who had devoted himself to the sacred profession of our subject. Two children,

Lydia M. and Emma M., in due time filled the home of our subject with their merriment and laughter, who have now grown to maidenhood and are attending school at Hickman.

Rev. Berk is widely and favorably known as a divine, and is one of the "strong" men of the Presbyterian communion in Nebraska. As a pastor, he is deeply in earnest, thorough, sympathetic, and true to his manhood, Christianity and the necessities of the case. As a preacher his well-trained mind quickly comprehends the various phases of doctrinal thought and popular questions, and the same are clearly presented by his unquestionable logic and rendered pleasing and instructive by his well-known eloquence. He served the church at Rockwell, Wis., from 1866 to 1879, organized the churches at Liberty, Hurricane and Marion, all of which are in Wisconsin. The last named was, however, served by another minister. In 1879 he was called to Hickman, where were many of his old members, who were very anxious that he should take pastoral charge of the church he had organized the previous year. He is now the owner of 440 acres of fine land in Saltillo and South Pass Precincts, making four different farms, but his home he continues at Hickman. He is a member of the General Presbyterian Church of the United States, of the Nebraska State Presbytery, of the Nebraska Synod, and is Chairman of the Relief Committee, and Trustee of the German Theological Seminary, of Dubuque. In political questions he is heartily in favor of Republican principles and gives all his support and influence to the same, but at the same time he is a strong temperance worker and thinker.



ASHER W. WIDDIFIELD, Postmaster at Cheney, and the leading grain buyer of the place, is a native of Salem, Henry Co., Iowa, where his birth took place Feb. 3, 1854. His father was a farmer by occupation, and the son became familiar with the various employments of rural life, while at the same time he received a good education, having been graduated from the High School at Muscatine.

For nearly two years after leaving school young

Widdifield spent much of his time traveling over the country, principally west, during which time he gained much useful information, and for a year had charge of a canvassing corps for Bibles through Nebraska to the Pacific Coast. In 1878, when twenty-four years of age, he came to Nebraska and located on a tract of land near Bennet, where he carried on farming for a time, and then spent two years as a teacher. He next changed his residence to the vicinity of Cheney, farming one year outside the town limits, and then took up his residence in the village. For a period of four years thereafter he officiated as agent for the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad at this point, and gradually drifted into the grain business, which has proved very profitable, and in which he has now had an experience of six years. In the meantime he has also become familiar with general mercantile business, and is of that wide-awake and energetic disposition which has resulted in his attaining a good position, both socially and financially, among the people of this region.

The subject of this sketch is the son of Timothy and Leah (Woolman) Widdifield, who were natives respectively of Newmarket, Canada, and Salem, Ohio. After marriage they crossed the Mississippi and settled in Salem, Iowa, in 1840, where they lived for a period of eighteen years. In 1858 they changed their residence to Muscatine, where the father engaged in farming and where his death took place in 1881. The mother is still living and a resident of Salem, Iowa. Their family comprised two children only—Asher W., our subject, and his sister Mary. The latter is residing at Salem with her mother.

Mr. Widdifield after coming to Nebraska was married, Oct. 17, 1878, in Louisville, to Miss Charity Greek, who was born in Bath, N. Y., May 21, 1854. Mrs. W. was the daughter of Ezra and Mary Greek, who were natives of New York. Her father was killed at the battle of Antietam. The mother still lives at Louisville, Neb. To our subject and his wife there have been born six children, namely: Lawrence, Alvah, Edith, Charity, Asher and Grace. Mr. W., politically, uniformly votes the straight Republican ticket, and was appointed Postmaster of Cheney under the administration of President

Arthur. He has been quite prominent in public affairs, serving as Justice of the Peace, Notary Public and School Director. Among the leading business men of this locality he is considered entirely responsible and reliable, and has been no unimportant factor in the success of the various enterprises which have contributed to the progress and growth of the town.



CHARLES M. MARTIN, one of the younger members of the farming community of Grant Precinct, owns and occupies the southwest quarter of section 10, where he is carrying on agriculture successfully and gaining for himself a good position among his fellow-citizens. He is a native of McDonough County, Ill., having been born in the little city of Macomb, March 17, 1858, and is the son of Joseph M. and Henrietta (Westfall) Martin, natives of Ohio, the father born in Miami County. After marriage they changed their residence to Thornton, Ind., whence they removed to Macomb, during the early settlement of McDonough County.

The parental family included eight children, the eldest of whom, a daughter, Harriet, is now the wife of S. J. Clarke, of Macomb. Those who are living reside in Illinois and Nebraska. The names of the children are: Edgar P. and Edwin (twins), the latter deceased; Fielding O., Isaac M., Nettie A., Charles M. and Mary E. Charles M., our subject, pursued his early studies in the common school and was graduated from the Macomb High School when a youth of nineteen years. He was a lad fond of his books, and subsequently engaged in teaching in McDonough County for a period of three years. Afterward he took up farming there, and continued a resident of his native county until coming to Nebraska, in December, 1882.

Upon crossing the Mississippi our subject took up his residence at once in Grant Precinct, this county, bringing with him his young wife, who in her girlhood was Miss Susan R. Lownes, to whom he had been married at Table Grove, Fulton Co., Ill., on the 10th of March, 1881. Mrs. Martin is the daughter of Joseph and Susan (Janney) Lownes,

mention of whom is made in the sketch of Russell Lownes, which will be found on another page in this work. She was born in McDonough County, near Table Grove, and remained under the parental roof until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there have been born three children: Mary E., who died in infancy; Harry L. and Ida T. Religiously, Mrs. Martin inclines to the doctrines of the Society of Friends. Our subject, politically, is a solid Republican, but has very little to do with public affairs, further than to keep himself posted upon matters of general interest.

JOHN M. DENMAN. In the development of a new country such as Nebraska, with its ever-growing farming and stock interests, men who will give such study to the subject and bestow such labor as is demanded for the improvement and advancement to the highest condition to which they are capable the stock in use upon the farms and roads of such new country, are ever worthy of recognition. Such an one is the subject of this biographical sketch. Although a young man, he is nevertheless a representative farmer, and as a stock-raiser stands in the front rank.

Oct. 8, 1860, in Erie County, Ohio, was born to John and Mary Denman their son John M. His father was a native of Erie County, Ohio. His paternal grandfather, John Denman, was a native of Kent, England. When he was four years of age his parents emigrated to America. They found a home in New York State, where their child was reared, and in the pure air of the New World breathed the spirit of the founders of the Republic, as is illustrated by the perseverance, hardihood, independence and manliness of his after life. He became a pioneer of the Western Reserve, Ohio, and upon two different occasions, whether from pleasure or necessity, he performed upon foot the whole journey to and from New York State. At the time he passed through it in these journeys, the present city of Cleveland was in the earliest formative period of its existence, and contained not more than a dozen small cottages. On the second journey he carried

from the New York home to Ohio a peck of apple seeds, which he planted upon his farm in Erie County, Ohio, the fruit of which he afterward enjoyed for many years. He lived to the advanced age of eighty-four years, and died there in 1879.

At this homestead was born the father of our subject, who was twice married, and became the parent of four children: Hattie, wife of Arthur Bentley, of Logan County, Kan.; John, the subject of this sketch; Lyda, wife of John Struble, of Pueblo, Col., and F. A., who remains at home assisting his father on the farm in Ohio. The father has always espoused the cause and principles of Republicanism, and is very widely and favorably known in this connection. His political influence is felt throughout the whole of Erie and adjoining counties. He is at present engaged, in addition to his farming interests, in buying young stock of choice breeds, wool and fruit. He is perhaps the largest individual buyer of apples in one year in the whole of Northwestern Ohio, having purchased in that period over 13,000 barrels, shipping them to all parts of the country, and many even to England.

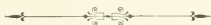
John Denman, our subject, from his birth until manhood lived in his native county. He was educated in its schools, and afterward attended the Lebanon Normal School, of Ohio. The good use to which he put the advantages of these institutions, and the avidity with which he embraced the opportunities offered in them, have yielded to him rich educational results. On leaving Lebanon he engaged for a short time in teaching school, but the desire for a freer life, more outdoor occupation, and larger scope for his restless energies, led him to go West.

The influence of our subject's early farm life was now doubtless upon him, and when, upon entering Nebraska, the favorable outlook for a similar farm in the rich country contained in Lancaster County offered itself, he immediately secured a tract of the same, and settled down to make a success of his chosen pursuit. This settlement was effected in the year 1881. The land purchased by him was railroad land, for which he paid \$6.66 per acre. The 160 acres then obtained have received such care, attention and thought, such intelligent labor has been bestowed upon them, as our subject, from his

previous training, was fully aware must yield the splendid results now attained.

Mr. Denman married, Aug. 1, 1887, Alice E. Jones, a lady in every way fitted to be a true helper in her husband's life work, an ornament to society, and by her kindly disposition and culture a model housekeeper and true mother. Mrs. Denman is a daughter of George and Louisa Jones, and like her parents a native of England, but they have long been residents of Yankee Hill Precinct.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Denman are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which communion by their unremitting labors, exemplary lives and strong Christian charity, they are held in very high esteem. Our subject is also a prominent advocate in behalf of the Y. M. C. A., of which organization he is also a member. He is ever found ready to answer a call for service, and to bear a hand to advance any of its multitudinous manly and Christian enterprises. Politically, Mr. Denman, perhaps owing to his experience in church life and work, by reason of the close contact in which he is necessarily brought in his work among young men, with the disastrous effects attending them, and in fact society generally, from the unrestrained and careless indulgence in intoxicants, is a Prohibitionist.



FRANK R. DENTON, a son of D. M. Denton, of whom a sketch appears in this ALBUM, although but a young man, is entitled by courtesy to the name of pioneer, having come to this section in the year 1866. He resides on the north-east quarter of section 21, adjoining his father's estate. Before Mr. Denton came here he was a resident of Lake County, in Northern Ohio, the date of his birth being March 26, 1854. Although but a young lad aged about thirteen when with other members of the family he came here, he realized that he was not too young to put his hand to the plow, and with the energy of youth he assisted his father in the toilsome labors of the farm and the care of some of the young cattle, in the raising of which his father was engaged. No doubt there were many times when he sighed for the comforts and the companions of his childhood days in his old

home, but with a stout heart, encouraged by his father's word and example, he followed the fortune that was his, determined, if possible, to make it a successful one.

Deprived of the privilege of attending college, our subject received but a common-school education, making good use, however, of all the means that were afforded him to that end. Inheriting from his respected father a love for reading, he spent his leisure hours, when the cares of the day were ended, in that most delightful of entertainments. Thus he acquired a good general knowledge, and is conversant upon all topics of interest of the day. The children of the present generation, having about them all the means for acquiring good educations—the best of schools, numberless books, and the daily papers—can scarcely realize the position in which the children of the early pioneers were placed as regards the advantages just named; nor could they imagine with what avidity a new book or paper was seized upon and readily perused by those so far away from friends, who perhaps had sent them these welcome tokens of their remembrance.

On the 11th of November, 1880, Mr. Denton was married to Mary J. Robinson, formerly of Minnesota, she being a daughter of David and Margaret Robinson, who afterward went to Illinois, where the daughter grew up to young womanhood. To this new household have been born three children: Roy, who might be considered the parents' Christmas gift, since he came to them on the 24th of December, 1881; Earl, who was born Oct. 29, 1885; and Mary, the little daughter, on the 5th of February, 1888. To the eyes of this little one what a very different scene is presented from that upon which her father gazed on his advent to this country! What was years ago unattractive and uncultivated land is now showing forth the plants and grains and fruits with which Nature rewards the husbandmen who successfully woo and win her by tilling the soil.

Having as a boy contributed his share of labor toward the securing of a family home, the subject of our sketch then turned his attention to the amassing of property for himself and his own family. He is the owner of 220 acres of good land, and is meeting with success in its cultivation. By his manly

and upright bearing and honest business transactions he has won the esteem and confidence of the community in which he lives, and is ably qualified to fill the honorable position in society which is granted him. He and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and their daily lives show to the world that religion is not only a profession, but it is a tangible substance which we may always carry with us to lighten our way and lend its beams to cheer the paths of others.

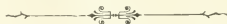


GEORGE H. EXLEY. In Yorkshire, England, in the home of the Rev. Henry and Mary (Hartley) Exley, was born May 9, 1847, their son George H. In the pure, elevating atmosphere of this Christian home he was reared, and its influences have been primary factors in the shaping of his life and character. While he was still a child his parents emigrated to America and settled in Massachusetts, but after two years the failing health of his mother, whom the climate seriously affected, caused their return to England, where they remained a short time and then returned to America. They first located in Wisconsin, afterward proceeding to Iowa.

Upon leaving school our subject, then thirteen years of age, commenced to learn the trade of worsted-making, and began to work in the factory. In this he continued until eighteen years of age. He then learned harness-making at Dubuque, Iowa, and continued to work at the same with good success for two years. In 1871 he removed to this county, and settled on his present farm in 1872. On January 14 of that year he was happily married to Esther McGinnis, daughter of William and Mary McGinnis. The former is deceased. This lady was born in Scott County, Iowa, Nov. 9, 1846. Her mother is still a resident of that county. As the name would imply, her father was a native of Ireland, but of Scotch descent, while her mother is a native of Pennsylvania. The McGinnis family circle was quite large, numbering twelve children, of which number, however, but eight are living—John C., Esther M., Martha J., William H., Eliza L. (wife of Alexander

Brownley), James B., Isaphenia (wife of Seymour Carpenter) and Preston.

For several years Mr. and Mrs. Exley have been members in good standing of the Christian Church, and have ever been found ready to take upon themselves any labor and activity which this relation would seem to demand of them, although a personal inconvenience and self-sacrifice. Their four children are being brought up in the same faith. Their eldest son, William H., was born Jan. 14, 1873. On Dec. 9, 1874, was born Charles A., then Mary E., born Oct. 10, 1876; George, born May 11, 1879. Mr. Exley has for some time past filled his present office of School Director, the duties of which he has performed with great credit to himself and to the great satisfaction of the community. His conscientious convictions have led him, and have given him courage, to leave his former political connections and take his place in what he deems to be the right; he now, therefore, stands in the ranks of the Prohibitionists, and has lent his influence to the advancement of their principles. His farm comprises 160 acres of good land on section 17, Yankee Hill Precinct. The financial aid which his father could give him in a start in life was very small, and whatever he has become in education and standing in the community, the increase of his wealth, the high state of cultivation and improvement of his farm, is all the result of heroic effort, hard labor, honesty and perseverance.



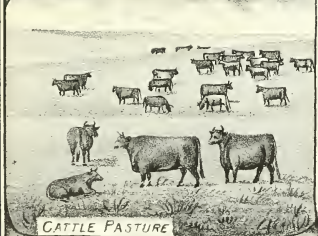
GEORGE DESCHER. The quarter-section of land on section 4, in Denton Precinct, which presents, perhaps, the most pleasing picture and most clearly indicative of unremitting labor, intelligently directed and well performed, is that belonging to the subject of this sketch. Mr. Descher is a native of the land of the Blue Danube, and was born on the 29th of October, 1831, in the Empire of Austria. He is a son of Antone and Alney Descher, and is the youngest son in his family. His early years were spent in his native country, and he received a somewhat complete education in the schools of the same land, but the difficulty which forced itself upon him was that of utilizing the edu-



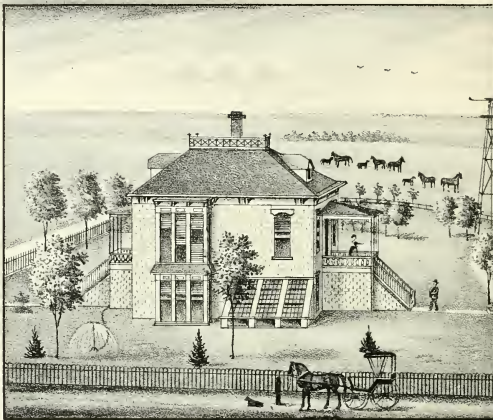
VIEW FROM HOME PASTURE - LOOKING N. W.



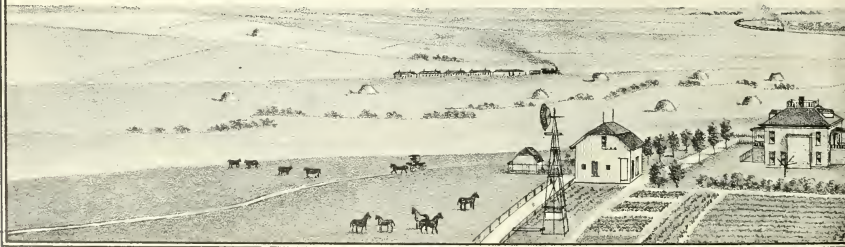
FARM BRIDGE OVER ELK CREEK

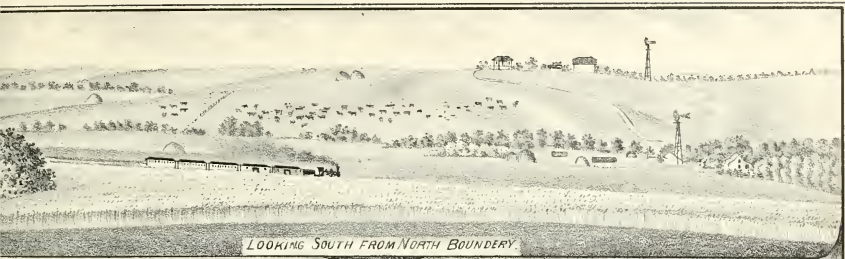


CATTLE PASTURE



"COTTAGE HILL"





LOOKING SOUTH FROM NORTH BOUNDARY



ODLAWN



HAY-MAKING IN IEBRASKA, COTTAGE HILL FARM.



HORSE PASTURE

LINCOLN.



BIRDS-EYE VIEW, LOOKING EAST.

education which was received in his native town, and applying it in the English language.

Our subject was eighteen years old when he began to learn the trade of shoemaker, which, having learned, he continued to follow for a few years. At the age of twenty-one he entered the Austrian army, and served in the ranks for a period of ten years. He went through the war between France, Italy and Austria, was in the battle of Solferino, and continued until the close of the war. In 1866 he emigrated to America, took passage from Bremen in a sailing-vessel, and after a voyage of thirty-nine days, landed in New York City. From there he proceeded to Kentucky, and lived there several years, renting a farm. He was so far successful in his new occupation, and so generously did the earth return of her treasures, that in 1874 he came to Nebraska and located in Cass County, and after about twelve months came to this county, and settled in 1881.

Besides the attractions which are found in the fields and pastures, in the shade and forest trees, or in the orchard of our subject, mention must be made of his house, which is a most comfortable and beautiful home, and in common with the other buildings upon his farm, is the result of his own handiwork. In addition to the farm referred to in our opening sentence, he is the owner of another of eighty acres situated on section 4 of Denton Precinct, making in all 200 acres.

Previous to his coming to this country our subject was happily married, Feb. 28, 1864, to Bridget Y. Jussell, who is a daughter of Christian and Mary Jussell, and was born Oct. 8, 1837. Eleven children, of whom six are living, have come to their home, making it to them a very paradise with their innocent prattle, fun and laughter. Their names are here appended as in the family record: Joseph, George, Henry, Mary, Louisa and Sensa. Our subject and family are exceedingly devout in their attendance upon the services of the Roman Catholic Church, and the various religious duties connected therewith.

The political opinions and sympathies of our subject are with the Democratic party, and although he is solid and steadfast as a partisan, his political acts are always backed by his best judgment and con-

scientious opinion. He has fallen naturally into the ways and customs of his adopted country, and fully appreciates the nobility of her Government and the unrivaled grandeur of her institutions, and enjoys the hearty appreciation and regard of the entire community.



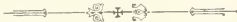
MRS. SARAH A. JESSUP. This highly esteemed lady, the relict of the late Henry Jessup, continues to conduct the farming enterprises established and so successfully carried on by her husband for a number of years. Her residence and farm are on section 4 of Grant Precinct. She is an Eastern lady, and born of parents, the one a native of New York State, and the other of Vermont. Her father, Alexander Law, died in the town of North East, Erie Co., Pa., when Sarah was a little girl five years of age. Her mother, Elizabeth (Lewis) Law, lived until the year 1876, when she passed away in Wesleyville, in the county above mentioned. To this couple were born five children, to whom were given the following names: Hiram, Joseph, Sarah A., George and Oscar.

Mrs. Jessup was born in North East, Erie Co., Pa., March 25, 1837. She remained a member of the little family circle at the home until her marriage, which event occurred in Wesleyville, Pa., Feb. 13, 1861. She had previously met Mr. Henry Gilbert Jessup, and the attachment springing from their acquaintance and friendship led to the matrimonial alliance which for over twenty years proved a most congenial and happy one. Mr. Jessup was a native of Michigan, having been born in Washtenaw County, Oct. 12, 1834. His parents, Philester and Matilda (Pinckney) Jessup, were natives of the Empire State, the birth of the former occurring Sept. 29, 1804, in Palmyra, Wayne County, and that of the latter in Sullivan County, one month later, Oct. 29, 1804. Mrs. Jessup, the mother of Henry G., died in Howell, Livingston Co., Mich., when fifty years of age. Mr. Jessup came to Nebraska as early as 1866, and settled in Grant Precinct, this county, where he still lives. He reared

a family of eight children, of whom Henry G., above mentioned, was the eldest son.

To Mr. and Mrs. Henry G. Jessup were born six children, a brief record of whom is given as follows: Carrie E., the eldest, is the wife of William E. Grant, of Denver, Col.; Hattie L. died in Nebraska when fourteen years of age; Minnie A. died when only ten years of age; the death of these two sisters occurred within six weeks of each other, and was caused by typhoid fever; Zennie B., Charles H. L. and Verta M. are living at home with their mother. The late Mr. Jessup was a highly respected citizen of the community, which had grown up around him, knew him well and held him in high respect. He was called upon to serve in various official positions in the precinct, always performing the duties thus imposed upon him in the most manly and satisfactory manner. His father served the township as Assessor for eleven years. He is one of the prominent men of the precinct, an influential member of the First Congregational Church, of Lincoln, being one of the organizers of that congregation.

Mr. Jessup had accumulated a good property near Lincoln, being only six miles from the city, and in his daily walk had commanded the respect of every member of the community, and his death, which occurred Dec. 31, 1882, was not only a loss to his family, but the community felt that they were also being bereft of an influential and enterprising citizen. Mrs. Jessup is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is a lady who, by her kindly disposition, enjoys in an exceptional degree the respect of a large circle of friends.



DANIEL M. DENTON is among the number of early pioneers of Lancaster County, residing on section 22 of Denton Precinct. He is a native of Schoharie County, N. Y., the date of his birth being the 17th of March, 1823. He is a son of Edward J. and Charlotte Denton, both of New York State. His paternal ancestors were of Welsh extraction, and the maternal ancestors were German. The Denton family emigrated to America previous to the Revolutionary War, and it is said that some of them participated in that

war, having a desire to see their adopted country relieved from the oppression of the English ruler, George III. This family settled in New York, which has been the home and birthplace of many of their descendants.

At the age of ten years our subject lost his father, after which bereavement he went to live with a Scotch minister, with whom he remained for some eight months, and then he went to make his home with Mr. Atkin, of Ashtabula County, in Northern Ohio. He remained with Mr. Atkin some three years, and subsequently, until he reached the age of twenty-three years, he was in the employment of different parties in Ohio. He received but a limited education in his youth, but having a great fondness for reading, he has read extensively, and in that way has become well informed on general topics of the day. His educational acquirements may be said to be wholly the result of his own application and his own love and searching after knowledge.

Mr. Denton was first married in Ohio, in 1846, to Rebecca Adams, from this marriage having one daughter, Rebecca, now residing in Lincoln, Neb. He married his second wife in Ohio, she being Amelia Adams, and by this marriage he had four children, viz: Henry P., in Valley County, Neb.; Frank R., living in this precinct; Jane, wife of Mr. Sheldon, of Cherry County, and John, living in Sldney, this State. Our subject came to this county in 1866, to see what field was offered for the establishment of a home here. Finding that it offered good inducements, he brought his family here in the following year, settling at once in Denton Precinct. At one time he was the possessor of 1,200 acres of land, but disposing of part of it, he still owns 795 acres of good land, well cultivated, also a number of lots in Denton Village.

When Mr. Denton settled in Denton Township there were but two other families living here, one of whom was Ellis Slane, of whom a sketch appears in this ALBUM, the other, Hamilton Queen, our subject being the third settler in this precinct. On its organization as a precinct it was honored with the name of our subject. He has served honorably as Assessor of this precinct for some three terms, and for a number of years has filled an

office on the School Board. With his neighbor, Mr. Shane, he has seen the development of the country from its primitive state into the fine and well-cultivated farms of to-day. Coming here with but little available means, he engaged in the business of cattle raising, by which he has secured large receipts, enabling him to amass by careful management his present wealth. His diligence and prosperity are but the natural and rightful reward that should follow the continued efforts of an honest and earnest man.

An esteemed member of the Christian Church, Mr. Denton has so conducted himself in a business and social way as to win the respect of his fellow-men and associates in business. He is liberal-minded and public-spirited, and lends his influence to the advancement and improvement of society and State, and in politics he lends his voice in favor of the Republican party. Too much cannot be said of the influence for good which the conduct of these earlier members of the community has upon that of the younger portion of society. Their example is altogether worthy of imitation and their loyalty gains for them universal esteem. For over twenty years Mr. Denton has lived in this community, indeed the community has grown up around him. As one who has done much hard work and given much valuable aid to the county and the molding of the character of the people, his memory should be cherished and preserved. It will live in the minds of those who know him personally as long as they live, but the generations to come will know nothing of his labors, his trials and good works, unless some means are taken to hand down to them a record of his life.



CHARLES BUNCE, M. D., is pleasantly located on section 27, Waverly Precinct, which has been his home since 1862. He is the owner of 320 acres of good land, containing valuable improvements, to which he devotes much of his time and attention, as his health does not permit the practice of his profession.

Our subject was born in Middlesex County, Mass., Oct. 13, 1835, and is the son of Elisha and Priscilla

(Wright) Bunce, also natives of the Bay State. He traces his paternal ancestry to a clergyman named Robinson, who died in Holland, and whose family one year later came to America, and settled in Massachusetts one year after the arrival of the Pilgrim Fathers, and our subject can be traced in direct descent from this gentleman. The father of Dr. Bunce was engaged in the nursery business in his native State, and the mother worked for many years in a cotton factory at Waltham, and then went to Lowell and superintended the adjustment of the spinning machinery in the first cotton factory of that city. She died in her native State, while the father of our subject, who was born in 1801, died Aug. 13, 1888, in Middlesex County. There were born to them eight children, of whom six still survive, as follows: Louis is a teacher at Anna, Ill.; Augustus is engaged in farming in Massachusetts, on the old homestead; Charles; William resides at Worcester, Mass., and is disabled for life, the injury being received in the attack on Ft. Donelson; Maria and Caroline are book-keepers at Lowell, Mass.

Charles Bunce resided in his native State until 1850, and received such education as was obtainable at the district schools. He then came to the West, and entering Knox College, Galesburg, Ill., in 1853, was graduated from that institution four years later. He then engaged in the study of medicine with his uncle, Dr. James Bunce, of Galesburg, and in 1861 was graduated from the Rush Medical College, Chicago. He then started out in life for himself as a physician in Henderson, Knox Co., Ill., but in October, 1862, entered the United States service as Assistant Surgeon of the 59th Illinois Infantry. In September of the next year he was promoted to the office of Surgeon of the regiment, and served until the 59th was mustered out at San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 8, 1865. Returning to Illinois, Dr. Bunce located in Woodhull, Henry County, where he resided until he came to this State, and he then settled on the farm upon which he has since bestowed his energies.

Dr. Bunce was united in marriage, in October, 1871, with Miss Amanda, daughter of Orson H. Patterson, and their union has been blessed by the birth of four children, two of whom, William O. and

Grace, still survive. In politics, the Doctor is a staunch Republican, though he has avoided the duties of office, as during his period of good health he had no time to spare from the practice of his profession. He is a ripe scholar and a man of good judgment, honored and respected by all the families with whom his professional career has brought him into intimate relationship. He and Mrs. Bunce are active members of the Congregational Church, while socially, the Doctor is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

LOUIS FAULHABER, one of the most thrifty German farmers of Stockton Precinct, owns and occupies a fine estate, embracing 320 acres of land on sections 3 and 4, his residence being on the latter. The homestead is noticeable for its good improvements, and especially the large number of fruit and ornamental trees, which he has planted to the extent of about 700, besides a large quantity of grapes. Like most of the enterprising men about him, he makes a speciality of stock-raising, and has acquired a fine property, besides surrounding himself and family with all the comforts of life.

The first years of our subject were passed on the other side of the Atlantic, in the little Kingdom of Bavaria, where his birth took place Nov. 18, 1826. When a child five years of age his parents emigrated to America and settled in Seneca County, Ohio, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Louis remained on the farm until a youth of fourteen years, and was then apprenticed to learn the shoemaker's trade, which he followed for a period of nine years. In the meantime he had been married, and in June, 1850, turned his face toward the farther West, and crossing the Mississippi, accompanied by his wife, took up a tract of land in Manitowoc, Wis., where he lived until the spring of 1875. His next removal was to this county, when he took up the land which he still occupies.

The wife of our subject, to whom he was married in Tiffin, Seneca Co., Ohio, March 1, 1848, was in her girlhood Miss Helen Sauter, a native of the same country as her husband, and born April 1, 1830. She was a little child three years of age

when she came to America with her parents, and they settled first in Tiffin, Ohio. Later they removed to Wood County, that State, where the father died about 1856. The mother still survives, and is living at Perrysburg, Wood Co., Ohio.

Of the thirteen children born to Mr. and Mrs. Faulhaber, the record is as follows: Their eldest son, John, died when one and one-half years old, in 1849; Louis is on the police force of the city of Lincoln; William is farming in Stockton Precinct, this county; Mary is the wife of John Lemke, and lives in Stockton Precinct; John is traveling salesman for a firm in Milwaukee; Theodore is farming in Brown County, this State; Charles and Henry are residents of Cherry County; Phillip, the youngest, is engaged in farming for himself in Stockton Precinct; Frederick and Emma are at home with their parents, and Clara is the wife of Frederick Retzlaff, of Stevens Creek Precinct.

Mr. Faulhaber, politically, is a conscientious Democrat, and a man who keeps himself well posted upon matters of general interest. He was particularly fortunate in his choice of a wife and helpmate, having a lady who looks well to the ways of her household and those little matters which have so great an influence in the happiness of a home. They have labored industriously in acquiring their fine property, and are now in the enjoyment of the fruits of their early toils, while surrounded by hosts of friends who have learned to value them at their true worth. They were reared in the precepts of the German Lutheran Church, to which they still loyally adhere, together with their children.

JOHAN W. CRIST is one of the leading farmers of Lancaster County, and his beautiful farm on section 29, Lancaster Precinct, which by his persistent industry he has reclaimed from the unbroken prairie, is classed among the finest in the whole precinct. He is engaged in diversified farming and pays some attention to dairying, and, we may add, with success, and is reaping a good income. Our subject comes of a prominent family, and he and his wife occupy a high social position in this community.

Mr. Crist's grandfather, John P. Crist, a native of Frederick County, Md., born June 23, 1774, was an early settler of Warren County, Ohio, settling there in 1802, and there made his home until his death, Feb. 21, 1849, being actively engaged in farming. The Crist family originated in Germany, Michael Crist, the great-grandfather of our subject, being the first member of the family to cross the waters and take up his abode in this country, coming in 1760, when he was in middle life. His son, John P., married Margarette Mong in 1797. She was born Nov. 12, 1775, and died Aug. 5, 1851. They had a family of nine children, four of whom were sons. Our subject had an uncle who went to California during the exciting times in 1849, and he remained a resident of that State until his death, having been prosperously engaged in mining. Two uncles of Mr. Crist lost their lives in the Mexican War.

David Crist, father of the subject of this sketch, was the oldest of that family, and was born Sept. 30, 1799, in Frederick County, Md., and a few years later left the home of his birth with his parents to accompany them to their pioneer home in the wilds of Warren County, Ohio. He lived under the parental roof until he was thirty-one, when he married and established a home of his own, Eveline Leach, daughter of Edward and Magdalena (Abracht) Leach, becoming his wife and devoted helpmate. She is likewise a native of Frederick County, Md., having been born there Sept. 26, 1810. She comes of good old English stock, her father having been a native of England, while her mother came of an old Maryland family. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Crist spent their entire married life in Warren County, Ohio, Mr. Crist's death occurring there July 21, 1875, when the community in which he had lived for so many years was deprived of one of its most valuable citizens, as he was in all respects a man worthy of the highest respect and consideration. His good wife still makes her home on the old homestead in Franklin, Warren County. Ten children were born of their union, seven sons and three daughters; five, of whom the following is the record, are still living: Edward P., a furniture dealer in Franklin, Ohio; David L., a farmer in the same town; J. W.; Minerva lives with

her mother on the old homestead; Adeline married Albert Bloss, of Weatherford, Tex., and is now a widow.

J. W. Crist was born May 20, 1841, at Franklin, Warren Co., Ohio, and during his boyhood and youth attended the common schools of his native place, and assisted in the farm work, remaining at home until 1872. In that year he came to Nebraska, and bought a farm of eighty acres of wild land three miles from Lincoln, and, notwithstanding the years of discouragement that followed, when all his hard labors seemed to come to naught, he has finally become very prosperous. When he first came here times were hard, owing to monetary panics, and it was a difficult thing to manage one's affairs with the necessary skill so as to avoid failure. In 1874 and 1875 the grasshoppers devastated the harvest fields, and they also came the following year, but did but little damage. There were, besides, some losses by hailstorms, everything looked dark and gloomy, and some of the settlers, fairly worn out by so many reverses, returned penniless to their Eastern homes. Not so our subject; with the true American grit and energy that have always characterized him he courageously faced every trial, has wrested victory from defeat, so to speak, and has established in this part of what was once considered the "Great American Desert," a pleasant and permanent home.

The year following his arrival here Mr. Crist returned to Franklin, Warren Co., Ohio, to solemnize his marriage with Miss Jane Burns, daughter of Philip T. and Martha (Funk) Burns, of Franklin, Ohio. She was born Aug. 31, 1841. Her father was born in Harper's Ferry, Va., in 1810, went to Ohio when he was a young man, and made his home there until his death many years later, which took place Jan. 4, 1873. Her mother, who now makes her home with Mrs. Crist, was born in Frederick County, Md., Sept. 27, 1818. She had three daughters, all of whom are living, namely: Ellen, wife of Benjamin Eberhart, a farmer of Warren County, Ohio; Jane, wife of our subject, and Elizabeth, wife of Henry Piper, a butcher of Warren County, Ohio.

Mr. Crist is influential in public affairs, and as a public-spirited and wide-awake citizen has done all

that lay in his power to promote the social and material welfare of the county in general, and of this community in particular. He has held the office of Assessor for three years, and has been a member of the School Board for twelve years, and it is needless to add that he has discharged the duties devolving upon him in public life with the utmost fidelity and greatly to the satisfaction of his fellow-citizens. In his political relations our subject has been a staunch supporter of the Democratic party ever since he was old enough to cast a vote.



MOSSES BRINTON, who with his son owns 400 acres of the best land on section 33, Oak Precinct, occupies the same in the interest of general farming, the dairy and the raising of blooded stock. His grandfather, after whom he was named, was born in the year 1761, and died in 1844. He was a native of Pennsylvania, and from the time of his birth on through the years of manhood he continued to reside in the Piqua Valley, near the Gap in Lancaster County of that State. Our subject was born upon the same place in 1817, on the 25th of August.

Caleb Brinton, the father of our subject, was born at the home of his parents, April 7, 1793, in the above county, and was also reared there, and obtained his education in its district schools. This completed to the extent of his opportunity, a school education, he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, in which calling he has continued all his life, and upon the home farm. He was united in marriage with Ann Fox, and they were the parents of two sons and five daughters. By a second wife the family circle was still further enlarged by the addition of three sons and two daughters. In the great conflict, the late Civil War, Caleb Brinton lost two sons, the one fell in battle in South Virginia, the other died in Andersonville. His wife also was taken from him at the early age of thirty-five years, dying on the 29th of August, 1829.

Our subject is one of the prominent pioneers who labored for the development of Nebraska, and those who have followed him reap in many ways the result of his labors, and look with gratitude to him.

He did not come to the county until he was sixty-two years of age. He came with small means, effected a settlement, and can truly say he has never had occasion to regret his journey. His farm is well worked and in a high state of cultivation. He is quite extensively engaged as a dairyman, and is proprietor of some of the finest cattle for quite a large distance around, and in addition has done much for the improvement of the stock. He has a large capital invested in this branch of the business, and to him is due, and is as readily accorded, the hearty appreciation of those interested in the evolution to the more improved and higher classed stock. A new country needs just such men and they are a source of great strength to it, and a benefit to every agricultural community, and even the cities derive more advantage than would be perhaps at first supposed.

March 9, 1843, our subject and Margaret A. M. Hallowell entered the partnership of life by marriage; the lady is a native of Delaware, near Wilmington. Their union has been blessed and their home brightened by the birth of ten children, of whom, however, but five are living: Jesse H.; Allie, now Mrs. Pennington, of Chicago; Caleb W.; Lizzie and Channing. Of these the youngest and Caleb W. are still residing at home.

Margaret A. Hallowell was born in Chester County, Pa., March 7, 1824. She is the daughter of Jesse and Jane Hallowell, of the same place. Her father by occupation was all his life a farmer.

Mr. Brinton is a member of the Society of Friends, in which society he has continued for many years. He has been called upon in civil affairs to fill the office of Supervisor, and has also occupied the seat of Justice of the Peace with that dignity and impartiality which was generally appreciated in the community. He has always been a pronounced Republican and a prominent supporter of that party. In the community at large our subject is held in the highest possible regard, by reason of his manly, upright character, his social status, and his well-known efforts for the development of the county and the elevation of society.

Caleb W., the son of our subject, who is a partner with his father in the farm, is a man of fine principles and considerable talents: straightforward in

business, and a most respected citizen. He was married, in May, 1886, to Lorena Foxworthy, of Lincoln, daughter of Hezekiah Foxworthy, an attorney of Lincoln. They have one child, Margaret. Jesse married Lydia Wood, of Doran, Chester Co., Pa.; their family comprises four children; he resides near Philadelphia.

The farm of our subject and his son, as above stated, contains some 400 acres of very fine land, eight acres of which are occupied by the apple orchard; besides this a large part is devoted to the culture of grapes and various fruits, and he has also set out and brought to fair maturity over 2,000 forest trees. Such men are among the benefactors of the country, and may justly rank as representative.



FREDERICK KOEHLER. The characteristics of the people of Europe are too well known to need any remark; directly the Frenchman is spoken of, the figure is before the mind of a polite, communicative, vivacious and mercurial person, who can seize the airy nothings and give them definite shape, form and substance. On the other hand, his neighbor across the Rhine is always represented as stolid, thoughtful, ever seeking by slow mental process to evolve from the inner consciousness of his being some new theory or explanation of some already accepted theory, truth or mysticism. In the department of actual labor there is seen the same slow but continuous, though ponderously persevering, effort; at the same time this is undoubtedly the great reason why, in our new Territories and States, settlers of this nationality—we had almost said invariably—come to the front and are most successful. In the present biography is presented an outline of the life of a native of Prussia, one of the oldest settlers of Centerville Precinct, prosperous as a farmer, highly esteemed as a citizen.

Our subject, whose property is situated on section 27 in the above precinct, was born on the 3d of February, 1829, in the town of Greston, Prussia. He is a son of Michael and Mary (Bron) Koehler, and was the third child of seven which comprised their family, whose names are here appended—

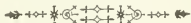
Wilhemina, William, Frederick, Fredericka, Amelia and Frank; also one child who is deceased. Our subject is well educated in his own language, having attended the schools of Germany continuously until he was of sufficient age to commence work. He emigrated to America when about twenty-two years of age, and took passage at Hamburg on a sailing-vessel, which occupied four full weeks in the Atlantic trip. He landed in New York in the year 1851, and proceeded direct to Milwaukee, and there remained for about twelve months. At the end of that time he removed to LaPorte, Porter Co., Ind., and for fifteen years this was his residence, and in this time he was engaged in farming with steadily increasing prosperity.

In the month of October, 1859, our subject was wedded to Henrietta Reatman, a lady of many natural and acquired virtues and graces, one capable of making his home all that heart could wish, and by her wealth of affection become a practical exponent of the wealth of meaning residing in the words, "faithful wife and true mother." The delight of home has been greatly augmented by the birth of five children, of whom four are living. Their names are here given as in the family record: Frank, Julius, Philena, George, and Amelia (deceased). His first wife died in August, 1870. He was again married in January, 1883, to Mary Schmitskee, who has presented him with a son, Alfred W. by name.

It was in 1865 when Mr. Koehler came to Lancaster County. He then took a homestead claim of 160 acres, his present residence. The farm was at that time in all the beauty of its natural wildness; not a furrow was turned, not a fence erected, or a home built. Our subject began upon the bare ground, but by the exercise of his intelligence and experience and the putting forth of manly efforts he very speedily made a great change. His comfortable and cheery home was built and furnished, and before long the golden grain stood in all its beauty, and the corn tassels hung glistening in the sunlight, out on the broad acres. He has watched with pride and gratification the development of the precinct and county, has seen the towns spring up and grow into cities, the iron horse come bounding over the prairies, and innumerable other nineteenth century

triumphs in mechanics and art in daily use throughout the country.

What has been accomplished by our subject is the result almost entirely of his own effort. He is a man who believes that honesty is the best policy, and is strictly so in all transactions, conscientious and painstaking to a degree. In politics he is an affiliate of the party founded by Jefferson, and endeavors to discharge to the best of his ability every responsibility which comes to him as a citizen. He is at present serving as Moderator of District No. 77, an office he has continued to hold for some time. Religiously, he is an adherent and consistent member of the German Lutheran Church, the same communion in which he was reared in his native land.



DUDLEY W. BOWERS is a fine representative of the stock-growing and farming interests of Lancaster County as embraced in the precinct of Yankee Hill, where, on section 31, he owns a good farm, the fertile soil of which is admirably adapted both to raising cereals and stock. Mr. Bowers is a native of Long Island, born Nov. 28, 1842, to Joseph and Maria (Stephens) Bowers, of whom further mention is made in the sketch of A. E. Bowers, of Yankee Hill Precinct.

Our subject was reared to manhood on a farm, and then removed with his parents to Indiana. He received a rudimentary education in the district schools, which he has still further increased by reading standard works and by observation and experience, so that there are but few among his friends and associates who are better informed on all topics than he, or can more readily form an intelligent opinion on any of the questions that are agitating the public to-day. On the 20th of August, 1862, being then but nineteen years of age, he laid aside the ambitions and hopes of youth to join his noble comrades who had gone forth to fight their country's battles on the Southern battlefields, and, if need be, die in her defense. He became a member of Company K, 5th Indiana Cavalry, the same regiment to which his brother, Arthur E. Bowers, belonged. He was most of the

time detailed as teamster in the Quartermaster's department, but he took an active part in several battles, being engaged in the one at Walker's Ford, and in many minor engagements. He was at Knoxville when Burnside was besieged, and with the cavalry was kept outside to annoy the rebels. He was in Sherman's campaign from Dalton to Atlanta, and was under fire much of the time. He served bravely and faithfully until after the close of the war, receiving his discharge June 15, 1865.

After retiring from the army our subject returned to his old home in Jackson County, Ind., where he remained for about a year, when he went to Tennessee, where he had taken stock to sell. He remained in Memphis some fourteen months, and at the expiration of that time proceeded to Kentucky, where he was engaged on a stock farm in Bourbon County the succeeding four years. He then returned to Tennessee, and after remaining there nearly a year, again went back to his Indiana home, and from there came to Lancaster County, Neb., in the spring of 1874, drawn hither by the many marvelous reports that he had heard concerning the great fertility of the soil, its amazing productiveness and the healthfulness of the climate. He located on the southwest quarter of section 31, Yankee Hill Precinct, where he has since resided. This part of the country was then comparatively newly settled, and much of the land was unbroken, this being the condition of the tract purchased by our subject. In the years of toil that have followed since then he has developed from the raw prairie a beautiful farm, which, on account of the many improvements, is classed among the most valuable in the township, its 160 acres being under excellent tillage. Mr. Bowers is in many senses of the word a self-made man, owing much of his success to his own persistent efforts. He also owes much to the good wife, who since their marriage on that April day (the 27th) in 1875, has stood by him faithfully in storm or sunshine, and has shouldered her share of the burdens of their common life.

Mrs. Bowers, formerly Lucy G. Miller, was born May 6, 1848, in Butler County, Ohio, being a daughter of Alfred and Emily (Guild) Miller, natives respectively of Virginia and Ohio. Her father

passed away from the scenes of earth in 1870, and the mother in 1875. Six children had been born of their union, namely: Emily M., wife of W. H. Snodgrass, of Clark County, Ind.; Lucy G., wife of our subject; Edmund, of Jackson County, Ind.; Alpha, of Clark County, Ind. Alfred and Thomas are the names of the two children who died. Mr. and Mrs. Bowers are the parents of two boys: Herbert M., born Sept. 17, 1876, and Norman G., July 30, 1878.

Our subject and his wife are prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, where he has served very acceptably as Class-Leader for a number of years. The singularly upright and blameless life of our subject has won for him the confidence of the entire community. He is a quiet, unostentatious man, who without wealth or influence has won for himself an honorable position in the history of this county. He is a man of earnest and intelligent convictions, and with his whole soul supports the cause of temperance in his advocacy of the Prohibition party in politics. He has faithfully served the educational interests of his township as School Treasurer of his district.

A view of Mr. Bowers' homestead is presented in this ALBUM.



DR. ISAIAH R. COOKE, a retired physician of Lancaster County, is widely known and respected for the noble example of his pure life, which has undoubtedly wielded a great influence for good in his community. He is a man of broad culture, a fair and judicial mind, and is generous and considerate in his relations with others. He lives with his family in one of the most beautiful of the many elegant suburban homes that may be found within a short distance of the capital of Nebraska; it is very finely located in East Lincoln, and is appropriately named Roselawn.

The names of various members of the Cooke family appear in the annals of our country from the very earliest Colonial times, even from the arrival of the "Mayflower," on board which historic vessel were some of their representatives, who came with the Pilgrims to found a nation on the stern and rock-bound coast of New England, and from that

time they took a prominent part in the public affairs of Colony and State. They came of an ancient English family, and are entitled to the coat of arms borne by Gregory Cooke, of Yorkshire, England, who was the immediate ancestor of the American branch of the family. He was a cloth manufacturer, which business was changed by his descendants to the manufacture of woolen and worsted goods. Our subject traces his descent from this illustrious family through the following members: The first one to come to this country, of whom we have any authoritative account, was likewise named Gregory; he was a shoemaker by occupation, and was born about 1647, in England. We are not told when he left the ancestral home to come to this country, but surmise that it was after his marriage and in the year 1665, which was the date of his settlement in Cambridge, Mass., where he lived until 1690. His sound judgment and great force of character made him influential in the councils and deliberations of his fellow-townsmen, and he held the office of Selectman of Cambridge from 1669 to 1678. He died Jan. 1, 1691, and the house where he made his home in Cambridge was occupied by some of his descendants until the Revolution. Among his children was a son named Stephen, who was born in England, and came with his father to Cambridge, Mass., when a young man. He was a farmer and settled in Newton, where he was much looked up to on account of his superior practical wisdom; he served as Selectman of that town in 1697, 1698, 1708, 1716; he married, in 1679, Rebecca Flagg, daughter of Thomas Flagg, of Watertown. His death occurred in 1738, and among his children was a son named John, great-great-grandfather of our subject, who was born in Newton, Mass., March 15, 1867 or 1868. He settled in Preston, Conn., in 1710, as a farmer, and took a conspicuous part in Colonial affairs, serving as a Selectman, and as Deputy of the General Assembly of the Colony; he died Aug. 22, 1762, leaving ten children.

Among the children of John Cooke was James, great-grandfather of our subject, who was born in Preston, Jan. 1, 1717, and later in life was there engaged as a farmer and clothier; the date of his death is unknown. His son Isaiah, one of six children, was born in Preston, Feb. 16, 1741. He was

also a farmer and clothier, and died Feb. 10, 1803, leaving eleven children, of whom his son, John Larrabee Cooke, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Preston, April 5, 1783; he married Eunice Morgan, of Stonington, Conn., and in 1804, accompanied by his young wife, he left his birthplace in the State of Connecticut, where his forefathers had dwelt since the first years of the eighteenth century, to build up for himself and family a home amid the primeval forests of the then young State of Ohio, in that part known as the Western Reserve, and there became prominently identified with the hardy and enterprising pioneers who were actively engaged in developing the State. He was a man whose strong and energetic character, and sound, practical wisdom made him a power among his fellow-citizens, and he was called upon very often to take a conspicuous part in the administration of public affairs, and, while holding office in the county, used his influence to promote the growth and advancement of both county and State. He took a prominent part in the War of 1812, serving as First Lieutenant. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and his son has in his possession an apron that he wore on state occasions. He first located in Kinsman Township, Trumbull Co., Ohio, where he commenced to improve a farm from a wild tract of land, but subsequently removed to Ashtabula County, in the same State, where he made his home until death closed his honorable career, in 1835. His esteemed wife survived him many years, dying June 24, 1856, in Wayne Township, Ashtabula County. They had a family of eleven children, of whom Pamela, their eldest daughter, was the first white child born in the township of Williamsfield, Ashtabula Co., Ohio. Their son Isaiah, of whom we write, their seventh child in order of birth, was likewise born in that town, the date of his birth being Aug. 14, 1827. After his father's death he and his brother assumed control of the estate, to which he gave his attention until he was sixteen years old. He then resumed his studies, becoming a pupil in the Grand River Institute, at Austintown, Ohio, where he pursued a course of instruction for two and one-half years. He then returned home and taught his first term of school in his own district, continuing in that pro-

fession for ten years' in that vicinity. He then associated himself with Platt R. Spencer, for the purpose of perfecting his penmanship, and afterward taught that branch in the winter, when he also commenced to read medicine with Dr. James Wheeler, of Andover, Ashtabula County. After that he attended a course of lectures at Ann Arbor University, Mich., and from there went to Castleton, Vt., in 1853, where he finished a complete course of study, and became a full-fledged physician. He commenced the practice of his profession in Harrisville, Pa., and for twenty-eight years actively pursued his high calling, becoming one of the leading physicians in that part of the country. He became particularly noted for his rare skill in diagnosing a case, seeming to know by intuition and without asking questions what ailed his patient, and scarcely ever making a mistake as to the cause or seat of the disease. He came to Lincoln in March, 1884, and is now living in retirement from active practice, in a home of luxury and ease, and in the enjoyment of an ample income.

Dr. Cooke married, March 8, 1855, Miss Harriet M. Mossman, daughter of Thomas and Rebecca (Gillispie) Mossman, and to this alliance he owes much of his success and happiness in life. Her father was born in Fayette County, Pa., May 20, 1799, and became an early settler of Mercer County, in that State, where he suffered all the hardships of pioneer life. He died on the same farm where most of his days were spent. Mrs. Cooke's mother was born March 26, 1812, in Westmoreland County, Pa., and she now lives in Greenville, Mercer Co., Pa., where Mrs. Cooke's great-grandfather and grandfather on the maternal side settled, and all died in the same county; her parents were natives of Maryland. Mrs. Cooke's mother, notwithstanding her advanced years, possesses in a remarkable degree much of her youthful vigor, and in 1887 made her friends in Lincoln a most enjoyable visit. Mrs. Cooke is the mother of three daughters, all of whom are now living. She was born in Mercer County, Pa., March 16, 1836. She is a lady of marked culture, receiving the benefit of a superior education, and was engaged in the profession of teaching until her marriage, making her home until that time with her parents.

Dr. Cooke and his amiable wife are the parents of five talented children, of whom they are exceedingly proud. The following is their record: Minnie V., born Feb. 22, 1856; Sadie E., born March 6, 1862, married Adolph Weber, born in Freidberg, Germany, and a teacher of music, in Lincoln; they have one daughter, named Lieschen Bianca. Thomas M., born June 4, 1863, lives with his parents; Elizabeth R., born Oct. 26, 1865, married Edward L. Baker, a publisher, of Chicago, Ill.; Hattie M., born Dec. 12, 1878, is at home with her father and mother. The only son of this household is a promising young lawyer of Lincoln. He is very finely educated, being a graduate of the class of '83, of Thiel College, Pennsylvania. He then studied law in Lincoln, was admitted to the bar of Nebraska, and now holds the position of Deputy Register of Deeds, of Lancaster County. The Doctor's daughters, Mrs. Weber and Mrs. Baker, are gifted singers, with highly cultivated voices of rare power and compass, and they are becoming famous throughout the country.



JOHAN CROPSEY. The gentleman who is the subject of the present writing resides on section 26, Yankee Hill Precinct, and is one of the representative citizens. He is a native of Niagara County, N. Y., in which place his parents were also born. His natal day was Feb. 5, 1828, and his parents were Daniel W. and Elizabeth Cropsey. His paternal ancestors were from the land of dykes and windmills, and the sturdiness of character and persevering effort which are so characteristic of the Hollander may be traced in transmitted tendencies to several generations. Anyone who has given thought to the earlier history of Manhattan, will readily perceive, not simply the cause of this national characteristic, but its marked effect on this country, from its formative period to the present.

Our subject continued with his parents at their home in New York State until he was seventeen years of age. There was nothing unusual about his boyhood and youth; his life was spent in the occupations incident to childhood, afterward varied

by the introduction of school life, with its lessons, and what is often called a trivial round of common tasks interspersed here and there with the recreation of a holiday or picnic, followed by promotion to the onerous duties which followed the day when he first "went to work."

At this period the family, with our subject, removed to Will County, Ill., where they were among the earliest settlers. There was little in their life to mark them as different from their neighbors; the home was one of those plain but substantial pioneer homes which have from time to time sprung up throughout all the great West, and if distinguished from the homes of our cities, it would be upon the line of simplicity and more natural environment. Until manhood was reached John Cropsey lived the life of the pioneer, and perhaps, unknown to himself, but none the less really, was he being tutored in the school of hardship and industry for the time when he should stand out, alone at first, and afterward as the head of a family, to fight the battle of life.

In Marcella F. Chilson, a native of Vermont, Mr. Cropsey found the lady with whom he conceived he could make life a success if united to her according to the design of the Great Creator, when he established that closest of all relationships. They were accordingly married Nov. 28, 1863. Their home has been brightened by the advent of four children: Frank K., Nettie, Gilbert, and one other, who, after a short sojourn, returned to the home of the Great Father.

Mr. Cropsey came to Nebraska in 1875, locating in Cass County, where he remained four years, when he removed to Thayer County. A beautiful farm comprising 640 acres, in a high state of cultivation, is still owned by him in that county. In 1887 he removed to the land then purchased, the place of his present residence, as described above. Both Mr. and Mrs. Cropsey are earnest, consistent and active members of the Presbyterian Church, Mr. Cropsey having for several years filled the office of Elder of the Belvidere Church in Thayer County. He earnestly advocates and upholds the principles of Republicanism. Any enterprise worthy, laudable and practicable, for the advancement of the interests of the people, the elevation of society, the protection

of the home, the throwing of safeguards around the youth, never fails to find in him a warm friend, and to receive such ungrudging support as his strong character and manliness dictate.

Frank K. Cropsey, son of our subject, is the owner of a splendid farm of 205 acres of land in this vicinity. He came to Lancaster County in the fall of 1884, from which time on he has met with the success which rightly belongs to the earnest, true and faithful worker in any part in life. In politics he is an Independent, being swayed by the principles of the undying right in preference to any party platform.

HENRY BOLDT. Among the most daring, enterprising, and most ancient of the Norsemen to push out into the great unknown seas of the Northern hemisphere in quest of adventure, plunder or conquest, were those from Denmark, and if their legends speak truly, they were among the first, whether by accident it matters not, to tread the shores of our great continent.

Among those immigrants from other lands who throng our shores and overflow to our broad prairies, we question if there are any more appreciative of the institutions of their adopted country, more resolved to build up themselves and the country, than the descendants of those old Norse kings from the fiords of Denmark. In our subject we have one of these; he was born in Denmark, Dec. 27, 1850, in which country he lived until nineteen years of age, and wherein he received the foundation and groundwork of his education and general adaptability for the multifarious duties and responsibilities of life. About the year 1869 or 1870, having left his old home and country, he landed in New York, and went direct to Brown County, Ill., where he engaged in farming, and continued to live for about three years, when he came to Nebraska. After careful inspection of the surrounding country he finally settled in Nemaha Precinct, upon the farm which is still his home. The reward of former training and assiduous application is his, and to-day he is the owner of 120 acres of good land in a high state of cultivation, and

yielding more than the average crop. He has spent much time and thought, and not a little capital, upon various improvements from time to time deemed advisable or requisite. He has erected convenient and substantial barns, stables and other farm buildings, and, in addition, possesses a home in which the requirements of our modern civilization are by no means overlooked.

March 17, 1876, at Lincoln, Neb., Mr. Boldt was united in marriage with Thene Hanson, a native of Denmark, in which country she was born in 1852. There have been born to them five children, in order of birth as follows: Thea Christina, Rosa, Laura, Clara and Emile.

Mr. and Mrs. Boldt are staunch and consistent members of the Lutheran Church. In this communion they have been reared, and have continued from that time. Although taking no active or specially prominent part in politics, Mr. Boldt has formed his own intelligent opinions, affiliates with the Republican party and votes its ticket.

HENRY C. RELLER is a prominent citizen of Buda Precinct, and one of the number who can boast of an honorable war record. He was born on the 5th of July, 1837, in Hanover, Germany, and is the son of John H. and Elzebine (Sieck) Reller, who were both natives of the same country. He was the only son born to his parents, though they had several daughters. His father died when he was but three years old, and in the year 1848, when he was eleven years old, in company with his mother and three sisters he came to America. Two of the sisters had preceded them in their journey across the water, and the five remaining members of the family left Bremen and arrived in Baltimore, Md., after a tiresome voyage of seven weeks and one day on a sailing-vessel.

Immediately upon their arrival in this country our subject and his family went to Scioto County, Ohio, which place they reached on the 26th of May, 1848. After awhile the mother of this family of children was also taken from them, and they were left alone to battle with the world as best they could. For five years our subject worked as a

farm hand, and then he went to the iron works of his brother-in-law, Henry Spellman, in Harrison Township, of the same county. The establishment was then known by the name of "Harrison's Furnace," and in it our subject was employed for some six years, after which he engaged in farming for a short time until the beginning of the late war.

In October, 1861, our subject enlisted as a private in Company B, 56th Ohio Infantry, and on the 16th of February, 1862, he participated in the battle at Ft. Donelson, being attached to the division under command of Gen. Lew Wallace. When the never-to-be-forgotten battle of Pittsburg Landing occurred—well meriting the title of "Shiloh's dark and bloody ground"—the division to which our subject belonged had been held in reserve at Krumm's Landing in order to take charge of the provisions, etc., and he did not participate in the battle until on Monday morning, it having commenced on the Sunday morning preceding. Subsequently he participated in the siege of Corinth, Miss., until it was evacuated by Beauregard, and was one among the number who occupied the city of Memphis after its capture.

From Memphis, the regiment to which our subject belonged was ordered to Wilson's Creek, Tenn., to assist in the building of a railroad bridge and protect the workmen, but on the day following their arrival a number of the men, including our subject, were captured and taken as prisoners to Byhalia, Miss. There were in all about seventy men confined for about two weeks, when our subject was paroled, and permitted to return to Sherman's headquarters in Tennessee. Thence he was sent to Columbus, Ohio, to camp parole, to await the proper exchange, after which, and while still at Columbus, he was taken ill, and being incapacitated for service, he was discharged by the hospital physician in April, 1863.

After the honorable discharge of our subject from the service of his country, he returned to his home in Ohio, and was again employed in the iron works until the year 1869. In that year he came to Lancaster County, and settled on his present farm, on section 5, Buda Precinct, in 1872. He is the owner of 320 acres of land on section 5, and 80 acres on section 16, so that altogether he has the

entire control of 400 acres of land, which he has secured by hard work and economy, as he had practically no means when he came here.

Mr. Reller was married, in Ohio, in April, 1858, to Catherine Ketter, and they had a family of eight children, four of whom are now living: Dr. William E. Reller is a physician and druggist, residing at West Point, this State, and the names of the other three surviving members of the family are: John F., Charles H. and Mary E. Mr. and Mrs. Reller are prominent members of society, and are among the leaders in all movements for reform and improvement, both also being members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Our subject is a Republican in politics, and has taken an active part in public affairs, having been first elected in the fall of 1881 as County Commissioner, and, having served one term of three years, received the renomination by acclamation, and served a second term of the same duration, an indication of his popularity with the public. When the question of building the court-house was being agitated, our subject was really the prime mover in keeping it before the public, and it was finally carried to a successful issue. During his administration the county bonds had been drawing 10 per cent interest, and after quite an important negotiation he succeeded in reducing the interest to half that amount, making them 5 per cent interest bearing bonds, thus securing the saving of a large amount to the county. He has filled this office faithfully and conscientiously, and with credit to himself and his constituents. He has also served in some of the important precinct offices, always favoring everything by which he thought the county could be improved and society elevated.



JOHAN P. LANTZ, Esq., is one of the leading citizens of Lincoln and one of its early settlers, to whom she is greatly indebted for her growth and material prosperity. He came here in the spring of 1868, and in company with D. A. Sherwood, opened in a small frame building on the northwest corner of Eleventh and O streets the first real-estate office ever established in Lincoln.

and much of the landed property of Lancaster County has passed through the hands of himself and his partner, and it is in part owing to their assiduous labors that it has become so well settled. When he first located here there were about 300 inhabitants in the city, which had been laid out the year before, and the surrounding country was wild, open prairie, with Government land in sight, awaiting the coming of the "homesteaders," and deer, elk and antelopes were plenty. From this humble beginning he has with great pleasure witnessed the growth of the little prairie hamlet to one of the largest and most prosperous cities west of the Mississippi, with a population of nearly 50,000 inhabitants, with majestic brick and stone blocks and elegant residences on the site of the unpretentious frame and log buildings of twenty years ago.

Mr. Lantz was born March 26, 1823, in Sandusky City, Ohio, being a son of George Lantz, one of the pioneers of Ohio, where he located in 1800, while it was under Territorial government. The latter was reared in Newton, Sussex Co., N. J., and his father, also named George, was a native of Germany, and was, it is thought, the first member of the family to come to this country. He settled in New Jersey, and there spent the last years of his life. The father of our subject was a young man when he went to Ohio to seek his fortunes, and he married, in the town of Athens, Miss Mary Perkins, who greatly aided him in building up a home. Mr. Lantz subsequently moved to Ross County, in the same State, and from there to Sandusky City. In 1823 he made still another move, and located in Williams County as one of the early settlers of Ft. Defiance, building there the first frame house, he being a carpenter by trade. He followed his calling there until 1833, when he became a resident of Beaver (now Pulaski) Precinct, where he bought a heavily timbered tract of land. He had to cut a road through the wilderness to his land, and he then built a hewed log house, which was considered quite a fine dwelling as compared with the humble cabins of his fellow-pioneers. In those days Indians were numerous, and deer, bears and wild turkeys were plenty; wild game furnished the principal dish at their meals. There was no railway, and Ft. Defiance was the nearest market and depot for

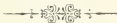
supplies in all the country around for many miles. Mr. Lantz was very industrious, and he became quite prosperous, clearing a good farm from the forest-covered land, and residing on it until his death. He was a wise, far-seeing man, and took an active part in local affairs, serving as Justice of the Peace for twenty years. The worthy wife of this good man, who was a native of Maryland, died in Lincoln in 1875, at the age of eighty-three years.

John P. Lantz was but a few weeks old when his parents took him to Williams County, where he grew to be a manly, vigorous man. His education was mostly conducted under the careful superintendence of his father and mother, as the settlement of the county was so slow that schools were not established for several years. At the age of fifteen he did, however, attend school for three months. By careful attention to his books, at the age of eighteen he had amply qualified himself for the position of teacher, and he taught with success for eleven terms, but being naturally of a keen, bright intellect, the study of jurisprudence had a strong fascination for him, and he devoted all of his spare time to reading law, and was finally admitted to the bar at Ft. Defiance. He established himself in the practice of his profession at Bryan, and by his careful attention to business and his good, practical knowledge of law, he gained a large and remunerative clientele. In March, 1868, he decided to take up his abode in Lincoln, as he shrewdly foresaw the future that lay before the little town, transforming it into a thriving metropolis. He came by rail to Pacific Junction, from there was ferried across the Missouri to Plattsmouth, and there took the stage for Lincoln. His intentions had been to open a law office here, but there seemed to be no clients, and he saw that there was a good opening for a live business man as a real-estate agent, being convinced that with its marvelous advantages of soil, climate and location, Lancaster County had within itself the possibilities of a great future if its resources could be developed by a thrifty, honest and energetic people. Accordingly he earnestly set himself to work, aided by his able partner, to induce emigration to this favored land, and many settlers have been attracted hither by his practical representation and intelligent descriptions of the country.

He has continued in the real-estate business here ever since, and has placed himself among the moneyed, substantial citizens of Lincoln.

For the coziness and comfort of a very pleasant home our subject is under obligation to his estimable wife, to whom he was united in marriage Aug. 12, 1849. She was formerly Miss Hannah Aubrey, and is a native of Ohio. Clara, the only child born of their marriage, became the wife of Oscar Parker, and died at her home in Colorado Springs, in June, 1888.

Mr. Lantz takes much interest in politics, and has always been true to the Republican party. He has efficiently served the municipality as Notary Public ever since his appointment a few months after his settlement here.



EHYLAN CUSHMAN is a general farmer, importer and raiser of Percheron horses, and as such holds a very important place in a new community which has not yet attained its growth. In all such communities men who will undertake the arduous work of bringing to the farmer and merchant improved cattle and horses, confer an inestimable benefit upon such a community.

Our subject is the owner of fifteen acres of ground on section 30, Garfield Precinct, upon which he has simply his residence and home stables. He rents in addition a large farm for stock purposes. His home is situated three and one-half miles west of Lincoln, between O and A streets, now the Atchison & Nebraska division of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, where there is a station that bears his name—Cushman. In addition to the above he also has 160 acres one mile from Pleasant Dale, this county, and owns a farm of 160 acres in Minnesota.

Silas Cushman, the father of our subject, was born Aug. 10, 1795, in Wilmington, Vt., on his father's farm, upon which he continued to live for seventy-five years, and occupied a prominent position as a farmer. In November, 1822, he became the husband of Cordelia M. Haskins. At the time of his marriage he was the owner of only seven

acres of land, but by economy and indomitable energy, for many years before his death he owned upward of 200 acres, and in addition to his farmhouse a large and elegant town residence. His wife was born in Wilmington, where she continued to reside until the death of her husband, when she went to reside with her children in Illinois, in which State she died in the year 1887, at the advanced age of eighty-three years. She was the mother of twelve children—Lester, Lorena M., Marrilla S., Alvin, Daniel, Caroline, Joseph Warren, Mary M., Martha A. Albert W., E. Hyland (our subject) and Henry E. Lester and Daniel are both residents of Champaign, Ill., the latter being quite prominent as a raiser of horses; Lorena was first married to William Haskins, and after his death to David Stanard; both are deceased. Marrilla became the wife of George Rose, and is residing in Wilmington; Alvin and Caroline are both deceased; Joseph is residing three miles east of Lincoln; Mary is the wife of L. B. Merrifield, President of the organ factory at Ottawa; Martha is now Mrs. L. W. Brown, of Lincoln, where Henry E. also resides, and Albert died at the age of sixteen years.

The grandfather of our subject, Barnabas Cushman, was a native of Vermont, and was born Dec. 7, 1751, in Middleboro. He was united in marriage with Deliverance Lawrence, who was born in 1780, in Hardwick, Vt. They were residents of Wilmington when he died, in 1812. He was one of the earliest settlers of Wilmington, and the only approach was by bridle paths, or by a track through the woods marked by the blaze of the woodman's ax. The nearest stores were in Greenfield, Mass., and they experienced all the inconveniences and discomforts incidental to such a condition of pioneerism. Nevertheless, by well-directed energy and industry he amassed a large estate.

John Cushman, Jr., the great-grandfather of our subject, was born at Plympton, Mass., and was married, Feb. 17, 1746, to Deborah Raymond; they were blessed by three children—Johanna, Barnabas and Ephraim. His father, John Cushman, Sr., and great-great-grandfather of our subject, was born Aug. 16, 1690, and was married to Johanna Pratt, Jan. 19, 1715. Their family comprised three children—John, Jr., Eleazar and Charles. Stepping

back another generation we find Eleazar Cushman, the father of John Cushman, Sr., who was born at Plympton, Feb. 20, 1656, married Elizabeth Combes, Jan. 12, 1687, and continued to live in their native town, where five children were born to them: Lydia, afterward Mrs. John Waterman, of Halifax; John, Moses, James and William. Thomas Cushman, father of the above and great-great-great-grandfather of our subject, was born in England in February of the year 1608. He came with his father to this country in the month of July, 1621, when at the age of fourteen years. In the year 1635 he was married to Mary Allerton, and was one to hold important office in the hierarchy in the colony of Plymouth. (See page 87 of Cushman genealogy.) Robert Cushman, the father of Thomas, is considered to be the ancestor of all bearing the name in the United States. He was born in 1580-85, and was one of the band who left their native land for the sake of freedom in religion. To him had been given the responsible task of going to London and hiring a vessel larger than the "Mayflower," of "burden about nine score," and to see that she was sent round to Southampton, there to meet their companions from Holland. (See page 25, genealogy.)

Our subject, E. Hylan Cushman, was born in Wilmington, Vt., Sept. 13, 1845. In due time he took his place upon the benches of the public school, and after he had finished there graduated from the High School. Following this important event, for the next three years he made a good record as a teacher.

In partnership with his younger brother, our subject purchased from his father the old homestead and farm, when he attained his majority. He continued to operate the farm for four years, when he sold his interest and went to Lamoyille, Ill. Here he entered into the drug business and continued for one year, when, meeting with a good purchaser for his store, he went to Urbana, Champaign County. He bought one-half interest in a drug-store in that place, and continued for nine years in a very profitable business. At the end of that time he sold this business and bought some imported Percheron horses, and thus laid the foundation for his stock farm. This occupation has always been very con-

genial to our subject, for even in Vermont he owned full-blooded, registered, Short-horn Durhams. After five years spent in this occupation in Illinois, the removal was made to Nebraska in the year 1887. He purchased a half-section in order to get sufficient room for his increasing business. Upon removal he shipped to the new stock farm only horses of the very highest grades and full blood. Anything at all questionable was sold.

Mr. Cushman is the owner of by far the largest private stable of registered horses in the county, his finest animals at present being "Gastronome," No. 7654, who was imported from France in 1887; Minnie, No. 977, and Brunette, each imported horses. Of his full-blooded American bred are Delevan, No. 5306; Royal, 8211; Portia, No. 2424; Queen of Nebraska, No. 8210; Jeanette, No. 4700, and full-blood filly; also twenty high-grade stallions and mares, coming as near to full-blood as 31-32. Mr. Cushman devotes all his energy and intelligence to the occupation he has chosen to make his favorite life work, and in which he is such an eminent success.

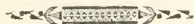
Our subject became the husband of Miss O. M. Knowlton, of Wardsboro, Vt., on Nov. 4, 1873, and to them has been born one son—Royal M. Miss Knowlton is the daughter of the Hon. M. A. Knowlton, who for several terms has held a seat in the Vermont Legislature. Ever since he was quite a young man he was Deacon of the Baptist Church at Wardsboro, until, upon the death of his wife in the spring of 1877, he left Vermont and took up his residence with our subject, when he was elected Deacon of the church at Champaign, and continued to hold the same until his removal to Nebraska.

Concerning the political attitude of Mr. Cushman there is little to remark, as he has not been prominent in civic life and affairs. He has always, however, been a staunch Republican and a supporter of his party, beside being a benefactor to the community and his adopted State in the manner referred to in our opening paragraph. Our subject commands the highest esteem of the community at large, not only by reason of his social status, but also the high character he has sustained and his keen sense of honor. He and his family are in every sense rep-



Yours Truly
W. E. Hatchcock.

representative citizens. When he came here he purchased 320 acres, and within a few months sold all except fifteen acres at an average of \$80 per acre. The well-known Cushman Park forms a part of his original tract. A station on the railroad bearing his name is located within twenty rods of his home.



STEPHEN DEITCH, a very intelligent man of German birth and parentage, represents a fine property in Elk Precinct, comprising 240 acres of land on section 15. He is thorough and skillful as a farmer, and as a man and citizen possesses the elements which have secured him the esteem and confidence of all who know him. He is an extensive reader, a gentleman of good education, and keeps himself thoroughly posted upon matters of general interest. His farming operations have been carried on profitably, enabling him to provide against the winter of old age and the other vicissitudes of life.

Our subject was born in the Province of Alsace, France, but which now belongs to Germany, on the 1st of August, 1834. He was placed in school at an early age, and after completing his studies was employed on a farm three years, then commenced an apprenticeship at the shoemaker's trade. This he followed, however, only about eighteen months, and then, not satisfied with his condition or his prospects upon his native soil, set out for America. On the 13th of December, 1852, he bade adieu to the friends of his childhood and youth, and making his way to the city of London engaged passage on board a sailing-vessel. After a voyage of nine weeks he landed in the city of New York on the 22d of February following, and thence made his way directly to Pittsburgh, Pa. From there he migrated to Clarion County, where he arrived with about \$10 in his pocket.

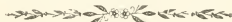
Our subject, however, although a stranger in a strange land, soon procured friends and employment, and followed his trade in that region three months, and then via the Allegheny and Ohio Rivers proceeded to Cincinnati, where he worked at his trade probably eighteen months. He then went into Johnson County, Ind., but returned to the

Queen City in about a year and a half, and from there migrated to Kentucky. Two years later, returning to Indiana, he decided to locate in Greensboro, and opened a shop on his own account.

Mr. Deitch carried on the business above mentioned until 1882, then disposing of his property in the Hoosier State, came to Southern Nebraska, and purchased 240 acres of his present farm. Here he commenced at the beginning to build up a homestead from the primitive soil, and it needs but a glance at his property to realize how well he has improved his time and the manner in which he has been rewarded. There are few rural homes more attractive than the Deitch farm, with its neat and substantial buildings, its generous quantity of fruit and shade trees, the well-kept fences, stock and machinery, and all the appurtenances which aid in forming the complete whole.

About twenty-seven years ago, Jan. 1, 1861, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Caroline Rickert, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride in Greensboro, Henry Co., Ind. Mrs. Deitch was born in Lebanon County, Pa., Feb. 14, 1835, and is the daughter of Frederick and Rebecca Rickert, who were natives of Germany and of pure German stock. They spent their last years in Henry County, Ind., and Pennsylvania, respectively. Of her union with our subject there have been born five children, namely: Edmund, Frederick, Cora M., Hattie and Mabel. The eldest is twenty-two years of age and the youngest nine.

Mr. Deitch, soon after coming to this country, began to apply himself to the study of English, in which he made good headway and became thoroughly Americanized, and in accord with the institutions of this country. He usually gives his support to the Democratic party, although meddling very little with political matters.



PROF. HENRY E. HITCHCOCK, who is occupying the chair of mathematics in the Nebraska State University, at Lincoln, is a splendid representative of the educators of this State. He is a man eminently fitted, by reason of his superior mental endowments and strength

and purity of character, for the high position to which he has been called. He is of good old New England ancestry, and was born in Vergennes, Vt., May 3, 1822. His parents, Alured and Sarah W. (Stevens) Hitchcock, were natives of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, respectively, and both of pure English descent. His father was a farmer by occupation, and after marriage settled in Vermont, where he remained until his death, which occurred in his fifty-seventh year. In 1836 his mother removed to Galesburg, Ill., where she died in 1881, at the ripe old age of ninety-one years.

The subject of this brief biographical sketch was next to the youngest of the eight children born to his parents. His rudimentary education was received in his native State, and he afterward attended the academy at Whitestown, Oneida Co., N. Y. Removing to Galesburg with his mother our subject entered the preparatory department of Knox College in 1839, and was identified with that institution of learning for many years, first as student, then as tutor, and lastly as Professor. He severed his relations with Knox College in 1872, in order to accept the position which he now holds in the Nebraska State University, removing at that time with his family to Lincoln. His active connection with the university began in the second year of its organization, and when he first became one of the faculty he taught physics in addition to mathematics. He is the only remaining member of the original faculty appointed by the first Board of Regents.

The marriage of Prof. Hitchcock with Miss Margaret Gale was solemnized at Galesburg in 1851. She is a native of Oneida County, N. Y., and a daughter of Dr. George W. Gale, founder of Knox College, and also of the city of Galesburg, Ill. This estimable lady was educated in Knox College, having been graduated in the class of '50. Prof. Hitchcock, who was graduated from the same college in 1846, was a member of the first graduating class of the college. To our subject and his wife have been born eight children, of whom the following is the record: Henry S., born Sept. 8, 1852, died Sept. 19, 1887; Harriet died in infancy; Margaret G. is the wife of Charles E. Bennett, Principal of the Latin School of Nebraska Univer-

sity; Sarah died at the age of three years; George G., a graduate of the Nebraska State University, is Professor of Greek in Pierre University, D. T.; Louisa J., Mary and Martha L. are at home with their parents.

As an educator Prof. Hitchcock holds a prominent position among his professional brethren; his enthusiasm and great love for his work, as well as his peculiar gift of imparting instruction, render him an invaluable acquisition to the corps of instructors in the higher institutions of learning of the State, and he has made an indelible impression upon the minds of the youth of the present generation who have been so fortunate as to sit under his teachings. In politics the Professor has always been a staunch Republican. He and his family are communicants of the Presbyterian Church, of which he has been a member for fifty-one years, having joined at Galesburg at the formation of the church in that place.

We are pleased to grace one of the pages of this ALBUM with the portrait of Prof. Hitchcock. Few educators in the West are more widely or favorably known and have rendered more valuable service in this important line than he.



GEORGE J. FISCHER. One of the most successful and thrifty farmers of Olive Branch Precinct is the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch, who is of one of those families that have come from another land and found in this country a success and prosperity impossible elsewhere because of the teeming, overcrowded condition of the population. His property, which comprises 240 acres of land, situated upon section 7, is one of the best situated, thoroughly cultivated and stocked farms of the district. Six years ago Mr. Fischer began with a team and \$100, and to-day is worth more than \$10,000.

The father of our subject, C. L. Fischer, now dead, was a native of Bavaria, Germany, and was born about the year 1826, was reared and educated in his native district, and came to the United States when about twenty-four years of age, and located in Illinois. He was twice married, first to Miss

Krug, at Oswego, Ill.; after a union marked by its true domesticity she died, and left him with two children, one of whom is still living. A second alliance was entered into, in Grundy County, in the year 1854, with Barbara Krug, a sister of his first wife. This lady was born in Bavaria, and came to this country with her parents when quite small and settled in Illinois, where they died, and where she met and married her husband. In 1874 G. L. Fischer, wife and family, came to Nebraska and located in the Big Blue Precinct, Saline County, and there continued until his death, and was fairly prosperous. His wife is still living upon the homestead, which comprises about 200 acres.

Our subject was born and reared in Grundy County, Ill., on the 20th of January, 1859, and was the fourth of nine children born to his mother; several of them are now dead. He there made his home until about 1874, when he came to Nebraska, where his education was finished, and in due time he married. This most important step, which time has proved to have been a right and happy one, was taken Oct. 2, 1882, in Saline County. The lady of his choice was Amelia Hollman, who was born in Clayton County, Iowa, in 1865. She was less than one year old when her father and mother came to Nebraska and took up their farm at Olive Branch. Upon this she was reared, and educated at the neighboring school-house, and at that home she was married.

Our subject and his wife have been made to recognize the felicitous experience of a complete home, three children having been born to them: Clara Idella, the eldest, was born Sept. 20, 1883; her sister, Alma L., was born Aug. 11, 1885; besides these there is an infant, Almer A., born June 8, 1888. Our subject and wife are earnest and energetic members of the German Methodist Episcopal Church, and are among the most consistent and devoted of the communion, at all times prepared to do anything in their power for the advancement of the cause.

In political circles our subject is always solid for the Republican party, and unwaveringly lends his influence and gives his suffrage to that party, by which he is acknowledged as one of the staunch and reliable citizens. In outside circles, as well as

in those religious and political, both he and his family are highly esteemed and respected, and we do not hesitate to affirm that it is more than possible that Lancaster County, and possibly the State, may yet be proud of the service that may be rendered by Mr. Fischer.



HENRY HANENKAMP is a public-spirited, genial farmer, residing on section 15, Centerville Precinct. He is a son of Henry and Mary Hanenkamp, natives of Germany, in which country he was born on the 28th of March, 1857, being the second eldest son in his father's family. While in Germany, death bereaved him of his mother in the year 1864, and in 1872, with his father and other members of the family, he emigrated to America. Taking passage on a steamer at Bremen, after a voyage of sixteen days they entered the harbor of New York. The family came to Mason County, Ill., where our subject grew to manhood.

On the 3rd of November, 1878, our subject married Miss Margaret Kramer, by whom he had two children: Adolph, who was born on the 27th of August, 1879, and Margaret, who was born March 10, 1881. While Margaret was but a tiny babe her mother died, on the 13th of March, 1881, leaving her to the care of her father.

Through the medium of the schools and by taking a general course of reading, our subject was enabled to acquire a very fair education, and being obliged to depend on his own labor, he made use of the education which he had acquired, and his knowledge of men and business, endeavoring to work to the best advantage, so that he can justly claim to have made all the property that he possesses by his own energy, frugality and good management.

Leaving Illinois, our subject came to Lancaster County, Neb., in the spring of 1884, where he now owns 160 acres of good land, on which he has made many improvements, and which yields him very fair results. He deserves very much credit for having manfully taken the shaping of his own fortune and the preparation for the future comfort of his family into his own hands and keeping, and he may

well be termed in the trust sense of the word a self made man.

Our subject is a member of the Lutheran Church, and to the best of his knowledge and ability he tries to follow the teachings of the most noted of Reformers of his own country—Martin Luther. In politics, he coincides with the views and principles of the Democratic party, and in matters of general advancement and improvement he takes an active interest.

ARTHUR E. BOWERS, a leading farmer and stock-raiser of Yankee Hill Precinct, occupies an honorable position among the intelligent and enterprising citizens of the county, who, by their energetic and well-directed labors, have been largely instrumental in placing it in the foremost ranks as a great agricultural and commercial center. Mr. Bowers was born in the State of New York, on Long Island, Sept. 9, 1840, and is a son of Joseph and Maria (Stephens) Bowers, both natives of Massachusetts, the father and also the mother, it is supposed, being of English descent. When he was about twelve years old he removed with his parents to Dutchess County, N. Y., and when he was about sixteen they made another move, going then to Virginia, where they remained about four years. They then took up their abode in Clermont County, Ohio, but after residing there a short time they moved to Ripley County, Ind., and subsequently to Jackson County, in the same State.

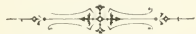
While living in Jackson County, Ind., our subject left home and friends to go forth and defend his country's honor on many a hard-fought battlefield in the rebellious States of the South, enlisting Aug. 20, 1862, in Company K, 5th Indiana Cavalry, as a private. His regiment was attached to the Army of the Ohio, and finally became a part of Sherman's army. Our subject was actively engaged under that noted leader in the Georgia campaign from Dalton to Atlanta, during which time he was under fire a great deal, while performing the duties that devolve on a cavalryman. Prior to that his regiment had taken part in the pursuit of the famous raider Morgan, being gone on that ex-

pedition from July 4 to July 20, and they succeeded in capturing the most of the rebel's force, with the exception of a few hundred men. After the Morgan raid the regiment to which our subject belonged was refitted, remounted, and sent to East Tennessee, where it took part in a campaign which lasted from sometime in September until about the 1st of the following January, including the siege of Knoxville, from which Longstreet was trying to force Burnside. After that he and his comrades took part in a good deal of guerrilla warfare in Kentucky, and were engaged in many fights and skirmishes in the campaign from Dalton to Atlanta, which was almost one continuous fight. Our subject was honorably discharged from the army June 15, 1865, as Sergeant, having served with efficiency and gallantry until after the close of the war. He then returned to Jackson County, Ind., and again assumed the duties of a civilian.

Feb. 22, 1874, Mr. Bowers was united in marriage to Miss Maria Baldwin, a native of Jackson County, Ind., born Jan. 26, 1844. She is a daughter of William and Pearl (Brown) Baldwin, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Kentucky. Her paternal grandfather was a native of England, and emigrated to America subsequent to the Revolution. Her parents were married in Indiana, and had born to them twelve children, of whom three survive, namely: John, of Seymour, Ind.; William, of Medora, Ind., and Maria. Her parents were early settlers of Jackson County, Ind., having established their home there some sixty years ago, and there her father died in August, 1874. The mother still survives, and is now nearly eighty years old. The marriage of our subject and his wife has been blessed to them by the birth of three children, as follows: William B., born Oct. 11, 1876; Alma, born Sept. 29, 1881, died Oct. 14, 1884; Benjamin A. was born May 7, 1883.

Shortly after his marriage our subject set out for Nebraska, accompanied by his wife, to make a home on these fertile prairies. He settled on the northwest quarter of section 31, Yankee Hill Township, and has since been a valued citizen of this community. He owns a quarter-section of land, which by downright hard labor he has developed into one of the finest farms in this locality. He has erected

comfortable and convenient buildings, and everything about the place denotes the thrift and able management of the owner, and that his reputation as a practical and skillful farmer is not undeserved. All his prosperity is due to the fact that he has not despised hard work as a means to an end, and, also, to the ready and cheerful assistance afforded to him by a good wife who has administered her affairs with frugality and wise economy. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bowers are earnest and sincere Christians and active workers in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is at present serving as Class-Leader. In politics Mr. Bowers favors the Prohibition party; he is always to be found on the side of the right, and is a promoter and encourager of every scheme that will in any way enhance the material progress of the county or township where he resides, or that will serve to elevate their moral and social status.



PE. LONGSTREET. Our great Republic not only owes a debt of undying gratitude to the noble citizen soldier, who, during the late war, in the "times that tried men's souls," unhesitatingly went forth to do battle for her cause, but she is under obligations to them for what they have since achieved in building up the country, and developing still further the magnificent resources. Not a quarter of a century has elapsed since the last battle was fought, and the brave soldiers who had brought the war to a successful issue laid down their arms and resumed the quiet vocations which they had dropped at the first alarm of war to march forth to Southern battlefields to defend the stars and stripes, which, but for their valor and patriotism, would not now wave over a free and undivided country. Many of them then, or afterward, sought new homes on the great Western plains, and our country thus became a second time indebted to them, as they have been important factors in turning the greater part of what was known as the "Great American Desert" into magnificent harvest fields, and in planting opulent cities and busy towns where before were wild, silent, untrodden wastes, thus showing, as the

great and glorious Milton wrote, that "Peace hath her victories, no less renowned than war."

As a fine representative of this class of citizens, one who has done his share of this great work, we are pleased to give a place in this volume to a sketch of the life of P. E. Longstreet. He is a prosperous member of the farming community of Lancaster County, and has for many years been prominently identified with its growth. He owns on section 33, Lancaster Township, a valuable farm, admirably located within easy access of the markets, being only four miles from Lincoln, and for cultivation and productiveness it has no superior in the vicinity.

The father of our subject, Nelson Longstreet, was a lifelong citizen of Seneca County, N. Y., where he was born in 1806, and died in 1855, scarcely past the prime of life. He earned his living as a day laborer, and by his upright course in life as a man of steady habits, kindly nature, and sturdy integrity of character, he was justly esteemed by all who knew him. He married in early life Clarinda Coon, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Coon, of Seneca County, N. Y., where she was born in 1811. She was a woman highly respected for her many good qualities, and her useful life of sixty-nine years' duration closed in October, 1880. She was the mother of six children, four of whom were sons, and the family record is as follows: Richard R., born March 17, 1836, lives in Cayuga County, N. Y.; P. E., our subject, born June 26, 1838; Charles N., born Jan. 7, 1841, lives in Cayuga County, N. Y.; Clarinda, born July 4, 1844, married Lewis Bond, a commercial agent; Rachel, born Sept. 12, 1846, married Charles Gunn, and is now a widow; Loren, born Sept. 7, 1856, lives in Seneca County, N. Y., where he owns a large vineyard and makes the culture of the grape his business.

Our subject was early trained to industrious and frugal habits in the home of his parents, and at the age of fifteen, being then an active, manly, self-reliant lad, he commenced life for himself by working out on a farm by the month. He continued thus busily employed until the breaking out of the war, and as soon as he could be spared from the duties that devolved upon him at home, he

hastened to join his companions who were defending the honor of the old flag on the bloody battle-fields of the South. He enlisted in Company G, 126th New York Infantry, Aug. 9, 1862, and after drilling at Geneva, Seneca Co., N. Y., for about a week, entered active service under Gen. Milks, and in the terrible years that followed he suffered all the horrors and privations of war in being wounded nigh unto death, imprisoned, nearly starved, etc. He was captured at Harper's Ferry, and was held a prisoner for three months before being paroled. He served at both battles of Bull Run, at Cedar Creek, was twice in action at Culpeper Court House, took an active part in the battle of the Wilderness, was at the Whitehouse through three skirmishes, did valiant service in the battle of Petersburg, and then was engaged in the battle of Hatchies' Run. In this battle our subject was wounded by having his leg broken, and after that he lay on the field two days and nights, suffering cruelly from the torments of thirst and pain, and then was only taken up as a prisoner, destined for Libby Prison. He was forty-eight hours on the road without his leg receiving any attention, and when the rebel surgeon came to dress it he insisted that it must be amputated. Mr. Longstreet strongly objected to such a procedure, and by a little care his strong constitution triumphed, and he recovered, although given over to die. He was held a prisoner for nearly three months, and finally became able to get about on crutches. He and his fellow-prisoners had a starving time of it on corn bread, made from corn and cob meal, and soup made from beef and potatoes boiled together till all pulp and then stirred with cold water, each prisoner getting his rations twice a day, from one-fourth of a cup to a pint of soup and a piece of corn bread an inch square. Mr. Longstreet and his comrades were finally exchanged and taken to Annapolis, Md., and thence to Baltimore, where he remained about six weeks in the hospital. He was then sent with others to York River, where he remained until his discharge in 1865. Our subject won an honorable record on some of the most hotly contested battle-fields of the war, displaying throughout his entire service the cool, courageous, self-sacrificing spirit of the true soldier, and his officers found in

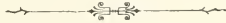
him one who was prompt in obeying orders and one who could be thoroughly trusted, one, in fact, whose every act was inspired by patriotism and devotion to his country.

After leaving the army, Mr. Longstreet returned to his native State, and went to work on a farm by the month, being thus employed until his marriage, Jan. 27, 1870, with Miss Minerva, daughter of Aaron and Julia (Bennett) Wilson, of Ovid, Seneca Co., N. Y. Mrs. Longstreet can trace her genealogy back several generations, to Ralph and Mary Wilson, who were the first of the family to leave their home across the waters to come to the United States. Their son David, from whom our subject's wife is lineally descended, was born April 29, 1732, the very day that they arrived in this country. He married and reared a family of four children, of whom his son Joseph, born Feb. 8, 1764, was Mrs. Longstreet's grandfather. Of the twelve children that completed his family circle, his son Aaron, Mrs. Longstreet's father, was born May 13, 1808, and is still living at an advanced age with his wife on the old homestead in Seneca County, where his ancestors made their home when they first came to America. Mrs. Wilson was born March 18, 1816. Their daughter, Mrs. Longstreet, is the fifth in order of birth of the ten children who have been born to them, she first seeing the light of day in the old home Jan. 27, 1842. She and her husband are the parents of two children, namely: Estelle M., born Nov. 26, 1873; Ira W., Jan. 18, 1875.

Immediately after marriage our subject and his wife left their native State to find for themselves a home on the rich prairies of Nebraska. Mr. Longstreet purchased a tract of seventy-four acres of land, upon which he lived for sixteen years. He then sold that and bought his present farm, paying therefor \$40 an acre. Under his skillful management, and owing to the rapid growth of the country, it has greatly increased in value, so that it is now worth \$120 an acre. It originally comprised 160 acres, but he disposed of forty acres of it for \$100 an acre.

Mr. Longstreet has taken an active part in the administration of public affairs in Lancaster; has served as Assessor of the township for seven years and as School Director for four years, and no citizen

takes a deeper or more earnest interest in the welfare of his community. He and his family are valued members of the Baptist Church, of Lincoln. In politics, Mr. Longstreet is a firm supporter of the principles advanced by the Republican party. Socially, he is prominently identified with the G. A. R., as represented by Farragut Post No. 25, at Lincoln.



SILAS M. CLARK. In this biographical compend are presented the prominent features of the life of one of the most respected, honorable and large-hearted farmers of Rock Creek Precinct, whose property is situated on section 34, and comprises 160 acres of excellent land in an irrefragable condition of agricultural efficiency.

Our subject is the son of Hezekiah Clark, who was born about the year 1780, in Jefferson County, N. Y., and died in the same place in 1840. His wife was Lucy Watson, who was born in 1790 in Center, N. Y., and died in Jefferson County in 1883. Her husband was by trade a carpenter and builder, in which calling he was increasingly successful. Their home circle included twelve children, five of whom are now living: Julia, now Mrs. DeLong, whose husband is now a retired merchant; they reside in Warren, Ill. William, a successful merchant in Boston, Mass., but now retired from active work; Irene Mathews, relict of Mr. Mathews, whose home is also at Warren; Philena Bloomer is now living at Rock Creek, and Silas M. Clark, who was born Jan. 17, 1836, in Jefferson.

Until he was twenty years of age our subject made his home with his parents. His education was received in the public school, afterward supplemented by a course in a private academy. About the year 1856 he began farming, and continued in the same until 1862, when he enlisted, on the 19th of July, in Company A, 10th New York Heavy Artillery. Until the spring of 1864 he was doing garrison duty at Washington, but at that time they were ordered to the front, and arrived at Cold Harbor almost immediately after the battle at that place. They were attached to the 18th Army

Corps, and with them proceeded to Petersburg and were in the battle at that place. They remained at the front until the 15th of August, when they were ordered back to Washington for about thirty days, and then went to the Shenandoah Valley for two months, but took part in no engagements. On the 2d of April following they entered into an engagement with the rebel forces, losing about eighty men, and were shortly afterward dispatched to Petersburg for provost duty, where they remained until June 22, 1865, and were then discharged by general order.

After leaving the army Mr. Clark remained at Ogdensburg, in St. Lawrence County, and worked at merchandising. The following year, 1866, he began farming in Jefferson County, N. Y., and was fairly successful during his residence for about five years, when he removed to this county, and bought a farm of 160 acres for \$17,000. This land he speedily made quite fertile and raised large harvests; he suffered in 1883 very considerably from hailstorms, losing nearly the whole of his crops. His specialty is stock-raising, but what part of his farm is not required to raise feed for his stock is used for grain.

One of the most important steps in the life of any man, perhaps more than any other a farmer, is that wherein he unites himself "for better or worse, for richer or poorer." We say especially a farmer, because during the year, and especially the winter, the little household is largely shut into itself, forming its own little world, and each is dependent upon the other so much for all that goes to make life worth living. In large centers of population this is not so, and if one has no companion at home there are opportunities within easy reach that will enable the sufferer to forget the same. Our subject in this important step happily made no mistake when he took to himself Margaret Weller. They were married April 2, 1859, at Ogdensburg. This lady is the daughter of John C. and Ann (Bennett) Weller. Her father and mother were both natives of England. Her father was born in 1803, and landed in Quebec in the year 1840. After a short residence in that city he went to Ogdensburg, N. Y. Mrs. Weller was born in 1801, and is still living and in the enjoyment of

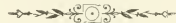
good health. Their family included twelve children, of whom seven are still living. The names are recorded as follows: John, Margaret (wife of our subject), Carrie, William, Anna, Eliza and Emma.

After Mr. Clark took possession of his farm he began the improvement of the same at once, first, however, providing a home shelter for the family. This took the form of a dug-out, which a little care and labor made not only habitable but comfortable. The person who has lived always in some brown or white stone front mansion would be surprised at the amount of solid comfort and good cheer to be found in a claim shanty or dug-out. During the grasshopper plague his crops suffered severely, but he did not get disheartened; he was made of better stuff, and mutually encouraging each other, himself and wife worked together and soon recovered all that seemed to have been irretrievably lost. Their family has grown to include three children: William, born Jan. 12, 1860; Hattie E., born on the 11th of February, 1863, is a resident at Rock Creek with her husband, Frank E. Rogers; and Lillian M., now Mrs. James Michael, born Oct. 15, 1876.

Mrs. Clark is one of the prominent and most devoted members of the Congregational Church at Waverly, and in that communion is very greatly esteemed, as she is, indeed, in common with her husband, by all who know her. They are now reaping the golden harvest of a life of energetic toil, honor and loyalty to themselves and neighbors. Our subject is in political matters associated with the Republican party, and takes a deep interest in all matters, whether national or less far-reaching. He has been for over four years Justice of the Peace, in which position he has served to the greatest satisfaction of all concerned. Socially, he is a member of Mitchell Post No. 38, G. A. R., of Waverly.

In visiting jewelry stores one is often struck with the different styles of the larger pieces of silverware, as made for ornamental and useful purposes. Some are pretty, but without solidity; others fantastic but apparently without any place to get hold of them; and then there are those good, solid pieces of full weight and sterling value; not, perhaps, so

full of embellishment and trick of design, but when you see and handle them you know exactly what they are and for what use. So with men; some are handsome but useless; others so full of angularities and tricks that you cannot touch them; and then again there are those solid in worth, honest in purpose, large-souled, beneficent men whom it is always a pleasure to meet and an honor to know. Such an one is the subject of this sketch.



EDWARD YOUNG, the leading tobacconist of Lincoln, has been established here since 1886; he has a fine store and does an extensive business. He is a Pennsylvanian by birth, born in Lycoming County, Oct. 9, 1845. His father, Henry Young, was a native of Scotland, his birth occurring Oct. 11, 1810, and the grandfather of our subject, Jacob Young, likewise of Scottish birth, came to America with his family in 1828. He settled in Maryland, bought land, and engaged extensively in farming and stock-raising. He spent his last years in Frederick County, that State, dying at the advanced age of eighty-two years.

The father of our subject was about eighteen years of age when he came to America. He married, in Maryland, Elizabeth Michael, and after a few years of a happy wedded life she died in the home that they had established in that State, being only thirty-two years of age. Mr. Young finally sold his farm in Maryland and moved to Lycoming County, Pa., where he engaged in the lumber business until 1859. He then returned to Maryland, and resumed farming until 1862, when he enlisted in the 6th Maryland Infantry, and served in the 6th Army Corps, Army of the Potomac. He was wounded near Winchester in 1864, and was discharged on account of disability caused by his wounds. He never fully recovered, but died in July, 1866, at the age of fifty-six. He inherited in a large degree those characteristics that make the sturdy, honest Scotch such desirable citizens, and he was a man of good repute, and was held in high esteem by his neighbors.

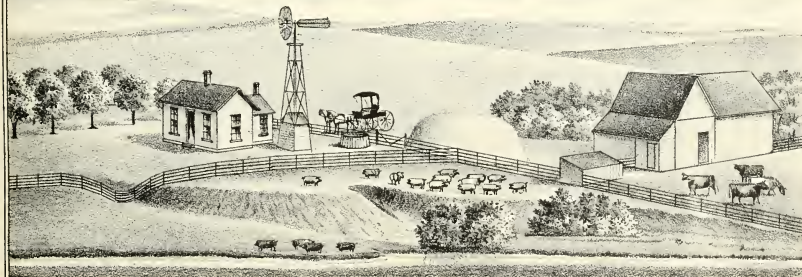
The subject of this sketch received his education in the public schools of Pennsylvania and Maryland.



RESIDENCE OF A. D. KING, SEC. 7. NORTH BLUFF PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF R. E. BAKER, SEC. 2. CENTERVILLE PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF LEON G. ANDRESS, SEC. 3. WEST OAK PRECINCT.

He was an active, self-reliant lad, and at the early age of thirteen began independently to make his own way in the world, commencing as a clerk in a general store. In 1862 and 1863 he was engaged in that capacity in a tobacco store. After the war he started out as a traveling salesman, and was thus employed the greater part of the time for sixteen years. He was very popular and made many large sales for his employers, securing their confidence by his honest dealings and careful attention to their interests. He profited much personally by his travels; being a keen observer, his views of life were enlarged, and he gained a better knowledge of our wonderful country than is often granted to many of us, as he visited twenty-seven States and three Territories. In 1882 he retired from his business as a traveling salesman and located at Sterling, Ill., where he engaged in the cigar and tobacco business until 1886. In that year he came to Lincoln and established himself in the same business, in which he has been eminently successful. He is a man of good mental calibre and is more than ordinarily well informed, being a student of good literature, and having a remarkable memory for whatever he has read, and he readily recognizes faces and names after having once seen or heard them. He is always gentlemanly and courteous in his manners, and is respected and trusted by all with whom he has business or social relations.

Mr. Young was married, Dec. 7, 1876, to Miss J. M. Walsh, a native of Grand Rapids, Mich. She presides with true tact and hospitality over their home, and makes it attractive alike to her family and the numerous friends whom they have gathered around them since taking up their residence in this city. Two children, Stanley E. and Byron A., complete the household of our subject and his wife. The family attend the Presbyterian Church.

EUGENE HALLETT was quite an early settler in Lincoln; but few of the men who were in business when he came are here at the present time. He was born in Nantucket, Mass., his father, Allan Hallett, having been born in Yarmouth, of the same State, and his father, the grand-

father of our subject, as far as is known, spent his entire life in Massachusetts. The father of our subject was reared in his native town, and learned the trade of carpenter and joiner. When quite a young man, he settled in Nantucket, where he carried on his trade of carpenter and builder, and also engaged in the hardware and lumber business. In the year 1854, or 1855, he sold his interests at Nantucket and moved to Milford, in the same State, where he engaged in the manufacture of sash doors and blinds, and also as contractor and builder.

In the year 1858 the father of our subject moved from Milford to Leavenworth, Kan., going as far as Iatan, Mo., in the cars, and making the remainder of the journey by steamer. In Leavenworth he followed the trade which he had learned when young, and was a resident in that city until the time of his death, which occurred in 1866. He had married, in Nantucket, Miss Hepsabeth Rand, a daughter of Ebenezer Rand. She died at her home in Leavenworth in the year 1859. They were the parents of the following children: William A., deceased; Emeline, who is married to Thomas E. Kirkley; Eugene, our subject, and Fannie B., also deceased.

Our subject is the third child of the family, and he lived in Nantucket until he was fifteen years old, when he moved with his parents to Milford. He had attended the public schools in the former place, and at the age of sixteen he commenced to learn the jewelry trade in Milford, where he worked at the business for one and a half years, and then went to Providence, R. I., where he followed the same business for two and a half years. In the year 1858 he went with his parents to Leavenworth, and there engaged in the jewelry business, which he continued until 1871, when he came to the young and flourishing capital of Nebraska, and established himself in business. He was first situated in a small frame building on O street, between Tenth and Eleventh streets, and removed from there to his present fine location on North Eleventh street. He has been very successful in business, and having secured the entire confidence of the people, he is enjoying a very large trade.

In the year 1867 our subject was united in marriage with Martha J. Brown, a daughter of Hugh

Brown, of Ottumwa, Iowa. They have become the parents of four children, whom we name as follows: Fred A., Maggie E., Hugh B. and Eugene W. S. Mrs. Hallett is a member of the First Christian Church, and is a lady in every respect to be admired. Mr. Hallett takes an interest in the political questions of the day, and has united his fortunes with those of the Republican party. He is a member of Lincoln Lodge No. 9, A. O. U. W., and is also a member of the Lincoln Union Club. He is carrying a very fine stock of goods, and by his honorable business transactions has raised himself to the first rank among business men. Socially, he and his wife are pleasant and affable, and enjoy the esteem of a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

DR. HENRY C. DEMAREE, a very successful and rising physician and surgeon of Roca, has been identified with the various interests of Saltillo Precinct for a period of thirteen years. Besides the income from his profession, he has a good farm, comprising eighty acres of improved land on section 8. This is embellished with a handsome dwelling, which he put up in 1884, and which forms a most pleasant and inviting home. He is a gentleman public-spirited and progressive in his ideas, one who is willing to contribute of his time and means for the advancement of the interests of his community, and in connection with his profession, has the laudable ambition of standing at the very head.

Our subject springs from an excellent family, his father being David S., and his mother, Catherine (Irving) Demaree, the former a native of Kentucky, and the latter of Scotland, but tracing his ancestry on his father's side to Holland. The maternal great-great-grandfather of our subject emigrated to America in 1730, settling in New York State, and from him sprang the family of this country. It is hardly necessary to say that they represent some of the best people of this continent, and are prominent in the trades, the professions, and the more laborious walks of life.

The parents of our subject, David S. and Cath-

erine Demaree, had a family of five sons and one daughter, and spent their last years in Switzerland County, Ind., the mother dying in 1857, at the age of forty-two or forty-three years, and the father in 1863, when fifty-three years old. Henry C., our subject, was the youngest born, and first opened his eyes to the light at the old home in Switzerland County, Ind., on the 21st of November, 1846. His early studies were conducted in the common school, while he became familiar with the various employments of farm life, but when a lad eight years of age, had already decided upon the medical profession as his future calling.

Dr. Demaree was a young man twenty years of age when he came to Nebraska. The boys had raised a mortgage of \$6,000 on the homestead, which the father left at his death, and our subject started out practically without means and wholly dependent upon his own resources. He was employed as a farm laborer the first season, and then made such arrangements as admitted him into the office of Dr. William Arnold, of Brownsville, this State, under whose instructions he pursued his medical studies a year, and then became a student in the medical department of Michigan State University, at Ann Arbor. A year later he emerged from that institution to enter the Kentucky School of Medicine, at Louisville, from which he was graduated in the class of '78. At this time he had already practiced about one year, and after receiving his diploma, made his way across the Mississippi once more, and began the regular practice of his profession in the town of Roca, where he has since been located.

Dr. Demaree was at once recognized by the people of this section as one worthy of their confidence and patronage, and his career has been onward from the start. He was united in marriage with Miss Emma L., daughter of E. L. Warner, on the 9th of September, 1884, at the home of the bride in Roca. Mrs. Demaree was born Nov. 29, 1851, in Iowa, and continued under the home roof until her marriage, acquiring a good education, and being carefully trained, as one destined to occupy a good position in society. A sketch of her parents will be found on another page in this volume. To the Doctor and his estimable wife there has been

born one child, a son, Merlin, April 28, 1886. This little one passed away when three months old.

Our subject has comparatively little time to give to matters outside of his profession, being a close student and an extensive reader, although, at the same time, he is ever willing to do whatever lies in his power to advance the interests of his community. Politically, he is a solid Republican, and is prominently connected with the Lincoln Medical Society, besides holding a membership in the Nebraska State Medical Society. His prompt attention to the needs of his patrons, and his careful and conscientious methods, both as a business man and professionally, have secured him a large circle of friends.



JAMES E. BLIZZARD, a journalist of rare literary ability, is editor and publisher of the Hickman *Enterprise*, and through the columns of his valuable paper he has done more than any other man to encourage and promote the growth of the village of Hickman, which is widely known to rank among the liveliest villages of Southeastern Nebraska. He is a son of John and Elizabeth (Sharp) Blizzard, natives of Delaware, who settled in Georgetown, that State, after marriage. The father was a carpenter and joiner, and continued at that trade in Georgetown until 1833, when he moved with his family to Summerfield, Ohio. Two years later he moved to Bellefontaine, Ohio, with his wife and children, and lived there until his death in 1861, at the age of seventy-two. His wife died in the same place in 1880, at the advanced age of seventy-eight years. (For further parental history see sketch of Dr. Blizzard.)

James Blizzard, of this sketch, was the eldest of the five children, three of whom are living, born to his parents, and he was born Sept. 25, 1828, in Georgetown, Del. He was partly educated at a select school at Bellefontaine, Ohio, and at the age of eighteen he went to Philadelphia, and entered the Southworth High School at that place. He continued there until 1848, and completed a thorough course at that institution, gaining a high rank for superior scholarship. After he left school he re-

ceived the flattering offer of the principalship of the academy at Georgetown, his native city. He devoted his attention exclusively to teaching for eight years, with marked success. In 1851 he entered upon his career as a journalist by establishing the *Sussex News*, a weekly paper, at the same time continuing his duties as a teacher, and for three years longer he continued to instruct the youth of Georgetown at the academy, and the public, through the columns of an ably edited paper. He then gave up teaching for awhile, and went to Liberty, Ohio, where he bought out the *West Liberty Banner*, which he edited for two years. He then returned to Georgetown and resumed teaching for two years. After that he entered the ministry, and traveled under the Presiding Elder of the Philadelphia Conference until 1861, when he returned to Ohio. He did some very effective work as a preacher, throwing his whole heart and soul into his labors, and his services were highly appreciated by the members of the conference and the people unto whom he ministered. In 1876 he again returned to the field of journalism, and going to Salida, Mercer Co., Ohio, he bought out the *Salida Democrat* and merged it into the *Observer*. This paper was committed to the interests of the Republican party, and our subject was actively engaged in editorial and political work until 1883, when he was induced to try the West. He removed with his family to this State, and engaged in the drug business in Firth for a year and a half. But his love for literary labors was still strong upon him, and wishing to enter the editorial arena again, he came to Hickman and started his present paper, the *Hickman Enterprise*, the first number of which was issued May 8, 1886. This paper ably advocates the policy of the Republican party, and has met with well-merited success from the first, dealing, as it does, in a masterly manner with the various issues of the day, serving the highest purposes of journalism, to educate the people.

Mr. Blizzard was married, in 1848, to Miss Mary, daughter of Peter and Harriet (Warrington) Rust. She is also a native of Georgetown, Del., born in 1828. She enjoyed good educational advantages in the city schools, and being a lady of true refinement, has deeply sympathized with her husband in

his aims and aspirations. The following is the record of the five children born to them: Willard is a railroad man in Kansas City; Vititia is in Cleveland, Ohio; Geneva is the wife of William Hilp, of Kansas City, and they have two children—Bessie and Dee; Maggie is the wife of Dr. A. R. Touvelle, of Firth, and they have one child, Mortimer; Elizabeth is the wife of William Clesen, of Lincoln, and they have two children—Clyde and an infant.

Mr. Blizzard has always been too generous, open-handed and public-spirited to accumulate a fortune, and is now in moderate circumstances. He and his wife are held in high regard as honorable members of society and of church, they belonging to the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Hickman. As to the political views of our subject, one needs but to read his vigorous editorials in his paper to be convinced that he is a thorough Republican. He is in frail health, and has never been inclined to seek office, although he was at one time nominated by the Republican party of Delaware, his native State, as a candidate for the State Legislature, but declined to accept the nomination.



WILLIAM CHARLTON. Among the farmers of Centerville the name of our subject is worthy of prominent mention, not simply on account of the size of his farm, but rather because of the high state of agricultural perfection to which he has attained and the products obtained. His property is situated on sections 26 and 27, and includes 1,052 acres. Our subject is a native of Van Buren County, Iowa, and was there born on the 10th of August, 1845. He is the son of Thomas and Ann (Meek) Charlton. His father died about the year 1878, aged seventy-five years; his mother, who is still living, resides with our subject. Both his father and mother were natives of Pennsylvania, who settled in Van Buren County, Iowa, about the year 1836, and were among the first pioneers of that part.

The family of which our subject is a member numbered nine children, only four, however, are now living. These are: Elizabeth, the wife of C. W. Stevens, of Buffalo County, Neb.; Ella resides

with our subject; Emma, now Mrs. James W. Wiley, also of Buffalo County, and our subject, Mr. Charlton, Sr., died after a short illness, in 1878, eminently respected by neighbors and citizens as a man and patriot.

The subject of this sketch remained in the home of his parents until about eighteen years of age, and then went to California, where he made his home for about eight years, working for the first five years on different farms, being engaged by the month, the latter part of the time renting about 2,200 acres, which for three years he operated most successfully. In 1873 he came to Lancaster County and took up his present farm and settled upon the same, continuing to make it his home ever since, with the experience again repeated, that intelligent labor properly bestowed, other things being equal, will result in prosperity in husbandry, as in other pursuits.

The felicity which comes into the experience of every worker having the inspiration of seeking happiness for others, became his when, in May, 1872, our subject was united in the bonds of marriage to Mary Lidolph. This lady is a native of Iowa and a daughter of Lewis Lidolph, of this precinct. They became the parents of three children, whose names are here appended: William H., born Feb. 15, 1873; Byron, Sept. 25, 1874, and Mary A., Aug. 12, 1876. March 3, 1877, our subject had to face a trial which desolated his heart, life and home, and had to bid the last farewell to his wife, who in death left behind her an inexhaustible wealth of affection, and the realization among friends and neighbors that they had lost a friend of more than ordinary worth. The remembrance of her life and love are ineffaceable from the hearts and lives of her husband and family.

The property which our subject has accumulated is expressive of the great go-aheaditiveness of our Western farmers, associated with well-directed industry, continued perseverance, and intelligent, careful planning. Mr. Charlton has held the trusteeship of the schools of his district for several years, and doubtless has yet to be heard from in other and more important offices. His thoughts upon political subjects lead him to associate himself with the Republican party, of which he is a strong

supporter and unwavering adherent. He is as true to his manhood and conscience as is possible in all the affairs of life in whatsoever relation it may be, and is proportionately admired and esteemed by all.



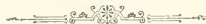
CHARLES F. RETZLAFF, an extensive landholder of Stockton Precinct, is the owner of 800 broad acres, and has one of the finest homesteads in Lancaster County, comprising the greater part of section 4. A handsome residence and substantial out-buildings, together with fruit, shade and ornamental trees, make up one of the most desirable homes in the county, and indicate on all sides the cultivated tastes and ample means of the proprietor. His family consists of a most amiable and intelligent wife, who presides in a graceful and dignified manner over his household, and six interesting children, who are named respectively: George W., Frederick W., Emma W., Edith A., William T. and Albert L. The second son was married in 1887 to Miss Clara Faulhaber, and lives at the home farm. One child, a son, Charles, died at the age of two years, and another child died in infancy.

The subject of this biography was born on the other side of the Atlantic in the Prussian Province of Pommern, Oct. 3, 1831, where he spent his early life as a shepherd boy, and in 1854 came to America with his brother. After landing in New York City they at once proceeded westward to Milwaukee, Wis., whence soon afterward they went into Walworth County, where Charles F. was employed as a farm laborer for a period of three years. He came to this county in August, 1858, secured a tract of land on section 4, in Stockton Precinct, and deciding to permanently locate, returned to Wisconsin for his bride, being there married, April 24, 1859, to Miss Dora Sophia Lemke, who was born in Brandenburg, Germany, Nov. 3, 1838.

It thus appears that Mr. Retzlaff has been a resident of this county for a period of nearly thirty years, coming to Nebraska while it was still a Territory. It is hardly necessary to say that he has watched the growth and development of the Great West with the interest manifested by every intelli-

gent citizen, and he may be pardoned for the reflection that by building up one of the finest farms in this portion of the State, he has been no unimportant factor in placing Lancaster County in her present proud position.

Mrs. Retzlaff came to America with her brother William and sister Minnie (the latter now the wife of John Kochler, of Wisconsin,) when a young lady eighteen years of age. They settled in Kenosha County, Wis., where she lived until her marriage. She, with her husband, belongs to the German Lutheran Church, and Mr. R., politically, is a solid Republican, one who is thoroughly alive to the importance of every man doing his duty in maintaining the principles of liberty and union. He has been prominent in local affairs, and after the organization of Lancaster County was one of its first Commissioners. He has also held the office of Justice of the Peace, and officiated as Road Supervisor. His course as a business man and a citizen has been such as to commend him to the favor of all with whom he has had dealings, and he bears the reputation of being a leading representative of his township and the county at large.



JAMES M. MYERS is a son of William Myers, who was born in New Jersey, in 1814. When a young man the father went to Carroll County, Ohio, where he engaged in the occupation of farming until about the year 1843, when he engaged in the milling of flour and lumber. Having by diligent attention to business secured a fair competence, in 1876 he retired from business, and now lives at Pioneer, Williams Co., Ohio. His wife, Eleanor, was born in 1812, in Pennsylvania, but removed in early life with her people to Ohio, where she was married. She died at her home in the year 1863. The parents of Mr. Myers had a family of seven children, two of whom are sons, only three of the children now living, as follows: Joseph, a farmer living near Traverse City, Mich.; Mary, the wife of E. P. Warner, a shoemaker of Pioneer, Ohio; and our subject.

Mr. Myers was born on the 15th of May, 1845, in Knox County, Ohio. He lived at home until

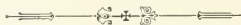
the age of eighteen years, attending the public schools in the time that was afforded him. In January, 1864, when the call came for more men, he enlisted in Company H, 38th Ohio Infantry. He served with Sherman in the troops that made the memorable march to the sea. On their return they experienced much severe marching through South Carolina, and to Raleigh, not ceasing their march until they arrived in the city of Washington. Afterward he was sent to Louisville, Ky., where, about the 1st of July, they were mustered out, and discharged at Cleveland, Ohio, soon after.

Returning to his home our subject followed the occupation of farming, and engaged in buying up stock. In 1866 he and a brother bought a farm in Steuben County, Ind., and farmed together for a year. Coming to Lancaster County, Neb., in 1869, he made a selection of land in Rock Creek Precinct, and homesteaded eighty acres of it. Having built a "dug-out," he moved into it on the 22d of November, and on the 23d day he was married to Grace A. Griswold, a daughter of N. W. and Hester Griswold, of North Bluff Precinct. Mrs. Myers was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., on the 25th of February, 1846, and coming to Nebraska with her parents she lived with them until her marriage.

In 1879 our subject was able to build a nice house, and he left his "dug-out" for the newer and more commodious dwelling. He improved the farm, setting out on it a fine fruit orchard containing 100 bearing trees, and one acre of young fruit trees. In common with all the farmers of that time he suffered the losses incurred by the siege of the grasshoppers, severe wind and hail-storms. But summoning up new energy each time he sustained a loss, he was enabled to recover from those misfortunes, and make a good start toward success. Few people deserve more credit for the property and wealth which they have gained than do these honest, enterprising farmers, who have had so much to contend with from the misfortunes incident to their location.

Our subject stands high in the esteem of the people of the community in which he lives, by reason of the interest which he takes in educational matters, and the good government of the country.

He is a Republican in politics, and has served as Assessor for four full terms. He has twice been a delegate to the County Conventions, and has served as a member of the School Board in his district. He and his family do not at present belong to any religious denomination, but take their place as esteemed members of society. There are four children in the family, all living at home, their names and the dates of their birth being as follows: Lona E., born Dec. 29, 1870; Etta M., Nov. 20, 1873; Gracie J., Jan. 23, 1880; and James H., April 30, 1887. Mr. Myers is a member of the committee of the Republican Club, formed in Rock Creek in July, 1888. His honorable service in behalf of the country at the time she was enduring the horrors of a civil war, will always be held in remembrance, and spoken of to his lasting honor.



DE WITT C. FELLOWS. New England is second to no other section of our country in the number it has furnished from the ranks of its best citizens who have gone out to face the struggles and dangers of pioneer life. They seem to have caught the spirit of their ancestors, and those pioneers of the New England States who landed in the cold surf at Plymouth Rock. From such a family is the subject of this writing.

Benjamin Fellows, the father of De Witt C. Fellows, was born in Kensington, N. H., in 1794. His education was obtained in the common schools of that place, after which he was apprenticed to a master tailor to be initiated into the varieties of texture, their quality and finish, the use of the tape-line and measure, the geometry of the cutting-board, the freaks and fictions of fashion, as well as the more piercing experience of the needle. Not until he was thirty-five years of age did he leave the business and turn to farming, in which occupation he continued until his death. Mr. Fellows was united in marriage to Percy Bridgeman, the daughter of Rev. Isaac Bridgeman, a Baptist clergyman of the same State. She was a lady of education according to the idea of the times, of

culture and pleasing address, and fully endowed with those virtues which are the chief glory of womanhood. Their family has numbered seven children, whose names are here given, but who, with the exception of our subject, are all deceased: Melvina, John, Antonette, Helen, De Witt C. (our subject), Napoleon and Ira. Their father continued to live some five years beyond the allotted threescore and ten, and enjoyed good health until near the end. He was a man highly respected as a citizen, and beloved in his domestic relations. His wife, the mother of our subject, died five years prior to the death of her husband.

Our subject was born April 22, 1827, in Hanover, N. H. In due time he was sent to the common school to obtain an education, which should fit him for the duties and responsibilities of after days, and although this education did not contain the extensive list in use at the present time, and did not include the mass of learned lore which to-day might be numbered among its subjects and add to the weight of his text books, it was nevertheless thorough and practical, and in after years he proved its value in many instances, and doubtless realized that had it been far more liberal he would have found opportunity to use it all. The business of schooling over, he entered upon the work of the farm, continuing at home in these pursuits until he reached man's estate, then he struck out for himself.

For several years Mr. Fellows was working his way in the direction of the setting sun, engaged in various occupations at different places. He entered the army in 1862, enlisting in Company I, 43d Massachusetts Regiment, under Col. Holbrook. He saw active service, and took part in several engagements, and upon being mustered out in 1863, he went to Boston and engaged in the carpenter trade, of which he had made himself master before he left home. He continued in this business, making the above city his headquarters, until 1872, when he went West prospecting, going back in the fall. The following year he came to Lincoln to stay.

One year from that time, *i. e.* in 1874, our subject was married to Julia Ann Collins, who was the daughter of King and Mary Collins, and was born in Chagrin Falls, Ohio. They have been made

happy by the birth of three children: Paul C., Mary B. and Joseph, who were born in this county. Our subject had by this time secured property in Lincoln, and in 1877 he bought his present home, and then began immediately to improve the same. The house which has been so pleasant and convenient a home, was erected, together with a commodious barn, a large number of shade and fruit trees were set out and numberless other improvements made. Eleven years ago the property was only a cattle pasture. To-day you can enjoy under the thick leafy foliage which spreads itself before the face of the burning sun, the cooling shade which its generosity affords, or by taking a stroll over the velvety carpet of green, which spreads itself at our feet, to another part of the grounds, we are enabled to appreciate the shadow of the fine fruit trees, and partake of the luscious gifts they extend toward us.

Mr. Fellows is Director of his school district, and in political affiliations an ardent friend and supporter of the Republican party, whose candidates receive his suffrage.

The wife of our subject, Miss Collins, is the daughter of Mr. King Collins and wife, and was born at Chagrin Falls, Ohio, in 1849. Her education was received in the academy of that town, and after graduation she continued teaching several years.

As an illustration of the increase in valuation in Lincoln in the past decade, and at the same time of the increased settlement, we may remark that land for which about ten years ago he paid \$11 per acre, and which lies adjacent to the city limits, is now valued at from \$250 to \$300 per acre. His property includes some sixty-six acres of land on section 11, and is chiefly devoted to the raising of stock and fruit culture. His orchards are among the finest and most extensive in the county.

WILLIAM CRAIG is very prosperously engaged in agriculture in Nemaha Precinct, where he owns a farm on sections 28 and 33, which for fertility and productiveness is classed among the best in this locality. His skill and experience in farming have proved of incalculable

value to him since coming to Nebraska, and he has done exceedingly well since purchasing a farm here in 1880, being now in possession of an assured income.

Our subject is a native of the town of Frankfort, Ross Co., Ohio, the date of his birth being June 8, 1835. His father, Charles Craig, was born in the same county near Chillicothe, in 1804, and his father, likewise named Charles, was a native of Ireland, and after becoming a citizen of this country served in the War of 1812 as a private. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Rachel Ashby, she being a connection of Gen. Ashby, was a native of Virginia, but was reared in Ohio, having been taken there when a child. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Craig settled in Ross County, near Frankfort, where they lived a long time, the father being engaged as a shoemaker. In 1838 they moved to Indiana, and located in Prince William, Carroll County, where Mr. Craig turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. He subsequently sold that farm and removed to Tippecanoe County, where he was busily engaged in farming for four years. His next move was to McLean County, Ill., in 1851, where he resided until his death in 1853, before he had attained his fiftieth year. He pursued an upright course through life, and was a capable, hard-working man, but by going security for another man he lost money, and through sickness in his family and other misfortunes he was reduced to straightened circumstances. His good wife, who had faithfully shared his vicissitudes, and had been to him a true helper, survived him until 1866, when she, too, yielded up the burden of life to pass to the long rest. They were the parents of eleven children, namely: Nancy, Louisa, Andrew J., James, Matilda, Charles, William, an infant unnamed, Henry, Alexander and Martha.

Our subject was but three years old when the journey to the new home in Indiana was made, but he still retains a remembrance of it and of several incidents connected with it, of the camping by the wayside to rest and prepare food, of driving the cow, etc. He received his early education in a subscription school, which was held in a primitive log school-house, attending three months every year. He was early taught to swing an ax, and assist his father in his pioneer labors of clearing his farm in

Carroll County. He was a lad of sixteen summers when the family moved to Tippecanoe County, a beautiful prairie country, and there he applied himself to farming, as much of the responsibility of managing the farm devolved upon him, as his father was taken ill soon after they settled there. His education was not, however, neglected, as he attended school during the winter. Time wore on and the family went to live in McLean County, Ill., where they prospered well for a time, but sickness in the family, losses, and the death of the father, were serious blows which impoverished them. Our subject was then but a youth of eighteen years, but he was strong, manly and self-reliant, and bravely put his shoulder to the wheel to assist his mother, brothers and sisters in their efforts to keep the home, of which he remained an inmate until the breaking out of the war. Then, as his assistance was no longer much needed there, he offered his services to his country, being among the first to enlist in McLean County at the first call for troops from the Government. At the expiration of his three-months term of enlistment he re-enlisted, August 14, as a member of the 39th Illinois Infantry, and was soon dispatched to Chicago with his regiment, and shortly after to St. Louis. From thence he and his comrades went to Williamsport, Md., where they first drew their arms in an encounter with the enemy. But the first real engagement in which they took an active part was at Hancock, Md.; there they were obliged to wade the Potomac in the dead of winter to assist in reconstructing the Baltimore & Ohio Railway. The regiment was then dispatched to Cumberland, Md., and was present at the battle of Winchester, and afterward skirmished through the Shenandoah Valley. At Harrison's Bar our subject was engaged with his regiment in a ten-days skirmish. They had some severe marching on their way to Suffolk, Va., where they were stationed for some time. From thence they went to Pamlico Sound, and from there by boat to Newbern, N. C., and afterward to Beaufort. Our subject took part in skirmishes on Cold Island and Foley Island, and thence went to Ft. Sumter, where he witnessed the naval fight under Admiral Dupont when he attempted to run past the batteries with his fleet of iron-clads, and enter the harbor of

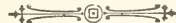
Charleston, S. C. Mr. Craig took part in the siege of Ft. Wagner, which lasted 101 days, and was present at the time of its evacuation. While there he was attacked with chronic diarrhœa, and was discharged from the army Dec. 6, 1863, having been in the service two years and four months. After farming the following summer, his health having improved, he enlisted for a third time, in February, 1865, to still further aid his country, and for one year was with Company B, 150th Illinois Infantry. The regiment got as far as Cleveland, Tenn., when the news of Lee's surrender announced that the long and terrible war was at an end, but many regiments were retained in the service several months, and that to which our subject belonged was not mustered out until February, 1866, in Griffin, Ga., when he was for a third time honorably discharged, having in the three years and five months of faithful service on the battle-fields of the South won for himself an enduring record as a brave and efficient soldier who was willing to risk all to defend the honor of the dear old flag, and to keep her floating over a free and undivided country. Of the three Craig brothers who served in the Rebellion, not one was wounded, but all were spared, and have since in the quiet walks of life made themselves useful and honored citizens.

After his retirement from army life our subject returned home to his wife in McLean County, he having been married to Miss Ann E. Gardner, Sept. 3, 1865, while at home on a furlough. Mrs. Craig was born in Ohio, July 27, 1848, and being the eldest of ten children in a busy household, her education was limited, as she was often kept at home to assist her mother. She thus gained a thorough, practical knowledge of housekeeping, and is an admirable housewife, one who looks well to the ways of her household, providing bountifully for its inmates, and often setting forth good cheer, sweetened by cordial words of welcome, to friends or strangers who may happen to cross the threshold of her comfortable home. Ten children complete the family circle, seven of whom were born in Illinois, all of whom are now at home with their parents, namely: William, Alexander, Louisa Jane, Mary B., Nancy A., Emma L., Amanda, Salina (deceased), Jacob and Orville.

Mr. Craig farmed for several years in McLean County, Ill., and did not take up his residence in Nebraska until November, 1880. Soon after coming here he purchased a farm of 120 acres on section 28, Nemaha Precinct, which he still retains, and in March, 1881, he bought another forty acres on section 33, increasing the acreage of his farm to 160 acres. He and his wife are devoted members of the United Brethren Church. Mr. Craig has been school officer, and is always glad to do anything to promote the welfare of the precinct where he has come to make his home. Socially, he is a member of the G. A. R. In politics, he is a strong advocate of the Prohibition movement, although he was formerly a Republican, and cast his first vote for John C. Fremont.



FREDERICK A. KORSMEYER, steam-fitter and plumber, has one of the best conducted establishments of its kind in the city of Lincoln, and holds a leading position among its business men. He has a thorough understanding of the details of his calling, is prompt and reliable, thoroughly upright and honorable in his business transactions, and a man who is deservedly prosperous. He is a native of the Province of Prussia, Germany, and is doing a prosperous business.



REV. JOHN CHAPMAN. One of the prettiest rides the tourist in England can take, and one from which he will feel rested instead of fatigued, is that from London to Dover. The route is a matter of choice between that of the London, Chatham & Dover Railway on the one hand, or the Southeastern Railway on the other. Perhaps for some reasons the latter might be preferred. The traveler having snugly ensconced himself in the corner of the compartment of the railway carriage, and once got through the city with its apparently endless roofs, chimneys and smoke-clouds, does finally reach the open country; then begins a most beautiful panorama, as seen through the carriage window. A long succession of flower, vegetable and market gardens, richly-laden apple

orchards, enticingly pretty farmhouse covered over with jessamine, roses, honeysuckle or some such vine, with its smooth lawn, flower-beds and well-trimmed hedgerow, long, cool, shady lanes, with primrose and other wild flowers growing in profusion on either bank, which is surmounted by the field hedge, anon passing through long rows of hop poles with the vines at their most perfect stage, and thus on, until after about three hours our train rolls into the depot upon the white chalk cliffs of Dover.

In the above beautiful county of Kent, England, was born on the 9th of February, 1834, the subject of this sketch, who is the son of John and Eliza Chapman, natives of the same place. He is the eldest son of four children, and received his education in the parish school, where he developed a large aptitude for scholarly exercises, and was not long in proving that he was a born student. Being early impressed with the truth of things religious, he offered himself for the ministry and began a course of study to fit him for the same. Until he had arrived at man's estate he continued to make his home in Kent, but in 1858 he took passage on a sailing-vessel at Liverpool, and upon the 3d day of July of that year he bade farewell to the shores of his native country, and landed just one month later in New York. He did not immediately resume ministerial labor, but secured employment as salesman in the dry-goods house of A. T. Stewart & Co., and there remained for sixteen months. He then went to Porter County, Ind., and engaged in farming, renting about 500 acres for a period of eight years, and then, in 1868, came to Nebraska, and settled upon his present farm in this county. He entered eighty acres of land as a homestead claim from the Government, and settled upon it before a sod had been disturbed or a furrow turned, and as the result of continuous and hard work he had shortly the satisfaction of seeing a really good farm, which has proved even more than usually productive.

During his residence in New York City our subject had continued his ministerial studies, and received license from the regularly constituted offices of the strict Baptist Church, and engaged more or less in ministerial labors. As soon as he removed to Ne-

braska he became one of the State pioneer preachers, and was appointed by the Baptist Church to advance the cause as far as possible. It was not long before he had organized a church at Cheney, another at Jamaica, and also at Emerald, Lancaster County. Our subject was the first to preach the Gospel in Highland Precinct in Gage County, and to lay the foundation of the church at Cortland. He was deeply interested in Sunday-school work, and has organized a large number of Sunday-schools in various parts of Lancaster and Gage Counties, superintending and overseeing their work whenever there was no one else able to do so. Throughout this and adjoining counties he labored arduously as a home missionary, and was more than usually successful. No one can appreciate what is meant by that phrase who has not had some intimate acquaintance with the position; the long, toilsome, weary journeying from place to place, to conduct a service, visit some sick person or administer consolation to the dying, traveling often many miles in the full glare of the blazing sun, or the terrific force of the wind and pitiless beating of the rain or blinding snow over the shadowless and shelterless prairie. Mr. Chapman was also the originator of the first frame school-house erected in the county, upon which he worked with his own hands. This house is situated in District No. 15 of Center-ville Precinct, and is still in use.

Our subject has been twice married; the first time was in England, May 28, 1858, when he was united to Mary A. Lane, of London, by whom he became the parent of two children: The elder, Emma, died when about twenty years of age, having previously been married to G. H. Ritter, and was the mother of one child whom our subject has reared as his own; John E. is at present a resident of Kansas. His first wife died in Indiana, in the month of October, 1861. Two years later he entered into a second alliance, and was married to Mrs. Melvina Ritter, relict of John Ritter, of Porter County, Ind., who was the mother of four children; they reside in Nebraska and are in good circumstances. By this union the family circle has increased and included six children, of whom three are now living, who are named respectively: William H., Matilda Arminta and Alfred T. Mr.

Chapman is a typical and representative pioneer, and has seen the county develop from the wild, untamed beauty of its original state to that of one of the most fertile, best cultivated, prosperous and well-settled counties of the Union. His own farm is a standing compliment to the energy, intelligence and labor of the owner. He enjoys the most perfect confidence and esteem of all who know him, and he is by a large number beloved on account of his ministerial labor, which has resulted to their good. For a number of years he has served as School Director and such offices. In politics he is independent, and votes rather for the best man to serve the real interests of the people than whether he is a member of this, that, or the other party.



SAMUEL S. GRIFFIN. We cannot in a brief sketch rehearse the daring deeds of the brave men who have survived the war, their loyal sacrifices and heroic achievements. Could they be told they would speak of early reverses, sad disappointments, gloomy forebodings for the future, of sickness in camp and hospital, of fearful marches through deadly ambuscades, of labor in trenches and dreary and enforced idleness in camp, of escapes, of wounds, of imprisonment in foul dens, of all the horrors of war and perhaps of death. But they would speak too of privations willingly endured, dangers voluntarily incurred, ceaseless labor gladly undergone, risks daringly assumed, of dashing assaults, of well-contested fields, of the enemy's retreat and of countless victories. They would speak of disaster, but also of success; of doubt, and yet of hope; of transient defeat, but still final and enduring victory. Too much cannot be said of the patriotism of those noble warriors, and it is left to their children and their children's children to perpetuate their fame and worth, and keep always in loving remembrance the brave deeds of those who have gone before. To such honorable mention and remembrance as we have briefly stated are the ancestors of the subject of this sketch entitled.

Samuel S. Griffin is one of the enterprising farmers and stock-raisers of Centerville Precinct, residing on section 4. He is a native of De'aware County,

Iowa, and was born on the 8th of September, 1850. He is a son of Edwin and Harriet Griffin, his father a native of New York State, and his mother supposed to have been a native of Illinois. The latter is deceased. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Samuel Lewis, was a brave soldier at the time of the War of 1812, in which war he participated. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Sylvester Griffin, was a soldier in the war with Mexico, and having survived that war he participated also in the late civil troubles in which our country was involved. On the battle-field of Shiloh he received a wound which was the cause of his death not long afterward. To such brave men as those who offered their lives on the battle-field, or gave them shortly afterward as a result of injuries received, is our country indebted for the peace and prosperity which she is now enjoying. Let the memories of such soldiers be ever kept sacred.

The father of our subject, Edwin Griffin, was also a soldier of the Mexican War, in which he fought side by side with his father. He had a family of thirteen children, of whom eleven survive, their names being: Samuel S., Allen, Rosella (wife of Frederick Norris), Lewis, Ira, Zotis, David, Edwin, George, Asel and Frank. Our subject was reared in Iowa until the year 1865, when with his parents he removed to Nodaway County, Mo., where he remained until 1869; then coming to Lancaster County in 1870, he took up a homestead of eighty acres of Government land which he still owns. By subsequent purchase he has added to the first amount until now he is the owner of 400 acres of good land.

When our subject came to this county he was comparatively without means, and after taking up the homestead he did his first breaking and plowed his first corn with oxen with a breaking-plow. By good management and industry, and close attention to business, his property has accumulated until now he is in very comfortable circumstances, surrounded with all the necessaries and many of the luxuries of a rural home. The key to his success lies in the fact that he devoted himself assiduously to his labors, and with thoughtful care he planned for the future development and improvement of his farm and possessions. He has given considerable attention to stock-raising, making a specialty of the finest

breed of Short-horn cattle and fine Poland-China hogs.

On the 2d of September, 1869, our subject was married to Mary E. Walker, who was born March 11, 1848, and is a daughter of John S. Walker, of Hayes County, Neb. The latter was born Dec. 27, 1820, in Huntingdon, Pa., and his wife, Margaret A., was born Nov. 19, 1827, in LaRue County, Ky. Mr. and Mrs. Griffin are the parents of five children: John E. was born July 11, 1870; Samuel H., Sept. 20, 1873; Frederick E., born Oct. 12, 1875; William (deceased), born Jan. 12, 1880; and Emma M., born Sept. 14, 1883. Mr. Griffin has always taken an active interest in the cause of education and public matters in general, having served as Constable and Justice of the Peace and in other offices of his school district. He is an ardent Republican and has firm faith in the policy of that party. By his daily life and his strict integrity in business matters and his genial social qualities, he has raised himself to a position in which he receives the highest esteem and respect of his fellowmen, all of which he is quite deserving of.



WILLIAM F. EWERTH. There is one circumstance which is sure to be noted by every person who has been brought up in the older cities of the East, or who comes from one of the old countries, and for the first time takes a journey into our great Western country. It is a fact that in any and every public assembly in the West, the absence of old men is a most conspicuous feature. The traveler is surprised upon being introduced to the senior partner of some wholesale business firm, the head man of a large mercantile house, with whom he has, perhaps, had correspondence, or the President of some banking house or extensive corporation, to find presented a young man, in appearance often a mere youth, but over whose head perhaps some twenty-five to thirty-eight years have passed. Were it wise and in the limits of this sketch, instances might be multiplied, illustrating and establishing the above. The same thing is true of many of our successful farmers and

stock-raisers, among which number might be named our subject.

Mr. Ewerth was born in the Province of Pommern, Germany, Jan. 30, 1853. His early years of childhood and youth were spent in his native Province, and were filled with the usual incidents common to the youth of the country. It is the simple story of infancy and childish days, developing into those of the schoolboy, with his round of tasks and lessons. When our subject was about fourteen years of age his parents decided to emigrate to America. Accordingly we find them severing themselves from old associations and friends, leaving the home which had sheltered them for so many years, saying the last farewell to old familiar scenes and surroundings, and taking their journey to the land of which they had heard so many brilliant descriptions and glowing accounts. They landed in New York City and found themselves in the midst of a babel of strange sounds, a confusion of strange sights, and endless multitude of strange faces. Becoming more accustomed to these scenes, by the advice of friends they started for and presently arrived at Burlington, Walworth Co., Wis. Under the new condition of things they made a fresh start in life, which has proved abundantly successful. They continued to make that their residence until the fall of 1879, with the exception of one year spent in Illinois.

Upon leaving Wisconsin Mr. Ewerth went to Nebraska, and upon prospecting decided to take land in Lancaster County, and from that time continued a resident of Stockton Precinct. The farm, which is situated on section 1, comprises 120 acres of land in splendid condition, and of fine quality, upon which our subject has expended his best thoughts and efforts, and is being repaid by the increasing value of his property. He has effected many important improvements from time to time, as the occasion and his capital would allow. He is well provided with the necessary machinery and implements, farm buildings and stabling, in addition to his residence.

February 15, 1882, Miss Ellen Stieber, a young lady of good presence, address, culture and education, united her life and interests with those of our subject. Since that time their happy home has

been more radiant and glad by the addition to the family of three beautiful children, by name: William L., Arthur G. and Eda L. Mrs. Ewerth was born in Wisconsin, and is the daughter of George and Anna (Kimple) Stieber, who were natives of Germany. This lady came to Lancaster with her parents about the year 1877, from which time there has been no inducement sufficiently strong to lead her to change her residence.

In the German Lutheran Church our subject, with his wife and family, finds congenial religious associations, and is among its most exemplary and esteemed members. In civic affairs our subject is not prominent, but is, nevertheless, an intelligent and honorable adherent to the Republican party, and gives to its candidates his hearty support. As a farmer, although comparatively a young man, our subject is prosperous, and as a citizen and man is held in high regard by his fellowmen.



CORPORAL JEREMIAH C. HARTZ is a fine representative of the hardy, resolute pioneers of Lancaster County, who, coming here in the early days of its settlement with little or no means, bravely faced all the trials incident to those days, in the shape of prairie fires, grasshopper raids, drouths, etc., and have come out triumphantly the owners of fine farms, and are now numbered among the most substantial citizens of the county. Our subject is busily engaged in agricultural pursuits on his farm on sections 10 and 3, Saltillo Precinct. He is a son of Conrad and Elizabeth (McMillen) Hartz, natives of Pennsylvania. They moved to Wood County, Ohio, in 1853, and there the mother died in 1865, at the age of forty-eight years. The father continued to reside in that State until 1868, when he removed to Michigan, and made his home in that State until his death, in 1881, at the age of sixty-seven years. For further parental history see sketch of William Hartz.

The subject of this biographical notice was the eldest of the five sons and six daughters born to his parents, and the date of his birth, which took place near Reading, Pa., was Sept. 30, 1838. His educa-

tional facilities were limited, and when he went with his parents to live in Ohio he was harnessed to hard work, such as cutting down trees, grubbing stumps, breaking land, and other labors involved in clearing a farm from the wilderness and preparing the land for culture. He remained an inmate of his father's home until the war broke out in 1861, when he enlisted in Company A, 49th Ohio Infantry, and hastened forth in the pride and strength of his young manhood to do or to die for his country. His brother John, who enlisted at the same time, in the 10th Ohio Cavalry, was carried a prisoner by the rebels to Libby Prison, and thence was taken to Annapolis, where he died in the hospital. Our subject bore an honorable part among the brave defenders who saved our Union from destruction, as is denoted by his title, which was conferred upon him for gallant and meritorious conduct on the field of battle. He took an active part in the battles of Shiloh and Stone River, and in the latter engagement was badly wounded in the left arm and the left leg, and was unable to get off the field. He was finally taken to the hospital and was exchanged. He joined his regiment again at Chattanooga, and as he had not fully recovered from the effects of his wounds, the officers, who knew him well and had watched his career as a soldier with satisfaction, favored him by putting him on detail duty. While at San Antonio, Tex., his good conduct gained him the well-deserved promotion to the rank of Corporal, in which capacity he served until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged at Gonzales, Tex. After the war Mr. Hartz spent one year in his old home in Wood County, Ohio, and then came to Nebraska. Thus he has witnessed its growth from a sparsely inhabited Territory, struggling for existence, to a powerful and wealthy State, and he may well take pride in the fact that he has assisted the enterprising men who have been instrumental in bringing about this wonderful change. Immediately after coming here our subject pre-empted land in Saltillo Precinct, not having sufficient money to take it up under the Homestead Act. His farm now comprises 160 acres under excellent tillage, eighty of which he bought from the railway company at \$10 an acre. It is well watered, and is finely adapted to raising

grain or any other product that is common to the climate and soil. He has a young orchard of 100 choice fruit trees, and a fine strawberry bed. His dwelling and farm buildings are commodious and well arranged, comparing favorably with any others in the precinct.

In 1880 Mr. Hartz was united in marriage to Miss Laura Vesperman, thus securing for himself a pleasant companion, who is devoted to his interests, and to whom he is devoted in return. Two children, Louis Franklin and Ervin Everitt, complete the household in their comfortable, attractive home.

Mrs. Hartz is a true Christian and a valued member of the German Presbyterian Church, at Hickman. She was born near Platteville, Wis., and was educated in the public schools, besides receiving in her home the careful training that makes her an admirable housewife. Mr. Hartz is to-day as true a citizen and is as warmly interested in his country's welfare as when he risked his life in her defense, and he is as staunch a Republican as when he fought to sustain the principles of that party.



REV. DAVID G. COUSER. The spring of 1886 first found our subject upon the soil of Nebraska, he coming directly to this county from Marshall County, Kan., and settling on his present farm on section 26 of Yankee Hill Precinct. He owns eighty acres of good land, which is in a highly productive condition, and is pursuing the even tenor of his way as an honest man and a good citizen, attending mainly to his own concerns, but doing a good turn to his neighbors as he has opportunity. A community of such men as he is what gives stability to society and keeps in existence those elements which maintain the world in its march of progress and enlightenment.

The early tramping ground of our subject was in Adams County, Ohio, where he first opened his eyes to the light Feb. 22, 1853. Thomas Couser, his father, was born in Arnagh County, Ireland, in 1811, and emigrated to the United States a single man, when about twenty-five years old. He settled

in Ohio and married one of the most estimable young ladies of Adams County, Miss Rachel O. Burns, who was born there and was of American parentage. The father engaged in farming, and they continued to live in the Buckeye State, becoming the parents of eleven children, ten of whom are living: William and Sarah (the wife of Thomas McLellan) continue residents of Adams County; James B. is farming in Story County, Iowa; Mary E. is the wife of Ira Thomas, of Adams County, that State; Samuel W. served as a soldier in the Union army during the late war, and dying in Tennessee, now fills a soldier's grave near the battle-field of Stone River; John T. resides in Shelby County, Iowa; David G., our subject, is the next in order of birth; Susan E., the wife of Quinter Calvert, and Margaret R., the widow Burns, continue residents of Adams County, together with Nancy, Mrs. Frank Barrackman, and Joseph A. The parents are also still living in Adams County, Ohio, occupying the old homestead which the father purchased years ago. The latter also served three years in the late war, together with two brothers of our subject.

Mr. Couser spent his boyhood and youth on the farm of his father in the Buckeye State, where he attended the common schools and occupied himself at farming a number of years after reaching his majority. He had always been of a serious and thoughtful turn of mind, and in 1881 entered the Dunkard Theological School, at Mt. Morris, Ill., with the view of preparing himself for the ministry. Being fond of farming pursuits, however, he has not confined his attention entirely to his study, although laboring in the Master's vineyard when his services seem to be in demand. He was married, on the 30th of September, 1880, to Miss Josephine Yarger, who was born in Stephenson County, Ill., Feb. 29, 1852. Her parents, William and Mary Yarger, were natives of Pennsylvania, the father a farmer by occupation. He passed from earth April 2, 1880. The mother is still living, and a resident of Marshall County, Kan. Their family consisted of eleven children, ten living, namely: Mary, Sarah, Phebe, John, Calvin, William, David, Josephine, George and Angie. The family is of German descent, and identified with the Dunkard Church.

To our subject and his estimable wife there have

been born two children: Bessie P., Oct. 6, 1881, and Mary J., April 17, 1887. In the spring of 1886 Mr. Couser came from Kansas to this county, settling on his present farm. He has always taken a warm interest in the temperance movement, and votes with the Prohibition party.

FRANK DAUWALTER. Few young men of age parallel with our subject have achieved more under the same opportunities than he, and his farm, which is situated on section 7, Denton Precinct, would be exceedingly creditable in every regard to men of riper years and larger experience. He was born in Freedom, LaSalle Co., Ill., March 22, 1862, into the family of Christian and Christiana Dauwalter, who were natives of Germany. It was at an early day in the development of LaSalle County that the parents of our subject came to this country and settled there. His father was successful as a pioneer for several years, but was removed from his family by death when our subject was three years of age. This is one of the many families that will always bear a scar left by the bullets of the late war. The father of our subject took his place in the ranks when the call was made for men, and after an honorable service laid down his life in defense of the Union.

Until a few years ago the mother of our subject struggled on for herself and family in an endeavor to retain and improve the home farm. She was removed by death April 18, 1880. Her family consisted of five children, four of whom are living: Conrad, a farmer in Lancaster County; Lizzie, the wife of A. Jacobson, of LaSalle County, Ill.; Louisa, now Mrs. S. Rapp, of Denton Precinct, and Frank, our subject. Until the death of his mother our subject remained with her upon the home farm, and was, therefore, reared to manhood in his native State. His education was very limited so far as the schools were concerned, and was confined to the more elementary branches as presented in the district schools of his native county.

The most healthful and inspiring government under which it is possible to live is that with which we are blessed in America, because it holds

out to every citizen a possibility of doing and being something worthy of free manhood. He is inspired to be an honorable citizen, to make and own a home, and perpetuate the government, and the public under which such condition is a possibility. Every true citizen, therefore, sooner or later, has serious thoughts to this end, and whenever, in order to the same two hearts are united in one and a new household formed, it is an event of more than mere private importance. The union may mean that vast national issues will meet their solution from some child born of the same. Our subject was not different to others in this regard, and has blessed his own life and others by taking as his wife a lady worthy in every way and most capable. He was married, on the 18th of August, 1883, to Anne Rieth, an Illinoisian. Two children have been born to them, who survive, Dolly and Cora, besides Wesley, who is deceased.

Our subject left Illinois March 5, 1884, and took up his present farm in the fall of the same year and settled upon it. From that time he has continued his residence without intermission. His farm comprises a quarter-section of excellent land, and this his industry, experience and continued endeavor, have made one of the best and most profitable farms in the vicinity.

Mr. Dauwalter is now serving as Road Overseer with much satisfaction. Politically, he is a warm adherent of the Republican party, and patriotically interested in the current questions of governmental and civic import. His opportunities in life, whether educationally or otherwise, have been exceedingly limited, and all the more honor is due him because he has achieved so great success in the various departments of life which demand in the community the most respectful regard.

LESLIE G. IVERS. The homestead of the subject of this sketch, which is pleasantly located on section 32 in Mill Precinct, comprises 320 acres of good land and a fine set of frame buildings, where he has carried on farming successfully since the spring of 1877. He possesses all the elements of a thorough agriculturist and a

good citizen, a man who is wide awake, energetic and industrious, and who has surrounded himself and his family with all the comforts of life. Adjacent to the dwelling is a fine orchard of apple trees, while a choice assortment of smaller fruits and shade trees of choice varieties, add to the attractiveness of the premises. In passing through a section of country it is easy to determine who is the intelligent and cultured citizen, and of this class the indications are that Mr. Ivers is one of the leading men in his community.

Our subject is a native of Jasper County, Ind., his birth taking place at the modest homestead of his parents, July 25, 1855. He is thus comparatively a young man, in the midst of his strength and usefulness. He became familiar with farming pursuits during his boyhood and acquired a practical, common-school education. His parents left Indiana about 1860, and crossing the Mississippi located in Mills County, Iowa, on a large tract of land near the now flourishing town of Glenwood, and Leslie G. remained with them until nearly reaching his majority. He was a bright and ambitious youth and now, desirous of starting out for himself, left home, and coming to this State purchased 320 acres of wild prairie land, which he has since owned and occupied and transformed into one of the most valuable estates of this section. He makes a specialty of stock-raising, breeding and dealing largely in Hereford cattle, horses and mules. He was one of the first men to bring the Hereford cattle to this part of the country, and exhibits some of the finest animals to be found in Southeastern Nebraska. He keeps himself well posted upon the best methods of modern agriculture, and takes genuine pride in producing the finest results, both as regards his cattle operations and the products of the soil.

The amiable and estimable wife of our subject, to whom he was married Feb. 13, 1875, at her home in Mills County, Iowa, was formerly Miss Hattie, daughter of Thomas W. and Adeline (Burgger) Bomar. Her parents were natives of Kentucky and Missouri, and are residents of Mills County, Iowa, where the father is carrying on farming extensively and is a man of property. Mrs. Ivers was born in Mills County, Iowa, Nov. 29, 1856, acquired a fair

education in the common schools, and was trained by an excellent mother in those housewifely duties a knowledge of which has such an important bearing upon the happiness of a home.

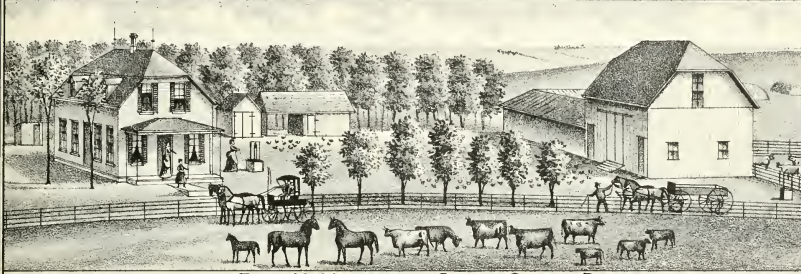
To Mr. and Mrs. Ivers there have been born six interesting children, four sons and two daughters, namely: Charlie, Jessie, John, Chester, Bessie and an infant son, unnamed. Mr. and Mrs. I. are members and attendants of the Christian Church at Waverly, and our subject, although mostly engrossed with his farming interests and having little time to devote to politics, is a staunch supporter of Republican principles.



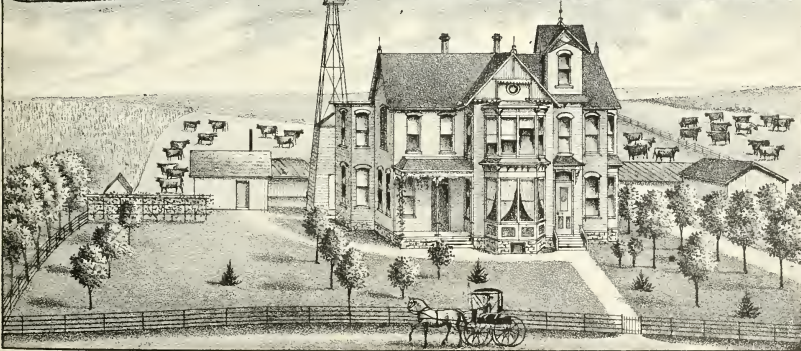
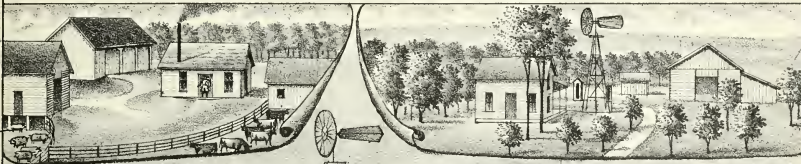
THOMAS M. MORPHET, one of the self-made men of Lancaster County, owns and occupies 320 acres of its choicest land, where he is carrying on agriculture successfully, and has attained to an enviable position among his fellow-citizens. He commenced life dependent upon his own resources, and illustrates the result of industry and perseverance in a marked degree. He came to this section of country in the spring of 1873, purchasing first 120 acres on section 4, in Grant Precinct, where he settled, and began the improvements which reflect so much credit upon his resolute and determined labors. He added by degrees to his real estate, being uniformly successful in his business and farming operations, and has built up one of the finest homesteads in the eastern part of Lancaster County.

The subject of this biography, a native of Yorkshire, England, is of pure English ancestry, his father, Richard Morphet, having been also a native of Yorkshire, and the mother a native of Westmoreland, England. The latter was, before her marriage, Miss Sarah Gibson. The parents, after their union, settled in Yorkshire, where occurred the birth of their nine children, and where they spent the remainder of their lives. Thomas M. first opened his eyes to the light Feb. 24, 1836, and continued upon his native soil until a young man twenty years of age, then, crossing the Atlantic, he made his way

Plot of
Farm
W 1/4
Sec. 4.



RESIDENCE OF THOS. M. MORPHET, SEC. 4. GRANT PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF C. C. HOTCHKISS, SEC. 5. OAK PRECINCT.

westward to Indiana, settling first near Logansport, in Cass County. He was variously employed for a number of years, in the meantime saving what he could of his earnings, and about 1862 purchased a farm in Cass County, where he carried on agriculture until the spring of 1873, and then, crossing the Mississippi, cast his lot among the people of this county.

Our subject in the meantime, and while a resident of Cass County, Ind., was married to Miss Martha L. Dill, who was born in Tippecanoe County, that State, June 30, 1842, and who is the daughter of William H. and Mary E. Dill, natives of Ohio, and who are now in Thayer County, Neb. Mr. Morphet, upon coming to this county, settled upon a tract of new land, and in common with the enterprising men around him, set himself industriously to work to bring the soil to a productive condition, and with this end in view he labored incessantly a number of years, giving himself little recreation. He is now in circumstances which permit him to rest upon his oars and enjoy the fruit of his labors. In addition to the cereals he gives considerable attention to stock-raising, and is able to exhibit some of the choicest animals in this part of the county. His buildings are substantial and convenient, and everything about the premises indicates the solid and well-to-do citizen. He possesses the requisite amount of self-respect, and stands well in the opinion of his neighbors.

To our subject and his estimable wife there have been born seven children, all of whom are living, and with the exception of their eldest daughter, continue at home with their parents. This child, Margaret A., is now the wife of Clinton Currey, of Thayer County, this State. The others are named respectively: Mary E., Sophronia A., Sarah D., Hannah, Eda and Lena. Mr. and Mrs. Morphet and their two eldest daughters are members in good standing of the Christian Church, at Lincoln. Mr. M., who keeps himself well posted upon current events, uniformly votes the Republican ticket. He has been School Director in his district for a period of nine years, and Road Supervisor two years. It is quite proper that his homestead should have a place among the illustrations in this volume, and it gives us pleasure to present it herewith.

CONSTANT C. HOTCHKISS. Among the names of men in this county who stand prominently before the community as prosperous farmers and stock-raisers, is that of our subject, who is the owner of 240 acres of beautifully situated and most fertile land, and which comprises part of section 5, Oak Precinct.

William Hotchkiss, father of the above, was born in Washington County, N. Y., Dec. 13, 1795, where he was reared and obtained his education at the common schools, after which he spent several years as a teacher. He was married to Hannah Maynard, of the same county. They were privileged to receive and bring to maturity four children—Malina, Elvina, Constant C. (our subject) and Horace.

After his marriage William Hotchkiss purchased a farm in his native county, and continued until 1856 to work the same, being quite prosperous. His education and manly character were such as to commend him to his fellow-citizens, and he was, we might say, always in some office, as Supervisor or Justice of the Peace, and what was called at that time Sub-Judge. In 1856, with his family, he went to Grundy County, Ill., where he purchased a farm, but took up his residence in town, living retired from active labor. He was one of the strong temperance men of early days, held very decided views on the subject, and expressed himself strongly. The religious home of the family was in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and they were found among its strongest supporters. Mr. Hotchkiss died in Illinois, in 1875, at the ripe age of seventy-four years.

Mrs. Hannah (Maynard) Hotchkiss, wife of the above, was the daughter of Rufus and Lola Maynard. She was born and brought up in Washington County, N. Y., and continued to live with her parents until her marriage. She became the mother of four children, and died while still a young woman. Our subject, Constant, was born in Hampton, Washington Co., N. Y., on the 9th of September, 1822, passed through the usual experiences of childhood and boyhood, received the education obtainable in the common schools, and afterward learned the trade of a molder, at which he worked for several years, only leaving it to take up what became the occupation of his later life—farming.

The marriage of our subject was celebrated on the

14th of March, 1849, when he became the husband of Clarissa Frost, of the same county. The young couple began housekeeping in their native place. Eight children came to brighten their home, and were named respectively: Charles, Edgar, Constant, Jr., Frederick, Clarence, Clara, Hetta and Bernice, all of whom are living. In 1856 our subject removed with his family to Wauponsee, Grundy Co., Ill. Here a farm was purchased and a home made, and with the exception of the two eldest children, all his little ones were born here. In 1881 another removal was made, the family migrated farther west, and after one year of residence in Atlantic, Cass Co., Iowa, in order that his children might receive the great advantages to be derived from the very excellent and unusually fine schools in that place, he came on to this place. He moved into his present house as soon as it was erected, in the meanwhile making his home in Raymond.

The farm of our subject is in an almost perfect state of cultivation, and the barns and other buildings requisite for farm and stock-raising purposes are unusually good. We must not pass from this without special reference to his residence, which possesses considerable merit from an architectural and artistic standpoint. Whether viewed from the exterior or inspected within there is much to commend. It is an elegant, we had almost said ideal, country house, commodious, convenient and beautiful, designed, both as regards its architecture and its internal decoration, by professional artists. In addition to this Mr. Hotchkiss has also another very fine house upon eighty acres of land south of Raymond.

Charles Hotchkiss, the eldest son of our subject, was united in marriage with Miss Abbie Hull, of Grundy County, Ill., Feb. 5, 1885, and they occupy part of the above described home. The second son, Edgar, is the husband of Vena Robinson, of Grundy County, Ill.; they reside just west of Raymond, and are the parents of two daughters. Frederick married Miss Sarah Morgan, and they make their home upon the property south of Raymond; Clara became the wife of Morton Ragan, who is the son of Mr. Ragan, of the Raymond Bank, and resides at Plum Creek; they are the parents of one child, a son.

Mrs. Clarissa (Frost) Hotchkiss, the wife of our

subject, is the daughter of Stephen Frost, and was born Jan. 16, 1831, in Dorset, Vt. In due time she took her place in the common schools, and afterward was engaged as a teacher, making her home with her mother until her marriage. She had met with the misfortune which deprived her of a father's support and protection, and with her bereaved mother had removed to Washington County, N. Y., at which place she met our subject. Both herself and husband are enabled greatly to enjoy the success which has attended their path in life, and which is so plainly visible in their surroundings.

In the Congregational Church Mr. Hotchkiss, his wife and family, find that which is congenial and helpful religiously, and in that communion are most highly esteemed. Mr. Hotchkiss has always been and still remains a very strong member of the Republican party, and an open advocate of its principles. He commands, with his family, sentiments of the highest respect, both on account of his interest in the advancement and progress of the community, and the high character sustained in all the relations of life. Among the pictured homesteads of Lancaster County found in this volume, that of our subject will be regarded with lively interest by hosts of friends.



CASPER MARTIN. Although he came to Nebraska at a comparatively recent date, Mr. Martin has built up a beautiful home, and has become a conspicuous member of the farming community of Lancaster County. A representative of the sturdy sons of Prussia, who have helped so materially in developing the resources of our country, yet as his life has been mostly passed in the United States, with the exception of the first years of his existence, he may be said to be thoroughly Americanized, and in full sympathy with the institutions of the country. He is actively carrying on general farming on his farm, which is pleasantly located on sections 21 and 28, Saltillo Precinct, and is considered one of the best managed farms in the neighborhood.

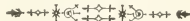
Louis and Anna Elizabeth (Warner) Martin, parents of our subject, were born, reared and mar-

ried in Germany, where the father was a farmer in comfortable circumstances. In 1846 he emigrated with his family to this country, and settled amid the beautiful scenery of Alleghany County, Md., his home being on the Mason and Dixon Line. He was a Union man, however, and preferring to live in a State where Union sentiments prevailed, he moved North, and located in Pennsylvania. His death occurred in that State in 1859, at the age of fifty-three years. He was thoroughly respected by all who knew him, for the sincerity, earnestness and sound judgment that characterized his convictions, and for his liberality and rare intelligence. His wife, who was in every way worthy of such a husband, survived him some years, dying in May, 1873, at the age of seventy-five. They were the parents of five children, whom they brought up to follow in their footsteps, so making them valued members of society. Their names are: Margaret, Casper, Elizabeth, John and Catherine.

Casper Martin was born Aug. 4, 1836, in Prussia, Germany, and in the fine schools of his native land he received the foundation of an excellent education. He was a boy nine years old when he accompanied his parents, brother and sisters to America, first setting foot on its soil at Baltimore. His educational advantages were somewhat limited in his new home, but he attended school as opportunity offered. He was very early set to work, and at the youthful age of eleven years he left the parental roof and went to work elsewhere, receiving in payment his board, clothes and \$40 a year. He worked in that way for the same employer for several years, continuing as a laborer until he was twenty-one. In 1857 he married one of his schoolmates, Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Andrew and Matilda Deahl. (For parental history see sketch of her brother, George Deahl.) Mrs. Martin was born in 1837, in Alleghany County, Md., and there grew to womanhood. Being a woman of much character, sense and ability, she has been a true helpmate to her husband, and has in many ways lightened the burdens of life for him. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Martin went to Somerset County, Pa., and continued to reside there on a farm until 1864, his parents having taken up their home with him. He did fairly well there, but decided to move to Macoupin

County, Ill., where he bought a farm with his brother John, and they conducted it together with good results for several years. In the winter of 1879-80 Mr. Martin visited Nebraska, and being well pleased with the country, persuaded his brother to move out here. Accordingly, in the spring of 1880, they both came with their families, and our subject purchased 120 acres of wild prairie land, which he has since transformed into a fine farm, with many valuable improvements, such as a handsome residence, surrounded by beautiful grounds, with many shade and ornamental trees, fine groves and orchards, comprising 130 apple trees, mulberries, cherries and plums; choice grapes and other fruits are also grown on the farm.

Mr. Martin is a man of unusual intelligence, is well read, and can converse with interest on all topics that are under general discussion. Like his brother John, he is a great society man, and is prominently identified with several social organizations. He is a Mason, a member of Lincoln Lodge No. 19. While in Illinois he was Master of Shipman Masonic Lodge for five years, and was delegate to the Grand Lodge of Illinois, at Chicago, for five years consecutively, from 1875 to and including 1879. Mr. Martin is a member of the lodge of the Knights of Pythias, of Hickman, and belongs to the Knights of Honor, Shipman Lodge No. 126, Shipman, Ill. In his political views he is a decided Democrat. Mrs. Martin is an active worker in the Lutheran Church at Roca, of which she is an esteemed member.



JOHAN C. McCARGAR. Although our subject has been a resident of Lincoln but little more than a year, he has already established himself firmly in his business as a grocer, at No. 333 North Ninth street, and is recognized in mercantile circles as an important factor of the commercial interests of the capital. Our subject was born June 29, 1848, in Eaton County, Mich., and is a son of John W. McCargar, a native of Cayuga County, N. Y., who is well known in Southern Michigan as an early pioneer of Eaton County, where he still resides in the fine home that he has

built up in the township of Roxana, of which he is one of the wealthiest citizens, and the owner of large landed property.

William McCargar, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of Eastern New York, and a son of Thomas McCargar, who was born in the North of Ireland, of Scotch ancestry, and who came to America during the Revolutionary War, and served as a soldier in Burgoyne's army. He was captured by the Yankees, and, his sympathies being with them, he foreswore allegiance to all foreign powers, especially to Great Britain, and became an American citizen. He lived in New York for many years, but after his second marriage went to Canada to dwell, and there died. The grandfather of our subject, who was a farmer by occupation, was a pioneer of Cayuga County, and there spent the remainder of his life. The maiden name of his wife was Hannah Whateley, and she was a native of Rhode Island.

The father of our subject was reared in his native State, and lived there until 1837, when, in the strength and vigor of his young manhood, he determined to better his chances of securing independence by seeking to build up for himself a home in the wilds of Michigan, which was then considered to be in the "Far West." He soon put his resolution into effect, and the month of April, 1837, found him in Eaton County, whither he had made his way by lake to Detroit, and thence by a team that he had hired in that city to convey himself and his provisions to his destination. He will probably never forget the experiences of the following weeks, when he entered upon his pioneer life amid the primeval forests of that sparsely inhabited country. Although Michigan had in that year been admitted into the Union as a State, but a few years had elapsed since the first settlement had been made in the southern part, as in the first quarter of the present century the land had been pronounced too swampy and barren for cultivation. It remained for men of intelligence, courage and hardihood like that of Mr. McCargar to entirely disprove that erroneous assertion, and show to the world the wonderful productiveness of the soil underneath those tall old trees that had been rooted in it for centuries. The footsteps of civilization had not yet caused the wild animals, such as deer, bears, wolves, wild turkeys, etc., to disappear, and

many of the Indians still lurked in their old haunts. Our subject bought a tract of heavily timbered land in the township of Roxana, and the first day that he spent on it he cut a large tree, and, having no house, when it came night he wrapped himself in his blanket and lay down beside the trunk of the fallen monarch of the forest to sleep the sound sleep of health. In the morning when he awoke he found himself under six inches of snow. He erected a log cabin on his place, but being a single man at that time he did not then locate there, but at the end of ten weeks went to Ionia and obtained a position as clerk in a store, hiring some of his land cleared in the meantime. He subsequently went to Muskegon as foreman in one of the first sawmills ever erected there. In 1843 Mr. McCargar married Miss Luey Maxson, daughter of Daniel Maxson, a native of New York State, and a pioneer of that part of Genesee County now included in Wyoming County, the birthplace of Mrs. McCargar. He subsequently moved to Jackson County, Mich., where he spent his last years. The maiden name of his wife was Catherine Coons, a native of New York, and of Holland ancestry. Her grandmother was at Schenectady when that city was destroyed by fire by the Indians, in the year 1690. Her ancestry on the Maxson side came from England with Gov. Endicott, and were early settlers of Eastern Massachusetts. After marriage Mr. McCargar settled on his land in Eaton County, and has made his home thereon ever since. He has been wonderfully prospered in all his undertakings, has cleared his land and bought other land, until he owns one of the most valuable farms in the county, comprising 600 acres of very fertile land, the greater part of which is improved and adorned with a fine set of farm buildings.

The subject of this sketch was the fourth child, and the oldest now living, born to his parents. He attended the district school in his boyhood, and later entered Olivet College, in Eaton County, where he obtained a substantial education, well fitting him for the profession of teacher, which he adopted after finishing his course at college. He commenced teaching in his native county at the youthful age of seventeen years. In 1870 he went to Indiana to pursue his profession in Jackson

County, and thence went to Scott County, where he served for one term as County Superintendent of Schools. In 1881 he was proffered the principalship of the school at Loogootee, Martin Co., Ind., which he accepted, and taught there for six years with marked success. Our subject then abandoned teaching, and coming to Lincoln engaged in the commission business, which he continued until August, 1887. He then bought the stock and good-will in the grocery store of which he is the present proprietor. He is prospering in his business, and has already built up a good trade among first-class customers, as he is a man of good financial ability, has good sound judgment, and knows where and how to exercise it.

Mr. McCargar married Miss Abbie Falkenburg, in 1872, and three children have been born to them—Clyde, Lucy and Flora E. Clyde is a very bright and promising scholar, and at thirteen years of age entered the State University. Mrs. McCargar is a devoted member of the Christian Church, and the beauty and consistency of her life are worthy of emulation.

Mr. McCargar occupies an important social position, being a member of Vienna Lodge No. 336, A. F. & A. M.; he belongs to Miller Lodge No. 555, I. O. O. F., and is a member of Scott Lodge No. 59, K. of P. In politics he is a sterling Democrat.



SAMUEL M. MELICK, Sheriff of Lancaster County, has his headquarters in commodious apartments at the jail in the city of Lincoln, and is discharging the duties of his responsible office in a manner which commends him to the people by whom he was elected. Hunterdon County, N. J., was his earliest home, and there his birth took place on the 24th of March, 1850. The parents of our subject, Peter and Jane M. (Miller) Melick, were also natives of New Jersey, and the father, a farmer and surveyor combined, for a period of several years held the office of County Surveyor of Hunterdon County. The maternal great-grandfather, Samuel A. Miller, was born in Germany on the River Rhine, and his son, Samuel Miller, Esq., the grandfather of our subject, was

one of the earliest settlers of New Jersey. Peter Melick with his family left New England about 1859, and took up his residence in Marshall County, Ill., settling on a farm, where he carried on agriculture, and where the wife and mother died in the forty-eighth year of her age.

The parental household included four children, and Samuel M. grew to manhood acquiring a good education, and completing his studies in Marshall College, of which he was a student eighteen months. During a vacation he made a visit to Washington County, Iowa, where he formed the acquaintance of Miss Molly Ogan, and their marriage took place in February, 1866, at the home of the bride in Washington County, Iowa, and while young Melick was still a student of Marshall College. After marriage he returned to his studies until they were completed, and from that time until the spring of 1870 employed himself at farming in Iowa.

Our subject now came to Southern Nebraska, and located a homestead of eighty acres in Rock Creek Precinct. He occupied this a period of nearly ten years, and in January, 1880, was appointed Deputy Sheriff under Grant Ensign, Sheriff, a position which he held four years. In the fall of 1883 he was nominated as the candidate of the Republican party for Sheriff, and elected. Serving his term acceptably, he was re-elected in the fall of 1885, and continued in his third term by the election of 1887, by a majority of 1,995. He still retains possession of his farm property, which forms a pleasant resort from the chaos and turmoil of a busy and go-ahead city.

To our subject and his estimable wife there were born three children—Minnie M., Mary E. and Walter W. Mrs. Molly (Ogan) Melick departed this life at her home in Rock Creek Precinct, June 19, 1880, and our subject on the 1st of December, 1882, contracted a second marriage, with Miss Katie, daughter of Milton Langdon, ex-County Treasurer. This lady was born in Janesville, Wis., and was brought by her parents to this county when a little girl six years of age, where she has since lived. Of this marriage there is one son, Harry Hastings. Mr. Melick is a man brave and fearless in the discharge of his duties, careful and conscientious, aiming to not outstrip his authority, while at the same time

offenders against law and good order have a healthy respect for his keen eye and strong muscles. He is of a social nature, and belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being a member of Lodge No. 54, in Lincoln, and a K. of P. in Central City Lodge No. 68. Peter Melick, the father of our subject, came with him to this county, and died in 1878, in the sixty-sixth year of his age.



LOUIS HELMER, of J street, Lincoln, is a man very widely known. He is a native of Canada, being born in Ontario, Feb. 16, 1840. His father was Andrew Helmer, also born in Ontario, Canada, while his father, the grandfather of our subject, was born in the Mohawk Valley, N. Y., and was the descendant of original Dutch settlers.

The father of our subject was by occupation a farmer; religiously, he affiliated with the Presbyterian Church, and was a prominent member of the local organization for many years. He died April 26, 1878. Louis Helmer was educated in the common schools, and spent his early days on the farm. After a residence of five years in Illinois, he came in 1869 to Lincoln and went to farming; ten years after he returned to Canada, and was united in marriage with Miss Ellen S. Allechin, who was born in the Dominion, March 19, 1849, was liberally educated, and a graduate of the High Schools at Toronto. The marriage was celebrated June 12, 1879, and within one month he had returned, accompanied by his young bride, to the Nebraska home. About five years before his marriage he was elected to the Nebraska Legislature. March 1, 1875, he entered the County Treasurer's office as Deputy, continuing for three years, then was elected County Treasurer on the Republican ticket. Public sentiment expressed its appreciation by subsequent re-election on one occasion.

In January, 1886, our subject entered into the real-estate business, and shortly after, in order to devote his undivided energies to this enterprise, he sold his farm. To-day he possesses a most extensive real-estate connection and successful business. In addition to the offices previously mentioned he

has been connected with the school system, as Director, and has gained the respect of all concerned by the manner in which his duties were performed. For two years he was School Treasurer, served three years as School Director, and Township Assessor for one term, and officiated as Justice of the Peace for two years.

In Masonic circles Mr. Helmer has quite a reputation. He was entered, passed and raised in the year 1867, and within twelve months was elected Worshipful Master of his lodge, thus making, we are free to say, a most unusual record, but this was done under dispensation from the Grand Master of Masons of Ontario. After sitting in the east of this lodge (No. 205, New Hamburg, Ontario) for one year, with much credit to himself and pleasure to the craft, he retired with the highest esteem of his brethren. He is also a worthy companion and member of the Chapter. He is likewise affiliated with the I. O. O. F. fraternity, Lodge No. 38, at Lincoln. His church relations are in the communion of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Helmer is a member of the Episcopal Church. Their only child, Ethel Louise, was born April 3, 1880. Politically, our subject is a staunch, outspoken Prohibitionist.



WILLIAM E. KEYS. Saitillo has many beautiful homes, although the history of Nebraska is but in its early days and the first tier has hardly been placed above the surface line of its foundation, and the beautiful superstructure of its history has yet to be raised until it is completed with dome and spire, tower and minaret, the admiration and surprise of the Republic. Even in this early day its homes compare favorably in the point of architectural beauty, and the embellishments of the interior reveal a refinement, culture and artistic beauty equal to, if not surpassing, many of the bijou residences of older cities. Among those worthy of remark as exceedingly handsome and complete, is that of our subject, which is situated near the village of Rocca.

Our subject is senior member of the firm of Keys & Bullock, wholesale dealers in building stone, at Lincoln, and also is a successful farmer, whose

property is situated on section 17, Saltillo Precinct. The family of which our subject is a member is of Scotch-Irish extraction, and as far back as the Colonial days of the pre-Revolutionary period, it was a name honored by all. When the question came up concerning the independence of the States, the maternal great-grandfather of our subject was one of those who decided that the American eagle would be strong enough to use its own wings and make its own way from the moment it was out of the shell; and therefore took his place in the Revolutionary War, and served most creditably throughout the same.

The parents of our subject were among the early settlers in Ohio, establishing their home near Akron. The name of his father was William M.; that of his mother Hannah F. (Carter) Keys. From Akron his parents removed, in 1847, to Clayton County, Iowa, where his father followed the pursuits of mercantile life until 1868, when they joined our subject at his present home. Mrs. Keys died at the age of seventy years, in the year 1875. His father is still living, and is aged eighty-three years. There have been five children born to their family, and of these two are now living: William E., our subject, and his sister, Mary Louisa, who is now the wife of C. N. Nagle, attorney-at-law at Clarion, Iowa.

Our subject was born Sept. 14, 1840, at Middlebury, Ohio. He began his schooling at that place at the age of five years, and was seven years old when he went to Iowa, attended school at Elkader, and assisted his father in his business. He then entered the university at Fayette of the same State, at the age of sixteen years, and was graduated two years later. In the spring of 1864 he came to Nebraska to settle, having made an extensive trip of exploration the previous year, during his vacation. He purchased 320 acres of land on sections 17 and 20, and immediately set to work to the improvement of the same.

While in Iowa our subject had become acquainted with a young lady whose many amiable qualities and feminine graces were such that as our subject became acquainted with them he was constrained by all that was ardent and ambitiously inspiring to make his own, with the pleasing result that, Dec.

30, 1863, he became the husband of Miss Eleanor G. Brown, a step which they have neither had cause to regret or desire altered. This lady is the daughter of George James Brown, who came from Canada to Iowa. Her parents were both originally from England. Their daughter Eleanor was born Feb. 9, 1839, close to Lake Champlain, in the Province of Quebec, and was between thirteen and fourteen years of age when her parents removed to Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Keys are the happy parents of five children—Anna L., Oscar, Roy, Bernard and Percival. The eldest daughter is married to Mr. Ellis, of Marris, who is agent for the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, at Wahoo, and they are parents of one son, Ralph; Oscar is residing at home, and is a student at the university; Roy is also at home, and with his two brothers is attending school.

When our subject and his wife started to Nebraska it was by the slow and somewhat primitive method of locomotion where the power is furnished by the team, and the most comfortable carriage possible was the same wagon that held their personal and household effects. To older persons this would possibly have been very prosy and tiresome, but the glamour of novelty was cast about it, and relieved the journey of everything that would be dull and suggestive of tedium. Upon arrival they started to keep house, and for some three or four years ran the Ranch House.

In 1874 Mr. Keys opened up a quarry of magnesium limestone, and in company with his partner operated it in connection with a larger quarry. Among the buildings which have been erected from the material supplied by our subject are the State Asylum, Penitentiary, University and Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Keys and partner also operate large quarries in Auburn and Johnson, in Nemaha County, which has furnished stone for the Wesleyan University, at Lincoln, and the Memorial Hall. Their pay-roll averages \$1,500 weekly, a figure which represents about 100 employes. Their business has steadily increased from the first, and their goods are used, not only throughout Nebraska, but in adjoining States and Territories.

Mrs. Keys is a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and one of the most active members of the W. C. T. U., of which organization she

is the Secretary. Her place is naturally among the elite of the city, and in that circle her many rare qualities, accomplishments, winning manner and entertaining power as a conversationalist, mingled with the refinement, intelligence, poetry and grace of womanhood, make her at all times a welcome guest and agreeable hostess.

Our subject has served as County Commissioner for three years, with much satisfaction to his party and fellow-citizens. He is an affiliate of the Republican party, which finds in him a very firm friend and vigorous supporter, a hard worker, firm in his adherence to the party principles, strong in argument and in its defense. We are enjoined to give honor where honor is due, and from whatever standpoint we view the history of our subject and his family, there is nothing but what is worthy of remark upon that line.



HORACE M. ALMY, who has been a resident of this county for the past nine years, resides on section 15, in Mill Precinct, where he settled in 1879. He is now the owner of 1,200 acres of land, where he is successfully carrying on stock-raising and general farming, and in this manner forms no unimportant factor in the agricultural interests of this section.

A native of Rhode Island, our subject was born Sept. 17, 1838, and is the son of John E. and Lavinia (Manchester) Almy, natives of the same State, and of New England ancestry, who crossed the Atlantic during the Colonial days and were intimately connected with the early history of that region. The father of our subject was a farmer by occupation and, with his estimable wife, spent his entire life in his native State, his death taking place in 1872, and that of the mother in 1869.

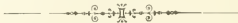
Nine children of John E. and Lavinia Almy lived to attain their majority, but Charles and Mary died when fifty and forty-five years of age respectively. Harriet is the wife of Brownell Snell, and with her sister Emeline, Mrs. Seabury, is a resident of Little Compton, R. I.; Henry died in Little Compton when about fifty years old; Horace M., our subject,

was the sixth child; Diana; Almira and Cornelia are deceased, and four died in infancy unnamed.

Mr. Almy learned farming among the rugged hills of his native State, where he developed into manhood and acquired a good common-school education. When twenty-six years of age he was married, Nov. 17, 1864, to Miss Abbie C., daughter of Benjamin and Lydia (Head) Grinnell, and a native of his own township. Her parents spent their last years in Little Compton, R. I. The father followed agriculture, and passed from earth April 22, 1863. The mother died in July, 1887.

The spring following his marriage our subject and his wife emigrated to Clinton County, Ill., and Mr. A. first purchased 160 acres of land in Meridian Township. To this he added later, and carried on farming until coming to Nebraska. The land which he now owns had been very indifferently cultivated, but under his wise management has become one of the most productive tracts in this region. He put the old buildings in repair and erected new ones, and has now a neat and substantial dwelling, a good barn, and all the other structures required for his comfort and convenience.

To our subject and his wife there have been born five children, all living, namely: Frank F., Flora E., Horace M., Billings G. and John E. Mr. Almy usually votes the Democratic ticket, but will not be bound by party lines. He has served as Assessor and member of the School Board in his district, and for a number of years was actively identified with the Patrons of Husbandry. His possessions are mainly the result of his own industry, as he had very little property at the start.



CHARLES L. LIDOLPH is one of the representative farmers and stock-raisers of Centerville Precinct, residing on section 11. He is a native of Van Buren County, Iowa, and was born on the 28th of December, 1857. He is a son of Charles L. and Minerva Lidolph, his father having been a native of Prussia and his mother a native of the State of Virginia. Sometime in the "forties" the father of our subject emigrated to America, and after spending a short time in Vir-



Yours in F. C. & L.
C. M. Parker

ginia he went to Van Buren County, Iowa, where he settled in the year 1851. There he resided until the year 1874, when with his family he came to Lancaster County, and settled on the farm now occupied by his family in Centerville Precinct.

For five years the father of our subject engaged in farming on his new land, and being a public-spirited and sociable man, he enjoyed the confidence and esteem of all who knew him. He approved of all measures by which the education and cultivation of the people, and the fertility and general utility of the country surrounding him, could be secured. He was a kind and loving father, a devoted and thoughtful husband, a useful and enterprising citizen, and in his death, which occurred on the 15th of April, 1879, his family lost a most considerate and careful protector and the county one of its best citizens. He was one of the representative and intelligent German citizens of his precinct, and we are pleased to record these memorials of the esteem in which he was held in this collection of sketches.

Charles Lidolph, our subject, came with the family to Lancaster County in 1874, and has since made this place his home. He has become the owner of 100 acres of the home farm, consisting of 320 acres, which has been accumulated by the industry of the family. On the 22d of November, 1878, he married Margaret Baker, who became the mother of two daughters: Alice M., born Feb. 1, 1881, and Maud M., born March 2, 1883, and died July 27, 1887. On the 22d of February, 1886, our subject was called to mourn the loss of his loved wife, who departed leaving a great wealth of love and affection in the hearts of her husband and daughter, and a large circle of friends to mourn her untimely death.

What we have said of the father we can with equal truth and propriety repeat of the son. He has been a live, active and energetic member of society, amply qualified by his own attainments to take an important share in the political, religious and educational movements of the day. Bereft of his helpmate and companion, he has had to work onward and upward without the encouragement of her smile and her voice, but her remembrance will ever be dear to him.

Mr. Lidolph has been active in educational matters and is now serving as School Moderator in his district.

He gives his voice and the influence of his example in favor of the principles entertained by the Democratic party in politics, and is an esteemed member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has profited well by the example which his father set him, and that, united to his own moral worth and steadfastness of principles, entitles him to honorable mention among the leading citizens of his precinct.



JUDGE CHARLES M. PARKER. The subject of this sketch, whose portrait is presented on the opposite page, was born Aug. 28, 1840, in the village of Geneseo, in Livingston County, N. Y. In the fall of 1844, his parents, William and Melinda Parker, with their three children—Bruce, Helen and Charles—moved to Tippecanoe County, Ind., where the father followed the avocation of a farmer, the boys working with him on the farm during the summer and attending the district school in winter; an uneventful life, with little to disturb the summer's work or winter's study until the stirring times of 1861, when the Civil War broke out, when both boys were desirous of enlisting in response to President Lincoln's first call for 75,000 men, but the father, being in poor health and somewhat in debt on the farm, persuaded the boys to defer enlisting until a further demand for a larger army should be needed, at the same time promising them that in case a general call should be made and their services actually needed, that he would make no further objections to their both going into the service, assuring them that if his health would permit he, too, would go with them, though he was then fifty years of age.

It was at such times as this and such conversations that the father related his recollections of his grandfather, William Parker, who served seven full years in the Revolution, participating in all of the principal engagements of that war, from Lexington, Monmouth, Bennington, Bunker Hill, etc., and finally at the siege and surrender of Yorktown, coming home with a bundle of worthless Continental money, and his faithful musket which for years passed

from generation to generation as an heirloom.

Thus it will be seen that our subject came from good old Revolutionary stock, hence it is no wonder that during the first few months of the war he chafed and fretted "in the harness" on the farm, and that farm work no longer had anything like the usual charms for him. The fires of 1776 had descended to him from his illustrious great-grand sire, and were burning in his veins. He longed to be at the front, to stand between his country and her enemies, and to show that he was worthy the name he bore. His country, the sacred heritage received from the hands of his forefathers, he deemed too sacred to be assailed by any enemy, more especially by his own countrymen; the fact that her assailants were those who should be her defenders made her cause the dearer to him.

When President Lincoln issued his call for 300,000 men he could be no longer restrained, especially as he had just attained his majority, but his father made no further objections to his enlisting, concluding that the time had come when he too must surrender a father's claim to his country's good. Sept. 5, 1861, our farmer's boy enlisted in Company A. 46th Indiana Volunteers, under Capt. John H. Gould, which was assigned to the 46th Indiana Infantry, commanded by Col. Graham N. Fitch, afterward by Col. T. H. Bringhurst. The new regiment went into camp for instruction and organization at Logansport, Ind., where it remained until December 8, when it was ordered to the front. It proceeded by rail to Indianapolis, where it was reviewed by Gov. Morton, then to Madison, Ind., by rail; by steamer to Louisville, Ky. From Louisville the regiment marched to Green River, in the same State, where it went into winter quarters near Bardstown, Ky., where it remained until spring. When Gen. Grant was knocking at the doors of Fts. Henry and Donelson, the 46th Indiana was ordered forward in great haste to reinforce him, when the regiment reached the mouth of the Cumberland, where the joyous news was received that Donelson had surrendered; the regiment was then transferred to Gen. Pope's army on the Mississippi, and at once entered in earnest upon the rigorous duties of opening the Mississippi, first in reducing Island No. 10. The regiment participated in all

of the engagements in that vigorous campaign, and was "in at the death and capture."

The regiment was then at Ruddles' Point, at Ft. Pillow, at Memphis June 6, 1861, where the 46th and 43d Indiana Regiments were the first troops to enter the city after the rebel fleet had been destroyed, our subject being one of the very first to set foot on the wharf amid that turbulent and enraged populace from Memphis, which had been reduced to order. The 46th was ordered on a cruise up the White River in Arkansas, where a severe engagement was fought at St. Charles, then returned and went into camp at Helena, Ark., where it remained most of the time until February, 1862, and then it was engaged in the Yazoo Pass expedition under Gen. Grant, thence down the river to join the Vicksburg campaign. His regiment bore a prominent part in the campaign, being engaged in nearly all of the skirmishes and battles of that memorable campaign, but more prominently at Hard Times Landing, Grand Gulf, Port Gibson, Twelve-Mile Creek, Edwards' Station, Raymond, and (for him) finally at Champion Hills, May 16, 1863, where his regiment and the division to which it belonged (Alvin P. Hovey's) bore the brunt of the battle, leaving more than one-third of the entire division on the field either dead or wounded.

Up to this time our subject had been universally fortunate, had enjoyed good health, participated in every engagement in which his regiment participated, accompanied it in all of its campaign marches, etc., had never been known to fall behind, no matter how hard the march, but was always in his place at the end of the day's march ready to "stack arms." But at Champion Hills his good fortune seemed to desert him; he came out of the engagement with the loss of his left arm near the shoulder, a severe wound in his left cheek and a bullet hole through his left ear. Possessed of a good constitution, he soon recovered from his wounds, and received an honorable discharge July 20, 1863.

Upon his return home Mr. Parker was tendered a commission as Captain by Gov. Morton, as he was unfit for further duty in the ranks, but as his father had died during his absence he declined the commission, deeming it his duty to remain at home with his widowed mother, who was in feeble health,

and as his education was necessarily limited, he determined to acquire an education now so necessary to his support and usefulness in the future. He attended and taught school alternately, teaching being a necessity to procure funds with which to pay his expenses, until June, 1868, when he entered upon the study of law, which he pursued diligently until April, 1870, when he was graduated from the Law School of Ann Arbor, Mich. He at once came to Nebraska, arriving at Lincoln May 4, 1870, and at once entered upon the practice of law, which he followed until January, 1882. Having been elected County Judge of Lancaster County, he entered upon the duties of the office, which he filled with satisfaction to the people and credit to himself until January, 1888, having been elected three times, when he resumed the practice of law.

Taking a prominent part in all public affairs of the city and State, Judge Parker has rendered much valuable aid in shaping the policy of our new State and city; for years a member of the Board of Education, he did much toward starting our city schools on the highway to that eminence which they have already attained; honored and respected by all his large circle of acquaintances, he is now reaping the reward which his patriotic and active life merits.

In politics the Judge is a radical Republican, taking an active part in all campaigns; an ardent and active member of the Grand Army of the Republic, he renders much assistance to the indigent members of the order and other old soldiers.

Our subject was married, Oct. 10, 1872, to Miss Mary E. Hardenbergh, of New Brunswick, N. J., who died Dec. 21, 1874, leaving him a daughter Minnie, born the same day of the death of her mother. June 27, 1876, he married Emma A. Powell, of Willoughby, Ohio, by whom he has two sons: William P. Parker, born Feb. 14, 1881, and Charles M. Parker, Dec. 30, 1883, all children still living. When not engaged in business or politics the Judge spends all of his time at his home, a lovely cottage in the eastern part of the city, where, surrounded by his wife and children, with his form still as straight as when he entered the ranks, with scarcely a gray hair, his appearance gives little evidence of the ravages of time or of the active life he has led and the hardships he has endured.

JOHN JEFFERY, a worthy and respected citizen of this county, has been a resident of this State since 1868, at which time he migrated from Grant County, Wis., and homesteaded eighty acres of land on section 22, Waverly Precinct. He still resides on the original purchase, to which he has since added another eighty acres, and now has all his land well improved and under a high state of cultivation. It is provided with commodious frame buildings, and the modern mechanical appliances which enable the agriculturist to perform his duties in the shortest possible time, and with the least outlay of manual labor.

The subject of this notice is a native of the Buckeye State, which has furnished so much of the best pioneer element of Nebraska, and was born in Wayne County, Dec. 6, 1831. He is the son of William and Mary (Ferguson) Jeffery, the former of whom was born near Belfast, Ireland, and was the son of John Jeffery, who, with his family, came to the United States in 1826, and settled in Congress, Wayne Co., Ohio. He secured a tract of timber land, and engaging in the noble occupation of redeeming from the wilderness a land which should "blossom as the rose," he was thus occupied until his decease. His family consisted of seven children—William, Nancy, Jane, Eliza, Archibald, John and James.

William Jeffery, the father of our subject, was born Sept. 25, 1806, and accompanying the family to this country, grew to manhood in Wayne County, Ohio, and was there united in marriage, March 10, 1831, with Miss Mary Ferguson. Mrs. Jeffery was a native of Pennsylvania, and departed this life Feb. 14, 1839, at the early age of twenty-six years, leaving two children: John, our subject, and Jane, who became the wife of Lyman Haskell, and died in York State. William Jeffery chose for his second wife Sarah Burney, who was born Dec. 11, 1801, and they soon afterward settled in Grant County, Wis., which became their home until 1872, when they directed their steps to this State, and settled in Waverly Precinct, Lancaster County. The father engaged in the cultivation of the soil, but the sands of life were almost run, and he passed away Oct. 22, 1875; Mrs. Jeffery still survives. Of the second union of the father of our subject there were born

six children—Martin, James, Mary A., Melvin, Thomas and Rachel.

At the tender age of seven years our subject sustained an irreparable loss in the death of his loving mother, and when fourteen years of age he removed with the family to Grant County, Wis., where he assisted in the duties of the farm. Before his arrival in Grant County he had attended the public schools of his native township, and received an elementary education. On the 13th of January, 1861, he contracted a matrimonial alliance with Miss Lorena Hall, a native of Trumbull County, Ohio, born Oct. 23, 1837, and the daughter of Jacob and Electa (Waldrof) Hall, natives respectively of New Jersey and Ohio. In 1845 the parents settled in Grant County, Ohio, and removed from Ohio to Wisconsin, where the devoted wife died five years later, Dec. 31, 1850. The father subsequently came to Nebraska with our subject, and died at his residence, Dec. 4, 1878. They became the parents of seven children—Lorena, Nelson, Albert, Dudley, Warren, Elizabeth and Jacob.

After marriage our subject pursued farming in Grant County, Wis., which he continued to make his home until 1868, when he came to Nebraska as above stated. Of his union with Miss Lorena Hall there were born fourteen children: Ira D., deceased; Volney W., Dudley M.; Walter A., Mary Electa and William, all deceased; Sarah J.; John, deceased; Minnie L.; Nelson, deceased; George, Charles, Maggie and Ida. In politics the sympathies of our subject are with the Democratic party, but he yields to no slavish obedience, and holds himself free to support what he considers the best measures, regardless of the party by whom they are introduced.



ROBERT McCARTNEY. Ireland is peopled by two different races, naturally dividing themselves into two sections by a line only visible by the differences in the people, which are marked. Southern Ireland is the Catholic portion, and was peopled by the Celts, with, it may be, some sprinkling of ancient Britons. Northern or Protestant Ireland is peopled by the

Scotch or Gaelic. These two races can never be mixed or amalgamated; they are and must continue opposites. This has long been recognized by thoughtful students of the subject as one of the great difficulties of the "Irish Question." In Northern Ireland is County Down, a prosperous section of the country, where was born, Dec. 11, 1809, Nicholas McCartney, the father of the subject of this sketch.

In the year 1834 Mr. McCartney left his native country and came to the United States, landing in Baltimore, going on to Philadelphia, where he engaged in the business of distiller. In 1836 he was married to Catherine Hibbert, a daughter of Robert Hibbert, who was an aid-de-camp in the British service. His wife was born July 31, 1813, near Molton Church, England. In 1826 she came with her parents to Philadelphia, where she lived until her marriage. Herself and husband now reside near Sand Spring, Delaware Co., Iowa, where he is now farming, an occupation in which he has been engaged ever since the removal from Philadelphia. His life has always been marked by a benevolent philanthropy, and intelligent helping of the needy.

The family circle of Mr. and Mrs. McCartney comprised eight children, who are named as follows: William, John, James, Robert, Nicholas, Mary, David and Ellen. The eldest son is a farmer at Plymouth; the next is prosperous in the same calling in Delaware County, Iowa; James, who has a good war record, was wounded at Vicksburg, while serving in Company K, 21st Iowa Infantry; he is now a successful grain-buyer, and resident at Le Mars, Plymouth Co., Iowa; Nicholas is farming in North Bluff Precinct; Mary is the wife of Alexander Phillips, a farmer in Webster County, this State; in the recent unpleasantness this gentleman served in the 9th Iowa Infantry until the expiration of his term, and afterward re-enlisted, in Company K, 21st Iowa Infantry, for three years. Ellen is now Mrs. George Thornton, whose husband is a farmer, resident in Antelope County, near her brother David, who follows the same calling.

Our subject was born June 27, 1844, near Newark, Del., where he continued to reside until the year 1857, when his father removed his family to Delaware County, Iowa, where he lived until he was

twenty-two years of age. From that until the year 1867 he worked in a broom factory, but in that year he determined to move West, and came to this county, and made his home at Lincoln May 28, 1869. On the 4th day of June following he pre-empted eighty acres, and in the following year filed a homestead claim. His first home here was a dug-out, which he occupied four years, when, doubtless owing to the fact that he was about to enter upon a new order of things and take to himself a wife, he erected the present dwelling, a pleasant and comfortable farmhouse.

In the month of November, 1873, Mr. M. went to Philadelphia, and on the 27th of that month led to the altar Theresa Jane Walker, daughter of William and Ann (Allen) Walker. Her father was born in Ireland, about the year 1818, and in the same year her mother was born in England. He was about eighteen years of age when he came to America and settled in Delaware. He began to work as a bricklayer and builder, which he followed for several years. His death occurred in Delaware, in 1857. His wife came to this country with her parents when nine years of age, and continued to live with them until her marriage, at Wilmington, Del. Their home circle grew to include eight children, seven of whom still live; they are: Mary E., Elizabeth A., Theresa, Drenda, Samuel A., Wilhimina and Andrew A. Mary is the wife of John F. Harvey, of Philadelphia, who also served in the late war; the second child is Mrs. Frederick Pierce, of Chester County, Pa.; the fourth child is the wife of Robert McCartney, of Philadelphia, and a boot and shoe dealer; Samuel, a resident of the city, is a cigar-maker, and Wilhimina is happily married to Mr. Seth Porter, likewise a resident of the Quaker City, and by trade a machinist; there the youngest child, Andrew, is a weaver. The mother still lives in that city. Our subject was appointed Justice of the Peace in 1870, and has since been elected to serve a period of four years. He was elected Assessor in 1873, and held that office one year, and has been continually re-elected as member of the Board of Elections. In 1878 our subject canvassed the county as candidate for State Senator, on the Greenback ticket. The estimation and respect in which he is held and also his popularity, are at-

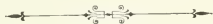
tested by the fact that he was only defeated by a majority of 600 votes, having run ahead of the ticket. He is a man who takes great interest in the advancement of the county, and is at all times ready to lend his energies to that end. He is a prominent member of the society known as the Farmers' Club, and ranks among its most active members.

In farming Mr. McCartney is very successful, and has 160 acres of land, and makes a specialty of his dairy and corn and hog raising. When he came here the total credit account of his exchequer was represented by the figures \$55. Since that time, however, he has made a fortune, although he has suffered several times by drouth and by fire. His farm is now valued at \$5,200, and he has besides about \$3,000 worth of property in various parts.

Mr. M. and wife are members of standing and undoubted consistency and devotion in the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he has been Class-Leader, with much acceptance to the members thereof, for over three years. Since the spring of 1887 he has been also Steward of the church, and in the same year was elected one of the lay delegates to the General Conference at Lincoln, Nebraska is by no means behind any of her sister States in the matter of Sunday-schools and Sunday-school workers; whoever holds a prominent place in that department must be in the front rank in those qualities which go to make a leader; possess aptitude to intelligently convey instruction, and the magnetism to attract and hold the affectionate confidence of those associated in the same. That our subject possesses these is attested in that he has been Sunday-school Superintendent and Bible Class teacher for many years, also active at all times in every department of church work, in which his wife is by no means behind him. Their married life has always been happy and bright, notwithstanding they have met their full share of difficulty. This has doubtless been by no means lessened by the appearance of five little ones in their home. The first, named Robert Allen, was born Sept. 11, 1874; Drenda F., June 25, 1876; May Ellen, March 17, 1879; Lucy Emma, Feb. 5, 1881; Albia Alice, June 4, 1883; the latter died Jan. 10, 1886.

The first vote of our subject was cast for Hora-

tio Seymour as President, and in after years, as noted above, he was upon the ticket of the Greenback party for Senator; this nomination was heartily indorsed by the Democratic party. He has for many years thought deeply and earnestly upon the temperance question, and watches with deep interest the progress of the Prohibition party, attending its meetings, and largely aiding in support of that cause. Our subject is a man of restless energy, and an earnest promoter of every cause which he deems to be just, right and beneficial, so that in church and other works calculated to benefit the community, he is a leading worker, and as such stands committed before the community. It is a pleasure, also, to be able to state that the place is not only ably but also worthily filled, and that he is regarded by the community as consistent and honorable in every relation and service.



WILLIAM B. MORRISON is a very popular grain dealer and business man, residing at Hickman, Neb. He may well remember with pride the deeds of his illustrious ancestors, the eminence to which his father attained as a prominent jurist, and his own patriotic war career and subsequent success in business. Our subject is a son of Robert D. and Sarah (Sawyer) Morrison, both of Tennessee, the former of Bedford and the latter of Taylor County. The father's ancestors came to Pennsylvania from Scotland and Ireland, and those of the mother were German-English Puritans, who came to America during Colonial times. The grandfathers of our subject, on both the paternal and maternal sides, served in the War of 1812, the grandfather Sawyer also being engaged as a teamster in bringing supplies to Gen. Jackson, afterward serving in the Seminole War. Cyrus Morrison, a relative of our subject, figured prominently in defending the rights of the patriots of North Carolina in the Revolutionary period.

A part of the Morrison family, from whom our subject springs, moved to Tennessee, his grandfather being one of the earliest pioneers of that State. His father taught school for a time, and then reading law, he was admitted to the bar at the

age of twenty-three years, about that time moving to Milan, Mo., at which place he practiced his profession until his death, which occurred on the 4th of June, 1888, at the age of seventy-five years. He was regarded as one of the best lawyers of Sullivan County, and was also highly esteemed as a local preacher. So talented and exemplary a man cannot withdraw from a community without being much regretted, and the death of this honored gentleman was sadly and sincerely mourned by the residents of that county. He had demonstrated beyond a doubt the fact that there is honor connected with the legal profession, and that he had attained it to an eminent degree, having been County and District Attorney for three terms in Missouri, and being Probate Judge at the time of his death. His bereaved wife still lives at Milan, Mo., at the advanced age of seventy-two years. She is the mother of ten children, five boys and five girls, but five of whom are now living, our subject being the eldest.

William B. Morrison was born in Somerville, Ala., on the 14th of April, 1835, and came with his father to Northern Missouri when he was eight years old. The educational facilities being limited, and the assistance of our subject needed at home, he worked for two years to pay expenses of living for the family. He had a great pioneer experience in Missouri, and spent many years as clerk in general stores. His father being appointed Register of the United States Land Office at Milan, Mo., he clerked for two years for his father, but before this time, at the age of twenty-one, he was married, in 1856, to Miss Nancy Montgomery, a daughter of William and Elizabeth Montgomery. They were also prominent people of Milan, and were formerly from Pennsylvania, their daughter Nancy having been born Oct. 19, 1837, near Doylestown, Wayne Co., Ohio, and having received her education in the common schools.

After his marriage our subject farmed for one year, clerked for two years in the land-office, and then was engaged in merchandising for two years, until the breaking out of the war. He had one brother in the United States army and another in the Southern army. To meet an enemy for whom he rightly entertains a loathing, in a fair field, and spend a just rage in giving him a thorough chastisement, may be a relief to a man's wounded feel-

ings, but to be actually forced into the field to take up arms, not only against fellowmen and brothers, but against a brother of his own flesh and blood, truly that is harassing in the most extreme degree! Such was the fate destined for our subject, and, although he tried to oppose it, his resistance was in vain, and being loyal, he decided like Lee to go with the mother State.

Our subject enlisted toward the fall of 1861 in the Missouri State Guards, under command of Gen. John B. Clark. Subsequently he went into Company H, 6th Missouri Infantry, enlisting as a private and serving throughout the war. He was in the Western Division of the army and participated in fifteen pitched battles, including the sieges of Atlanta and Vicksburg, was taken prisoner at the latter place, was wounded three times, and laid down his arms at Mobile Bay. From that place he was taken to Jackson, Miss., where he was paroled, remaining in Mississippi nearly twelve months, and while there he took the "Ironclad" oath, regaining his right to American citizenship in 1866. Wounded and distressed, his means utterly exhausted by the late engagement, doubtless the thought may have occurred to him that he might better have been released from it all. But there was hope and love waiting to sustain him, and with this encouragement his dauntless spirit brooked no delay, and he at once commenced to carve out a place for his name when he should have attained success.

Mr. Morrison came to Nebraska in the spring of 1868, bringing his wife and four children by slow travel over the wagon roads, stopping in Nebraska City for eighteen months, and again in Gage County, where he farmed for one year. On his arrival in Lancaster County, in 1870, he was the owner of one team and wagon, one cow, seven hogs, and household utensils, with \$5 in his pocket and \$250 in debt. He fashioned a log house with floor and roof of "mother earth," and made improvements as fast as his purse would allow. There were some encouragements and many discouragements. It is well that a youth cannot foresee the burdens before him, else, overwhelmed by the vast difficulties and hardships looming up before him like a dark cloud, which he must encounter and

successfully combat if he would rise to eminence, often and often his courage would fail him and he would sink beneath the threatening pressure. For a man of experience to review his past life, to take note of the disasters, the encounters through which he wearily toiled until they were overcome, is to thrill him with wonder that he was able to endure so much, and to fill him with a sense of thankfulness for the divine care and protection that are unconsciously enjoyed by every living being.

When by his own carelessness or mismanagement a man is brought to suffer reverses, he knows that the blame lies with himself, and philosophically accepts the fruit of his own garnering; but to see property, that has been accumulated only by unremitting labor and wisest of husbandry, swept away or devoured by a remorseless enemy, and not be able to stretch forth a hand to save it—nay, must perforce stand by and watch its steady destruction—O, that is hard, indeed, and trying to men's souls! Through such disasters has the subject of this sketch passed, his resources devastated by war, the financial panic of 1875, and the grasshopper era of 1876. But, surmounting these misfortunes, assisting in obtaining supplies for the destitute, he has risen by the exercise of his own intrinsic merits, and has stemmed most gloriously the tide that lashed about him. He began to work by the month for Chris. Brethower, grain buyer, working for him five or six months, when, his employer being unfortunate, our subject rented the grain houses and began business for himself. Enjoying good trade and being successful from the start, he has continued since then dealing in grain and coal. In 1885 he formed a partnership with William P. Larsh in general merchandise, the new firm enjoying good trade, carrying a stock worth from \$5,000 to \$6,000. In 1879 he entered into partnership with Mr. Lowery in the grain business. They ship 125,000 bushels of grain annually, and our subject handles from fifty to seventy-five cars of coal per year, besides paying strict attention to business.

Our subject has erected a handsome residence in Hickman, and is the father of eight children, as follows: Richard T., who married Miss A. Beck, is a farmer in Sallito Preeinct, having eighty acres of land; they have four children—Guy L., Grace,

Mamie, and the fourth unnamed; A. Maude, who married E. L. Vicker, real-estate agent residing in Lincoln; Alma E., who married H. F. Bair, residing at Roca, engaged in grain buying, who have one child unnamed; Mary A., Sadie L., William R., Claude L. and Nanie M. are living at home and attending school. Mr. and Mrs. Morrison favor the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Morrison is a great Democratic politician, one who does not swerve from the views and principles promulgated by that political organization. He keenly appreciates the demand of the country for constant watchfulness. He has been a member of the Board of Education, and is at present a member of the village Board of Trustees. He has been the Assessor of South Pass, delegate to county conventions and to three State conventions, and in 1884 he was the unsuccessful candidate for the State Senate. Our subject is a successful business man, having perhaps more warm friends than any other man in Southern Lancaster County; his wife is a splendid lady, his daughters the "belles of the burg"—all this combined makes him one of the happiest of fathers in his beautiful home.



HON. LEVI SNELL was a pioneer of Lancaster County, and for several years he was a prominent factor in developing its agricultural resources. He was identified with the mercantile interests of Lincoln in its early days, and he has now returned to this city to pass the evening of a life that has been nobly spent, free from the cares and labors that infested the day, having by the quiet force of persistent effort, directed by sound discretion and constant devotion to duty, accumulated a competency more than sufficient for all his wants.

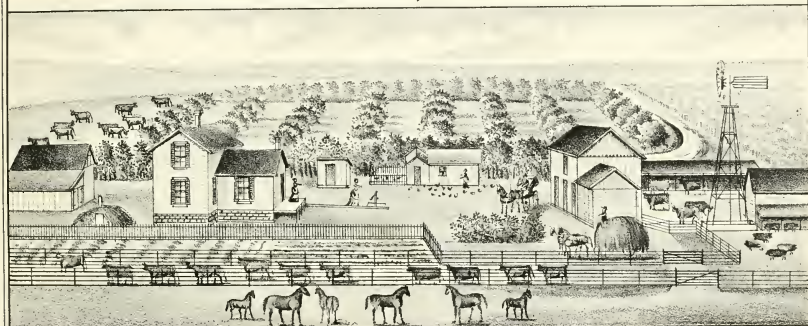
Mr. Snell was born in Lewisberry, York Co., Pa., Oct. 23, 1828, and was a son of Michael Snell, a native of the same county, as was, it is supposed, Christian Snell, the grandfather of our subject. The latter was a farmer, and as far as known spent his entire life in York County. The father of our subject was reared in his native county, and there married Margaret Grissinger, who was born in

Lewisberry, and was a daughter of John Grissinger, a native of Montgomery County, Pa. Her father was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and was with Washington at Valley Forge. He was a farmer by occupation, and was well-to-do for those days. He was a consistent member of the Lutheran Church, and was of a joyous, genial disposition, and retained much of his youthfulness until the last, although he died at the advanced age of ninety-eight years. At the time of his death he had 335 descendants living and dead. There were nearly 700 of his posterity, and it is a fact to be proud of that they are all honorable men and women, not one of whom has ever been arrested for a crime. Mr. Michael Snell was an architect and bridge-builder, and followed that business for many years in Pennsylvania and Maryland, always making his home in York County, however, where in middle life he was gathered to his fathers, bearing with him the respect and honor of many with whom he had been associated in the course of a busy life. He was reared a member of the Lutheran Church, and always held to that faith. He was a Democrat in politics, and was often called upon to fill various offices in the county, and he was Captain of the State Militia. His amiable wife, to whom he was married in early manhood, died in her native county when quite young, our subject being the only child of that marriage. The father of our subject was married a second time, and reared a family of children.

Levi Snell was but three years old when his mother died, and he fell to the care of an aunt for a time until his stepmother took charge of him. In his boyhood he attended school, and assisted in doing the farm work. Inheriting industrious and honest habits, he grew to be a manly, reliable lad, and at the age of sixteen began to make his own way in the world, going at that age to Franklin County, Pa., where he was engaged to work for a man who owned a hotel and a general store, and did a large business. He had charge of the hotel, and did anything else that he was called upon to do. He remained there three years, and then went to Carlisle, Pa., where he entered the employ of Dr. Norton as collector. At the expiration of a year and a half he left the doctor in order to establish



RESIDENCE OF ALBERT EGGER , SEC. 3. BUDA PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF FRED. BERRYMAN , SEC. 10. DENTON PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF HENRY ALBERS^{ES} SEC. 32. BUDA PRECINCT.

himself in business at Mechanicsburg, Cumberland County, opening there a hat and cap store. Two years later he was doing so well that he was encouraged to add clothing and gentlemen's furnishing goods to his stock. In 1859 he settled up his affairs in his native State and removed to Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, and engaged in the same business. He soon after opened another store for the sale of ladies' goods, and later opened a branch store in Afton, placing in charge a young man to whom he had taught the business. In 1869 Mr. Snell sold out in Iowa, and came to Lincoln, and established himself in the mercantile business as proprietor of a general store of gentlemen's furnishing goods and dry-goods. At the end of two years he was obliged to dispose of his business on account of ill-health, and he then bought prairie land in Lancaster Precinct, on section 16. He erected suitable buildings on the place, planted fruit and shade trees, improved all the land, and lived thereon nearly ten years. He then sold, and bought a tract comprising twenty acres of land of unsurpassed fertility, joining the State farm. He then devoted some of his time to raising stock, always taking pride in having stock of good grades. He had Jersey red hogs and high-grade Short-horns, buying thoroughbreds of ex-Gov. Furnas. He also started a nursery, and propagated both fruit and shade trees, many of the trees now beautifying the streets and lawns of Lincoln having been furnished by him. He resided on his 20-acre farm until 1886, when he came to Lincoln, and has made his home ever since at No. 2800 R street.

Mr. Snell was married, May 1, 1851, to Miss Martha E. Forrey, a native of Pennsylvania, and a daughter of John Forrey. Mrs. Snell was a woman of rare character, and her death in 1859, after a tranquil and happy wedded life, was a sad blow to the husband and little children whose home she had made so pleasant. Three children were born of this union, namely: William H., Samuel F. and Marlett L. Mr. Snell was subsequently married to Miss Laura J. Housel, of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. She was the sister of Hon. C. C. Housel, a prominent citizen of Omaha. She died of consumption about two years after their marriage.

Wherever our subject has resided he has borne

an influential part in public affairs, and has interested himself much in educational matters, having been a member of the School Board in Mechanicsburg, Pa., in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, where he served as President and Vice-President and Secretary, and was re-elected from time to time, and as a member of the City Council of Mt. Pleasant. He also served on the School Board while a resident of Lancaster Precinct, and he was elected to fill a vacancy in the State Senate. He has been a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years, having joined it when young, and he has held all the offices in the church, has been Trustee, Steward and Class-Leader, and has been a delegate to the General Conference of the Methodists. In his early years he was a Democrat in politics, but as soon as the Republican party was formed he fell into the ranks, and has ever since been a staunch supporter of its policy, although he now votes with the Prohibition party. He has always been a total abstainer, and first differed with the Democratic party on the temperance question and in his views concerning slavery; he was in fact a Republican before the party was formed. It will be seen from the perusal of this sketch that the most prominent trait of the character of our subject is his unswerving adherence to principle, and he is always strictly honest and upright in all his dealings. His nature is adjusted on a large and generous scale, and no one appeals to him in vain for aid or sympathy.

JOHN W. PREY. In the present sketch it is our pleasure to present a biographical epitome of the oldest living pioneer of Centerville Precinct, and residing on section 24. Mr. Prey is a native of New York City. The day of his nativity is the 11th of May, 1828. He is the third son of John D. and Margaret Prey. His father was one of the hardy race from Scotland, whose people had more just cause for national pride than any other, our own excepted. His mother was born on the island of eternal green, the land of the shamrock, and suppressed liberty. Our subject then is of Scotch-Irish extraction, and is by no means the

first, who, under similar conditions have made their way to the front rank of prominent and prosperous men, for the national characteristics thus blended seem to form a most happy combination. His parents were married in Ireland, and emigrated to America in 1820, landing at St. Andrews, N. B., but shortly afterward came to the United States, believing that its larger opportunities and freer Government afforded larger scope for their efforts, and was more likely to result favorably to their success. Accordingly they came into the States, and took up their residence at Boston.

In the city of Boston the father of our subject speedily obtained employment. He had been a slater, and found a demand for such service, but before many months had passed, larger inducements being presented from New York, he removed thither. While residents in the latter city, their home received a new inmate, our subject being born shortly after the removal. Four years subsequently the family removed to Onondaga County, and resided there for several years, being occupied with farming. About the year 1839 they removed to Allegany County, which continued to be their residence until our subject was about fourteen years of age. This was followed by a removal to Illinois, and after a few months another change, this time to Milwaukee. The father of our subject while in the city followed his trade, leaving his sons to execute the work required upon the farm which he had purchased, and was situated not far from the city. By their combined efforts they were enabled to live comfortably, although not luxuriously. The family of which our subject was a member included twelve children, of whom eleven survive.

The first-born in the family of Mr. and Mrs. Prey, Sr., was Gilbert G., at present a resident of Eagle Village, N. Y.; then Jane, now Mrs. Buckland, whose home is in Michigan, upon "the beautiful peninsula;" Thomas R., who makes his home in Lincoln; John W., our subject; William L., who resides in Idaho; Margaret, deceased; Mary E., happily married to Lester Nash, of Hudson, Wis.; James J., of Otoe County, Neb.; Julia A., wife of James Goodwin, of St. Croix County, Wis.; David E., of this precinct; Rebecca E., now Mrs. Henry Stoops, whose home is in Colorado, and George W.,

of Centerville. The parents of this interesting family have passed to their last rest, the father in September, 1873, the mother in January, 1880, and are buried at Centerville.

The subject of this writing was reared to manhood upon the farm in Wisconsin. His education was such as is usually obtained in the common school, although it was unfortunate that he was able to attend only a part of the time. He continued so to do until the family removed to Lancaster County, in 1856, and settled in this precinct. This is said to be the earliest date of settlement in the county; *i. e.*, speaking of those who settled and established a home.

The great step in life for our subject was taken on the 10th of October, 1870, when he was united in wedlock with Frances C. Lehmer. This lady is a native of Indiana, and is the daughter of Derrick and Isabelle Lehmer, now of Yankee Hill Precinct. Our subject has become the parent of seven children, of whom six are living. They are recorded as follows: Grace I., Annie E., Margaret F., Edna E., Esther O., and an infant unnamed.

Necessarily our subject has seen the country develop from the primitive condition of things; the rolling prairie in all its native wildness to broad acres of golden grain, interspersed by farmhouses and barns, towns and cities. He is the owner of 220 acres of ground, which has been brought to as near perfection in agriculture as possible, and is a standing monument of the energy, economy, thrift and labor that have gone hand in hand to establish his success, and this commands the venerable esteem which is so freely offered to our subject on account of his age in the community, and also his social status. Our subject has for years been an active supporter and an affiliate of the Republican party, and his high character, manhood and unquestionable integrity have secured for him the confidence and esteem of his compatriots, who have shown the same in electing him to serve for two consecutive terms as Commissioner of Lancaster County, and he has filled the duties of his office with the greatest credit to himself and satisfaction to the people. Another office which he filled in like manner, was that of Treasurer of Clay County, which at that time included also a part of Gage and Lancas-

ter Counties, his home being then in Clay County.

Our subject is a man of large public spirit and generosity, ever anxious to see the county move forward, and glad to aid therein; a friend of morals and good order, and conscientiously particular regarding the daily happenings of life.



WILLIAM P. LARSH. "Dost thou love life? Then do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of," says Franklin. Select from the farms or business houses the men who have made the most money and have done the most good, who have no idle day in a year, and they are the men who have time to attend relief societies, hear political speeches and lectures, who read and can chat pleasantly with you. Such men economize their time, cramming it full with works of energy, and thus they can accomplish much while others of dilatory habits are wondering where they shall begin. The world gives every man an opportunity, and he who has faith in the value of honest hard work may attain success slowly, but it comes surely, and at the close of life that means everything.

Success to an experienced man encourages further perseverance, but to a novice it sometimes becomes a siren that soothes all his energies to sleep. No man must be deluded by the thought of his being born under a lucky star, and that he can leave the shaping of his fortune to the gods. It is a delusion, for as regards success there is no respecter of persons. Persistency will outrun mere brilliancy. As an illustration of the progress upward, and the eminence attained through honest labor, we give this sketch of our subject, Mr. Larsh, who is entitled to a place among the earliest pioneers of Lancaster County. Although the immediate descendants of many of the old pioneers grew up with but little opportunity for education, many of them, yes, most of them, are noble, high-minded men and women, and are generally among the first to make a sacrifice to secure for their children a substantial education.

The school-house of "Ye olden time" is described as scarcely more than a hut or cabin, a small, low building, barn-like in appearance, made in some cases of logs, lighted perhaps by two windows, with

a narrow door of rough boards at one end. Within they were completely unfurnished, some low benches without backs, and a chair or stool for "the master" constituting the furniture. The education of a boy was considered sufficient if he could read, spell, write and "cipher to the rule of three." The pupil gathered his pencils from the brooks, and plucked his quill from the wing of a raven or wild goose shot by his father's rifle. Now how changed are all these things.

Thus growing up into manhood and passing onward in the rugged path of time, disciplined in the stern school of experience, our subject was prepared to meet every emergency with a steady and a ready hand. He is a son of Jonathan and Elizabeth (McNutt) Larsh, whose nativity was in the neighborhood of Maysville, Ky. The grandfather of our subject, then bearing the name of "Larshav," came from France, and as time elapsed the name was changed to Larsh, the present family name. This noble gentleman, leaving his sunny land to embark in the fortunes of the new country, shortly after coming here engaged to serve in the War of 1812, and for the country which had so lately adopted him he laid down his life. All honor to his remembrance.

The parents of our subject were married in the neighborhood in which they had been brought up, near Maysville, Ky., the husband following the occupation of farming, but they soon removed to Hendricks County, Ind., where they settled as pioneers in 1835. The city of Indianapolis was then in its infancy, being composed of but a few log houses. The father of our subject entered a quarter-section of land, improved it, and made it his home until he died in 1852, at the age of sixty-two years, having had a rich pioneer experience of seventeen years, and having seen vast improvements wrought by the rapid development of the country. The wife, who had shared his joys and sorrows, lived until 1860, when she died, at the age of sixty years. In their family there had been thirteen children, five girls and eight boys, all living to grow up to manhood and womanhood.

Our subject, the youngest boy and twelfth child, was born May 6, 1843, in Washington Township, Hendricks Co., Ind. The first great sorrow of his

life, the death of his father, came to him early, when he was in his tenth year, so that he was left in charge of the homestead for whose care he was called upon to contribute his share, suffering, in common with all of the earlier days, a general lack of educational facilities, although he attended the common schools in winter. He remained at home until the death of his mother occurred, when, the homestead being divided, he started out to do for himself at the age of seventeen. He worked on a farm the first year, and then learned the carpenter trade, at which he worked with his brother for three years, and then, in the fall of 1864, he went to Sullivan County, Ill., where he worked on a farm for Mr. McLain, now of South Pass, Neb.

This gentleman having come to Nebraska in 1865, our subject came with him to Lancaster County, and remained in his employ until the following spring of 1866, when he was married. He led to the altar Miss Elizabeth Grim, a daughter of Joseph and Mary Grim, formerly from Missouri, where the father died at the age of forty years. Mrs. Larsh was the fifth of a family of nine children, her birth-place being Holmes County, Ohio, at which place her parents lived prior to their moving to Missouri. She was born on the 8th of June, 1842, and in her girlhood she had to put up with all the disadvantages of a new country. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Larsh settled on a farm for which the husband had traded, formerly belonging to Mr. McLain, and containing 160 acres.

Since his settlement in Lancaster County our subject has seen its improvement in all its phases, at that time there being but five houses between Hickman and Nebraska City. In that time there were many discouragements and many disadvantages against which he had to contend; the loss from prairie fires, the long distance to be traversed in order to reach the flouring-mills and the post-office, and a general lack of the necessities of life. He had to live within his means, while the plains abounded with prairie chickens, grouse and wild turkeys. Vividly does our subject recall to mind the first log cabin which he helped Mr. McLain to build, its dimensions being fourteen feet square. The log cabin stood in its solitude, the wide-spread prairie stretching its undulations beyond the vision.

As our subject owned no team he was obliged to hire his farm work done, spending his own time in working at his trade, carpentering. Soon he was able to purchase some horses, and then, in the autumn of 1866, he engaged as carpenter for Hardenberg, Linderman & Co., at the salt basin two miles west of Lincoln. He was sent up to Lancaster City, now Lincoln, and it fell to his lot to be the builder of the first frame house in that city, its dimensions being 14x18 feet, and the material of which it was built being lumber from the cottonwood trees. In 1871 he sold his farm and bought another in Saltillo Precinct, at which place he continued until 1885, when he came to Hickman and formed a partnership with Mr. Morrison, buying out Mr. Christianson. The new firm thus formed are dealers in clothing, dry-goods, boots and shoes, hats and caps, groceries, crockery, and notions of all kinds. Our subject carries a large stock of goods valued at between \$6,000 and \$7,000, and has enjoyed a good and constantly increasing trade.

Soon after our subject engaged in the mercantile business, he was appointed Postmaster, which office he has since honorably held. He is a first-class good business man, and his steadily growing trade, and the Government position which he fills, are but a good testimonial to his integrity. He also owns a farm of 160 acres, which he rents, on which he has erected a frame dwelling, and five lots of valuable city property. He is a member of the K. of P., being the Master of Exchequer. He is a member of the Democratic party, having been one of the first Postmasters appointed in Eastern Nebraska. He has twice served the term of Justice of the Peace, and has been very active in developing the educational interests, having for a great many years been a School Director, and at present is filling that honorable position on the Board of Education at Hickman. He has been a delegate to nearly every Democratic County Convention in the county, and was a delegate to the State Convention in 1872. At that time his instructions were to vote for Greeley, but he did not attend.

Our subject is the father of one child, a daughter Mary, at home. He brought up a family of four children of his wife's sister—John W., Minnie Ann, Lillie May Shatto and Solomon O. Cox. The

youngest child is still living at home with him. Mrs. Larsh is a cultivated lady, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. To her companionship and encouragement are due much of the success and popularity of this energetic, enterprising man.



NP. JENSEN. Among the foreign-born element of Nebraska that is doing so much in building up the State and developing her resources, no nationality is more cordially welcomed or makes better citizens than the Scandinavian, as represented by the intelligent, thrifty and enterprising Danes. Our subject is one of these, and the beautiful, well-managed farm that he owns on sections 23, Lancaster Precinct, proclaims that he is one of the most prosperous farmers in Lancaster County.

Mr. Jensen was born July 12, 1849, in the Kingdom of Denmark, on the Island of Falster, whose shores are washed by the waves of the Baltic Sea. His parents were likewise natives of Denmark, and his father, Jens Larsen, who was born March 23, 1802, carried on the occupation of a farmer during his life, and always lived on the same place. He also learned the trade of a weaver and worked at that twenty-five years. He married in middle life Karen Nielsen, who was born March 20, 1813, and is still living in Denmark. They had a family of nine children, four of whom were sons and five of them were daughters, and six of the family are now living. They were all of them given good educations, attending school seven years, until fourteen years of age, according to the wise law of their native land, and then they had to learn a trade. The good father of our subject died in 1872, leaving to his descendants the precious legacy of a life well spent.

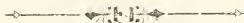
Our subject lived in the island home which had been his birthplace until his restless ambition to seek his fortune in the wide world led him to America in 1872. He was then in the prime of young manhood, was well endowed with mental and bodily vigor, and, fortified by good principles and industrious habits, his success was assured from the start. After his arrival in this country he found

his way to Toledo, Ohio, where he lived for ten months, working at his trade, that of a carpenter. He then went to the city of Cleveland, where he remained for a year, engaged in the same occupation. After that he worked at his calling in Buffalo, and while a resident of that city he sent for a brother and sister to join him from their native land in 1874. After their arrival he remained in Buffalo six months, and from there removed to Indianapolis, Ind. In the course of a year or two he had been so prospered that he had gathered together a sufficient amount of money to marry and establish a home, and he sent for the young woman in his native land to whom he had plighted his troth, and she crossed the waters to join him in August, 1875, and they were united in marriage on the 5th of March, 1876. The maiden name of Mrs. Jensen was Karen Marie Johansen, and she was born in Denmark, Dec. 19, 1848. Her father, Johan Benedict, was a native of Denmark, and died there in 1859. Her mother, who was born Nov. 16, 1806, is still living in Denmark, where her husband worked as a farmer. The union of our subject and his wife has been blessed to them by the birth of a son and daughter, as follows: John F. was born Dec. 14, 1877, and Carrie M. Sept. 17, 1879.

Shortly after marriage Mr. Jensen came to Lincoln, Neb., with his bride, having decided to try the life of a farmer on the fertile and productive prairie soil of Lancaster County. He soon bought a tract of eighty acres of land, five and one-half miles from the city, paying for the same \$19.60 an acre. Its nearness to the flourishing metropolis, the capital of the State, and to the great commercial highways of the West, and the many fine improvements that he has made, render his farm a very valuable piece of property. It is under good cultivation, and a beautiful grove of about 5,000 forest trees adorn the place. Mr. Jensen has a fine orchard, consisting of 100 choice fruit trees, which have already commenced to bear. He makes a specialty of stock-raising, however, and has been very successful in that line, as is attested by the sleek and well-fed appearance of his cattle and other stock, all of which are of good grades.

Mr. and Mrs. Jensen are active workers in the

Methodist Episcopal Church, of Sharon, of which they are esteemed members. They are not those who "hide their light under a bushel," and in the selfish striving for gain forget their duty to others, but they are ever kind and thoughtful in their relations with those about them, and no one is more ready to extend sympathy or help to those in distress than they. Mr. Jensen is a strong advocate of temperance and religion, and urges that they be taught in the public schools. In politics he is a staunch and consistent Prohibitionist.



JH. RAUCH, one of Saltillo's comparatively late settlers, is a very enterprising man. He is one of the best of farmers, and takes a great pride in the preservation of his extensive family history and in his ancestry. His wife, who is a most estimable lady, comes of an illustrious family. Mr. Rauch endeavors to give his children all the advantages possible, and is, in consequence, greatly interested in educational and social affairs, striving earnestly for the greatest good to the greatest number.

Mr. Rauch's father, Jacob, was born in South Hanover, Dauphin Co., Pa. His mother, Mary F. Felty, was also born in the same county. His grandfather came from a good old German stock, and emigrated to America in Colonial times. His grandfather served in the War of 1812. His father settled in Dauphin County, Pa., where he engaged in agricultural pursuits and reared a family of six children, four of whom are still living. In the year 1869 he moved to Putnam County, Ill., and purchased a farm two miles from Hennepin. He was a gentleman in good circumstances, and served for some time as Assessor, as well as occupying other offices of trust at various times. He died in 1876, at the age of seventy-four, respected by all who knew him. The mother died in 1874, aged sixty-eight years.

Of the four children now living, the gentleman who forms the subject of our sketch is next to the youngest. His sisters are: Mrs. Dr. Rebecca Van Derslice, Mrs. Mary A. Ellinger and Mrs. Maggie F. Coleman. The subject of our sketch was born Dec.

16, 1847, in South Hanover, Dauphin Co., Pa., twelve miles west of Harrisburg. He received that best of all preparations for success in life—a "common-school" education. He continued at home until his marriage, in 1872, to Miss Marion J., daughter of Henry N. and Susan Stouffer, *nee* Mull. Mrs. Rauch's parents were born in Cumberland County, Pa., whence they removed to Putnam County, Ill. This lady's parents are still living at Hennepin, Ill., where the father, who is now sixty-six years of age, is a professor, teacher and gardener. He is also an active Sunday-school worker. Her mother is now sixty-seven years of age. This worthy couple had six children, of whom Mrs. Rauch, who was born Feb. 15, 1851, at Shiremanstown, Cumberland Co., Pa., is third. She enjoyed superior educational advantages.

In March, 1886, Mr. Rauch moved with his family to Nebraska, where he purchased 160 acres of fine land. As a farmer, he has been very successful. He owns a fine orchard of apple, plum and cherry trees, all in fine bearing condition. He also set out a large number of apple and apricot trees last spring, and made a good start in vine culture, strawberries and other small fruits. Besides the raising of fruit, Mr. Rauch carries on general farming with growing success. His house and out-buildings are of the most approved pattern, and but recently built.

Mr. and Mrs. Rauch are the parents of eight children—Anna, Willie, Gertrude, Jennie M., Merle A., Robert, Mina and Maggie. Of these, Willie and Gertrude, who were twins, are dead. The four oldest are at present attending school.

Mr. Rauch is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Roca. He is sound on the temperance question, favoring a strict enforcement of the law for the control of the liquor traffic. He has refused several important offices, but has served the public in the capacity of School Trustee for the long period of six years. Mr. Rauch is one of the most intelligent and industrious farmers in Saltillo Precinct. He owns a good farm, which his ingenuity, intelligence and good taste will eventually convert into a farmer's paradise. He believes in good homes, and his is one of the best, as will be seen upon reference to the illustration provided by the

artist, and presented upon another page of this volume, which shows faithfully not only the beautiful residence and some of its picturesque surroundings, but also the commodious farm buildings near by.

In political affairs our subject is always deeply interested, as a good and true citizen, and usually votes with the Republican party, of which he is an old and tried member.



MAJ. CHARLES W. PIERCE, one of the prominent men of Waverly Precinct, has a fine estate on section 31, where he makes a specialty of Galloway cattle, being one of the first to introduce this breed of stock into Nebraska. His farm, with its appurtenances, is amply suggestive of the means and standing of the proprietor. He is the owner of 660 acres, nearly all of which is in one body, and which, with its handsome and substantial buildings, is one of the leading points of interest in the northeastern part of Lancaster County.

The town of Benton, Yates Co., N. Y., was the early home of our subject, and where his birth took place Oct. 7, 1823. His father was Spooner R. and his mother, Mary (Wilson) Pierce, who were also natives of the Empire State. The family it is believed was of Scotch ancestry, and was represented on this side of the water, in New England, over 200 years ago. Elisha Pierce, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was a farmer by occupation, probably a native of Massachusetts, where he grew to manhood and was married. Later he started for New York State, and while on the journey there was born to him, near the present city of Albany, his son, Spooner R.

This edition of the Pierce family settled in Yates County, and Grandfather Pierce subsequently carried a musket in the War of 1812, participating in the battle of Lundy's Lane and other engagements. When the British were once more driven from American soil he returned to the peaceful vocation of farming, later removing to Livingston County, N. Y., where he spent the remainder of his life. His son Spooner grew up familiar with farming pur-

suits, and was married in his native State. In 1829 he emigrated to Ohio, settling in the vicinity of Sandusky, where he lived until 1846, then changed his residence, first to Hantsville, Logan County, subsequently to Seneca County, and in 1856 to Mason County, Ill., where his death took place about 1880. He followed farming continuously and was fairly successful in life. The wife and mother had preceded her husband to the silent land six years, her death taking place at the home of her son, our subject, in Waverly Precinct, this county, June 11, 1874.

The family of Spooner R. and Mary Pierce included seven children, all of whom grew to mature years. Charles W., our subject, was the eldest born; John W. died in Havana, Ill.; James F. during the late war served as a Union soldier in Company B, 85th Illinois Infantry, and is now a miller by occupation, residing at Havana, Ill.; Thornton S. was a member of Company B, 85th Illinois Infantry, and was killed at the battle of Kennesaw Mountain; Julia, Mrs. Lewis, lives in Peoria, Ill.; Angelina is the wife of O. C. Easton, of Havana; and Emily, Mrs. Caldwell, lives in the city of Lincoln, this State.

Maj. Pierce was a member of his father's household until a youth of seventeen, in the meantime acquiring a practical education in the common school and fitting himself for the future duties of life. He now started out on his own account, and making his way to Rochester, N. Y., engaged in a woolen factory, where he worked three years. Then returning to Ohio, he was employed in various factories in different parts of the State until 1855, in the meantime also engaged in speculation and trade. He had been married in 1850, and now going to Illinois, located in advance of the family at Havana, Mason County. He embarked in the real-estate business, and was thus occupied until a few months after the outbreak of the Rebellion. In August, 1862, he assisted in raising a company of which he was elected First Lieutenant, which was named Company B, and became a part of the 85th Illinois Infantry. Maj. Pierce received his commission from Gov. Richard Yates, and first met the enemy in battle at Perryville, Ky. He was next in the fight at Stone River and Mission Ridge, but not long afterward, on account of failing health, was sent to

Nashville and assigned to the Quartermaster's department, and was subsequently stationed at Camp Chase, near Columbus, Ohio.

The spring following Maj. Pierce was transferred to Washington, where he was made Acting Brigade Quartermaster, Harden's division, serving as such until peace was declared. He was also at the same time upon staff duty. In November, 1865, he was ordered to Alabama, as a member of the staff of Gen. Swain, and later assigned to the command of a district of thirteen counties. In 1867 he was elected a Member of Congress from the Fourth Alabama District, and on the 1st of January, 1868, resigned his commission in the army to devote himself to the duties of his new position.

Maj. Pierce, after serving acceptably his term as a member of the Fortieth Congress, declined a renomination because he did not desire to remain in the State of Alabama. In 1869 he was appointed Assessor of Internal Revenue for the First Alabama District, with headquarters at Mobile, and remained in the South until the close of 1872. On the 1st of January, 1873, we find him in the city of Lincoln, Neb., although he had previously visited the State with Gen. Cobh, in 1869. Not long afterward the Major selected his present location, and began making improvements, while at the same time he was recognized as a valued addition to the community, and soon became identified with local affairs. In 1875 he was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention, which drafted the present Constitution of Nebraska, and two years later was elected Senator to fill a vacancy and re-elected for the full term. He resigned this office in 1881, to accept that of Register of the United States Land Office, and changed his residence from his farm to the city of Lincoln, and was the incumbent of this office until May, 1886. Then, disposing of his property in Lincoln, he returned to his farm, to which he has since given his undivided attention. In sympathy with Republican principles, Maj. Pierce has given his support to this party since its organization, in the year 1854. He was formerly a Whig but supported Millard Fillmore for the Presidency. Socially, he is a member of the G. A. R., the Loyal Legion, and a Knight Templar of the Masonic fraternity.

The marriage of Charles W. Pierce and Miss Isabella Burton was celebrated at the home of the bride in Republic, Ohio, Nov. 5, 1850. Mrs. Pierce is of New England birth and ancestry, having been born in Norwich, Vt., in 1825, and is the daughter of William S. and Nancy E. Burton, the former of whom spent his entire life in the Green Mountain State. After the death of the father the mother, with her children, removed to Ohio, where her death took place in 1887. The other members of the family are mostly in Illinois.

To our subject and his wife there have been born five children, only two of whom are living: Florence B., at home with her parents, and Charles A., who is cashier of the Citizens' Bank, at Bennet, of which institution the Major is a stockholder. The Pierce estate is valuable, and is finely illustrative of the perseverance and energy of the man who has built it up.

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JEREMIAH HEILMAN. Of the older States that contributed toward the settlement of Nebraska, none, perhaps, furnished better pioneer material than the old Quaker State, and it is a noticeable fact that, wherever a native of that State locates, his enterprise and good judgment will make him distinguished in whatever calling in life he may engage. To this class belongs the subject of this biographical sketch, who was born in Northumberland County, Pa., on the 4th of March, 1828. In 1878 he took possession of his present property, consisting of 120 acres of land on section 27, Waverly Precinct, and has since been a continuous resident of this place. Nearly all his land is under cultivation, and he has already accomplished much in the way of improvement.

The parents of our subject, Daniel and Gertrude (Deal) Heilman, were natives of Lehigh County, Pa., the former a carpenter by trade. They spent their entire lives in their native State, engaged in agricultural pursuits, which Mr. Heilman followed in connection with his trade, and passed away in Northumberland County. Of his union with Gertrude Deal there were born ten children—Julia, Lucy, Lydia, Hannah, Gertrude, John, Jeremiah,

Daniel D., Maria and Esther. John is deceased. Daniel Heilman was a second time married, choosing for his wife Mrs. Margaret (Smelser) Umel, and of this union there were born two children—Diana and Isaiah. Jeremiah, after receiving a common-school education, learned the trade of a carpenter, and followed that occupation in connection with agricultural pursuits until he came to this State.

Our subject was united in marriage, in February, 1854, with Mary A. Reitz, but she died in 1858, leaving two children—William L. and Jonathan R. In 1860 Mr. Heilman married his present wife, who in her girlhood was Catherine Reitz, a sister of his first wife, and also of Jonathan Reitz, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. By this marriage there have been born three children—Newton D., Samuel E. and Lydia Rebecca, all at home. In politics our subject is a staunch Democrat, and is a man whose opinions are respected by those who are acquainted with his good judgment. In his native State he served as Justice of the Peace, and his discharge of the important duties of that office was such as to convince his constituents that they had put the right man in the right place. In early life Mr. Heilman joined the German Reformed Church, but since his marriage he has attended the Lutheran Church, of which his wife is a worthy member. She is a woman of kindly impulses, a devoted wife and affectionate mother, and has won the esteem of the best people of the precinct.

HENRY FREYE, residing on section 11, Centerville Precinct, is a native of Jackson County, Ohio, the date of his birth being Feb. 7, 1855. He is a son of Henry and Eleanor Freye, of whom a sketch appears in this work. The former is deceased. When he was but a boy he came with his parents to Lancaster County, where he has since lived. He has received a district-school education, and has followed the free and independent life of a farmer, devoting himself to it exclusively.

On the 22d of February, 1883, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Mary Krull, the children granted to their family being Franklin E.,

Elmer C. and Clara E. He has become the owner of eighty acres of well-improved land, which he has been able to buy with the proceeds of his own honest labor and diligence, having had but very little outward assistance.

Because of his integrity, and his using of the strength and wisdom granted him for the making of his own way in life, our subject has met with good success and is now on the road to prosperity and affluence. He coincides with the opinions and principles advocated by the Republican political party, and takes an active interest in the general public movements of the day. He and his wife are active and esteemed members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has served as Class-Leader and Sunday-school Superintendent, always taking an active part and interest in the general work of the church. He enjoys the confidence and esteem of the people of his community, and in return for that he gives his influence and his aid as far as possible to the advancement and support of the institutions for the promotion of the general welfare.



WILLIAM H. HARTZ, a member of the firm of F. Schwake & Co., is interested in general merchandising at Roca, this house controlling the patronage of the best people of this section. He is also interested in agricultural pursuits, is prominent in politics, and during the late Civil War acquitted himself as a valiant soldier in the Union army. He has been a resident of Nebraska since 1868, and is considered one of the leading men of his community, possessing more than ordinary intelligence, with a fine understanding of general business, and is uniformly successful.

The parents of our subject, Conrad and Eliza (McMillen) Hartz, were natives respectively of Bucks and Lancaster Counties, in the State of Pennsylvania, and of substantial German ancestry. The paternal great-grandfather emigrated from the Fatherland during the Colonial days, and since that period the family has been quite largely represented in Cumberland and Lancaster Counties, Pa. Grandfather Hartz was largely interested in mill property, and the father of our subject also learned the busi-

ness in all its details. The latter pursued his calling until 1848 in his native State, then became interested in agriculture, and migrating to Wood County, Ohio, located there among the pioneers, where he carried on farming until 1868. Thence he removed to Michigan, settling near Portland, where his death took place in 1873. The mother died in 1865, in Ohio.

The parental family included five sons and six daughters, of whom our subject was the second child. His birth took place April 17, 1841, near the town of Middlesex, Cumberland Co., Pa. He was a lad twelve years of age when his parents removed to Ohio, where he completed a common-school education and learned the general methods of farm life. He was a young man twenty years of age upon the outbreak of the Rebellion, and on the 3d of September, 1861, a few months after the first call for troops, enlisted in Company H, 49th Ohio Infantry, and was mustered into service on the camping ground at Tiffin, Ohio. Soon afterward the regiment was sent to the vicinity of Louisville, Ky., and our subject later was in the smoke of battle at Shiloh, the siege of Corinth, the fight at Battle Creek, Tenn., and was compelled to retreat with his comrades to Louisville. Here the depleted ranks of the regiment were soon filled out, and their next engagements were at Stone River, Liberty Gap, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge and Knoxville.

At the expiration of his first term of enlistment, our subject re-entered the ranks Dec. 25, 1863, but was allowed a thirty-days furlough. Upon rejoining the re-organized regiment he went all through the Atlanta campaign. On the 27th of May, 1864, he was seriously wounded at Pickett's Mills, taken first to a field hospital, thence to Hospital 19, at Nashville, and from there to Jeffersonville, Ind. Next he proceeded to Camp Dennison and was permitted to again go home on a furlough of thirty days. For a time thereafter he was put on transient duty at Cincinnati, but in December following joined his regiment in Tennessee. Thence his regiment returned to Nashville to be present at the grand reunion, and subsequently the 4th-Corps, to which our subject belonged, was ordered to Texas to disarm the rebels in the vicinity of San Antonio. Our subject remained with his comrades in the South-

west until December, 1865, and when it became apparent that their services would not be needed any longer they repaired to Columbus, Ohio, and were honorably discharged. Mr. Hartz shortly afterward, on the 2d of January, 1866, fulfilled a pledge he had made to one of the most estimable young ladies of Wood County, Ohio, being married to Miss Eliza Frankforter. Mrs. Hartz was born Feb. 24, 1846, in Mahoning County, Ohio, and is the daughter of Andrew and Elizabeth Frankforter, who are natives of Maryland and Ohio, and are now residents of Saltillo Precinct, this county. She acquired her education in the common schools and received careful home training from her excellent parents, remaining with them until her marriage.

Our subject and his wife commenced the journey of life together in Ohio, where Mr. H. engaged in farming. They came to Nebraska in 1868, and are the parents of one child, a son, Charles, who was born July 28, 1867. In making the journey to Southern Nebraska Mrs. Hartz went from Western Ohio to Sterling, Ill., by rail, where she joined her husband, and they came the rest of the way to the embryo town of Lincoln, this county, in an emigrant wagon. They arrived here on the 16th of June, 1868, and Mr. Hartz at once homesteaded eighty acres of land in Saltillo Precinct, on section 10. Their first dwelling was a dug-out, in which they lived until 1874.

Mr. Hartz, upon coming to this county, had a cash capital of \$8, not even enough to secure a homestead claim. The best he could do, therefore, was to pre-empt his land, and the year following he secured the rights of a homesteader. He worked with all the energy of desperation to cultivate a portion of the soil and raise enough to sustain his family, and Providence kindly smiled upon his efforts. In 1874 they moved from the dug-out into a comfortable frame house, and gradually there were added to the premises those improvements best calculated for their comfort and happiness. Mr. Hartz in 1876 added to his real estate by the purchase of eighty acres additional, and now has a quarter-section under a good state of cultivation and producing in abundance the rich crops of this region. The residence is of a size sufficient for the comfort and convenience of the family; the barn occupies an area

of 28x40 feet. Mr. Hartz planted 200 choice apple sprouts in 1873, and now has a fine orchard in good bearing condition, besides cherry and plum trees in abundance. The premises presents that neat and comfortable appearance denoting the thrift and enterprise of the proprietor and the success which has attended his labors.

Mr. Hartz cast his first Presidential vote for Lincoln, and since that time has uniformly supported Republican principles. He is a member of Farragut Post No. 25, G. A. R., at Lincoln, has been selected as a delegate to the County Republican Conventions, and in his district has served on the School Board as Moderator. He also for five years officiated as Assessor of Saltillo Precinct. In 1887 he became identified with the K. of P., at Hickman, in which order he still retains a worthy position. He has made for himself a good record in life, and is entirely worthy of representation in a work which embraces some of the most valuable records of Lancaster County.

SIMON D. PARK. The farming and stock-breeding interests of Highland Precinct are ably represented by the subject of this sketch, especially the latter, he being much interested in graded Durham cattle, Poland-China swine and Norman horses. Of his operations in this department of agriculture he has reason to be proud, as he exhibits some of the finest animals in this part of the county.

Mr. Park has an interest in 220 acres of fine farming land, well improved, being the partner of his brother, F. G. Park, they having operated together since the spring of 1883. Previous to this they were connected with the Insane Hospital Farm, which embraces 480 acres adjacent to the city of Lincoln. They came to Nebraska from the Green Mountain State, in the spring of 1881, our subject having been born there Dec. 30, 1853, and his brother nearly six years later, Oct. 22, 1859.

The Park brothers are the sons of Abel and Sophia (Dow) Park, who were also natives of Vermont and of New England ancestry. The family was first represented on this side of the Atlantic

during the Colonial days, and the mother's people came also not very long after the Pilgrim fathers established themselves in Massachusetts. The parents of our subject spent all of their lives in Lyndon, Vt., and passed away at their home there, the father at the age of fifty-four, and the mother when about fifty-eight years old. The latter was a member of the Free-Will Baptist Church, and Abel Park, politically, was a staunch supporter of the Democratic party.

The early life of our subject (with his brother, Frank G.) was spent in his native township, where he acquired a common-school education, and upon reaching manhood was united in marriage with Miss Nellie Ward, who was also of New England stock, born and reared near the early home of her husband. The young wife died about two years after her wedding, leaving no family. Mr. Park, on the 30th of September, 1882, contracted a second marriage, with Miss Annie Walker, who was born April 10, 1865, in Sterling, Whiteside Co., Ill., where she lived until a maiden of sixteen years. She then came with her parents to this county. The latter were natives of Pennsylvania, and are now living in Albion, Boone County, this State. Of this union there have been born three children—William, Mary L. and Charles A.

Frank G. Park was married in Nepeuskun Township, Winnebago Co., Wis., Dec. 2, 1883, to Miss Lola J. Sawyer, who was born Jan. 28, 1858, and there also was educated and reared to womanhood. Her parents, George C. and Esther M. (Utter) Sawyer, are natives of New York, and are now residents of Wisconsin. The Park brothers are solid Democrats, politically, and men of standing in their community, where they are of material assistance in the maintenance of its agricultural interests.

FREDERICK A. HOVEY, one of the proprietors of the Valparaiso flouring-mills, is a man whose merit, education, and business talent, have gained him an assured position in the commercial circles of Lancaster county. He is a native of Warsaw, Wyoming Co., N. Y., born Oct. 28, 1849. The early history of that town and

men, he put up a mill at West Mills, in Seward County, which they operated three or four years. Mr. Harris now disposed of his interests there and leased a mill in Sarpy County, this State, which he operated three years, then coming to this county purchased and rebuilt the Altamaha Roller Mills, which he has since operated successfully, building up both their reputation and his own. The reader may obtain a good idea of the extensive mills and elevator of this gentleman from the illustration that will be found elsewhere in this volume. These have a capacity of 100 barrels of flour and meal per day, and Mr. Harris in connection with them conducts a merchant and exchange business.

Not content with any narrow sphere of action Mr. Harris, in connection with his milling business, opened up and improved several farms in Seward County, besides operating a general store at Camden. While the employe of others he aimed to make himself a necessity to them, and proved himself as he had intended, almost indispensable, building up a reputation for faithfulness and skill which extended far beyond the confines of his own field of operations. In consequence of this he was called long distances for the performance of skilled labor around mill machinery and mill buildings in general. He also at the same time proved himself equally valuable as a citizen, being possessed of those high principles of integrity and morality which gained him the esteem and confidence of his fellowmen, who at various times called upon him to officiate in the local offices and sought his judgment in important matters.

Mr. Harris while a resident of Seward County was one of its Commissioners for a term of three years, served as Justice of the Peace, and was also a member of the School Board. Socially, he belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being at present Master of Bennet Lodge No. 94, and has held various offices in connection therewith. He is Past Master Workman of the A. O. U. W., and in religious matters, a member in good standing of the Episcopal Church.

The marriage of Daniel H. Harris and Miss Anna M. Bingham was celebrated at the home of the bride in Camden, Seward County, this State, Feb. 20, 1879. Mrs Harris was born in Centralia, Ill., Feb.

21, 1846, and is the daughter of Henry H. and Angeline (Cople) Bingham, natives respectively of Kentucky and Indiana. They came to Nebraska in 1861, and located among the pioneers of Seward County. The father died at Crete, in that county, in the summer of 1887. The mother is still living, and a resident of Crete.

To our subject and his estimable wife there have been born four children—James R., John H., Edmund and Mary A. Mr. Harris, politically, affiliates with the Republican party, and keeps himself well posted upon matters of general interest. He came to this county when it was in the early process of development, and has been no unimportant factor in assisting it to its present condition. Every worthy enterprise has found in him a staunch friend and supporter, and his name will be held in kindly remembrance years hence as one of the public-spirited men of Lancaster County.

The parents of our subject, James and Mary (Meredith) Harris, were also of English birth and parentage, the father a native of Hereford, and the mother born in Radnorshire. James Harris was a farmer and miller by occupation, and both parents spent their last days in Radnorshire, the father dying about 1862 and the mother in 1879. Daniel H., in 1884, paid a visit to his native country, being gone about three months, and deriving much satisfaction from the reunion with his old friends and associates. The home of our subject is pleasantly located in the southeastern part of the town, and is the resort of its best people.

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JOHN P. LODER. One of the first settlers in Waverly Precinct was the subject of this sketch, who entered land in 1857, the only other settler in the precinct at that time being John Dec, whose settlement dates from the same period. Mr. Loder was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, Nov. 28, 1828, and is the son of William and Margaret (Maston) Loder, natives respectively of New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

The parents of our subject were married in Coshocton County, Ohio, and there resided until 1863, when they came to Nebraska, and settled in Cass

County. The family circle included twelve children, ten of whom are still living. When all had attained their majority, they were photographed with the parents in one group, forming a pleasing and unique picture. The eldest son is John P., the subject of this writing; Martha, the wife of John R. Sheffer, of Cass County, Neb.; Lewis J., of this county; Aaron, of Greenwood, Cass County; Rachel is the wife of Martin Kirker, and Nancy, of C. E. Coleman, and both reside in Cass County; W. Alex., of Lancaster County; Samuel; Mary, wife of Oscar Laughlain, and Edith, each of Cass County.

The early days of our subject were spent upon the farm amid scenes of beauty and innocent delights, and when of proper age he entered the common schools of the district, where he soon made his mark. What is often called the drudgery of school life did not seem to effect him; the school was his pleasure, so much so that when the time came for him to leave as a scholar, he elected and was found competent to return to it as teacher. There is, perhaps, no profession in which repose such large responsibilities, such unbounded opportunities. The teacher is the potter whose hands day by day, if directed by the intelligence, integrity and charity of the Christian gentleman, mold the pliant minds and hearts of the men and women who, presently, will rule in State and home. These men and women will be largely what their teacher has made them, and will bear the marks of his training all through their life's journey. In this profession our subject continued for seven years, when failing health warned him that some change must be made. He therefore took a journey westward, and arrived in Nebraska June 13, 1857. Having carefully examined the district, he selected a piece of land near the mouth of Camp Creek. This he chose for his brother, who proposed to follow him West in the fall of 1857. The conditions of life in the new country are not strange to many still living, and yet to those whose lives have been spent in the great cities it would be more than strange to live where eight or ten miles must be covered in order to reach the nearest neighbor. This was the condition of things when our subject settled in Lancaster County, and even until so late a date as 1863 every man in Lancaster County was known personally by our

subject. Since that time the county has been more rapidly developed and thickly settled.

In 1858 Mr. Loder pre-empted the land on which he now resides. He speedily began to improve it and brought it to a high state of cultivation, erecting his pleasant residence and the necessary farm buildings for greater convenience in the prosecution of his chosen pursuits. With the release from confinement and the return to the farm, with its change of occupations, out-door work, his health was speedily restored. About this time the Homestead Law was passed, and Mr. Loder homesteaded eighty acres of land in Lancaster County. He lived upon this claim during the time required by law, fulfilling the remaining legal requirements, and in due time received his patent. He then returned to his old home. His landed estate includes 320 acres of land, 160 of which is situated close to the town site of Waverly, where he maintains in a high state of efficiency one of the finest stock farms of the county.

In 1869 Mr. Loder was united in marriage with Emeline, daughter of William and Catherine (Hummer) Tiger, both natives of New Jersey, where also their daughter Emeline was born, Sept. 8, 1848. This family moved West in 1855, and settled in DuPage County, Ill. Here, until 1867, they were very successful in farming. At that time they removed to Nebraska and settled in Lancaster County. After some years in this new home the father was taken to his last resting-place, leaving in sadness and mourning the mother, who is still living. Of this union there were born six children: Sarah E., wife of George W. Dunham; Emeline, John N., William S., Isaac J. and Lambert.

The family circle of our subject comprised nine children, only six of whom survive—William J., Earl, Lee, Elsie, Maud and John. Mr. Loder, although affiliating with the Democratic party, is a man who cannot be confined to the narrow limits of a party. Whenever occasion requires and the issues at stake seem to demand it, he acts independently of party restraints. The high esteem in which he is held by his fellow-citizens and the confidence they repose in his fitness and integrity is expressed in that they elected him to be the first County Clerk of Lancaster County. School matters and everything which pertains to the in-

terest of the people of the future generations through the present education, training and development of youth, always receives his cordial interest and support. While destitute of adventure and dramatic scenes, his life presents in many regards a highly gratifying picture and worthy example. As a child, teachable and engaging; as a scholar, studious; as a teacher, earnest, painstaking and untiring; as a father and citizen, a true, courteous Christian gentleman.



MRS. SOPHIA KOLLOSTER. It has been the unqualified testimony of every thoughtful writer, unwarped by cynicism, that the world owes more to woman than can ever be estimated. But for a Miriam with watchful eye and ready wit, there would have been no Moses, and, humanly speaking, no Jewish nation. We are reminded, also, that at the greatest tragedy of the ages the women disciples were the only ones who did not desert their Lord in the trying hour of the Roman Crucifixion. The tribute of the "Greatest Emperor," Napoleon the First, is too well known to need repetition. We are reminded, moreover, that the ruler of that Empire upon which the sun never sets, the sunrise gun of whose garrisons is world-encircling, is a woman; and, whatever may be our opinion concerning monarchy, we are constrained to admit her womanly qualities and graces, which are as widely known and admired as there are minds to appreciate them. Incidents innumerable come to mind in the course of our own history, as a people, in the same connection; such of our heroes as George Washington and James A. Garfield were what they were because their mothers were grandly great and true women. The field of pioneer and Far West life has abundantly developed the fact that the opportunity only is needed to reveal and bring out the true greatness of womanhood. This is not necessarily public in all cases, but it always exists.

Our subject was born in Germany, on the 10th of July, 1840. Her education was received in the schools of the Fatherland, where, also, she was reared and spent the early years of her womanhood. In Germany she was married to George

Medking, and there was born to them one child, Frederiek, now a resident of York County, Neb. Their married life was brief, her husband being removed by death in the year 1864.

In 1870 our subject left her native land for America, and upon landing proceeded at once to York County, Neb., where she took up her residence for about one year, at which time she removed to Nebraska City, continued her home there until Nov. 14, 1871, when her many virtues won for her the respect and admiration of Hernan T. Kolloster, and they were accordingly married. By this second marriage she became the mother of five children, whose names are recorded as follows: Lena, Louis, Mary, George and Dora.

Mrs. Kolloster was called upon to sustain a second bereavement on the 20th of October, 1885, when her husband was removed from her side by death, which occurred at Salt Creek, Waverly Precinct, Neb. Although left alone to continue the struggle, to bring up her children, to carry on the farm, she has been equal to the contest. Our subject possesses 160 acres of land, which she maintains in a condition and state of cultivation which would be gratifying to many a farmer who has made agricultural pursuits and husbandry his life study and work. Mrs. Kolloster is the owner also of a substantially built, conveniently arranged, pleasantly situated residence, in addition to the usual farm buildings. She is accorded the full confidence and high regard of the community at large. It is with pleasure that the attention of the reader is called to the view of the beautiful home of this lady, which will be found in this volume.



ANDREW J. STEELE was born on the 27th of October, 1832, in Monroe County, Ohio, and is a son of John and Mary Steele, the former of Pennsylvania, the latter of Maryland. They were among the early settlers of Monroe County, Ohio, where our subject spent his childhood days, and as he grew older he helped to bear the burdens of the family, lightening the

work incident to the life of early settlers until he reached the age of twenty-four years. He received his education in the early subscription schools, and they were quite different from the advantages offered to young men of to-day.

Our subject was married in Ohio, on the 18th of December, 1856, to Mary Heck, a daughter of Jacob and Sarah Heck, of the same State. To Mr. and Mrs. Steele there have been born nine children, the names of whom we mention as follows: Nelson, Phoba Jane, Lydia (wife of William Warnock, of Thayer County, Neb.), Sarah C., Alfred, Laura, David, Oscar and Milton. Early in the sixties the family moved to Illinois, and resided in Tazewell County until the last year of that decade, in which year they came to Lancaster County.

In 1869 our subject homesteaded eighty acres of land, and settled on it before there had been any improvements made, and out of it he has made one of the best improved and finest farms in Buda Precinct. He has erected good farm buildings, and planted one of the best orchards in the precinct. His possessions having become sufficiently remunerative, he has been enabled to purchase another eighty acres, and now owns 160 acres of splendid farming land on sections 34 and 33, besides a timber claim consisting of 160 acres in Chase County.

Our subject is sufficiently public-spirited to devote a fair share of his time to the public service, having served as School Director for three years, and Judge of the elections in his present precinct for several terms. Where matters of politics are concerned, our subject takes a broad, honest view, not caring so much for the upholding of a certain party as for the best government of the country, consequently he generally votes and lends his influence in behalf of the men whom he thinks best fitted to hold public offices.

When Mr. Steele came here the nearest house was situated four miles north of him, and we can imagine the seclusion of the family, having no neighbors nearer than that distance. But it is not so to-day; instead of walking or driving across the bare prairie, the residents now pass to and fro on well-constructed roads, bordered on the sides by fields of growing grain or pastures containing herds of cattle and live stock. Public spirit and enter-

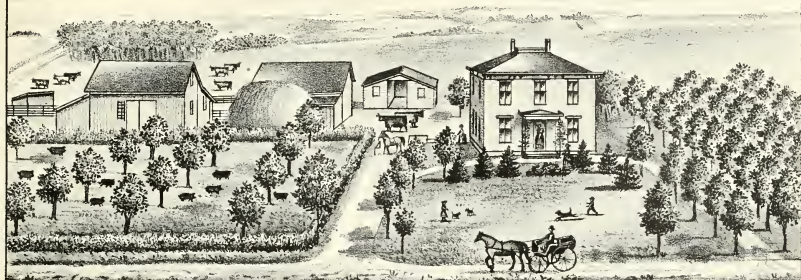
prise, combined with perseverance and industry, have wrought a wonderful change, and an unlimited amount of honor is due to those who bore the first and heaviest burdens of colonization.



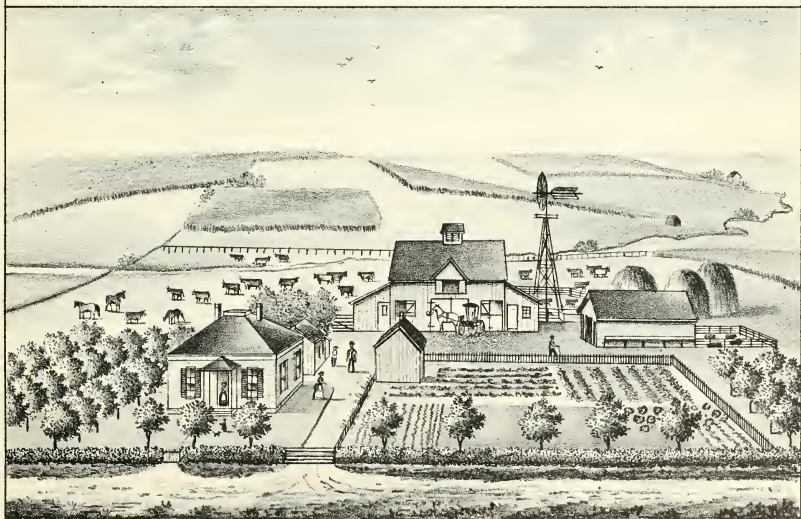
ELLIAB B. GLOVER. One of the most pleasantly situated and inviting homes in this county is found in that of the subject of this sketch, which is located on section 2, Nemaha Precinct. The dwelling is a very solidly built structure of brick, and tastefully decorated, both externally and internally. The arrangement of the interior is such as to meet approval, whether one be seeking rest, convenience, or opportunity for social enjoyment. The house is surrounded by scenery, which, although not so massive in its grandeur as that in the neighborhood of some Colorado homes, or found in certain parts of the course of the Hudson, is nevertheless pleasing in the extreme. The whole comprises a scene indicating a thrifty, energetic people, and a prosperous agricultural community.

Our subject was born and lived until his tenth year in Scioto County, Ohio, and dates the commencement of his life to March 19, 1845. His parents removed from Ohio to Council Bluffs, Iowa, about the year 1855, our subject, of course accompanying them. After a residence of one year in the Hawkeye State another removal was made, this time to Nebraska. The family settled in Washington County, the name of the farm being Linwood, and there our subject continued to reside with his parents until he was almost eighteen years of age.

In the year 1863 young Glover returned to Ohio, and engaged in mercantile pursuits at Zanesfield, Logan County. This employment was at the time quite congenial, and good success was the result. He continued thus occupied for a period of three years, and then returned to Nebraska. The two years following were spent at the work incidental to agricultural pursuits, when again, in 1867, Mr. Glover returned to Ohio, and engaged in farming in Champaign County. For nine years our subject was thus engaged, when for the last time he came, in 1878, to Nemaha Precinct. His farm



RESIDENCE OF E. B. GLOVER, SEC. 2, NEMAHA PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF GEO. W. DEAHL SEC. 21, SALTILLO PRECINCT.

comprises 120 acres on section 2, eighty acres of which were bought when he first settled here. The remaining portion having been since purchased, is one evidence of the prosperity which has smiled upon him since that time.

While residing in his native State our subject became acquainted with Miss Mary A. Sidders, who is the daughter of James and Sarah (Robins) Sidders, and who was born in Hunterdon County, N. J., May 18, 1854. Yielding to the dictates of the noblest and deepest passion of humanity, the two united their lives and fortunes at Zanesfield, Aug. 15, 1873. This devoted attachment and happy alliance has been crowned by the blessing and brightness of a family circle comprising six children, who are named: Alice M., Katie, Anna Coe, Jennie B., John E. and Laura E. The second child, Katie, died when eighteen months old, in Ohio. Mr. Glover is a man of considerable intellectual power, education and experience, and by his consistent character and life commands the highest regard of the community at large, and more especially of those who know him more intimately in official or home life. He has served several times as a member of the School Board, discharging his duties with dignity and efficiency.

The ability and fitness displayed generally by Mr. Glover resulted some time since in his being unanimously elected to the office of Elder in the Presbyterian Church, of which both he and his wife are members. This office, one of the most important in the affairs of any communion, is full of onerous and difficult duties. The satisfactory manner in which these have been met and discharged is recognized by the affection and esteem in which Mr. Glover is held in the church. In the same proportion that this gentleman is held in the regard of his friends and fellow-citizens, is his wife also esteemed and honored, and we believe that Mr. Glover himself would be one of the first to acknowledge that more credit is due to the charms, brightness and aid which his wife has brought into his life, his plans and work, than to his own character or efforts. In the Republican party Mr. Glover finds that which is appreciable to his political thought, and this party receives his advocacy and support.

Dr. John Glover, the father of our subject, was a native of Scioto County, Ohio, and was born in the second year of this century. His mother, a native of Franklin County, Ohio, is Eliza (Nurse) Glover, who was born in the year 1817. This lady is still living, but her husband was taken from her side by death June 11, 1885. Their union was fruitful in the birth of four children—Corrinne, Catherine, Laura A., and Elijah B., our subject.

The father of Mrs. Glover, James Sidders, was born June 7, 1829, in Hunterdon County, N. J.; her mother, Sarah (Robins) Sidders, was born Nov. 27, 1833. They had twelve children—George, Mary A., John W., Sylvester R., Sarah E., Anna M., Charity, Jersey B., James R., Jonathan, Mahala and Levi.

The interesting family we have here briefly sketched is one of a class which it is always a pleasure to be connected with, or to write about. In such homes our country has its strongest bulwarks, and from such family circles draws its best and noblest citizens—those who have grown up in the atmosphere of Christian manhood and womanhood, fitted for the diverse and intricate opportunities and emergencies which sooner or later come into every life. A view of the dwelling which shelters the Glover family is shown in this connection.



GEORGE W. DEAILL, one of the leading dairymen and farmers of Saltito, is a young man of sterling qualities, thoughtful, intelligent and industrious, is a credit to the community where he lives, and is held in universal respect by all who know him, whether in social or in business life.

The gentleman whose life record we herein notice is a son of the late well-known Andrew Deahl, of whose honorable career his children are justly proud. The father was a native of Germany, who came to this country in 1834, and settled in Somerset County, Pa., where he operated a farm. He met and married Miss Matilda Schultz, in Somerset County, Pa., which was the place of her birth, and there they spent the first five years of their wedded life. They then took up their abode in Maryland,

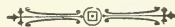
where they lived twenty-five years. They subsequently removed to Macoupin County, Ill., where Mr. Deahl purchased a farm, and conducted general farming on quite an extensive scale until 1879, when he came with his family to Nebraska, and settled in Lancaster County, making his home here until his death, in September, 1886, at the age of seventy-seven years.

During the seven years' residence of the father of our subject in this county his rare stability of character and trustworthiness as a man and a citizen did not fail to impress those about him, who accorded him due honor and respect. His estimable wife, who had been to him a true friend, helper and counselor, survived him only a fortnight, dying in the same month, at the age of sixty-six years. Thus they who had been so faithful and devoted to each other in life were scarcely divided in death. They were the parents of seventeen children, nine of whom are living, namely: Elizabeth, Mrs. Martin; Adam; Catherine, Mrs. Martin; Henry; Sarah, Mrs. Call; Mollie, Mrs. Hillier; John; George and Chauncey.

The subject of this sketch was born Aug. 3, 1861, in Alleghany County, Md., and he was four years old when his parents removed to Illinois, where the remaining years of his boyhood and youth were passed. He received a substantial education in the public schools of Shipman, and a practical training on his father's farm. He was eighteen years old when his father's family came to Nebraska, and he remained an inmate of the parental home until the death of his father and mother. In 1886 he bought land of his father, intending to establish a home for himself and his young wife. In 1887 he sold sixty acres of it, clearing quite a sum of money. His farm now comprises 100 acres of very productive land, and he is fast bringing it to a highly cultivated condition, and with the valuable improvements that he is continually making it bids fair to become one of the finest farms in the vicinity. Mr. Deahl makes a specialty of dairying, and has already won an enviable reputation in that line, supplying a good class of customers in Lincoln.

To the charming young wife who presides over his home Mr. Deahl was married Feb. 12, 1885. She is a type of womanly grace, has a sweet and

affectionate disposition, and makes their home a true paradise, a retreat from the cares and worries of business. Mrs. Deahl was formerly Miss Hallie May Mitchell, daughter of William and Margaret (Hooper) Mitchell, natives respectively of North Carolina and Missouri. Her father is a wheelwright by trade, and removed to Illinois in 1866. He still resides in the town of Medora, and is now sixty-eight years old. His estimable wife departed this life in 1874, aged forty-two years. Seven children were born of their union, namely: Mollie, Willie, Otis, Maggie, Hallie, Katie and Arthur. Mrs. Deahl was the fifth child in order of birth, and was born in Macoupin County, Ill., Dec. 12, 1866. She was educated in the schools of Medora, and only left her father's home to take up the duties devolving upon her as a wife in her new home in Nebraska. Mr. Deahl is a young man of sound principles and excellent business habits, and an active member of the Lutheran Church, of Roca. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat, earnestly believing that the policy of that party is the true one for the guidance of the country. The view of his homestead, which appears in this connection, will be looked upon with interest as that of a rising citizen who will make his mark in his community.



REV. PETER S. SCHAMP, an honored resident of Lincoln, is one of the earliest pioneers of Lancaster County, and many years of his life have been devoted to its moral and material elevation. When he first visited Nebraska, in 1861, it was a Territory, the greater part of it in a wild, uncultivated condition, with elk, antelope, and other wild game abounding, and Indians passing to and fro to their hunting-grounds or reservations. At that time there was not a house on the present site of Lincoln, the land then being owned by the Government, and for sale at \$1.25 an acre. He selected a tract of land on section 23 of what is now Yankee Hill Precinct, and filed his claim at the land-office in Nebraska City, July 25, 1861. He then returned to his home in Iowa, and in the spring of 1862 came back with his family,

making the journey with a pair of oxen and a team of horses and two wagons. During that year he erected the first frame house ever built in the county, it being located in the northern part of the Salt Basin. Nebraska City was the nearest market and depot for supplies, and the nearest mill was at Weeping Water Falls, thirty-five miles distant.

Mr. Schamp was born Nov. 7, 1816, in Union County, Pa., a son of Nicholas and Charity (Van Horn) Schamp. His father was a native of New Jersey, and his father was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and died of fever while in service. His wife, the grandmother of our subject, was born in Sussex County, N. J., and was a daughter of John Waldron. Nicholas Schamp was an infant when his parents died, and he was then taken to Genesee County, N. Y., to the home of his uncle John, who reared him to a useful and industrious life. When he became a man he went to Pennsylvania and there married, his wife being a native of New Jersey and a daughter of Abraham Van Horn. Her father was also, it is supposed, a native of New Jersey, but spent his last years in Union County, Pa. The maiden name of his wife was Eva Pickel, a native of New Jersey. The mother of our subject died in Union County, Pa., at the age of forty-four years. After this sad event, whereby he lost a faithful helpmate, and his children a devoted mother, Mr. Schamp continued to reside in Union County until 1848, when he removed to Illinois and settled near Freeport. He lived there eight years, and then crossed the Mississippi River and located in Hamilton County, Iowa, being one of its earliest settlers. He spent his last years in that county, in the home of his youngest daughter, dying at an advanced age, having throughout an upright life won and retained the respect and esteem of all with whom he came in contact. He was the father of eight children, all of whom grew to maturity, namely: Abraham, Peter S. and Aaron (twins), N. B. Thompson, Mary, Margaret; Catherine and Robert were also twins. Abraham, Peter (the subject of this sketch) and Catherine are the three surviving members of the family.

The Rev. Peter S. Schamp was reared in his native county until he was eighteen years old, when he started out in life for himself. He went to

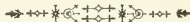
Clearfield County with his two oldest brothers, and there chopped wood and hewed timber one winter. Then, being ambitious to secure a more complete education, he entered Ferry Street College, and was a hard student there most of the time for two years. After leaving college he commenced to work at the carpenter's trade in Pittsburgh and Eastern Ohio, continuing thus employed for fourteen years. He then went to Stephenson County, Ill., and followed his trade in Freeport and vicinity until 1854. In that year he went to Iowa and located at Floyd Center. He had always been an earnest student of the Bible, and a great worker in the church, and he entered upon his career as a preacher of the Gospel in that place, being the first minister who was ever located there, and the only one at that time within thirty miles. There were then but three buildings on the present site of Charles City, and they were constructed of poplar poles. He entered 200 acres of Government land near Floyd Center, and built a log house thereon for the shelter of his family. The years that followed were devoted to hard work in improving his land and plying his trade, and to his beloved calling, as he was employed as a missionary during the whole of his residence in Iowa. In his ministerial office he was a great power for good, carrying religious consolation and hope to many a household out on the lone prairies, whose inmates would else have seldom heard the Gospel preached or explained, owing to their great distance from churches. Nor were his zealous labors without reward, as he was instrumental in organizing churches at Osage, in Mitchell County, and Floyd Center, in Floyd County, and other places in Harden, Marshall and Story Counties. There was no railway then west of the Mississippi River, and Dubuque and McGregor's Landing were the nearest markets and depot for supplies, and he occasionally took trips to those places with his team for the purpose of drawing goods for the merchants. At one time he had been to McGregor's Landing for a load of goods, and he traveled a part of the way on Sunday to attend a meeting. When he arrived at the appointed place he found the congregation waiting, but no minister, and as the preacher failed to put in an appearance, our subject doffed his overalls, mounted

a stump, and preached to the assembled crowd very acceptably. In 1857 Mr. Schamp sold his place in Floyd Center, and moved to Harden County, where he bought a tract of land in Point Pleasant. After living there a year he went to Steamboat Rock, in the same county, and bought a tract of land, on which he resided the two succeeding years. From there he went to Marshall County, whence he went at the end of a year to Story County. In 1861 he visited the Territory of Nebraska with a pair of horses and a wagon, viewing the country around Salt Basin and the present site of Lincoln, and he was so favorably impressed with the beautiful climate and scenery, and the wonderful fertility of the soil, that he determined to locate here, and as we have seen, removed to Lancaster County the following spring with his family. Of course, the country roundabout being so recently settled, he had no shelter for his wife and children, but there was a house near by whose inmates kindly invited them to share its hospitality with them until Mr. Schamp could build an abode of his own. He resumed his ministerial work here and preached for nearly twelve years, devoting a part of his leisure time during the week to improving his farm and in working at carpentering. After the death of his wife he moved to Yankee Hill, but at the end of a year he moved again, taking up his residence in Seward County. He next returned to the home farm and lived there until 1885, when he came to Lincoln and has resided here ever since.

The Rev. Peter Schamp has been three times married. His first wife was Mary, daughter of Lewis and Catherine Deter. She died in 1851, and of the three children born to her and her husband—Lewis D., William A. and Catherine Matilda—but two survive, Catherine having died. The second marriage of our subject was in 1853 to Margaret Ann, daughter of John Wilson, and a native of Steubenville, Ohio. She died in 1874, leaving six children, namely: Casander W., John H., Asa P., Susan R., Ida A. and George W. L. Mr. Schamp's third marriage, which took place in 1878, was to Mrs. Frances (Holcomb) Schamp, daughter of John and Emily S. (Jewell) Holcomb, and widow of Robert B. Schamp.

Notwithstanding his arduous labors in his capac-

ity as missionary and a preacher—he was formerly a Methodist, but now a member of the Baptist Church—and in looking after his private interests, our subject has found time to serve the public in various offices. He was County Surveyor for two terms, and has held the office of County Coroner for one term. He has always taken a marked interest in school affairs, and has often been called upon to give the benefit of his experience and wisdom in educational matters. He was School Inspector under Territorial laws, and has served since on the State Board and District Boards, being at one time Treasurer of the School Board in his district in Seward County. Politically, Mr. Schamp was a Democrat until 1848, he then became a Free-Soiler, and subsequently assisted in the organization of the Republican party, but he is now a strong Prohibitionist.



GEORGE KLING. It has been stated that "Self-reliance is the master key that unlocks all the difficulties arising along one's path, but, like the locks of private mail boxes, the intricacies of each forbid the entrance to all keys but one." To a certain extent the experiences of two men if carefully compared may seem to be similar, but there will here and there arise occasions or incidents without similarity or precedent, and just at such a time will a man's self-reliance be the only thing that can aid him. He may find some way, if it be not always the best way, to solve the difficulty, and then if the same obstacle should a second time arise, his own experience will enable him to combat it.

Our subject belongs to that class of refined and cultured Germans who have come to America in the prime of life, and through honest efforts have entered successfully into business. He is a careful, frugal and enterprising man, and it is only in justice to his real worth that he should be enumerated among the best citizens of Hickman. He is a dealer in boots and shoes, and is devoted to his business, but without neglecting it he still has time to devote to other affairs, being a leader in religious spheres, and taking an active part in the

jurisprudence necessary for the due administration of justice.

The parents of Mr. Kling were born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, the father named John and the mother, Elizabeth (Roth) Kling. The father was a shoemaker by trade, and had also a farm of twenty-five acres, which he tended in connection with his other business. He became the father of twelve children, eight boys and four girls, ten of whom, seven boys and three girls, are now living, and all have come to America. Our subject was the fourth of the family of children, his birth occurring on the 19th of December, 1848, at Gross Bieberan, Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany. Like all industrious Germans, his father early taught him to work, having him to help on the farm and to do odd pieces of work such as he was capable of. All the children of this family were given as thorough an education as the father's circumstances would admit of, and they also received of their parents a good religious training, so that they were well equipped to make their own ways in life after leaving the paternal roof.

Our subject, having received the careful training of his parents, received his religious confirmation at the age of thirteen years and six months, after which he began to learn the trade of shoemaking. During his studies in school he had read and heard much of the new country, America, and his earliest ambition had been to visit the land of freedom, and to become one of its citizens. He recalls many incidents that occurred during his boyhood days, which only served to fan the flame of his ambition, so that at the age of fifteen the desire had become so strong that he begged of his father to send him to America. His request, however, was not granted, and still determined to come, he continued to work for his father until he reached the age of seventeen, at which time his father aided him with money to procure a passage across the water. Starting out a young boy of seventeen on such a perilous voyage, he did not stop to think of the dangers and trials incident to a life in a strange country.

Bidding farewell to his home and friends and Fatherland, our subject sailed from Hamburg on the 1st of April, 1866. Not until he was out on the

ocean fully under way, did he realize the importance of the step he had taken, but then, sick and homesick, it all thrust itself forcibly upon his mind that now or never he must take care of himself and depend upon himself alone, trusting to the guidance of the Heavenly Father, whom he had learned to depend upon. The steamer "Teutonia" put an end to his melancholy by landing him safely in the harbor of New York on the 22d of April, 1866. His destination was St. Louis, so he at once went to that place, where he remained at work, engaged in shoemaking for nine years.

In 1870 our subject, with thoughts still clinging to those he had left years before in the Fatherland, made a visit to them in their home, remaining for about three months on account of the Franco-German War. In the time of his stay he gave such glowing descriptions of his adopted country that he persuaded his parents to return with him, for which purpose the father sold his possessions and all come across to America, settling at St. Louis. At that place they remained for a time, when they moved to Iowa, where our subject and his father bought a farm in Jasper County. The father still resides there, being seventy-seven years old, but the mother died in 1876, at the age of fifty-seven years.

While in St. Louis our subject, in the endeavor to still better prepare himself for a successful business career, attended the business college, from which he was graduated in 1873. Remaining on the farm in Iowa one season, he then went back to St. Louis, where he worked at his trade until 1879. In the year 1875 he was married to Miss Katherine W. Offer, a daughter of Fred and Hannah Offer, also of Germany. Mrs. Kling was born in Franklin County, Mo., where she enjoyed the advantages of the common schools, and received from her parents a good religious training, which so eminently fitted her to fulfill the responsibilities of her position in the family toward her own children. Our subject and his wife are the parents of nine children, and their names are as follows: Willie, George, Lydia W., Matilda M., John F. T., Paul, Amanda S., Emile L. and George Benjamin Harrison. The father located in his shop at Hickman in 1879, and since then has enjoyed a very good trade. He also owns eighty acres of land in Saltillo Precinct.

Mr. and Mrs. Kling are members of the German Presbyterian Church, of which the former is now an Elder, having joined the denomination in 1868 at St. Louis. For eight years he has been the Superintendent of a Sunday-school having between fifty and sixty members, and is one of the leading men in the Y. M. C. A., of Hickman. Continuing his interest in educational matters, he was appointed librarian of the public library in his town. He is a member of the Republican party, and has served as Justice of the Peace for four years, at present holding that honorable office. His strict business integrity, his social, religious and educational standing, have won for him a prominent place in the rank of good citizens.

JOHAN H. LAHMEIER. The brave men who yet survive the sanguinary struggle through which this country was called upon to pass, have as true sentiments of patriotism to-day as when they left their homes for the front. Wherever they are found, in all questions of National or State import, it springs forth and blazes with a clear and unquenchable light. Wealth cannot bribe it, nor ambition blind it; fear cannot intimidate it, friendship cannot swerve it from justice, or luxury corrupt or enervate it. We cannot in this brief sketch rehearse the daring deeds of those who volunteered from the inspiration of patriotism, as did the subject of this present sketch, but all the experiences of war were theirs. Could they be told, they would speak of early reverses, sad disappointments, gloomy forebodings for the future, of sickness in camp and hospital, fearful suspense, of midnight marches and deadly ambuscades; of narrow escapes, of wounds, of imprisonment in foul dens, and of death—of all the horrors of fratricidal war. But they would speak, too, of privations willingly endured, dangers voluntarily incurred, ceaseless labor gladly undergone, and death most chivalrously encountered; of dashing assaults, of well contested fields, and of countless victories. They would speak of disaster, but also of success; of doubt, but not of despair; of transient defeats, and of a final and enduring victory. Among these

heroes would be classed the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch, and who, though foreign born, possesses all the love for our Union, and the ardent desire for its preservation, that characterize the best of its citizens by birth. The main points in the history of our subject are as follows:

John H. Lahmeier was born in Hanover, Germany, Aug. 18, 1831, and is the son of William Lahmeier, who was born and spent his life in the same kingdom. Our subject and his sister Sophia were the only members of the family who came to this country. John H. spent his early life in his native land, receiving at the compulsory schools, for which that country is noted, a good, practical education, and at the age of thirteen engaged to learn the trade of a key maker. He followed this calling until he was nineteen years of age, and then engaged in blacksmithing, which he followed until his removal to America in 1859. The ocean voyage accomplished, that placed thousands of miles between him and his home and friends, young Lahmeier found himself in New York with a few cents in his pocket, a stranger in a strange land, with the language and customs of which he was entirely unacquainted. He found his first employment in a tile-yard in York State, and, a footing once secured, the future success of such a man as our subject was assured. After a few months he removed to New Jersey and ran an engine in a tile-yard in that State, after which he was employed in a nail factory in Pittsburgh, Pa., and subsequently removed to Cincinnati.

Soon after his arrival in Cincinnati, Mr. Lahmeier enlisted in Company C, 28th Ohio Infantry, for three years, and went forth to do battle for his adopted country. He was ordered to West Virginia, and served with the regiment until the time of his discharge in 1864. Returning to Cincinnati, he rested for a few days, and then going to Rochester, N. Y., re-enlisted in July, 1864, in Company B, 94th New York Infantry. He served with that regiment until after the close of the war, seeing much hard service, and was honorably discharged with a good war record. He participated in the engagement at Crawford's Ferry, also at Thompson's Farm, Gawlic Bridge, Huntersville, and skir-

mishes with guerrillas. At the battle of Five Forks our subject was wounded in the fingers of the right hand, and, although quite badly injured, did not go to the hospital, but remained with his regiment all the time.

Upon the cessation of hostilities our subject returned to Indiana, and engaged in the peaceful vocation of farming near Decatur. Three years later, however, in 1868, he came to this State, and settled in Mill Creek Precinct, Lancaster County, among the very earliest settlers. He purchased a claim of eighty acres on section 30, pre-empted a tract of the same size, and then homesteaded another eighty acres adjoining, and has since been a continuous resident of this place. As the result of industry and good judgment, he now owns one of the finest farms in the precinct, adorned with a beautiful stone residence, and good frame out-buildings, together with numerous shade and fruit trees. He has since purchased another quarter-section of land adjoining his first eighty acres.

Mr. Lahmeier was united in marriage with Mrs. Caroline Paner, a native of Germany, but she died five years later, and he married for his second wife, Mena Pining, a native of Germany. Of our subject's first union there were born two children, Henry and John, while of the second union there have been born seven children—Fred, Christina, Sophia, August, Mena, Dora and Anna. Mr. and Mrs. Lahmeier are members in good standing of the Episcopal Church, while in politics, Mr. L. is found in the ranks of the Republican party.

ERASTUS W. RHYKERT is distinguished not only as one of the early pioneers of Buda Precinct, but as one who gave very much toward the succor of his country when she was in distress and needed strong and able men. His military career has perhaps turned the course of his life into a channel different from what it might otherwise have been, but he has a share of the honor and glory that are the right of every brave soldier. He was born on the 25th of October, 1832, in Wayne County, N. Y., and is a son of Joseph and Catherine Rhykert, who were both natives of Wayne

County, N. Y. His parents were of German ancestry, both having early left their native State and moved to Illinois, where they were among the early settlers. The mother died in the year 1863, the death of the father having occurred a few years previous to that time. Of the thirteen children comprising their family, the following are now known to survive: William, living in Rochester, N. Y.; Charles, in Warren County, Ill.; Jacob; Adelia, the wife of W. H. Tirpening, living near Sedalia, Mo.; and Erastus W.

Our subject grew to man's estate in Illinois, and at that early day the educational advantages being so few and limited, he was unable to enjoy the benefits of a long attendance at school, but was obliged to acquire his education under many disadvantages. On the 1st of January, 1854, he was married to Deborah A. Boone, a native of New York State, who had moved to Illinois with her parents when she was quite young. Our subject and his wife have adopted two children, Jennie and John, for whom they have provided and cared as if they were their own.

On the 1st of August, 1862, Mr. Rhykert enlisted as a private in Company D, 102d Illinois Infantry, which became a part of the Army of the West under command of Gen. Sherman. He participated in the engagements at Frankfort, Ky., Mumfordsville and Snake Creek Gap, and after the last-named battle he was placed among the mounted infantry, with which he served for nearly two years as a scout, in reconnoitering and protecting railroad property, trains, etc. While he was in South Carolina he was a member of a detached troop that was attacked by the Confederate soldiers, and he was unfortunately hit by a spent musket ball, which broke two of his ribs. At Chattanooga, Tenn., during the performance of his duties, his horse fell on him, the force of the fall causing his shoulder to be thrown out of place, dislocating his right hip and breaking two ribs on the right side. Fortunately, however, none of the injuries proved fatal to our subject, and in June, 1865, he was honorably discharged, and returned to Illinois.

In the fall of 1867 our subject came to Lancaster County, and received eighty acres of land in fee simple from the Government, situated on section

24. Buda Precinct. By subsequent purchase he has added to the first amount, and now owns 280 acres of land as a result of his own hard labor. He began as a young man with the knowledge that he must depend upon himself to secure whatever he was to enjoy, as he had received no great start in life. He is a Republican in politics, and is gratified at the improvements that have been made since he came to this county, having watched the progress of development and aided it as much as he was able. As one who has honorably served as a Union soldier, and assisted in the development of the country's resources, Mr. Rhykert merits a grateful remembrance. Our subject was the first Postmaster in Buda Precinct, and Mrs. Rhykert has the honor of naming this precinct.



ISAAC JOHNSON, one of the leading breeders of Short-horn cattle in the eastern part of Lancaster County, also represents a portion of its wealth and prosperity, he being in possession of a fine homestead on section 4, Grant Precinct, where he has built one of the handsomest residences in the precinct. A man enterprising, industrious, and of more than ordinary intelligence, he has the true conception of rural life and agricultural pursuits, and has been engaged largely in farming and stock-raising for the last eleven years in this county. His present farm, which is familiarly known as "Walnut Park Stock Farm," forms one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of this region. The buildings are of modern style of architecture, conveniently arranged, and adapted to the necessities of the modern agriculturist, and surrounding them are those numberless features which none but the systematic and thorough-going farmer will bring about, and which to him are absolutely indispensable.

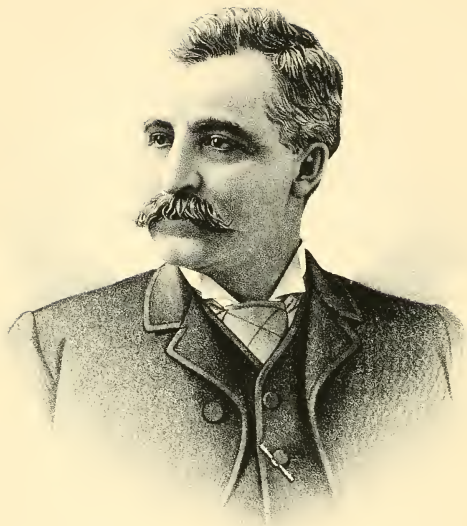
In reflecting upon the career of a successful citizen, whose prosperity has been the result of his own perseverance and industry, it is but natural to revert to those from whom he drew his origin. Lewis Johnson, the father of our subject, was a native of Oswego County, N. Y., where he grew to manhood, and married a lady of his own State, Miss Julia Parmelee, also of an excellent family. They com-

menced life together upon a farm in Oswego County, and there became the parents of two sons and three daughters, Isaac, of our sketch, being the fourth child. The latter was born in Palermo Township, Oct. 11, 1827, was reared upon a farm, and until a lad of thirteen years pursued his studies in the common school. Later he attended Mexico Academy, and finally entered the New York State Normal School, from which he was graduated in 1847, and where he had qualified himself for a teacher.

Mr. Johnson followed teaching two years in his native county, and served two years as Superintendent of Schools in his native town. At the expiration of this time, wishing for a change of occupation, he engaged in mercantile business in Oswego County for two or three years, and about 1850 changed his residence to Wanpan, Wis. He taught school at that place a year and another year at Janesville, his work as a teacher probably covering a period of twelve years. He subsequently moved to Dixon, Ill., afterward to the city of Chicago, where he engaged in the wholesale trade for ten years. Finally he purchased a tract of land near Lake Geneva, Ill., where he carried on farming a few seasons, and in 1877 made his way to Nebraska.

Our subject, upon coming to this county, was employed in purchasing stock for about six months, and then purchased a large stock farm in Oak Precinct, where he lived a number of years and until coming to Grant Precinct. He was then a resident of Lincoln two years, and at the expiration of this time purchased the "Walnut Park Stock Farm," which takes its name from the 3,000 fine walnut trees which grace its broad acres. In his stock operations he handles mostly registered animals, having a fine herd of sixty-five Short-horn cattle. The labor involved in the care and keeping of these is mostly accomplished by subordinates, Mr. Johnson giving general attention to the whole.

To our subject and his estimable wife there have been born three sons and two daughters, the eldest of whom, Isaac II., is junior member of the firm of Cook & Johnson, who represent the grocery trade in the city of Lincoln; Ernest E. is an insurance agent, representing his company for the States of Tennessee and Kentucky, having the management of the agency in the two States, with head-



Respectfully Yours
C. H. Willard

quarters at Lexington; Minnie is the wife of Dr. O. F. Lambertson, of Lincoln; May and Grace continue at home with their parents. Mrs. Johnson is a very intelligent and amiable lady, admirably fitted for the position which she occupies in the community. Their children have been well reared and educated, and like their parents are highly respected members of society. Our subject, politically, votes the straight Republican ticket, having abundant faith in the principles of the party, and, when less engrossed with the details of an extensive business, took an active part in political affairs. Socially, he belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being a member of Friendship Lodge No. 7, at Cortland, Ill.



HON. CHARLES H. WILLARD, a distinguished citizen of Nebraska, of which he is State Treasurer, is a native of New York, where, in the town of Trenton, he was born March 25, 1843. He is the only child of Charles A. W. and Abbie (Hall) Willard. His father is also a native of Trenton, was born in 1816, and is still making his home in that town. He is a lineal descendant of the famous Col. Simon Willard, of Massachusetts, who came to this country from England, and was one of the first settlers of the Colony of Massachusetts.

The father of our subject was reared on a farm, and was engaged in agriculture in the early part of his life. He was also a stone contractor for many years, being the proprietor of the Blue Limestone Quarries, of Trenton, N. Y., and furnished building material for many of the noted charitable and public institutions of New York. He was very successful in his business career, and is living in retirement in a pleasant home in his native town, in the enjoyment of an ample income. He is widely known through his business connections, and has always commanded thorough confidence in all with whom he came in contact; he is a man of unblemished honor, charitable disposition, and is broad-minded and progressive in his views. When a young man he belonged to the Whig party, but since the organization of the Republican party he has been one of its firmest supporters. Religiously, he is a Unitarian.

and is, indeed, a pillar of strength to that church, his heart, hand and mind, ever being open to any calls that may be made upon him for the good of a liberal faith. His wife, likewise a native of Trenton, was born in 1816, and was educated and grew to womanhood in her native town, and lived in the home of her parents until her marriage in 1841. Since that time, for nearly half a century, she has been the light and blessing of her husband's home, respected and loved by all who have come under her benign influence.

The early days of our subject were passed in the parental home until he was eighteen years old. He received the advantages of a liberal education at the Whitestown Institute. In March, 1865, he went to Titusville, Pa., as a mechanical engineer in the employ of the Granite State Oil Company, under the superintendency of A. H. Hatch, of New York. He retained that position for about a year, and was then appointed to a clerkship in the County Clerk's office, where he remained through two administrations, covering a period of four and a half years. In September, 1869, Mr. Willard became connected with Michael P. O'Brien, of Richmond, Staten Island, who was a contractor on public works. Mr. Willard was general manager for three years. He threw up his business in the East, and came to Nebraska in the winter of 1870, and purchased some Government land in Thayer County. He soon established himself in the real-estate business at Beatrice, Neb., and in January, 1873, he received the appointment as Deputy Auditor of State, under Jefferson B. Weston, and held that position for six years. After that he was appointed Deputy State Treasurer, under Hon. G. M. Bartlett, and held that office for four years. Mr. Willard was subsequently admitted to the bar, having read law with Hon. C. J. Dilworth, ex-Attorney General. He then retired from public life to Hebron, Neb., where he engaged in the banking business for two years. In the November election of 1884 he was elected State Treasurer, was re-elected to that position in 1886, and is still an incumbent of that responsible office. His wide experience in public life and in business, his acknowledged superiority as a financier, his great practical sagacity, and his unadorned integrity, rarely qualify him for the performance of the re-

sponsible duties of the important office that has been intrusted to him by the suffrage of his fellow-citizens. His genial and pleasant disposition, and his kind and courteous treatment of all with whom he has to deal, render him very popular.

Politically, Mr. Willard is a staunch Republican. He is prominently identified with a number of social organizations, as follows: He is a member of the A. F. & A. M., Lancaster Lodge No. 54, of which he has held the office of W. M. for two terms; he belongs to Lincoln Chapter No. 6, R. A. M.; and is a member of the Council of Royal and Select Master Masons; he is Past Eminent Commander of Mt. Moriah Commandery, No. 4, K. T.; he is Secretary of the Scottish Rite Lodge, A. & A. S. R.; the Most Wise of the Scottish Rite, Rose Croix; he is a member of the Sesostriis Temple of Mystic Shrine; is Chief of Pilgrim Knight Masons, and is a member of the K. of P.

Among the portraits of leading and representative men given in this volume, may be found that of Mr. Willard, given in connection with this sketch.



HENRY FREYE, deceased. In Hanover, Germany, upon the 8th of April, 1828, there was born to Ernest H. Frye and his wife a son, who was christened by the name Henry, and a sketch of the more salient features of his life are herein offered. Our subject was reared in his native country until he reached his eighteenth year, receiving his education in its schools, and afterward being employed as a farmer, and continued in the same until he reached his eighteenth year, when he came to this country and located for a time in Jackson and Scioto Counties, Ohio, and followed the pursuits of agriculture upon land which he took up from the Government.

Our subject was married, in March, 1844, to Eleanor Shaffer; she, like himself, was a native of Hanover, and was born in that country in the month of March, 1832, and was the daughter of Adam and Gertrude Shaffer; she came to this country with her parents in the year 1843, and settled in Ohio, remaining in the home of her parents until her marriage. She was the fifth child of six children born

to her parents, of whom two are living—Mrs. Freye and her brother, Joseph H.

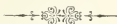
To our subject and wife there were born ten children, who are recorded as follows: Catherine, the wife of Lewis Willman; Mary, the wife of Frederick Steinmyer, of Gage County; Eliza, the wife of William Wessel; Henry, William, Frank, Matilda, Lena, Emma and Ida, all at home.

In the spring of 1868 our subject emigrated to Lancaster County with his family, and settled upon the farm which is situated on section 22, in Centerville Precinct, and which, since his death, has been operated by his wife. Our subject departed this life Dec. 31, 1873, after a long illness, from typhoid and lung fever, and left behind him many friends to mourn their loss, for his life and character had been such that he was everywhere held in the highest estimation, and greatly respected. He did not leave much of worldly goods beyond his actual property, by which is meant the farm buildings, residence and farm, which was well cultivated, tillable land, well stocked, and provided with the necessary implements and much of the machinery required for the proper working of a property of that size.

Our subject was a large-hearted, public-spirited man, inclined to lend his influence and energies in any and every enterprise calculated to help forward the community of which he was a resident. He was, as a citizen, true and loyal to the responsibilities incident thereto, patriotic and loyal; his home was the scene of true domesticity, and in the relations of husband and father he was most faithful, affectionate and true. He was a member for many years of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which communion his family continue. For many years prior to his demise our subject was Steward of the church, and was devoted to the interests of the society. In political questions he usually gave his support to the Republican party, although he was swayed in his decisions rather by principle than policy, as became his general character.

Mrs. Freye, despite the trials incident to life under the most favorable circumstances, and the great affliction that is hers in the loss of her husband, has always met these difficulties and troubles with womanly spirit and Christian heroism and resigna-

tion. Throughout the years of wedded life she was linked with her husband so truly that she was a sharer in more than name in all the happenings and events of his life, rejoicing in his successes, cheering and sustaining in the time of threatened defeat and actual trial, and throughout his sickness her presence was a necessity to him, a source of support and renewed strength, by which he was the better enabled to bear the pain and weakness of this last trial.



GEORGE W. LEE, merchant and Postmaster at Emerald, in Middle Creek Township, came to the latter in 1874 and purchased 320 acres of land comprising the north half of section 16. Of this, seventy acres were broken, and upon it stood a small shanty which served as an excuse for a dwelling, and which our subject occupied with his family until he could do better. Here he lived and labored until 1883, effecting a radical change in the condition of the soil, building fences, putting up a residence, a barn and other structures required for the successful prosecution of his calling, and remained there until changing his residence to the village of Emerald. He then purchased ground, erected a set of frame buildings, including a residence and a store, and has since carried on mercantile business.

Like a large portion of the solid men about him, Mr. Lee is an emanation of the Empire State, having been born in Florence Township, Stephenson County, Aug. 10, 1840. His father, Lorenzo Lee, was a native of Barre, Worcester Co., Mass., as also was his paternal grandfather, Seth Lee, and his great-grandfather, Gen. Samuel Lee. The latter held a commission in the Continental army during the Revolutionary War, and was an expert in military tactics. At the close of that memorable struggle, he still remained connected with the State Militia, and spent the remainder of his life in Massachusetts.

This branch of the Lee family was first represented in America by one John Lee, who was born in England, and crossed the Atlantic in 1635. Settling at Ipswich, he there carried on farming, married, and reared a family. Among his sons was

Seth, who, in addition to the pursuit of agriculture, read law, was admitted to the bar, and practiced his profession in his native State of Massachusetts, where he spent his entire life. He had married in early manhood Miss Annie Patrick, a native of Brimfield, Mass., who spent her last years at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Thurston, of Worcester.

Lorenzo Lee, the father of our subject, was reared to farm pursuits in Massachusetts, whence he migrated when a young man to New York State, and became a clerk in the mercantile establishment of his elder brother, where he continued several years. In 1835 he emigrated to Illinois, spending one year at Rockford, among its earliest settlers, and being occupied at milling. He had been in Illinois but a few months when he purchased the water power near Freeport, put up a sawmill, and operated this until 1847. Then selling out, he located a farm in Florence Township, and carried on agriculture until his death, which occurred Jan. 2, 1860.

The father of our subject in journeying to the West proceeded by the Hudson River route to the Erie Canal, thence to Buffalo, and by a lake vessel to Chicago. The present great metropolis of the West was then but a trading-post composed of a few clumsily built wooden houses, and here Lorenzo Lee hired a team and drove to Rockford. There were then no railroads west of New York State, and none built as far as Freeport for many years thereafter. The marketing of the people of that section was done around the lead mines at Galena and at Chicago. Lorenzo Lee lived to see the country well developed, and the section of country over which he traveled when a wilderness transformed into productive fields and beautiful homesteads. These changes he noted with the satisfaction felt by every intelligent man who takes pride in the land of his nativity, and as far as in him lay, contributed his share in bringing about this happy condition of affairs.

The parental household of our subject included four children—Harriet, George W., Lorenzo II, and John T.—all of whom are living, and residents of Illinois and Nebraska. Our subject, in common with his brothers, was early in life taught habits of industry and economy, and acquired a fair education at the district school. He continued under the

home roof until the death of his father, then rented a farm in Stephenson County, Ill. where he carried on agriculture until 1865. Then, becoming somewhat wearied of the monotony of farm life, he abandoned it for a time to take up carpentering, and after pursuing this trade seven years resumed farming in Stephenson County until 1874. The spring of this year witnessed his advent in this county.

Mr. Lee, while a resident of Illinois, was united in marriage with Miss Addie M. Spencer, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride in Florence, Stephenson Co., Ill., Oct. 11, 1871. Of this union there is one child only, a daughter, Mary W., who was born March 4, 1873, in Illinois. Mrs. Addie M. Lee is a native of Newport, Herkimer Co., N. Y., and was born Oct. 23, 1842. Her parents, James D. and Agnes (Berry) Spencer, were natives of New York State, and are now living in Nebraska. Our subject, politically, votes the straight Republican ticket.



DOUGLAS HOWARD. The subject of this notice is of Southern birth, having first opened his eyes to the light in White County, Tenn., April 14, 1831. His father, Ignatius Howard, was born in Cumberland Gap, that State, where he was reared to manhood and lived until his son Douglas was a little lad five years of age. Then, with his wife and ten children he started for the new State of Illinois, making the journey overland with ox-teams.

The father of our subject located in McDonough County, the Prairie State, where he purchased a claim and lived upon it for a period of eighteen months. The results not being satisfactory he again gathered together his family and his earthly possessions, and pushed his way westward across the Mississippi into the Territory of Iowa. There he settled in Benton Township, Des Moines County, at a time when the cabins of the pioneers were few and far between. As before he purchased a claim from the Government, upon which no improvements had been made, and his first business was to put up a shelter for his family. This was constructed of logs after the primitive fashion of those

times, and being a stonemason, it was provided with a pretentious stone chimney and fireplace.

This was before the days of stoves, and the mother performed her cooking operations for a number of years before the fireplace. Like the other matrons of those times she also spun and wove wool and flax, and thus manufactured the cloth required for the family. Ignatius Howard labored with sturdy industry to build up a home from the wilderness, and succeeded in his laudable ambition, surrounding himself and his family with many comforts. Finally, however, becoming dissatisfied he returned to Illinois and located in Henderson County, where his death took place in May, 1871.

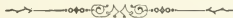
After the death of her husband Mrs. Mary (Duncan) Howard moved to California, and makes her home in Sacramento County with her son and daughter. She also is a native of Tennessee. She has attained the advanced age of eighty-five years.

Douglas Howard was five years of age when his parents removed from Tennessee to Illinois, and went with them to Iowa eighteen months later. He remembers distinctly many of the incidents of pioneer life, when deer, wolves and wild turkeys were plentiful, roaming unrestrained over the country which has now been transformed into cultivated fields and valuable homesteads. He attended the pioneer schools, which were conducted on the subscription plan in the typical log school-house. Amid those wild scenes he developed into a strong and sturdy manhood, and was well fitted for the future struggle of life.

Mr. Howard resided with his parents until 1859, then crossed the plains to the present site of Denver, when there was not a single house upon the ground which is now occupied by one of the most flourishing cities of the West. He engaged in mining from May until October, then returned overland, spent the winter in Iowa, and in the spring of 1860 went back to the mountains and worked in the mines until fall. The year following he repeated the experiment of the former. In the fall of 1864 he returned to Iowa, spending the winter following, and in the spring rented a farm in Fremont County. After gathering in the crops he repaired to Illinois and located upon his father's

farm in Henderson County, where he lived three years, then purchased a farm in Hancock County. Of the latter he remained a resident until October, 1881, then coming to Southern Nebraska purchased the farm of 160 acres which he now owns and occupies.

The property of our subject includes the southwest quarter of section 14, which he has brought to a good state of cultivation. He has good buildings and machinery, with live stock, fruit and shade trees, and all the other appurtenances to complete the comfort of the rural citizen. A little over twenty years ago, April 11, 1868, he was united in marriage with Miss Melissa A. Jackson, who was born in Benton Township, Des Moines Co., Iowa, Sept. 21, 1838. The parents of Mrs. Howard were Nehemiah and Lucy (Pond) Jackson, natives of Vermont, and now deceased. Her brother, E. F. Jackson, is represented elsewhere in this work. She is a lady attentive to all her duties as a mother and housewife, and of her union with our subject there have been born five children, namely: Ira D., Lucy A., Hattie M., Luther W. and Russell P. The eldest of these is seventeen years of age and the youngest eight. Mr. and Mrs. Howard were members of the Baptist Church, in Illinois. Mr. H., politically, is a staunch Democrat.



WILLIAM FROHN, whose farm is situated on section 22, Centerville Precinct, is a native of the Kingdom of Prussia, and was born in that country in the town of Muggenhausen, in the vicinity of Cullen, Nov. 29, 1839. His father was Gottfried Frohn, a native of North Germany, who was by occupation a blacksmith. His wife, the mother of our subject, to whom he was married in the year 1838, was Cecelia Klank, of the town of Muggenhausen. The family included five children.

In about 1849 our subject's parents emigrated to America and were accompanied, of course, by William. Passage was taken in a sailing-vessel from Bremen, and after an ocean voyage of forty-six days they landed in New York City, thankful that the ceaseless motion, the sickness, the discomfort, the

cramped cabin, and the monotony of the voyage, were over. Almost immediately upon landing the family started for Iowa and took land in Clayton County, where they were among the first settlers. Here our subject was reared to manhood and received the finishing of his education, which had been begun about four years before in Germany. Our subject has two brothers and one sister living—Gottfried, Henry and Mary.

The chosen occupation of our subject, and the one which he has followed since his Clayton school-days, is that of husbandry, and his life has mostly been spent in pioneer districts of Iowa and Nebraska. He was married, on the 14th of June, 1860, to Amelia Kreuger, a lady who has brought into his daily experience the refining inspirations which were in the original design of the Great Creator to exist under those circumstances, and doubtless, to these are due, to more or less extent, the success which has crowned the effort and labor of our subject.

Ten children have come to grace the home and augment the felicity of the life of our subject and wife. Of these seven are living, and exhibit those qualities and traits of character that promise an honorable and prosperous life. Their names are recorded as follows: William, Mary, Ernestine, Cecelia, Henry, Hubert and Amelia. Mrs. Frohn is the daughter of Frederick Kreuger, and was born in the town of Westfarland, on the 27th of March, 1841. Her parents were natives of Westfarland, and were enabled to give to their daughter such education and home training as to fit her for her present sphere.

Our subject is the owner of 400 acres of excellent land, which he has brought to its present state of cultivation from its natural condition; has erected thereon the pleasant and comfortable farm dwelling which is his home, and the usual other buildings. He is a man of restless energy, ambition and large general information, and has acquired much specific knowledge in the line of his chosen calling. He is just one of those German-American citizens who seek to understand and fully appreciate the institutions and government of the country, and devotes much careful thought to the questions of current interest, and regulates his voting, not so much by

the question of party, as that of principle and requirement. Both our subject and family are deeply attached to the Roman Catholic Church, and are among its best members. The reputation of our subject for honor, candor and integrity, is of the very highest throughout the community. He is accordingly esteemed and respected.

GILBERT B. GARLOCK. The home surroundings and the daily life of the subject of this biography illustrate the pleasing features of a career which has been more than ordinarily interesting and prosperous, and among the prominent features of which is his uniform character, comprising all the better elements of manhood, both as a citizen and the father of a family. Among the other good things which have fallen to his lot, he was particularly fortunate in the selection of a life companion, the lady who now bears his name having been the efficient helpmate of her husband in all his worthy undertakings, looking well to the ways of her household, and adding to the immediate precincts of home those embellishments which have so much to do with its comfort and happiness. Both are genial, enterprising and public-spirited, taking a warm interest in whatever is calculated to advance the welfare of their neighbors and the community at large. As representatives of the pioneer element of Southern Nebraska, Mr. and Mrs. Garlock stand in the front rank, and enjoy the esteem and confidence of a large number of its people.

The Garlock family was represented in the Empire State several generations ago, and the father of our subject, Andrew by name, was born there in Seward County, where he was reared to manhood and married one of the maiden associates of his youth, Miss Mary France. The mother, also a native of Seward County, there spent her entire life, and passed away in 1841, when her son, our subject, was a little lad eleven years of age. The father is still living, and was born Dec. 2, 1798. They were the parents of eight children, of whom Gilbert B. was the fifth in order of birth.

Our subject, like his parents, was also a native of Seward County, N. Y., and began life on the 3d of

December, 1830. He was at an early age taught those habits of industry which have clung to him during a period of fifty years and which have been the secret of his success. Although acquiring but a common-school education, being bright and observant he was more than ordinarily intelligent, and began at an early stage in his existence to lay his plans for the future. He remained with his father during his childhood and youth, assisting him on the farm, but at the age of twenty-two we find him at the head of a family consisting of a wife and child. Being ambitious for them as well as himself, he determined to seek a broader field for operation in some of the rising districts of the West.

Our subject upon leaving the Empire State proceeded first to Chicago, Ill., where for a period of three years he was employed as engineer on the Galena & Chicago Railroad, now the Northwestern. His next residence was in Freeport, Stephenson County, where he was foreman of the roundhouse until 1866. In May, 1871, he made his way across the Father of Waters to this county, and being pleased with the face of the country, purchased 160 acres of land on section 12, in Grant Precinct. It was a wild, uncultivated tract and his neighbors were few and far between, but he had the good sense and judgment to recognize that in the near future Southern Nebraska was destined to be the resort of an intelligent and progressive class of people. He therefore armed himself to brave the difficulties before him, and with somewhat limited means and other disadvantages commenced the improvement of his purchase, while at the same time having to provide for the wants of a growing family.

Mr. and Mrs. Garlock worked unitedly in the building up of their homestead, and in due time saw springing around them, one by one, the buildings and other conveniences necessary for their comfort. In addition to general farming they set out fruit and shade trees, and in due time put up a neat and substantial dwelling. In addition to his farm of eighty acres, which comprises the homestead, Mr. Garlock has other property in the county, and enjoys from the whole a comfortable income. Both he and his excellent wife are members in good standing of the United Brethren Church, and have always been noted for their hospitality, their home

having been the resort in times gone by of many a wayfarer, thankful for a shelter.

The hearts and fortunes of Mr. and Mrs. Garlock were united for life in Seward County, N. Y., over thirty-seven years ago, on the 19th of February, 1851. Mrs. G. was in her girlhood Miss Lucinda Brazie, and she was born in Cherry Valley, Otsego County, that State, Oct. 23, 1830. Her parents, Francis and Hannah (Lowell) Brazie, were also natives of the Empire State, the father of French ancestry and the mother of New England stock. They followed farming all their lives, the last years of which were spent in Otsego County, N. Y., the father passing away in 1848 and the mother in 1851. Their family consisted of nine children, Mrs. Garlock being the second born. She was carefully trained in all the household duties by a most excellent mother, and acquired as good an education as the common schools of that time afforded, remaining under the home roof until her marriage.

To our subject and his wife there were born three children, the eldest of whom, a bright little daughter, Mary E., died at Chicago at the age of four and one-half years. William D., the elder son, married Miss Addie Aldrich, and is now occupied making brick in Broken Bow, this State; Francis A., named after his maternal grandfather, married Miss Nettie Garten, and is now engaged in real-estate business in Cheyenne County. In 1868 our subject and his wife identified themselves with the United Brethren Church, in Harlem Center, Stephenson Co., Ill., to the support of which they have been cheerful and liberal contributors. Politically, Mr. Garlock affiliates with the Republican party, and for a period of five years has been Overseer of Highways.



CHARLES D. PITCHER, of the firm of Hardy & Pitcher, wholesale and retail dealers in furniture, one of the most reliable houses in the city, whose establishment is on Eleventh street, between M and N streets, is one of the most promising and enterprising of the young business men of Lincoln, who have recently stepped in to aid their elders in the management of the great commercial interests which are every day becoming

more extensive in this growing and prosperous city.

Mr. Pitcher was born in Tioga County, N. Y., Oct. 30, 1861, and is a son of Daniel M. and Elizabeth (Young) Pitcher, natives respectively of Connecticut and New York. His father is a prominent citizen of Owego, N. Y., where he is extensively engaged in the wool business. He is widely known throughout that portion of New York, and is very influential in county affairs, being often called upon to hold some responsible office. He has been Supervisor of Owego for some years, and is President of the Owego National Bank of that town. He is a man of great financial ability, sound wisdom, and of unblemished reputation, his fellow-citizens placing in him the most implicit trust. He is a pillar of strength in the Presbyterian Church, of the place where he resides, and for several years has been an Elder in that denomination. His wife, a woman whose charitable and sweet disposition has gained her many warm friends, is also an esteemed member of that church. Her marriage with Mr. Pitcher has been blessed to them by the birth of three children—Mary M., Lucy and Charles D. Mary, who was educated at Cornell University, N. Y., is a teacher of Latin and Greek in the Lincoln High School, having been in that position for two years; Lucy is the wife of C. C. Van Kirk, a prominent lawyer of Ithaca, N. Y.

Charles D. Pitcher, of this sketch, was reared in his native State, receiving a substantial education. He early displayed a marked aptitude for business, which was fostered by a practical training in his father's wool business. The great Western State of Nebraska, "this paradise of possibilities," as it has been aptly termed, with its rapidly growing industries, and its varied and wonderful resources, possessed for our subject a strong fascination, and in 1883 he resolved to make his home within its borders, and win for himself a name and place among the business men whose enterprise and energy are carrying on the great commercial schemes that are enriching and developing the State. Soon after coming here Mr. Pitcher formed a partnership with Mr. Hardy, who succeeded his father, H. W. Hardy, in this business, which was established by him in 1870. Under the prestige of the old name

of that well-known and honored merchant, our subject and his partner commenced under the most auspicious circumstances, and by their honorable dealings, close attention to their business, and courteous and considerate treatment of their customers, they have not only retained the good-will of the old patrons of the house, but have greatly extended their trade so as to include all parts of the State, and they carry a large stock to meet all demands.

Mr. Pitcher was united in marriage to Miss Cora Kennard, March 23, 1887. She is a native of Nebraska, born in 1863, and is a daughter of T. P. Kennard. The latter is one of the most prominent men of this State, has held the office of Secretary of State, and many other important and responsible positions.

Our subject is a member of the secret society, the Order of Elks, being one of the Trustees of that society. Mr. and Mrs. Pitcher move in the highest social circles of this city, and often entertain friends in their hospitable and pleasant home. Religiously, he is a member of the Presbyterian Church, contributes liberally to its support, and is an active worker within its fold; politically, he is an ardent Republican, and is a leader among the young men of that party in this city.



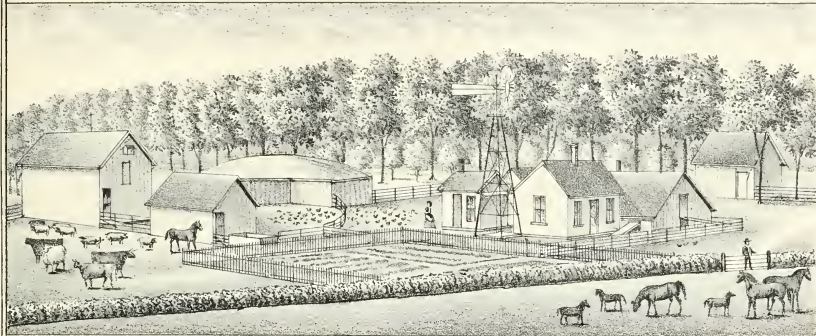
THOMAS BARRETT. The island which lies like a beautiful green emerald in the setting of the mighty Atlantic, which afforded the first refuge and offered the first hospitalities to the Christian missionaries who had journeyed far to bring their pure and holy religion to the untutored aborigines of the islands which now form the kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, has also given to the world many men whose nobleness of life and work, brilliancy of intellect in things legal and literary, in affairs military and political, has given to this country many of her noblest sons, noble sons of a noble race.

In the present sketch are presented some features in the life of Thomas Barrett, a native of Ireland, now the owner and successful operator of the beautiful farm of 240 acres situated on section 21, West Oak Precinct. He is the son of James Barrett, who

was likewise born in Erin's Isle, about the beginning of the present century. He never left his native land, and was all his life a farmer. He married Miss Mary Brown, the daughter of Edmund Brown, who was born in 1805, and lived upon the home farm until her marriage. Their union was brightened by the birth of ten children, of whom eight are living, our subject being the only one who came to America. Mr. Barrett died in 1883, his wife preceding him in the year 1878.

Our subject was born in County Cork, Aug. 15, 1824, receiving his education in the parish school, after which he worked with his father until the time he came to this country, in 1847, making his first home in Connecticut, where he continued for some years. While there he made the acquaintance of a lady who presented to him all the desirable characteristics of womanhood, and on Sunday, Nov. 25, 1853, he was married to Julia Hogan. They continued to reside in that State until 1859, when they removed to Warren County, Ill., where our subject took land and continued in agricultural pursuits. Here he made his home until three years ago, and on the 1st of March, 1885, he, with his family, arrived in Lincoln, purchased the present property and started in their new home. It was at that time in its natural wild and undeveloped state, without stick or shrub of any kind upon it. The prosperity of our subject in his former home and the reward of his previous efforts are shown in the fact that he immediately laid out for its improvement upward of \$4,000, and has also erected a beautiful house, which is hardly equaled in the district. There is also to be found a large and commodious barn, conveniently arranged and solidly built, to say nothing about the beautiful orchard, which promises to return richly all the labor bestowed upon it. Of shade trees there are an abundance; of maples alone our subject has set out over 2,000. By the aid of the accompanying engraving the reader will be the better enabled to realize some of these beauties, which are there so ably portrayed by the artist.

Although devoting much time and a large part of his farm to the growth of wheat and other cereals, our subject finds time also to give much careful study to the interest of stock-raising, and in his



RESIDENCE OF GEO. BAINBRIDGE, SEC. 31, MILL PRECINCT.

GENERAL VIEW OF FARM - 240 ACRES.



RESIDENCE OF THOMAS BARRETT, SEC. 21, WEST OAK PRECINCT.

stables are found many high-grade horses, and in his pasture cattle of choice extraction, beside hogs and other stock too numerous to be particularized.

The marriage of our subject has been consummated by the happy addition to the family circle of sons and daughters to the number of ten, whose names are here appended in the order of their birth: Joseph, Mary, Michael, Elizabeth, William, Thomas, Anna, Edmund, John and Julia. The eldest son has become the husband of Miss Hannah Moran, and lives west of Raymond; Elizabeth is the wife of John Cunningham, of West Oak, and is the mother of three children; Anna is the wife of William Moran, is the mother of one child, and resides in the same precinct; Michael is on a farm not far from the old homestead. The remainder of the family are still at home.

This deeply interesting family have within the short space of two years of residence in the precinct been the recipients of the confidence and regard of their neighbors and the community, as they have also in their former connections, and it is a pleasure to present a sketch of any family or citizen who are recognized in their community as patriotically loyal, not simply to their country, whether native or, as in this case, adopted, but also and primarily to the noblest and highest teachings of their inner life, and to their neighbors and fellow-citizens.



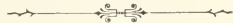
GEORGE BAINBRIDGE, of Mill Precinct, came to Nebraska with a cash capital of \$500, which, by a course of prudence and economy, together with persevering industry, he has increased, like the wise man of Scripture, manifold. He is now numbered among the substantial and well-to-do farmers of Lancaster County, having a fine estate on section 31, where he has operated since the fall of 1872.

Our subject is of English birth and ancestry, having first opened his eyes to the light among the Yorkshire hills on the 8th of March, 1840. His parents, John and Helen (Parker) Bainbridge, also natives of England, spent their entire lives upon their native soil. The father was a farmer by oc-

cupation, and the parental household consisted of six children, three of whom came to the United States, and three died in England. Our subject was the eldest of the family. His brother Robert is a resident of Ontario, Canada, and Matthew of this county.

Our subject grew to manhood on the farm, and in 1868 was married in his native shire to Miss Mary Thorpe, who was born there not far from the home of her husband; she is the daughter of John and Elizabeth Thorpe, who lived and died in England. She is the only member of the family who came to the United States, accompanying her husband here in 1871. They first stopped in Chittenden County, Vt., where our subject was employed by an uncle of his wife until the fall of 1872, then made his way to the West, and located on his present farm. The land had never been cultivated, and the improvements which the passing traveler observes to-day with admiration are the result solely of the enterprise and industry of the present proprietor. The reader will readily form some idea of the beauty and extent of the home and property upon reference to the faithful picture which accompanies this sketch. He first purchased 137 acres, to which he subsequently added, the farm now including 317 acres, and devoted extensively to stock-raising. Mr. Bainbridge also buys and sells largely, and is never so contented as when in the midst of active business life, employing both hands and brain.

The family of our subject includes four children, three daughters and one son, namely: Lizzie, Rhoda, Lorena and William Edgar. The eldest is eighteen years old, and the youngest eleven years. They are all at home with their parents. Mr. Bainbridge upon becoming a naturalized citizen cast his first Presidential vote for Hayes, and usually votes the Republican ticket, although not confining himself to party lines.



REV. CONRAD H. HICKMAN. Among the names which will ever be recorded in the history of Nebraska and held in affectionate remembrance by its pioneers, settlers and farmers, and also by business men, is the name

of Conrad H. Hickman, whose early years of active service as a minister of our pure and holy religion, and Evangel of its Gospel in the day of the early life and history of the State, have happily resulted in the erection of houses of worship, and the carrying of the good news from his Divine Master to those who would otherwise have been left without its consolation, support and guidance.

The parents of our subject are natives of Germany. His father, Henry Casper Hickman, was born in Hanover, where he followed the occupation of farming. The mother of our subject was Mary Anna (Hokamjar) Hickman, a native of the same place. His parents came to Missouri with their family at an early date, and made their home with our subject, continuing with him until their death, the father in 1872, and the mother in 1860, their respective ages being seventy-four and seventy-three years. Their family circle included five children, of whom our subject was the only boy.

Conrad Hickman was born Dec. 12, 1810, at Osnabruck, Hanover. His education was one of the first matters to receive early attention, one also in which his parents were deeply interested. He attended the common school in order to obtain his early instruction, and after this had been obtained he went to Rotterdam in Holland, there to receive the more advanced and academic course of the High School.

While here engaged, and nearing the conclusion of his studies, word was received from the American Bible Society that two German missionaries were wanted to go to Missouri to preach to their countrymen in that State. At the early age of eight years our subject had been impressed with the vitality and truth of the Christian religion, and the sublimity of its principles, and had stood before the world as a confessed admirer and follower of its founder. He had buckled on the armor of Christianity, but when he stood face to face with this request and heard the call for missionaries in other lands he was not quite prepared to sacrifice everything in answering thereto. As a student he had made the acquaintance and had received the friendship of the Duke of K— and also the Duke of Fohnstein, and had accompanied the latter upon his wedding trip. These friendships, which would be

of such value to him there could mean nothing to him as a missionary in other lands, and yet after mature consideration he decided to go. Accompanied by a Mr. Smith as a companion he started from Rotterdam in February, 1848, and after nine weeks of Atlantic voyage, in which he was sick the major part of the time, landed at New York and reported to the American Bible Society.

Mr. Smith, the companion of our subject, was sent to Wisconsin, and our subject to Missouri, under the direction of Prof. Walttler, of the St. Louis Theological Seminary, but he shortly found that it was impossible for him to do work with this gentleman, as they could not agree upon some important details, and also upon certain points of doctrine; therefore, our subject determined to work independent of any synod or society, and began preaching in Platte County, Mo., serving eight churches for a period of two years. In addition to his preaching services he was greatly interested in children, and combined the juvenile department of work with his own. After much study in regard to his doctrinal position and church governments he was led to affiliate with the Presbyterian communion, and ultimately engaged with their synod. He made the acquaintance and friendship of several eminent ministers of the church, among them Rev. Drs. Wright, Starr and Wood. By the Presbyterian Synod he was now sent upon his mission of organizing churches throughout Missouri, and was very successful in the same. The churches of St. Joseph, Independence, Westport and Lime Creek were among the number. He also raised money sufficient to build five churches in Missouri.

About 1850 our subject was transferred to Nebraska, and continued in the same department of labor until his sight prevented. When this much-to-be deplored misfortune and trial overtook him he retired from active service. Upon leaving Missouri he gave up his beautiful home at St. Joseph, with all its comforts and conveniences, and went forth, he knew not whither, and took up the work for his Master in this State. Beginning at Mud Creek, his labor extended over a period of one year, and his only reason for discontinuing was that above mentioned. Until that time he had been an arduous laborer and intrepid Christian soldier, manful and

vigorous in his presentation of what he believed to be the truth.

Mr. Hickman took a great liking to the country, and intended to make his home at Nebraska City, and with this in view purchased a lot and erected a house which cost \$4,000, intending to make it his home, but the difficulties with his sight being about that time inclined to grow worse he was induced by former residents in Nebraska City to remove to Centerville. He was delighted with the surroundings, and purchased 320 acres of land, and removed to the same in the year 1866 with his family, and afterward added 160 acres more. He now retired from ministerial labors and devoted himself to agriculture.

If there is one man more than another who needs a good, pure, true, cultured companion in life, it is the minister of the Gospel, and our subject found in his wife just the one who could enter into his labor with him, giving it due weight and appreciation, one able to cheer, encourage, aid or divert from labor, as might be needed. He has been twice married, the first time in Germany, and to this union one child was born in 1838, and is named Henry. Mr. Hickman was bereaved by the death of his wife, and in 1849 he was again married, to Miss Mary Dearking, in Missouri. This union has been blessed by the birth of four little ones, by name: Henry, Louisa, George and Sophia. It has been the privilege of our subject to see them grow up and enter upon honorable and useful careers. Henry owns two farms in this State, is the husband of a very excellent lady, Louisa Phillipson, the daughter of Mold Phillipson. Louisa and George reside at Cortland, and are engaged together in mercantile pursuits; Sophia is the wife of the Rev. Summelad, and resides at Garnerville, Iowa.

Before concluding this sketch it would be, perhaps, well to add one or two statements in general concerning the work of our subject in this State. He has always felt a very deep interest in the preparation of the youth for active life, and has devoted a large portion of his energies to that end. In the earlier days of his residence here he had many difficulties of a special nature to contend with, as, for instance, that of the famine, which caused so

much suffering and was the occasion of very bitter experiences. Then, in the late unpleasantness there was the difficulty, the result of political feeling between Secessionists and Unionists; but it is just to state that to-day many of his warmest friends, defenders and supporters are found among those who were then his worst enemies. Our subject has been the instrument of building nine different churches in the State, beside organizing many more. He has himself been exceedingly generous, not only in regard to the poor, the sick and suffering, but in the matter of church extension. He gave two lots for the Presbyterian Church at Hickman, and also supplied the bell.

"A prophet is not without honor, save in his own country." This may possibly be true in our subject's case if he were to return to his native land, but is hardly correctly descriptive of the feeling with which he is regarded in his adopted country and State, for so highly is he esteemed and so well beloved for his work's sake, and for his high Christian character, that, although he entered a protest, and did not desire any such action, the town of Hickman received its name by the unanimous election of the people in his honor; and while the town remains it will be a monument to this faithful soldier of the Cross. The political sentiments of our subject are those presented by the Republican party, of which he is an old and tried friend and supporter, and by his compatriots he is held in highest estimation as a true and loyal citizen of the Republic.

HENRY K. KEMPER. Among the prominent and intelligent German citizens of Lancaster County, who took up their abode here during its early settlement, the subject of this sketch occupies no unimportant position. He has contributed to the building up of Stockton Precinct and vicinity, yielding to it his labors and his capital, and has thus proved an important factor among the men who have given it standing and position. He is now the proprietor of a fine estate on section 17, of which he is the owner of 320 acres, and in addition to general farming makes a specialty of

stock-raising, in which he has been uniformly successful, and besides surrounding himself and his family with all the comforts of life, has a snug bank account and sufficient of this world's possessions to keep himself comfortably in his old age.

The Great West owes no small amount of its development and prosperity to the class of men who crossed the Atlantic from the German Empire. The subject of this biography was born in the Kingdom of Prussia, Dec. 24, 1840, and came to America when a youth of twenty years. In accordance with the laws and customs of his native Empire he had acquired a thorough common-school education, and when landing upon American soil was well fitted, both by habits and training, to "get on" in the world.

Young Kemper, upon bidding adieu to his friends, embarked on a sailing-vessel at Bremen, and three weeks later landed safely in New York City. Thence he at once proceeded to Lancaster County, Pa., where he was for a year employed as a farm laborer, and thereafter traveled about considerably, living first in Pittsburgh, Pa., and thence migrating to St. Louis, Mo. Here he was variously employed, and in 1863, during the progress of the Rebellion, was an employe of the Government in Tennessee. We next find him at Belleville, Ill., and from there, in May, 1868, he came to Nebraska, taking up his residence temporarily in the city of Lincoln. Notwithstanding his meanderings he had with true German thrift and prudence saved up a little sum of money, and now invested in ninety-two acres of land in Otoe County, this State, upon which he settled with his family and lived for a period of fifteen years. In the spring of 1883 he sold out and came to Stockton Precinct, where he now purposes to remain.

Our subject, while a resident of Belleville, Ill., was captured by one of his countrywomen, Miss Mary Yaeger, to whom he was married Aug. 7, 1868. Of this union there have been born nine children, one of whom, a son, Victor, died when eighteen months old. The survivors are Ida, Vina, Spencer, Devan, Henry, Mary A., Amanda and Bertie. The eldest of these is nineteen years of age and the youngest two. They are living at home.

Mr. Kemper after becoming a naturalized Ameri-

can citizen identified himself with the Democratic party, in which he is prominent in this section of the country. In the fall of 1886 he was made the candidate of his party for the Lower House of the Legislature, but his ticket being in the minority he was defeated with the balance of it. This incident is indicative of the progress which he has made as an American citizen, and one who has become thoroughly identified with the interests of his adopted country. He has held all of the school offices of his district, and with his estimable wife is a member of the German Lutheran Church, at Stockton, of which he was one of the moving spirits at the time of its organization. He built the first hotel in Bennet, and which is familiarly known as the Kemper House.



CHARLES W. GILLHAM, who has been a resident of this county nearly twenty years, settled upon his present farm on section 13, in Waverly Precinct, in 1869. He was born in Greene County, Ill., Oct. 11, 1827, and is the son of Charles and Clarinda (Lusk) Gillham, who were natives respectively of South Carolina and Georgia.

The parents of our subject, in 1833, left Illinois and migrated to Grant County, Wis., settling on a farm, where they spent the remainder of their days, the father dying about 1864, and the mother in 1878. Of the twelve children comprising the parental family seven are now living, namely: Jane, the wife of John Kennedy, of Wisconsin; Thomas C.; John G.; Sarah, Mrs. James Mitchell; Charles W.; Elizabeth, the wife of James Lytle, of Nebraska, and Margaret, Mrs. William Joslin, who lives in Wisconsin. Mary, who died about 1858, was the wife of James Blundell, of Colorado. The others died in childhood.

The subject of this biography was reared to manhood on the farm in Wisconsin, residing there until 1850. In the summer of that year he crossed the plains to California, and followed mining on the Pacific Slope until about 1855. In the spring of that year he returned to Wisconsin, via the Niagara route and New York City, and resumed farming in La Fayette County, Wis., until starting

for Nebraska in the spring of 1869. His first purchase of land in this county was 160 acres, to which he subsequently added until he now has a fine tract, 320 acres in extent, most of which he has brought to a good state of cultivation, and has put up substantial and convenient buildings.

Mr. Gillham, after laying the foundations for a future home, was united in marriage, Oct. 12, 1870, to Miss Jane Hart, who was born in Grant County, Wis., Aug. 15, 1849, and is the daughter of Ebenezer and Eveline (Gilson) Hart, who were natives of Scotland, and died in Wisconsin when their daughter Jane was quite young. Besides herself there were two more girls in the parental family: Sarah, now the wife of John Clevenstine, and Mary, Mrs. John Vaughn, of Minnesota.

Our subject and his wife began the journey of life together at their pleasant home, and in due time became the parents of two sons and two daughters, namely: Charles D., Carl E., Ida May and Ina Belle. Mr. Gillham has very little to do with public matters, but uniformly votes the Republican ticket. With the exception of the time spent in California, he has mostly been employed in agricultural pursuits, although for a time he worked in the lead mines of Grant County, Wis.



MEDAD OSBORN. As an old settler of Yankee Hill Precinct, and one who has from its earliest years been prominently identified with its agricultural interests, it gives us great pleasure to give a place in this work to a sketch of the life of the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this biography. He is a native of Orleans County, N. Y., born Oct. 17, 1823, to Orrin and Naomi (Woolcott) Osborn. They were Eastern people. His parents were married in Greene County, N. Y., and removed thence to Orleans County before the birth of our subject, and there his father was actively engaged in agriculture, and there he and his good wife spent the remainder of their lives, being honored and respected for the many good qualities and sound principles that made them desirable neighbors and true friends to those about them. They were the parents of seven

children, who are named as follows: Norman, of Orleans County; Lyman, of Jones County, Iowa; Lorenzo, of Orleans County; Orrin, of Green County, Wis.; our subject; Mercey, now Mrs. Faxon, of Michigan; Dolly, of Orleans County.

Medad Osborn was reared to manhood in his native State, his early years being spent on a farm, and he received an education in the common schools. In the year 1847 he began to work in a saw and grist mill, and followed that business some three years, in company with Henry and James Osborn, in Washtenaw County, Mich. In about 1850 he built a mill for the purpose of manufacturing woolen goods, and managed it under the firm name of H. Osborn & Co. for some twenty years. They were engaged mostly in custom work, were quite successful in their business, secured a fair trade and accumulated considerable property. In 1872 our subject settled up his affairs in the State of Michigan, as he desired to turn his attention to the pursuit to which he had been reared, and on the beautiful prairies of Nebraska upbuild a new home for himself and family. On his arrival here he settled in Yankee Hill, which was then a new town with but few inhabitants. He bought a tract of 160 acres of land in this precinct, and by hard labor and shrewd management has improved it into one of the finest farms in Lancaster County. The original owner of the farm was one John Q. Adams, who had taken the land from the Government under the provisions of the Homestead Act, and he had then sold it to Erastus Brown, from whom our subject had purchased it. While laboring thus in his own interests our subject has been an important factor in developing Lancaster County into a splendid agricultural country, unsurpassed in the variety and fineness of its products.

In 1877, on the 13th of September, our subject took unto himself a wife, who has made his home pleasant and comfortable, and as a true helpmate has cheerfully aided him in all his undertakings. Mrs. Osborn's maiden name was Ellen Bowers, and her native place was the great manufacturing city of Lowell, Mass., where she was born Aug. 12, 1831. Her parents, Joseph and Almira (Stevens) Bowers, were both of good old New England ancestry and birth, and finally died in Lancaster

County, Neb., where they had made their home for a few years, the father departing this life in 1881 and the mother in February, 1887. The father had been twice married, and of a large family of children the following survive: Josiah is a physician in Yankee Hill; Anne is now Mrs. Marshall; Ellen, Arthur, Dudley W., William E., Herbert S. and George.

Mr. and Mrs. Osborn are among the leading members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in their quiet and unostentatious manner of performing kind and neighborly deeds, and by the example of their daily lives, they do much to strengthen the belief in Christianity. They occupy a high social position, and do what lies in their power to elevate society and to promote the best interests of the township and county. Politically, Mr. Osborn affiliates with the Prohibition party.

OLIVER S. BAIRD, of the firm of Baird Bros., dealers in hardware and tinware at No. 1242 O street, is an intelligent, wide-awake man, whose fine business talents are gaining him an assured place among the leading merchants of Lincoln. He was born in Clinton County, Pa., Nov. 22, 1840, and is a son of James H. and Catherine (Stout) Baird, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, his father born in 1804, and his mother in 1814. His father was early in life a lumberman in Pennsylvania. In 1841 he migrated to Knox County, Ill., and purchased 320 acres of land, and was extensively engaged in farming there until his death in 1866, when a valuable citizen was lost to the community where he resided. He was not a member of the church, but his life was characterized by strict honesty and uprightness, his word always being regarded as good as a bond, and by industrious labor he had accumulated a comfortable property. In politics he was a strong Republican. His good wife survived him several years, dying on the old homestead in Knox County, in 1882. She was a woman of singularly pure and good character, and, although a member of no church, was, nevertheless, a sincere Christian. Our subject was reared on his father's farm in

Elba Township, Knox Co., Ill., and received the preliminaries of his education in the common schools. He had not attained his majority when the war broke out, but on the 22d of September, 1861, he enlisted in the service as a private in Company B, 8th Missouri Infantry, being mustered in at St. Louis. Thence his regiment was ordered to Paducah, Ky., and took an active part in the capture of Ft. Henry and Donelson. Our subject served under both Grant and Sherman; he was in the battle of Corinth, and in the first attempt to take Vicksburg. He was at Arkansas Post, and also assisted his comrades in the victorious battle at Champion Hills. He was present at the siege of Vicksburg, which commenced May 19, and ended on the 4th of July, 1863. Our subject was sick after that and went home on a furlough of six weeks, and at the expiration of that time rejoined his regiment at Iuka, Miss., his fine constitution having quickly recuperated from the effects of the wound that he received at Vicksburg. After his return to the South, Mr. Baird participated in the battle of Chattanooga, and when the order was given to take the rifle-pits at the foot of Missionary Ridge, he was one of that company of brave and daring men who, carrying the works at the base, and entirely forgetful of previous orders to halt and re-form, dashed on up the ascent, surmounted every obstacle, unheeding the bullets of the enemy, advanced over the crest, and an instant later turned the captured rebel guns on the retreating foe, and the battle of Chattanooga was won. He was subsequently detailed to do duty in the commissary department, where he was employed until his honorable discharge, Sept. 22, 1864, at East Point, Ga.

After his retirement from the army Mr. Baird returned to his old home in Knox County, Ill., and for six months he worked out by the month. But being ambitious to finish his education, he entered a commercial college at Chicago, where for two years, 1866 and 1867, he pursued a thorough course of study, which well qualified him for any business that he might adopt in after life. After leaving school he opened a grocery store in Yates City, but he afterward sold out and established himself in the dry-goods business at Gilson. He next entered

into the grain and stock business there, and later carried on the same in Knoxville very successfully until 1879, when he went to Maquon, Knox County, and became a hardware merchant. In 1883 Mr. Baird left the Prairie State to make his home in Lincoln, being attracted hither by the enterprise and push of the citizens of this city, who were making it a great commercial center and providing innumerable chances for a live man to establish himself in a good business, and, at least, make a competency, if he did not become wealthy. The success that has followed his efforts since he came here has proved the wisdom of his choice of location. He and his brother, who is also a man of much ability, have leased the present building that they occupy for seven years; they carry about \$8,000 worth of stock, have a fine assortment of first-class hardware, and have built up a large trade.

Mr. Baird was married, May 25, 1872, to Miss Sarah A. Pickerel, who was born in Knox County, in 1850, coming of an old pioneer family of Illinois, who went there from Virginia in 1838. She was a woman of many graces of mind and heart, that made her beloved by all who came under her influence, and in her death, June 10, 1883, many friends mourned their loss. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was active in all its good works.

Mr. Baird has ever proved a good citizen, from the time when, as a mere youth, he went forth to fight his country's battles, and on Southern battlefields gained a good record as a brave and fearless soldier, to the present time, when he is doing all that he can to promote the material welfare of his adopted State. In politics he is a sound Republican; socially, he is a prominent member of the G. A. R., as represented in this city by Farragut Post No. 25.

GERHARD RIPPEN. In Oldenburg, Germany, was born Dec. 4, 1844, the gentleman whose biographical sketch is herein presented, and who has since become one of the most flourishing farmers of Buda Precinct. He has for some years resided upon his property on section 28

of this precinct. He is a son of Herman and Lena Rippen, both natives of Germany. Our subject was their eldest son and received the best education his parents could afford to give him, and was thoroughly versed in the various subjects it was thought necessary at that time to teach; but the difficulty which presented upon coming to this country was to apply his knowledge in our language.

About the year 1867, when our subject was about twenty-three years of age, he emigrated to the United States, taking passage at Bremen in a sailing-vessel that for fifty-nine days gave him an experience that is even now vividly inscribed on the pages of memory. Upon landing at Baltimore he went to Clayton County, Iowa, and obtained work as a farm hand, and so continued for about two years. At the end of that period he came to this county; this was in the year 1869. He then took up a homestead claim of eighty acres of excellent arable land, and began farming on his own account. That he has been prosperous is shown in the fact that he to-day possesses 320 acres of land, having added from time to time to the original number.

At the time of Mr. Rippen's entry there was not a furrow turned in the entire district. The land was in all its original wildness, and has only been brought to its present condition by dint of much hard work day after day. He has spared neither thought, energy nor money in the endeavor to make his farm the ideal property he had designed.

Upon the 21st of February, 1873, our subject was married to Maggie Meyer, a sister of Henry Meyer, of the same precinct. His wedded life has been happy from the first, and the characteristics which have been exhibited by our subject are very largely the result of this companionship. Mrs. Rippen was born on the 5th of January, 1853, in Hanover, Germany, to William and Catherine Meyer, with whom she came to this country when she was fifteen years of age. Her parents settled in Clayton County, Iowa, and in 1869 they removed to this county and began the pioneer life. Her parents had nine children, of whom six are living. Their names are recorded as follows: Henry, John, Maggie, Katie (wife of Dietrich Rippen), Peter and Mary. To Mr. and Mrs. Rippen have been born six children, whose names are recorded as subjoined: John H.,

born Oct. 28, 1877; Henry, Aug. 20, 1879; Lena E., Sept. 21, 1881, and William, April 12, 1885. The deceased are as follows: Herman, born Feb. 28, 1874, died in the month of July, the same year; William, born Feb. 28, 1876, died Aug. 7, 1876.

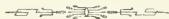
Our subject served for two years as Supervisor for this precinct, also School Treasurer for about eleven years. Both himself and wife are members of the Lutheran Church, and are held in highest estimation. He has been elected President of an agricultural society, and is also a member of the German Family Club, at Cortland. In political matters our subject is connected with the Democratic party. The success which he to-day enjoys is largely the result of his own labor, but he has been most warmly supported and his efforts supplemented by his wife, who has done much the past years that has helped to make the life of our subject what he is to-day, and it is impossible that it should be otherwise where the adjuncts of ability and affection are not lacking.



JAY A. SPENCER. This energetic and enterprising young farmer of Grant Precinct owns 160 acres of good land on section 30, together with a neat and comfortable residence, and the out-buildings required for the shelter of stock and the storing of grain. A native of Jefferson County, N. Y., he was born Jan. 5, 1858, the son of Oscar F. and Mary (Daniels) Spencer, also natives of the Empire State, and who lived there a number of years after their marriage. After the birth of all their children except the youngest, they changed their residence to Jo Daviess County, Ill., where the father carried on farming until the spring of 1878, and then resolved to cross the Mississippi. He first took up his abode in Humboldt, this State, and from there, in 1881, the family came to Lincoln, this county, where they still reside. Besides our subject, who was the eldest son, there were three other children—Edson R., Evlin O. and Alven D.

Our subject remained with his parents during their different removals, assisting his father in the labors of the farm until after their arrival in Hum-

boldt, this State. He now began to make arrangements for the establishment of a home of his own, and was married, on the 22d of December, 1881, to Miss Cora L. Burns, who was born in Georgetown, Ohio, Nov. 26, 1863. Her parents, John T. Burns and his wife, formerly Miss Pauline Cline, were natives of Ohio, and came to the West in 1865, taking up their residence in Jo Daviess County, Ill. There the mother died about 1865, and there the father still resides. Their family consisted of six children, who are still at home with the father, except the two eldest, who reside in Nebraska. To our subject and his wife there have been born two children, both sons, the elder of whom, Claude, died in infancy. Hugh was born Jan. 8, 1888, and is now an interesting child ten months old. Mr. Spencer votes the straight Republican ticket, and has held the office of Constable in Grant Precinct for the last year. His chief business has been farming, although for two years he was engaged in buying grain at Jamaica and Yankee Hill Point. There is every indication that he will in time have one of the most desirable farms in this part of the county, as he possesses the industry and good judgment for the proper development of his land, and effecting those improvements which will add to its value and attractiveness. He gives his close attention to his own affairs, is a man prompt to meet his obligations, and is thus held in general respect by his neighbors. Mrs. Spencer, a very estimable lady, is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



CHARLES SEVERIN is well known among the prominent farmers and stock-raisers of Buda Precinct. His parents, John C. and Elizabeth Severin, are natives of Germany, who emigrated to America almost a third of a century ago. They lived until 1869 in Clayton County, Iowa, and then came to Lancaster County and settled in Buda Precinct, which is still their home. They have reared a family of seven children, all of whom are living not far from the old homestead. Their names are: John C.; Henry; F. Charles; Mary, wife of Frederick Lucke; August F.; Amelia, wife of Henry Cramer, all of whom reside in Buda Pre-

cinet, and Wilhelmina, the wife of Christian Rausch, living in South Pass Precinct. The parents are both well advanced in years, and make their home with their son-in-law, Mr. Frederick Lucke.

Our subject was born on the 2d of August, 1848, in Prussia, Germany, and having made the long journey across the ocean he came with his parents to Iowa in 1856. He also made the removal with them to Lancaster County in 1869, and may be classed among the early settlers of this county. The greater part of his education was acquired in the district schools of Iowa during his residence in that State, to which he added a fair amount of business knowledge acquired in an evening school, which he attended during a short stay in Chicago, Ill. He went to Chicago when he was eighteen years old, and was for a time engaged as clerk in the mercantile business, but after three months' residence in that city he became ill and was obliged to return to his home in Iowa.

Having obtained eighty acres of land from the Government under the homestead provision, our subject pre-empted an additional eighty acres, making 160 acres of land in the home farm. He also owns another eighty acres in the same precinct, and 160 acres in Chase County. Since his return from Chicago he has devoted his time exclusively to farming, and has secured excellent results on his own land. He has a very fine grove, containing about five acres planted with soft maple trees, averaging perhaps thirty-five feet in height, thus showing that even in a prairie country trees will grow well under favorable conditions, which consist firstly in the planting of them.

In the past three years Mr. Severin has added improvements to the amount of over \$2,500 on his already fine home farm, and now has one of the best in the county, in appearance as well as utility. He was married, on the 16th of March, 1872, to Miss Gesine Albert, and they are the parents of eight children, to whom they have given the names: William, Minnie, Mary, Richard, Carlo, Albert, Hubert and Frederick, all of whom are yet living at home with their parents.

Not only has our subject distinguished himself as a thorough and scientific farmer, but he has taken a prominent part in the public affairs of this

county, and is well known in political circles, as well as educational and judiciary. For a period of ten years he has served as School Director, and for a time has been the Assessor of his precinct, besides in the tribunals of justice having served for six terms, and at present being the honorable incumbent of the office of Justice of the Peace. He is a member of the Lutheran Church.

Since the above was written our subject has been nominated for the State Legislature on the first ballot, by a unanimous vote of the delegates of the Republican Convention held in Lincoln on the 16th of August, 1888, which is almost equivalent to an election.



ALEXIS HALTER. Among the various trades and occupations represented in a large city, none is of more importance than a well-conducted meat market, an institution which necessarily has more or less effect upon the health and well-being of the people. An establishment of this kind, presided over by the subject of this sketch, located at No. 216 North Tenth street, is quite a model in its way, being conveniently arranged, cleanly, and offering for sale the most wholesome viands in its department which it is common for men to use. Mr. Halter has served a thorough apprenticeship at this business and has a proper understanding of its details. He is a man who commenced in life dependent upon his own resources, and has attained to a good position, socially and financially, by pursuing the straightforward course of an upright citizen, always aiming to maintain his self-respect, and thus furnishing the surest guarantee to the respect of others.

The Province of Ontario, Canada, was the early home of our subject, where his birth took place July 17, 1858. His father, Edward Halter, was born in France, while the mother, Mary A. (Sharbach) Halter, was a native of the Dominion. Both are of German extraction, and are still living in Canada, where the father carries on farming. They are devoted members of the Catholic Church, honest and upright people, who trained their children carefully and maintained a good position in their

community. Their household circle included twelve children, ten of whom are living and residents of Canada.

The subject of this biography was the second son of the parental family, and like his brothers and sisters was reared at the farm and attended the common school. When a youth of seventeen he started out for himself as an apprentice at the butcher's trade, and eighteen months later established in business for himself. Believing that the States would furnish a better field for the aspirations of an enterprising youth, he left the Dominion, and in 1884 came to Nebraska, and at once established his present business in the city of Lincoln. He has been very successful, and besides his market and its appurtenances, and his home on G street, has twenty or thirty dwelling-houses and stores, besides a good farm of 160 acres in Lancaster County. His accumulation of property has not been confined exactly to this county, as he has also property in Denver, Hastings and Kearney. He came West with the sum of \$7, and now schedules property worth \$50,000. His market receives more patronage than any two shops of the kind in the city. In 1888 he was elected Alderman from his ward on the Republican ticket in a section where the Democracy prevailed, coming out with a handsome majority of 126 votes. He is Chairman of the committee on elections and occupies the same post on the paving committee of the city, besides being Vice President of the German Banking Company, and a Director in the German National Bank, one of the strongest institutions of its kind in the city of Lincoln. He is also Director in the Clay Manufacturing Company, of Lincoln, and a stockholder in the Nebraska Stockyards Company, and stockholder in the Lincoln Canning and Provision Company, besides being Secretary of the Workingmen's Building Association.

Our subject occupies a handsome and comfortable home on G street, his domestic affairs being presided over by a capable and intelligent wife, to whom he was married on the 26th of August, 1881, and whose maiden name was Mary J. Shepard. Mrs. Halter was born in Paris, Canada, in 1859, and is of Irish ancestry. She is a lady of culture and refinement and possesses rare musical talent, being

the organist and leader of the Catholic Church choir. Both Mr. and Mrs. Halter were reared in the faith of the Catholic Church, to which they religiously adhere, and our subject, politically, is a staunch Republican. He is a man of decided views, keeps himself well posted upon current events, and ranks equally among the intelligent men of his community.



CHARLES HERPOLSHEIMER. This ALEM would be incomplete without at least a succinct recital of the chief points of interest in the life of Charles Herpolsheimer, whose admirably kept farm is situated on section 29, Denton Precinct. He is a native of Prussia, born on the 18th of October, 1835, and is a son of Christian and Anne Herpolsheimer, the latter of whom is deceased. His parents emigrated to the United States in 1849, taking passage at Bremen. The voyage, which was undertaken in a sailing-vessel, was long and tedious. They landed in New York, and shortly after proceeded by way of the lakes to Milwaukee, Wis., where they made their first home and continued to reside for the space of two and one-half years, when they removed to St. Joseph County, Ind., in which place our subject was reared to manhood and received his early education and training, although some time had been given to his education before leaving his native country. He completed the same in the Lutheran Seminary, at Ft. Wayne, Ind.; from this institution he was graduated as a competent instructor, and followed the profession of teaching for about thirteen years.

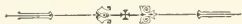
Our subject, although very successful in teaching, both in English and German, was compelled to change his calling owing to a difficulty which interfered with his speech. In the year 1873 he removed with his family to Grand Rapids, Mich., and took a course in the business college at that city. Upon completing the same he took a position as cashier and book-keeper with Messrs. Voigt, Herpolsheimer & Co., dry-goods merchant in Grand Rapids, and continued in the same for six years. The year 1880 saw another change of location, and removal was made to Lincoln, where for a short time he was cashier and book-keeper in the same

line of business for Henry Herpolsheimer. The following spring he settled upon his present property, then in an unimproved state. He is the owner of 475 acres of first-class, arable farming land, which he has earned for himself by the work and the struggle of previous years. He received little help beyond that of his education, and is therefore enjoying the fruit of his labor.

While a resident of Cook County, Ill., our subject made the acquaintance of Augusta Soss, and feeling that her presence continually with him would be the most desirable of all, arrangements were made which irrevocably bound them to each other, and they were married on the 9th of March, 1863. They have had nine children, whose names are here given: Emma, Paul, Martin, Otto (deceased), Emil, Adolph, Clara, Rudolph and Aida.

The noise of the hammer with which Dr. Martin Luther nailed his Theses to the door of the church sounded through the halls of the Vatican and aroused the Pope and Roman Consistory; maddened his enemies and gladdened the friends of liberty; resulted in his imprisonment by his dear friend in order to save him from the martyr's death; gave the Bible in the vernacular to the German people, and founded the Lutheran Evangelical Church. Of this our subject is a member, having continued his allegiance to the same since his baptism, and is still found among its most consistent and devoted members.

Our subject is a large-hearted, generous and public-spirited man, and with his family enjoys the sincerest respect of the community. Politically, his sympathies are with the Democratic party, which finds in him a sincere friend and ardent supporter.



CHARLES A. HEIDENREICH, a fair representative of the thrifty German farmer, has been a resident of this county since a lad of thirteen years, his father having come to Nebraska in the fall of 1867, a few months after it was admitted into the Union as a State. He was born in Germany, Aug. 26, 1855, and is the son of Charles Heidenreich, Sr., a native of the same place, where he was reared and married. The family, in 1859,

crossed the Atlantic, and after landing in New York City, made their way first to Dane County, Wis., where they settled upon a tract of timber land, a part of which the father cleared and lived there until the fall of 1867. Then starting out, overland, they made their way to this county, traveling after the fashion of the emigrants of those days, carrying with them their provisions, cooking and camping by the wayside.

There was at that time no railroad west of Omaha, and upon the site of the present city of Lincoln stood only two houses and one store. The nearest market was at Nebraska City. The father of our subject purchased a tract of land on section 22 of what is now Middle Creek Precinct, and upon which stood a small frame house, while a few acres of land had been broken. The elder Heidenreich resided here until his death, which took place in January, 1883. He had in the meantime erected a good frame house and a granary, and had the greater portion of the land in a state of cultivation. He lived to see great improvement in the face of the country, and was an honest, hard-working man, respected by all his neighbors.

Mrs. Sophie (Brinkhoof) Heidenreich, the mother of our subject, died in Wisconsin about 1860. The paternal family consisted of five children, four of whom are living. The eldest daughter, Mary, is the wife of D. Brant, and a resident of Seward County, this State, of which also Lizzie, Mrs. Chris. Beal, and Minnie, Mrs. Herman Meyer, are also residents. The two eldest, with our subject, were born in Germany, and there the eldest daughter, Charlotte, died when about eight years old. The father, in 1865, contracted a second marriage, with Miss Minnie Meyer, who was also a native of Germany, and who is still living. Of this union there were no children.

Our subject was a little lad four years of age when he crossed the Atlantic with his parents, and consequently remembers little of his native land. He has, however, a distinct recollection of the overland journey from Wisconsin to Nebraska, and the vicissitudes of pioneer life after the settlement of the family in this county. Deer and prairie wolves were plentiful, besides all kinds of wild game. Mr. Heidenreich has watched with the interest which

every intelligent man must feel the growth and development of his adopted county, and has seen the city of Lincoln emerge from a hamlet to a city of 40,000. Being the only son, the management of the farm devolved upon him after the death of his father, and here he has since resided. He brought a bride to the old roof-tree in the early part of 1884, being married on the 11th of February to Miss Augusta Steinhauer, who was born in Dane County, Wis., and is of German parentage. They have three interesting children, all daughters—Clara, Paulina and Melinda. Mr. Heidenreich, politically, votes the straight Republican ticket, and still clings to the doctrines of the Lutheran Church, in which he was reared. The first wife of Charles Heidenreich, the mother of our subject, died in 1860, in Dane County, Wis.



JAMES G. SOUTHWICK. This gentleman established the first banking institution of Bennet, which is familiarly known as the Bank of Bennet, and he is besides a stockholder and President of the Nebraska Savings Bank, at Lincoln, which has a capital of \$100,000 and is doing an extensive business. Among the philanthropic and leading men of Lancaster County there are few who have been more unselfish in their labors or taken a warmer interest in the growth and development of the town which struggled into existence fifteen years ago.

Essentially a self-made man, the subject of this sketch is a fine illustration of what may be accomplished by industry and perseverance, and the exercise of those qualities best calculated to result not only in good to the man who possesses them, but which naturally shed their influence upon all those with whom he comes in contact. It was a fortunate thing for Bennet and vicinity that the men who took an interest in its incipient growth were possessed of that large and liberal spirit which made them willing to labor and make sacrifices for the sake of its future good. Mr. Southwick was one of those willing to risk his capital and his labor, and did not think wholly of self or selfish interests. He is spoken of by the people among whom he has lived

many years as one of their most praiseworthy citizens, and to whom is due great credit for the manner in which he has labored to build up the various interests of his community.

The subject of this sketch is a scion of one of the best families of the Empire State, his father being Jonathan I. Southwick, who was born in North Collins, Erie County, and who married Miss Sarah Hull, of Ellery, Chautauqua County. After marriage they settled in North Collins, but removed later to Springdale, Cedar Co., Iowa, where the mother passed away in 1878. Jonathan Southwick is still living, and makes his home with his son, our subject, in Bennet. The parental household included six children, namely: Joseph; James G., our subject; Mark W.; Sumner, who died when two years old; Henry L. and Alice B. They are residents mostly of Nebraska.

James G. Southwick was born in North Collins, Erie Co., N. Y., Nov. 10, 1845. Early in life he became familiar with farm pursuits, receiving but a limited education. At the age of sixteen years his father gave him his time and he migrated westward, crossing the Mississippi into Cedar County, Iowa, where he landed with a cash capital of \$250. He engaged to work on a farm at \$10 per month, and was thus employed until after reaching his majority. In the meantime, with commendable prudence and forethought, he had saved what he could of his earnings, and now became the proud purchaser of a tract of land in Cedar County, upon which he operated until the spring of 1877. At the same time he operated as Station Agent and Postmaster of the village of Center Dale, and, as is usual with country officials of that grade, purchased a stock of goods and engaged in general merchandising. At the time spoken of he disposed of his interests in the Hawkeye State, and coming to this county invested a portion of his capital in a farm on section 5, in Nemaha Precinct, but six months later resumed merchandising, this time in Bennet. In 1880 he sold out his stock of goods and put up the first livery barn in the place, which he conducted two years, and at the expiration of this time was ready to engage in banking.

In addition to his other interests, Mr. Southwick has operated extensively in real estate, and is the

owner of valuable property in Bennet and vicinity, also in Lincoln. His pleasant home on First street is presided over by a most amiable and estimable lady, who in her girlhood was Miss Esther Austin, and to whom he was married April 6, 1871, in Cedar County, Iowa. Mrs. Southwick was born in Erie County, N. Y., and is a daughter of Timothy and Mary Austin, who were natives of England and New York, and now the father resides in Bennet; the mother is deceased. Of this union there have been born three children—Allison D., Vesta M. and Winnie L. The latter died when an interesting child of seven and one-half years, at the home of her parents in Bennet. Mr. Southwick was first married in Cedar County, Iowa, to Miss Mary Doniphan, who was born in the city of Buffalo, N. Y., and who only survived her marriage two years, her decease taking place in Cedar County, Iowa. Of this union there were no children.

Mr. Southwick, politically, uniformly supports Republican principles, and with his estimable wife, religiously, adheres to the simple doctrines of the Society of Friends. Considering what he has accomplished as a man and a citizen, it is not strange that his fellow-townsmen should select him as one eminently fitted to look after their common interests, but he has steadily declined assuming the responsibilities of office. In manner he is polite and affable, both to friend and stranger, thus exhibiting the inherent manliness which can only come by birth and breeding.



JAMES A. BAILEY, wholesale dealer in paints and wall paper, and also a contractor in painting, whose place of business is at the corner of Twelfth and N Sts., has for several years been prominently identified with the industrial interests of Lincoln, and is the most extensive contractor in his line in the city. He was born in Huron County, Ohio, Feb. 12, 1839, being a son of Hiram and Olive (Isham) Bailey, who were born in Ohio in 1801 and 1806, respectively. The grandparents of our subject, Ephroditus and Zulpha (Wells) Bailey, were of English stock, and his grandfather was the first white settler on the West-

ern Reserve in Ohio, where he carried on the occupation of a farmer, becoming very wealthy. He lived there the remainder of his life, and in their pioneer home he and his wife reared a family of six children.

The father of our subject was a painter by occupation, and carried on a large business in Norwalk, Huron Co., Ohio, being also engaged in ornamental painting. His death in 1849, when scarcely past the prime of life, was a severe blow to the business interests of the community where he had made his home and where he and his wife were held in high esteem. The mother of our subject is living at an advanced age in Shiocton, Outagamie Co., Wis. Six children were born to her and her husband, of whom the following is recorded: Hiram was scalded to death when a child; Charles is a farmer; of Ohio; Henry died in 1876, aged thirty-seven years; William lives in Michigan; James A. is our subject, Susan is now Mrs. Hial Porter; her husband is a druggist and lives in Ohio.

James A. Bailey was reared in his native town, and educated at the common schools. His father dying when he was but a child, he was early thrown on his own resources, and became a manly, self-reliant lad. At the age of twelve years he left home to apprentice himself to a painter for three years, becoming a thorough master of his trade under the skillful teaching of Mr. Smith, who was a fine workman. At the expiration of his term of apprenticeship, he worked at journeyman's wages, and in 1859 moved to Brunswick, Mo., where he was employed as a contractor until the breaking out of the war. He then went to Chicago, and for some years worked as a journeyman for Heath & Milligan. In 1866 he struck out for the great Western plains beyond the Mississippi, and coming here, purchased eighty acres of land under the provisions of the Homestead Act, and pre-empted eighty acres of land besides, all lying in this county, and began the culture of fruit, without, however, abandoning his trade, which he pursued successfully in this city. He established himself in his present business in 1883, and by his enterprise and ability has greatly increased his business, and now occupies a leading position, both as a dealer in the line of stock that he carries, and as a painter. His work is highly prized, and

he has been employed on some of the finest buildings in the county.

To his estimable wife and helpmate, formerly Miss Esther McGregor, our subject was united in marriage Dec. 19, 1867, the Rev. H. T. Davis, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, where they then resided, performing the ceremony that made them one. She was born in Maryland in 1847, and is a daughter of William and Alice (Hughes) McGregor. She came to Nebraska the year that she was married. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Bailey, namely: William A., Olive A., James, Charles (who died when seven weeks old), Maud and Hester. They are interesting, bright children, and their parents are giving them the advantages of a fine education.

Mr. Bailey occupies a prominent social position, having been a member of the I. O. O. F. for many years, and he also belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and to the Knights of Pythias, and is a member of the Modern Woodmen. He is very liberal and public-spirited, always seeking to promote the best interests of the city and county, and has especially interested himself in securing good educational privileges to the youth of this city, and as School Treasurer for twelve years has done efficient service. Our subject has accumulated much valuable city property since his residence here, and also owns some fine farming land, and is classed among the wealthy men of this city. Mrs. Bailey is a valued member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, is an active worker in the Sunday-school, and cordially lends her sympathy and aid in the good work that is carried on in Lincoln by her fellow-members.



NELSON STEELE is a son of A. J. Steele, of whom a sketch appears in this volume, and he resides on section 35, Buda Precinct. He was born on the 18th of September, 1857, in Monroe County, Ohio, and when he was quite young, came with his parents, Andrew J. and Mary Steele, to Tazewell County, Ill., and thence to Lancaster County, in 1869. From a child he was accustomed to the labors of a farmer's life, having begun at an

early age to assist his father in the work of cultivating his land, and doing the errands that a young boy can do. Here he has grown up to manhood gathering wisdom and strength of character from his experience, and finally launching out to do battle for himself, and prepare a home for his own family.

On the 14th of November, 1886, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Carrie Moore, by whom he has one child, Irvin, who was born on the 7th of October, 1887. There were nine children in his father's family, he being the eldest son, and consequently he has been obliged to depend upon his own labors for the accumulation of his property. Putting into daily use the manly qualities and strength of character developed in his earlier life on his father's farm, he set about diligently to see what could be accomplished for himself, and he is now the owner of eighty acres of land, as a reward for his diligence.

It is an undisputed fact that an individual or a faction allowed unlimited sway for a length of time becomes tyrannical, and it is well for the administration of justice that there should be opposing individuals and factions, whose very opposition will prevent the outgrowth of tyranny. In the government of such a country as ours, every man has a voice, and it is well that he should join himself to one or the other of the parties whose policy meets his approval, but he is not using the privilege of a free man if he becomes so thoroughly partisan that he cares only for the upholding of his party, regardless of its principles. Our subject has tried to avoid such partisanship, and while he affiliates with the Republican party he is sufficiently independent to support the men whom he respects and honors, though they should not belong to his party, believing that the best administration can be secured by placing only honest and honorable men in the public offices.

The younger men of a community should prepare themselves by the advice and example of their elders to assume the public burdens when the latter are no longer able to take an active share in them, thus perpetuating from generation to generation all the advantages gained by the untiring labor of the earliest settlers, and augmenting them whenever

opportunity affords. In this way only can a new country be developed to the heights of prosperity that distinguish some of the older settled States, and in this way only have the older settled States attained their eminent success and development, for their beginning was similar to that of this State. Let all the younger men join with our enterprising subject in the good work of developing the country's resources, and the result will be beyond even their most sanguine expectation.



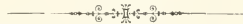
HENRY MEYER is one of the pioneer farmers of Buda Precinct, residing on section 31. He is a son of G. L. W. and Anne C. Meyer, the former of whom is deceased, and was born on the 27th of October, 1848, in Germany, the native country of his parents. He is the eldest son of his father's family, and enjoyed the advantages by which he was able to secure a fair education in his native tongue. In the fall of the year 1868, accompanied by his brother John, he started to America, making the voyage from Bremen to New York City on a steamer in seventeen days. He at once went out to the Great West, and remained for a time in Clayton County, Iowa. In order to gain a knowledge of the tongue of his adopted country he attended school for one winter in Clayton County, and with the knowledge thus acquired and that subsequently obtained in business life among the people, he has secured a fair knowledge of the English language also.

Our subject came to this county in the year 1868 and has since resided here, having taken note of the vast improvements as they were made since the first year of his arrival. In 1875 the father of our subject died, and there remain six of the family of children which he reared: Henry, our subject; John, in California; Maggie, wife of G. Rippen; Kate, wife of Detrick Rippen; Peter and Mary, all residents of Buda Precinct.

On the 17th of November, 1882, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Lena Warneke, by whom he has three children, viz: Anne D. was born on the 30th of July, 1883; William, on the 21st of March, 1885; and John on the 20th of

March, 1887. Mr. Meyer is the owner of 160 acres of land, which he purchased with the price of his own industry and self-reliance. He has worked hard to improve it, and is now comfortably situated. While he is interested in the political government of the country and is a Republican in politics, he is not sufficiently partisan to always adhere to that party, generally making use of his privilege to vote for the men whom he thinks the best qualified to conduct public affairs, no matter to which party they belong.

For twenty years has our subject lived in this county, and no doubt if he were to tell of all the changes that have taken place in that time, and describe the surroundings as they were when his eyes first looked upon them, the younger members of the community who have not passed through an experience like his, could scarcely be made to believe that the scenes so familiar to their eyes have been created within a few decades. But rapidly as the country has been developed, and wonderful as are the achievements of her inhabitants, the end is not yet, and she will go on continuing to improve, the land becoming fairer and more fruitful, until perhaps there will have been made as great changes in the coming decades as have been made in those of the past. Many of these important changes have been brought about by the active industry of just such men as our subject, and to them is due the honor arising from so great accomplishments. Mr. Meyer is a member of the Lutheran Church, and merits the confidence and esteem in which he is held by his fellowmen.



JULIUS H. WETTSTRUCK. As the tiny coral builders begin working far down under the water, and bit by bit contribute a mite to the structure which they have begun, until at last their goal is reached, and they appear above the surface, so must there be a commencement of the building which every man does, adding here and there a mite to the structure until at last it comes forth finished from the hands of the workman. But let not the tiny coral worker that has reached the surface scorn the way by which he has

risen, for if his foundation were withdrawn, he would be cast as low as any; and let not that man who prides himself on his achievements and success, scorn the way by which he has risen, for he had to mount the ladder step by step, there was no taking the rounds out of it and making one great leap to the top, and to each step he owes a certain amount of the strength and solidity of the foundation which upholds him. By successive steps has the subject of our sketch climbed from a condition in which he was virtually without means, to his present condition of luxury and wealth.

The gentleman of whom we speak is the only son of John and Frederica Wittstruck, and was born on the 6th of January, 1842, in Prussia. He received a very good education in his native tongue, and also has a fair English education. When about six or seven years old the first great sorrow of his life fell upon him, in the death of his mother, and a few years after that sad event, in the year 1857, he emigrated to America in company with an uncle, Frank Wettstruck. They took passage at Hamburg, on a sailing-vessel, and after an ocean voyage of five weeks and three days, they landed in New York City. Our subject at once went to Wisconsin, where he worked as a farm hand for two years, and then going to Woodford County, Ill., for a time he worked there by the month as a farm hand, and for a short time rented a farm.

In the year 1865 our subject was married to Mary A. Debolt, and to them four children were given: Charlotte, wife of J. H. Ames; Arthur, deceased; Caroline and Carl. He was a second time married, on the 24th of May, 1876, to Halldora Hall-dorsen, a native of Iceland. In the year 1865 he came to Lancaster County, Neb., and here homesteaded 160 acres of land, which is his present farm. Since then he has purchased eighty acres in South Pass Precinct, making in all 240 acres. He settled on his farm when there was not a furrow turned, and to him it must have seemed like an enormous undertaking to bring that large tract of virgin soil into a fertile state of cultivation. However, he knew there was no way of accomplishing the task but by beginning and then keeping at it. This he did, and in the course of time, and by dint of energy and good management, he has made of it one

of the best farms in his precinct. When he came to Nebraska he had but \$75, with which beginning he has accumulated his present splendid property.

Thus we may say that among self-made men our subject is entitled to take a high rank, owing all he has to his own business-like qualifications and enterprise. He is a firm believer that the political organization which Thomas Jefferson inaugurated is the one whose able management will secure the best results to the country, therefore he gives his vote and his influence to the Democratic party. For five or six years he has served as Road Supervisor. His experience has been worth much to him, and yet he would not again willingly undergo all the trials and difficulties incident to the life of an early settler, and we are glad to know that he is happily enjoying the fruits of his industry.

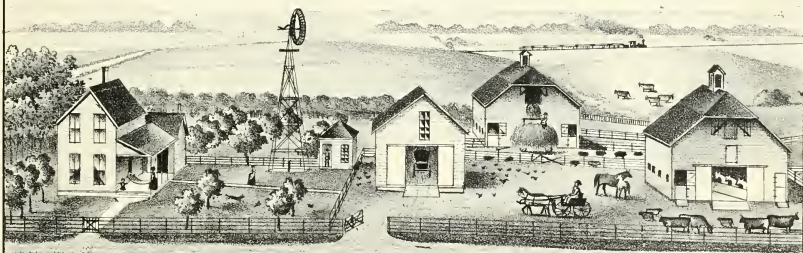
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LARUS BARNASON. The remarkable advantages for not only making a comfortable living in this country, but for securing a competency, and also the political advantages afforded every American citizen, and the opportunity given for educating the young, have attracted from every country the world around, many of their most valued and enterprising citizens. We find on the streets of our great cities people from all nations, but perhaps the most seldom met are those born in the far-off northern island of Iceland. We have in this brief sketch to give a record of the life of a native of Iceland, a gentleman who is to-day an influential and enterprising farmer of Buda Precinct, residing on section 36, and although a young man—for he was born on the 26th of December, 1855—he was a pioneer of the precinct in which he now owns a good farm, and is a well-to-do and respected citizen.

Mr. Barnason is the son of Barney and Emma Barnason, both of whom were also natives of Iceland. When Larus was a youth of fourteen years of age he had the great misfortune to lose by death both father and mother. Thus left to shift for himself we find him three years later in company with his brother Thomas on his way to America. He came on a steamer via England, the voyage requir-



RESIDENCE OF ROBERT M^o DEVITT, SEC. 26, NORTH BLUFF PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF WALTER J. HARRIS, SEC. 10, LANCASTER PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF W. H. AMES, SEC. 35, YANKEE HILL PRECINCT.

ing some fourteen days. They landed in New York City and immediately proceeded West, coming together to Lancaster County. They arrived in May, and in the autumn Thomas returned to Iceland. Larus preferred to remain here, and for the following eight years was engaged at work among the farmers in the ordinary labor of a farm hand, in the meantime making his home with Hon. T. R. Burling, of Firth. Larus had labored diligently, had been economical, and in the year 1884 was enabled to settle upon his present farm. Here he owns eighty acres of good land, which has been developed by his own labor.

After coming to this county, on the 25th of April, 1884, Mr. Barnason was united in marriage with Victoria Carter. This lady is a native of Kentucky, and has become the mother of one child, Mary, who was born Feb. 19, 1885. Mr. Barnason is an enterprising and public-spirited citizen, and considering the limited advantages which he has enjoyed has wielded considerable influence toward the improvement and betterment of the precinct, and the years of his greater usefulness are yet to be enjoyed, for, as above mentioned, Mr. Barnason is yet a young man.

JOSEPH Z. BRISCOE, one of the leading business men and merchants of Lincoln, has been an important factor in developing its material, social and religious interests, having with great generosity and liberality devoted a large share of the wealth that he has accumulated here by patient toil and characteristic energy and enterprise, to the moral and educational elevation of the community. He is of Pennsylvanian origin and ancestry, first opening his eyes to the light of the world March 1, 1838, in the Keystone State, in the home of his parents, Frisby W. and Eva (Logan) Briscoe, in the beautiful county of Somerset. His father was born of French origin in 1809, and the mother in Westmoreland County, Pa., in 1816.

Frisby Briscoe was a pioneer of Nebraska, coming here in the fall of 1863, in Territorial days, and locating in Omaha, finally dying in 1881, in Sarpy County, full of years and honors. He was, in

every sense of the word, a noble man, self-made and self-educated. He was left an orphan when quite young, and had to struggle hard for the education that made him one of the most prominent literary men and educators of his time and State of Pennsylvania, and he taught for many years in the academies at Berlin and Somerset. The latter part of his life was spent on a farm in Nebraska. His good wife is still living, and although seventy-two years of age, retains much of her youthful mental and physical vigor, owing, perhaps, to the fact that she comes of a long-lived family, her father having attained the remarkable age of one hundred and three years. Her husband was a member of the Christian Church, and she has likewise belonged to it for many years, having joined when she was a small girl. She is very much interested in theology, in which she is well versed, and can discuss with zeal and animation the doctrines of the different churches. The marriage of herself and husband was blessed by the birth of the following children: Mary, wife of Prof. Manoah Eberhardt, of Iowa; Joseph Z.; Sarah, wife of Samuel Cotner, of Omaha, Neb.; William W., a farmer of Sarpy County; John L. and Fred E.

Our subject early became a student in the common schools of his native State, and he was later sent to Duff's Merchant's College, at Pittsburgh, Pa., where he received a fine and complete business education. At the age of sixteen he began his career as a teacher in a common school at Oakland, Md., and afterward taught a select school at Westville, Ind. The family moved from Pennsylvania to Indiana, and remained about six years. He then came to Nebraska, and locating in Sarpy County, was for some time actively and profitably engaged in farming. While a resident of that county he took a somewhat active part in public affairs, and at one time was County Commissioner, which office he has also held for one term in this county. In the winter seasons our subject resumed his profession as teacher, and was for several seasons pleasantly engaged in the occupation of teaching the youth of Sarpy County. In 1880 Mr. Briscoe removed to Lincoln and established himself in the boot and shoe business. He afterward sold out, but subsequently formed a partnership

with Mr. Webster in the same line, and they are now carrying on a flourishing trade, under the firm name of Webster & Briscoe, in a nicely fitted up store at No. 1043 O street, carrying a stock of \$30,000, and by their courteous manners and thoroughly honest and honorable dealings they have secured a large amount of custom, and are patronized by some of the best people in the city. In the year 1887 Mr. Briscoe erected an elegant and commodious dwelling on the corner of Seventeenth and Locust streets, at a cost of \$5,000.

Mr. Briscoe was one of the members of the City Council who disobeyed the restraining order of Judge Brewer, of the United States District Court, in regard to ousting from office the Police Judge of Lincoln, for dereliction of duty. Judge Brewer regarded their action as contempt of court, and imposed a fine on the council of \$5,000, which the council refused to pay. The Judge then commanded the United States Marshal to place them in custody until the fine be paid. The case was taken before the Supreme Court at Washington, and the decision of that court was that the action of Judge Brewer was that of judicial usurpation, and the council was therefore released.

September 16, 1858, the marriage of our subject with Miss Eleanor Brandt was solemnized, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. D. O. Stewart, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Briscoe was born in Bloomington, Va., April 9, 1840, and is a daughter of Elijah P. and Sarah (Kite) Brandt, natives of Maryland. Her father died in his native State at Oakland, the mother is still living, and she is a faithful member of the Christian Church. Mr. Brandt was a farmer by occupation, and was a prominent citizen of the community where he resided, his great integrity and sterling worth commanding the confidence of his fellowmen. He was in his daily life a true and conscientious Christian, and was a pillar of the Lutheran Church. To him and his wife six children were born, namely: Hettie M., Ptolma, Eleanor, Martin, Thomas and John.

The happy married life of our subject and his wife has been blessed to them by the birth of a daughter, Florence V., who is now an accomplished young lady. She is a student in the art depart-

ment of the Christian University, where her fine natural talent as an artist is receiving careful cultivation, and also her musical talents. Her pictures in oil and her crayon work are said to be unsurpassed by any amateur in the city. Our subject and his family are active and prominent members of the Christian Church, and the daughter is a teacher in the Sunday-school. Mr. Briscoe has been an ordained Elder of the church for twenty years, and, in fact, is one of the leading members; has been President of the Missionary Society for eight years; has taught in the Sunday-school for many years, and was greatly instrumental in building the first Christian Church of this city. To his exertions it is due in great part that the Christian University was located in this city, as he was Chairman of the committee appointed to look up a suitable site for the proposed literary institution, and he has nobly endowed the Bible chair of the university with the munificent sum of \$25,000. In politics, our subject proudly claims to be a member of the Democratic party, which has no more vigorous supporter of its principles than he.



DAVID JACKSON. While there is an American history the name of Jackson will hold one of the most honored places in its pages, both as connected with the Presidential chair and its military achievements, for although the leader in the latter was mistaken in his opinion, he was a most able General, honorable man and Christian. He was the originator of the first colored Sunday-school, and the largest south of the Mason and Dixon line, and until the last was held in most affectionate regard by the colored people of his native city, and the name "Stonewall Jackson" should be associated rather with this incident and that at Fredericksburg as indicative of the man, than with any position his mistaken opinion led him to take. In the history of Nebraska the name as connected with our subject will be also held in affectionate remembrance as one who did much for the development and success of the State.

Our subject is a direct descendant of President Jackson, and Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson was his

nephew. He was the son of John and Eva (Newman) Jackson. His parents settled in Loudoun County, Va., where his father farmed a large tract of land for several years, and afterward removed to Hardin County, Ohio, and continued in the same occupation, and in this latter home died, in 1832, aged fifty-four years. His death was the result of a ferocious attack by a mad dog, in which he sustained several severe wounds from the teeth of the animal. His widow continued to make her home upon the Ohio farm until her death, in 1859, aged eighty-three. They were the parents of ten children, of whom four were boys. Our subject was the youngest, his natal day being Feb. 2, 1819, and the place of his birth Hillsboro, Va. At the time of the removal to Ohio he was five years of age, and about two years later he entered the common school, continuing in the same until he had gone the round of its classes.

As a boy Mr. Jackson was unusually industrious, and had his full share of the high spirit and independence of the true American boy, and like the illustrious Garfield and others, he early began to labor. The work he undertook was that of wood cutting in the forests near his home, and farm work. He was fifteen years of age when the accident which removed his father occurred; he then the more manfully labored on, with the view of helping his mother, which he was enabled to do to no inconsiderable extent.

The great step of our subject's life was taken in 1840, when he became the husband of Miss Mary McAllister, a lady of character, culture, refinement and womanly grace. She was the daughter of John and Mary (Graton) McAllister. Her father was a native of Ireland; her mother, of New England. They had made their home in Ohio among the earliest of its pioneers, and their experience and life was in common with their neighbors. Shortly after his marriage our subject removed to Henry County, and settled there. He purchased a piece of woodland, and was busily occupied in clearing and improving the same. He very shortly had a comfortable, if not elegant, home, and was enabled to reap large harvests, and prospered well.

There were eight children born to our subject, whom it was his pleasure to see develop those

qualities which point to a successful life. Their names are recorded as follows: William, Martha, John, Mary, Isaac, Ella, Wilbert and Rebecca. Beside these a son was adopted into the family, and bears the name David Howard Jackson.

About the year 1850 our subject made the acquaintance of James A. Garfield, who was a member of the same church, and had also met him on several public occasions. A firm and ardent friendship sprang up between them, which continued until the martyrdom of the beloved Garfield. Thus he continued with his family during the formative period of Ohio's history, working, suffering hardship, enduring reverses, and yet, withal prosperous and happy. In the midst of this beautiful, although perhaps somewhat quiet life, the family was suddenly disturbed and the quiet dispelled by the echo and reverberation of the guns which sent forth the shells to the walls of Sumter. This aroused all his patriotism, and stirred every instinct of manhood; immediately, although past forty-four years of age, being unable to restrain himself and satisfy his feelings with the excuse that there were younger men, he left his home and farm, and took his place in the first regiment of Ohio Sharpshooters, enlisting in Company A. He was a man always fond of his gun, and was an excellent marksman; at the target trial, which was given each man before enlisting in this regiment, he was the second upon the record of the entire regiment, and accounted a most perfect shot. From the report of the trial is given the following: "Three shots, averaging one and a half inches; five shots, five and a quarter inches." The record of our subject would have been the best of all, had not Lient. Pickard, after Mr. Jackson's third shot, requested to be allowed to shoot the remainder for him, which was done in order to save his own record, as at first.

Our subject in connection with his company engaged the rebels at Ft. Donelson, Nashville, Stone River, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge and Chattanooga. At the latter place he was seriously injured by the falling of a timber, disabled, and sent back to Nashville. He was also severely wounded in the same battle by a ball which took effect in his left arm. Finding that it would be impossible for him to serve again he was honorably

discharged at Nashville. After coming home to Ohio he remained upon the farm about two years, when he sold his property, put his belongings in his wagon, hitched up the team and started West. Their journey was continued until they arrived at Plattsmouth. The first winter was spent in Nebraska City, but early in the following year (1869) he came to Lincoln, purchasing his present property on section 4, Saltillo, which comprised eighty acres of what was then virgin prairie. He now began the second chapter of his pioneer experience, diverse in many ways from that obtained in Ohio. There he had the forest trees to remove before anything could be done. Here he had nothing but the level prairie to tame, but several times did he nearly lose everything, including life, by experience harder and more terrible than anything in his former home. The danger which threatened here was that which came from that element which, the proverb informs us, is a good servant, but a terrible master.

A fire is bad enough when it is found in a city, even though it be surrounded by the darkness of the midnight hour, and mingled with the roaring flames is the shriek of some heavy sleeper just awakened to his or her hour of peril; but, linked with the mitigating circumstances of the powerful engines, the hook and ladder companies, the ready help of stalwart and heroic firemen, it is as nothing compared with the awfulness of the prairie fire, as, roaring, leaping, flashing, burning, as far as the eye can reach on either hand, it travels rapidly toward the homestead with the grain ripening in the field and the stock in stall or pasture. Only one other experience can be named with it—that of the fires at sea.

Several times our subject was roused from sleep or labor to fight such a fire. There was also another element of bitterness in the Nebraska pioneer experience, in the shape of the plague of flies, or grasshoppers. There were, however, diversions and pleasures as well as hardships, and our subject enjoyed many thrilling and exciting hours while hunting the various game found upon the prairie, and often the results added materially to the comforts and welfare of those who were left at home on such occasions, and enjoyed the pleasures of the hunt by way of the larder and kitchen fire.

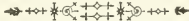
Not far from the house which our subject erected, a comfortable and convenient dwelling, beautiful for situation and not inelegant in its interior, was set out an extensive orchard, which contained besides a large number of cherry, plum and other fruit trees, 150 choice apple trees of different kinds. Abundant provision was also made for a liberal supply of various small fruits, as berries and currants, while the better qualities of grapes were also provided in profusion. The various farm and out houses are fully in keeping with the other appointments, both in regard to the solidity of their structure, convenient arrangements and general details, and are doubtless an element in the large measure of success which attended the operations of this pioneer settler.

The family of our subject demands some further reference in these pages. The eldest son, William, and David Howard enlisted together in the 100th Ohio Regiment, and the vacancies in the family circle to-day testify to a scar in the family which will never be effaced. At the battle of Atlanta William fell, shot through the heart, and his adopted brother was taken prisoner, sent to Libby Prison, the "black hole" of the South, and there succumbed to the terrible privations heaped upon the unfortunate occupants. The second child, Martha, became the wife of Thomas Peters, a prosperous farmer, and has become the happy mother of seven children; John, who resided at Mitchell and afterward at Lincoln, was married, and died in 1881, leaving three children; his wife is now Mrs. Obrion, of Lincoln. Mary was married to James Antill, resided at Lincoln, and died in the year 1882, leaving four children; Isaac is a successful contractor and builder at Lincoln, he is married, and is the parent of four children. Ella is the wife of John Swartz, one of Lincoln's prominent and prosperous merchants; they have one son, named Clarence; and lastly, Wilbert, who has charge of the homestead and farm, and is the husband of Miss Jane Dove.

Mr. Jackson was a prominent member of the Christian Church, and among the number who adorn their profession by an every-day life of most perfect consistency. His widow is also a consistent member, and their membership extended over a

period of forty years, and until the weight of years began to be felt few surpassed them in the activities of Christian work. In the various offices connected with the church Mr. Jackson held important positions, was deeply interested in the establishment and prosperity of Sunday-schools, and for many years taught a Bible class, and acted as Sunday-school Superintendent. He died Aug. 28, 1888. He had, however, given the data from which this sketch is prepared.

The first vote of our subject was cast for W. H. Harrison, of National, political and military renown. He always continued to be one of the warmest friends and supporters of the Republican party, actively engaging whenever advisable or necessary in the interests of the same. Without any attempt at fulsome eulogy it is only right and safe to say that no more honored, loyal or patriotic citizen, no truer or braver man, nobler or devout Christian, can be found, and that what he was as a man the companion of his life is as a woman, possessing all those qualities which make the words wife and mother the noblest in our language.



FRANK S. SPELLMAN, a farmer and stock-raiser of Centerville Precinct, residing on section 22, is a son of Hon. Henry and Eleanor Spellman. His parents are natives of Hanover, Germany, having emigrated to America perhaps a half-century ago, and now residing in Cortland, Gage Co., Neb. They had a family of eleven children, of whom the following are now living: Harmon, in Centerville Precinct; John, in Gage County, Neb.; Sarah, wife of Nicholas Bohl, in Highland Precinct; Lena, wife of William Stutheit, of Centerville Precinct; Henry, in Highland Precinct; Frank S., our subject; and Elizabeth, wife of William Schramm, of Gage County, Neb. The parents of this family of children came to Nebraska some twenty-one years ago, and were among the early settlers of Centerville Precinct, residing here until the year 1885, when they moved to Gage County, Neb., their present home.

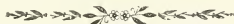
Hon. Henry Spellman, the father of our subject, has served as a member of the Legislature for one

term, and as County Commissioner of Lancaster County. He is a man who is highly respected by all who know him, and enjoys the good-will of all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance. He keeps abreast of the times in all matters of general information, and heartily approves of any methods by which the future welfare of his community can be secured. For several years he was a land agent for the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company, and he has been successful in whatever business he has been engaged. He is an ardent Republican, and being now in his declining years he spends his days among his friends and relatives, enjoying the fruits of a life spent in usefulness and well-doing.

When our subject was quite young he came with his parents to Lancaster County, where he has since lived, having seen the country improved from its primitive condition to the fine and well-kept farms of to-day. He has received a good education and has served as Assessor of Centerville Precinct for one year, and has united his fortunes with those of the Republican party. On the 25th of December, 1880, he led to the altar Miss Lena Krull, a daughter of Frank and Adaline Krull, of the same precinct in which our subject resides. Three children have been granted to them: John was born on the 24th of July, 1883; Emma, on the 10th of January, 1885, and William, on the 24th of August, 1887.

Mr. Spellman is the owner of a good farm containing 120 acres of well-improved land, which has resulted from his own labor and close attention to his business. Few men who have arrived at success and distinction have wrought with more than one thought in mind. It is better to know one business or profession, and know it thoroughly, than to be partially acquainted with several different kinds of business and yet unable to make a success of any of them. Concentration of purpose on one thing is the great key to success in business life. When a man has carefully chosen a profession or a business in which he prefers to engage, he should direct all his energies and attention in that one channel to secure a success. This does not mean that he shall be narrow-minded and be entirely oblivious to all other affairs than those that immediately concern his business, but that he shall have a certain goal in view and that goal shall be pros-

perity, and it is easily to be seen that it can be reached by a straight path much sooner than by a deviating course which leads off to this side or that side, and perhaps finally loses the way. Such concentration of purpose, united with the admirable manly qualities of our subject, have won for him his successful career.



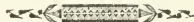
KARL LEMKE, the proprietor of 520 broad acres of valuable land, comprising the greater part of section 8, in Stockton Precinct, has by his thrift and industry risen to no unimportant position among the enterprising men of Lancaster County. A man of more than ordinary intelligence and excellent business capacity, he has proved himself one of those most needed in the development and settlement of a new tract of country. The most of his life has been spent in agricultural pursuits, and coming to this county during the period of its earliest settlement, there was ample room for the exercise of his natural industry and perseverance. He has been generously rewarded for his labors, being now in possession of a property which yields him a fine income, and by means of which he has been enabled to surround himself and his family with all the comforts of life.

The enterprising German citizen has been largely instrumental in the building up and development of the Great West. Mr. Lemke was born in the Kingdom of Prussia, April 8, 1844, and when a lad of fourteen years, filled with ambition and plans for the future, crossed the Atlantic with his uncle, Frederick Pritzman, joining his two brothers and two sisters, who had preceded him to the land of promise. From New York City he at once made his way westward to Racine County, Wis., living there with his brothers for one year, and then, in 1859, coming to Nebraska and settling in Stockton Precinct, where he has since made his home. The face of the country at that time presented a widely different appearance from that of the present, and Mr. Lemke can have the satisfaction of knowing that he has effected in no small degree the transformation of the county.

During the years 1860 and 1861 young Lemke

worked in Otoe County on a farm, and in the summer of 1862 sought the Platte River region, where he remained a year. The summer of 1863 found him at Omaha, Neb., where he remained three years engaged in teaming, and in the summer of 1866 returned to Stockton, this county, and was employed by his brother-in-law until the fall of that year. At this time, being ready to establish a home of his own, he was married, in December, 1867, to Mrs. Marie (Shultz) Lemke, who was the widow of John Lemke, who died in Stockton Precinct in 1865. The birthplace of Mrs. L. was not far from that of her husband, in Prussia, and the date thereof Feb. 20, 1830. Of her first marriage, which took place in Germany, there were born five children, the eldest of whom, a daughter Minnie, died when fifteen years old. The others, John, Agnes, Willie and Emma, are living in Lancaster County. Of her marriage with our subject there are no children.

Mr. Lemke is a strong adherent of the Republican party, and, with his estimable wife, prominently connected with the German Lutheran Church.



JOHAN F. HAYDEN, who for four years was engaged in the hardware trade in the city of Lincoln, is a native of Iowa County, Iowa, was born Nov. 30, 1856, and is a son of Joseph and Sarah T. (Tufts) Hayden, natives of Ohio and Maine respectively, the father born in Warren County, Ohio, in 1818. Joseph Hayden was reared to farm life, which he still follows, having now a fine estate of 560 acres in Kearney County, Neb. A part of this he secured from the Government and added to it by degrees, bringing the whole to a good state of cultivation, and which is now principally devoted to the raising of cattle and sheep.

The parental household consisted of eight children, and John F., at the age of fourteen years, commenced learning the tinner's trade and hardware business, at which he was occupied mostly until reaching his majority; then, desirous of a change, he went into Western Nebraska and operated a sheep ranch three years, meeting with fine success. At the expiration of that time, in 1885, he came to the

city of Lincoln and established himself in the hardware business, operating alone the first year, and then associated himself with Mr. Flanigan. They sold out in August, 1888.

Our subject has a pleasant home in the Driving Park Addition, presided over by a very pleasant and intelligent lady, who became his wife on the 20th of August, 1882. She was formerly Miss Malinda Dowe, and was born in the State of Indiana, in March, 1859. She received more than an ordinary education, being the child of intelligent and estimable parents. Her father's name was C. H. Dowe, who was a native of Indiana, as was also her mother. The little household of our subject comprises two bright children, a son and daughter—Homer G. and Mary E.

Mr. Hayden, aside from giving due attention to the details of an extensive business, takes a lively interest in political affairs and is a staunch supporter of Republican principles. While a resident of Kearney County he was Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners and was elected for a second term, but resigned on account of the pressure of business. He identified himself with the Masonic fraternity in 1883, joining at that time Robert Morris Lodge No. 54, at Kearney, and was subsequently transferred to Lincoln Lodge No. 19. He became a K. of P. in 1885, and since that time has been Master of the Exchequer.

The home of our subject is a tasteful frame residence, pleasantly located at the corner of Twentieth and V streets, and is the resort of hosts of friends. For a young man who commenced without a cent in his pocket, his record is eminently praiseworthy.

THOMAS G. HAWKINS, proprietor of a fine tract of land, 320 acres in extent, embracing the east half of section 35, in Grant Precinct, came to Nebraska in 1879. During the late Rebellion he served as a Union soldier, enlisting the first year of the war, Dec. 12, 1861, in Company I, 78th Ohio Infantry, the regular service, after having been three months with Company E, in the 19th Regiment. After entering the three-years service he participated in many of the im-

portant battles of the war, including the siege of Atlanta, where he was wounded in the left arm, July 22, 1864. He was mustered out at the expiration of his term of service.

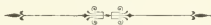
After the war Mr. Hawkins returned to his native township, Elk Run, in Columbiana County, Ohio, where he remained until coming to Nebraska. He was born Aug. 24, 1841, and lived with his father on the farm until a youth of nineteen years, at which time he enlisted in the army. In 1872 he was married, in Mahoning County, Ohio, on the 9th of February, to Miss Kate O. Oglevie, who was a native of his own county, and born Sept. 5, 1851. After his marriage Mr. Hawkins engaged in mercantile business at Elkton, Ohio, and was thus occupied until coming to the West. This move was made chiefly on account of his health. Before leaving the Buckeye State he was stationed at Wellsville for a period of six months, engaged in the drug trade.

To our subject and his wife there were born six children, namely: Howard, Halsey L., Blanche O., Eva B., Frank O. and John B. Howard died when eight months old. The mother departed this life at her home in Grant Precinct, Feb. 18, 1884. She was a most estimable lady and a member in good standing of the Methodist Church.

Mr. Hawkins is a staunch supporter of Republican principles, and has held the various local offices, officiating as Clerk of Grant Precinct for a number of years. He has effected many improvements upon his farm since taking possession, having good buildings, a fair assortment of live stock, and everything about him conducive to the comfort of himself and his family. He is considered one of the solid men of his neighborhood, and in the building up of one of the best farms of Grant Precinct has been no unimportant factor in maintaining its reputation and standing as a desirable place of residence.

The parents of our subject, John and Almira C. (Kemble) Hawkins, were also natives of Columbiana County, Ohio, where they still reside. Their family consisted of six sons and three daughters, who are residents of Ohio and Nebraska. The family is of English ancestry, and has been represented in this country for many generations. The

first to come to this country was Sir John Hawkins with his family, in 1665, and settled in Virginia, and from him has descended this branch of the Hawkins family in America. They were patriots in the Revolutionary War and contributed large sums to the support of the cause. They mostly pursued agriculture, and although making no great stir in the world, perhaps, have been composed of that solid and reliable class of the community without which society can have no permanent or reliable foundation.



HON. CHARLES H. GERE, editor of the *Nebraska State Journal*, is an honored resident of Lincoln, and a man highly esteemed throughout the State for his ability, integrity, keen perceptive faculties and business enterprise. He is a native of New York, and was born in Wyoming County, Feb. 18, 1838, being the eldest living child of Horatio N. and Julia D. (Grant) Gere. The early life of our subject was passed in Wyoming and Chenango Counties, N. Y., where he attended the district schools, receiving a substantial foundation for his future education. He afterward became a student at Oxford Academy, and from there went to Dickinson College, from which he was graduated with honor in 1861. Mr. Gere then made practical use of his educational attainments by becoming an instructor in an academic school of Pennsylvania, and subsequently teaching for a period of one year in Baltimore, Md., achieving much success in that profession. Being a loyal and true-hearted citizen of this grand Republic, the patriotism of our subject no longer allowed him to remain a spectator of the carnage and bloodshed being carried on around him, and he accordingly enlisted in the 10th Maryland Infantry, and afterward in the 11th Regiment, serving for several months on detached duty. At the close of the war he received an honorable discharge, and was mustered out of service in June, 1865. In the same year Mr. Gere was admitted to the bar in the city of Baltimore, and immediately after his admission started West, having decided to locate in Nebraska, which was then under Territorial government.

Pawnee City was the objective point of his destination, and there he commenced the practice of law. He was energetic, progressive and public-spirited, and soon became prominently identified with the various interests of the city, and was a potential factor in advancing the prosperity of the county and State as well as of the city. In 1866 Mr. Gere was elected to the State Legislature, and the following year, when Nebraska was admitted to the Union as a State, he was appointed private secretary by Gov. Butler, a position which he ably filled until his removal to Lincoln in 1868. In the meantime our subject had established a newspaper at the latter place, called the *Commonwealth*, which he published under that name for two years, when the paper was changed to the *State Journal*.

In the fall of 1868 Mr. Gere was elected State Senator, and served acceptably to his constituents for two years, and during that time served on several important committees. He was chosen Chairman of the committee on education, and reported the bill for the organization of the university at Lincoln, and framed and introduced the bill for the erection of the first university building. He also framed and had charge of the bills for the erection of the first asylum for the insane, and for the first penitentiary of the State. He was a member of the railway committee, and drafted the bill which was afterward passed to distribute and appropriate lands to the first railways that should pass through the State. Subsequently our subject was Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee for four consecutive terms, performing its arduous duties satisfactorily to all concerned. In 1880 Mr. Gere was again elected State Senator, and, as before, took an active interest in all important measures brought before the Senate. He served as Chairman of the committee on ways and means, and one of the bills introduced by him was a bill for the revision of the school law of the State. In educational affairs Mr. Gere is an acknowledged leader, his education and natural abilities eminently fitting him for such a position, and in 1882 he was appointed Regent of the State University, to fill a vacancy caused by resignation, being in September of the same year elected to fill the unexpired term, and in 1885 was re-elected to the same position for

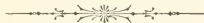


Very Truly
S. P. Bingham

the full term of six years. For the past five years he has served as President of the Board of Regents.

The marriage of Mr. Gere to Miss Mariel E., daughter of Capt. John Clapham, of Washington, D. C., was solemnized in 1871. Of their union four children have been born, of whom three are living, namely: Mariel, Ellen Bladen and Frances.

In politics, the subject of this sketch is an ardent Republican, firmly and sincerely upholding the principles promulgated by that party. He has been Chairman of three State Conventions of the Republican party, and in 1873 was a member of the State Constitution Convention, and assisted in framing the present State Constitution. As a man of intelligence and energy, a citizen of influence and high moral principle, and a journalist of broad culture, versatility and good practical sense, Mr. Gere has won a prominent position in the legal, political and business circles of his State, where his career has been a distinguished one, justifying the expectations of his many warm personal friends.



SOLON P. BINGHAM. Many of the most atrocious crimes that have ever been perpetrated in the history of the world have been committed in the name of, and ostensibly in behalf of religion, and not infrequently the mistake is made of charging to religion what should rightly be put to the account of the wickedness, bigotry, ignorance, selfishness and arrogant pride of men. At the same time, in many instances the repression, persecution and cruelty have fallen out for the advancement and benefit not only of those immediately concerned, but also for that of generations following them. An illustration and case in point, perhaps, would be the crime by English dignitaries that was the immediate cause of the voyage of the "Mayflower," which has brought a blessing to countless millions upon this grand continent. New England will always be connected in our minds with this thought.

Courtney Bingham, the father of the subject of this sketch, was a New Englander, and was born in 1789 in Lempster, N. H. His school days were passed in the institution of his native town,

and in that place he continued to live and labor until he reached the years of his majority. He was united in marriage with Rachel Howard, and there were born to them three children—Samuel Dexter, Mary W. and our subject. His wife died at the early age of thirty-six years, and some time after he contracted a second alliance, becoming the husband of Lovey Labourveau. By this marriage he became the father of a son, George W. Mr. Bingham carried on an extensive business as a clothier, and was quite prosperous in the same. His religious associations and those of his family were within the pale of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was always a warm friend and consistent member. At the time of his demise in 1863, he had reached the ripe age of seventy-three years.

Our subject was born in Charleston, N. H., upon the banks of the beautiful Connecticut River. While in his childhood the family removed to Lempster, Sullivan County. In this new place our subject was enabled to obtain the rudiments of an education. Upon the removal of the family to Stoddard, he made some addition to this store, but the greater part of his mental training and development was obtained after the removal of the family to Keene, where he attended the common school for a considerable time. Our subject realized, however that his education was far from being complete when he passed into the school of experience, and began life in earnest, and he has, therefore, never ceased to make the most of everything which promised to aid him in this regard. His home was with his father and family only during his earlier years, for, upon the death of his mother, his father broke up housekeeping, and he went to work upon a farm and earned his own living; and, although he was allowed the privilege of attending school sometimes, this was the real difficulty in the way of his obtaining a complete and regular course of study. He had to be content with two or three months during the winter.

As soon as our subject was in a position to change the loneliness which came as the result of the above described circumstances, he was united in marriage to Miss Harriet E. Adams, a lady who was eminently fitted to bring into his life those elements

which would redeem it from the emptiness of youth and manhood, and in whom he has not been disappointed. Miss Adams is a native of Hillsboro County, N. H., and was born in Mason on the 5th of December, 1818. She is the daughter of Deacon Jonas and Sallie (Wright) Adams, and lived at home with her parents until her marriage. Her education was begun in the common schools of Mason, and completed in the Ladies' Seminary, of Keene, in which institution she was occupied, from the time of her graduation until her marriage, as a teacher. Her father, who lived to the green old age of seventy-four, was during life a very prosperous and successful farmer.

After his marriage Mr. Bingham went West, in the spring of 1842, settling in Bureau County, Ill., about 100 miles from Chicago, on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. This he made his home for about twenty-six years, living in Dover and Princeton. From thence he removed to Union County, in Southern Illinois, engaging for the subsequent ten years in the fruit business. In 1878 the removal to Nebraska was proposed and effected, and the property two and a half miles from Lincoln was purchased. At that time it was unbroken prairie in all its native wildness, and was at that time valued and purchased at the rate of \$9 per acre. Immediately he set about the work of providing a home for his family and improving his farm. His present elegant and commodious residence was erected in the year 1885. The view which will be found elsewhere in this volume will convey, however, a better idea of this model home and its surroundings than is possible in the written description. He sold 145 acres of his farm in the year 1887, receiving for the same \$30,000, which speaks more eloquently than mere words his prosperity during the years intervening, and the high state of cultivation to which he had brought the property. This sale still left him his residence and unusually fine orchard, containing about 500 plum, 200 apple trees, and one acre of grape vines, with sufficient land for his purpose—about fifteen acres in all—making this property an exceptionally fine suburban residence. It is considered by all who know it as one of the most beautiful homes in the county. Previous to the sale of his farm our subject had been one

of the most extensive stock-raisers and sheep-raisers in the entire district, carrying on also a large dairy business in the city. Although now no longer a representative of the farming and stock interests, he is one of the most prominent and prosperous citizens.

To our subject and wife there have been given four daughters: Mary Ellen, who is now the wife of A. M. Trimbull, of Lincoln; Sarah A., who became the wife of Edwin Collins, who is since deceased, leaving his widow with one son; Hattie B. was married to Prof. G. H. French, of the Normal University, of Carbondale, Ill. It was their misfortune and sorrow to lose by death the youngest daughter, Helen E., shortly after she had reached the age of eleven years. The only grandchild of our subject is Eddie B. Collins, the son of his second daughter above referred to.

The parents of our subject bore into their daily lives the Christian influences of a faith which received the highest devotion of their being. These influences surrounded the earliest days of our subject, and continued through the days when he was better enabled to grasp their meaning; they were not without result, being reproduced in daily emanation from the heart they had affected so deeply, and have continued growing stronger and deeper through the years of life. At the age of eighteen our subject made public profession of his devotion to the Christian faith, was immersed by the Rev. John Peacock, and received into the membership of the Baptist Church at Keene, becoming an active worker in the cause. Upon removal to Dover he transferred his membership to the church there, and for twenty-six years was unwearied in well-doing. Soon after he had reached the age of thirty-four he was elected and ordained Deacon of the church, and for fifteen years filled with efficiency the position of chorister, and for a similar period that of Superintendent of the Sunday-school. Upon the removal to Union he was obliged to resign these offices, to the great regret of all connected with the church and school.

Mr. Bingham then transferred his allegiance to the church adjacent to his new home. During the years of his superintendency he had become passionately devoted to Sunday-school work, and in his

new home his energies were spent in the establishment and support of similar institutions. In every school-house for quite a large distance around his home, he went to work to found a Sunday-school, and until he could find some one living near by who could take charge thereof, he would superintend it himself. His plan was to visit each school in regular order, and not infrequently the list of schools he visited in this way was quite lengthy. The Sunday-School Mass Meetings, which have become so deservedly popular in Illinois, were introduced by Mr. Bingham when he was sent as a delegate to the Clear Creek Association. In the Baptist communion our subject was considered their best worker in this department. The Colored Sunday-School Association, of which our subject was President until his removal to Nebraska, exists as a result of the largeness of his liberality and untiring effort. When he determined to remove to this place he received, as was most just, a highly commendatory letter to the church at Lincoln, with which he united upon his arrival. This was in the year 1878. Since that time he has served the church as Treasurer and Deacon, and has been untiring in interest and zealous effort in Sunday-school work. He has established a large number of such schools in the county, and superintends the one held in the school-house opposite his home. For seven years Mr. Bingham held the office of Treasurer to the Ottawa Baptist Association.

There are two kinds of religion in the world today, and the failure to discriminate between them is at the bottom of all the atheism and most of the dissatisfaction that is observed in regard to such matters. It is the difference between the true and false; the genuine and counterfeit; the vital and the superficial; the profession and the possession. That of our subject, which has enabled him to sustain such high positions in the esteem and affection of the very extensive circle in which he has moved in the different States of which he has been a resident, stamps the religion of our subject as that which has its strong hold in the heart, and reaching out into all the happenings, duties and surroundings of each day and hour, produces a life and not a mere "I believe" profession.

In political affairs the subject of our sketch has

seen many changes. In early life he was a Whig; later he became an Abolitionist, and during the war was a strong Union man. Ever since the organization of the Republican party he has been a cordial supporter thereof, and at all times energetic in its behalf. By the members of the party he has been considered one of its faithful friends and firmest adherents. The friends of this gentleman will be pleased to find the portrait of Mr. Bingham in this volume, and the general reader cannot fail to be interested to look into the face of such a man and citizen.



PETER OSTRAN. Upon the map of Europe, in the northern part, is marked a country which in the days of old played perhaps a more important part in the affairs of that continent than it does to-day, when it is overshadowed largely by massive, consolidated empires. What is known regarding this country, however, is as a whole more to its credit than the history of some of its neighboring States. From this country—Sweden—there have come to America as emigrants many, who, as they have obtained a larger grasp of the condition of things in their adopted country, have taken their places in the first rank of citizens.

The subject of this writing is a native of the above country, the son of Sven and Sarah (Peterson) Ostran, both of whom were likewise natives of Sweden. His father was engaged in mercantile pursuits and had a large wholesale and retail establishment. He also filled with honor, for a period of twenty-eight years, the office of County Judge. He was the parent of seven children, three of whom were boys. Our subject, who was the fourth child of the family, was born Jan. 1, 1845. The life of a child in Sweden would seem to be a busy one, for after twelve short years school and playground became things of the past, and at that early age he was apprenticed to learn the carpenter's trade. His talents rapidly developed themselves, and after about four years he is found carrying on a business and employing several hands. After con-

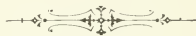
tinuing to work at his trade for some three years, he sold out his business and came to this country.

Our subject was about twenty-four years of age when he landed in New York, which event transpired July 2, 1869. In a few days he proceeded to Princeton, Ill., and obtained work almost at once as foreman. He continued thus engaged and with the same firm for a period of four years. He afterward remained, still working at his trade, for another six years, making ten years of life in Illinois. He came to Nebraska Oct. 5, 1879, and settled in Bennet. At this time his family included besides himself his wife and two children. A farm on section 32, Nemaha Precinct, was then for sale and held out inducements which led him finally to its purchase. Here he continued to reside and was very successful in husbandry for three years, when he removed to a farm on section 4, which his prosperity enabled him to purchase. This comprised 160 acres of land, a portion of which was improved.

Miss Martha B. Coddington, an Illinois lady of education, culture and womanly grace, had captivated his affections, and this culminated on July 28, 1872, in their marriage. This lady is the daughter of James and Catherine (Fearer) Coddington, both natives of Virginia. The family first settled in Bureau County, Ill. It was the great sorrow and misfortune of this family that death removed by violent accident the father, which event occurred as the result of a severe fall from the back of a wagon while it was in motion. When this sad incident occurred, our subject was in the midst of a somewhat extended visit in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Mrs. Coddington, his wife, continues to make her residence in Bureau County, Ill. The family circle included ten children, four of whom were sons. The youngest of the family is the lady who afterward became Mrs. Ostran. She was born Jan. 31, 1854. The family of our subject numbers three children—Lottie M., James R. and Lee R.

The Baptist Church for several years was their religious home, but for a long time Mr. and Mrs. Ostran have been worthy members of the United Brethren denomination, and enjoy the confidence and high regard of their fellow-members. Our sub-

ject affiliates with the Republican party, the principles of which he most firmly believes and most strongly advocates; nevertheless he takes a decided stand upon the much agitated question of the liquor traffic, and upon that he is a Prohibitionist. We may perhaps trace this feeling to the fact that our subject has the bringing up of these bright, intelligent children, especially his two sons, for no one can look upon the temptations which surround children as a result of this traffic, without feeling more or less the need of a strong safeguard against the same. We have only to add in the brief space permitted by this sketch that Mrs. Ostran is as worthy of high regard, confidence and esteem for the position she sustains in church, social and domestic spheres, as her husband in his more varied relations, and that both husband and wife deservedly enjoy the utmost esteem and respect of the community.



JW. MUSSETTER, proprietor of the Mussetter quarry, and a farmer, is one of the most energetic and enterprising business men of Roeca Village. As that of a man who has risen superior to adversity, and has nobly conquered all the difficulties that lay in his pathway, the life of our subject has been a grand one, well worthy of emulation by the youth of the rising generation. It has been one long struggle for the success that he has finally achieved. Twice during his career has he been down to almost desperation in his financial standing, but his indomitable will and persevering toil have each time brought him up triumphantly, and his present prosperity is established on a sure foundation.

The parents of our subject, Michael and Maria (Smith) Mussetter, were natives of Virginia, the father of Berkeley County, and the mother of Hampshire County. His paternal grandfather, Christian Mussetter, was a German by birth, and his maternal grandfather, Reuben Smith, who fought in the War of 1812, was of Welsh and English blood. The parents of our subject settled in Hampshire County, Va., where for seventeen years Mr. Mussetter car-

ried on blacksmithing very prosperously. He then removed with his family to Wood County, W. Va., where he bought a farm, continuing to reside there until his death, at the age of sixty-two years. He was an intelligent, well-informed man, tender and true hearted in his relations with his family and friends, and as a citizen, intensely loyal to his country, his only regret on his dying bed being, that he could not live to see the Union cause triumphant. His worthy wife died in 1876, at the age of sixty-four years. They were the parents of eleven children, nine of whom grew to maturity, six sons and three daughters.

Our subject, the second son and child, was born Aug. 22, 1833, in Hampshire County, Va., near Ridgeville. His educational advantages were limited, as there were then no free schools in the part of the country where he was reared, and his father having a large family of children, could not afford to keep them in the rate schools much of the time. J. W. was sixteen years old when his father went to farming in Wood County, W. Va., and he assisted his father some on his farm. But the latter succeeded so poorly in his farming venture that it became necessary for our subject to seek work elsewhere, that he might help support the family. Accordingly he worked as a farm laborer and on public works, and with noble self-sacrifice gave all his earnings toward defraying the household expenses, quietly suppressing his own desires and ambitions, and never saving up a dollar for himself until he was twenty-eight years old. In that year, 1861, he married Miss Mary Martha, daughter of Edward and Rebecca (Spaun) Leach, natives respectively of Maryland and Marshall County, Va. Her father followed his vocation of farmer in Marshall County, Va., until 1850, when he removed to Wood County, Ohio, where his wife died in 1854, at the age of forty-eight. Mr. Leach continued to live in Wood County for some time, but finally came to Nebraska, and spent his last days with our subject and his daughter, dying in 1887, at the remarkable age of ninety-nine years. He was the father of eight children, two boys and six girls, and Mrs. Mussetter was his third child in order of birth. She was born June 9, 1829, in Marshall County, Va., and was eight years old when her parents

moved to Wood County. Her educational advantages were similar to those of her husband.

After marriage Mr. Mussetter bought a small farm, and operated it a year or two, and then engaged in the mercantile business in the town of Deerwalk, Wood County. He was not very successful, as he was too liberal in trusting his customers, and in the financial crisis of 1870 and 1871 he came down with a crash, which was aggravated by a fall in the price of oil. Mr. Mussetter then started in the blacksmith business in Volcano, Va., and was very successful there for two years, when the tide turned against him again, and he was again stranded, financially speaking. But he paid his indebtedness dollar for dollar, and with barely \$300 in his pocket, made his way with his family to Nebraska, arriving at Lincoln in December, 1874. He succeeded in obtaining winter quarters, and in the next spring rented a farm and team. He was greatly encouraged by the good harvests of 1875 and 1876, and continued renting land for six years. In 1881 he bought 120 acres of school land, and now has a first-class farm, with a commodious frame dwelling and various other improvements. Mr. Mussetter began to develop a stone quarry on his own farm on a small scale, and in 1884 he branched out in the business by leasing the Myers quarry, which he operated for three years, and in the spring of 1888 he leased the McKinnon quarry. He has put in a side track, and employs about eight men and four or five teams, taking out about two or three car-loads a day. He ships stone to various Nebraska cities within a radius of 100 miles. His stone is found to possess every requisite of the best building material, and he has quite an extensive business, is gradually getting into good working order, and will be able to fill large contracts. Taking everything into consideration, our subject has been very successful since coming to Nebraska.

Mr. Mussetter's life has been guided by principles of the highest honor and integrity, as a perusal of this biographical sketch will show, and he is a man of unspotted character, well dowered with firmness and stability. He has the interest of this community deeply at heart, and has done much for its social, moral and religious elevation. He is a member of the Board of Education, and is School

Treasurer for his district. He is a Trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which both he and his wife are leading members, and he is also Class-Leader. In politics, he is a Prohibitionist, and both he and Mrs. Mussetter have been actively engaged in the temperance cause for some time.



HON. HERMAN J. LIESVELD. Andrew Jackson Davis' idea of life, as represented in the vision at Poughkeepsie, recited in his biography, frequently referred to in his "Harmony," and other works, is, after all, not without a semblance of truth. It may be remembered that his vision takes the form of seven mountains, each rising higher than the other, and that, beginning at the foot of the lowest in childhood, one, through life, progresses in direct ratio to the pertinacity and continued effort put forth in mounting the steep ascents, which are marked all the way by rocks, boulders, ravines, precipices, and other dangers and difficulties. Looking back from the highest summit of all, where, by the way, he finds himself almost alone, he sees the whole path occupied by struggling humanity, some advancing, others retreating, stopping or falling. In the biography here presented it is our pleasure to offer that of one who has almost attained the summit of the seventh mountain, which includes not simply the success of finance and position, but manhood, in all that may be included in the term.

The parents of our subject, Derk and Martina (Van Der Teems) Liesveld, were born in Arnhem, an ancient and fortified town situated upon the Rhine, about fifty miles from Amsterdam, with a population of about 35,000 persons. By trade Mr. Liesveld, Sr., was a shoemaker, and worked at the same until he came to this country, where he conceived that a better home could be made and his family better started in life than in the more crowded cities and Provinces of the old countries. He accordingly sailed for the United States, landing in New York with his wife and child in the month of May, 1817, and began work almost immediately in a lumber-yard and sawmill upon the Hudson, near the city. He worked very little at his own trade,

until he removed to Grand Rapids, Mich., where he combined his old calling with the new. His next removal was to Zeeland, Mich., where he opened a shop, and for nine months continued with success as a boot and shoe maker. Thence he removed to Fulton, Ill., where he engaged in the dairy business for about nine months. The family then resided in Rockville, Wis., and again there is a reversion to the original business, coupled, however, with that of farming, which was sufficiently remunerative and prosperous to continue its attractions and hold the family for a period of ten years. Thence a removal was made to Chenoa, Ill., and he engaged as a nurseryman and purchased an interest in the business of M. T. Scott, which he held for four years, and then made his final removal to about seven miles south of Hastings, Iowa, where he carried on a large stock farm for Mr. Scott.

The father of our subject became the owner of 200 acres of land in this county, but he was never permitted to enter the "Canaan of the West," for, just as arrangements were being made to that end, he was called to relinquish the properties of earth and enter the land of silent spirits. He was fifty-five years of age at his death, Aug. 21, 1875. The mother of our subject resides upon the farm at South Pass Precinct, this county, and, despite her seventy-eight years, enjoys fair health and strength. To this happy union, in the course of years, there came seven little ones, who alternated in sex after the original order of male and female, as will be noticed by the subjoined record of their names in order of their birth. The first-born, as above stated, was our subject, Herman J., who was born in Arnhem; then Johanna, Frank, Mary, Thomas, Sarah and Samuel, all of whom were born in this country.

Our subject has no recollection of the passage from Amsterdam or the early life in New York. At the age of seven he attended the public school at Grand Rapids, and completed his education in Fulton, Ill., and Rockville, Wis., where, in addition to the studies of the school hours, he was thoroughly instructed in the German language, and here his school education terminated. He continued from this on until he attained his majority, working in the nursery, superintending the men

employed, and having charge of the work department. In 1868 our subject was wedded to Miss Mary Pramm, of Rockville, but a native of Hanover, Germany, where she was born Dec. 6, 1846. She is the youngest child of four born to her parents, and was eight years of age when she came to this country. She is the daughter of Henry and Christina Pramm. It was her misfortune to be left fatherless within twenty-four hours after landing at Potosi, on the Mississippi River, her father leaving his wife a widow with four children, to fight the battles of a new life in a new country, her troubles being increased in a few days by the loss of her only son. She was, however, a lady of courage and resources; she, therefore, faced nobly the severe and well-nigh overpowering trial, and went to work for herself and children with a womanly spirit beyond all laudation, and shortly succeeded in placing them and herself in a position of comparative comfort and ease. She removed to Riley Center, Kan., in 1870, where she died ten years subsequently, at the age of seventy-seven years.

The education of Mrs. Liesveld was commenced in Germany, and was as thorough as her age would permit. This has since been supplemented and extended until she is fitted for any position in life, and would grace any sphere, even the highest in the land. In 1869 our subject became the superintendent of Mr. Scott's stock farm, retaining the same for a period of nine years, making in all eleven years he had been with Mr. Scott. In 1872 a visit was made to Nebraska for the purpose of prospecting, in which several counties were visited, and eighty acres were purchased in South Pass Precinct. This, with his father's property, made a total of 320 acres, of which forty acres were shortly afterward sold. Arrangements were made by Mr. Liesveld for his land to be broken, and improvements commenced by way of farm buildings, his residence being erected later.

Our subject and family took up their residence upon the above farm in the spring of 1879, and continued to operate it for three years, meeting with an experience as checkered as the floor of Solomon's Temple. In the year 1881 he was employed by T. W. Lowry to take charge of the grain elevator at Firth, continuing in the same for

three years. During this time the partnership of Lowry & Liesveld was formed, in the same line of business. With increasing prosperity came the opportunity for further investment, and in the fall of 1884 a partnership was arranged with J. J. Trompen in the grain business. The business of the new firm speedily demanded larger quarters, and the present substantial building was erected. It is a steam elevator, with a capacity of 13,000 bushels, and is fitted and supplied with every modern convenience and implement, and has since been the recipient of many thousand bushels of the golden grain of Nebraska, that has ultimately found its way eastward, and supplied the staff of life to innumerable families. The business exceeds 125,000 bushels per annum, which is supplemented by a large trade in all kinds of farm machinery, implements, and general supplies.

The home circle of our subject includes seven children, and it is a source of gratification to the parents to recognize in them those qualities and estimable attributes which will result, with proper care, in noble lives and characters. Appended are their names in order of seniority: Marena C., M. T. Scott, Julia G., Derika A., Bertha L., Matilda W. and Maude H. The eldest daughter is now the wife of Henry Meyer, a successful farmer in Saltillo Precinct; the remaining children are still at home, and attending school, except the youngest, who is but four years of age.

Among the citizens of Lancaster County there are few, if any, who surpass the subject of this biography in ability, generosity, manliness, moral courage, fidelity and popularity; whether we view his life from the standpoint of home, business, finance, political or representative position. In 1884 he was nominated by the Republican Convention of Lancaster County as a candidate for the Legislature, and the same fall was elected by a large majority, and served a term of two years, was re-elected in 1886, and still occupies the seat. In the halls of legislation he has distinguished himself in various ways, in a manner which has greatly enhanced the prevailing feeling in his favor among the citizens of the county; only two or three of the more noteworthy may be culled for mention in this epitome. An action, which has brought him

much popularity, is his introduction of bill No. 220, an act to provide for the organization of the students of the State University of Nebraska into a military battalion; also, to provide for the commissioning of officers for the same. Another bill introduced by Mr. Liesveld was No. 257, an act to provide for the employment of a County Prosecutor and the payment thereof in cases where change of venue has been taken in criminal cases from one county to another. This list might be lengthened wellnigh indefinitely. Suffice it to remark that our subject has always been true to the principles of his party and to the interests of the people, and if, at any time, these should appear to be antagonistic or opposite, the people receive his first consideration.

Mr. and Mrs. Liesveld are among the most consistent and faithful members of the German Presbyterian Church at Hickman, in which the religious instruction of their family is also received. In our subject the Republican party has one of its staunchest adherents and warmest supporters. He is a Republican through and through, and in campaigns and other special work his large popularity, influence, vigorous thought, powerful argument and telling eloquence, are at the command of his political coadjutors.

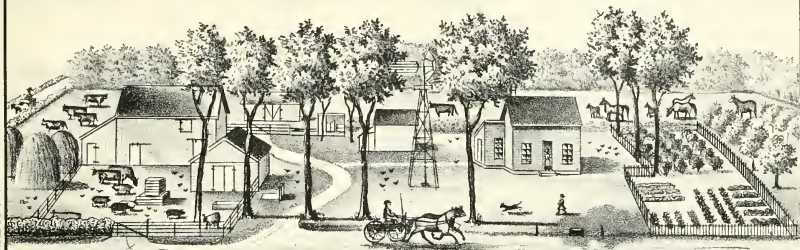
JOHN F. HAY. Another of the representative citizens of Lancaster County, whether we speak of him relative to his social, religious, political or business relations, is John F. Hay, whose residence is situated on section 28, Yankee Hill Precinct, where he owns 240 acres of land. He is a native of Calhoun County, Mich., where he was born, June 20, 1853, to Alexander and Sarah A. Hay. His mother, who is still a resident of Calhoun County, is of an Eastern family, and a native of Saratoga County, N. Y. His father was a native of Washington County, and is now deceased. His paternal ancestry are Scotch.

Our subject is the only son of the family, and spent his early years, youth and manhood, amid the scenes in which he was ushered into life. His parents were among those few brave, self-reliant, undaunted men and women for whom the boundaries

of Eastern civilization were all too narrow and confining. Like other bold spirits of the time, they gathered together their possessions and pushed out into the great unknown; to new scenes, new surroundings, difficulties and dangers. This pioneer life was that into which our subject was ushered, in which he was reared. From boyhood up he was active about the farm, and became intimately conversant with the many and intricate details of the farm work, the divers kinds and qualities of seeds and soils, the most combatable, those which promised most success. The variety and differences of stock and cattle all became familiar to him.

In Washington County, N. Y., resided James H. and Catherine Van Ness. This family, as is clearly expressed by the cognomen, was of Dutch extraction. The immediate forerunners of James H. Van Ness were among the very early Dutch colonists who settled in the Mohawk Valley, N. Y. On the 8th of March, 1845, the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Van Ness was made glad with the brightness of a new life. The little girl was named Cornelia. As she approached the years of womanhood she developed such traits of character and displayed such admirable qualities, that the acquaintanceship which our subject about this time began more to appreciate, speedily ripened into stronger sentiments, and on Feb. 11, 1879, they united their fortunes and lives in wedlock. The principal event in her life up to this time had been the death of her father, which occurred when she was seventeen years of age.

In 1879 our subject removed from Michigan to Lancaster County, and took land and settled in this precinct. Mr. Hay is practically a self-made man, as were so many of those hearty pioneers from the very necessity of their circumstances. We must remember how far they were from educational institutions of any large caliber; how few and how far between the school-houses were; the miles the child must traverse in going to and fro; and their difficulties of travel in this untamed country; the dangers to which we are now happily strangers, but which were liable to become very real to them at any step of their journey, and last, but far from least, the crudeness and inconvenience of their educational apparatus. The workman who turns out good work with poor tools we honor and admire.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN F. HAY, SEC. 28, YANKEE HILL PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF .S.P.BINGHAM, SEC. 33, GARFIELD PRECINCT.

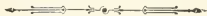
All honor and admiration, therefore, to men who, like our subject, faced the difficulties, braved the dangers, and succeeded in fitting themselves for the happenings of life.

We must not forget, however, to pay, as is justly due, some tribute of respect to the truly noble woman who shared with him through all these years the often hazardous and certainly checkered life. How often might he have given up but for her words of encouragement and cheer; how often might he have made mistakes of grave, and even disastrous, import, but for her wise and cautious counsel; how often the results which were ascribed, and justly so, to his energies and enterprise, would never have been entered upon but for her thought and advisement.

For three years Mr. Hay has served conscientiously and with much ability as Justice of the Peace, which service has been justly commended and generally recognized by the entire community. He is an acknowledged friend and liberal supporter of every enterprise which looks toward the elevation of society and the improvement of the county. In the Methodist Episcopal Church our subject and his wife find their religious home, and if in the community generally they are respected, in the church they are beloved. He has officiated in the Steward's office for about one year.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hay have been born three children: Sarah A., born May 28, 1880, and died June 5, 1882; Frederick G., born Nov. 26, 1882, and died Feb. 27, 1883; and Mark I., born Sept. 6, 1885, who is the only surviving child.

It only remains to be stated what has doubtless already been surmised, that in his relation toward the State and Government, Mr. Hay espouses, upholds and advocates Republican principles, and that his influence, eloquence and activities are never commanded in their behalf, but they meet with the heartiest response. A view of Mr. Hay's homestead is presented in this connection.



WILLIAM CLAY is entitled to be recorded as one of Panama's earliest pioneers, and his family is the only one of the sixteen who came here together in the early days of the settle-

ment of the town who is still residing here. His pioneer experience was a rich one, and would form an interesting chapter in the history of Lancaster County. He says that this was a beautiful prairie country, with scarcely a habitation, when he first settled here, without trees, and abounding with antelope, deer, wild geese, ducks, etc. He has watched the wonderful development of the county, and its gradual settling up as the tide of emigration came this way from the Eastern States. He always gave a cordial and hospitable welcome to the weary and sometimes disheartened emigrants, and sent them on their way refreshed and encouraged; sometimes as many as fifteen teams laden with people seeking new homes on the broad prairies of Nebraska would stop in front of his house, and he would cordially invite them to pass the night with him. Mr. Clay has done very well, notwithstanding those disastrous years when he had to fight prairie fires, grasshoppers, drouths and blizzards, with the dread possibility of utter ruin staring him in the face, and he is well satisfied with his farm, and is contented in his comfortable home, wherein he enjoys the comforts of life procured by a sufficient competency.

Our subject is a native of England, a son of George and Catherine (Gracard) Clay, who were born in Lincolnshire, England. His father was a farmer, and was in prosperous circumstances in his early years, but later in life he failed, and died at the age of fifty, a comparatively poor man. The mother of our subject died in England in 1881, aged seventy-five years. Both she and her husband were people of sterling integrity and industrious habits, and were considered valuable members of the community in which they were residents. They were the parents of fifteen children, ten of whom grew to maturity.

William Clay was the third child of his parents, and he was born July 10, 1826, in the parish of Gedney, Lincolnshire. He grew up in the home of his parents, but being one of the eldest in a large family of children, his education was necessarily limited, as his services were required on the farm. In December, 1847, at the age of twenty-one, he took unto himself a wife, in the person of Miss Maria Huson. He continued farming in his

native England until after he was the father of three children, when he sold his possessions there, and sought this new world with his family, hoping to be able to build up a more commodious home here than he could in the old country. He sailed with his family from Liverpool in December, 1852, and landed in New York the following January. He went to Albion, Orleans County, where he worked for three years steadily, being employed by the day, and having carefully saved up some of his earnings that were not needed to supply the wants of his growing family, he left New York for Michigan, and bought a farm in Shiawassee County. He lived there for nine years, but he wished to go still further West, and we next hear of him in Mitchell County, Iowa, where he remained only a few years. He had the sad misfortune to lose his good wife there, she who since his early manhood had been his stay and help, and had cheerfully abandoned her old home and friends to accompany him across the waters to a strange land, and had ever proved the kindest of wives and the most tender of mothers. In 1868, after her death, Mr. Clay broke up his home in Iowa, and with his children came to this State in a wagon, being four weeks on the road, and camping in the company of sixteen other families, known as the Iowa Colony.

They settled in Panama, and now our subject is the only representative of that colony still living here. He pre-empted his land the first year, not having sufficient means to get a homestead right. From the wild prairie he has evolved a good farm comprising eighty acres, under an admirable state of cultivation. Honesty and industry have characterized the life of our subject, and, with his kindness and consideration toward others, have won him the respect and esteem of his fellow-citizens. In his political views he is a strong Democrat. He is the father of nine children, of whom three are dead—Catherine, Samuel and William. The others are settled in life, and are in prosperous circumstances, and the following is their record: Henry, who is married and has a family, is in business in Kansas City; George is a successful farmer in Panama; Clara, the wife of Robert Dickson, of Panama, has three children—Agnes, Thomas and Ethel May; Ann, the wife of Amos Kennedy, of

Nebraska, has two children—Cora and George; Mary is the wife of Mr. McDonald, of Montana, and they have one child, Fay; William is a prosperous farmer in Johnson County.

JAMES E. DAVEY. A community is very much like a large piece of intricate machinery, with its many wheels, cogs and bands, all working together for the production of a given work. The men who first tilled the soil of Ohio and Indiana were compelled to dispose of their products at a ruinous figure, because of the difficulty of bringing them to the market, and they would have valued greatly the modern system; and so with every department of trade and commerce; one cannot do without the other. The figure of speech, "the body," social, political or otherwise, is most happy, because every member of the body, however strangely diverse in fashion, shape or use, is absolutely necessary for the well-being of the perfect man. Hence the grocer and farmer, or grain buyer and shipper, are but component parts of the whole. To the farmer, as above noted, the grain buyer is an intimate and, perhaps, especial need, and in this biography we present a sketch of one of these important factors in an agricultural community.

Our subject is the well-connected and popular grain buyer of Malcolm, and was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., in 1844. His father was William Davey, a native of County Sligo, Ireland, where he was born in 1800, and where he was reared and married. Some years after this latter event he came to America, accompanied by his wife and seven children. He purchased a farm and settled in St. Lawrence, where he continued for some years, and was sufficiently prosperous that when he desired to change he was able to start well in mercantile life, in 1832, in Edwardsville, Canada West. He was in this associated with his eldest son, the other sons being left in charge of the farm at St. Lawrence, where he continued to reside and superintend. This he continued until the year 1857, when he died, aged fifty-seven years.

Mr. Davey, Sr., was twice married. By the first

marriage there were seven children—Francis, Patrick, Mary, William, Kate, John and Thomas. The maiden name of his second wife, the mother of our subject, was Hannah McGovern, and of this union there were four children—Anna, Martin R., James E. and Elizabeth. Our subject at the time of his mother's death was four years of age, and was left fatherless when thirteen, and has, therefore, been left to fight alone the battle of life from the age when he most needed and would have appreciated parental care and aid.

After the death of his father our subject continued to reside at the homestead, which was now the property of an elder brother, who did what lay in his power to help our subject to an education in the common school, after which he assisted upon the farm until the year 1863, when he went to Ashley, Washington Co., Ill., and learned the trade of a carpenter and builder. Here he continued for three years and then went on to Kansas City, following the same calling for another season, and still with success. In 1868 he first visited Lincoln, then but an insignificant town, we had almost said village, without any promise of its ever becoming the grand city of to-day, and the surrounding country was lying in all the rugged wildness of its virgin state. Our subject made only a short stay, then returned to Kansas City and remained until July, 1870, when he returned, and continued working at his trade for about eight or nine years. Then, in 1879, having prospered sufficiently to engage in farming, he purchased 240 acres of good ground in Elk Precinct and continued to work the same for six years, greatly improving his property and bringing it into super-excellent condition.

The change from farming to that of grain buyer and shipper was made in 1885, at which time our subject rented his farm and removed to Malcolm, where he has continued to the present time. The same energy and attention to business which made him prosperous as a carpenter and builder, which converted his acres of wild prairie into a very garden, have made him likewise continuously prosperous in his new avocation. Mr. Davey is fortunate in having for his life companion and helpmate a lady whose affectionate solicitude has ever been in the interests and welfare of her husband and

family. Mrs. Rosaltha (Hornung) Davey was born in Welkershausen, Germany, Sept. 11, 1854, and came to this country with her parents when over thirteen years of age. Her family settled in Nebraska, where she made the acquaintance of her husband, to whom she was married at Lincoln, April 25, 1876, when twenty-two years of age. Of this happy union there are five children—James, Frank, Clara, Mabel and Lena.

Mrs. Davey was early instructed in the teachings of the church which bears the name of the father of German religious liberty and morning star of the Reformation in the Fatherland. She continues loyal to its creed and usages, and is affiliated with the congregation of the German Lutheran Church, in Elk Precinct, where also her children receive instruction in things religious. Our subject is not connected with any church, but is at the same time liberal toward those who are, although they may differ from him in belief. Politically, he is a staunch advocate, firm adherent and friend of the party which was created by the genius of Jefferson, consolidated by Jackson, and so ably and well represented by President Cleveland and his charmingly fascinating lady. Mr. Davey enjoys the political confidence of his party, in behalf of which he is quite energetic, and as a man he is exceedingly well received in the community, by reason of his honorable, upright character.

IRA F. RICKARD. On section 26, Nemaha Precinct, lies one of the most pleasantly situated and well-cultivated farms of the entire district. It is the property of Ira F. Rickard, the subject of this sketch. He is the son of Frederick and Martha (Fanslaw) Rickard. His father was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and his mother in England. The family fireside of Mr. and Mrs. Rickard, Sr., was brightened by the birth of ten little ones, of whom our subject was the second born. This important event occurred in Dodge County, Wis., on the 24th of January, 1854. His father, after a short illness, departed this life Sept. 15, 1886, in Nemaha Precinct.

In the boyhood and youth of our subject there

occurred nothing of especial interest or adventure. In due time he commenced the duties and studies of school life in the common schools of the county, and when not thus engaged there was always something for him to do at home or on the farm. He quickly developed an aptitude for such tasks as were given him, and was careful and diligent in his school work. After he had progressed sufficiently to leave school he gave his whole time and sole attention to agricultural pursuits.

In the fall of 1878 our subject accompanied his father to Nebraska, and after examination a site was selected in Lancaster County, where the family settled and have continued to reside. Our subject now owns about eighty acres of good land, in fine condition for his purpose. He has also given considerable attention to the improvement of his stock. His farm buildings are substantially built, warm, and arranged with a view to convenience. His residence is pleasantly situated and inspires one with the thought that it is a true home. Mr. Rickard may well be proud and highly gratified with the success that has crowned the labor expended and the efforts made since he first took the land, for although not so extensive as some farms that might be named he has given much careful thought, bestowed much steady labor, has been provident and heedful, so that to-day it presents a fair picture and will compare favorably with the best in the district.

Our subject was married, in Bennet, Neb., Dec. 20, 1882, to Miss Laura Lohr; this lady is the daughter of Solomon and Sarah (Sidells) Lohr. Her father died in Stephenson County, Ill.; her mother survives. The home circle of Mr. and Mrs. Lohr formed the happy circle of eleven children, of which the wife of our subject was the tenth. She was born in Stephenson County, Ill., on the 1st of August, 1864.

The home life of Mr. and Mrs. Rickard has been no less happy than their farm has been successful. It is the abode of the peace and quiet joy of a true home; though being far removed from the distractions and noises of the city it is marked with a simplicity which some might find uncongenial. They have one son, Freddie S., who was born March 20, 1884, at their homestead. Both our subject and wife are, religiously, associated with the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which assembly they are held

in high regard, and are ever found active in its interests. Mr. Rickard thinks strongly on the question of temperance, and is an uncompromising, sincere advocate of prohibition, and his votes are and will be cast in favor of legislation upon these lines. Mr. Rickard has shown much ability in the school offices to which he has been called at different times, and it is safe to say that this gentleman has yet to be heard from in offices of larger opportunity, if not directly of more importance. Highly respected as a citizen; conscientious, exemplary, manly as a friend and church member; outspoken and sincere in politics; pleasant and cheerful, with a kind word for all in the ordinary happenings of daily life, our subject has won a high place in the regard of all who know him.



HENRY KRAMER might be called the patriarch of Nebraska, and is so well known as to only require an introduction to those who are perfectly unacquainted with the history of the county. His residence is now upon section 9 of Olive Branch Precinct, and includes 320 acres. He is one who gave largely to the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company, in order that a station might be established, which the citizens have named after him. His efforts have been directed from the first to the developing of the country, and his liberal policy and ceaseless endeavor have done, perhaps, more than any other one individual for this district. His residence dates from the beginning of the year 1865, and he has personally assisted in the settlement of every citizen in the precinct since, and has been a father, as it were, to the people. He was the first actual settler in the district, and was here when Nebraska was yet a Territory, and very few thought of coming so far West. His home is substantial, and exceedingly pleasant in situation; his farm has been brought to the highest possible state of cultivation, and is well stocked.

The location of the farm of our subject is upon the Salt Creek, which is a living stream, and therefore an exceedingly valuable addition to his property. When he selected this spot, Nebraska City, seventy miles distant, was the nearest town, the

Western metropolis of Omaha was an insignificant hamlet, and Lincoln was unknown. The years have rushed rapidly by and brought many changes to the world around, but he has gone on quietly, building up, extending and developing, not simply his own property, but as far as possible, the entire surrounding district. How many thrilling stories he must have stored away concerning the noble red-skin, who, at the time of our subject's coming to this country, was the only inhabitant of the vast country. Previous to taking up his residence in this State he resided in Clayton County, Iowa, and removed hither by the then usual but primitive mode of transit. During the time occupied in the removal his horses lived entirely upon the wild grass over which they were traveling. Iowa had been his home for thirteen years, eleven of them being spent upon one farm. Previous to this he had lived at St. Louis, and for a period of six years he had been very prosperous as a farmer on the outskirts of that city. He had journeyed from Prussia, his native country, to the United States, in the beginning of the year 1846, landing in St. Louis in the month of February. He was born in West-fall, Prussia, April 12, 1820, of pure German ancestry. His father, Charles Kramer, was a farmer, and owned his land in his native country, and continued to make it his home until his death at a very advanced age. His wife, Elizabeth, also lived in Germany all her life, and died at the age of fifty years. Their family consisted of ten children, of whom our subject is the eldest.

Our subject spent the years of youth and manhood on the home farm, and received his education in the district school. In the year above mentioned he started with his brother William for the New World, and both settled together in Missouri, where his brother died a few years later. The cause of his death was consumption, which was believed to be induced by the confinement and cramped position necessarily incident to his calling, as was supposed, which was that of a tailor.

After our subject had located in St. Louis, another brother, Stephen H., came to the States and joined Henry in Missouri, but after a few weeks he was taken suddenly ill with cholera and died. This occurred in the year 1851; he was the youngest

brother of our subject. Three years of life upon the farm in the neighborhood of St. Louis were followed by a residence in the city itself, where he learned the trade of a stonemason, and continued at that occupation until he came to this State. Our subject was married, in Prussia, to Miss Margaret Shaffer, who was born in the year 1819, not very far from the home of our subject. She is the mother of seven children, of whom four are now dead, viz: Sophia and Mary died in St. Louis of cholera, and an infant and Harmon died in very early life. The living children are named: Eliza, who is now the wife of H. Hollmann, who owns a farm in this precinct; Henry and Sophia are twins. Henry is now the husband of Erika Weaver, and they reside at Weller, Neb.; Sophia is Mrs. John Brannstadt, and lives in Cherry County.

Mr. Kramer and wife are both consistent members of the German Methodist Church. Our subject is the leader of a large class, to the continued satisfaction of every member thereof. He has at different times, and for longer or shorter periods, held almost all the offices of the precinct. Ever since the war he has been a staunch Republican of the strongest type, and is one of the recognized leaders of the same. Concerning his character there can be no question; his whole life has been passed in the interest of others, with the large-hearted disinterestedness characteristic of the man. He is the recipient of that peculiar reverential admiration and esteem which are usually given to one whose experience reaches so far back, and who has done so much for the community and State.

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JOSEPH T. WARD. The Hudson River has always been compared with the Rhine, and we advise persons coming for the first time to America not to fail to see the Hudson. It is indeed a glorious river, as viewed from the deck of some such steamer as the "Albany," with its noble palisades and towering Catskills, and crowded as it is with memories historic and literary, but we doubt if one other trip which might be mentioned ought not to be linked with that above referred to. Approaching the Virginian coast from the sea, the

opposite capes of Henry and Charles, with their lights and lighthouses, form a picture which can only be appreciated by the voyager of days, or perhaps weeks, upon the ocean. Having made the entrance between these capes into the inexpressibly beautiful Chesapeake Bay, there is conveyed to such a one an impression which shall be indelible while memory lasts. As the steamer glides past the quarantine station, and the more perfect picture of the matchless scenery comes to view, it is one ever-increasing delight through the livelong day. On past its cities, crowded with memories of Colonial days, past grand old Norfolk and Annapolis, past its myriad islands, in a glowing and intensely realistic panorama, until at last, as the shades of evening gather round, we pass the Monumental city and arrive at the head of the bay, and set foot in Harford County, Md., near where the beautiful Susquehanna falls into the Chesapeake. Of all Maryland, this county might, perhaps, well be called the Garden of the State. In this county was born the subject of this sketch, and also his father before him.

Joseph Ward, the father of our subject, was born about the year 1800, and as he grew up he was taught the occupation of farming, and soon after attaining his majority became the husband of Miss Jane Thomas. Their family circle afterward comprised five children—John, William, Eliza, Jane and Josephine. Mr. Ward always continued to live in his native State, which was named after the beautiful consort of Charles the First, the charming queen Henrietta Maria. His death occurred in the year 1853, after he had completed eighty years of life. His father, John Ward, was one of the pioneers of the State in Colonial days, and was a native of England; from the time of his entrance into the State he followed the calling of husbandry.

Joseph Ward, our subject, was born Feb. 8, 1820. He received his education in the schools of his native town, afterward working upon his father's farm until he attained his majority. He then struck out for himself, with the bold, intrepid spirit which was undoubtedly his by heredity. Not simply in the matter of farming and such occupation did our subject thus begin life, but having found his occupation and started upon the work of establish-

ing a home, the need of some one to be a helpmeet in the same forced itself more and more upon him, and, believing that in Miss Keziah Barton he had found the only one who could satisfy and complete his life, arrangements were consummated in their union in matrimonial bonds, March 16, 1845. Their happiness was completed in being the recipients of thirteen children, of whom five sons and five daughters are living. The names are here appended—Jane (deceased), Levi, Elzenia (deceased), Albert, Susanna, James, Ella J., Anna, William, Mary II., an infant son who died unnamed, Thomas and Edith I.

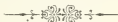
Our subject left his native State in the year 1850, and went to Ohio, and after a short stay there, on to Howard County, Ind., where for eleven years he continued increasingly prosperous. Finding a purchaser for his farm at a figure financially advantageous to him, he sold that property, and on the 4th of March, 1865, he landed in Cass County, Neb. Here he purchased a farm and built himself a home and lived for three years, and then he purchased and homesteaded his present property. The lumber for his house he was compelled to haul from Nebraska City, a distance of sixty miles. Lincoln at that time numbered about 100 houses and shanties, certainly not more, and between the city and his own house were just three other farms.

Our subject has done much for the improvement of the general stock used in this State, and has given the greater part of his attention to that specialty, at the same time devoting considerable time to general farming and grain-buying. The farm presents an appearance of peace, happiness and prosperity, coupled with that of thrift and a high state of cultivation, although latterly, and more especially since the death of his wife, Feb. 11, 1887, Mr. Ward has lived a retired life.

Our subject's daughter, Ella, has become the wife of Mr. E. Hermance, of this county; her sister Susanna is now Mrs. E. Reems, and is a resident at Portland, Ore.; Edith is still going to school at Woodlawn; Levi is living upon his farm in Otoe County; Albert is upon his property three miles west, and is the husband of Miss Mary Lansing, and is the parent of three children, named Ethel, Elbert and Cleveland; James is in Cheyenne

County, also a farmer, and the husband of Florence Ked; they have one daughter, Jennie; William is at Portland, Ore.; and Mary H. and Thomas at home.

Mr. Ward is held in that peculiar reverential regard which attaches to all who have spent their days and best energies in the upbuilding of a county or State as he has done. His life has been marked by enterprise and industry, integrity and honor. In political matters our subject has always been earnest and hearty in his advocacy of Democracy.



JOSEPH H. COPPERSTONE is a prominent stock-raiser and farmer, whose property is situated on sec. 8, Little Salt Precinct, and comprises 160 acres of super-excellent farming land. He is one of the many instances where "grit and grace" have in due course been joined by their fellow, "greenbacks." Not infrequently is it found that the men of grit to cope with the difficulties of frontier life, and the grace to bear the hardships of the same, and before long reap their reward and ride upon greenbacks to a prolonged bank account, hail from the Quaker State, as in the present instance.

The father of our subject was John Copperstone, who was born in Pennsylvania, where he resided at the time of the birth of our subject, who was, however, never privileged to know his father, receive his instructions, or know the power of his strong arm in beginning life's battle, for while Joseph H. was an infant his father died. He had been by occupation a freighter, and although not rich, was enabled to sustain a comfortable home. He was united in marriage with Miss Caroline Witt, in Somerset County, Pa. There were four children born to them, all of whom are living. His widow is still in the old home, and although she has arrived at the ripe age of sixty-four years, enjoys a fair measure of health and strength.

Joseph H. Copperstone, our subject, was born in Somerset County, Pa., Sept. 23, 1842. His education, by no means extended, was received in the public school of his native place. When the Union was imperiled, and the "gray cloud" from the South

loomed threateningly upon the horizon, he enlisted for his country's defense, in Company K, 18th Pennsylvania Cavalry, and was ordered to the front, taking part in the battles of Gettysburg and Brandy Station, at which place he was taken prisoner, and sent to Richmond, afterward forwarded to Belle Isle, and subsequently incarcerated at Andersonville. At the latter place, for six long, weary months he endured the terrible privations and hardships, bearing with heroic spirit all the horrible sufferings so well known to us by the oft-told tale, and frequent writing, but never realized in all its keen poignancy, as did our subject and his companions. From Andersonville he was sent to Charleston, and thence to Florence, at which place he was liberated on parole. He now spent some time recruiting, and upon recovering health and strength, went back into the service, and served as Sergeant until July, 1865.

After leaving the army, our subject turned his attention to farming, and made his home at Dixon, Lee Co., Ill., where he continued for a period of two years, and then returned and spent six months in his native place, when he again started West, and did not stop until reaching Nebraska, and took up the land which is his present farm. His entry dates from the year 1870, which shows him to be one of the early pioneers of the county. Here he found much scope for all the grit and grace he had brought with him from his Eastern home. But the spirit that had sustained him when he fought, marched or bivouacked, or when he languished in Southern prisons, did not fail him now. In spite of all the adverse circumstances which go to make up the environment of pioneer settlers, and compose the surroundings of those who make the first home in a new country, he has succeeded abundantly. The wild prairie has, under his care, and as the result of his assiduity, become one of the finest and most productive tracts of land in the county.

When our subject effected his settlement, he was intelligently careful in his management, as is shown by the site then selected for his residence, barns, granaries and farm buildings. Upon an eminence which gives a very extended and beautiful view of the country surrounding, and yet is of easy ascent, stands the farm residence, a substantial but com-

fortable structure, and furnished in keeping with the requirements of a bright and happy home. Near by is the orchard, where flourish in rich profusion apple, plum, cherry and other trees, besides quite an extent devoted to the culture of small fruit, many kinds being indigenous to the country. A short distance from the house stands the barn, a large and commodious structure, 46x46 feet, and so apportioned as to yield him the greatest service.

Until the year 1873 the life of our subject was incomplete, and none recognized this fact more clearly than himself. His pleasure and happiness were, however, insured from the 3d of July, 1873, upon which day Miss Eliza A. Grever became his friend and life companion, and he became her husband and protector. Then there came into his life the highest inspiration and noblest stimulus to live, and live a success. Of this most happy union there have been born six children—William John, Minnie M., Caroline R., Charles H., Catherine C. and Joseph F.

The most estimable wife of our subject was born in Virginia, Feb. 10, 1848. When her parents removed to Illinois, she of course accompanied them, and continued to reside at home until 1866, when they removed to Iowa, and she remained with them throughout their residence in that State, and also after their removal to their settlement in Saunders County, until her marriage.

The father of Mrs. Copperstone, Phillip Grever, was born in Shenandoah Valley, Augusta Co., Va., in July, 1810. After the usual occupation of youthful years, his attention was given to husbandry. As the years of manhood began to be numbered, he united his life with that of Miss Eliza T. Palmer, in a relationship which was brighter and better as the years rolled by. Their home circle increased its diameter from time to time to admit new faces and forms, until eleven children had been born to them. It was their privilege to bring nine of this number to years of maturity. Mr. Grever at present makes his home with his daughter, and has done so since the death of his wife, which mournful event took place Oct. 1, 1884. He is still a hale and hearty old gentleman, and looks forward with keen interest and hope to cast his vote for Gen. Harrison in the coming election, as he did on a previous occasion

for his illustrious progenitor, "Old Tippecanoe." The late unpleasantness did not pass without leaving its dread mark in the empty place in the family circle, and the void in the hearts of the family, caused by the loss of a beloved son and brother in that war.

Ever since our subject has been in this county, he has shown an admirable fitness for the duties of office, and on the organization of his school district he became School Treasurer, and has continued to hold the office ever since. He has also been several times Supervisor. By much care, observation and reading, our subject has educated himself, and is today in this regard second to none of his neighbors. Like a true citizen, he takes the greatest interest in everything that has to do with Governmental and political affairs. His political sympathies are with the Republican party. He is a staunch friend and supporter of the party, which ever receives his best efforts in its behalf.

ASA STEWART. Among the good citizens of the Quaker State who have left their Pennsylvanian homes to carve for themselves a fortune and a name in the West, are the parents of the subject of the present writing, who was born in Robbstown, that State on the 26th of April, 1830. His father, John Stewart, was born in October, 1789, was prosperous in his chosen calling of husbandry, but removed Nov. 9, 1834, and settled in Wayne County, Ohio, which became his home for the remainder of his life. The marriage of John and Leticia Stewart occurred April 23, 1812; his demise occurred Jan. 17, 1846. The mother of our subject, Leticia (Teal) Stewart, died Jan. 30, 1852.

The years of childhood and youth of our subject were spent in the above State. He removed, however, as soon as he had grown to years of manhood, to Illinois, and located in Springfield and learned the trade of a shoemaker. From there he went to Chicago, where he remained a short time. Subsequently he removed to Keokuk, Iowa, and resided there until 1868, which is the date of his removal to this county and his settlement in Lin-



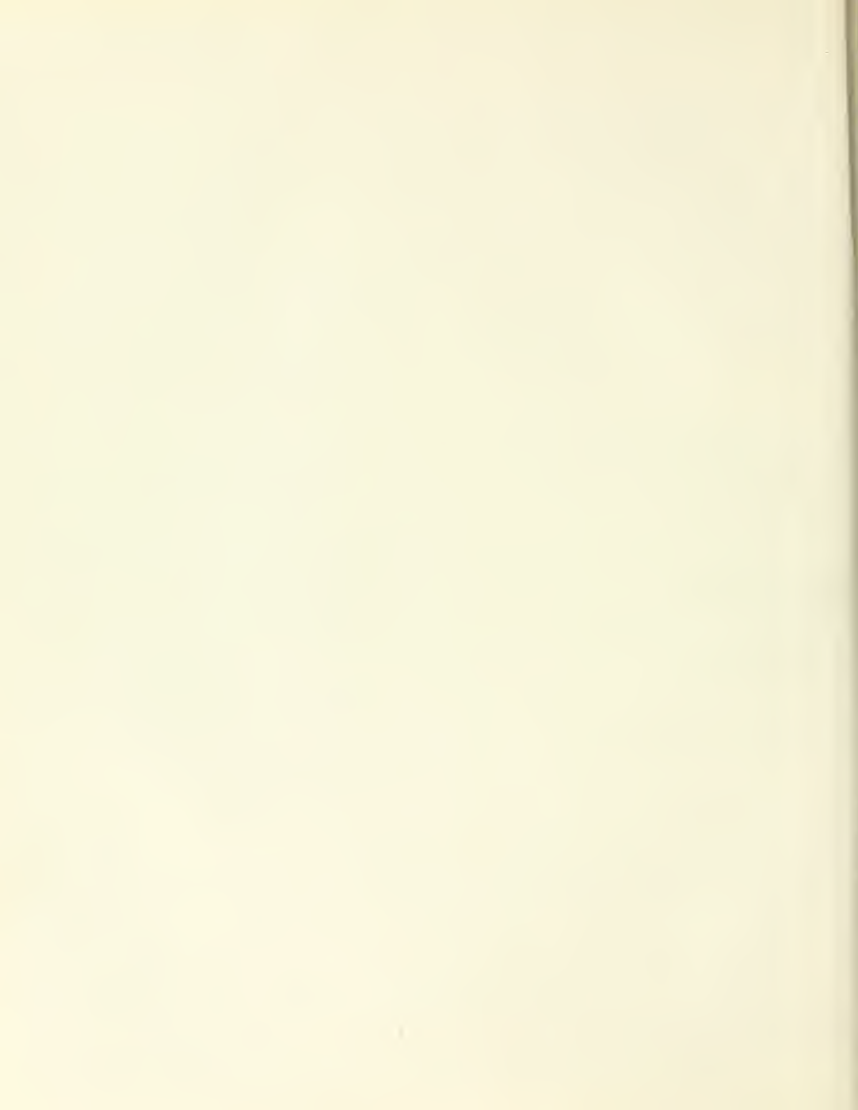
RESIDENCE OF C. E. BLANCHARD , SEC. 21. GRANT PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF GEO. KING , SEC. 1. PANAMA PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN KETTELHUT, SEC 11. STOCKTON PRECINCT.



coln, then a very small village, connected with Nebraska City, the nearest railroad point, only by stage. The surrounding country was a wild, untamed but fertile tract, teeming with deer, antelope, and other wild game, and not infrequently roamed over by large packs of wolves.

In beginning life at Lincoln, our subject purchased a lot on Tenth between R and S streets, at that time on the outskirts of the village. Having provided himself with a home, and a small one at that, he found his means exceedingly limited, but nevertheless started in business as a boot and shoe maker. In 1869 he took a homestead claim of eighty acres in Middle Creek Precinct, erected a small but comfortable farmhouse, and removed to the same and gave his attention to farming; and, being a man of sound judgment, some experience and untiring energy, he rapidly became very successful in this undertaking; so much so, that in a few years he was enabled to purchase 160 acres in Oak Creek Precinct, whither he removed and made his home until 1885, and there carried on farming successfully. On account of ill-health, our subject retired from his farm and returned to Lincoln, and made his home on Washington and Tenth streets, one of the most pleasant situations in the city.

Mr. Stewart was united in marriage with Susana Schofield, on the 18th of July, 1861, at Keokuk. This lady was born in Ohio, Nov. 14, 1838, and died April 24, 1863, aged twenty-four years and six months. They had one child who lived, Jesse, now in California. A second alliance was formed, on the 7th of November, 1865, with Annie R. McIntyre. By this marriage our subject became the father of four children, whose names are here recorded in the order of birth: George Franklin, Blanch, Grace and Asa T.

Mrs. Stewart was born in New Bedford, Mass., Aug. 10, 1846. Her father was James McIntyre, of Scottish parentage, a cooper by trade. In the year 1855 he went to California by the way of the Isthmus for the purpose of engaging in mining, and when his family last heard from him he was doing well and preparing shortly to return home, but it is supposed that he was murdered by Indians, as nothing has been known of him since that time. His wife, the mother of Mrs. Stewart, was Annie

Ward, a native of New Bedford, who resided in that place her whole life of eighty-two years, and died there in the year 1882. Six children were born as a result of this union: John, Helen, Mary, David, Susan, and Mrs. Stewart, the wife of our subject.

Mr. Stewart is one of that class of citizens who are always on the lookout for what shall be of benefit to the community, and through them, to the country at large. He therefore hails with pleasure every enterprise and project that looks forward to such an end and promises benefit upon that line. He is a man of solid worth, and is proportionately esteemed by his fellow-citizens.



WILLIAM R. HORN. This prominent resident and capitalist of the city of Lincoln, is at present engaged as a real-estate dealer, and may usually be found at his business office or residence, at the corner of Randolph and Thirtieth streets. He has been a resident of Nebraska since 1854, coming within its borders with his parents while it was still a Territory. The family first settled near the embryo town of Peru, and subsequently moved to this county, of which our subject has since been a resident, and prominently identified with its business and agricultural interests.

The first few years of the life of our subject were spent in Beardstown, Ill., where his birth took place on the 4th of February, 1837. His father, Rev. William S. and his mother, Sylvia (Hall) Horn, were natives respectively of Kentucky and Virginia. The father was born May 9, 1814, and when a lad twelve years of age went to Illinois with his parents, where he lived until coming to Nebraska, in 1854. Upon reaching manhood he was married, on the 5th of May, 1833. The wife and mother in her girlhood, and while living with her parents in Illinois, was, with her younger sister, captured by the Indians during the Black Hawk War, but rescued twelve days afterward by United States troops. It was upon her return from savage captivity to civilization that she met her future husband, whom she still survives after fifty-five years of congenial married life. They were the parents

of eleven children, two of whom passed away before the death of the father, and eight were present to follow his remains to his final resting-place.

William S. Horn became identified with the Methodist Protestant Church at an early age, and soon afterward entered the ministry, in which he labored faithfully and earnestly the balance of the time he was permitted on earth. He was seven years President of the Nebraska Conference and once represented it in the General Conference. As a preacher, he was plain, practical and forcible, and in both his public and private life illustrated the pure principles of the Christian religion.

Elder Horn was ever found at his post of duty, and if he believed a thing were right he would advocate it though he stood alone. A man of positive temperament, he could not pass through the world without enemies, but he was sincere and earnest in his convictions, and in his family was a most kind and loving parent and husband. At the end of life he passed quietly away, the machinery giving out by degrees, and he watching with patient happiness the change which translated him from earth to a better world.

The parents of our subject were married in Bureau County, Ill., and subsequently lived four years in Missouri before coming to Nebraska. The mother was born Feb. 24, 1813, in Virginia, and at the time of the Indian trouble spoken of, suffered the loss of her parents and two brothers, who were murdered by the savage foe of the Black Hawk tribe. Three other brothers only escaped the same fate by being in a field out of sight. The sisters were finally restored to their friends through the instrumentality of Shabbona, a civilized Indian, and friendly to the whites, and who gave blankets and ponies for a ransom. Upon their return journey they stopped overnight at the house of the father of William S. Horn, where the latter was captured by the maiden charms of Miss Sylvia, and two years later they became man and wife. Mrs. Horn was a lady of culture and refinement and great amiability of character. She is still living, and makes her home with her youngest son at the old homestead at Auburn, Nemaha County, this State.

To William S. and Sylvia Horn there were born eleven children, nine sons and two daughters, seven

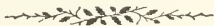
of whom are still living. Three sons are in Harlan County, this State, and two sons and a daughter are in this county. All are married with the exception of the youngest son, who remains with his mother. The eldest child, John W., was born April 15, 1835; William R., the subject of this biography, Feb. 4, 1837; Thomas S., March 10, 1839; Nancy E., Mrs. R. T. McAdams, Jan. 26, 1841; Washington M., June 25, 1843; James S., Jan. 3, 1846; Henry M., Dec. 26, 1848; George W., Nov. 3, 1850; Mary M., Mrs. T. J. Charles, of Lincoln, Jan. 29, 1854; Theodore M., Jan. 4, 1856, and Ns. F., March 26, 1860.

Our subject remained a member of the parental household until his marriage, which took place Sept. 30, 1866, his bride being Miss Helen Miller, who was born in Kentucky and who became the mother of four children: Arthur G., now deceased; Mabel, Harry M. and Thomas G., the latter of whom is also deceased. Mrs. Helen Horn departed this life at her home in Lancaster County, Jan. 4, 1877.

William R. Horn, on the 25th of November, 1880, entered into a second matrimonial alliance, with Miss Sarah Augdin, who was born in Wood County, Va., June 26, 1846, and came to the West with her father in 1875. She is the daughter of Granville H. and Eleanor (Keller) Augdin. Her parents were both natives of Virginia. Her people were for many generations residents of the Old Dominion, and became residents of Lincoln in 1875. Of this union there are two children—Sylvia E. and William A. Mr. Horn came to Nebraska with his parents in 1854, locating first in Nemaha County, and removing to the city of Lincoln on the 4th of January, 1870. He has a pleasant suburban home on the corner of Randolph and Thirtieth streets, where he owns twenty acres of valuable land and represents property to the amount of \$50,000. His intention is to subdivide this land into city lots, which will realize a ready sale as the borders of this wealthy and progressive metropolis are steadily enlarging.

The residence of Mr. Horn is finely located, and in point of architectural beauty is an ornament to this part of the city. Without mixing very much in political affairs, he still gives efficient support to

Republican principles, and is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Socially, he belongs to the Masonic fraternity. Mrs. Horn was reared in the doctrines of the Baptist Church, to which she still inclines, and belongs to the society in this city.



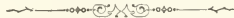
ULRICH SCHWART. The subject of this sketch occupies a good position among the substantial farmers of Stockton Precinct, where he owns and operates 236 acres of prime land on section 10. He is a man quiet and unobtrusive in his manner, and one who attends strictly to his own concerns, having little to do beyond the precincts of his home and family. The latter, besides his estimable wife, comprises eleven children, who bear the names respectively of Gracka, Hipp, Jasper, Hiram, Ulrich, Jr., Mary, John, Fanny, Sophia and Willie. One child died when one year old. The eldest of the survivors is twenty-two years of age, married Wilhelm Deneke, and is a resident of Colorado. The others are mostly at home.

Our subject first opened his eyes to the light in the Province of Hanover, Germany, about sixty-two years ago, probably in 1826. His parents, Hipp and Gracka (Stels) Schwart, were of pure German ancestry and spent their entire lives upon their native soil. The parental family included five children, two of whom are living in Stark County, Ill.

Mr. Schwart acquired the practical education commonly accorded the youth of his native country, and when old enough to make himself useful, was employed at farming until setting out for the United States. At the end of his ocean voyage he landed in the city of New Orleans, whence he made his way to Ogle County, Ill., in 1856, and was employed for a time at general work in a foundry. Then, returning toward the Gulf, he sojourned in the city of St. Louis for a time, where he continued working in a foundry, and his next removal was to Macoupin County, in Illinois. He remained in that locality about three years, working most of the time in a distillery, and we next find him in Stark County, that State, where he employed himself as a tiller of the soil and where he lived until the spring

of 1884. Our subject now decided to cast his lot with the people of Southern Nebraska, and crossing the Mississippi came to this county. He was engaged at farming until the purchase of his land in 1883. He was accompanied to this place by his wife and ten children, having been married in Stark County, Ill., Aug. 4, 1865, to Miss Sophia Schlotting, one of his own countrywomen, and who was born in the Province of Mecklenburg, in 1846.

Our subject and his wife commenced the journey of life together in a manner suitable to their means, making it a point to live within their income, and practicing the economy necessary to keep their heads above water and preserve their little property. Their labors were finally rewarded in the enjoyment of a comfortable income, and Mr. Schwart has a reasonable prospect of being surrounded in his old age with all the comforts of life. He has become thoroughly identified with the interests of his adopted country, keeping himself posted in regard to matters of general interest, and uniformly votes the Republican ticket. He and his family are attendants at the German Lutheran Church at Stockton. His children have been fairly well educated in those principles which will make them good citizens, and an honor to their parents.



EDMOND S. DAVISON, Assessor of Middle Creek Precinct for the year 1888, is numbered among the reliable citizens of Lancaster County, and is the owner of 160 acres of good land on section 27. He has a tasteful and well-appointed residence, which, with its surroundings, presents an attractive and homelike appearance, and is, with his family, surrounded by all the comforts of life.

The Empire State contributed the subject of this sketch to the development of the Great West, his birthplace having been in Grafton, Rensselaer County, where he first opened his eyes to the light Feb. 20, 1842. His father, Norman L., was born in the same county, July 26, 1816, and was the son of Ezra Davison, who was born Aug. 11, 1765. He was a farmer by occupation, and spent his last years in Rensselaer County, N. Y., where his death

took place April 29, 1834. He had married in early manhood Miss Diadama Smith, who was born July 24, 1774, and survived her husband eighty-eight years, her death taking place about 1852, in New York State.

The father of our subject was reared in his native county, where he learned the trade of brick and plaster mason, which he followed in New York State until 1854. In the meantime he was married, and during this year emigrated with his family to Illinois, settling in Peoria County, where he lived two years, and thence removing to Woodford County. In the latter he purchased land in Clayton Township, where he carried on farming until 1866, then removed to Minonk, and followed his trade five years. At the expiration of this time he retired from active labor, and is living in Minonk, Ill. The mother in her girlhood was Miss Adelia Waite, who was born in Grafton, Rensselaer Co., N. Y., and died at her home in Minonk, Ill., in 1881. Of the six children born to the parents, three are living.

Our subject acquired a district-school education in his native township, and later attended for a time the schools of Woodford County, Ill., being a lad of twelve years at the time his parents removed there. When fifteen years old he commenced to learn the trade of plasterer and brick mason, at which he worked with his father the greater part of the time until his marriage. After this event he settled on a farm in Clayton Township, where he followed agriculture six years, then resumed his trade six or seven years. Later, in company with a brother, he was occupied as an ice dealer, and then the two, with the father, began operating a dairy.

At the same time our subject and his brother carried on the manufacture of soda water and birch beer until in February, 1880, when Mr. Davison came to this county, and purchased the farm where he now resides. He was married, May 10, 1863, to Miss Amy E. Vaughan, who was born in Greene County, Ill., Dec. 23, 1844, and whose father, Thomas H. Vaughan, was a native of Vermont. The latter left the Green Mountain State when a young man, locating first in Greene County, Ill., where he worked at his trade of shoemaker until 1849. He then purchased

land in Marshall County, to which he removed, improving a quarter-section. His death took place there about 1872. He had married Miss Sarah J. Cory, who was born in York State, and was the daughter of William and Mary (Wood) Cory, also natives of the Empire State. The parents of Mrs. Davison had a family of six children, five of whom are living, and residents mostly of Nebraska.

To Mr. and Mrs. Davison there have been born five children—Ernest, Volney, Louis, Iria and Minnie. Mr. and Mrs. D. are members in good standing of the Baptist Church. Our subject cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, and affiliated with the Republican party until 1884. Since that time he has been identified with the Prohibitionists. He takes a lively interest in the establishment and maintenance of schools, and has served as Director in his district.

ANTHONY RUMP, a man of property and influence in West Oak Precinct, was one of its early pioneers, and located on section 13, where he now has 160 acres of the most productive land in this section. It is finely situated, and with its good buildings and the other embellishments of rural life, forms a most pleasant picture in the landscape. The proprietor is of German birth and ancestry, and possesses all the reliable and industrious traits of the nationality which has been of such material assistance in the development of the Great West.

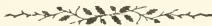
George Rump, the father of our subject, was born in the Province of Prussia, Germany, eighty-three years ago, in 1805, and spent his entire life upon his native soil, dying in 1872, at the age of sixty-seven years. The mother, Elizabeth (Kramer) Rump, was also of pure German stock, born and reared not far from the home of her husband. Of their union there were born five children, four of whom are living, and two are residents of this country. The mother passed away several years before the decease of her husband, her death taking place in 1854.

Anthony Rump was born on the 4th of May, 1838, in the same Province as his parents in Ger-

many, and in accordance with the laws and customs of his native Empire receiving an excellent education in his native language. When twenty-three years old he set out, in 1861, for the United States, landing in November, and taking up his residence first in the city of Baltimore. Later he migrated to Cincinnati, Ohio, and there enlisted as a soldier in the Union army, being assigned to the commissary department, and driving the provision and ammunition wagons for a period of three years.

After retiring from the service, Mr. Rump, determined to see something more of this continent, spent several months traveling all over the South and West, landing finally, in 1869, in this county, and settling in West Oak Precinct. He first purchased land on section 32, from which he improved a good farm, putting up a substantial dwelling, planting an orchard and shade trees, and lived there until 1882. Then selling out, he secured his present farm, which, like the other, was a tract of wild land, and where he proceeded as before to cultivate the soil and make improvements. He has a farm now which does ample credit to his thrift and industry. He keeps a goodly assortment of live stock, including cattle, horses and swine, and in his later years is enjoying the reward of his labors. The lumber for his first house was all drawn by teams from Nebraska City, and there are few who can tell him anything new about the difficulties and toils of life in a new country.

Our subject was first married in the spring of 1873, to Miss Amelia Himrich, who died in January, 1881, leaving four children, namely: Elizabeth, Charles, Robert and Emma, who are now with our subject. Mr. Rump, in 1883, contracted a second matrimonial alliance, with Miss Lena Gephart, who was born in Switzerland, in 1843.



JAMES VAN CAMPEN. The property of this well-to-do farmer and stock-raiser of Little Salt Precinct embraces eighty acres of land on section 3, which he purchased in June, 1881, to which he came himself in January, 1882, and after putting up a dwelling moved in with his family on the 8th of March following. For

the last six years he has been giving his close attention to the cultivation of the soil and the beautifying of his homestead, and has now a very desirable place of residence. He has planted largely of fruit and shade trees, and gathered about him those embellishments which stamp him as a man of cultivated tastes and the intelligent forethought to discern what will conduce in the largest degree to his happiness and profit, and while adding to the value of his own property will increase that which lies adjacent to it.

Our subject is the son of Moses B. Van Campen, who was born in Warren County, N. J., Oct. 24, 1816, and was there reared to manhood, acquiring a common-school education. He then served an apprenticeship at shoemaking, which he followed winters, and in summer carried on agriculture upon his own land. While still a young man he was united in marriage with Miss Eliza Ann Winters, and a few years later removed with his family to Luzerne County, Pa., where he devoted his attention principally to farming. In 1854 he migrated to Lee County, Ill., investing his capital in a tract of land in Viola Township, which he improved into a good farm and retained ownership of until the fall of 1880.

The father of our subject now sold out, but purchased another farm in Lee County, Ill., where he lived for a period of six years, then came to this State. Here he located on section 1, in Little Salt Precinct, where, with his estimable wife, he is now spending his later days in comfortable circumstances. He has been quite prominent in local affairs, serving twelve or fifteen years as Road Commissioner in Illinois and also as School Director. Politically, he has always voted the Democratic ticket. Both the parents attend the Presbyterian Church as opportunity affords.

The mother of our subject is also a native of New Jersey, and was born and reared not far from the early home of her husband. Her father, Jacob Winters, was a native of New York State, and the parental household consisted of ten children. They removed to New Jersey in an early day, and spent their last years in Illinois. To Moses B. and Eliza Ann Van Campen there were born seven children, of whom James, our subject, was the second in

order of birth. He first opened his eyes to the light Oct. 15, 1847, in Luzerne County, Pa., and passed his boyhood and youth after the manner of most farmers' sons. He was a little lad of seven years when they migrated to Illinois, where he developed into manhood and met his future wife, Miss Ellen Gray, sister of Dennie Gray, a sketch of whose parents appears elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Van Campen were married July 4, 1878, and are now the parents of three interesting children—Lewis E., Nellie M. and James, Jr.

Our subject after his marriage carried on farming until coming to Little Salt Precinct. He commenced in life dependent upon his own resources, and has attained to a good position, socially and financially, among his fellowmen. It needs only a glance at his farm with its appurtenances to determine the character of the man and to indicate the industry and perseverance with which he has labored to build up a homestead from the uncultivated land. The improvements which we now behold have been effected by himself in the space of six short years, but will stand for a generation as a monument of what a man may accomplish when he sets about it.

In addition to ordinary agriculture Mr. Van Campen deals largely in fine stock, having a valuable herd of high-grade Short-horn cattle, besides horses and swine. He is now serving as Constable of his township, and has held the various local offices. He usually affiliates with the Democratic party.



HENRY W. STUTHEIT is a son of Gerhard II. and Mary Stutheit, and was born on the 8th of October, 1824, in Germany. His parents were natives of that country, and came to America in the year 1833, settling at New Bremen, Anglaize Co., Ohio. There the father of our subject bought a tract of Government land, built a log house, and then commenced to clear a farm. With much hard labor and the usual discouragements of a new and unsettled country, he succeeded in clearing his land, on which he lived until the year 1850, when he sold his possessions and moved to Iowa. The removal was made with teams, there being at that time but few of the

rapid facilities for traveling for which that section of the country is now noted. After a long and tedious journey he reached Clayton County, Iowa, at which place he became one of the early settlers. His older sons bought a tract of land, and he resided there with them until the year 1865, when he came to Nemaha County, Neb., at which place he died in 1882, his wife having died a few years before. To those parents there were nine children given, six of whom were born in Germany.

The subject of our sketch was nine years old when he came with his parents to America. He remembers quite well the ocean voyage and the incidents pertaining to it, and the pioneer life which he began in Ohio. In the year 1850 he came with his parents to Iowa, and in company with his brother he bought 160 acres of wild prairie land. At that time there were no railroads west of Chicago, and all marketing and obtaining of supplies was done at the river towns. On the prairies abounded much wild game, among which was deer, and very often our subject enjoyed the sport of hunting for which the mighty Nimrod was so celebrated.

In the year 1865 Mr. Stutheit sold his land in Iowa and moved to Nebraska, as before making the journey with his teams, there being no railroads as far west as the Missouri River at that time. He bought a tract of land in Nemaha Precinct, where he lived for two years, and then selling it in 1867, he came to Lancaster County, where he bought a homestead claim of 160 acres in Centerville Precinct. On his new farm he built a frame house, drawing a part of the lumber for it from Nebraska City, a distance of fifty-five miles, and the nearest market for a few years.

The early pioneer life which our subject experienced with his father in Ohio, has fitted him to improve his land from the state in which he bought it to the fine, well-arranged farm which now greets the eye of the passers-by. Having been successful, he has bought other land, until now he is the owner of 400 acres. In the year 1884 he bought property on Maple and Seventeenth streets in Lincoln, where he built a house which he now occupies. In Ohio he was married to Caroline Murker, who was born in Germany in 1825, and came with

her parents to America in 1831. To our subject and his wife there have been given eleven children, their names as follows: Louisa (deceased), Margaret, Lucy, August, William, Cornelius, Louie, Mary, Eddie, John and Matilda.

Mr. and Mrs. Stutheit are respected members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, taking an active part in religious works and in the general moral advancement of the community. They have seen great changes and wonderful improvements since their first journey across the Central States, the tracks for the locomotive steam engine now marking out the shortest route, instead of, as was the case when our subject traversed it, the winding and circuitous wagon road. The river towns have increased in population until they are now flourishing cities, but they are no longer the nearest markets for lumber and provisions. Countless other towns and cities have sprung up, dotting the prairies with all the indications of the busy multitudes of people who inhabit them—the well-arranged school buildings, churches, business houses and homes—while around them are laid out, as if they were immense gardens, the fine and productive farms for which that section of the country is noted. That our subject has been successful in his business, has won a large circle of friends and is enjoying the fruits of his early industry, is but a just recompense for the life which has been so well spent. May he for many years enjoy in comfort and happiness his pleasant domestic relations, and the esteem and confidence which his own worth has gained for him.



AUGUST MEYER, a pioneer of Lancaster County, formerly a very successful farmer, has retired from that occupation and now resides in Lincoln, where he is engaged in looking after his finances. He was born in Prussia, Feb. 27, 1839, a son of Charles and Elizabeth Meyer, likewise natives of Prussia. They came from there to America in 1855, and located in Clayton County, Iowa, being early settlers of that county. They resided there, actively engaged in agricultural pursuits, until 1863, when they came

to the Territory of Nebraska. The removal was made with an ox-team, and they located in Nemaha County, Mr. Meyer taking up a homestead thirty miles west of the Missouri River. He built a small frame house to shelter his family, getting a part of the lumber at Nebraska City. He partially improved the land, and then sold it, and now resides there with his son.

The subject of this sketch attended school in his native land quite steadily until he was fourteen years old, and after that he became a shepherd. In 1855 he and his parents set sail from Bremerhaven in a vessel bound for this country, and after a tedious voyage of eight weeks they landed in New Orleans. He assisted his father to improve his farm in Iowa, and came to Nebraska with him in 1863, continuing to make his home under the parental roof until 1866. In that year he came to this county and located in Centerville Precinct, thus becoming a pioneer of that place. He paid \$700 for 160 acres of land, twenty acres of which were broken and a log house was standing on the place. He soon replaced the humble log structure with a more commodious frame house, getting the lumber at Nebraska City. The country roundabout was still in a very wild condition, deer, antelope and other wild game were plentiful, and where Lincoln now stands were a few scattering houses but no store. The markets were not very near, and wheat was worth \$2.50 a bushel in Lancaster County and corn seventy-five cents a bushel. Mr. Meyer became very prosperous in his undertakings, and added to his landed estate until he at one time owned 520 acres of valuable improved land. He continued to live on his farm until 1884, when he rented it and came to Lincoln to make his home, and buying lots on the corner of Wood and Fourteenth streets he erected his present commodious dwelling. He made several shrewd investments with his money, and as a result owns much fine city property, including four houses and lots on Wood street, two lots with three houses on F and Sixteenth streets, a two-story dwelling and storeroom on P street, between Sixteenth and Seventeenth streets. Mr. Meyer is an entirely self-made man, as his accumulated wealth is due in a great measure to his own industry and perseverance. He has

always dealt justly with his fellowmen, and has come honestly by his hard-earned money.

Mr. Meyer has been twice married. His first marriage, in 1866, was to Miss Laura Stuthert, a native of Ohio. After a married life of twenty years, wherein she acted the part of a devoted wife and a faithful mother, she died, in March, 1886, leaving three children—John, Caroline and Willie. The marriage of our subject to his present estimable wife took place Nov. 7, 1886. She was formerly Albertina Snyder, who was born in Prussia, and came to America when she was twenty-four years old. Both she and her husband are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



HERMAN BRUSS, of Stockton Precinct, came to the eastern part of this county from Manitowoc County, Wis., about 1872, changing his occupation from a clerk to a farmer, and settling down contentedly upon eighty acres of land on section 21. He brought with him his wife and four children, having been married, April 8, 1864, in Manitowoc County, to Miss Eliza Geist, who, like himself, is a native of the German Empire.

Mr. Bruss was born in Prussia, April 27, 1842, and left his native country when a lad of ten years, crossing the Atlantic with his parents in the spring of 1852. His father, Michael Bruss, was a farmer by occupation, and after setting foot upon American soil, proceeded at once to near Milwaukee, Wis., where he acquired ownership of a tract of land and carried on farming until his death. He passed away in 1878. The mother died in Germany.

The parents of our subject had a family of six children, five of whom are living and residents of Wisconsin. The family is of pure German ancestry, coming from an upright and honorable race. To our subject and his wife there have been born five sons and three daughters, namely: William, George, John, Herman, Henry, Amelia, Mary and Eliza. Emma died in 1878 when eight years of age, and one son, Lenard, died in infancy.

Mr. Bruss upon becoming a naturalized citizen

identified himself with the Democratic party, but has had very little to do with politics. He is accounted an honest man and a good citizen, one willing to do whatever he can to advance the interests of his community, and in his district has served as School Director and Road Supervisor. His farm is improved with good buildings, and with genuine thrift and prudence, he makes it a point to live within his income, and with his family, is surrounded by all the comforts of life. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran Church.

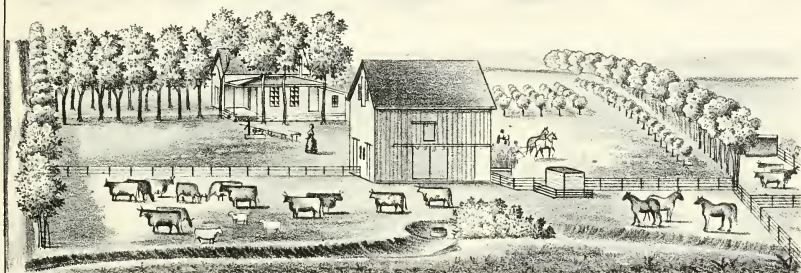


WILLIAM HENRY OUTT. Among the prosperous farmers and stock-raisers of Garfield Precinct, may be mentioned the above-named gentleman, who is the owner of the beautiful farm, situated two miles southwest of Lincoln and comprising a quarter-section. He was born on the 22d day of April, 1829, at Tully, Onondaga Co., N. Y. His education was received in the institution at that place, and from the scholar's desk and the implements of school work he graduated to the field and those of the farm. In this work he continued with his father until he reached his majority.

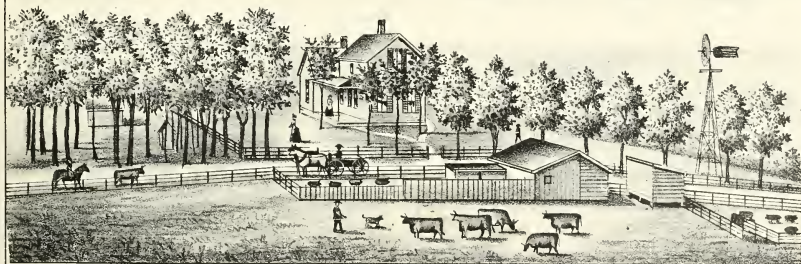
In 1850, toward the middle of the fall, Mr. Outt celebrated his marriage, the lady of his choice being Miss Ketura Fellows, a native of the town of Otisco, of the same county. After two years spent working for his father he went to Michigan, where he bought a tract of wild land in Fair Plain, and proceeded to improve the same. The first work was the erection of a house that should be their home, and as that was completed, the needed farm buildings. After that he turned to the untamed acres which stretched themselves around on every hand, and proceeded to the task of bringing them into subjection. For eight years he continued to operate with success upon this farm, then determined to go East. We next find him selling his Michigan home and property, and proceeding to the old home county. He bought a farm at Otisco, and continued to reside in its neighborhood for eighteen years. During this time he bought and occupied several different farms, and at one time engaged in busi-



RESIDENCE OF T. F. CANON, SEC. 18. ELK PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF D. W. BOWERS, SEC. 31. YANKEE HILL PRECINCT.
THIS PLACE FOR SALE



RES. OF EDWARD HEALEY, SEC. 12. LITTLE SALT PRECINCT.



ness; he also bid off a number of stage routes, usually, however, selling them to some other operator.

In the spring of 1883 our subject found himself comparatively well-to-do, as a result of the above efforts, and determined with his family to see somewhat of Western life. They proceeded to Nebraska, where our subject purchased a farm near Lincoln, which was in all its native wildness, and proceeded immediately to tame it by those arts which his experience in his native State and the Michigan home had furnished him. The house which he began to erect almost at first is situated in the most convenient part of his farm that could be found for such a purpose, and has a very pleasant outlook. Its internal arrangements and decorations are in keeping with the position which our subject is enabled to take in the social world. The various out-buildings needed upon a farm are also provided upon a similar scale, large, commodious and substantial. During the building and furnishing of the residence the family resided at Lincoln. To our subject and wife has been born a daughter, now Mrs. O. J. King, of Lincoln, who has become the mother of two beautiful children.

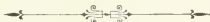
The wife of our subject was born on the 22d of October, 1827, at Otisco, and is the daughter of Hiram and Edith Fellows, of the same city. Her days of childhood, youth and womanhood, until her marriage, were spent in the home of her parents. Her father and mother both lived to enjoy a good old age, and had reached at the time of decease the ages of seventy-six and seventy-seven respectively. The father of our subject, John Outt, was born in Onondaga County, April 5, 1805. He passed the usual studies of the common school, and until manhood was his father's assistant on the farm. Upon reaching his majority he purchased a farm and began life for himself, and realized more and more the truth which Longfellow published to the world, when he wrote "Life is real, life is earnest." His first property was in his native county, and comprised 200 acres. He was quite prosperous, and after a few years added an additional 100 acres, and thus he proceeded from time to time until, before he retired from the activities of farm life, he was one of the largest farmers in his district. He

continued to reside in his native county all his days, and, as the infirmities of age made themselves more and more felt, he added to his help upon the farm, and restricted his labor to superintending the same.

Mr. John Outt was most happily married to a lady like himself a native of Otisco, and their home was gladdened by the advent of a family of three sons and three daughters, all of whom they were privileged to rear. The family record their names as follows: The eldest, William H., our subject; Marcia A., James F., Nelson, Cordelia and Francis. His wife was the daughter of Benjamin and Rachael Carter, of Tully. Mr. Outt lived to reach the very ripe age of seventy-six years, and departed this life on the 30th of September, 1881. His life from the earliest days to its last hour was one of the strongest proofs that could be given of a higher life. Those who knew him in early days cannot remember the time when he was not striving to follow the teachings and mold his life according to that of the Great Exemplar. He was deeply interested in Sunday-school work, and was for many years Superintendent of the Sunday-school of the Baptist Church, of which communion he was a prominent member and active supporter. For more than fifty years he filled the important office of Deacon of the Tully Church, in all that period reflecting the highest honor and dignity upon his sacred office. He was always chosen as the church representative to any meeting, council or association to which it was necessary to send a delegate. He was one of a class—alas that it should be so limited—who follow the much-to-be-commended example of the Syrian prince Naaman, who, recognizing the value of the health miraculously restored to him upon his obedience to the divine direction given to the prophet of Jehovah, immediately pressed upon the prophet for his reception and use in the divine service, the wealth of gold, silver and other precious gifts which he had brought in a train of chariots from the Syrian capital. Mr. Outt was one whose pocket-book was as much Christian as himself, and they helped each other in the advancement of every noble, philanthropic, beneficent and Christian endeavor.

Our subject has not been to any great extent prominent in political or official circles, but has

always been a very staunch adherent of the Republican party, which received in its support his active efforts and influence. Both in Otisco, and likewise in Michigan, he filled in a most commendable manner the office of Highway Commissioner. Both in Otisco and in his Nebraska home our subject's high order of manly character and honor have won for him in the community the highest respect and regard, and it is due to him to say that he appreciates to the fullest extent the esteem of his fellow-citizens.



SAAC DULING. One of the great and important uses of our large, undeveloped West is that it allows scope for growth. A nation may be cramped and confined in such a manner that growth is a practical impossibility, just as the foot of the Chinese girl is cramped and confined until growth is imperiled if not paralyzed. The same would apply to the physical or mental development of a child, or to the expansion and increase of vegetation. Here we have the secret cause of the principles of colonization, followed by some of the governments of the Old World. They realize their need of some outlet to the over-crowded population. It is at once the good fortune and strength of "the greatest nation on earth," that she does not have to go hunting from pole to pole for some little island to attach or protect and colonize, that within her own borders she has range and scope enough for the onward march of centuries.

Nothing is more clearly shown in biographies similar to that of this writing, than the fact that citizens like our subject who pass out into the Far West in order to the development of the country, themselves expand in all that goes to make the noblest manhood, and amplify in intellect and character as well as that which is of less importance, perhaps, namely, the enlargement of West Oak Precinct, actual possessions. Our subject, whose farm comprises 320 acres, being one-half of section 34, is the son of John Duling, who was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, about the year 1835, and there spent his early days, but removed with his parents to Tuscarawas County, where he received his early education and began farming with his father.

Striking out for himself, however, as a young man, he moved to Indiana and went to farming. While there he became enamored with the many virtues and womanly graces of Miss Sarah Germain, of the same State. Their union has been blessed by the birth of four children, who still live: Our subject, and his sisters Fanny, Eva and Clara.

About the year 1860 John Duling removed with his family to Edgar County, Ill., where he bought a farm and continued to reside for fourteen years, being withal successful and prosperous. In 1874 he came here, and purchased the farm now occupied by our subject, which at that time was wild prairie land. The family took up their residence at Lincoln until a house should be built on the property, upon which work was begun at once. The house then erected is still a good and comfortable farm dwelling, but at the time it was put up was the finest in the northwest part of the county. The house being finished, and the family comfortably in it, work upon the farm was pushed; rod by rod and acre by acre, the taming and improving went on, until the whole was brought under cultivation, and even then, not satisfied, our subject wrote upon his banners the old Spanish motto, *plus ultra*, believing that indeed there was "more beyond" in the improvement possible.

In the year 1885 Mr. Duling, with his wife, again removed to Lincoln, taking a new tract of unbroken prairie, and having the means at command constantly improved this also. It is now one of the finest farms of the section, being possessed of a magnificent grove containing several thousand trees, also a very extensive orchard, containing all manner of fruits that can be grown in the country. He has received the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens, which they have expressed at the ballot. Mr. Duling was for a long time Supervisor and Assessor, several times Justice of the Peace, besides filling numerous other town offices, and serving as School Director.

The general character and beneficent spirit of Mr. Duling find a eulogy more eloquent than any word picture could present, and have a monument more lasting than that of marble, from the fact that, after the terrible devastation of the grass-hopper plague, when the whole community was

suffering terribly from the destruction of their seed corn and the immediate provision for their teams, he and his brother Edmund (see sketch) at their own expense shipped in three carloads from Plattsmouth, Iowa, and distributed the same freely but judiciously to the needy. To many this meant a new start, and was the saving hand which snatched them from the madly rushing stream of ruin. It is no wonder that the brothers hold the warmest place in the hearts of their fellows, many of whom, now wealthy, were then driven to despair.

Mrs. Duling is the daughter of Isaac Germain, and was born in New York about the year 1831, but when quite a little girl her parents removed to Ohio. The long years which have passed since she first united her life with Mr. Duling have proved that he was wise in his choice, and she none less so in her decision. The old legend that "marriages are made in heaven" is sometimes found fault with by denizens of certain courts of justice, but nevertheless, wherever the true union of heart and life is found, as in the present instance, there are not wanting those who can disprove the old aphorism, and those most interested are the least inclined to undertake the task.

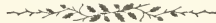
Our subject, Isaac Duling, was born in Owen County, Ind., Jan. 16, 1860, but when a few months old the family removed to Edgar County, Ill., where he was brought up. In the schools of that district he was educated, and when this process was completed, so far as the school-house and text books were concerned, he graduated to the second department of his education, and, with his father as teacher, was introduced to the intricacies of farm work. In the year 1874 the removal was made to Lincoln, and our subject continued with his father upon the farm until he was twenty-two years of age. At that time he began to work the farm for himself.

In West Oak Precinct there resided a prosperous farmer and his family. One member of the same must at this time be introduced into this sketch. Our subject had grown to appreciate the sterling qualities of character and womanly graces of Miss Lottie Sutton, daughter of Schuyler Sutton, referred to above. His admiration and regard being reciprocated, their marriage was celebrated

Dec. 24, 1882, and subsequent years have gone to prove that the union was right and happy. There have come to their fireside at various times three children, who make the home bright with their childish glee, and bear the names respectively: Gertrude, Mattie and Earl.

Since the year 1885 our subject has been upon the present farm, his father having removed to Lincoln. In the meantime his course has been marked by care, intelligence and energy, and success has been accorded. Although a young man, and the son of the man who did so much for the salvation of the district, he is not respected upon that ground, but because of his own sterling worth and manliness. He is held in the highest estimation by his neighbors and fellow-citizens, as is also his family. His wife was born in Iowa, Sept. 7, 1866. Her parents removed to Lincoln when she was about two years of age, thence to Saline County. In Lancaster, Neb., July 2, 1882, her father died, leaving his widow with her family to struggle alone.

Our subject is giving much thought to stock-raising, and owns about eighty head of superior high-grade Short-horns, besides horses and other stock. Politically, he is an honored member of the Republican party, and religiously, with his wife, is devoted to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and both are held in the highest esteem.



JOHAN ABERNATHY. Among the popular writers and novelists, we often note England's farmers depicted as round-faced, jovial, happy men, with large, generous hearts, successful in their chosen vocation, these three elements being presented as though intimately connected. It may be true and is in fact so stated, at least in one of the ancient Hebrew classics. The man who by his happy disposition is enabled to carry the burdens and cares of life lightly, and has a heart to sympathize and a generous hand open to aid the needy, in thus giving is simply sowing the seed of a harvest rich in returns. Such characteristics and description are not alone the property of our English friends; they have no monopoly upon

them. They are to be found this side the Atlantic, and are just as true of our Hoosier farmers, if not indeed more so, than the British.

William Abernathy, the father of our subject, was born in Ross County, Ohio, June 19, 1819. Here he received his early education, and was initiated into the many details of farm life, with all the intricacies of soil and seed and stock, continuing with his father until he was of age. He then removed to Indiana, and after farming for a time went on to Iowa and bought a farm. He at present resides in Clarke County of that State. He was married to Miss Ellen Clark, in Clark County, Ind., and their union has been happily cemented by the birth of twelve children, of whom ten are still living. He was bereaved of his wife in the year 1880. Through all the years of their union she had been in the truest sense a wife and mother. Her father was a native of Kentucky, went through the War of 1812, and late in life removed to Illinois, where he spent his last days.

Our subject was born in Clark County, Ind., on the 3d of July, 1842. At the usual age he was introduced to the interior of the school-house, and for some time was a regular attendant at the same. Having passed through its classes and grades he graduated to the larger school of experience, and began work upon the farm with his father, which he continued until he was about twenty years of age. At that time, in answer to the bugle of war, he rushed to arms. He enlisted in the 78th Indiana Infantry, Company C, and later served in Company G, 133d Indiana Regiment. He saw considerable service, and was taken prisoner in a skirmish at Uniontown, Ky. His actual term of service was six months, when, his time having expired, he was discharged.

Upon leaving the army our subject returned to farming, taking up property in Iowa. In this he was quite successful, prospering year by year until the spring of 1871, when he came to Little Salt Precinct, purchasing his present property, then in an unimproved condition. The orchard which he has set out is noteworthy both because of the quality and quantity of its trees. The house, which is surrounded, and yet not buried by shade trees, is by that means made exceedingly pleasant as a residence. The grove of our subject is as fine as any

in the precinct. He has been careful also in the erection of his dwelling, making it a most delightful and comfortable home.

Mr. Abernathy married Miss Mary E. Hiskey, Jan. 2, 1867. This lady was a native of Iowa, was the daughter of James Hiskey, and was born on the 17th of July, 1848. He was called to part from her by death in the year 1874. Our subject was a second time married, to Miss Sarah Tothill, in 1881. She is a native of England, born in 1846, and came with her parents to America when nine years old.

Mr. Abernathy has for twelve years been School Director of his district, and indeed was one of the primary organizers of the same, and has always continued to feel the deepest interest in all matters relative to the education and training of youth. He has also been Supervisor for two terms. The appreciation of his fellow-citizens of his official acts, and the high esteem in which he is held by them by reason of his manliness, conscientious regard of right, and moral courage of his convictions, whatever they may be, is expressed in that whenever a delegate is required from this precinct to any convention, association or society, our subject is looked to and usually selected. He has always been a straight Republican and strong in his attachment to the principles of the party.

ALMON W. ENSIGN, an intelligent and progressive pioneer citizen of this section of country, is located at present just across the line, in Precinct I, Seward County, but he was formerly located in Middle Creek Precinct, this county. Mr. Ensign was born in Charleston, S. C., Dec. 14, 1829, while his father, Ira Ensign, was born in Massachusetts, and was one of twelve sons comprising the parental family.

Ira Ensign, the father of our subject, was reared to manhood in his native State, and learned the trade of a hatter, after which he removed to York State, and subsequently to Ohio. After a few years he migrated to Charleston, S. C., and opening a store for the sale of gents' furnishing goods, resided in that city until 1836. He then removed to Michigan and located at Detroit, when that place was

but a small village. The migration from Charleston was effected by steamer from that place to New Orleans, thence up the Mississippi River to Illinois, and on by stage to Chicago, which was then but a mere hamlet. In Detroit he opened a gents' furnishing goods store, and remained there until about 1850, when he closed up his interests in that business, and removing to the west line of Wayne County, bought a tract of land, on which he resided until the death of his wife in 1855. The maiden name of this lady, the mother of our subject, was Ruth Ellis, and she was a native of Vermont.

Almon W. Ensign was the youngest child of a family of eight born to his parents, and was a little lad of seven years when the family removed to the Territory of Michigan. He attended the primitive schools of Detroit, and when he was fifteen years of age he engaged in his own town to learn the trade of carriage-maker. At the end of one year, however, he removed to Belleville, Mich., where he spent two years, and then migrated to Rochester, N. Y., and served an apprenticeship of one year, which made him a skillful workman. He then returned to Belleville, and, starting out in the same business for himself, remained until 1851, when he went to Cincinnati and worked at the trade there, and in New Orleans three years. He then engaged in business for himself in Cincinnati, but at the end of two years he lost all that he had by fire. He next migrated to Rockport, Ind., and was foreman in a shop for six months, after which he bought the shop and remained in the business until 1861.

When the call arose for troops to defend the Union our subject was not slow to respond, and in the first year of the war he enlisted in Company F, 1st Indiana Cavalry, and went to St. Louis. He was mustered into the service as Orderly Sergeant, and served in the Trans-Mississippi army. His soldierly qualities did not escape the notice of his superior officers, and in 1863 Mr. Ensign was promoted to the rank of Second Lieutenant, and soon afterward he became First Lieutenant, and served in that capacity until after the cessation of hostilities, receiving his honorable discharge in August, 1865. Lieut. Ensign never had leave of absence during his long term of service, and participated in

many of the sanguinary battles of the struggle, including those of Fredericktown, Pea Ridge, Helena, Little Rock and Marks' Mills. At the last-named battle he had two horses shot under him, but escaped capture with fourteen of the ninety men of that regiment who took part; the others were either killed or wounded.

Returning his sword to its scabbard, Lieut. Ensign was again seen in his early haunts, but in the autumn of 1865 he started from Rockport, Ind., with a pair of horses and wagon, and drove to Otoe County, Neb., where he opened up a shop and did a general repair business. He visited Lancaster County in 1867, on the 22d of June, the same day in which it was decided to locate the capital at Lincoln, and he homesteaded a tract of land on section 22, Middle Creek Precinct. He at once set about improving his purchase with his characteristic energy, and he soon had a valuable farm, containing good frame buildings, with orchards of fine fruit trees. In 1881 he sold this property and bought 160 acres where he now resides, in Precinct I, town 10, range 4 east, Seward County. The fact that in this short time the greater part of his land is under a good state of cultivation, and is provided with a good set of frame buildings, with the machinery required for the successful prosecution of farming, attests to the enterprise and practical ability of our subject.

Our subject was united in marriage, Dec. 7, 1856, with Miss Julia Barkwell, who was born in Troy, Ind., in 1840, and was the daughter of Hon. Harmon Barkwell, who was born in Virginia, and was an early settler of Indiana. He was a lawyer by profession, and was for some time Prosecuting Attorney, while he also served in the capacity of Circuit Judge. He was also elected to the State Legislature, and was a member of the State Constitutional Convention; he now resides at Rockport, Ind. His wife, whose maiden name was Herculia Osgood, is now dead. Mrs. Ensign departed this life in September, 1871, leaving four children—Richard, Harry, Joseph and Ida. Our subject was a second time united in marriage, in 1873, with Miss Hattie Coulter. Of this union there have been born six children—Ollie, Floyd W., Charles C., Maud, and Alice and Ruth, twins. Mrs. Ensign

was born in Randolph County, Ill., and is the daughter of John W. Coulter, who was born in Washington County, in the same State, while his father, Stewart Coulter, was, it is thought, a native of Kentucky. The great-grandparents of Mrs. Ensign settled in Illinois before it was a State, and her grandparents spent their last years on a farm in Washington County, Ill., which they had cleared from the wilderness, and upon which they had erected the first brick residence in the county. The father of Mrs. Ensign removed from Washington County, Ill., and traveling westward finally reached Nebraska, and purchased a homestead three miles from the present site of Hastings, and has resided there since. Hastings was not yet started. The maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Ensign was Margaret McDill. She was born in Randolph County, Ill., and was the daughter of John and Harriet (Armour) McDill. Harriet Armour McDill was born in South Carolina, and accompanied her parents to Illinois in 1818, the removal being effected by means of teams. They settled in Randolph County on a tract of timber land which the great-grandfather of Mrs. Ensign purchased, and they improved their purchase to a fine farm. John Armour was a Presbyterian in belief, and being opposed to slavery was obliged to leave South Carolina. Mr. Ensign came of an ancient and honorable family, it is believed is ultimately descended from three brothers who came from England and settled in New England during the period of its earliest history. Mrs. Ensign is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is a woman greatly respected for her many sterling virtues by all who know her. Lieut. Ensign affiliates with the Republican party, and besides being well informed on the current topics of the day, is thoroughly acquainted with the early history of this county, of which he is one of the most worthy pioneers.



REV. CARLTON L. BELT. By a happy dispensation of Providence, there are "many men of many minds," and in looking over the world at large it would seem to the contemplative mind that it is really admirably balanced.

Some must necessarily be expert in the marts of trade, while at the same time it is important that others interest themselves in upholding those moral principles which lie at the basis of law and order. To the latter class the subject of this sketch has since a youth been inclined, and has built up for himself a good record as a man and a citizen. He has labored long and faithfully in the church, and in both his public and private life has exhibited the kindly disposition and generous mind, together with charity, the noblest of all traits, which have gained him the esteem and confidence of those among whom he has lived, thus establishing his influence and making him the instrument of much good.

A native of Licking County, Ohio, Mr. Belt was born on the 1st of March, 1832, and went with his parents when a little lad five years of age to Kosciusko County, Ind. There his father purchased a tract of land, and Carlton L. busied himself with farm pursuits and in attendance at the common schools until a youth of eighteen years. Then the family removed across the Mississippi into Linn County, Iowa, whence our subject went two years later into the northern part of the Hawkeye State, where he sojourned until reaching his majority.

Young Mr. Belt, about 1853, purchased a farm in Fayette County, Iowa, which he operated until 1865, then sold out and moved to Iowa County, that State, where he secured another tract of land, and lived from the spring of 1865 until 1873. In the early part of the latter year he made his way to this county, and for two years cultivated rented land in Stockton Precinct. Finally he purchased 240 acres on section 22, and has since given to this the time and attention not required in his ministerial labors. He has erected a comfortable dwelling, set out fruit and shade trees, and gathered about himself and those nearest to him those little comforts and conveniences which have so much to do with the happiness of life. His farm embraces 160 acres of good land, all in productive condition and devoted to general agriculture.

Mr. Belt was married, Oct. 25, 1857, in Buchanan County, Iowa, to Miss Mary J. Hayes, who was born in New Brunswick, Dec. 24, 1838. Her parents, Thomas B. and Elener (Colpitts) Hayes,

were natives of New Brunswick, and are now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Belt there have been born nine children, the record of whom is as follows: Luella, the eldest daughter, in 1881 became the wife of Afonso Monk, and is a resident of Litchfield, Sherman Co., Neb.; Herbert married Miss Belle Wheeler, and is occupied at farming in Lancaster County; Fred, Gussie and Carl are at home with their parents; Harlan, Clarence L., Arthur and Earl, all died in infancy.

Our subject, while a resident of Iowa, was Township Clerk and School Director, and has held the latter office in his present school district for a number of years. He and his estimable wife for a long period have been devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mr. B. was made a licensed minister in 1855. For two years he was a member of the Iowa Conference. He commenced his labors in the ministry in 1855, and gave much of his time to church work until 1881. He cast his first Presidential vote for J. C. Fremont, and was a lifelong member of the Republican party until 1884, when his warm interest in the success of the temperance movement led him to identify himself with the Prohibitionists.

The father of our subject, Aquilla Belt, was a native of Newark, Ohio, and the mother, in her girlhood Miss Henrietta E. Lewis, was born in Virginia. They are still living in Buchanan County, Iowa, having arrived at an advanced age.



HIRAM POLLEY. Kentucky has long been known internationally because of its blooded stock interests as restricted chiefly to the breeding of horses of high grade throughout its magnificent blue grass region. Its stock-raisers have put into this branch of business an enormous capital in the aggregate, have imported famous horses from Arabia and elsewhere, and have produced some of the finest animals in the world. But Kentucky can no longer claim exclusively this renown. Other districts in the United States vie with her in that regard. Nebraska, for instance, with its boundless plains, its bright, clear atmosphere, is every year coming more to the front in

this line of business. This State possesses among its best citizens men who have given much time and thought to this subject, and to whom, also, it is an infatuation, who have launched into it very extensively and employ large capital toward a success. Among this number might be classed the subject of this writing, who owns a splendid tract of land comprising 320 acres on section 17, Oak Precinct.

William Dennis Polley, the father of our subject, was born in Canaan, N. Y., in 1777, where he received his early education and training, settled and continued to reside until 1811, when he emigrated to Russia, Herkimer Co., N. Y., where he continued to make his home until his death. He was twice married, first to Deborah Eggleston, Feb. 15, 1802. His family by his first wife was as follows: James W., William H., Louisa, Hackley, Williard and Sophia. His wife died Nov. 19, 1813. The following August he celebrated his second marriage. The name of the lady was Elizabeth Smith, a native of Norway, in the same county. To them were born ten children—Isaac P., Eliza, Nancy, Harriet, Daniel, James, Hiram (our subject), Waitie, Henry (who died in infancy), and Henry P., all of whom, with the exception of the first Henry, came to maturity.

Hiram, our subject, was born on the 31st of March, 1837, in Russia, N. Y. He received his education in the schools of the same town, and upon graduation taught for some time in that institution, and so continued until his marriage. In his native town there lived a young lady of high character and aptitude for the responsibilities of home, family and social life, and to her he was united in marriage. Her name was Mrs. Abbie G. Gillett, *nee* Cooper. Their wedding was celebrated Jan. 19, 1854, and they continued to make their home in Russia for a period of three years, in which interval one daughter was born to them. At the expiration of this time they removed to Chagrin Falls, Cuyahoga Co., N. Y. In this home their family was increased by the birth of a son, named Frank J., who is now upon the farm with his father. His sister's name is Minnie; she became the wife of O. C. Bell, and resides in Lincoln, her husband being the County Clerk.

The wife of our subject was born Feb. 26, 1826,

in Boonville, Oneida Co., N. Y. There she received her early education, and continued to live with her parents until they removed to Herkimer County. For a short period previous to becoming the wife of our subject she occupied the same relation to Mr. Ezra Gillett, to whom she was married Aug. 10, 1847, but who died shortly after celebrating that event. Her father was Thomas Cooper, whose native town was Poughkeepsie, N. Y., where he was born about the year 1795. He made it his residence until the War of 1812, and received his education in its schools. He enlisted and served throughout the various campaigns of the above war, after which he returned home. He was married to Eva Rarriek. To them were born seven children, of whom Mrs. Polley was the fourth. With the exception of a few years' residence in Ohio, where his wife died, he was a resident of New York State until the year 1878, when he came to this State, and died four years later, at the age of eighty-seven years.

Our subject, Mr. Polley, occupied the position of Postmaster of McFarland, the only post-office in that part of the county, and continued in the same for four years, when the office was discontinued, owing to the establishment of that at Orlando, now Raymond. Mr. Polley was the first and only Postmaster of McFarland. He is now the Assessor, which office he has continued to hold through two consecutive terms, and has now entered upon his third. He has also held in a most worthy manner the office of Justice of the Peace. In the community Mr. Polley and family are held in very high esteem, and their efforts toward the elevation of society and the advancement of the city and county interests receive the fullest appreciation. It is a family that every true and honorable citizen is proud to know and to be received within its circle as a friend. They are members of the Christian Church, and among its most exemplary, consistent and energetic supporters. Society and mankind generally, whatever may be said to the contrary, must and will always respect and honor the man or woman whose constant honest effort it is to approximate the character and life of the founder of our pure and holy religion. In political relations our subject has always, since the breaking out of the

late Civil War, been a staunch Republican, outspoken in support of his party and energetic in its behalf.

Mr. Polley was one who assisted in establishing on the 4th of July, 1886, a society under the name of "The Old People's Pioneer Society of Lancaster County." It takes in all who settled before the year 1880. Our subject, who was elected the first President of the society, continues to hold the position.

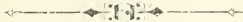
There has come down to us from the Pharaohic era the account of a terrible plague of locusts and another of flies. However extensive and however terrible the results accruing from them, we doubt if they were more terrible in their results to the people of Egypt than the devastating plague of grasshoppers which swept over this section of country in the years 1874 and 1875 was to the comparatively few pioneer settlers and farmers at that time. Among the number who suffered in and went bravely through that dark period and heavy trial was our subject. Not very long after, and while he was suffering from its effects, a new trouble was upon him. The day dawned bright and fair, became hotter and stiller, until presently, in the distance there could be seen the effects of a slight breeze. This rapidly approached, and in a very few moments it was realized that this slight, rustling breeze was but the advance of a terrible wind-storm. When the hurricance had passed, among the rest of the damage it had caused, it was found that his barn had been torn down and scattered by the wind. Nothing daunted, he set to work again and has met with his reward, for his property is one of the most valuable in the district. He is the owner of a very delightful home, and the old barn above referred to is still used, and last year he erected a large one.

As a stock-raiser our subject must rank among the first, and is quite successful. His special attention is given to the higher grade of horses and thoroughbred Short-horns. He is the owner of an exceptionally fine registered bull, and several cows, descendants of old "Richmond." Among his horses may be seen five exceptionally fine horses, also the Norman-Morgan stallion, "Sam." He is a beautiful creature, finely formed, perfect in all his points,



Yours truly
A. P. S. Stuart

a stylish stepper of 1450 pounds weight and sixteen and one-half hands high. In color he is a lustrous coal black. He was brought to this State by Van Norman & Irvine, stock farmers. Mr. Polley has a farm of which any one might be proud. In the agricultural department, or upon the stock farm, in the stables or barns, among the machinery or implements and tools used in the various departments, all reveal in a most positive manner that the owner and head of the establishment is one who has spared no pains and begrudged no effort; one who possesses an intelligent grasp of his occupation, and who has made it a study to be posted upon all points. It further reveals a man of sufficient liberality to introduce new inventions and experiments, and push enough to turn all to success. Such a man, in energy, generous thought and intellect, and high character, is our subject.



PROF. AMBROSE P. S. STUART. Occupying a prominent place in the literary and scientific world is the subject of this biographical sketch, who is an influential citizen of Lancaster County, and an esteemed resident of Lincoln. He is a cultured man, of broad and progressive views, having studied in some of the best universities in this country and abroad, and aside from the knowledge derived from books, he has a vast fund of practical information gleaned from visits made to various parts of the United States and the important countries of Europe.

Prof. Stuart is a native of Massachusetts, born in the town of Sterling, Worcester County, Nov. 22, 1820, that town having been also the place of the birth and death of several of his ancestors. He is of Scotch descent, Donald Stuart, one of his paternal ancestors, having emigrated from Scotland in the early part of the eighteenth century, and settled in Rowley, Essex Co., Mass., where he died when nearly one hundred years of age. Charles Stuart, the great-grandfather of our subject, it is believed, from the best information at hand, was born in Sterling, Mass., where he died when quite a young man. His son Solomon, grandfather of our subject, was also a native of Sterling, and there

spent the whole eighty-four years of his life. He was a farmer by occupation, and married Miss Elizabeth Moore, who bore him several children. Their son Levi, father of our subject, was also born, reared, married and died in Sterling. He was brought up on his father's farm, and in addition to that branch of industry, learned the chairmaker's trade, at which he worked a part of every year, devoting the remainder of the time to agriculture. He was a much respected citizen, and lived a long and useful life, dying in the spring of 1875 at an advanced age. In religion he was a worthy member of the Baptist Church, of which he was Deacon for many years. The maiden name of his wife was Jane Ames, also a native of Massachusetts, being the daughter of Phineas Ames, and a niece of Adam Howe, proprietor of the "wayside inn" immortalized by Longfellow in his poem bearing that name. She died at the old homestead in Sterling in 1855. To her and her husband had been born nine children, namely: Alexander, Ambrose P. S., Susan, Addison (who died in youth), Eliza, Addison A., Marietta, Washington and Charles Wesley. Ambrose and Addison A. are the only ones now living, the first Addison having died when five years of age and Alexander when an infant. Addison A. served in the late Civil War as a Captain in the 17th Iowa Infantry, and is now a resident of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He has great mechanical genius, and is an inventor of repute, having taken out several useful patents. He is also of a literary turn of mind, and is the author of a book entitled, "Iowa Colonels and Regiments," giving a history of the Iowa regiments of the war.

The subject of our sketch received his preliminary education in the district schools of his native town, and at the age of thirteen years was sent to the academy at Templeton. Later he attended Westminster and New Ipswich Academies, and at the age of twenty years entered the Worcester Manual Labor Institute, where he was prepared to enter Brown's University, at Providence, R. I., matriculating there in September, 1843, and being graduated from that institution in 1847, with the degree of A. B. From the age of seventeen years until his entrance to Brown's University, when his studies engrossed his whole time, our subject taught

during the winter season, thus partly defraying the expenses of his education. After graduation Prof. Stuart received an appointment in Acadia College, Nova Scotia, where he taught successfully two years, going from there to Providence, R. I., where he remained until 1852, as Principal of the Elm street grammar school. The following two years our subject spent in Danvers, Mass., having been selected as Principal of the Holten High School. In the fall of 1853 he returned to Nova Scotia, and was again connected with Acadia College, remaining as one of its faculty until 1858. In June of that year, being desirous of perfecting his knowledge of the sciences, Prof. Stuart went to Europe and attended the universities of Heidelberg and Gottingen, making a special study of chemistry. During the three years that he was absent from home he visited Italy, Switzerland, Holland, Belgium, France, England and Scotland, and, returning home in 1861, arrived in New York soon after the battle of Bull Run. In 1862 he accepted a position in the academy at Worcester, Mass., which he retained until 1865, when he was appointed Assistant Instructor of Chemistry in the Lawrence Scientific School at Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass. After his acceptance of this position our subject was called to Brown's University, but did not feel at liberty to accept, being already engaged at Harvard College, where he remained until 1868, when he resigned to accept the Chair of Chemistry in the Pennsylvania Agricultural College. Soon afterward the Professor was offered the Chair of Chemistry at the Illinois State University, at Champaign, which he accepted. He organized the chemical department of that institution, and remained there for six years as Professor, when he resigned and took a vacation for one year. At the time of his father's death, in the spring of 1875, our subject was selected to administer upon his estate, and in December of that year he came to Lincoln, and has been a resident here the greater part of the time since. With characteristic energy he at once identified himself with the best interests of the city, and has been a potent factor in assisting its marvelous growth. He has bought real estate and erected a handsome dwelling, where he now resides.

Prof. Stuart has fine business talent, and is as

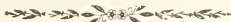
great a financier as he is scientist, and is a Director in the Capitol National Bank of Lincoln. He is well acquainted with the topography of his native country, having visited nearly every section of it, and has crossed the Atlantic Ocean to Europe three times, his second visit having been made in 1867, when he visited the World's Exposition at Paris. In 1874 he made another trip to Europe, visiting the principal cities of England and the continent, in the interest of the Illinois University, buying books and apparatus for its chemical department.

Among his literary brethren Prof. Stuart holds a high position, and is a fellow of the American Association for the advancement of science, and corresponding member of the New York Academy of Science, besides being a member of the German Chemical Society of Berlin.

Prof. Stuart has been twice married. The maiden name of his first wife, to whom he was united in marriage in 1849, was Mary Wheeler. She was a native of Rhode Island and died in 1850, her married life having been of brief duration. Our subject was again married, June 6, 1876, taking for a wife Miss Martha E. Downing, a native of Kennebunk, Me. She is of English extraction, her grandfather, John Downing, a native of England, having emigrated to America accompanied by his brother George. The latter soon returned to his native country, but the former settled in Kennebunk, where he took up a tract of timbered land, from which he cleared a farm, and there spent the remainder of his years. After becoming settled in life, he married Miss Mary Clarke, a daughter of Adam Clarke, who was a native of England, and emigrated with his family to America. He held an office under the King, and had charge of the town records. Samuel Downing, the father of Mrs. Stuart, was born, reared, and spent his entire life in Kennebunk, dying in 1871. He owned a farm which he carried on, and was also extensively engaged in getting out ship timber. The maiden name of his wife, the mother of Mrs. Stuart, was Rachel Tarbox, daughter of James and Keziah (Hooper) Tarbox. She died at the old homestead in Maine. Mrs. Stuart is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as were her parents also.

Prof. Stuart is, and always has been, a staunch Re-

publican. Since becoming a resident of this county he has devoted his attention to business, and has acquired a competency. The portrait of Prof. Stuart in this volume will be of interest to all, whether personally acquainted with him or otherwise, for doubtless even the casual reader will be interested to know the features of this worthy devotee of science and art.



WILLIAM HEDGES. When Longfellow wrote his world-renowned poem "Excelsior," he presented in the idealistic youth not so much a person as a principle, which might be translated as desired, and applied to the individual, community, or even nation. The banner with its motto "Excelsior," is simply the Latin *Excelsus*, meaning "still higher" or "upward and onward." In all probability the poet had pressing upon his mind that which is brought forcibly before every intelligence which contemplates the movement of the best of Eastern citizens and families, in order to the development of the more western country. Every move is of national importance and is one step upward and onward. Like the youth in the poem, there are difficulties, dangers and enticements, seeking either to lure or dash the intrepid traveler from his purpose. The only unfortunate thing about the poem is that the poet did not finish it. The banner still waves; the traveler still presses on; the voice is still heard, and victory, not death, is the result to the intrepid pioneers who have been developing the Far West. Among the number who have bravely borne aloft the banner device "Excelsior" is the subject of this sketch, an old pioneer and prominent citizen, having his farm upon sections 2 and 12 of West Oak Precinct.

Our subject is the son of Benjamin Hedges, who was born in the State of Ohio. What education could be obtained in those early days in the little pioneer school-house was afforded him by his parents. After this foundation had been laid he began to work upon the farm of his father. Upon coming of age he started to work upon a farm for himself, and saw as the result of his efforts continued prosperity. He was twice married; his first wife

was only spared to him a few months, and he was afterward united to Miss Melissa Bennett, and their happy union was made increasingly so by their children, of whom there were nine. Our subject was the eldest child, and was born in Cumberland County, Ill., May 25, 1842.

Very soon after his marriage with Miss Bennett the father of our subject removed to Indiana, and thence to Illinois, continuing his occupation as a farmer in the latter State until 1868, when removal was made to Saunders County, Neb., where a tract of land was taken, and the wild prairie soon became within his borders a farm fair to look upon and profitable in its harvests. This continued to be his home until his death, Oct. 12, 1884. For many years previous to his death the property had presented an appearance of beauty, thrift and prosperity. The broad acres were well tilled and kept, the house and barn with the other farm buildings were substantially built, the residence being always attractive because of its air of home and happiness, and as it stood surrounded by the broad spreading shade and lofty forest trees, seemed always to offer the blessing sought by the tired toiler at the close of the day, seeking a place where "the weary may find rest."

Phillip Hedges, grandfather of our subject, was a native of Virginia, and was one of the men who left the comparative comforts for the pioneer life of Indiana, and was one of those who helped to lay the foundation of the present State with all its huge possibilities and incalculable wealth. Mr. Hedges farmed, and in addition kept hotel, also for some years of his life ran a mill. He died at Lafayette, Ind., of cholera, in the year 1849. He, with his son Benjamin, was a member of the Christian Church for many years. Mrs. Benjamin Hedges was the daughter of William Bennett. Until her marriage she made her home with her parents, and after a happy wedded life of many years, died Aug. 17, 1882.

Our subject, as also his father before him, received in the common school of his native district all his education, and from that gave his attention to farming. At this work he continued until he enlisted in the defense of his country, on the 12th of October, 1862, in Company E, 5th Illinois Cavalry.

Going out to the front he went through Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee, seeing some active service, taking part in a large number of skirmishes and minor engagements. He was discharged, owing to disability, Feb. 24, 1863, at Helena, Ark. Thence he returned to Illinois and recommenced farming, continuing for about three years.

In 1869 our subject came to Nebraska City, where he made his home for one year. At the end of that time he entered his present home farm under the Homestead Law. At that time it was in its virgin state, and only occupied by its original denizens. Now it is transformed and become one of the best, richest and most fertile farms in the district, as a result of his continued perseverance, energy and care. Whether we turn to the house, as before remarked, the fields or orchard, we are convinced that the owner knows what he wants and what is best adapted to meet these wants, and moreover is a success in what he undertakes.

Among the blessings of life which Kentucky perhaps rightly claims have been given to the world especially by her, stands at the head of the list that blessing, good and beautiful women. In Green Castle, Ky., was born June 12, 1847, to William and Mary (Potts) Wilson, a daughter Sarah. As she grew up her parents watched with pleasurable pride the development of those charms and graces which distinguished her, and made her so attractive afterward to our subject. She made her home with her parents in Kentucky, and also in Iola, Kan., when her parents removed there. This lady and our subject were felicitously united in the closest and most holy of all relations, July 4, 1867. Her father died in Kansas in 1867. His wife was Miss Mary Potts, of Kansas, and their family comprised seven children, of whom four brothers and Mrs. Hedges still live. The marriage of our subject has been happily fruitful in the birth of six children—John Frank, Adelia, George, Estella, William and Lillie.

In the year 1886 an Old Settlers' Reunion was established, of which our subject was the first Vice President. The meetings of this society are held in a beautiful grove, which is in great demand throughout the summer for all kinds of entertain-

ments and picnics, because of the superior arrangements and shade from its noble trees. The meeting of the society for this year will be held in the same place. The interest which attaches to this place is the fact that the whole, comprising some two and a half acres, is the work of our subject, mostly in the year 1872. Then it was prairie; now a beautiful park. It will perhaps be remembered that our subject had to haul the lumber for his first house a distance of fourteen miles.

For five years Mr. Hedges has been School Director for his district, and has also filled the office of Supervisor. Himself, wife and two children are members of the Christian Church at Agnew, and are among its most earnest supporters. Mr. Hedges has always been an ardent Republican, active in campaign, and at all times ready to lend the weight of his influence and the activities of his energy in behalf of his party. As a man and citizen he is most highly esteemed, and all his well-directed efforts for the benefit of the community duly and fully appreciated.

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WHENRY SCHMALE. The German Empire has contributed thousands of its most enterprising and substantial citizens to the New World, and to whose thrift and industry it is largely due for its remarkable growth and prosperity. They have permeated every channel, both East and West, and have been especially efficient in the development of the latter section of country. Their undaunted courage made them fully equal to the privations and hardships which the pioneer settler must ever encounter, and they considered no sacrifice too great in order to effect their object, namely, the building up of a home, and providing against the necessities of later years.

The subject of this biography has reason to be proud that he is one of this nationality, and his career is one eminently worthy of mention in connection with the sentiments which have here been put forth. His home on the other side of the Atlantic was near the famous old German city of Bremen, which is known the world over as one of the principal ports of emigration from the Old

World to the New, and distinguished alike for its extensive manufactures of the articles most largely utilized by the human family. In this region the Schmale family had lived for generations, and here also was born Henry, Sr., the father of our subject, who carried on farming, and spent his entire life on his native soil.

Henry Schmale, Sr., was married in early manhood, and of this union there were born eight children, three only of whom are in the United States, viz.: W. Henry; Charlotte, the wife of Fred Niedenstein; and Louis, of Seward County, this State. Our subject, in common with the children of the German Empire, was placed in school at an early age, where he attended quite steadily until a lad of eleven years, and subsequently pursued his studies half a day for nearly two years. When not in school he was employed in a cement factory, and later in a flouring-mill. In 1859, not being satisfied with his condition or his prospects in his native land, he determined to emigrate to the New World. He was without means, being obliged to borrow money to pay his passage, and thus landed on a foreign shore among strangers in debt, and unable to speak the English language. He sojourned but a very brief time in New York City, making his way directly to Illinois, where his honest countenance soon secured him friends and employment, and he remained a resident of Monroe County, that State, until 1865. On the 14th of February, that year, the Civil War being in progress, he enlisted in Company F, 153d Illinois Infantry, and remained in the service until the conflict was ended, but seeing little fighting. He, however, was ready whenever called upon to perform his duty as a soldier, as it is well known that a German volunteer seldom runs. He received his honorable discharge at Memphis, Tenn., Sept. 21, 1865, and returning to his old haunts in Monroe County, Ill., remained there until the spring of 1866, then migrated to Wisconsin, of which he was a resident two years.

In the meantime, with the thrift and industry characteristic of his race, our subject had managed to save a snug little sum of money, and in 1868 had sufficient for profitable investment, and for this purpose set out with a team to seek a location.

Making his way to this county, he homesteaded a claim in Middle Creek Precinct, where he put up a log house with a soil roof, and prepared to locate, and commenced cultivating the soil, planting fruit and shade trees, and as the seasons passed found himself on the road to prosperity. In due time his land was all enclosed with neat and substantial fences, and he erected a good set of frame buildings, gathered together a goodly assortment of live stock, and also the machinery requisite for the prosecution of agriculture to the best advantage.

When Mr. Schmale came to this section of country Nebraska City, sixty-five miles distant, was the nearest market. Deer and antelopes bounded through the forest and over the country with fleet and graceful limbs, while game suitable for the table was abundant. Indians also still lingered in this region, and other denizens of the wilderness no more desirable for neighbors. The nearest white family was one mile away. Mr. Schmale is thus one of the earliest pioneers on the western line of Lancaster County, and was one of the first to till its soil and commence the transformation which has been little short of miraculous, considering the length of time which has elapsed, and during which villages have sprung up and a city has been built, which is now of no little importance west of the Mississippi.

There came to this section of country with our hardy pioneer his newly wedded wife, formerly Mrs. Mary Ann (Moring) Bridge, to whom he was married in Lancaster County, Neb., May 15, 1870. Mrs. Schmale was born near Davis, Stephenson Co., Ill., March 16, 1851, and is the daughter of John Henry Moring, a native of Prussia. The latter was born near the old Prussian town of Minden, in the Province of Westphalia, and emigrated to America when a young man. He located in Illinois, and was married not very long afterward, settling near Davis, where he engaged in farming, and where his death took place in 1852. The maiden name of the mother was Sarah J. Ballenger. She was born in Portsmouth, Ohio, and after the death of her first husband was married to Ernest Otto, of Stephenson County, Ill., where she continued to live until 1862. Mr. and Mrs. Otto then removed with their family to Wisconsin, living in LaFayette

and Green Counties until 1866. The spring of that year found them on their road to Nebraska, to which they journeyed with a team, and were nearly five weeks on the route, traveling after the manner of the emigrants of those days, camping out wherever night overtook them, and cooking by the wayside.

The Otto family upon arriving in this county settled on land now occupied by the city of Lincoln, and which was then called Lancaster. But four dwellings marked the spot where now stands one of the most flourishing cities of the West. Mr. Otto was a blacksmith by trade, opening the first shop of this description in the future city. He carried this on two years, then desirous of a change of occupation, homesteaded a tract of land in Middle Creek Precinct, from which he improved a farm. Mrs. Otto died near Malcolm, this county, July 31, 1878, and Mr. Otto is now a resident of Holt County.

Miss Amanda Moring, an elder sister of Mrs. Schmale, taught the first school opened in the city of Lincoln, when it was known as Lancaster, in 1866. She subsequently married W. H. H. Thompson, and is now a resident of Sacramento, Cal. Mrs. Schmale accompanied her mother and step-father on their journey to this county, in 1866, and lived with them until her marriage the following year with William Bridge. He was a farmer by occupation, and they settled in Lancaster County, where his death took place in 1869. Of this union there were no children. To our subject and his wife there have been born two sons and two daughters, viz.: Harmon, Norman, Ida E. and Minnie May. The eldest is seventeen and the youngest twelve years of age.



ALONZO GOSS is the owner of a beautiful farm of 150 acres situated on section 7, Oak Precinct, and favorably known as a general farmer and stock-raiser. In the East, especially in New York State, the family name has been known and honored in other days. His grandfather, Simon Goss, was born in about the year 1793, in New York State, and when quite small

he suffered the irreparable loss of both parents. He, however, managed to procure an education, and began to read law, and after passing a very satisfactory examination he was admitted to the bar, and continued prosperously for some time in this profession. Feeling called upon to take up the work of preaching the Gospel, he gave up his practice and law office, and entered the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in due time was ordained and given the charge of a large circuit. Being oppressed with the number of sick and afflicted, and not aware of any way to help them, he began the study of medicine with that end, and, following the example of his great Master, he went about doing good, preaching the Gospel and teaching the people, and healing large numbers of those who came to him. Constantly engaged in this work, he became quite a skillful physician, and finally settled down in the town of Camburg, Canada, to the practice of medicine, and so continued until the end of his days. He was a prominent and highly respected citizen, and from the first a self-made man.

Milan G. Goss was the fourth child of Dr. S. Goss by his second wife, and he had one brother and two sisters, by name in the order of birth, Angeline, Jessie and Simeon. He was born on the 18th of April, 1813, in New York, where he was reared and received his education. For several years after leaving school he was engaged as a teacher, and after that became a farmer, although at various times this was interspersed with other occupations at such times as farm work was slack. His first farm was situated in Canada, where he had lived for some time, owing to his father's residence there. About the year 1831 he became acquainted with Miss Eleanor Lounsbury, and as their acquaintance ripened into friendship, and this into deeper and stronger attachment, it was finally arranged that they should unite their lives, which was accordingly done May 29, 1832.

The father of our subject disposed of his Canada property in 1849, went to Winnebago County, Ill., and bought a wild tract of land, and set to work to improve the same, erecting the buildings required for farm and home purposes, and bringing the ground itself into a fit state for farming. In all of

this he was eminently successful, and after a time found a good purchaser for this property, went to Iowa, purchased 160 acres of land in Howard County, and began again duplicating his experience in Illinois. And this was his experience twice repeated, each time, however, in the immediate neighborhood.

Not satisfied with these repeated changes, the father of our subject removed to Kansas, and in Crawford County began again by taking Government land and living over again his old experience, making the sixth home built, and farm improved in thirteen years. In 1884 he removed to Nebraska, and spent one year prospecting. At the end of that period he returned to Kansas, and bought an improved farm in Greenwood County, where he now makes his home, enjoying the fruit of his toil, and, considering his age, most excellent health.

Mrs. Eleanor Goss was born April 10, 1812, in Canada, where she was also reared, and received her education, and continued her residence until marriage. The union has been most felicitous, and was blessed by the birth of seven children, six of whom it was their happiness to see arrive at years of maturity. The eldest-born, Harriet Ann, is now Mrs. Hugh Hamilton, of Colorado; the next was Alonzo, our subject; after him, William, who owns a farm in Lancaster County, then Angeline, the wife of Josiah Evans, of Iowa; Melissa, now Mrs. Joshua Clugston, resident in Greenwood County, Kan., and Milan G., resident of the same place. Their mother departed this life Aug. 9, 1885, at Greenwood, Kan., where her remains now lie.

Our subject, Alonzo Goss, was born in Niagara County, N. Y., May 27, 1837. While quite small, his father removed to Canada, he of course accompanying him, and there remained until he was twelve years of age, when they removed to Illinois, and after another five years to Iowa. His education was received chiefly in the two latter places. From the time he had completed his schooling until he was twenty years of age, he assisted his father on the farm. He then went into the same occupation upon his own account, but after a short time was compelled to relinquish active labor, owing to a most painful accident. In the year 1866, while engaged in some necessary duties with his team, he

received a painful and dangerous kick in the region of the stomach, from which he was laid up for over three years. He consulted a prominent Chicago physician. A most wonderful cure was the result, after eight distinct operations. After this he returned to his father's house, and there remained until quite strong again. Upon returning to active pursuits, he gave his attention first to teaming through the western section of country, and shortly afterward purchased an improved farm in Iowa, which he continued successfully to operate for several years.

July 16, 1864, our subject was married to Miss Alsena Towne, a native of Iowa, which union has been blessed by the birth of seven children, of whom three are still living: Andrew Simcon, the eldest, died in Minnesota. Three have died since the removal to this State; one, a fine lad of seventeen, Walter C., in company with a friend, was bathing in the Oak Creek, at Woodlawn, was taken with cramps while in fifteen feet of water, and drowned, July 16, 1885; Estella died here, at the age of seven years, March 18, 1884; also Cora, aged ten months. Those living are Ella and Mary, both young ladies, and Mabel R.; the latter about two years of age.

In the year 1866 our subject sold his property in Iowa, and spent two years teaming in Minnesota; then he returned to Iowa, and, after a short stay went to Kansas, and purchased a farm in Crawford County, which he after one season sold, and went west to Howard County, which name has since been changed to that of Elk County. Here he purchased a farm and improved the same, and after three years of prosperity accepted an advantageous offer for his property, and went back to Winneshiok County, Iowa, where he made his home for two years, after that making his home for eighteen months in Monroe County, removing thence to his present home, March 18, 1880.

No one to see the city of Lincoln to-day could conceive the difference since that period; then it was in the midst of a wilderness of prairie, with here and there a log house, dug-out or sod shanty, surrounded, perhaps, by a small clearing or stretch of plowed ground. To-day the landscape around the city, which has grown marvelously, is in every

direction smiling and fair to look upon. As far as the eye can reach are farms and homesteads, speaking eloquently of peace, happiness and prosperity within their borders. Among the large and handsome residences, by no means the least worthy of mention is that which our subject has erected upon his property, and has surrounded with shade and fruit trees, which offer to the heated, weary and thirsty, both rest and refreshment. Although this home is so pleasant and fair to look upon, over it have gathered the clouds, and the dark shadows have at times wrapped it round, for since his coming our subject has buried about one-half of his family.

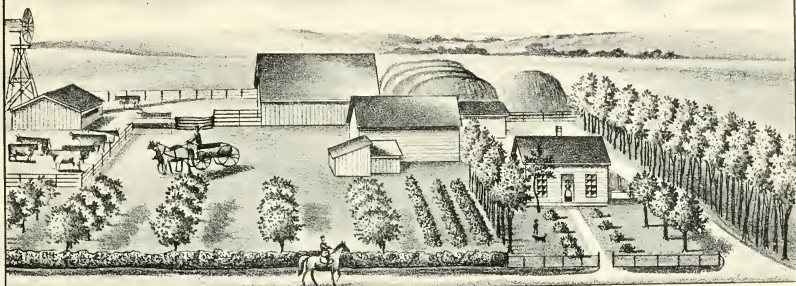
The farm of our subject, both in its agricultural and stock-raising departments, will bear the closest inspection, and from whatever standpoint regarded, the verdict will be one of satisfaction and delight. At present Mr. Goss is Director of School District No. 18, which office he has continued to hold from his first coming hither. He has also for some time held the office of Road Commissioner. In religious matters our subject continues his adherence to that department of Christian teaching in which he was brought up, and is affiliated with the local communion of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which his sterling qualities are duly appreciated. Among his fellow-citizens Mr. Goss is duly appreciated as a man and patriot, perhaps more especially by those of the same political creed and party. Our subject has always been active and energetic in his support of the "grand old Republican party."

THOMAS M. S. REYNOLDS. Men have come to Nebraska from nearly all sections of the Union, mostly from the Eastern and Middle States, and some from the South. The Old Dominion cradled the subject of this sketch over seventy years ago, his birth taking place on the 21st of February, 1818, in Orange County. His life has been that of an honest, steady-going citizen, who has lived uprightly and in consequence occupies a good position among the people who have known him best. He is now comfortably located in Yankee Hill Precinct, on section 36, where

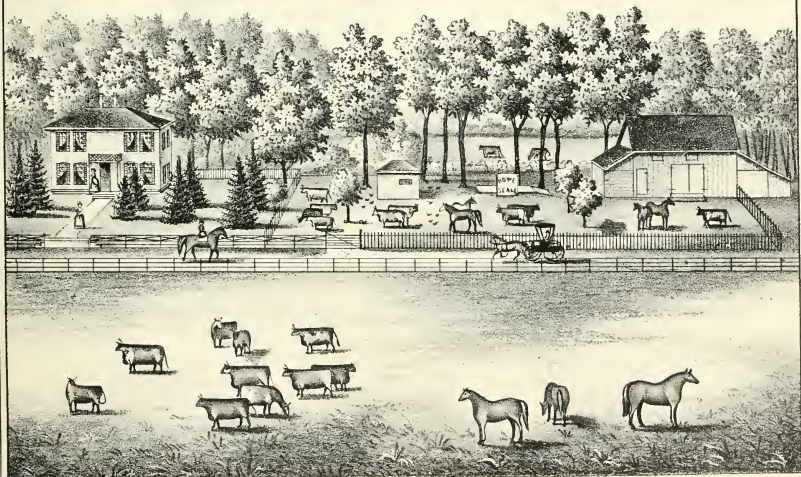
for the last fourteen years he has been tilling the soil of a farm 172 acres in extent, with results which have made him comparatively independent, surrounded by all the comforts of life, and with a competency for his declining years. By the aid of the accompanying illustration, we are assisted in presenting to the readers a much more accurate and complete picture of this home and its surroundings, which bespeak prosperity and comfort.

Washington Reynolds, the father of our subject, was also born in Virginia, where he was reared to manhood and married a Maryland lady, their union resulting in the birth of nine children. Thomas M. S. was the sixth son, and continued a resident of his native State until a youth of nineteen years. His father died when he was a little lad six years of age, and he was reared in the family of Zachary Billingsly, with whom he removed to Southern Kentucky, where he lived nearly a year, then returned to his old home with his brother, Philip S., and embarked at farming at Louisville, Ky., where he remained until 1860. Then, migrating westward, he was occupied for a time at farming in Saline County, Mo., whence he came to this county in 1874.

Mr. Reynolds, as it has been seen, was early in life practically thrown upon his own resources, and the necessity for industry and economy bred within him those self-reliant qualities which have proved the secret of his success in life, thus being one of the best schools in which a youth can be educated. While in Kentucky he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Senton, who was born in that State, and whose parents were natives of Kentucky and spent their last years there. This union has resulted in the birth of thirteen children, most of them born in Kentucky, and twelve of whom are still living. The eldest, Simpson S., is farming in Gove County, Kan.; Theodore F. lives in Holt County, this State; Louisa A., Mrs. Allen Price, is a resident of Seward; Mary E., Mrs. Jerome Cameron, lives in Saline County, Mo.; Virginia, the wife of John Cameron, and George, in Butler County, this State; William died in Missouri, Dec. 27, 1872, when about sixteen years old; Charles is occupied at keeping a meat-market in the city of Lincoln; Emma is the wife of Charles Cadwallader, of Ray-



RESIDENCE OF JOHN MINGES. SEC. 27, YANKEE HILL PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF THOS. M. S. REYNOLDS, SEC. 26, YANKEE HILL PRECINCT.

mond, this county; J. Edward remains at home with his parents; Mattie is the wife of Henry Hammond, of Hamilton County, while Effie and Ida are at home with their parents.

Mr. Reynolds cast his first vote for William H. Harrison, and since the organization of the Republican party has been its devoted adherent. Mrs. Reynolds died April 22, 1880, aged fifty-six years, nine months and nine days, in this county.



JOHAN MINGES, of Yankee Hill Precinct, and who devotes the greater portion of his time to farming and stock-raising, has a good property on section 27. He settled here in 1876, and operates 160 acres of good land, which he has brought to its present condition mostly by the labor of his own hands. His accumulations are the result of his own industry, as he started out in life without means, and with nothing to depend upon, having to trust to the health and strength that Providence had kindly bestowed upon him. He is now in the enjoyment of a good home, with the prospect of spending his old age in the ease and comfort to which he is justly entitled.

Our subject was born over fifty-six years ago, on the 19th of July, 1832, in Lyeoming County, Pa., of which State his parents, Christopher and Hannah (Shobbell) Minges, were both natives. His paternal ancestors were of Scotch descent, while his mother's people were of French. In the family of the latter, one Shobbell is accredited with having been a General in the War of 1812. Our subject is one of a family of nine children born to his parents, seven of whom still survive. The eldest, Eliza, is the wife of Elijah Lester, of Calhoun County, Mich.; Abraham is also a resident of that county, likewise Phebe, Mrs. Alexander Rothrock; Catherine lives with our subject in this county; Hannah lives in Calhoun County, Mich.; Margaret, Mrs. Joseph Lester, resides in Kansas.

The father of our subject, who was a farmer by occupation, died when the latter was an infant of five months. He was reared by his mother until a lad of fifteen years, then began to work for himself, as the employe of his brother-in-law, Alexan-

der Rothrock, with whom he lived for a period of six years. In 1866, after spending some time in the lumber regions of Northern Michigan, he went to Fillmore County, Minn., where he carried on farming ten years. Thence, in 1876, he came to this county, locating on his present farm, where he has since resided. The faithful portrayal in the illustration which accompanies this sketch, will, we are sure, help greatly to give a comparatively clear conception of the comfortable home and fine farm buildings of our subject.

Our subject, after taking up his residence in this county, was married, Aug. 4, 1880, to Miss Mary E. Loomis, who was born in Racine County, Wis., June 5, 1850. Her parents, Theron and Elizabeth (Ballard) Loomis, were natives of New York and Massachusetts, and are now residents of Waukesha County, Wis. To our subject and his wife there has been born one child, a son, George, Nov. 28, 1881. Mr. Minges is a solid Republican, politically, and for four years he served as Treasurer of School District No. 6. His early education was somewhat limited, but he has kept himself well informed upon general topics by reading the leading journals of the day, and is a very intelligent man to converse with.



JAMES H. WELSH, Postmaster of Prairie Home, Stevens Creek Precinct, is of Irish birth and parentage, coming to America with his parents when two years old. He spent a portion of his early manhood as a soldier in the Union army, assisting to fight the battles of his adopted country, and after the war was over continued for a time with the regular army, being stationed about three years on the frontier of Kansas and Dakota, and holding the rank of Sergeant. On the 16th of July, 1868, he received his honorable discharge and was mustered out. Locating in the vicinity of Salem, Wis., he engaged in agricultural pursuits until coming to Nebraska in the spring of 1875.

Our subject was born in County Kilkenny, Ireland, July 1, 1846, and is the son of David and Margaret (Dermody) Welsh, who were natives of the same county as their son. In 1848 David Welsh,

ambitious of doing better for his family and himself, left his native land, and with his wife and seven children sailed for the United States, soon after arriving on American soil. They made their way directly westward and settled in Chicago, Ill., where the mother died of cholera, in 1855.

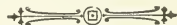
The parental household originally included eight children, of whom the oldest and youngest died the same week with the mother. Patrick died in Chicago when forty-one years old, and Thomas, who lived to manhood, died at Grand Haven, Mich.; he was a Captain on the lakes, and for a time commanded the "Alpena," but changed to the "Muskegon" a few days before the wreck of the "Alpena." Mary became the wife of John Furlong, died July 25, 1888, and was a resident of Chicago at the time; Ellen married John Conley, and also lives in that city; Bridget is the wife of John Neil, of Grand Haven, Mich. The father died in the latter place about 1876.

James H. Welsh was a lad of twelve years when he and his brother Patrick left Chicago and settled on a farm near Richmond, Ill. There they worked together until after the outbreak of the late war. Our subject, on the 4th of August, 1862, enlisted in Company H, 95th Illinois Infantry, and first saw the smoke of battle at Champion Hills. He was subsequently in the engagements at Black River Bridge and other encounters with the enemy in that region. During the siege of Vicksburg he was wounded, May 22, 1863, by a minie ball in the left arm, and for six weeks was confined in the hospital at Milliken's Bend. He was able to rejoin his regiment before the fight at Natchez, Miss., and after several more engagements with the rebels at various places was taken prisoner, June 10, 1864, at the battle of Brice's Cross Roads, and held until the close of the war, being paroled April 16, 1865. He returned to Illinois for a brief visit with his father's family, then re-enlisted in the regular army.

The property of our subject embraces eighty acres of good land, well developed and with convenient buildings, a goodly assortment of live stock and improved farm machinery. The lady who has presided over his domestic affairs for a period of seventeen years was formerly Miss Harriet Garland, and their wedding took place at the home of the

bride in Salem, Wis., Sept. 17, 1871. The parents of Mrs. Welsh, Thomas and Jane (Marsh) Garland, were natives of England, and are now deceased. Mrs. W. was born in Kenosha County, Wis., Nov. 24, 1846, acquired a common-school education, and resided with Mr. Booth, her brother-in-law, until her marriage. She is now the mother of eight children, the eldest of whom, George H., makes his home with an uncle in Kenosha County, Wis. The others, Lilly E., Rosa Belle, Jessie Ann, Clive A., Mary E., Guy and James L., are at home with their parents.

Our subject, politically, votes the straight Republican ticket, and has served as Assessor and Justice of the Peace, besides holding the other local offices. He was appointed Postmaster of Prairie Home in 1884. The mail comes to this place semi-weekly, and the post-office is located at his residence. Mr. Welsh belongs to the I. O. O. F. and Mitchell Post No. 38. G. A. R.



ROBERT PICKEL has been a resident of this State since he was fourteen years of age, and coming at once to this county has been a witness of its wonderful growth and development. Nor has he been an idle witness, but he has taken an active interest in the State of his adoption, and has given conclusive evidence that he possesses the sterling qualities which characterize the successful pioneer farmer. He has a fine farm of eighty acres of excellent land, made valuable and beautified by fruit and shade trees, and has also erected a good residence, with commodious out-buildings.

The gentleman of whom we write was born in Stephenson County, Ill., Nov. 30, 1852, while his father, Samuel Pickel, was born in Union County, Pa., Dec. 3, 1821. His father, Simon Pickel, was born in New Jersey, and was the son of a German who emigrated to the United States and settled and died in New Jersey. Simon Pickel purchased a small farm in Union County, Pa., and resided there until 1850, when he removed to Illinois, and spent his declining years with a son in Stephenson County. The father of our subject was reared to manhood in his native State, and after receiving a

fair common-school education, learned the trade of a carpenter and continued in its pursuit until 1850. He then removed to Illinois and settled near Freeport, Stephenson County, where he operated rented land and remained until 1861. His next removal was to Iowa, and accompanied by his wife and seven children they made the entire journey with one pair of horses and a wagon, cooking by the roadside and sleeping in their wagon on the way. Mr. Pickel rented land in Boone County, but not yet satisfied with his Western wanderings, in 1866 he severed his connection with Iowa, and once more harnessing his team to the wagon, the family came to Lancaster County and homesteaded a tract of land on section 30, Middle Creek Precinct. There was then no railroad west of Omaha, and Lincoln was not even thought of. Nebraska City, sixty-five miles distant, was the nearest depot for supplies and market. Elk, deer and antelope were still plentiful, while the Indians had not yet disappeared before the rapidly rolling waves of civilization. Samuel Pickel built a dug-out, which the family was fain to use as a residence for three years, until he could provide more commodious quarters. For several months they had no floor to this structure, and as the nearest mill was at Nebraska City, Mrs. Pickel, who was in every way the worthy helpmate of her husband, ground the corn in the coffee-mill as it was needed for six months. This lady, who in her maidenhood was Nancy P. Shamp, was united in marriage with Samuel Pickel in February, 1847, and died Sept. 20, 1881. She was born in Union County, Pa., Feb. 9, 1824, and was the daughter of Nicholas Shamp, who was born in New Jersey, while his father, Jerome Shamp, was also, it is believed, a native of New Jersey, and spent his entire life in that State. Nicholas Shamp was a weaver by trade, and followed that occupation many years. He was married in Union County, Pa., to Charity Van Horn, and subsequently removed to Illinois, and afterward to Iowa, where Mrs. Shamp died at the home which they had made for themselves in that State. Mrs. Pickel was a girl of fourteen when her mother died, and she lived with her father until her marriage. She now occupies the homestead which she and her husband obtained from the Government, and has lived to

see this section developed from a wild prairie to a well settled part of the country, with a city of several thousand nine miles distant.

The subject of our sketch was the second in order of birth in the family of six children—Margaret, Robert, Harriet, Samuel, Albert and Jane, all of whom still survive—and he accompanied his parents to this State when fourteen years of age. He resided with his parents until the death of the father, and at the time of his marriage he settled on part of the old homestead, which he now owns and occupies.

Mr. Pickel was united in marriage, in August, 1885, with Miss Louisa Rench, and their home has been brightened by the advent of a baby boy, whom they call Charlie. Mrs. Pickel was born in Keokuk, Lee Co., Iowa, while her parents, Conrad and Louisa Rench, were natives of Germany. In politics, Mr. Pickel is a Republican. Mr. and Mrs. Pickel attend the Methodist Episcopal Church.



REV. HENRY SIMMONS, one of the honored pioneers of Lancaster County, is the subject of an interesting history, the main points of which are as follows: His father, Lorenzo Simmons, an iron manufacturer by trade, was born in New York, and was a cousin of the well-known Daniel Simmons, late of Cohoes, that State. His mother, Anna (Gale) Simmons, was a native of Pennsylvania, and the parents after marriage settled in Licking County, Ohio, whence they removed to Cass County, Mich. In this latter place the mother died about 1846. The father subsequently took up his abode in Berrien County, where his earthly labors ended in 1854.

The children of Lorenzo and Anna Simmons, eight in number, included five sons and three daughters, all of whom, with the exception of our subject, are deceased, he being the only living representative of the family. He was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, May 3, 1818, and spent his childhood and youth amid the quiet scenes of country life, mostly on his father's farm, while he also was engaged in the Marion Iron Works, Ohio. When

twenty years of age he started out in life for himself, engaging first as a teacher, and later took up the cooper trade, which he followed for a period of five years. After this he engaged for a time in farming, which, with carpentering, has been his chief occupation.

Our subject left the Buckeye State in 1854, and crossing the Mississippi took up his residence in Story County, Iowa, where he resided until 1862, engaged in farming. In the fall of that year he came to this county, when there were only twelve voting citizens within its limits. Its natural resources, however, and the possibilities which even at that time presented themselves to his practical eye, commended it to him as a place where it would be wise to locate, and here he accordingly pitched his tent and has since remained. He worked his way upward from a modest beginning, purchasing first 160 acres of land, and is now the owner of 530 acres in Grant and Yankee Hill Precincts.

One admirable feature of the labors of Mr. Simmons in this locality is his setting out of a large number of shade and ornamental trees, which attract the admiring attention of every traveler passing through this region, and have added thousands of dollars to the value of his property. In the midst of these he erected a substantial stone house, and in time there sprung up about it the out-buildings and other conveniences which have contributed to the comfort of the family and facilitated his farming operations. The matter of tree planting is one which has engaged the attention of a large class of intelligent people of this country, and the man who has thus beautified a prairie landscape is worthy of more than mere mention.

One of the most interesting and important events in the life of our subject was his marriage in Licking County, Ohio, Sept. 16, 1838, with one of the most estimable young ladies of that region, Miss Catherine Walker, who was born in Muskingum County, that State, and whose parents, James and Rachael Walker, were natives of Pennsylvania, who spent their last years in Ohio. Of this union there were born twelve children, namely: Mary A., who is now the wife of J. M. Bracken, of Lincoln; John D. and Rachel, deceased; Amos is on the home farm; Emily and James C., deceased; Caroline, who

is the wife of William Wilderdink; Anis R.; Lorenzo A., Postmaster at Cortland; Levi, Warren and Laura.

It is hardly necessary to say that Mr. Simmons was soon recognized as a man fitted both by nature and acquirements to be a leader in his community, and he was soon elected to the office of Justice of the Peace, which he has held now for a period of probably over twenty years. He takes a lively interest in educational affairs and has served on the School Board in his district since the time of coming here. Politically, he supports the principles of the Democratic party, and has been a lifelong member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in the pulpit of which he labored as a minister before leaving Ohio and after settling in Story County, Iowa. He has also filled vacancies in the pulpit since coming to this county, but on account of ill-health has been able to preach but very little.

After a most congenial union of forty-nine years, Rev. Henry Simmons and his estimable wife were parted by the fell destroyer, this most amiable lady passing away at her home in Grant Precinct on the 15th of September, 1887. She was a lady possessing all the womanly virtues, and fulfilled in a most admirable manner her duties as a pioneer wife and mother, standing bravely by the side of her husband as he battled with the elements of a new soil and sought to build up a comfortable home in a new country and among strange people.

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SALMON W. BEARDSLEY. "The occasion makes the man," and, we would add, the country. When the religio-political fugitives, after escaping the dangers and ravages of the great deep, set foot for the first time upon the soil of the North American continent, it was one of the "greatest occasions" in the universal history, a fact abundantly proved by subsequent events. This was "the occasion" of the United States of America in all its grandeur, magnificence and wellnigh boundless extent. It was "the occasion" of the unparalleled sublimity of its governmental principles, and the establishment of the "divine right" of citizenship, and not of "kings." This in turn became "the occasion" to many noble

men and fearless spirits, and it is beyond question, from the record of our country and the biography of our pioneers, that the generations following are not destitute of the same nobility which characterized their forefathers.

The maternal great-grandfather of our subject was one of the heroes of the Revolutionary War, and stood by the side of men no less heroic. The paternal grandfather served in the War of 1812 with the rank of Captain, and the paternal great-grandfather also served in the Revolutionary War, in which he was taken prisoner, and suffered all the hardships of confinement in the prison ship.

Peter Beardsley, the father of our subject, was born in Harpersfield, Delaware Co., N. Y. Arriving at man's estate, he was united in marriage with Maria (Boardman) Miller, who was early married to Joseph Miller, but was left a widow at the age of twenty years, with the care of her little daughter, Elizabeth, who is now the wife of W. H. Congdon, and resident of Napoli. At the time of his marriage Mr. Beardsley was a resident of the same town (Napoli), and there continued to reside for the greater part of the time until his death. For four years, beginning in the spring of 1838, he resided upon a farm in Whiteside, Ill., returning at the end of that period to his old home in New York State. The household circle of Peter Beardsley comprised four children: Our subject, the eldest; the second son, Philander E.; Abigail P. and Joseph M. Upon the staff of stenographers of the Southeastern Court District of Nebraska is found Philander; his sister is now the wife of M. D. Tiffany, of Lincoln, Neb., and for several years has held the appointment of Principal of the Capital School of that city. The youngest, Joseph, is a resident of Weeping Water, Cass Co., Neb., and from his service during the years 1862 to 1865 at the front has a very fine war record.

Our subject opened his eyes upon things mundane for the first time Sept. 13, 1828, at Napoli, which city was the scene of his early life; in the institutions of learning of his native town he obtained his education. When he was fourteen years of age his father went to Illinois in the endeavor to work a farm he had purchased, and from that time until he was almost twenty-one our subject as-

sumed much of the responsibility of caring for the family, which position naturally fell to him as the eldest son. From the attainment of his majority until his twenty-third year, he was engaged in different occupations, but at that time was desirous of settling in life, for the reason that he was then united in marriage with Miss Ann Casten. After this important event he was engaged for a period of ten years in farming in Napoli and adjacent townships.

In 1862 the old spirit which flashed and burned in the hearts of his forefathers took possession of our subject also, and when the tocsin of war was sounded he enlisted upon August 11, in Company G, 154th New York Infantry. Until January, 1863, our subject served as a private, and as such saw much service. His bearing in the different engagements was such as to attract especial notice, and at the above time he was commissioned as Second Lieutenant, and assigned to Company K of the same regiment. On the 11th day of the following June, as the reward of merit, he was created First Lieutenant, and given command of Company E, of his regiment, which commission he held until March 19, 1864, when he was discharged incapacitated for service. In the previous August, while upon a forced night march, he fell down a steep embankment which severely injured him, and was the immediate occasion of a painfully severe rupture, which finally disabled him. After that accident, however, he was still in the field, and served under "Fighting Joe Hooker" and Gen. Sherman, was in the battle at Missionary Ridge and Wauhatchie, Gettysburg and Williamsport. In the early part of 1863, at the battle of Chancellorsville, he was taken prisoner, and for the space of forty days the privations and terrors of this hard lot were added to the bitterness of war's experience. Thus, with health broken but with spirit unsubdued, he returned to his home, bearing the marks of honorable service, and the distinction of double promotion, the recognition by his country of faithful and loyal sacrifice on his behalf.

From the time of leaving the army until the spring of 1874 our subject was upon his farm at Napoli, in which he was exceedingly prosperous. Leaving the home State in the above year, he settled in Cass County, Neb., and with the proceeds

from his late property purchased a tract of land, continuing to operate it for five years, then came to this county. In the spring of 1883 he took 320 acres in Stockton Precinct, being one-half of section 29. Upon this he speedily erected a comfortable farm dwelling, and the usual barn and out-buildings, and started to improve the land and bring it under cultivation, and afterward greatly added to the pleasantness of his home by judicious but extensive planting of fine shade and forest trees in its vicinity. From that time until the present he has continued general farming, though latterly considerable thought, care and capital have been devoted to the dairy. He has taken a great interest in milk churning, and was for a long time Secretary and general manager of the Bennet Creamery Company, and is still a heavy stockholder in the same.

At Leon, Cattaraugus Co., N. Y., our subject was married to Ann E. Casten, Jan. 1, 1852. This lady is the daughter of James and Amanda (Wheeler) Casten, of English ancestry. Her parents first settled in what is now a part of Buffalo, removing afterward to Collins, Erie County, and thence to Leon, where they died, the wife Jan. 13, 1887, the husband March 2, 1888. Their family included nine children, the wife of our subject being the eldest. The names of her brothers and sisters are as follows: James W., John G., Ira L., Emily A., Mary J., William H., Eunice L. and Stephen W. Ann was born in Pleasant Valley, Dutchess Co., N. Y., Aug. 30, 1829.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Beardsley has been most happy. Their family circle includes five children—Flora A., Alice M., Abbie E., J. William and Manley J. Flora has become the wife of George Ashman, a resident of Cass County, Neb. Our subject and family are members of the Presbyterian Church at Bennet, and were for many years connected with the church at Napoli. Mr. Beardsley has held with much honor and dignity the office of Justice of the Peace, in a manner that has won the hearty appreciation of the community. Our subject is one of the strong members of the Republican party, ever ready to give his heartiest support, and lend his best energies for the advancement of Republican principles.

As a boy, Mr. Beardsley was noble and earnest in taking as far as possible the responsibilities of head of the family during his father's absence; as a soldier, his career was marked by the spirit of patriotic self-abnegation and martial honor; as a citizen, a pattern to those who are following after him; as a man, husband and father, most praiseworthy and honorable.

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MRS. ELIZA STATES. The Emerald Isle has given to us many statesmen, poets, orators, and lesser lights in the social and political arena, and has also supplied many of our best and most respected citizens, most self-denying and hardy pioneers, intelligent and prosperous farmers and stock-raisers. In presenting the present sketch, we shall have before us a native of the above country, who at present resides on section 12, West Oak Precinct. Our subject, with her husband, the late George L. States, was among the very early pioneer settlers of the district, having settled in 1870 upon the then wild prairie, which, under their diligent and united efforts, has become one of the best farms in the county.

Our subject was born Dec. 25, 1824, in the North of Ireland. Other festive seasons and Yuletides have come and gone in the family of her parents, but none left behind them so satisfactory, so substantial and pleasing a souvenir as this Christmas gift. She is the daughter of John and Jane Graham, natives of Ireland, who emigrated to America when our subject was about ten years of age, and settled in Huron County, Ohio, in 1834. At this time Ohio spread before the pioneer settler in all its newness. The virgin soil was a stranger to the implements and artifices of mankind, and was ready to yield her wealth to any and every settler who had the push, intelligence and spirit to woo and win her treasures. On the arrival of the family, a farm was purchased in the above county, and here the years of youth and early womanhood were spent. She obtained her education in the common schools of the district, and afterward continued to live at home until, in 1846, upon her marriage, she removed to the home of George L.

States, which from this time became hers. Ten happy years were spent in this new home, when they removed to Iowa, in the year 1856, where they continued to reside until 1869, when they removed and located as at present, and where Mr. States bought a tract of land.

Our subject, it will be seen, has been a pioneer throughout the whole of her life—first in the Ohio home in the earlier days of that State, while it was yet a Territory, afterward in Iowa, and then in this State. At the time of her settlement in Nebraska the lumber for the first house had to be brought in and hauled from Fremont, and all the necessaries of life had to be purchased in Lincoln, which was also the only market for their farm produce. All the usual hardships and difficulties of pioneer life fell to her lot.

After a residence of two years in this State, Mrs. States was bereaved of her husband, and left to fight alone in the life which was no less hard upon her because of her sex, and in addition to which she had to bear the sorrow and desolation of the cloud which at this time had darkened her home. Although the blow has been so heavy, our subject did not sit down in helpless grief, but, with a spirit worthy of the wife and daughter of New World pioneers, she bestirred herself in the affairs of home and business, and with the help of her son, now a young man, carried on the work of the homestead. Their united efforts have been rewarded, and the farm has been brought to its present high state of cultivation. Beside this, all the buildings found upon the farm have been added by Mrs. States, who has also completed the planting of the shade trees in the vicinity of the house, has set out the orchard, which is in very fine condition, besides several other improvements.

Throughout the years of her pioneer life, in spite of its dangers and trials, the hardships do not seem to have had an ill effect upon her health, for she is still in the enjoyment of every faculty, and is by no means intimately acquainted with that profession which devotes its efforts to the relief of the sick. The father of our subject, John Graham, as his name plainly sets forth, was a native of Scotland. While quite small, his parents removed to Ireland, which was his home until the removal to Ohio in

1834. He was united in marriage with Jane Crosier, who was born in Ireland. To them were born ten children, two only of whom did not reach mature years. Mr. and Mrs. Graham both died in Ohio, at a good old age.

George L. States, the late husband of our subject, was born in New York State in 1822. While yet a child, his parents moved to Ohio, which was at the time in all its native wildness, and upon the present site of the prosperous city of Sandusky stood the wigwams of the tribe and their chief, after whom the present city is named. Mr. States continued to live with his parents until the time of his marriage. He was a man of fair education, more than average ability, and was called upon in every State in which he lived to fill the township and school offices, which he always did, having in mind the best interests of the community he served. To Mr. and Mrs. States have been given nine children, and of that number only one has since died. The names which follow are those of the living children, and are given in the order of birth: George F., Gustavus J., Adeline A., Thomas B., Mary E., Elmer E., John G. and Jane. The eldest son is residing in Colorado; all the others continue to live in Nebraska, Elmer and Jane being still at home. The church membership of our subject and her late husband was in the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which communion they were highly esteemed, and which continues to extend to our subject its Christian affection. The present efforts of our subject upon the farm are upon the line of general mixed farming and stock-raising, in both of which she has attained unusual success and prosperity.



CHARLES E. HERDMAN. The Emerald Isle has from among her sons given to the world many of its best men. Whether we study her native history or watch the career of her children in other lands; read the story of their heroism under the English flag, in the Peninsula War; with the Iron Duke in the later days of Waterloo; their bravery in the early settlement of the New England and Eastern States, or in the political and military arena of our own beloved country in

later days, we must give her credit for giving the world one of the most noble and brilliant class of men produced by any nation. The subject of this sketch is a descendant from an Irish family.

Charles E. Herdman, whose splendid farm is situated on section 16, Garfield Precinct, includes some 240 acres, which he operates in the interests of general farming and stock-raising, and is also the proprietor of the West Lincoln gristmill. He was born in Ottawa, East Canada, on the 31st of March, 1839. In due time he received his education in the district school, from which he passed to work with his father on the farm, in which he continued until about twenty-one years of age, at which time he left home, working in various places as a carpenter, until in 1855, when he met Miss Fanny Stevens, a native of Ottawa, East Canada. Their marriage took place at Ottawa in November, 1856. After this important event he purchased a farm in Canada and went to work. Until the year 1870 he continued with much success, growing more prosperous every year.

The household circle of Mr. and Mrs. Herdman has increased from time to time, until it numbers seven children: Elizabeth; George, who married Jessie Fox; William, James, Thomas, Fred, and Amelia, wife of David Martin, all of whom are still living. In 1870 Mr. Herdman sold his place in Canada and came here, being one of the very early settlers, and with his family fought bravely against the opposing forces of pioneer life. He purchased a farm in West Oak Precinct, which he improved, and upon which he built, and continued to reside until 1874. Selling this to advantage, Mr. Herdman and family removed to California, but after a seven months' residence found the place far too sickly and unhealthy, and therefore returned to Nebraska, where he had a large amount of money invested in loans. His purpose upon returning was to enter into mercantile pursuits, and he therefore went to Denver, Col., and for six months was engaged in the grocery business, but at the end of that period he turned his face once more toward this State, and located upon his present farm.

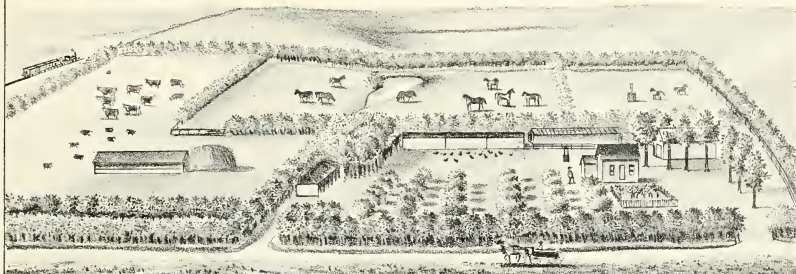
At the time of settlement upon his present property, our subject ascertained that it was out on lease, but after considerable trouble he was enabled

to get a title from the State. Then he began making improvements; the comfortable residence which he now occupies was erected, also his fine large barn and other out-buildings, and shortly after a gristmill on Oak Creek, which gives him magnificent water power. In addition to this enterprise our subject is the owner of an excellent dairy, with quite an extensive business in that line. He makes a specialty of his creamery trade, and furnishes much of the cream used in the town for ice cream purposes.

Miss Fanny Stevens, wife of our subject, was born in 1840, in Ottawa County, Canada, where she was educated and brought up, and continued to reside with her parents until her marriage. Her father, George Stevens, was born in Ireland, and there owned a large estate. He came to Canada to live, but still retained his estate in Ireland. In 1875 he died at his home in Canada.

The father of our subject, Henry Herdman, was also born in Ireland, and in the same country received his early education. With his parents he emigrated to this country, landing in New York, afterward proceeding to Canada. Here he purchased a farm upon which he continued for some years. He was united in matrimonial relations with Elizabeth Maxwell, who was a native of Ireland, and their union was brightened by the birth of twelve children, of whom our subject was the eleventh. Henry Herdman continued to make his home in the Dominion until the time of his death, in 1883, at the ripe age of ninety-three years.

The eldest daughter of our subject has continued to make her home with her father. Her brother George was united in marriage with Miss Jessie Fox, a native of Lincoln, in 1884; he makes his residence in the town, and is engaged with his brother William in the ice business, and they own the largest enterprise in that line in the town. His brother William continues to live at home, also Frederic, James and Thomas. Amelia is the wife of David Martin, and makes her home at Ft. Wallace, Kan., her husband having large interests in an extensive cattle ranch in that district. Both our subject and his sons are deeply interested in stock farming, and are the owners of large herds of cattle, besides a large number of horses and other



RESIDENCE OF J. H. BIERSTEDT , SEC. 12. BUDA PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN MARTIN, SEC. 21. SALTILLO PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF H. J. BUHMANN, SEC. 1. BUDA PRECINCT.

stock. The farm land of Mr. Herdman's farm is very valuable, worth at least \$600 per acre.

The Methodist Episcopal Church has in our subject and his family, all of whom are members of the church, very strong supporters and warm friends. They are among its most earnest and consistent members, and are accorded its most entire confidence. As a family, and also as individuals, their place is in the front rank of our citizens. Politically their sentiments lead them to affiliate with the Democratic party, to the principles of which they are attached. The candidates of that party always find in this family warm friends and earnest advocates.



S P. BENADOM. Our subject is a descendant of the Rev. John Benadom, the revered founder of the United Brethren Church.

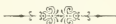
He was a native of Germany, was quite a learned man, and took pains to educate all of his children. He came to the United States and settled in Ohio, and there, it is supposed, his son George, the father of our subject, was born. He was reared and educated in that State, and became prominently identified with the educational interests of his native State, being one of the best mathematicians of his day, and at the time of his death was Professor of Mathematics in Mt. Vernon College, Lancaster, Ohio. He was also an active business man, and at the time of his death in 1834, was a contractor on the Ohio Canal. His partner made way with the funds and left his family in impoverished circumstances. His wife, whose maiden name was Hannah Myers, was a native of Ohio, and spent her last years in Fairfield, that State, dying in 1838. She was a woman who filled in every respect the perfect measure of wife, mother, friend. Of her marriage ten children were born, nine of whom grew to maturity.

He of whom we write was born near Lancaster, Fairfield Co., Ohio, Nov. 13, 1826, and was only eight years old when his father died, and twelve years old when his mother's death made him an orphan, and from that time he has made his own way in the world. If his father had lived our sub-

ject would doubtless have received the education that he craved, but the bright, manly lad was forced instead to earn his own bread by working on a farm. He married in his eighteenth year, and in 1846, accompanied by his wife, he started for the West, taking all his effects in a wagon drawn by a blind horse, having in his pocket but \$52, all the cash that he owned. He located in Jones County, Iowa, and was one of the pioneers there, from that time taking an active part in developing the resources of Iowa, and was prominently connected with the organization of the State. He states that at the time he crossed the Mississippi River he could count every building in Davenport. It was some years before a railway connected Olin, the town where he located, with the outside world, and Muscatine, forty miles distant, was the nearest market and depot for supplies. When he first located there the country was so sparsely settled that his patrons came from fifteen to twenty miles to his smithy. He continued prosperously engaged as a blacksmith, having entered into partnership with another man when he first located in Olin, for a number of years. In 1856 he took the contract to carry the mails from Olin to Davenport, and was appointed Postmaster by Buchanan, which office he resigned in 1862. He resided in Iowa until 1868, and during that time had witnessed the development of Jones County from a wild, uncultivated country to a well settled, wealthy county. In the year just mentioned Mr. Benadom sold out there and came to Lincoln, to begin life anew as a pioneer. He came as far as East Nebraska City, then the western terminus of the railway, and performed the rest of the journey to Lincoln on a stage. Lincoln was then but a small hamlet, consisting mostly of log buildings, and the greater part of the surrounding country was wild prairie land owned by the Government and State. Elk, antelopes and deer were plenty, and our subject being a good shot and fond of hunting, killed a great many wild animals. In three nights he killed twenty-one wolves inside of the incorporated limits of the city, a startling illustration of the wild and unsettled condition of the country that can scarcely be credited to-day, twenty years later, by one who passes through these broad avenues of commerce

and sees on every hand indications of wealth and prosperity in the busy traffic going, in the fine business buildings, and in the stately, beautiful dwellings on every side. When he first came here Mr. Benadom commenced dealing in furs, and for twelve years handled all the furs sold in Lincoln. In 1869 he entered into the business of building dams, and in six years' time had constructed thirty-nine dams in different parts of Nebraska. Some years after coming to Lincoln he bought wild land, which he improved, and he is now the owner of 320 acres of well-improved land in Thayer County, and also owns other land there. He erected two blocks in the city of Carleton, one of which he still owns, and he has erected several houses in Lincoln.

Mr. Benadom has been twice married. Fidelia Burroughs, his first wife, was born in Vermont, and died in Iowa in 1866, leaving eight children—Almina, Emma, Mary, George W., Alice, Wilfred, and two who died in infancy. The second marriage of our subject, which occurred in 1867, was to Miss Hannah Jones, and to them two children have been born, but they are now dead. Mr. Benadom is a man of sound principles, is trustworthy as a citizen, and his character in private life is unassailable. In politics he is a staunch Democrat, and at the same time a strong Prohibitionist.



CORNELIUS WISMER is a partner in the firm of Rowerdink & Wismer, dealers in general merchandise, at Hickman, Neb. His parents, John and Frona (Boelkens) Wismer, were natives of Holland, in which country they were married. The husband was a farmer, and they emigrated to America in 1852, settling in Sheboygan County, Wis., where he bought a farm, and continued until his death, at the age of fifty-four years, in 1876. The mother still resides in Sheboygan County, aged sixty years, having been the mother of ten children, four boys and six girls.

Our subject, the second child, was born on the 14th of September, 1848, in Holland. He has but a faint remembrance of his Fatherland, having been but four years old when he was brought to America, and the long voyage of seven weeks on the sailing

vessel has left but little impression on his mind. He grew up at Sheboygan on the farm, and his parents being in moderate circumstances he began to work out at an early age, the acquiring of an education being limited to a few months in the winter time. Realizing the importance of an education, and denied many of the privileges of securing it, he spent his leisure time in general reading, and thus acquired a splendid stock of information on general topics.

In 1869, in company with his cousin, N. Poort, Mr. Wismer came to Nebraska, stopping for a time in Lincoln, and thence going out in search of land, he took a homestead of 160 acres in South Pass Precinct, clearing it of all incumbrance by 1874. Previous to this time, in 1873, he was united in marriage to Miss Hannah Wissink, a daughter of Martin and Emma Wissink. Mrs. Wismer was the third of a family of seven children born in Sheboygan County, Wis., the date of her birth being in 1855. She enjoyed the advantages of the common schools, and came to Nebraska a miss of thirteen with her parents, who had come to Wisconsin from Holland, afterward moving to Nebraska, in 1869. The father took up a homestead, and is now very comfortably situated, residing with his son in South Pass, being sixty-two years old. The mother of Mrs. Wismer died in 1874, which loss was much mourned by her family.

After marriage our subject continued on his farm until 1883, when he went into partnership with Mr. Rowerdink in general merchandise. He still owns his farm, which he has well cultivated, and improved with good buildings. There is an orchard of 200 trees, containing apple, plum, cherry and other fruit trees. He built the store in which the firm is now doing business, and his trade steadily increased until now it is second to none in Hickman, the public appreciating the fair manner in which it has been treated by the firm as a house of strict integrity. The firm of Rowerdink & Wismer will always be remembered by its appreciative and numerous customers.

The subject of our sketch is the father of seven children, all living at home; their names are as follows: Martha, Jennie, Tilda, Frank, John, Daniel and Oscar. The father is a member of the Dutch

Reformed Church, of Holland, Lancaster County, and is also an active member of the Young Men's Christian Association, of Hickman. He votes with the Republican party, and has been a delegate to the County Convention at Lincoln. As a testimony to his strict business integrity and honorable conduct he has been elected Assessor of South Pass Precinct for three years, and has served as a member of the Highway Committee for six years. At present he is filling the honorable position of Chairman of the Village Board, and is also the School Moderator of Hickman, having been instrumental in the advancement of the educational facilities of the place.



JOHAN E. B. GRAHAM. About twenty miles from the city of Lincoln, upon section 23, West Oak Precinct, lies one of the finest farms in the precinct. The house also, is perhaps, the most pleasantly situated. It is the home and property of the subject of this sketch. The house stands upon an elevation which commands a very fine view of the surrounding country, and, standing in its open doorway upon a clear day, the sun can be seen gilding the dome of the capitol at Lincoln. Turning from the glories which Nature has scattered with lavish hand all around this delightful residence, we are most agreeably surprised to find that the old pioneer home is a thing of the past. Its internal decorations and furnishing are suggestive of refinement and culture, and indicative of the true home, with all the wealth of meaning with which that word is endowed.

The owner of the above delightful property and residence was born June 25, 1826, in Juniata County, Pa., in which place he also received the rudiments of his education, which was afterward somewhat more completed in Cumberland County, where his father moved when he was about fourteen years of age. When he had finished with the school books he passed immediately to learn the duties and work of the farm, under the tuition of his father, whom he continued to assist until his marriage.

It was on the 1st of March, 1855, that the hopes and desires of our subject and Miss Kate Hemmin-

ger were consummated in plighted faith and recorded vows, which bound them as one until death should separate. Their union has been gladdened by the advent of eleven children, of whom six sons and two daughters are still living—John A. S., Thomas T., Jacob H., Mary N., Samuel L., Edmond B., Fannie E. and George H.

From the time of marriage until the year 1869, our subject continued to reside on the old homestead and to work the home farm, but at that time he turned westward, settled at Lincoln, and continued to reside there for three years, after which, in 1872, he purchased his present property, now one of the finest in the district, but then a barren waste of untamed prairie, which has only been subdued by unremitting effort, persistent energy, judicious expenditure, and intelligent, careful planning. Our subject is a general farmer, and very prosperous in that line, but finds time for the improvement of stock, to which he is devoting more attention, with the purpose of going into stock farming. He is the owner of a herd of sixty Short-horns, several beautiful brood mares, beside other stock. He has also set out an extensive and well-selected orchard of apple and other fruit trees, while those of the shade and forest variety have not been forgotten.

The wife of our subject was born in Cumberland County, Pa., May 13, 1829. Her education was obtained in the usual institution of her native town. She continued to live at home until her marriage. This most estimable lady is the daughter of John and Eliza Hemminger. Her father was born in Pennsylvania in the year 1788, and died June 12, 1878, having, with the exception of one decade completed the century's cycle. While in his youth he removed with his parents to Cumberland County, Pa., and there he continued to work a large farm through the greater part of his active days, when he removed to Carlisle, and enjoyed the rest and quiet which he had so well earned. His wife was Eliza Heagy, who, after having borne the responsibilities and trials of life, and having the joy of seeing her twelve children started in life, went to her long home Sept. 1, 1884.

The father of our subject was John Graham, born in Juniata County, Pa., about the year 1780, removing to Cumberland County, same State, in 1840,

where he continued to reside until 1866, when he went to his rest, at the age of eighty-seven years. His lifelong occupation was that of farming, in which he had been fairly prosperous. The partner of his life was Miss Polly Turbett, who was born about the year 1788, and died Sept. 1, 1861. Their home circle comprised twelve children, and it was their privilege to bring all but one of them to maturity.

Of the children of our subject, the eldest was united in marriage with Mary Griffith, who has borne him three children; their home is in Oak Precinct. The second son has become the husband of Josie Lineback; Mary is now the wife of Mr. James Griffith, and has become the mother of two children; their residence is in Colorado. Mrs. Graham is a very consistent and most highly esteemed member of the Raymond Presbyterian Church.

Politically, our subject is a strong adherent of Republican principles, and is a firm supporter of the "grand old party." He has for some time past held the office of School Director. As a citizen, he receives the highest regard of the community, both on account of his character as an individual and citizen, and also in recognition of his efforts in behalf of the community generally.

JOHN D. MULVANE. The traveler in Switzerland, as he stands at the foot of the mountain prepared for the ascent, frequently looks up among the peaks and crags in admiration and surprise, but as he ascends, and reaches some point far above the valley, one of the many and tortuous windings of the path suddenly reveals to him a plateau, where a far greater surprise is his than that experienced at the foot of the mountain, for here he sees a prosperous village with fields, flocks and pasture. He asks himself, how came those here? and is still more surprised when told that the happiness and prosperity before him is the result of the labor of generations, as year after year has passed, and the cottagers have brought, basket by basket, the rich soil from the valley to the plateau.

How truly the above represents and explains the

prosperity and happiness of some whom we meet upon the plateau of life; they have toiled, and generations before them have toiled, to deposit upon the hard rock, basket by basket, until what had been hard and repellant in life has been made to blossom like a garden, and has been wreathed with the smiles of happy prosperity. In the biography of John D. Mulvane, owner of a fine farm on section 25, West Oak Precinct, comprising 160 acres of first-class bottom land, we have, perhaps, a case in point.

The grandfather of our subject, John Mulvane, was born in Virginia, but removed to what is now Oxford Township, Tuscarawas Co., Ohio, which was then a very wilderness, given over to the occupancy of such animals as the bear, wolf, deer, antelope, and many others of the same ilk. He here took several hundred acres of land, and went to work steadily and heartily, improved and cultivated a farm, raised large quantities of stock of various kinds, and was considered at that time a very large operator. His family numbered six children, comprising five sons and one daughter, and when Newcomerstown was established, he was the first one to open a place of business in the same, which was given to his two eldest sons to conduct. During the War of 1812 he served his country in the ranks.

The second son of John Mulvane was born in 1809, and was reared upon the homestead in Oxford Township, and received his education in the old pioneer log school-house. As soon as he was through with schooling he was put to farm work, which he continued, with the exception of the time taken in the construction of the Ohio Canal, upon which he was employed with his two brothers, and was appointed overseer of the work. This over, he went back to the farm of his father until his marriage, in 1834. The lady of his choice was Sarah Ann Dean, the daughter of Col. John Dean, a native of Virginia, but resident of Coshocton County, Ohio. Their union has been blessed by the birth of five children, three of whom still survive. Shortly after his marriage he received of his father 160 acres, and purchased an additional 100 acres, covered with heavy timber, situated in Coshocton County, upon the Tuscarawas River. Here he proceeded with the arduous work of hewing from the domain of the forest a home for himself and bride,

It was of the usual material and form, and its furnishing comprised what was necessary for their use, luxuries being very seldom found in the log cabins of that day.

Col. John Dean, father of Mrs. Mulyane, was born in Virginia, and in 1818 purchased a farm in Ohio and removed to it. At this time his daughter Sarah Ann was in her third year, having been born on the 24th of December, 1815. In the new home he set to work, and speedily had 400 acres under cultivation, and afterward erected a very comfortable farm dwelling, a large frame barn, beside other needed buildings for the farm and stock. He continued his residence upon this property until his death, in 1852. He was intensely devoted to the welfare of Methodism, and his house was the headquarters for the preachers and other workers of that communion, and not infrequently did the home do duty for meeting-house and church.

John D. Mulyane, our subject, was born in Coshocton County, Dec. 26, 1835, and was the eldest child of John M. Mulyane, and was seventeen years of age at the death of his father. He was the recipient—thanks to his parents—of a first-class school education, and upon its completion worked upon his father's farm until he became of age, about which time he was married. The lady to whom he was united, and who has stood with him through the subsequent years, was Matilda F. Mardis, a daughter of William Mardis, a school and music teacher and farmer. To them have been given six children, five of whom are living, and are named as follows: Casius M., Ozro H., Orin E., Frank E., William and Emma I.

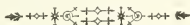
After his marriage our subject took his father's farm until 1866, when he removed to Edgar County, Ill., and bought a farm, which was at that time slightly improved. With this work our subject progressed until the whole had been brought into good condition, and in 1875 he sold his property, came to Nebraska and bought his present farm, at that time in a state of native wildness. He set to work, and speedily had made quite a change in the appearance of things. His house and farm buildings were put up substantially, and with more regard for comfort and convenience than to the tricks and fashions of the professional architect.

There were very few houses in the district, and he had only three neighbors within a circle of five miles, with the exception of Indians, of whom there were plenty. Wolves and wild-cats and other animals, moved in large numbers over the prairie in all their native untutored and untamed savagery, occasionally causing considerable trouble. Shortly after he purchased this farm, and just as his first lot of wheat and corn was preparing to make its bow with a good grace, the whole farm was covered, in common with the district generally, with grasshoppers, who devoured everything green that was to be seen. The only crop our subject could raise that year for home use was some late corn planted on the 20th of June, after the grasshoppers had retired.

Of the children of our subject, the eldest married Miss Kate Martin, is a miller by trade, located at Cedar Creek, Cass County, and is the parent of one child; Orin is the husband of Emma S. Kimball, is located at Strang, of this State, and is a practitioner of medicine, of the same place. Mrs. Mulyane is the daughter of William F. Mardis, and was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, on the 8th of October, 1837. It was her misfortune to be left motherless at the age of five years. From that time until her marriage she made her home with her sister in Tuscarawas County, where she was educated and afterward met our subject. Her father was born in Maryland, removing with his parents to Virginia when a boy, where he continued to reside until he became of age, when he struck out for himself and took a farm in Steubenville, Ohio. Just previous to this he had been married to Miss Frances Bell, and they became the parents of thirteen children, all of whom lived to attain the age of majority; nine are still living, and two of those who are dead met their fate in battle. Mr. Mardis died in February, 1865.

Our subject had three brothers who served in the army in the late war, and came through unscathed, although, strange to relate, his brother Daniel died the day following his being mustered out. After years of toil, labor, danger and struggle, Mr. Mulyane is enjoying the pleasantness and quiet of a more retired life, reaping the benefit of previous years. He has sown a life of activity and upright-

ness, and is reaping the reward of continued health and prosperity, and is recognized in the community as one of its early pioneers, farmers and stock-raisers, honorable in all his dealings, and worthy of the highest regard. He is a lifelong member, as is also his wife, of the Presbyterian Church. For six years he has been Treasurer of the school district. He has always been most energetic and outspoken as a worker and advocate of the Republican party, but latterly has felt conscientiously compelled to take his place in the ranks of the Prohibitionists, but he has always been a man of moral courage, doing what he believed to be right in spite of, although not in defiance of, public opinion. This is, therefore, but a sample of his manly, consistent character and action.



ISAAC PIERSON is a successful farmer residing on range 8, section 9, Panama Precinct. His great-grandfather Pierson was one of three brothers who came to America a few years prior to the Revolutionary War and settled in Pennsylvania. His grandfather, Joshua Pierson, served as a private in the War of 1812. Our subject is a son of Joseph and Ellen (Thrush) Pierson, his father having been born in Bedford County, Pa., and the mother at Carlisle, the same State. His parents were married in Bedford County, Pa., and settled there, where the father was a hotel-keeper, and was also the owner of a large farm, but he died in the year 1823. The mother and children then removed to Wayne County, Ohio, and settled near Massillon, in 1825. After living there for sixteen years they moved to Summit County, where the mother died about the year 1856, aged sixty-five years. In this family there were five children, four boys and one girl.

Our subject, the second child of the family, was born on the 16th of March, 1818, in Bedford County, Pa., two and one-half miles from Bedford Springs. The first school which he attended was in Stark County, Ohio, three miles distant from his home, and in going to and from school he passed only one house on his way, the country then being so sparsely settled; his educational advantages were

therefore much limited. He was reared upon his mother's farm in Ohio, and remained at home until about the time he was married. There was a sawmill on the homestead and our subject took charge of it. In 1845 he married Miss Lucy Randolph.

The wife of our subject is a daughter of Jonas and Mary (Bevington) Randolph, her father a native of Virginia, and her mother having been born in Westmoreland County, Md. Her father was in the War of 1812, and also served under Gen. Harrison at Tippecanoe, and in the Black Swamp. Mrs. Pierson's great-grandfather came from Wales during Colonial times, and her maternal ancestors were English. Her parents came to Ohio a young man and woman, and at an early date they settled in Wayne County, where they were among the first pioneers. They had a family of thirteen children, nine of whom lived to grow up to manhood and womanhood. About the year 1849 the family moved to Vermilion (now Ford) County, Ill., where they settled, and where the parents died. The mother's death occurred in 1870, her age being sixty-eight years, and the father died in 1875, at the age of eighty-five years. Of the nine children four were boys and five girls.

Mrs. Pierson, the fifth child, was born on the 2d of May, 1826, in Wayne County, Ohio. She attended the common schools and lived at home until her marriage with our subject. After marriage Mr. Pierson continued in the sawmill for one year, and then went into the manufacture of woolen goods, which business he continued until the failure of his health. Then he moved to Logansport, Ind., where he remained on a farm for three years, afterward going to Lagrange County, where he also remained three years, and then to Ford County, Ill. When at Logansport he sold his farm and loaned his money to a merchant, but having misplaced his confidence, he lost the whole amount. He remained in Ford County, Ill., for fifteen years, at which place he rented a farm. In the fall of 1871 he came to Nebraska, his eldest child being then twenty-one years old.

Our subject then bought his present farm from the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company, on which his labors have been mainly attended with success and prosperity, but he has felt

the loss of his money in Logansport to be a considerable detriment. There are five children in this family, whom we name as follows: Mary E., Amazella R., Thomas J., Alpha and Joshua. Mary E., who resides in Panama Precinct, is the wife of Moses Mittien, and the mother of two children—Edna and Kent; Amazella married Frank Brophay, and resides in Panama Precinct, the mother of three children—Roy, Luey and Lina Grace; Thomas J. resides in Lincoln, and is the Deputy County Treasurer; Alpha resides in Cheyenne County, Kan., the wife of Julius Northrop, a farmer; she has two children—Kirk and Isaac William. Joshua is at home with his parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Pierson have won the esteem of the community in which they live, and have prospered well, despite the many discouragements through which they had to labor—the siege of the grass-hoppers, and the drouth of 1875 and 1876. On their farm they have built a fine frame house and barns. They have a fine fruit orchard, and, in fact, all the necessaries and many conveniences pertaining to rural comfort and welfare. Our subject was Assessor of Panama Precinct in the year 1872, and has several times been elected Justice of the Peace, but declined to serve in that office. He advocates the policy of the Republican party, but both our subject and his wife are strongly imbued with temperance principles.

FRANK E. HAIGHT is a fine representative of the young men of the present generation, who, by sheer force of energy and ability, have already made themselves prominent factors in developing and sustaining the enormous agricultural interests of Nebraska, and he is well worthy of a place in this record of the lives of those who have had the making of Lancaster County. He owns a good farm on section 28, Nemaha Precinct, and is managing it with much success.

Our subject is the son of Andrew P. and Susan M. (Hickox) Haight, natives respectively of Buffalo, N. Y., and Pittsburgh, Pa. His father was a man of considerable enterprise and business talent, and for several years prior to his death he was the

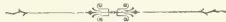
proprietor and manager of an extensive cheese factory in Medina County, Ohio. His useful and busy career was cut short by his premature death, in 1874, at the age of forty-eight years. The mother of our subject, who still resides in Medina County, Ohio, and is now fifty-seven years old, is a woman of great capability and marked force of character, and after her husband's death she energetically undertook to continue his business as a cheese manufacturer, and made a great success of her venture. She is the mother of six children, namely: William, Ransom, Mary, Andrew, Martha and Frank Eugene.

The latter, of whom we write, was born March 12, 1864, in Granger, Medina Co., Ohio, and enjoyed good educational advantages in the district school of his native town. He was a boy of ten years when he was bereft of his father. He continued to live with his mother until he was sixteen, and gave her much assistance in the factory, and thus acquired a thorough practical knowledge of the best methods of making cheese. After leaving his mother he went to work in another cheese factory, and was there employed until he was nineteen. He then went West to see something of the country, and traveled extensively through Nebraska, Dakota and Kentucky. After his return to his old home Mr. Haight was united in marriage with Miss Minnie Woodward, July 3, 1885. She was born Aug. 10, 1869, in Sharon, Medina Co., Ohio, being the youngest of the three living children of William C. and Elizabeth (Reid) Woodward. Her education was conducted in the graded schools of her native town.

In the spring following his marriage, our subject, accompanied by his young wife, set out for Nebraska, he having determined to locate here, as he had been so pleased with the appearance of the country in his visit to it in 1883, and the brilliant prospects it held forth in its varied resources for a young man to make more than a comfortable living. He bought a farm of eighty acres, on which he still resides, and on which he has already made many fair improvements. Besides being a good grain-growing farm it is especially well adapted to stock-raising and the dairy business; he has started a cheese factory on his own farm, and it is predicted

that, with his experience and well-known skill as a cheese manufacturer, he cannot but be more than ordinarily successful in the enterprise.

In his wife our subject finds a ready helper, and one who heartily enters into his plans and sympathizes with him in his endeavors to make life a success. She is a lovely lady, whose beautiful character is the embodiment of all true womanly qualities, and their home, which is blessed by the presence of their one little baby daughter, Ethel, is probably one of the happiest in the county. Mr. Haight is too deeply absorbed in his work to give more than passing attention to public affairs, yet he takes an intelligent interest in politics, and takes his stand with the Republican party as to the best policy to be pursued in National and State affairs.



JACOB S. UNANGST. The subject of this sketch maintains a leading position among the intelligent men of the community of Grant Precinct, and takes a warm interest in everything pertaining to its intellectual and social progress. He realizes the importance of education, and accordingly gives his influence toward the establishment and maintenance of schools, setting first a good example in his own family by giving to his children the best advantages in his power. The stimulus of his influence has not only been felt in his own neighborhood, but throughout his township, where he ranks among the men who have been the leading spirits in bringing it to its present position.

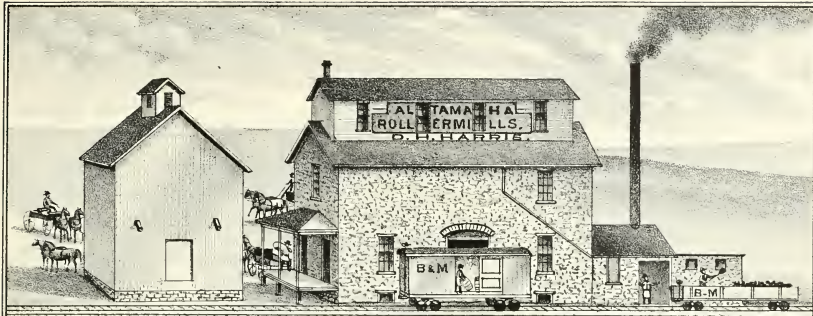
The ancestors of the subject of this sketch, it is supposed, were of German extraction, and the later representatives settled in Pennsylvania, where were born in Northampton County the parents of our subject, Jacob and Dorothy (Sible) Unangst. After marriage they settled in Williams Township, that county, where were born their thirteen children, of whom Jacob S. was the ninth. Of these four are living, and residents mostly of Pennsylvania. The parents are deceased.

Mr. Unangst was born Nov. 18, 1835, and continued on the farm with his father until a youth of seventeen years. Then, leaving home he served an

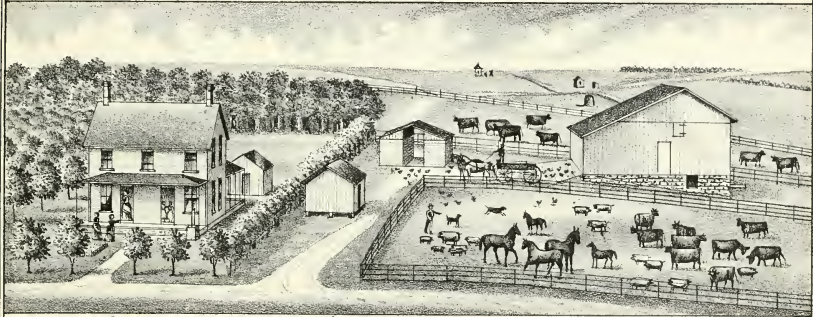
apprenticeship at the shoemaker's trade, and after a time migrated to Warren County, N. J., where he was employed at his trade until the outbreak of the late Rebellion. Not long after the first call for troops he enlisted as a Union soldier in Company H, 8th New Jersey Infantry, and participated in many of the important battles which followed, being in the fight at Williamsburg, the seven-days siege of Richmond, and in the battle of the Wilderness, besides various other engagements and skirmishes. In front of Petersburg he was wounded in the right foot, by which he was seriously disabled and obliged to use crutches for two years. For this he now draws a pension. He was also slightly wounded at the battle of the Wilderness. After receiving his honorable discharge, in 1865, he resumed his trade in New Jersey about one year, and then purchased a farm, and followed agriculture in that region until the spring of 1872.

Our subject now determined upon a change of location, and making his way westward to this State, purchased first a tract of eighty acres of virgin prairie in Grant Precinct, this county, from which he has made his present fine home, and subsequently added to his possessions until he is now the owner of 400 acres in the State, 320 acres of which lie in Logan Precinct, Logan County. He has been content to confine his attention to the development of his land, and has availed himself of modern machinery and the most approved methods of carrying on agriculture, with results which should prove to him a source of deep satisfaction. He began in life dependent upon his own resources, and has acquired his property solely by the exercise of industry and perseverance. His career is a fine illustration of the self-made man, and the possibilities to be obtained by those who are willing to labor and to wait for the result.

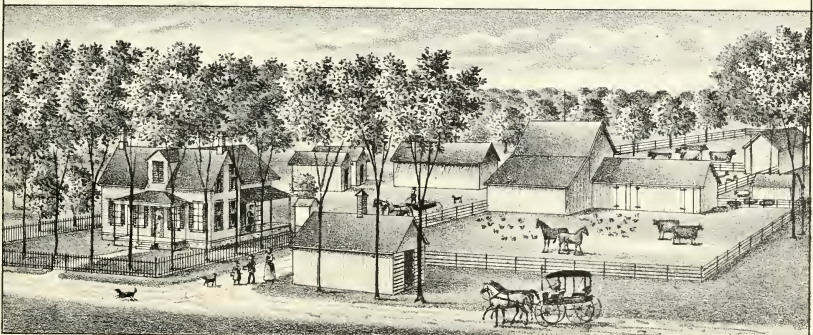
The lady who has been the faithful and efficient helpmate of our subject for a period of thirty-two years was in her girlhood Miss Sarah Hartzell, and became his wife on the 29th of August, 1856. The wedding took place at her home near Easton, in Northampton County, Pa. Mrs. U. is the daughter of Peter and Margaret (Lambert) Hartzell, who were also natives of the Keystone State, and who died near Easton, Pa., the mother in 1854, and the



ALTAMAHA ROLLER MILLS & ELEVATOR, CAPACITY-100 BARRELS per DAY, D. H. HARRIS. BENNETT.



RESIDENCE AND FARM OF JOHN H. RAUCH, SEC. 4. SALTILLO PRECINCT.



RES. OF MRS. SOPHIA KOLOSTER, SEC. 10. STOCKTON PRECINCT.

father in 1874. Their family consisted of eight children, and the wife of our subject was the second. She was born near Easton, April 23, 1835, and received that careful home training which admirably fitted her for the future duties of life. Of her union with our subject there have been born seven children, two of whom, Millard and Ella, died at the ages of a year and eight months and five months respectively. The eldest living, Edwin P., who is a graduate of the State University at Lincoln and the Law College at San Francisco, Cal., is now a practicing attorney of San Luis Obispo, Cal.; Will E. married Miss Minnie Walker, and is occupied at farming in the eastern part of this county; Mary E., George F. and Elsie M. are at home with their parents. George is completing his education in the State University at Lincoln; Will E. attended this institution for a period of three years, and the daughter, Mary E., was a student there two years, when she was obliged to abandon her studies there on account of ill-health. All the family are members and regular attendants of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Unangst, politically, affiliates with the Republican party. He is deservedly placed among the leading men of his community, where he has exerted a decided influence in the building up of its educational elements, and elevating its standard of morality.



MICAGAH S. OXLEY, a progressive farmer and representative citizen of Lancaster County, is pleasantly located in Middle Creek Precinct, where he owns the northwest quarter of section 31. Although his residence on this farm dates only from 1880, he has already brought it to a good state of cultivation, and has erected a good frame house, while he has ornamented and enhanced the value of his farm by planting shade and fruit trees.

The subject of this biographical sketch was born in Fayette County, Ky., Nov. 24, 1817, while his father, Everet Oxley, was a native of Virginia, and the grandfather of our subject was born in England, and coming to this country settled first in Virginia.

He subsequently removed to Kentucky, and buying land near Lexington, Fayette County, was among its earliest settlers. He was actively engaged in the improvement of his farm until 1834, when he abandoned the active duties of life and lived a retired life with a son and daughter in that place until his death, in the one hundredth year of his age. The father of our subject was reared in Virginia, and accompanying his parents to Kentucky, contracted a matrimonial alliance with Miss Celia Scott, and resided there until his death, which occurred in 1824. During the same year his widow with her six children set out for Indiana with a team, and accomplishing the journey in safety, located in Montgomery County among its early settlers. The mother purchased a tract of land and kept the family together, giving them the benefit of a good common-school education, together with her careful training, until they were able to go out for themselves and take their places in society as good men and women. In 1844 Mrs. Oxley removed to the Territory of Iowa, settling in Linn County, where she resided with her children until her decease. She was an exemplary woman and nobly performed her part in caring for her family, while her many Christian virtues endeared her to all who made her acquaintance.

Micagah S. Oxley was the fifth in order of birth in the parental family, and was a little lad of seven years when he removed with his parents to Indiana, where he grew to manhood, assisting his mother on the farm and securing an education in the pioneer schools. In 1844 he set out for the Far West to seek a home, traveling with a team of horses, and arriving in Iowa while it was a Territory, found himself among the early settlers of Linn County. Deer and other kinds of wild game were plentiful at that time, and afforded a means of stocking the larder with good meat, which was sometimes the only kind of food that was at all plentiful. Mr. Oxley purchased a tract of Government land near Marion, upon which he erected the primitive log cabin, and industriously engaging in improving his farm, resided there until 1853. He then disposed of his property, and removing to Black Hawk County, purchased a tract of land near Waterloo, which he improved into a farm that became his

home until 1864. He then sold out his interests in that county, and returning to Marion, Linn County, purchased a farm, upon which he resided until 1880, when he again sold out and started West, this time coming to Nebraska and settling in Middle Creek Precinct, this county, upon the farm which he has since owned and occupied.

Our subject has been married twice, the first marriage taking place in 1842, with Miss Margaret B. Porter. She died in 1850, after becoming the mother of four children, one of whom, William, is still living. The second marriage took place in 1851, with Nancy Pomer, and she died in 1879, after bearing to her husband nine children, five of whom are still living—Nancy A., Nathan S., Thomas P., Henry E. and Charles H. Celia J., the eldest child, became the wife of Edward Champlin, but he died in Benton, Iowa, in 1869, and she passed away in Henry County, in the same State, in the next year. John P., the eldest son, was born in 1844, and died in Henry County, Iowa, in 1879.

Mr. Oxley is a valued and consistent member of the Methodist Church, with which he has been connected in fellowship and good works for nearly thirty years, and is honored and respected by all who know him. In politics, he cast his first vote for President Harrison, and is a staunch member of the Republican party.



OTTO R. BOESEWETTER. It is sometimes said by the sneering cynic, or some unwise, though doubtless honest, temperance advocate, that Germany has given to us of the United States nothing but lager beer. Nothing could be more untrue. No one can traverse the district occupied by Lancaster County, Neb., and innumerable other and similar sections without being impressed with the fact that numberless of our most respected, hard-working, wealthy and honored citizens are of that nationality, and bring to us all the well-being and prosperity with which such citizens must endow a country.

The family of which our subject is a member are of this class, and were natives of Germany. His father was Antone E. Boesewetter, who was born

in Saxony, Germany. His mother's maiden name was Martha Race, and the place of her birth Bavaria. It was not until they had taken up their residence in Ozaukee County, Wis., that they were united in marriage, which was celebrated in the year 1841. They continued to make their home in that place until 1876, when they came to Lancaster County, Neb.

An available tract of land on section 12 of Stockton Precinct, attracted the attention of the father of our subject, who immediately took the necessary steps to secure the same. This land they carefully improved, and upon it erected their home and farm buildings, and continued to make it their abode. The wife and mother was called to enter the rest beyond Sept. 2, 1868, her husband surviving her some thirteen years, when, April 25, 1881, he, too, was called to his long home. In the course of their married life their family included six children, whose names are here appended in order of birth: Sophia, Bertha, Louisa, Paulina, Otto R. and Ernest. The eldest daughter, Sophia, has become the wife of Joseph Spahule; her sister Bertha was married to John Bether; she died in Nebraska City, in the year 1870. The third daughter is now Mrs. John Ellenburg, and the youngest daughter has married Mr. Charles Coppe. The youngest child, Ernest, is a resident of Perkins County, Neb.

Upon the death of the parents of this deeply interesting and much respected family, the home farm passed into the possession of our subject, the eldest son. This comprises about 120 acres of most available land required for stock-raising or farm purposes, and, although a young man, our subject lacks none of those admirable qualities which mark the lives of his progenitors, qualities which, perhaps, at least in many instances, are well-nigh national characteristics. Our subject is, socially, connected with the Garfield Aid and Protective Association of Avondale, Neb. In political matters he is thoroughly American, deeply interested in all those topics which are before the nation, and have to do with its Government. With patriotic spirit he strives to make himself master of these questions that he may intelligently support those persons seeking office who will truly represent the people. He is associated with the Republican party. Our subject has

several times been called upon to fill local offices within the gift of his fellow-citizens, by whom he is held in high esteem, and who fully appreciate the conscientious manner in which he has performed every function and duty of office. For five consecutive terms he has held the office of Precinct Assessor.



SAMUEL C. DICE. The subject of this biography, who is a young man little past twenty-five years of age, is evidently in possession of all those qualities requisite for the career of a useful and prosperous citizen. He has already a fine start in life in the shape of eighty acres of land in Middle Creek Precinct, on section 3, which he secured in the fall of 1887. Then but ten acres were in a productive condition, and there were no buildings upon the place. He now has twenty-five acres in crops, with a good house and barn, and has planted a generous quantity of fruit and shade trees. In looking over his premises one cannot fail to be struck with the spirit of enterprise and perseverance which has brought about in so short a time this pleasing transformation. Mr. Dice deserves ample credit for the manner in which he has begun, and it is predicted of him that ere long he will rank among the independent citizens of this part of Lancaster County.

The boyhood home of our subject was in Poweshiek County, Iowa, where his birth took place under the modest roof of his parents on the 11th of May, 1864. His father, Jacob, Jr., and his paternal grandfather, Jacob Dice, Sr., were natives of Pennsylvania, where it is supposed the latter spent his entire life. Jacob, Jr., was reared in his native State, whence he removed to Iowa in 1861, and purchased a tract of wild prairie and timber land in Poweshiek County. He effected considerable improvement, but finally sold out and removed to Union County, whence a few years later he changed his residence to Montgomery County, purchasing property in Red Oak, engaging in butchering, residing there until his death, which occurred in 1876.

Jacob Dice, Jr., was married in early manhood to Miss Mary Light, who was also a native of Pennsylvania, and who is still living, making her

home with one of her sons in Preston, Iowa. She is the mother of ten children, who were named respectively: Jacob, Maggie, Lizzie, Lilly, John H., William, Angeline, Samuel, Isabelle and George. Samuel, like his brothers and sisters, spent his childhood in his native county, and was fifteen years of age when the family took up their residence in Union County. His education was acquired in the district school, and early in life he was taught to make himself useful around the home. He continued under the parental roof until the death of his father, then commenced in Union County an apprenticeship at the nursery business, with which he became thoroughly acquainted, and remained there until 1886.

In the spring of this year our subject made his way to this county, and purchased first eight acres of land, which he traded eighteen months later for his present farm. He had been married, Oct. 12, 1884, to Miss Minnie E. Snell, who is also a native of the Hawkeye State, born in Mt. Pleasant, Henry County, Oct. 31, 1864. The parents of Mrs. Dice, Levi and Eliva (Allen) Snell, are natives of Pennsylvania, and are now living in Lincoln, this county. Their family included six children.

To Mr. and Mrs. Dice there was born, Feb. 12, 1886, a daughter, whom they named Elva, and who is now a bright little girl and the light of the household. Our subject is a strong temperance man, and forcibly illustrates his principles by vigorous support of the Prohibition party.



HARWOOD M. PENN. The farm of this gentleman, located on section 13 in Waverly Precinct, comprises one of the finest bodies of land in this county, being 200 acres in extent and under an excellent state of cultivation. A handsome and substantial residence attracts the admiring eye of the traveler, and, with its surroundings, forms one of the most comfortable and attractive homes in Waverly Precinct.

Mr. Penn is a young man, having been born Dec. 26, 1865, in Montgomery County, Iowa. His father, William H. II., was born in Missouri, and his mother, Hannah (Osborn) Penn, was a native of

Pennsylvania. Our subject was the eldest of their ten children, the others being named respectively: Mary, Millard, Taylor, Belle, Frances, Allie, William, John and Lucy. Of these all are living and residents mostly of Iowa. The father died at his home in Iowa, in 1882; he was a farmer and dealer in stock by occupation, and an honest, straightforward man, who provided well for his family, and is kindly remembered by all who knew him. The mother is still living, and a resident of Iowa.

Mr. Penn became familiar with farming pursuits during his boyhood, and after leaving the district schools completed a practical education at Tabor, Iowa. His life has been comparatively uneventful, being spent mostly in the rural regions, and the first most interesting event connected therewith was his marriage, which took place March 18, 1887, at the home of the bride, Miss Lulu Wright, in Iowa. Mrs. P. is the daughter of Albert and Louisa (Beem) Wright, of Montgomery County, Iowa, where she was born, and of which State her parents were natives, and where they now reside. Their family consisted of four.

Mr. Penn came to Nebraska in 1887. He carries on general farming and has a fair assortment of live stock, and quietly pursues the even tenor of his way, living within his income and with a prospect of a competence in his old age.



JOHN WARNKE. Mr. Warnke, who is one of the representative men of this part of the county, is one of the oldest settlers, and most successful farmers and stock-raisers now living on section 18, in this county. His farm comprises some eighty acres of most highly cultivated land, while his stock and farm buildings are of the best. In addition to this very desirable property, he also owns 120 acres on section 17 of this precinct. This land also is highly improved, and has a fine set of farm buildings upon it.

Mr. Warnke has been a resident of this precinct since 1870. He came here from St. Louis, of which place he had been a resident for some sixteen years. He was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, on the 2d of January, 1828. His father, Christian Warnke,

was born in the same State, and was a farmer of good old German stock. There he was reared and educated, and there also he married Dora Beliebe, who was likewise of German parentage, and was reared and educated in the Fatherland. Mr. and Mrs. Christian Warnke's married life was spent upon a farm in their native Province. There, too, they both died, ripe in years, and esteemed by all who knew them. During a long and prosperous life they were both active members of the Lutheran Church.

The subject of our sketch was the younger son and second child, of two sons and one daughter, who lived to manhood and womanhood. Of these Mr. Warnke was the only one who ever ventured abroad. After spending twenty-five years in the Province of his nativity, he emigrated to the United States. He took passage on a sailing-ship, and after a prolonged passage of eight weeks, landed at the city of New Orleans. He soon afterward went to St. Louis, Mo., where he earned a living as a day laborer. When the Rebellion broke out, on the same day that Ft. Sumter was fired upon, he, with a number of other Germans, enlisted for three months' service. Mr. Warnke served in the 1st Missouri Regiment, and saw active service in that State only. Later he re-enlisted in the Government service for a period of three years, retaining the same regimental number, but was assigned to Company D, Capt. Shuman. Col. Ramnbouer was commander of this regiment, and he, together with his men, was assigned to the Army of the West. This regiment was in the engagement at Camp Jackson, and at a later day saw active service at Cairo and Pea Ridge. Although always to be found at his post, Mr. Warnke escaped unhurt. At the expiration of his term of service he was honorably discharged at St. Louis, Mo. For some time after this he worked as a teamster, but eventually came to the place where he now resides, and began operations as a farmer.

After a four-years residence in St. Louis, Mo., Mr. W. returned to his native land, and married Miss Sophia Kuchenmeister. This lady was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, April 20, 1835. She was a daughter of Christian and Fredrica (Restdorf) Kuchenmeister, natives of Mecklenburg, Germany, and prosperous farmers. The parents of Mrs.

Warnke came to this country in the year 1866. Four weeks after his arrival in St. Louis the father died. The mother came on to Nebraska, and here died in 1872. This worthy couple were German Lutherans, and lived to a good old age. Mrs. Warnke, wife of the subject of this sketch, was the youngest but one of a family of five sons and one daughter. Her girlhood was passed in her native land, and there too she received her education. Three of her brothers in time followed her, to seek their fortunes in the United States. Of these, Christaf Henry now lives in St. Louis, where he follows the trade of blacksmithing. Christian went to California, and has not since been heard of. The third brother died in St. Louis.

Mrs. Warnke is the happy mother of nine children. Of these two, Henry and Lizzie, died young. Those living are: Carrie, wife of Otto Lindekugel; they live on a farm in Saline County, Neb.; John H. took to wife Kittie Menke, and follows farming in Saline County; Fred is at home with his parents, and helps to work the farm; William J. is also at home; he is a teacher, and received his education at Crete. Ida, a most intelligent young woman, and the two youngest, Henry and Alvina, still gladden the old homestead with their presence.

In religion, Mr. and Mrs. Warnke and family are Lutherans, while in politics, Mr. Warnke is a Republican.

THEODORE S. GANTER, a prominent and wealthy resident of the city of Lincoln, has been an important factor in the promotion of its growth and prosperity. As one of its most enterprising and intelligent pioneers, he has risen from poverty to wealth by the sheer force of his indomitable will and business tact, being a self-made man, having inherited brains instead of money. He is a German by birth, the Grand Duchy of Baden being his native place, and March 22, 1835, the date of that event.

Our subject obtained a sound education in the excellent schools of his native land, which he attended quite steadily during his boyhood. When seventeen years of age he commenced an apprenticeship

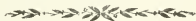
at the trade of machinist, giving to this two and one-half years. He then traveled for a year, working in different places in Germany, Italy and Switzerland. When twenty-one years of age he entered the German army, in accordance with the laws of his native land, and served three years. At the expiration of that time, as a reward for good conduct, he was granted a furlough, a passport and permission to travel in foreign countries. He thereupon came directly to America, landing at New Orleans with less than a dollar in his pocket, but with plenty of courage and a steady determination to make of his life a success. He found work in the Crescent City at his trade, and at the end of two months had earned money enough to pay his fare to Monroe in the same State, and there he was located at the time that the war broke out. His fine drill in the German army then enabled him to give lessons to the soldiers and officers in the art of fencing, and he went with the army to Richmond, Va.. In that city, in January 1863, he was united in marriage with Miss Anna R., daughter of John Jones, and a native of Virginia. Of this union seven children were born, all of whom are deceased.

After his marriage Mr. Ganter took his bride to the North, and locating in Reading, Pa., he once more resumed his trade, and remained in that city until after the war. He subsequently went to Petersburg, Va., spending, however, only a short time there, when he proceeded to Memphis, Tenn., where he engaged in the grocery business until 1868. In the month of May, that year, Mr. Ganter made one of the most fortunate moves of his life, as it was then that he came to Lincoln, where he has built up the greater part of his fortune. This city was then but a hamlet, without organization, and Omaha was the nearest railway and telegraph station. Mr. Ganter bought a lot, 50x142 feet, on the corner of Tenth and O streets, paying therefor the sum of \$1,200. He first erected a large, two-story frame building, which he leased, and engaged in the real-estate business, dealing extensively in wild lands and city property to excellent advantage. Later he erected two buildings on Eleventh street, between O and N streets, which he still owns, besides several dwellings. In 1870 he purchased a tract of land which is now included

within the city limits, which, after improving, he disposed of at a great advance on the original cost.

In 1882 Mr. Ganter, however, was obliged to abandon active business on account of failing health. Since then he has traveled extensively in the United States, from the Pacific to the Atlantic, from the Gulf to the British possessions, and finally crossed the Atlantic to the Old World. He is at this writing (October, 1888.) in Rome, Italy.

Mr. Ganter is a well-educated man, of quick intellect, and through his traveling and reading has gained a vast fund of information. Both he and his wife are important elements of the social life of Lincoln. Mrs. Ganter is an influential member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Ganter belongs to Lincoln Lodge No. 19, A. F. & A. M.; Lincoln Chapter No. 6, R. A. M., and to Mt. Moriah Commandery No. 4.



JOSEPH TIMMERMEIER, an enterprising German citizen of Stockton Precinct, enjoys a good position among the agriculturists of this part of the county, and gives his close attention to general farming and stock-raising, at the same time enjoying the comforts of a desirable home. He was born forty-seven years ago, Aug. 8, 1841, in the Kingdom of Prussia, Germany, and when a youth of seventeen years left the Fatherland and emigrated to America.

Our subject had been placed in school at an early age, where he acquired a good practical education in his native tongue, and on the farm of his father had become thoroughly familiar with agricultural pursuits. The latter, John Timmermeier, was of pure German ancestry, and also a native of Prussia. He was married in early manhood, and, with his wife, spent his entire life in his native country. Their family consisted of eight children.

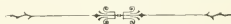
Young Timmermeier set foot upon American soil first in the city of New Orleans, whence he migrated to St. Louis, Mo., occupying himself at farming. Later he changed his residence to St. Charles County, where he lived for a period of eleven years, and with the exception of the time spent in the army, was engaged as a farm laborer. On the 1st of

March, 1863, he enlisted in the 1st Battalion, Missouri State Militia, in which he served one year, then returned to his old haunts in St. Charles County, where he sojourned until coming to the young State of Nebraska, in May, 1869.

Our subject at that date was unmarried, and homesteaded eighty acres of land on section 24, Stockton Precinct. Later he purchased eighty acres additional on the same section, and the two together comprise his present finely cultivated and valuable farm. He has a good dwelling, and the other buildings necessary to his comfort and convenience, and these are flanked by a variety of fruit and shade trees, which give the premises a homelike appearance, and yield to the family the delicacies of the seasons.

Our subject took for his wife one of the most sensible and estimable young ladies of Stockton Precinct, Miss Anna Kemper, like himself a native of Germany, who was born Feb. 9, 1846. Their marriage took place at the home of the bride on the 9th of September, 1869. Mrs. Timmermeier came to America with her parents when a maiden of seventeen years, they locating at once in Belleville, Ill. Her father was a farmer by occupation, and, with his estimable wife, spent his last years in Nebraska.

To Mr. and Mrs. Timmermeier there were born six children, two of whom, George and Norah, died at the ages of nine and three years respectively. Those surviving are Mary, Louisa, Lena and John, all living at home with their parents. Our subject votes the straight Democratic ticket, and is a member of the German Catholic Church, at Palmyra.



GEORGE J. LAMBORN is a prosperous farmer, living on section 9, Nemaha Precinct. He is a son of Ephraim and Sarah (Fleegal) Lamborn. The father comes from an illustrious English family, the first records in possession of the family dating back to Sir Robert Lamborn, who lived on his estate in the Lamborn Parish, England, and who was born in 1199. The history of the family in America dates back to the great-grandfather of our subject, Robert Lamborn, who came from Berkshire, England, in the year 1714, settling

with the Penn Colony, on the ground where now stands the Kennett Meeting-House. They belonged to the Society of Friends, commonly called Quakers. The grandfather of our subject was Josiah Lamborn, whose youngest son, Ephraim, was the father of our subject. The father lived and died in Center County, Pa., and was buried in the old Friends' burying-ground.

The maternal ancestors of our subject resided in Maryland, having come from Germany. The mother of our subject was born at Hagerstown, Md., and went to Pennsylvania when she was nine years old, where she grew up to young womanhood and met our subject's father in Center County, Pa., he having gone there when he was five years old. They were married in Center County, there spent their lives, and died there. The father was well known in county and township affairs, and was a very prominent politician. He died in 1852, aged sixty-six years, and his wife died in the year 1885, at the age of ninety years. The husband was a very kind and generous man, perhaps too much so for his own good, if that could be. Longevity is characteristic of their family. They had five children—George J., Adeline, Isaac, Eliza and Harriet.

Our subject was born at Walkersville, Center Co., Pa., on the 15th of October, 1819, where he grew up on his father's farm full of life and vigor. As is often the case with children, it was necessary to use the rod in chastening him, his father preferring to use the rod and save the child, but he became steady as soon as he grew up to young manhood, having a great deal of pride of character. While a young boy he was full of mischievous pranks, and frequently indulged in being truant from school. He would go off and spend the day by himself, and no doubt at the time he enjoyed it much better than he would have liked being in the school-room. One day on which he was truant he bent down a sapling, to which he tied his dinner-pail, and fastened it to the ground, but the fastening broke loose, and the tree swinging up to its full height carried the dinner-pail with it, where it swung out in full view of the passers-by. His father saw it, and on the arrival of our subject at his home in the evening, his vagrancy and the way in which it was de-

tected was the subject of much hilarity and ridicule. Being thus laughed out of it he never played truant again, though he confesses that it was not the rod that cured him.

At the age of fifteen our subject began to learn the plasterer's trade, at which he worked in Pittsburgh, where he met his wife, then Miss Jane Jorlan, who was born in Millin County, Pa. Being a stranger in the place, alone and without friends, the acquaintance which he made was doubly appreciated, so that it led to friendship, and from friendship to love, which resulted in their marriage on the 6th of May, 1839, at Pittsburgh. Settling in that city, they led a very happy and congenial married life. Our subject's taste and love for the beautiful led him to devote his attention to decorating and frescoing. This love of the beautiful has been a characteristic trait which has been indulged in whenever possible, so that wherever he went our subject improved and adorned his surroundings with exquisite taste, as far as he was able.

The children from this happy marriage were Loretta, Adella, Eleanor, Ephraim and Sarah, the last named of whom died when she was thirty-six years old. Loretta resides in Cedar County, Iowa, the wife of George Ward, a son of Capt. William Ward, of Pittsburgh; Adella resides in Bennet, the wife of Joel Montgomery, formerly of Cedar County, Iowa, but now Assistant County Recorder of Lancaster County; Eleanor married John Simpson, and their children are Charles, Lillian, Blanche and John, Lillian being an accomplished pianist and a teacher of instrumental music; Ephraim is a business man residing at San Angelo, Tom Green Co., Tex.; he married Miss Mary Violet, of Bennet, and is the father of two children—George J. and Helen.

After thirteen years of happy domestic felicity, the wife of our subject died on the 13th of May, 1852, leaving her husband in a bereaved condition in charge of a large family of small children. He strove to do his duty toward them as a father, and remained unmarried for nine years, at the end of which time he was united to Miss Jane Ball, a daughter of Joseph Ball, of Salem, Ohio, at which place he made her acquaintance. They were married in Salem, but made their home at Pittsburgh, Pa. The children of this second marriage are Isaac B. and

Mabel, Isaac resides at home with our subject, having charge of the farm under the direction of his father; he was married to Sophronia Hemmingway, of Cedar County, Iowa, and has two children—Paul and Pearl. Mabel resides at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Lamborn continued living in Pittsburgh until the year 1863, when they moved to Cedar County, Iowa. Here our subject devoted himself principally to farming, but worked some at the plasterer's trade also. He became the owner of eighty acres of land, and improved it so much that he had one of the nicest and best improved farms on the whole road from Burlington to Cedar Rapids. There his wife died on the 13th of October, 1875, aged forty-eight years. While in Cedar County he prospered very well, but he sold his farm for \$7,000, and for some reason best known to himself he removed to Nebraska in 1884, stopping for awhile at Lincoln.

For the next two or three years our subject traveled very extensively throughout Nebraska, Kansas, Texas, Louisiana, Missouri and Iowa. At one time he thought he would locate at Ft. Worth, Tex., but after living there for six months his cousin was accidentally killed, and a severe drouth set in so that he came back to Nebraska. In March, 1887, he purchased his present farm of 120 acres in Nemaha Precinct, near Bennet. With its naturally fine location, this piece of property bids fair to become a paradise under the direction and management of its owner, who is an admirer of the beautiful in nature as well as in architecture. A commodious house, erected in 1887, adds greatly to the attractiveness of the farm, while an excellent well furnishes an inexhaustible supply of water, which is conducted underground to each barn.

The location, fertility of the soil, and improvements, make the farm of our subject one of the most valuable in Lancaster County. Groves of catalpas and Colorado blue spruce trees add much to the beauty of the place, while the young orchard, vineyard and shrubbery, yield an abundant supply of delicious fruits for the table. Where Nature is beautiful she has been left undisturbed, but where art can add to the attractiveness of the place it has been brought into requisition.

Mr. Lamborn takes a great interest in educational

matters, and although almost seventy years old, he has lost none of the interest which he manifested years ago in acquiring a good fund of information, and his storehouse of knowledge is constantly being filled with new and entertaining facts, through general reading and a habit of careful observation. The interest which he takes in educational matters justifies the citizens of Bennet in electing him President of the Board of Education of that city. He is a thorough temperance man, though not fanatic. In politics, he is a Republican, and was formerly a strong Whig, when he voted for William H. Harrison in 1840. He will undoubtedly live to cast his vote for that gentleman's grandson.



JAMES C. MAHAN. In the present sketch is offered an outline of the life of one who is a member of a vocation and branch of trade most important in any agricultural district, more especially in a comparatively new and undeveloped district. Mr. M. is the principal of a large hardware firm, dealing also extensively in lumber. His business largely represents the supplying of the multifarious and innumerable appliances and implements in hardware which are in daily demand upon a farm, from the lock upon the stable door or the pin in the wagon-wheel, to the cultivator, plow or hay-rake.

Our subject was born in Sullivan County, Ind., Jan. 14, 1840. His grandfather, John Mahan, was, it is believed, by birth a German, who settled in this country with his parents while still a child. He was a resident of Kentucky for a number of years, and was one of the early pioneers of Indiana, where he settled in 1837. The father of our subject, Asa Mahan, was born in the Kentucky home near Maysville. Upon the removal to Indiana he entered a tract of timber land, which was duly cleared and a farm redeemed from the wilderness of forest. This home continued to be his place of residence until his death.

In his younger days Mr. Mahan learned the trade of cooper, and continued in the same until 1876, when he removed to Sullivan County and took up a tract of Government land, which he immediately



Yours Very Truly,
W. H. Woodruff

set to work to improve. He put up a very good log cabin, with the usual dirt and stick chimney, and then turned his attention to farming. In this home our subject was born. Mr. Mahan continued to work at his trade in addition to his farm work, until old age compelled him to desist, and in 1885 he also sold his farm. During his residence there he had seen the primitive forest give place to broad fields and fertile farm lands; had seen the village spring up and grow until it became quite a town, with its business blocks, handsome residences, and other interesting and incidental details. The maiden name of his wife, the mother of our subject, was Ferraby Browning, a native of Kentucky. She died in 1841.

The early years of James C. were spent in his native county, Sullivan, and after schooling was completed he learned the trade of carpenter and builder. He was just finishing and preparing to start in life when the bugle sounded for men to go to the front to protect the Union. He enlisted Feb. 11, 1862, in Company C, 59th Indiana Infantry, with which he marched and fought for two years, and after having veteranized received a short furlough, then returned and served until the close of the war. He was an active participant in the battles of New Madrid, Corinth, Port Gibson, Raymond, Jackson (Miss.), Champion Hills, siege and capture of Vicksburg, and Missionary Ridge. After furlough he rejoined the regiment at Huntsville, Ala., in April, and on the 21st of that month he received a wound which laid him up for nine months, and on recovery, about four months thereafter, he was detailed as clerk in the general hospital, at Huntsville, for twelve months, after which he rejoined his regiment at Washington, D. C., in 1865, and was promoted to Sergeant Major, and was ordered to join the Army of the Tennessee, with which he remained until he was mustered out July 17; he received his final discharge and pay in Indianapolis, July 21, 1865.

From 1865 our subject continued in Indianapolis for five years as agent for a transfer company, and then went back to Sullivan County, and gave his attention to farming until 1882, when he came to this State. Coming to Lincoln he engaged in business, but a visit to this precinct led him to buy

a tract of wild prairie land upon section 17, town 11, range 5. In 1883 he located thereon, and commenced in the lumber business in 1884 as manager for S. A. Brown & Co. He continued the management of this business until 1888, when he bought the yard and started for himself, and still continues in the same. The farm he also owns, but rents to the person working it. He is also still engaged in the hardware business, which he bought at the time indicated above.

In September, 1837, our subject was married to Mary E. Hughes, of Nelson County, Ky., daughter of Hampton and Nancy (Patton) Hughes, both natives of the same State. Mrs. Mahan's parents moved to Sullivan County, Ind., from their Kentucky home in the year 1844, and engaged in farming. The first fall and winter of his residence in Indiana, he killed in hunting thirty-four deer, besides numerous other animals and small game. This union has been fruitful in the birth of four children, whose names are as follows: Winfield S., Dora, Fanny F. and Dilla. There were four other children, who died in infancy. Our subject is a very active member of Farragut Post No. 25, G. A. R. He has been appointed and still continues a Notary Public. In political matters he is actively in sympathy with the Republican party, and has given careful study to the questions before the nation. In campaigns he is energetic in behalf of his party, and is very efficient in its service. Among his comrades and fellow-citizens he is esteemed as a man and citizen, as is due to one who has so heartily the interests and advancement of his village and State before him.



WILLIAM H. WOODWARD, the well-known and successful lawyer of Lincoln, whose portrait is given on the opposite page, is one of the leading members of his profession in Nebraska, and a member of the law firm of Billingsby & Woodward, office No. 210 South Eleventh street, Rooms from 1 to 4, inclusive. He is a native of Pulaski County, Ill., born Dec. 27, 1816, and is a

son of Capt. William C. Woodward, a native of Tennessee, and one of the heroes of the Mexican War. Our subject is the sole survivor of the Woodward family, the other members having fallen on the battle-field while bravely defending the stars and stripes that now wave over a free and undivided country.

The father of our subject enlisted in the Mexican War as a private in Company A, 2d Illinois Infantry, which formed part of Gen. Wool's division, and on the arrival of his company in Mexico, by the unanimous vote of his comrades, who readily recognized his ability and trustworthiness, he was elected to be their Captain. His brilliant service was brought to a close Sept. 15, 1847, at the battle of Buena Vista, as while he was leading his company to the charge, he was killed by the ferocious Mexican lancers, and his body was cut to pieces. He was a gallant soldier and a good officer, and his premature death was greatly mourned by his fellow-soldiers and superior officers.

Being thus left fatherless when he was too young to realize the great loss that he had sustained, our subject was still further bereaved in his childhood, when he was ten years of age, of the tender care of the best of mothers, her death occurring in 1857. Her maiden name was Tabitha A. Metcalf, and she was a native of Tennessee. To her and her husband had been born one other son besides our subject, Richard M., who, in life's morn, when the prospects of a glorious and honorable career were the brightest, gladly yielded up his young being to his country. In the early part of the late war he had enlisted for a period of three months, and at the expiration of that term had again enrolled himself as a soldier for a term of three years. Just before going into the battle of Ft. Donelson he was promoted to be Captain of Company G, 11th Illinois Regiment, and bravely did he meet the foe. Three times he was wounded, the last time unto death, first in the fleshy part of the thigh, the second time through the lungs, and the third time in the groin. The last night of the battle, the 14th of February, 1862, was bitterly cold, and the wounded lay on the battle-field slowly stiffening and freezing as the life current ebbed away. He lay thus unprotected all night at the mercy of the rebels, and

when he was found in the morning lifeless, his body was frozen to the ground, and had to be cut away before it could be buried. His frank and noble qualities made him the idol of his comrades; he was an exemplary young man, and a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church; he was but twenty-one years of age at the time of his death.

William H. Woodward, of whom we write, being early deprived of his parents, as we have before noted, was placed in charge of a guardian. The same patriotic spirit that had animated the breast of his sire and only brother characterized him, and he ran away from his guardian to enter the army. He took part in the battles of Corinth and Iuka before he enlisted, and he was then allowed to enter the service as a drummer. But it was found that he had more fight in him than music, and he was permitted to exchange the drum for the rifle, and to take his place in the ranks as a soldier, becoming in 1863 a member of Company D, 56th Illinois Infantry, and subsequently took part in all the general engagements of the Western Army, including Sherman's march from Atlanta to the sea, and thence to Washington.

After the war our subject set himself earnestly about the task of completing his education, and in 1868, while teaching school, began to read law. He attended the Southern Illinois College, at Carbondale, from which he was graduated, after pursuing a thorough course, in 1869, with honors. He afterward entered the excellent law school at the University of Indiana, at Bloomington, from which he was also graduated at the head of the class. He was admitted to the bar March 26, 1873, at Mt. Vernon, Ill., before the Supreme Court. He immediately established himself in practice at Carbondale, Ill., where he remained until 1885. He soon began to be regarded as a young lawyer of great promise, and in a few years his talents and attainments had placed him among the foremost of the legal luminaries of Southern Illinois, and had gained him prominence in public affairs. He was first elected to the thirtieth session of the Illinois Legislature in 1876, and for five years ably and satisfactorily represented his constituency in that body, having been elected on

the Republican ticket in a strongly Democratic county. He was for several years City Clerk, and also held the office of attorney for the city of Carbondale. In his public life he became intimate with that illustrious citizen, soldier and statesman, Gen. Logan, and assisted him in all his political campaigns. In 1880 our subject received a sun-stroke, and was for some time incapacitated for his public or private duties. In 1884 he went to Chicago to take the civil service examination, and was the first appointee of those then examined in the classified service, Mr. Lyman giving him the position of special examiner in the pension office, at a salary of \$1,600 a year and \$3 a day additional while in the field, which was the largest salary in the classified service. His record as examiner was of the very best, as he was assured by Gen. Dudley, Commissioner of Pensions, in a letter. Our subject was discharged without cause from his office as examiner by Commissioner Black, with no reason assigned, though it is supposed on account of "offensive partisanship," that is for being loyal to the Republican party, under whose banner he had fought in the late Civil War, and of whose principles he has been a staunch supporter ever since. In October, 1885, Mr. Woodward removed to Lincoln with his family, formed a partnership with Capt. Billingsby, an eminent lawyer of this place, which has proved of mutual advantage, and they enjoy a large practice in this State.

Mr. Woodward was married, Dec. 25, 1870, to Miss Melissa J. Hindman, a native of Illinois, and a daughter of Silas G. Hindman, a native of Illinois. Her father was formerly a prominent merchant of Carbondale, Ill., of which town he was a pioneer. He has made a success of his life, and is now living in retirement at Augusta, Kan. He was for many years a companion of Gen. Logan. He is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and does much toward supporting it. The marriage of our subject and his wife has been blessed to them by the birth of four children, namely: Frank, Fred, Dollie and William R. Dollie is deceased; the others are at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodward are prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and, so-

cially, our subject belongs to the following-named organizations: The I. O. O. F., the G. A. R. and the A. O. U. W. He is an orator of recognized ability, and his eloquent voice is often heard from the platform at social meetings, or political gatherings, urging on his party to new victories.

WILLIAM H. STUBBLEFIELD, formerly one of the most prosperous farmers of Denton Precinct, is now retired from active labor and occupies a well-appointed home in Lincoln. During all the years of his working life he employed himself in farm pursuits, and is essentially a self-made man, one who started out dependent upon his own resources, and who owes his accumulations simply to his own industry and perseverance. He has been prominent among the business men as well as the agriculturists of Southern Nebraska since the time of his coming here, when he was at once recognized as a valued addition to the community.

Fifty-six years ago, Jan. 11, 1832, our subject was born near the little village of White Hall, Greene Co., Ill., under the modest roof-tree of his parents, Fielding L. and Martha (Lorton) Stubblefield, natives respectively of Tennessee and Kentucky. The father was born in Gallatin, Sumner County, Aug. 3, 1809, and left his native State prior to his marriage, settling in Randolph County, Ill., as early as 1827, not far from Kaskaskia. Here the two children of the family were born, and survived to mature years, our subject and his sister Frances, who died in 1862 at the age of twenty-five. She married A. M. Eckes, and left one child.

John Lorton, a maternal uncle of our subject, was prominent in the early settlement of Nebraska, and was the first agent of the Otoe Reservation. Thomas Lorton, his maternal grandfather, spent his last years in Greene County, on Lorton's Prairie, east of White Hall, Ill., where he died at an advanced age. The Lorton family was noted for longevity. The mother of our subject is still living, having now reached the advanced age of seventy-seven years, and makes her home at the old place in Greenfield, Ill. She traces her ancestry back to England, and the family history as far as is known indicates that

it was represented in America during the Colonial days. Fielding Stubblefield departed this life at his home in Greene County, Oct. 1, 1875.

The maiden name of the grandmother on the father's side was Henry, and she was a lineal descendant of Patrick Henry, of Revolutionary fame. The subject of this sketch attended first the district schools in his neighborhood and later received instruction in a select school, and lived with his parents until reaching his majority. He then engaged in farming on his own account, and soon after reaching his twenty-first birthday was married, Oct. 25, 1853, to Miss Harriet C. Bright, a native of Belmont County, Ohio, and who was born near the city of Wheeling, Va., March 3, 1837. Her parents, John H. and Louisa (Rector) Bright, were natives of Virginia. The father spent his last years in Ohio, and the mother in California.

Mr. and Mrs. Stubblefield after their marriage settled on the old homestead in Greene County, Ill., where they lived until coming to Nebraska in 1867, soon after the Territory had been transformed into a State. Their residence during the first year was in the embryo town of Lincoln, where our subject engaged in dairying on land now occupied by the Home of the Friendless. The soil here underwent its first cultivation at his hands, and he continued upon this farm until 1876, when he removed to a point three and one-half miles west of the present Insane Asylum, where he purchased land and carried on farming until 1884. He had in the meantime accumulated 320 acres, and now sold two of his farms and took up his residence in Lincoln. In 1882 he invested a part of his capital in the Stubblefield Block, which now comprises one of the architectural ornaments of the city. He has since been considerably engaged in the real-estate business.

To our subject and his worthy partner there have been born three children: Alice, who lives at home; Minnie W. is the wife of William Brigman, a large ranchman in Texas and Mexico; and Louis resides with his parents. Mr. Stubblefield while farming also officiated as Justice of the Peace in Denton Precinct, which office he held two terms in succession. He was also Assessor. Politically, he gives his support usually to the Democratic party. So-

cially, he has been considerably interested in the I. O. O. F., being a charter member of Capita Lodge No. 11, and is now Secretary. He is Chairman of the Board of Trustees of this lodge, which is one of the wealthiest in the State. Mr. S. is one of the solid men of Lincoln, whose judgment is frequently appealed to in important matters, and who invariably obtains a respectful hearing.

ON. GEORGE W. EGGLESTON. Vice President of the Citizens' Bank, at Bennet, and dealer in grain and coal, is numbered among the energetic business men of this part of the county, of which he became a resident in 1873. A native of Lincolnshire, England, he was born Feb. 23, 1850, and is the son of William and Sarah (Bavan) Eggleston, who were natives of the same county as their son, and of pure English descent.

A few months after the birth of our subject his parents crossed the Atlantic, and settled first in Summit County, Ohio, whence they removed later to Peoria, Ill. There the mother died in 1863. The father followed the occupation of a mason and plasterer, and is still living, being now a resident of Elk Precinct, in the northwestern part of this county. Their family included three children, two besides our subject, viz: A sister who resides in Cedar County, Iowa, and a brother who lives in this county.

Mr. Eggleston spent his boyhood and youth mostly upon the farm, and acquired his education in the common schools. He also worked for a time in a pottery, and was a bright and industrious lad, who kept his eyes open to what was going on around him in the world, and at an early age gave promise of being a man among men. He left the parental roof when twenty years of age, and for the first two years after coming to this county carried on farming, and subsequently engaged in general merchandising about six months.

Mr. Eggleston about 1876 became interested in grain and coal, and in 1881 erected the elevator at Bennet, which has a capacity of 10,000 bushels, and does a thriving business. His natural energy

and progressive ideas at once commended him to the people of this section as a man worthy of distinction, and after filling other positions of trust and responsibility, he was selected as the candidate of the Republican party to represent the Thirtieth District in the State Legislature. He served his term with credit, and has also discharged the duties of various local offices in the village. He became identified with the Masonic fraternity in 1876. is also a member of the I. O. O. F. and A. O. U. W. In these he has held about all the offices, and in the latter is a Master Workman. He has been Vice President of the Citizens' Bank since its organization. He cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Grant, and uniformly supports the principles of the Republican party. To the various enterprises which have for their object the advancement of the people, he lends a substantial support. He is a man looked up to in his community as one of the conservators of its interests, and closely identified with its progress, socially, morally and financially.

The home of Mr. Eggleston comprises a neat and substantial dwelling, with attractive surroundings, and his family consists of an accomplished wife and four bright children, the latter named George W., Jr., Frank, Howard and Charles. The eldest is eleven years of age and the youngest three. The wife of our subject was formerly Miss Edith Gorham, and they were married in Bennet, Oct. 10, 1870. Mrs. Eggleston is the daughter of George W. Gorham, who is now a resident of Kansas. Our subject and his family occupy a good position socially, and are surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.



GEORGE W. HEADRICK, a prominent farmer and representative citizen of Lancaster County, has resided within its borders since 1865. He secured his land under the Homestead Act, and located on section 10, Waverly Precinct, claiming the southeast quarter of said section. He has brought his land to a high degree of improvement, but he has reduced its area to 100 acres, having given the remainder to his son. He is now in the enjoyment of a life of comfort, as the result

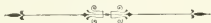
of well-directed effort, and has before him the prospect of a long and happy life.

The subject of this biographical notice is a native of Brown County, Ind., where he was born Oct. 4, 1829, and is the son of Daniel and Mary (Harris) Headrick, natives of Kentucky. The parents were married about 1827, and migrating to Indiana, settled in Brown County and resided there until 1847. They then removed to Davis County, Iowa, and there passed the remainder of their days, and died esteemed and respected by all who knew them. Their family included ten children, all of whom attained their majority, and the following is their record: Nancy became the wife of James Hillman; John, George W., Charles; Sarah became the wife of Jacob Barnhart, and died in Illinois, while Lovina, Mrs. Amos Burton, died in this State; Daniel; Joseph died in Iowa; Mary Ann is deceased; Elizabeth J. became the wife of James Tarrence and is now deceased.

The boyhood days of our subject were spent uneventfully, alternating between the district school and the farm, and he reached a vigorous manhood. He accompanied the family to Iowa, and there made the acquaintance, that finally ripened into more intimate relations, of Miss Diana Bunnell, the ceremony that united their destiny taking place in 1849. Mrs. Headrick was born in Indiana, and is the daughter of Stephen and Lucinda (Ward) Bunnell. She was reared to womanhood with her parents, and while receiving an education in the public schools of her township was instructed by her judicious mother in those duties which have made her such a valuable helpmate to her husband in their life work. During the first six years of married life Mr. Headrick engaged in the manufacture of brick, and for a short time acted in the capacity of "mine host," while he also operated a steam saw-mill, and was engaged in merchandising for one year. In 1865 our subject came to Nebraska, and has since been engaged in agricultural pursuits, with the exception of three years, during which he resided in Waverly and conducted a general store. In addition to his farm property Mr. Headrick also owns two houses and three lots in Waverly, and is classed among the solid men of Lancaster County.

Our subject and his excellent wife have had

born to them six children, one of whom died in infancy. The names of the survivors are as follows: Charles, James, Mary, Sarah and Frank. In politics our subject was formerly a Republican, but his feelings on the subject of temperance are of such a nature that he considers it should be made a National question, and following the dictates of his conscience he has had the courage to cut loose from his party and unite with the Prohibitionists. His upright life and good practical sense have not gone unnoticed by his fellow-townsmen, and he has been elected to several of the local offices, including that of Justice of the Peace, in which his decisions show good judicial ability. He and his good wife are consistent members of the Christian Church, and no movement looking toward the well-being of Waverly Precinct lacks the support and encouragement of this worthy family. Mr. Headrick is the father of the first twins born in this State; they are both young ladies and living at home.



JOHN C. SEVERIN, Jr., is a well-known farmer and stock-raiser of Buda Precinct, residing on section 26. He was born on the 3d of May, 1843, in Prussia, Germany, and is a son of John C. and Elizabeth Severin, also residing in this precinct. They were early pioneers of Lancaster County, and further mention will be made of them in the sketch of F. Charles Severin, a brother of our subject. The gentleman of whom we write came to America with his parents in the fifties, and located with them in Clayton County, Iowa, where he reached the years of manhood. When he was about sixteen years old he began to learn the trade of a cooper and followed that business for about six years, afterward learning the trade of a machinist. For a short time he engaged in the latter occupation, and the remainder of his time has been spent in farming.

On the 17th of October, 1865, our subject was united in marriage, in Ft. Wayne, Ind., with Miss Mary Siedschlag, and they gathered about them a family of thirteen children, eleven of whom are living, as follows: Henry, Frank (both of Chicago, Ill.), Anne, Augusta, Alexander, Bertha, Christian,

Harmon, John, Arnold and Otto. With the exception of Henry and Frank, the children are at present all at home.

Our subject with his family came to Lancaster County in the year 1869, and homesteaded eighty acres and pre-empted eighty acres, making him the owner of 160 acres of land, on which he has made substantial improvements. There has been a great deal of hard work necessary to bring this amount of uncultivated land to a state of usefulness, and it was only by perseverance and untiring energy that its present cultivated condition was secured. Mr. Severin can well afford to gaze upon his fine fields and indulge in a feeling of gratification, knowing that by his own labors he has brought about their fine appearance and utility.

Mrs. Severin was born on the 1st of April, 1848, in Prussia, and is a daughter of Herman and Augusta Siedschlag, with whom she came to America when she was fifteen years old. For a time she lived in Chicago, Ill., and then moved to Ft. Wayne, Ind., at which place she was married. Her father died in 1864, and her mother now lives in Ashland, Neb., with Prof. A. S. Mansfield, of Omaha College, he being her son by a former marriage. Mr. Severin finds time aside from his duties on the farm which he can devote to the interests of his community, having served as School Treasurer for several terms, and as Road Supervisor for a number of years. He takes an active interest in public affairs, and is glad to see the improvements which have been brought about in the past few years. In politics he has joined himself to the Republican organization, and enjoys the esteem of those whom he is socially called to meet.



ROSWELL D. COOLEY, engaged in agricultural pursuits, resides on section 22, Waverly Precinct, where he settled in 1867, homesteading the west half of the southwest quarter. In 1879 he sold this property and settled on the northeast quarter of the same section, while he also owns eighty acres of land on section 36. Here he pursues the even tenor of his way, making a comfortable living and comparatively free from cares. Mr.

Cooley first saw the light in Trumbull County, Ohio, Feb. 21, 1838, and is the son of Sherman and Diana (Day) Cooley, natives respectively of Massachusetts and Vermont. After their union, which took place in Connecticut, the parents removed to Ohio, and, in 1857, to Grant County, Wis., where they located near Platteville. The father died in February, 1888, at the ripe old age of eighty-two years, and his was the first death in the family; the mother and their eight children still survive.

Roswell D. Cooley is the fourth in order of birth in the parental family, and was reared to farm pursuits, at the same time receiving a common-school education. He accompanied the family to Wisconsin, and continued a resident of the Badger State until he came to this State in 1867. He was united in marriage, in 1874, with Miss Mary, daughter of Leonard and Susan (Thompson) Kile, natives of New York. The parents of Mrs. Cooley were residing in Canada at the time of her birth, which occurred Feb. 18, 1843, and they removed from that country to the State of Ohio in 1847 and settled in Ashtabula County, where they resided until their decease, and left a family of eleven children, of whom eight are still living, and the wife of our subject is next to the youngest.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Cooley has been blessed by the birth of two children—Carrie and Edward L. Carrie was born Dec. 17, 1876, and the son was born June 11, 1880. In politics, our subject is found in the ranks of the Republican party, and is ever ready to promote its interests.



GILBERT D. ROBERTSON is a son of John and Jane (Watson) Robertson, who were born in Hamilton, Scotland. His father was a butler, and in that capacity he served the Duke of Hamilton from the time he was a boy until he became a young man. Then, until old age was approaching, he served as butler to Sir James Stewart, Baronet of Coldess. He died at the age of seventy-five years, and his wife died at the age of seventy-nine years. There were seven children of this family, all of whom lived to enjoy a good age, but one by one they have passed away in the order

in which they were born into the world, excepting one, our subject, who is the youngest child, none having attained less than seventy years.

Our subject, an honorable, elderly gentleman, was born on the 19th of May, 1813, at Douglass Park, Bothwell Parish, Lennoxshire, Scotland. He enjoyed a good common-school education, and at the age of fifteen he left home to serve an apprenticeship as stone-cutter and builder. He served in that capacity for three years, and then continued to work at the trade in Scotland, and there he was married to Miss Elizabeth Davidson, a daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Calhoun) Davidson.

The parents of Mrs. Robertson were natives of Lennoxshire, Scotland, the father being engaged in agricultural pursuits. He died at the age of seventy-five years, and the mother at the age of seventy-nine years. There were seven children in this family, one boy and six girls, the wife of our subject being the youngest, her birth occurring on the 17th of June, 1817, at Wusha, Lennoxshire, Scotland. She also enjoyed the advantages of the common schools in the place in which she was brought up, until the time of her marriage.

After his marriage Mr. Robertson continued to work at stone-cutting and building until January of the year 1849, when he decided to come to America. Together they sailed from Glasgow, arriving at the harbor of New York in safety, after which he worked at his trade in the navy yard for one year; then he moved to Indiana and assisted in the building of a factory at Cannelton, at which place he continued for three years, and then going to Iowa, he purchased some land in Clayton County.

Then our subject took leave of his wife and went to Nashville, Tenn., where he was engaged in stone-cutting for the State capitol. There he worked for one season, and in the following spring he went to Alcade, where he resided for three years, hiring men to carry on the farm work during his absence. The farm continued to prosper, and our subject worked abroad at his trade most of his time. In May of 1872 Mr. Robertson and his family came to Nebraska, where they bought a great deal of land. He now owns 120 acres of well-improved land in Panama Precinct, which he has beautified and utilized

by setting out with his own hands groves and fruit orchards. In common with the other older settlers of the community he has experienced the different phases of pioneer life.

To Mr. and Mrs. Robertson have been born seven children—Elizabeth, Jeanie, John, Margeret, Barbara, Agnes and Isabella. Elizabeth married Brooks Flannigan, residing at Elkhorn, Neb., and is the mother of seven children, as follows: John Gilbert, Alice M., Bruce, Valina, Ralph, Frank and Maggie J.; Jeanie is the wife of O. S. Hazleton; John resides in Panama Precinct, having been married to Miss Isabella Dickson, and having one child, Gilbert D.; Margaret married David McPherson, a prosperous farmer living in Otoe County. They have three children—John G., Elizabeth and Isabella J.; Barbara died in Iowa at the age of seventeen years; Agnes, the wife of Thomas Dickson, is the mother of three children—Lizzie M., Edward and Clinton D. Isabella, the wife of Thomas Hedges, also has three children—Ira, Gilbert D. and Elizabeth.

Our subject and his wife are devoted Christian people, but they have not joined any religious denomination. While it is often an advantage to a Christian to be identified with one of the religious denominations it is not absolutely necessary to the living of an exemplary life, and sometimes, as is the case at present, we find those who make the least profession to be the busiest workers in the Master's cause, proving by their every-day lives that "actions speak louder than words," and that the real merit lies not in words but in deeds.

WILLARD RULIFFSON has for nearly a decade been prominently identified with the agricultural interests of Lancaster County, and as the result of his toil and superior management he is now the owner of one of the most productive of the many valuable farms for which Eastern Nebraska is so noted. It is very finely located on section 15, Lancaster Precinct, is well tilled, and is amply supplied with substantial farm buildings, and with machinery of the most approved manufacture, and everything about the place

indicates that the possessor is a man of more than average ability and practical knowledge as a farmer.

Our subject is a son of Harmon Ruliffson, and was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., in 1798, and there made his home until he was sixty-five years old, when he moved to Chengano County, from whence he afterward removed to Monroe County, where his death occurred in 1886. He was reared to the life of a farmer, and always prosperously engaged in that calling. At an early age he married Susanna Wellman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ariah Wellman. She was born in Chautauqua County, where she now lives. Her parents reared their family in Schoharie County, and her father died about 1841. Mr. and Mrs. Ruliffson had eleven children, five sons and six daughters, of whom the following is recorded: Hannah is the wife of Stephen Clark, a farmer of Schoharie County; Philetus is a farmer, living in Monroe County, N. Y.; Willard; Mariette is the wife of Seth Wells, a farmer of Monroe County, N. Y.; Eugene is a lumber and oil dealer, of Portville, N. Y.; Harmon W. is a farmer of Steele County, Minn.; John M., who served in the late war as a member of the 13th New York Cavalry, was promoted to the rank of Captain, and transferred to the 15th New York Cavalry; he is now a nurseryman in Mobile, Ala.

Our subject spent his early life in Schoharie County, N. Y., where he was born June 17, 1829. He obtained a sound education in the public schools, and remained under the parental roof, assisting in the farm labors until he was twenty-one. At that age he commenced to work on a farm by the month, and after a few years' steady employment in that line he had accumulated enough property to warrant his marrying and establishing himself in life, and on the 16th of January, 1855, his wedding with Miss Ellen M. Morgan was celebrated. She is a daughter of the late Joseph and Talatha (Delano) Morgan. Her father was born Oct. 28, 1791, in Monroe County, N. Y., and her mother was born April 5, 1795. Mr. Joseph Morgan was the first male white child born west of the Genesee River. Mr. and Mrs. Morgan died in Monroe County, where their entire lives had been passed, he dying Dec. 31, 1869, and she March 7, 1876. They had a family of twelve children, five of whom wer

sons and the remaining seven were daughters; five of the children are now living, as follows: Bradford is a farmer in Smith County, Kan.; Mary A. married Jeremiah Knapp, a mason, of Centreville, Mich.; Harriet married James E. Tunison, a farmer, of Monroe County, N. Y.; Ellen M. is the wife of our subject; Lucy lives at Scottsville, Monroe Co., N. Y. Mrs. Ruliffson was born Sept. 4, 1830, and remained at home with her parents until she was married, receiving a careful training from her good mother in the management of a household.

After marriage Mr. Ruliffson carried on a farm in New York for a number of years, and he subsequently bought a farm in Monroe County, which he managed very successfully for some time. In 1876 he sold his property in New York, and in April, 1879, removed with his family to Lincoln, Neb., having been very favorably impressed with the glowing accounts that he had heard concerning the wonderful agricultural resources of the State, and wishing to take advantage of its rich soil and fine climate. He brought all of his household goods and farm machinery with him, having chartered a car for that purpose. He purchased a farm of 160 acres in Lancaster Precinct, paying \$12.50 an acre for it, and at once commenced its improvement, doing his first day's work upon it June 17, 1879. He immediately erected suitable buildings, and has in many other ways greatly increased the value of the place, until now he has one of the pleasantest homes in Lancaster Precinct, replete with all that is cheerful, attractive and pleasing, and the lawns are beautifully laid out and ornamented with an abundance of forest and fruit trees.

The wedded life of our subject and his amiable wife has been blessed to them by the birth of six children, three sons and three daughters, only four of whom are living, and the following is their record: Etta, born Dec. 13, 1855, is the wife of Charles F. Adams, of Riga, Monroe Co., N. Y.; Emily E., who married George W. McKinnon, of Lincoln, Neb., died Aug. 10, 1887; Willie M., born June 7, 1859, died July 28, 1882; Joseph H. was born Aug. 11, 1866; Hattie V. was born Sept. 18, 1868; Selden J. was born April 9, 1870. The three youngest children make their home with their parents. The members of this happy household are

people of true refinement, and their cosy home is the center of a warm and generous hospitality, which is extended not only to those of their large circle of friends who may chance to cross the threshold, but also to the stranger within their gates, their cordial welcome making him feel that he has indeed found friends. All of the family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Lincoln.

In all the relations of life in which he has been placed our subject has shown himself to be a manly, trustworthy, strictly honorable man. In his family he is a devoted husband and affectionate father; toward his neighbors he is always genial and helpful. He is a clear-headed thinker, is firm in his religious views, and in his political opinions is a strong advocate of the Prohibition party.

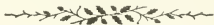
CORNELIUS H. STUTHEIT is an admirable young farmer and stock-raiser of Centreville Precinct, residing on section 33. He is a native of Clayton County, Iowa, the date of his birth being June 29, 1857. He is a son of Henry and Caroline Stutheit, who were early settlers of this county, and of whom further mention is made elsewhere in this ALBUM. When he was quite young our subject came with his parents to Nebraska, living for perhaps two years in Johnson County before coming to Lancaster County. He has been reared to manhood in this county, having received the advantages of education that were afforded by the district schools in his younger days.

The young men of a generation or two ago in a newly settled country, enjoyed so few of the educational privileges and advantages which are now offered to the young of their communities, that it becomes a matter of wonder how they can so successfully compete with younger men in their business. We have but one answer to give to such an inquirer, and that is, the school of experience in which the earlier settlers were taught might have been a very hard one but it was a thorough one, and from its walls were sent out men not always proficient in the sciences and languages of our modern colleges, but thoroughly well acquainted with the laws of social, moral and mental develop-

ment, and with a good fund of sound common sense, which enabled them to meet the requirements of a business life.

Our subject was engaged in farming from his boyhood days, and thus he became thoroughly well acquainted with the art of tilling the soil, so that when he became the owner of 160 acres of land, he knew just what was required for its improvement, as is quite evident to an observer who visits his place. On the 26th of April, 1885, he was united in marriage with Mary Duehming, a native of Wisconsin, her parents now living in Seward County, Neb. Mrs. Stutheit is a daughter of Ferdinand and Henrietta Duehming, the date of her birth being the 13th of August, 1864. When she was nine years old she came with her parents to Nebraska, remaining with them in Seward County, where her parents were early settlers, until she became a young woman. Her parents have had a large family of children, of whom the following seven survive: Otelia, Amelia, Anne, Theresa, Frank, William, and Mary, the wife of our subject.

Our subject and his wife are the parents of two children: Walter C., who was born on the 27th of January, 1886; and Alma, who was born on the 21st of May, 1887. Mr. Stutheit is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and leads a consistent, Christian life, while in matters of political interest he is identified with the Republican party, advocating and supporting the institutions by which the general good and welfare of the country and the community in which he lives are secured.



SAMUEL WALKER, dealer in grain and live stock, in the village of Waverly, settled in Lancaster County near the above-mentioned village in 1865. Mr. Walker is a native of Albion, where he first saw the light Nov. 2, 1844, in Lancashire. He is a son of Samuel and Christian (Hayes) Walker, of English birth and ancestry.

The parents of our subject were people of ambition and enterprise, and feeling circumscribed in their sea-girt home, concluded to try their fortune in a foreign land, and their choice fell upon this

country. Putting their design into execution, they embarked for the United States about 1852, and first settled in the State of Rhode Island. In his native land the father had been engaged in the mercantile business, and had also followed dyeing cotton goods, and upon his arrival in this country he found employment in the bleaching department of a muslin factory, and remained thus employed until 1857. He then removed to Manitowoc County, Wis., which became his home for eight years, after which he joined the procession moving toward the setting sun, and finally reaching this State, settled in Lancaster County. Here the parents found scope for their best energies, and they remained diligently employed in making a comfortable home for their family until their decease. Their children, seven in number, were born in England, and their record is as follows: Solomon resides in Lewiston, Me.; James, in California; Thomas, in Janesville, Wis.; Alfred, in California; Peter H., in Waverly, while Alice is the wife of Lewis Loder, and Samuel is the youngest of the family.

In early life the services of young Walker were utilized in the bleaching department of the muslin factory with his father, while he secured a fair education in the excellent schools of Rhode Island. In 1865 he came to this State, and turning his attention to agricultural pursuits, was pleasantly employed as a tiller of the soil for about twelve years, at which time he established his present business. He owns a tract of 280 acres of well-improved land, besides some good town property, and considering that his residence in this county has been little more than twenty years, he may look with pardonable pride on what he has achieved in two decades by industry, integrity and good judgment.

In Lincoln, Lancaster Co., Neb., 1878, our subject entered into a matrimonial alliance with Miss Mahala Reed, who was born in Knox, Ill., and is the daughter of William and Mary Ann Reed. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Walker has been brightened by the advent of four interesting children: Cora, Samuel Hayes, Allison R. and an infant unnamed, and they have a good prospect of entering upon the arena of life for themselves with more favorable environments than those with which their parents

were surrounded. In politics, our subject yields an intelligent allegiance to the Republican party, and he loses no opportunity to assist and encourage all measures looking toward the betterment of the condition of the county, intellectually or financially.



ALBERT DE VRIES. Many sections of the Great West have been colonized by people from the older settled States, or by those from countries over the sea, or, as is frequently the case, many of the same nationality have been attracted to a given place, where they have settled, forming practically a colony. Such may be said of the people residing in Buda Precinct, for nearly all of the best people living here of a kindred tongue. A well-known gentleman among this number is Mr. De Vries, who has a good farm on section 34, where he is prosecuting his calling with diligence, and enjoying a fair degree of success.

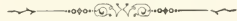
Mr. De Vries was born in Holland, May 25, 1851, and is the son of John and Wellmuth De Vries, both also natives of Holland, but now residing in Allegan County, Mich. When our subject was an ambitious youth of seventeen he came with his parents across the ocean to America, going on a steamer to England, and at Liverpool taking passage on an ocean vessel, spending fourteen days on the bosom of the mighty deep. He accompanied his parents, who went direct to Allegan County, where they have since resided. Mr. De Vries is well educated in his native tongue, and has a fair knowledge of English, which he has picked up himself, not enjoying the advantages of any instruction in this direction.

Our subject has thus far in life been a farmer, and came from Michigan in the spring of 1886 to Lancaster County, and was employed as a farm hand for four months near Roca. He settled on his present farm in the spring of 1887. Here he owns eighty acres of good land, which he has developed himself, and where his well-directed efforts are plainly seen by the valuable improvements already made. The owner is a self-made man, has been fairly successful in life so far, and will undoubtedly

be one of the well-to-do farmers in the county before many years pass by.

Mr. De Vries was married, March 8, 1887, to Susan Oldemeyer. This lady is a native of Allegan County, Mich., where she was born Aug. 31, 1855. She is the daughter of Henry and Henrietta Oldemeyer, both natives of Holland, but who settled in that county in an early day. Mr. Oldemeyer died in 1875, but his widow is living in Lancaster County, where they had come as early as 1872, being among the pioneers here.

Mr. De Vries is a member of the Congregational Church, and politically, a Republican. He enjoys the confidence of his neighbors, being regarded as an upright, hard-working, honest man, and no higher tribute can be paid to any citizen.



PETER TALBOT. The homestead of this well-to-do resident of Grant Precinct is finely located on a gentle rise of ground on section 26, and commands a fine view of the surrounding country. The farm embraces 173 acres of fertile land, with good improvements, and of which he took possession in 1880. He is reckoned among the responsible citizens of Lancaster County, one who without making any great stir in the world has gained for himself a good position socially and financially.

Our subject is of pure English ancestry, his parents, Nathan and Harriet (Mann) Talbot, having been born in Manchester, England, where they were reared and married. They came to America while still young people, settling first in Baltimore, Md., whence they removed later to Pennsylvania, and from there to Marshall County, Ill. Here the death of the mother took place, and Nathan Talbot subsequently became a resident of Livingston County, Ill., where his death took place about 1873. Their family comprised ten children, six sons and four daughters, who lived to mature years. Of these six are now living and residents of Nebraska.

Peter Talbot was born in Baltimore, Md., Jan. 17, 1831, and was a lad of thirteen years when his parents became residents of Illinois. From Putnam County, that State, he removed to Marshall County,

thence to Woodford and finally to Livingston, where he made his home until July, 1880, when he came with his family to this county. He was reared to farming pursuits and followed these all his life. While a resident of Marshall County, Ill., he was united in marriage with Miss Mary A., daughter of James and Eunice (Morris) Allen, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride, Sept. 27, 1853. Mrs. Talbot was the second of the five children born to her parents, and a native of Schuyler County, Ill., her birth taking place June 30, 1834. Her father died in Livingston County about 1872. The mother subsequently removed to Iowa, and spent her last days at her home in that State, her death occurring in 1874.

To Mr. and Mrs. Talbot have been born eight children: William died when twenty-eight years old; Emery and Nettie died in childhood; Amanda S. is the wife of Isaac Hoge, of Grant Precinct; Emma A. married Thomas Sturdy, of Grant Precinct; Ellen V., Mrs. John Morton, lives in California; Ira M. and Ida B. are at home with their parents. Mr. Talbot uniformly votes the straight Republican ticket, and with his estimable wife is a member in good standing of the United Brethren Church. They are highly respected among their neighbors, and in their well-ordered home are surrounded with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.



HERMAN M. REEVES, one of the early settlers of Elk Precinct, was born in Lansing, Tompkins Co., N. Y., Aug. 18, 1828, and is the son of Elias Reeves, a native of New Jersey, whose father, Moses Reeves, was a native of the same State, where he was reared and married, and about the year 1807 removed with his family to York State, which was then in the condition of some of our Western Territories to-day, and presented all the difficulties and hardships of an undeveloped pioneer country. However strange it may seem to us, who to-day have traveled over the same ground easily and speedily by means of the locomotive and Pullman car, this journey was performed in the truly primitive fashion by means of

team and wagon, along a road which for the most part was but a track through the wilderness. Mr. Reeves settled in Lansing, and was among the earliest to do so. He took up a tract of land, and began to clear away the giants of the forest, and in their places to raise the various grains of the farm. He made this his home until his death, when his son took charge of the property; and even so late as this period, deer, bears, and such wild game were found in abundance in York State, and not a few Indians also, in larger or smaller bands, making their home by the streams, following their usual nomadic life.

The father of our subject removed from this place to Ohio in the year 1836, going by team to the Erie Canal, thence by it to Erie, Pa., and from there around the lake to Cleveland. Journeying from that city, he finally settled in Hinckley Township, Medina County, where he bought a tract of land, and gave himself to the clearing and opening up of the same. He continued to make this his home for several years, and then removed to Huron County, where he bought a small farm, which he continued to make his home until his death.

The life of Elias Reeves was made more complete and felicitous by his life companion, Mabel McIntire, who followed her husband to the last resting-place, and, like him, passing to the same while on the Huron homestead.

Our subject was eight years of age when his parents removed to Ohio, and is consequently able to remember well the incidents of their early settlement, and pioneer life in that State. His school life was spent in the little old-fashioned log school-house, situated some distance from his home, and the journey to and fro was not always unattended with difficulty, or even danger. From the school, he went to the farm, and became his father's assistant, first in the clearing, and afterward in the more direct agricultural labor. Our subject saw Hinckley Township develop from a wilderness to a well-settled and wealthy district. At the age of twenty-one he had left his parents and home to start for himself, working upon the farm during the summer, and during the winter in clearing and wood chopping.

In 1852 Mr. Reeves became the husband of Sarah

B. Stuart, a native of Vermont, a daughter of P. C. and Ametia (Severance) Stuart. Their union was a very happy one, and the home circle includes four children—Burton E., Mary J., Marion and Melitabel. Directly after his marriage Mr. Reeves purchased a house in Hineckley Village, and made his home there. Shortly after this the air was filled with the clarion note of the Civil War, and he enlisted in 1862 in Company II, 1st Battalion Ohio Sharpshooters, and served with them nine months, when he received an honorable discharge through disability, and returned to his home. Owing to the condition of his health, his physician advised him to remove to Iowa, and accordingly he went thither, and took charge of a large stock farm a little east of Waterloo, and continued his residence there for about three years, when he removed to Missonri and rented land, and followed agricultural pursuits until the year 1870.

Nebraska was then the new home of our subject, who settled in this county, and took up a homestead claim in the northwestern part, in what is now Elk Precinct. During the first summer he did a good business in teaming, and was enabled thereby to support his family and prepare for the work of improving his farm, which important work he proceeded with, putting up a comfortable dwelling, with the needed barn, etc., surrounding his home with orchard and gardens, and not omitting the more important work of sowing and cultivating. In his youth he became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and afterward a local preacher. His wife died July 30, 1888, at their homestead.



MARTIN V. BLANCHARD is pleasantly located on 160 acres of land on section 14, Waverly Precinct, which has been his home since April, 1873. He is a native of Ohio, and was born in Ashtabula County, March 31, 1837. His father, John F. Blanchard, was a native of the Empire State, and was a farmer by occupation. He married Orpha Root, also a native of New York.

The marriage of the parents of our subject was consummated in Ohio, where they had removed with their respective families, and they continued to

make that State their home until the death of Mrs. Blanchard, which occurred in 1848. Of this union there were born four children, of whom the other three are recorded as follows: John A. resided in Ashtabula County, Ohio, and died June 23, 1888; Alfred L. was a member of Company K, 7th Kansas Regiment, and was killed at the engagement near Columbus, Mo., Jan. 8, 1862; Lucy L. is the wife of Stephen Kennison, of Olmsted Falls, Ohio. The father was subsequently married, choosing for his second wife Miss Maria Richards, and of this union there were born three children, all of whom grew to maturity—Clara, Milo and Hattie. The father continued to reside in Ohio until his death, which occurred in 1885, while his second wife is still living at the old homestead.

Our subject was reared at the home of his father, and while engaged in the acquisition of knowledge as it was presented in the public schools of his native place, he assisted his father on the farm and in a cheese-box factory that he also owned. At the age of twenty years he started out in life for himself, and was engaged in Oakland and Wayne Counties, Mich., working as a farm hand. At the end of one year he returned to his native State, and spent a year engaged in farm work, after which he secured employment in a sawmill, and remained until 1861. When the Civil War broke out he enlisted with John Brown, Jr., and upon going to Kansas was mustered in with Company K, 7th Kansas Cavalry. He saw much active service, participating in thirteen engagements, among which was that of Corinth, Miss., but he came out unscathed by the bullet of the foe, the only injury sustained being occasioned by a fall from his horse. He served until Nov. 17, 1864, and was then mustered out at St. Louis, Mo., and honorably discharged.

Returning to Ohio, Mr. Blanchard resumed work at the sawmill, of which he finally became proprietor, and retained the property until his removal to this State. Our subject was united in marriage, March 5, 1865, with Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Leonard and Susan Kile, natives of the State of New York, though they subsequently removed to Canada, where they were residing at the time of the birth of Mrs. Blanchard. Of the five children born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Blanchard, four still

survive, as follows: Edith was born Dec. 13, 1867; Alice, May 25, 1872; Lola, Nov. 22, 1873, and Mabel, April 14, 1885.

In politics our subject is a staunch Republican, and takes an active interest in the deliberations of his party. He is also foremost in educational matters, and in order to help on the good work in his vicinity he frequently serves as School Director. He is a member of the Mitchell Post No. 38, G. A. R., at Waverly.

EDMUND DULING. In the colonization of those States which lie along the Atlantic seaboard, at least two different classes of people are most distinctly noticeable. In the North, the Puritan element, cold, stern, repressive, sagacious, industrious and manly; in the South, as Virginia and Carolina, the colonists were diametrically opposite as regards one or two points, being mostly of the aristocratic cavalier element of England, manly, courageous and energetic, as their Northern brethren. They devolved into the large-hearted, open-handed Southern gentry. The subject of this sketch is of Virginian descent, and has by no means lowered the standard of his race.

Collin C. Duling, the father of our subject, was born in Virginia about 1790. His education was received in the common school, and his early life was varied by the exercises incidental to that institution and the work of the farm. About the year 1816 he was united in marriage with Miss Carrie Hayes, and moved onto a tract of land in Coshocton County, Ohio, where he started to make a home and improve a farm. The hardships and privations were many, and dangers not few, but the cheering presence of the wife, and the strong, protecting arm of the husband, sufficed them. For thirteen years they continued to live at this homestead, and here five of their children were born. In 1830 the family removed to Tuscarawas County, where Mr. Duling purchased 120 acres of timber land, which he immediately began to clear, and again repeated the experience of pioneer life. Not only did he improve his own farm and work for his own interests, but did much for the development of the county and the ultimate welfare of the State.

While residing in this county three more children were added to the family circle. Mr. Duling continued to make this his home until his death, in 1853. His widow, the mother of our subject, continued to enjoy fair health and strength until the illness in 1872 which resulted in her demise. After the death of her husband she lived the greater part of the time with her son, our subject. Both parents belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and were among its most respected members.

Edmund Duling is now one of the most prominent citizens and stock-raisers in West Oak Precinct, of which he was a very early pioneer. He was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, April 17, 1822. His education was simply that which could be obtained in the common school, practical rather than extended. When he was nine years old the removal to Tuscarawas County was made, and having finished school Edmund continued to work with his father until his twenty-second year. Then he went to Virginia, worked upon a farm for a period of three years, and thence migrated to Spencer, Owen Co., Ind., a removal which he never after regretted, for it was there that he met a lady of most lovable character and womanly grace, Rachel Hayes; to her he united his life and interest in October, 1846. Their union, although perfect in its happiness, was, alas, only too limited in duration, for after seven years the bonds were severed by death, in the year 1853.

Upon his removal to Owen County our subject bought a piece of land on the White River. It speedily began to show that it was under the domination of a master hand, although at the time of purchase it was in all its native wildness. The heavy timber was felled, and Mr. Duling in very truth hewed for himself and wife a farm and home out of the primeval forest. When our subject left this farm, after a residence of thirteen years, he left one of which any man might be proud. From Illinois he came west to this State. In the year 1858 he was married to Miss Amy Payne, of Owen County. Their union was blessed and their home made happy by the birth of a son and a daughter, Jennie; the latter is still living. The son preceded the mother to the better land. After going to Illinois in 1861 our subject prospected, and finally bought

a farm of 240 acres in Edgar County. He had had sufficient for the time of clearing wild land and bringing it to a point of cultivation; his next purchase, therefore, was of improved land, having a very comfortable farmhouse and commodious barn already erected. Here our subject continued to reside for thirteen years, during which time he was elected Assessor, and also to several school offices.

An unusually advantageous offer being now presented, Mr. Duling again sold out and came to Nebraska. He was at this time comparatively wealthy, although he started in life with virtually nothing but health, strength, intelligence and manhood. In this State he purchased the section of land upon which he now lives, and with the money at his command was enabled to immediately proceed with its improvement, an advantage which everyone who has watched the struggles of the early Western farmer to create something out of practically nothing, will appreciate. He erected first his handsome residence, and finished it within and without in a most substantial and artistic manner. He afterward proceeded to the building of the other structures which his experience taught him would be needed.

Nebraska has not only reciprocated the coming of our subject by making that coming a success, but, as we shall have occasion to notice, has also received from him much that has gone to hasten her development. In addition to the original section, the home farm, our subject is now the owner of an extensive farm in Seward County, ten well-placed business lots in Raymond, beside considerable real estate in the city of Lincoln. He has, since his first purchase of the farm, lived in three different houses, the first a dug-out, but a very comfortable one. This was occupied until his frame house was built and finished, in which he continued to live until 1880. He then erected the present stately stone mansion, which stands surrounded by magnificent shade trees, and not far from the extensive orchard, wherein may be found a large variety of the choicest fruit trees, which yield abundantly in their season.

At the time our subject came from the East he brought with him ten horses and two or three cows, which formed the nucleus of his present stock

farm. He purchased his farm March 16, 1874, paying for it at the rate of \$12.50 per acre, then considered a very high price. The first year he was not able to do very much, being too late in the season. He would usually leave his family in Lincoln, and on Monday morning go over to the farm, returning on Saturday. The first year he employed four assistants; since then he has had regularly from eight to ten hands upon his farm. The intelligent selection of land is shown in the fact that the greater part of his property is upon Oak Creek, which gives, in the dryest seasons, more or less moisture, and consequently good pasture.

A large part of the Duling land, including several hundred acres, is devoted to wheat and general farming, in which the proprietor has been thoroughly successful. There are required 200 or 300 acres more to supply the fodder for his stock. The herd of specially selected Short-horn Durhams, numbering over 100, includes a very fine, full-blooded registered Durham bull, and so far back as 1878 Mr. Duling has given attention to the production of high-grade draft and road horses and mules.

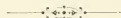
Our subject is greatly beloved by all his neighbors and fellow-citizens, and has made for himself a name that will ever be green in the memory of the community. Although frequently pressed, he usually declines accepting the various offices within the gift of the people. Once only was he persuaded to accept office, that of Assessor. The occasion which is the cause of his being so affectionately remembered by the community was that of the grasshopper plague. When the dreaded pests had gone through the country, and left in their train nothing but despair, threatened ruin and famine, it was our subject who put out the hand that saved, and from his own purse supplied sufficient to import from other States wheat, grain and corn enough, not only for seed purposes, but for the people and their teams.

Mrs. Amy (Payne) Duling was the daughter of Leonard Payne, and was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, April 9, 1841. When a child nine years of age, her parents removed to Owen County, Ind. She continued her residence with them until her marriage, April 11, 1858, at which time she was seventeen years old. The 15th of November, 1887,

Mr. Duling and his wife started on a visit to Illinois and Indiana, where they spent nearly two months among their old friends and neighbors. On New Year's Day, while at the residence of her brother, James Payne, Mrs. Duling received a fall, bruising her arm, and in consequence of which she suffered considerably two days and nights. The third day she went to the house of her sister Eliza. That night she awoke her husband and told him that the pain in her arm was gone, and that she had seen a wonderful vision. The beautiful Star of Bethlehem had appeared, and she had received a Divine message for L. W. Bolen, which she delivered the following morning. On Sabbath morning she said to her husband, "Edmund, I am going to die. I wish I could last until Jimmy comes." "Edith, why are you weeping? I am perfectly happy. Denny and Edith meet me in heaven." Her husband asked, "If this be the case, shall I take you to our house, or to the church." She answered, "Just as you and Jennie wish. My clothes Jennie can arrange to suit herself. I have no will to make. Tell Jennie not to pine for me; not to look at things of mine or think of places I have been and grieve for me. Now, Eliza, meet me in heaven. Tell sister May to take Jennie in her arms, and be a mother to her; tell all the friends to meet me in heaven." She requested all the children to kiss her, and admonished her husband to pious labor in bringing souls into the fold. She adverted to their kindness, then made a cross with her hands, and with a smile pointed upward. After a few more expressions indicative of her peace with her Savior, and her tender love for her family, she passed beyond the pain of death. By her decease the church at Raymond lost one of its most devoted members, the husband, a faithful wife, and the daughter a loving mother. Her name is held in kindly remembrance by all who knew her.

Much might be said descriptive of the various sections of property of our subject, of the produce of his farms and the various appliances used thereon, or to extol the excellencies of the beautiful creatures in his stables and pasture, and still more about our subject himself; but perhaps sufficient has already been said. The aborigine did not need that a tree should be blown over a whole village, or wigwams razed to the ground, in order to indicate to

him from what point of the compass the breeze came; a feather was sufficient for his purposes. So we would leave the success of our subject to indicate his manhood and his life. We have only to add that he is a most devout and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and that in the "grand old party," Republican, he finds that which is most congenial to his political opinions.



HENRY HENKEL. Prominent among the young and thrifty farmers of Buda Precinct may be classed the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. He resides on section 18, where he has a good farm, and is known throughout the precinct as a hard-working, industrious farmer, and enjoys the esteem of the entire community, both for his integrity of character, his good common sense and habits of industry.

Mr. Henkel was born in Germany, Jan. 17, 1857, and his parents, Henry and Amalie Henkel, were also Germans. In 1874, accompanied by their son, they came to this country, taking passage at Bremen on a steamer which made the voyage in eleven days. The family stopped in New Jersey for about two years, when they went to Mason County, Ill., where the father and mother both died. They had become the parents of the following six children: Charles, Frederick, Henry, August, Sophia and Etta. In 1879 Mr. Henkel came to Nebraska, stopping in Gage County for about nine years, working at farm labor for different parties. He then came to Lancaster County and is now the owner of 200 acres of well-improved land. This property he has made by the savings of his own hard labor, and since becoming the manager of a farm has demonstrated his own practical knowledge of the business which he has chosen for a life occupation. He is fairly well educated in his native tongue, and having picked up quite a good deal of English since he has been in this country, he is able to transact all his business in that tongue.

Our subject was united in marriage, April 21, 1885, with Catherine Hanenkamp, sister of Henry Hanenkamp, of Centerville Precinct, of whom a sketch appears elsewhere in this work. To them



Yours Truly
J. H. Westcott

have been born two children—Amalia and Edwin. The birth of the former occurred July 31, 1885, and that of the latter Sept. 19, 1887. Mrs. Henkel is a native of Germany, her birth occurring at Danne Oldenburg, May 21, 1861. She came to America with her parents, John G. and Catherine M. Hanenkamp. They settled in Mason County, Ill., where she was reared and educated in both the English and German languages. She came to Lancaster County in the spring of 1884, and has since been a highly respected and intelligent member of society. Mr. Henkel is a member of the German Lutheran Church, being Clerk of his congregation, and in politics is a Republican, and always favors everything which has for its object the elevation and improvement of society.



CAPT. JOHN H. WESTCOTT. The West has not only developed some of the most brilliant men of the age, but it has attracted from the older settled States many of its most enterprising and valued citizens. The natural result accruing to communities so largely made up of the best element of American manhood, is a remarkable progress in all the avenues and walks of life. No section of even our own remarkable country has witnessed such rapid strides in the development of her natural resources and the establishment of the various industries of an advanced civilization, as has been witnessed in the Great West. This may justly be accounted for, partly because of the great fertility of her soil and the natural advantages enjoyed, but these alone will not account for it all; to the men of genius and enterprise, who have developed and utilized these gifts of nature, is due the immeasurable credit, and of them it may truly be said that they have developed the Great West. A representative of the class who have been drawn here by the natural advantages, and who have done so much in the development of this wide-spreading country, is the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch.

Capt. John H. Westcott was born in Brownville, Jefferson Co., N. Y., on the 11th of October, 1839. His father, Willard Westcott, was a native of the

beautiful valley of the Mohawk, and his father, Daniel Westcott, the grandfather of our subject, was also a native of the same State; as far as is known he spent his entire life in that State, and died in Jefferson County in 1832. The father of our subject was reared and married in New York, where he bought a tract of timbered land near Brownville, on Pillar Point, which extends into Lake Ontario. He cleared a farm from this land, on which he continued to reside until his death, in 1867. He was originally a member of the Whig party, and subsequently joined with the Republicans on their organization.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Helen Putnam. She was a native of Pennsylvania, her father, John Putnam, being a New Englander and a descendant of the celebrated Gen. Israel Putnam. After her birth her parents moved to New York and settled in Jefferson County, where they lived for several years, then removed to Illinois, where they both died. To Willard and Helen Westcott there were given three children: John H. (our subject), Martin H., and Minerva J., now deceased.

Capt. Westcott received his early education in the common schools of Brownville, remaining there until he had completed the common-school course, when he attended the academy at Fulton, Oswego Co., N. Y., and subsequently the High School at Watertown. In the winter of 1861-62 our subject taught school, but there being a call for men in behalf of the country, he left his peaceful mission to engage in the perilous encounters on the battlefield. How proud our country should be that there were then and are now within her borders so many loyal hearts, ready to respond to her call when in danger, and so deeply imbued with patriotism that they forgot for the time being their own personal identity and interests, and taking leave of those whom they held most dear, went forth bravely to the battle front, heartily resolved on victory or death. Can such brave men ever be forgotten? Will they not rather be remembered and their fame handed down from generation to generation, their brave deeds and daring exploits justly celebrated in song and verse?

With a heart full of sympathy for his struggling

country, and resolved to follow her fortunes, our subject enlisted as a private on the 26th of July, 1862, in Company H, 10th New York Heavy Artillery. He was mustered in as Sergeant, and one year later was promoted to the rank of Second Lieutenant, soon after to First Lieutenant, and in August of 1864 he was made Captain, in which capacity he served until April, 1865, when he resigned on account of ill health. His regiment formed a part of the Army of the Potomac, and made the first attack on Petersburg, being at the front of the corps for several weeks. His command was then transferred to Washington, where he remained for two months, thence to the Shenandoah Valley. At Washington he was stricken with fever and ague, and was obliged to remain in the hospital for about two months.

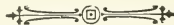
Upon his recovery our subject was placed on detached duty and sent to Harper's Ferry, where he was the Officer of Ordnance for two months. He was again taken ill, and as soon as able was transferred on detached duty to Carlisle, Pa., where he remained until he was discharged. During the summer following his return home he visited the West, but returned to Jefferson County and bought a farm which he retained until 1867, and in 1868 he moved to Bureau County, Ill., buying a farm ten miles northeast of Princeton. He lived on his farm until 1878, when he sold it and moved into Princeton, where on account of ill-health he lived a quiet and retired life until 1880. Then he came to Lancaster County, having previously bought 480 acres of land on section 26, Elk Precinct, on which he has since made substantial improvements. His mother died at his home in 1886.

The beautiful farm belonging to our subject ranks among the finest and best in the county, he having planted a variety of fruit and shade trees, including an apple orchard of 600 trees, besides much small fruit. Capt. Westcott also takes rank among the prominent raisers of fine stock in the county, and gives his attention largely to the breeding of Galloway cattle, and Percheron and road horses. He is a conspicuous member of the agricultural organization of the county, being Chairman of the Board of Directors of the society.

Our subject having left his regiment and gone

home on a furlough, was married, on the 5th of November, 1863, to Miss Augusta H. Middleton. Robert Middleton, the grandfather of Mrs. Westcott, was a native of Ireland and came to America when he was young, settling in Jefferson County, N. Y., where he bought a farm and spent his last years. Samuel Middleton, her father, was born in Rutland, reared and married in his native county, in which he bought a farm. He lived on this farm until 1848, then sold it and moved to near Brownville, purchasing a farm on which he lived until 1867. Then he again sold and moved to the village, where he resided until 1873, thence to Princeton, Ill., where he remained for one and one-half years, and while on a visit to Los Angeles, Cal., he died, on the 27th of January, 1887. The mother of Mrs. Westcott was Phebe Ingerson, who was born in Jefferson County, and was the daughter of Isaac and Huldah (Weed) Ingerson. She died in Princeton, Ill., on the 4th of May, 1874.

Mrs. Westcott was born in Rutland, Jefferson Co., N. Y., in August, 1841, and she is the mother of four children—Carlton H., Harry M., Mabel and Florence E. In politics, Capt. Westcott is a staunch Republican, and is quite influential in the ranks of his party. He is a member of the Malcolm Republican Club, and also of the county Republican organization, as well as Lincoln Lodge No. 19, A. F. & A. M. Without doubt the portrait of this patriotic gentleman will be received with pleasure by all who know him, and may be found in this volume.



WILLIAM QUICK. The subject of this sketch came to this State in the fall of 1877, and selected his location in Middle Creek Precinct, near the western line of this county, where, in company with his brother, T. P., he purchased 1,000 acres of land, of which he had the management seven years, and then disposed of his interest in the same to his brother, and purchased a quarter of section 13, upon which was a frame house and barn and where his son now resides. About that time Mr. Quick commenced buying grain at Emerald Station, which he is now engaged in.

Our subject was born near Riegelsville, in Hun-

terdon County, N. J., on the 18th of June, 1825, and is the son of John P. Quick, who was born in Somerset County, that State. The paternal grandfather, Theophilus Quick, spent his last years in Somerset County, N. J. The place of his birth is unknown to our subject, but he is supposed to have been of Holland-Dutch ancestry. He married Miss Rhoda Prall, and they became the parents of nine children. Their son John, the father of our subject, was reared to manhood in his native State, and was there married, nearly sixty-five years ago, to Miss Elizabeth Belles, also a native of New Jersey. They are still living, having a good home in Riegelsville, and have now arrived at the advanced ages of eighty-six and eighty-eight years respectively.

John Quick during his youth entered a woolen factory and learned the art of fulling cloth, which he followed many years, finally renting a factory and carrying on business for himself. The parental family included ten children, nine of whom grew to mature years, William being the first-born. When a youth of eighteen years he began to learn the trade of his father, with whom he worked five years, becoming master of all its details, being able to take the wool and carry it through the various processes until it was ready for the tailor's shears.

At the age of twenty-one our subject resolved to change his occupation, and commenced an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade, at which he served three years and worked as a "jour" fully that length of time or more, finally operating as a contractor and builder. In the meantime he purchased a farm in his native county, which he managed for a number of years in connection with his other business, then selling out removed to Frenchtown, in New Jersey. There he purchased an interest in a spoke and wheel factory, which he operated until setting out for the West.

Mr. Quick was married, May 26, 1819, thirty-nine years ago, to Miss Lettie Sinclair, who is also a native of Hunterdon County, N. J., and born March 21, 1822. Her father, Samuel Sinclair, was also born in that county, and was the son of John Sinclair, a native of Germany, who crossed the Atlantic when a young man and located near the site of his future home, purchasing land and carrying on farming until his death, which occurred about

1873, after he had reached the advanced age of eighty-two years. He had married, when a young man, Miss Permelia Van Camp, who also died in Hunterdon County, about 1836. Of this union there were born two sons only—John M. and Stewart. The former married Miss Sallie E. Stricker, of New Jersey, and is now a resident of Middle Creek Precinct, this county; Stewart married Miss Mary Nicholas, of Pennsylvania, and is occupied as a telegrapher in the city of Lincoln.

Mr. and Mrs. Quick are members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church, with which they became identified nearly thirty years ago. Mr. Q. cast his first Presidential vote for Henry Clay, being a member of the old Whig party, but upon its abandonment cordially endorsed Republican principles, which he has subsequently supported. He has served in his district three years as School Director, and assessed Middle Creek Precinct two years. He and his estimable wife feel proud in the possession of six grandchildren, their son John having two children, Minnie A. and Charles S., and Stewart having four, viz: Willie T., Gertie, Russell and Edith M.



THOMAS JEFFERSON HUDSON. Among the names that will be handed down in the history of this State as one connected with its earliest history, establishment and progress, is that of Thomas Jefferson Hudson, of Lincoln, who was born nine miles west of Madison, Jefferson Co., Ind., Feb. 10, 1826. His father was Peter V. Hudson, who was born in Georgia in 1800, and his father, Thomas Hudson, so far as is known, was born, reared and married in the same State, but in the year 1815 he emigrated with his family to Indiana, which was then a Territory, and still in all the primeval glory of towering forest and rolling prairie. The journey, which was long, difficult and dangerous, was made by the aid of teams, and was, by far, longer, more difficult and dangerous than an emigration to-day from Europe to the Far West. On arriving in Jefferson County, he entered a tract of timber land, and went to work to cut out of the solid forest acre after acre for farming purposes. His house was the usual structure, fashioned from

the logs which had just been hewn from the trunks of the trees which had grown upon the same site. The father of our subject was, it will be noted, at that time about fifteen years of age, and this continued to be his home until he had come to years of manhood and had married.

In 1834 the father of our subject, like his father before him, struck out into a new country and began life for himself. He entered land in Greene County, Ill., close to the present site of Berdan, and he was one of the earliest pioneers. There were no railways at all in the Far West at that time, and Alton and St. Louis were the nearest markets. His land was similar to that of his father's in that it was heavily timbered, and before any farming could be done the original occupants of the ground had to be cleared. His home also was of logs, with its open fireplace and puncheon floor, and like the rest of the pioneer community, Mr. Hudson and his family were clothed with the material woven by the loving hands of the wife and mother. He cleared and improved a farm, and lived on it for several years, and then sold it and removed to String Prairie, in the same county, where he bought land, improved a farm, and continued to reside for many years, when the same story was repeated. The farm was sold, and with the proceeds new property in the same county was bought and stocked, and there he continued to reside until his death.

The name of Mrs. Hudson previous to her marriage was Mary Settles, a native of Indiana, and daughter of John Settles, a native of England, who had emigrated to this country, and was one of the early pioneers of Indiana. This lady presented to her husband twelve children, all of whom grew to maturity. The eldest was but eight years old when the family moved to Illinois. Mrs. Hudson died while the family resided upon the homestead in Greene County, in 1875. The father survived until February, 1888, when he died at the advanced age of seventy-eight years.

Our subject continued to reside with his parents until 1852, when he bought a farm of eighty acres in Greene County, and after living there a few years sold the property and rented land in the vicinity until 1859, when he started for Kansas. In this journey he was accompanied by his family,

which consisted of his wife and three children. The journey was performed by wagon and team, the usual method of traveling at that time; slow, and not without its dangers. After a journey which occupied three entire weeks they reached Humboldt, on the Neosho River, in Allen County. Here he took what was called a squatter's claim, for the Homestead Law had not then been passed, two miles from the town. At this time the whole border was in the midst of what is known as the "Border War," which was the occasion of much suffering, and made the times very hard in that district. The country, of course, was new, sparsely settled, and not very much had yet been raised. Buffalo, antelope and deer roamed in herds through the whole Territory, and could be shot almost any day within sight of the house. There was one saw-mill at Humboldt, and sometimes Mr. Hudson would work there, receiving a peck of meal for each day's labor; he relates that on one occasion he worked for three days, plowing corn, and received in payment a hog's jewel.

In the year 1860 the crops in Kansas were a failure; from this the Humboldt vicinity was not exempt, and the settlers were many times in danger of starvation. Mr. Hudson was fortunate in being in a position to make provision for his family, and continued to live there until the fall of 1861, when, owing to the rebel raids, which were unceasing and ruinous, he took his portable property and with an ox-team and wagon started West, leaving the remainder of his heavy furniture and goods for the raiders, and after about four weeks of steady travel in this way arrived in Otoe County, Neb., rented a farm, and continued there until the fall of 1863, when he again removed, this time to Lancaster County.

Lancaster County was almost in its formative period in 1863, and the settlers very few and far between. Our subject homesteaded a tract of land, which is now included in the city of Lincoln, which city at that time had not even been thought of. Two dug-outs, besides that of our subject, were all that stood on the site of the capital. The house of Mr. Hudson was constructed as before, of logs, but there was one innovation, which was the roof, for which he had procured shingles when at McKisick's

Island, which is below Nebraska City. When completed this was the largest and grandest house, and the only shingled roof, upon the whole of the site of Lincoln. This house is still standing, where originally erected. The logs were drawn a distance of twenty-one miles, and the lumber for doors and floor from the nearest mill, a distance of sixty miles. His nearest market was Nebraska City, and if, perchance, a trip should be desired to be taken East, the nearest railroad depot was Des Moines, Iowa.

The subject of our sketch now began to be more prosperous than had been at all possible in Kansas. He soon brought his farm to a state of cultivation, where it would yield him a large increase, and in spite of the difficulties connected with being so far from a market, his grain and other farm produce began to yield him quite a revenue. As soon as the growth of Lincoln Village and town demanded, he entered the dairy business, and was the first to regularly supply the town-folk with dairy produce. He has for some time been living the life of a retired farmer, and enjoying the brightness and comfort which is his, as the result of his early struggles and hardships.

On the 30th of June, 1852, Mr. Hudson was united in marriage with Mrs. Lucinda Dailey, *nee* Bright, who was born in Belmont County, Ohio, on the 4th of November, 1823, and was the daughter of John and Louisa Bright, likewise natives of the Buckeye State. The death of Mrs. Hudson occurred on the 12th of October, 1885. She was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in every social and domestic relation was a true woman. She was the mother of three children, viz.: Nannie, who was born on the 21st of March, 1853, in Greene County, Ill., and is now the wife of M. R. Davey, an architect and builder at Lincoln. This gentleman is now employed as foreman of the work in constructing the State capitol buildings. Mr. and Mrs. Davey have two children. John B. was born on the 2d of July, 1854, is unmarried and still resides with his father; Samuel T., born on the 10th of June, 1856, is married to Miss Mary Burks; he is one of the prosperous farmers of Seward County, Neb., and also has two children.

Mr. Hudson in his early days was an affiliate of

the Whig party, but upon the formation of the Republican became a member of the same, and has so continued, at all times a loyal and true citizen of his country and State. He is the recipient of the highest esteem and confidence of his fellows, the oldest of whom do not fail to remember that but for him the capital of Nebraska might even now be hunting through the length and breadth of the State for a suitable location. Our subject was prominently connected with the movement that resulted in it being placed where it is, and donated forty acres of his homestead to the State for that purpose, and Nebraska has a capital most admirably situated for all purposes.

LEWIS WONG, a resident of Waverly Precinct, is ranked among its earliest pioneers, coming to this region in 1866, and homesteading a quarter of section 14. He has now 120 acres of this under a good state of cultivation, and has erected substantial and convenient buildings, while gathering together the other appliances essential to the complete modern rural home. He is ranked among his neighbors as an honest man and a good citizen, one who gives his attention chiefly to his own affairs, votes the straight Republican ticket, and believes in everything tending to the best interests of the community.

A Scandinavian by birth, our subject first opened his eyes to the light April 20, 1813. He is thus well advanced in years, although he is still hale and hearty, as the result of temperance and otherwise correct habits. He was reared to farm pursuits in his native country, and at the age of twenty-seven years was married, Dec. 6, 1840, to a maiden of his own neighborhood, Miss Martha Esgon, who was born Nov. 10, 1818. He had become proprietor of a small farm, the soil of which he tilled until 1852, and then, believing that he could do better for himself and his family, set out, accompanied by the latter, for the United States.

Our subject after gathering together his household goods, embarked with his wife and children on board a sailing-vessel, and after a voyage of eight weeks, interspersed with some rough weather,

landed safely in New York City. Thence he made his way at once westward into Grant County, Wis., where he purchased a few acres of land, and renting an additional tract, operated in the Badger State as an agriculturist for a period of fourteen years. In 1866 he crossed the Mississippi, and coming into this county, located upon the land which he now owns and occupies.

To our subject and his estimable wife there have been born eleven children, two of whom died in infancy: Mary became the wife of Richard Hazel, and died in Jo Daviess County, Ill., about 1865; Sarah married John D. Carpenter, of Jo Daviess County, Ill., and died about 1865; Lewis is engaged in farming near Salem, in Smith County, Kan.; Joseph, Samuel and Oscar are living at home; Elizabeth, Mrs. George W. Morris, lives in Cass County, Neb.; Katie is the wife of Harry Hale, of Lincoln, and Ida remains at home with her parents.

Joseph Wong, the second son of our subject, and a very promising and intelligent young man, was born in Grant County, Wis., Jan. 13, 1856. He was a lad of ten years when the family came to this county, and completed his education in the schools of Waverly Township. He always took an interest in farm pursuits, which he follows. In 1884 he started out for himself, taking up a homestead in Keya Paha County, which he sold two years later at a good profit. He is now occupying himself at farming on the homestead. Mr. Wong is unmarried.



J. I. CHRISTENSEN. In 1879 our subject came to Lincoln, a stranger in a strange land, seeking the boon of health in this salubrious climate, and wishing to identify himself with the mercantile interests of the city. The success that has attended his efforts has been such as to more than repay him for his hard labors. The first five years of his stay here he was employed as a clerk in a large wholesale grocery store, and during that time he gained a thorough mastery of the business in all of its details, and the faithful performance of his duties won for him the full confidence of his employers. In 1884 he threw up his

clerkship, designing to go into business for himself, his experience by that time enabling him to profit by the money that he had wisely laid by for that purpose. By his unceasing industry and strictly honest dealings he has built up a large trade, and is looked upon as one of the substantial and reliable merchants in the city.

Mr. Christensen was born in Sleswick-Holstein, Germany, Feb. 22, 1850, and is a son of Niels and Mary Christensen. The father was a native of Denmark, and the mother of Sleswick-Holstein, Germany. They are both deceased.

Our subject was reared in his native land, receiving a sound education in its schools, which he attended until he was sixteen years of age. He then commenced life as a sailor in the merchant service, and had a fine opportunity to visit the most noted ports in the world, and being an intelligent, wide-awake youth, endowed with good powers of observation, he laid up during his travels a vast store of information that makes his conversation exceedingly interesting. After following the sea for five years he again entered school, for the purpose of studying navigation, pursuing a thorough course in that practical study for nine months. He then resumed his occupation as a sailor, and as mate of a vessel cruised in many strange waters, and staying his course at many interesting places in different parts of the world. He saw many of the important American ports on the Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf coasts, first visiting this country in 1869, and when he retired from his seafaring life in 1879 on account of ill-health, he decided to locate in the United States. He came to Lincoln, attracted hither by what he had heard concerning its fine climate and beautiful situation, and other advantages. We have related how he was employed the first few years of his residence here. When he established himself in business he rented a building, which he occupied until 1886, when he built the house where he now conducts his business, No. 924 Wood street, his residence being at No. 926 of the same street.

Mr. Christensen was married, in July, 1880, to Miss Mary Christensen, a native of the same city in which he was born, and their marriage has been blessed to them by the birth of three children—Annie, Henry and Meta. Mr. and Mrs. Christen-

sen are valued members of the German Methodist Church, and they in every way merit the cordial respect and esteem in which they are held by all who have the pleasure of knowing them. In politics he is a Republican.

JOHN B. MAGEE, a gentleman in the prime of life, and a well-to-do citizen of Grant Precinct, lives amid pleasant surroundings on a fine farm of eighty acres, located on section 23, where he has operated since the spring of 1874. The improvements on his farm have been effected mainly through his own industry, as there had been little attempt at cultivation when he took possession. He is thoroughly in accord with his vocation, and having been blessed by Providence with good sense and judgment, has the faculty of laboring to the best advantage, and bringing about corresponding results.

Mr. Magee, the youngest son of his father's family, was born in Washington County, Ohio, Jan. 24, 1849, which was also the birthplace of his parents, Abner and Elizabeth (Riley) Magee. After marriage the latter continued residents of their native county until 1875, then turning their steps toward the farther West came to this county, and settled at once in Grant Precinct, where the father carried on farming successfully for a period of seven years, and departed this life on the 20th of June, 1882. The mother is still living, making her home with her son on the old homestead.

To Abner and Elizabeth Magee there were born four sons and four daughters, seven of whom are now living, six being residents of Nebraska, and one son remains in Washington County, Ohio. They were all reared upon the farm, John B. in common with his brothers and sisters becoming duly familiar with agricultural pursuits. He spent the first twenty-five years of his life in his native county, and accompanied his parents to the West. His education was begun and completed in the common schools, and he possessed the laudable ambition to become thoroughly acquainted with the best methods of farming in all its branches. This ambition resulted in his becoming master of the situa-

tion, and is the secret of his success by which he has been enabled to surround himself and his family with the comforts of life.

Two years after becoming a resident of this county our subject, on the 9th of April, 1876, was united in marriage with one of its most estimable young ladies, Miss Florence, daughter of Joseph and Rebecca (Hammond) Stewart, who were natives of Virginia. From the Old Dominion they removed first to Washington County, Ohio, and thence to this county, settling in Grant Precinct, where they still reside. Their family includes eight daughters and five sons, and Mrs. Magee was the fourth child. She was born in Washington County, Ohio, July 26, 1853, and is thus four years younger than her husband. Of their union there are three bright children—Norma D., Ida M. and Alvin L.

With the exception of about eighteen months which were spent in Kansas, Mr. Magee has been a resident of this county since coming here. Politically, he is now identified with the Prohibitionists, and both he and his wife are members in good standing of the Baptist Church. Their home is a pleasant place of resort for a large circle of warm friends, who meet intelligence and good cheer, and know how to appreciate the companionship of a family occupying a position among the best elements of the county.

GEORGE W. PREY is a representative pioneer of Centerville Precinct, residing on section 24, and one of the oldest settlers of Lancaster County. He is a native of Wisconsin, his birthplace being twenty miles north of Milwaukee. He is a son of John D. and Margaret Prey, and a brother of J. W. Prey. In the year 1856 he came to Lancaster County with his parents, where he has since resided. On the 9th of April, 1873, he was united in marriage to Estella Davis, and they became the parents of two children: John C., who was born on the 25th of May, 1874, and Estella, on the 19th of August, 1875.

Being called to mourn the loss of his wife, our subject was again married, on the 1st of November,

1882, to Belle M. Wells, a daughter of Thomas and Mary J. Wells, of Lancaster County. They have a family of two children: Phœba J., born on the 30th of October, 1883, and George T., on the 29th of May, 1887.

Mr. Prey has become the owner of 160 acres of good and well-improved land, and has made most of the improvements by his own hard labor and good management. He has had good success in his work owing to the industrious manner in which he engaged in it and the thought and care which he spent in managing it. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and favors the success of the Republican party. He takes an active interest in the welfare of the community, is always pleased to hear of improvements and advancements, and grieved to know of any loss or hindrance sustained by the members of his community.

To our subject, as to the other early pioneers of this county, are its present residents indebted for a share of the advantages and privileges which they now enjoy, the earliest settlers paving the way for those who came after, that they might enjoy fewer trials and hardships and more of convenience and elegance; that they might have books and the aids and incentives to culture and refinement, and pleasant society in lieu of the everyday hard toils of the earlier settlers and their families.



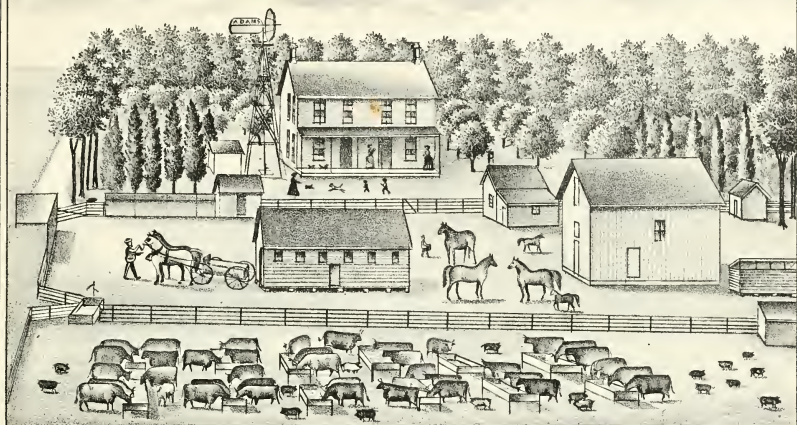
JONATHAN REITZ, who is numbered among the prominent, substantial and representative citizens of this county, is pleasantly located on section 29, Waverly Precinct, of which he has been a resident since 1874. Coming to Nebraska at that time, he purchased the east half of section 29, which was then unbroken prairie, and as soon as he could erect a shanty he settled on his property, and engaged in earnest in its improvement. His industry and good judgment have been rewarded, and he has now a well-improved farm, containing suitable frame buildings, conveniently arranged. A view of these premises may be seen in this connection.

The subject of this biographical notice was born in Northumberland County, Pa., Oct. 29, 1824.

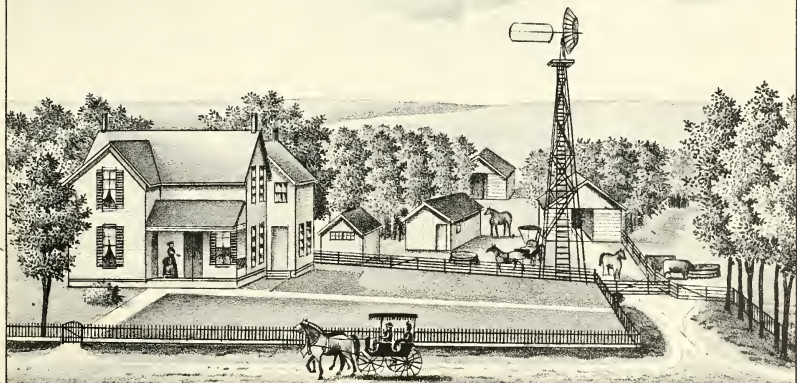
and is the son of Samuel and Rebecca (Burrell) Reitz, of German extraction, though two generations of the family have spent their lives in the Keystone State. Jonathan Reitz is the eldest in the parental family of five children, of whom the others are: Soloma (deceased); Moses, who resides in Pennsylvania; Mary (also deceased); and Katy, the wife of Jerie Heilman. Jonathan was reared on a farm, and received but a limited education in the common schools of his native township, as his services were required on the farm as soon as he became able to assist.

In 1845 Mr. Reitz was united in marriage with Esther Reeser, who was born in Northumberland County, Pa., Feb. 17, 1817. After marriage our subject remained a resident of his native State, engaged in the cultivation of a farm, which he owned, but from early life he had a desire to go West, and in 1874 he resolved to make the change of residence. He has never had any cause to regret his removal, and is now in the enjoyment of a competency that will free his declining years from any anxiety respecting pecuniary matters. Just as they had begun to reap the reward of their decade of toil on a prairie farm, Mrs. Reitz was removed by death, April 16, 1885, leaving three children—Samuel, David and Jonathan. Our subject was a second time married, choosing Kate L. Wolverton, and the ceremony took place in August, 1887. Mrs. Reitz is a native of Pennsylvania, and received her education in the public schools, residing in her native State until her marriage. In 1856 our subject engaged in a general merchandise business at Fisher's Ferry, Pa., and was thus successfully employed during the next ten years. He next operated a ferry across the Susquehanna River, at Selin's Grove, for two years, and then ran a steamboat for a short time, after which he resumed farming.

Samuel Reitz, the eldest son of our subject, was born in Northumberland County, Pa., Feb. 19, 1846, and was reared to farm life while receiving his education in the common schools. He resided at home until his marriage, which took place in 1872, with Mary J. Malick, who was born in the same county, Sept. 11, 1850, and is the daughter of Peter and Mary Malick, natives of Pennsylvania,



RESIDENCE OF F. CHARLES SEVERIN, SEC. 26. BUDA PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF JONATHAN REITZ, SEC. 29. WAVERLY PRECINCT.

and now deceased. The father died when Mrs. Reitz was quite young, and her mother passed away soon after her marriage with Mr. Keitz. In March, 1878, Mr. Reitz came to Nebraska, and in the autumn of that year settled on section 27, Waverly Precinct, which has been his home ever since. He owns a well-improved farm of 120 acres of good land, and though only a young man is already prominent among the agriculturists of Lancaster County. He is in love with his vocation, preferring it to any other, and his farm, which is in many respects a model one, is a silent but forcible witness of the fact. When a young man he taught school for some time, while he has also followed railroading, and just previous to coming to Nebraska he operated a grocery store at Fisher's Ferry, and was also Postmaster at that place. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Reitz has been blessed by the birth of three children, two of whom, Clinton B. and Rollin E., still survive. In politics Mr. Reitz is a Republican, but does not confine himself strictly to party lines, but votes as his judgment dictates.

David Reitz, the second son of our subject, was born in Northumberland County, Pa., June 11, 1848, and was reared to farm pursuits, at the same time receiving a common-school education. He was united in marriage, in 1872, with Lydia Bailey, who was born in Potter County, Pa. Mr. and Mrs. Reitz came to Nebraska in 1874, and finally settled on section 33, Waverly Precinct, where they purchased a tract of eighty acres of unimproved land. They have no children of their own, but are rearing an adopted daughter, Orlie Dickler. In politics, David Reitz affiliates with the Republican party, and supports it on all vital questions. Mr. Reitz, our subject, has always voted the straight Democratic ticket, and was Postmaster four years at Fisher's Ferry, Pa.



LEWIS WILLMAN. The Queen City is situated in one of the prettiest and most productive counties of Ohio. Hamilton County may well be proud of the enterprise, commercial importance, wealth and distinguished citizenship of

Cincinnati, and the city proud of the surpassingly beautiful county in which it is situated, containing as it does the greater part of the magnificent Miami Valley, being composed of some of the most fertile and highly productive soil in the country, and comprising that particularly happy variety of scenery, where hill and dale, hillock and glen, interspersed by velvety glade and shady park-land, are constantly blending.

Upon one of the beautiful farms of the above county was born, Feb. 5, 1852, he whose biography is here presented in succinct form, and whose fine property upon section 17, Centerville Precinct, and his well-known prosperity, character, and public spirit, demand mention in these pages. Our subject is the son of Charles and Henrietta Willman. After his father's death his mother became the wife of Mr. Rudolph Fishwood, a resident of Indiana, now residing at Swanton, in this State.

Until about fifteen years of age our subject continued at home with the rest of the family and his step-father, and then removed to Ripley County, Ind., and engaged with a farmer. Here he received some education in the district school. From Ripley he came to this county in the spring of 1874, and took up a tract of eighty acres, upon which he still resides, and has improved it from its original prairie state until it is to-day one of the best cultivated farms of the entire district.

Four years after his settlement upon his farm, Mr. Willman was married to Catherine Freye, daughter of Henry and Eleanor Freye, of whom a sketch appears upon another page. The former is deceased. Their children numbered five, and are recorded as here appended: Agnes, Edwin, Irvin, Alma and Aliee. The wife of our subject has proved in every relation and happening of wedded life, faithful, true and competent, and has nobly stood by the side of her husband during every time of trial, adversity or success, sharing them with him in every point, cheering, encouraging and inspiring him. She is one whose children will rise up in the day of their maturity of experience, and call blessed.

Remembering the Latin proverb, *Vincit qui persistit*, "He conquers who endures," our subject is most praiseworthy, because the success which marks his life is solely the result of his own effort and

ambition, excepting only the foundation work, which was provided by the schooling given him by his mother, and the constant assistance rendered by his faithful wife. Mr. and Mrs. Willman are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in good standing, and our subject has been School Treasurer for a period of two years, also Clerk of the Election Board. He is widely known in the county as worthy of the esteem and regard which are freely accorded to him, and also to his family. His political sympathies, loyalty, and study of governmental questions, have led him to give his support and influence to the Republican party.



REV. S. H. D. VAUGHAN. There is, perhaps, no profession that has more affected the world than that of the ministry, instilling as it does thoughts of the highest moral and spiritual import, and presenting as the object of life the most perfect human, yet Godlike, character, linked with a hope that reaches beyond the confines of the terrestrial, and brings into the otherwise faulty, cheerless and incomplete life the hope of larger and better things in the life that is to be, without which hope the question of the moralist and sage, "Is life worth living?" would necessarily be answered in the negative.

In presenting this sketch it is the endeavor to set before the reader in succinct form the leading incidents in the life of one who needs no introduction to the citizens of Lincoln, being well known by reason of his high Christian character and effectiveness as a worker in the profession he has chosen. Mr. Vaughan is a native of Cato, Cayuga Co., N. Y., born on the 12th of May, 1824. His father, Isaac Vaughan, was a farmer by occupation, and a native of Washington County, N. Y., where he was also reared to manhood, removing to Cayuga County in the days of its early settlement. There he took a tract of timber land, and clearing for himself a farm, erected his log cabin, and so on, after the order of the pioneer. Here he died in 1813.

The maiden name of the wife of Isaac Vaughan, and the mother of our subject, was Betsey Ann

Ferris, a native of the same State as her husband. She became the mother of six children, of whom two were daughters, both of whom died in early life. It was her privilege to bring to years of maturity her four sons, and to see them enter honorable positions in life. The death of this lady occurred in Michigan, at the home of her son, the subject of this biography, in the month of May, 1851.

Our subject was the youngest of the family, and was reared upon the farm. His education was obtained in the usual institutions, where he developed an aptitude for study and a quickness of intellect above the average. The religious experience of our subject dates from his twelfth year. At that time he was brought under conviction regarding the truth of those things, and was received into the communion of the Baptist Church. When he had reached about twenty years of age he came west to Michigan, via the Erie Canal and the lakes to Monroe, thence by rail to Hillsdale, where he commenced teaching in Reading Township, continuing there for a period of three years. He then became a student of theology in the seminary at Kalamazoo.

Mr. Vaughan was ordained as preacher of the Baptist Church, at Dowagiac, Cass Co., Mich., upon his graduation in July, 1851. His pastorate in that place extended over a period of twelve years, when he resigned and took charge of the church at Lacon, Ill., for which he preached three years, and then returned to Michigan, and, after a like period, was in pastoral charge at Plymouth. From there he went to Minnesota, and became the pastor of a church at Hastings. In this place he built a residence and continued his ministrations for another three years. The next period of the same duration was spent with the church at DeWitt, Iowa, whence he removed to Prairie City, McDonough Co., Ill., where he remained the same length of time, removing in 1878 to Lincoln, where, on account of ill-health, he has latterly lived a retired life.

In February, 1853, Mr. Vaughan was united in marriage with Mary B. Dodsley, who departed this life on the 25th of May, 1869, leaving our subject with three children, viz: Carrie, who afterward married the Rev. J. H. Scott; Ceron and Mamie L., both of whom are single and reside at home.

The second marriage of our subject was with Mrs. Harriet (Maynard) Chase, who was born in Enosburg, Franklin Co., Vt. Her father, Charles B. Maynard, is a native of Bakersville, in the same county. His father, Stephen Maynard, was born in Massachusetts, and was one of the first settlers to remove from that State to Vermont, and did so at a time when the only road for the pack horses then used was that marked by the blazing of the trees.

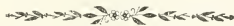
The wife of Stephen, the grandfather of Mrs. Vaughan, was Martha Baker. Her great-grandfather was one of the earliest settlers of Bakersfield, which was so named in his honor. In and around this town the family continued to make their home, and in its vicinity she was reared and finally married, at her home in West Enosburg, which was situated upon the outskirts of the town. To this place her father had removed after many years of residence in Bakersfield, purchased a tract of timber land, and began the clearing of the same, and so industrious was he that a good farm before very long took shape. In addition to the farming interests he established quite a large business as a cattle dealer. He continued to make this his home until his death in 1864. He was married to Eunice Sawyer, a native of Massachusetts, and daughter of Solomon and Abigail (Wheeler) Sawyer. She died upon the same homestead in the year 1847. Mr. Sawyer was a Whig until the formation of the Republican party, of which he became a member. For a period of thirty years he continued to occupy the seat of Justice of the Peace, and for two years represented Enosburg in the State Legislature. He was not identified with any religious denomination, though always a friend to such organizations. His wife was a devout and highly respected member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mrs. Vaughan taught school for some years before her marriage, and continued to make her home with her parents until her marriage in 1861 with Royal B. Chase, who was a native of Westford, Chittenden Co., Vt. Shortly after their marriage they removed to Maquoketa, Jackson Co., Iowa, where Mr. Chase had previously purchased property. His death occurred in the year 1869, at that place, leaving his widow and one child, to whom had been given the name Hattie F., who afterward

married the Rev. Isaiah W. Reed, a minister of the Regular Baptist Church, at present located in the State of Illinois.

Mr. Royal B. Chase, the first husband of Mrs. Vaughan, was married previous to her union with him. His first wife was Effigeen Bishop, daughter of Rufus Bishop, of Jericho, Vt. Her father was a prominent and influential man in the community where he resided. By this lady Mr. Chase became the parent of two daughters: Rogene E., who became the wife of Alison A. Herrick, of West Milton, Vt., and Rocelia A., who married Judge A. L. Palmer, formerly of Lincoln, but at present of Seattle, W. T.

Mr. Vaughan has been eminently successful in the profession which he chose, both as a pastor and a preacher, a combination by no means necessarily identical. He has won to himself many friends, and is most sincerely respected and esteemed in the community.



JAMES J. ARMSTRONG, engaged in general merchandising at Waverly, is well entitled to the distinction of a pioneer of Lancaster County, as he settled here under the Homestead Act on section 32, Mill Precinct, in 1866. His acquaintance with prairie farming has been extensive, as he has owned five different farms in this county, and improved them all. He seems at length to have found the *ne plus ultra*, as his home in Waverly is the finest and best located in the town. He is a judicious buyer, and his promptness in meeting his obligations and his integrity have given him standing with all with whom his business relations bring him into contact. He has built up a patronage which is of mutual advantage to all concerned, and is regarded as one of the solid men of the county.

The subject of this biographical notice is a native of West Virginia, and was born in Randolph County, Feb. 25, 1827. He is a son of Daniel and Mary (Bowman) Armstrong, natives of old Virginia, and is the fourth in order of birth in their family of six children. He grew to manhood in his native State, receiving a common-school education.

and as soon as he was able assisted on the farm. He became well instructed in agricultural duties, and resided at the homestead until twenty-five years of age, at which time he migrated to Macon County, Mo., and worked on the construction of the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad. He then removed to Ottumwa, Iowa, where he followed teaming, and also worked in the livery business, in the capacity of foreman. From Ottumwa he went across the plains to Colorado, but after a stay of two years he returned to Ottumwa. He soon afterward came to Nebraska, and located on a homestead, which he proved up and improved, giving his attention to agricultural pursuits. In 1878 he purchased another farm at North Mound, and subsequently was engaged in his vocation on different farms until 1882. During this time he owned and operated for two years a store in Saline County, this State, whence he finally removed to Waverly Village and engaged in his present business. Besides his fine residence, he also owns the store property in which his business is conducted.

Mr. Armstrong was united in marriage, in 1867, with Miss Clara J., daughter of John and Sarah Parker, and born in Ohio. Their union has resulted in the birth of five children—William Lee, Gilbert Parker, Mary Ellen, Robert P. and Minnie Alice. While in Colorado our subject owned and operated some gold mines, and was successful in his enterprise. In politics he is a staunch Democrat, strong in his advocacy of the principles of the party.



CHARLES BURKE. Among the institutions of this county, and one which is offered to every citizen, but for various reasons almost an impossibility to natives of the Old World, is that of a home of their own, erected upon ground to which they hold the title. This possibility attracts countless numbers of the best citizens of European countries, where, despite a lifetime of toil, comparatively few can own such a property. Buda Precinct has received a large number of such, and to-day they are the possessors of cosy, comfortable farm buildings and homes in the midst of their own broad acres. Among those who have estab-

lished themselves in the above precinct, whose home is one of the pleasantest, and whose farm is one of the most flourishing, is the subject of the present sketch, who resides upon section 22.

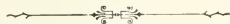
Mr. Burke was born in Semlow, Prussia, on the 4th of August, 1835, and is the son of John and Mary Burke, both natives of the same country. He was reared to the estate of manhood there, receiving a good education in his native tongue, and has since acquired quite a good understanding of English. From the time of leaving school he gave his attention to farming, in order that in later years he might have the means of supporting himself and those who might be dependent upon him.

Our subject, in October, 1862, was united in marriage with Mary Knuek. To them have been born four children, whose names are recorded as follows: Rena, born on the 20th of November, 1865; Lizzie, June 1, 1867; Bessie, Nov. 10, 1869; and Frank, Dec. 7, 1871. The two elder children of our subject were born in Germany, and accompanied their parents to America in the summer of 1868. The Atlantic passage was made in one of the Hamburg steamers, and occupied seventeen days, landing them in the city of New York.

Life in the New World began in Cook County, Ill., whither the family proceeded immediately upon their arrival, and remained for two years, during which time our subject was occupied in day labor. At the end of the two years a removal was made to McHenry County, which was their home until the spring of 1883, when they removed to Lancaster County, and settled upon their present farm. The change from McHenry brought with it a change of occupation. At McHenry our subject had been employed by the Northwestern Railway Company, as switchman, and was placed in charge of the engine water tank. Now he is fully occupied with his farm, and has seen a very large measure of success resulting from his efforts. The eighty acres which comprise the farm of our subject have been brought to the very perfection of husbandry, and are well provided with all necessary stock and farming implements. Whatever Mr. Burke has acquired has been solely the reward of his indefatigable perseverance, and the ambition resulting from the exuberance of pleasure and delight in the prospect of

being the sole possessor of a home wherein he may bring happiness to those who form an integral part of his life.

Mr. Burke is a member of the Congregational Church, where also his wife finds that which is congenial to her religious sentiment. Our subject has been too busily occupied with home matters to give much attention to political matters, but has sought to understand the institutions of his adopted country, and usually votes with the Republican party.



JOHAN N. TIGER, a worthy representative of the intelligent men of Waverly Precinct, came to this section of the country with his parents in 1867, from Kane County, Ill. They had been residents there for a period of thirteen years, having removed to the Prairie State from the early home of our subject, in Hunterdon County, N. J., where his birth took place Feb. 27, 1852.

William and Catherine (Hummer) Tiger, the parents of our subject, were also natives of New Jersey, and upon coming to Nebraska homesteaded eighty acres of land on section 30, in Waverly Precinct, adjoining the farm now occupied by our subject. The father died the following year, 1869. He was a man kind to his family, provident and industrious, a good neighbor, and an upright citizen, Republican in politics, and Methodist in religion. The mother is still living, and makes her home in Lincoln. The six children of the parental family were: Sarah, now the wife of George Denham, of Lincoln; Emma, Mrs. John P. Loder, of Waverly Precinct; John N., our subject; William S., Isaac J. and Lambert O. The latter three are residents of Lancaster County.

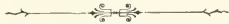
Our subject was a little lad three years of age when his parents removed from New Jersey to Illinois, and he acquired his early education in the common schools of Kane County. Later he assisted in the various employments of the farm, and after coming to Nebraska, worked upon the new homestead until reaching his majority.

Upon becoming his own man, Mr. Tiger traveled over a goodly portion of the western country a few years, and in the meantime took up a homestead

claim in Furnas County, this State, and subsequently pre-empted what is now the site of Beaver City, where he remained two years, then made the mistake of selling out. After deciding upon his permanent location and the establishment of a home of his own, Mr. Tiger, Dec. 25, 1882, was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Melick, who was born in Pennsylvania, and is the daughter of Henry H. and Lydia (Heilmann) Melick, who were natives of Pennsylvania. The father is now deceased, but the mother is still living.

Mr. and Mrs. Tiger after their marriage settled upon the farm where they now live, but which, however, at that time was but an uncultivated tract of land. It is 160 acres in extent, and our subject has brought the soil to a good state of cultivation, gradually adding the improvements which the enterprising and progressive farmer finds essential to his calling. In 1886 he established, in company with his brother-in-law, a lumber-yard at Waverly, but soon disposed of his interests, finding agriculture more congenial and profitable.

Mr. Tiger cast his first Presidential vote for Grant, while a resident of Nebraska, and is a strict Republican. He has held the various local offices, and in religious matters conforms to the doctrines of the Lutheran Church.



JOHAN MORRISON, a well-to-do and highly respected citizen of Lincoln, where he is engaged in business as a merchant tailor, has been prominently identified with the industrial and social interests of this city for many years. Thus he has witnessed its marvelous growth from a small town to a large and thriving metropolis, and has in no small degree aided in its development. Our subject was born on a farm amid the wild scenery of Northern Scotland, Dec. 17, 1824, being the date of his birth. His parents, William and Margaret (McKay) Morrison, were likewise of Scotch birth and ancestry. In 1841 they crossed the Atlantic Ocean to take up their abode in Canada, and located near London, in the Province of Ontario, and there the remainder of their days were passed in peace and prosperity.

They possessed in a full measure those typical characteristics of the Scotch which make them such desirable citizens, and they were alike esteemed and honored by all in their neighborhood. They were the parents of nine children, six boys and three girls, of whom John, our subject, was the second. He entered school at the age of five, and continued his attendance in that institution of learning until he had attained his twelfth year, when he went to learn the trade of tailor.

Having completed his trade, being then eighteen years old, our subject left the heaths and hills of his native Scotland to accompany his parents to their future home in America, and for some years thereafter was a resident of Canada. For two years he traveled as a journeyman tailor, and two years later, when he was twenty-four years of age, he married Miss Hughina Monroe, a native of Scotland, born in the same neighborhood as himself. After marriage Mr. Morrison worked at his trade in Canada until 1858. In the fall of that year he crossed the line and came to the "States," proceeding to Chicago, Ill., where he was employed for two years as a cutter in the tailoring establishment of George McKean, with whom he remained until July, 1860. He then visited some friends in Iowa, and from there started on a trip on his own account, and brought up at a place called Lansing, where he made his home until 1869. Mr. Morrison then came to Nebraska and established himself as a merchant tailor in Lincoln, where he has since built up an extensive business and secured a fine class of custom. Our subject is a good example of the self-made men of this country who have raised themselves from poverty to affluence by their own unaided exertions; commencing life without means, by industry and devotion to his business he has accumulated a good property.

Shortly after coming here our subject had the misfortune to lose the devoted wife who had been his companion from the early days to his manhood, and by her calm counsels and ready assistance had greatly aided him in his struggles for independence. Hers was the first body laid at rest in the cemetery at Lincoln. Of that marriage four children were born, all of whom are married and comfortably settled in life. Mr. Morrison was united in marriage

to Mrs. Frances Wagner, *nee* Raney, Nov. 3, 1871. She is a native of Knox, Ill., and by this marriage one son, John D., aged thirteen, has been born. Mr. Morrison and his estimable wife are justly held in high regard for their substantial worth by a large circle of friends and acquaintances, and their cosy home is the center of that true hospitality which knows well how to "welcome the coming, speed the parting guest." Mr. Morrison is one of the leading members of the K. of P. of this State, having been Grand Chancellor of the State of Nebraska, and is now Past Grand Chancellor; he is also prominently identified with the I. O. O. F., having joined that organization when a young man residing in the Province of Ontario, and he has held the position of Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge. In politics, he is a straight Republican in both State and National matters. Mr. Morrison is widely and favorably known through his many years' residence here, and his strictly honorable course and his just and honest dealings have inspired the confidence of his fellow-citizens.

GEORGE PETER. The Postmaster of Princetown, Neb., is a son of Jacob and Savilla Peter. A sketch of his parents is given on another page in this volume. He was born at the homestead in Pike County, Ohio, on the 2d of September, 1845. He received his education and was reared to manhood in his native county, and afterward initiated into the technique of agricultural pursuits. With his parents he removed to Illinois, resided there until 1869, then came to this county and homesteaded eighty acres of land, also pre-empted a similar amount in Buda Precinct. Here he settled among the earlier pioneers, and has done a great deal toward the development of this section of country.

While residing in Ohio Mr. Peter was attracted by the beautiful character and happy disposition of Miss Margaret Byron, and these qualities, supplemented by her eminent fitness to throw around the place of residence that mystic charm which makes the difference between a mere "stopping-place" and home, decided our subject to win her. These

matters being arranged to their mutual satisfaction, they were united in wedlock in March, 1866. There have been born of this union five children, of whom, however, two only are living, and they have received the names William E. and Emma S.

Mrs. Margaret Peter was called upon to leave her husband and family on the 28th of July, 1874. About five years later our subject entered into a second alliance, and became the husband of Harriet Ritter on the 18th of July, 1879. She has presented him with a daughter, who has been christened Mary A.

Mr. Peter has occupied the chair of Justice of the Peace with honor and even-handed justice, and also served as Constable of Buda Precinct, as School Moderator, and since the spring of 1886 has retained his present position of Postmaster, which he is filling with much efficiency and the general appreciation of the people. He has been a consistent member of the Democratic party, and is among its most active supporters.

The family of which our subject is a member is well represented by him. It is one of the old pioneer families, having been in the country from its earlier growth, and at the same time one of the most honorable, loyal and patriotic. In these qualities Mr. Peter is by no means lacking, and is the recipient, consequently, of the heartiest confidence and esteem of the community. He is socially connected with the membership of Livingston Lodge No. 56, A. F. & A. M., at Firth, Neb., and has evidently endeavored to bring into his life, both public and private, the lessons he has learned at its altar, and at the right hand of the Master. The gavel has been used for its legitimate purpose, and the trowel not neglected or allowed to lie in idleness.



CHARLES POTTINGER, whose farm is situated on section 8, Elk Precinct, of this county, is a native of old England, and was born in the parish of Lambeth, in which, also, his father was ushered into life. The name is singularly suggestive, and carries the thought back to the days when Lambeth and Vauxhall were something more than minor parts of the vast city of

London, and when Chelsea, immediately opposite, with its beautiful promenade along the river front, was still a place sought after by the highest dignitaries and aristocrats. But, like Cheyenne Walk, Lambeth has to write over its portals, "Ichabod"—the glory is departed—Lambeth, for so many centuries a synonym for the palace of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the site of many notable scenes.

The day of our subject's nativity was Feb. 6, 1842. As soon as he had arrived at a possible age he received his education in the Lambeth schools, and afterward became an assistant to his father in his business as a butcher, in which he continued until he came to this country as a young man of about twenty-eight years of age. While in London he continued working at his trade for different persons until the year 1865, when he started in business for himself, in which he was rewarded by considerable prosperity. When he started for this country in the year 1870, it was with no very definite plan, and he came almost direct to Nebraska City, where he continued to follow his old calling, and accordingly opened a meat-market, which he continued with growing success for about three years, when he returned to England and remained until 1879, still following the same business. That year saw him back again in this country, and the following year (1880) he settled upon his present farm, which then comprised but eighty acres, but owing to his assiduous application and energy, he has been so successful that to-day it includes 240 acres. The farm is well situated and improved, and has the Little Elk Creek winding its way through it, giving him a good water supply for his cattle and stock.

Our subject was married, in 1865, to Mary Ann Hoff, a native of the Isle of Jersey. The father of our subject bore the given name of Christopher, and spent his early life in the above parish, and as an apprentice made the acquaintance of the intricacies of his business, which he continued to follow for many years, but no longer caring to carry on business as a butcher, he opened a green-grocer's shop, his stock in trade comprising the varied products of the market garden, including vegetables of all kinds, from the staple potato to the most transient salad material, and also, inclusive, in their season,

of fruits and flowers. This varied stock would be purchased either direct from the market gardener, of whom there are many adjacent to the more western suburbs of the city, or at the world-renowned Covent Garden market. This business was quite profitable to him, and he continued therein until his death, in the year 1866. His wife, the mother of our subject, was Ann (Cullenburn) Pottinger, who was born in Whitechapel, London, and after seeing her family grow to maturity and start well in life, died at Lambeth, in the year 1879. Besides our subject, who was the youngest of the family, there were two daughters.

From surroundings and influences not the most favorable, and with little help from others, our subject has fought his way to his present position, which, if not that of wealth, is inclusive of much that is eminently satisfactory in the line of financial and social advancement, all the result of his own energy, push and labor. In politics, Mr. Pottinger is a Republican.

HIRAM SHELDON, of Grant Precinct, came to Nebraska in the fall of the year 1870, and purchased 160 acres of land on section 32. Here he has made good improvements, and given his attention entirely to farming and stock-raising. He is popular among his neighbors, is thoroughly reliable as a business man, and secured the property which he now enjoys solely through the exercise of his own industry.

John Sheldon, the father of our subject, was a native of Washington County, N. Y., and married Miss Polly Betts, also a native of the Empire State. They settled in Chautauqua County, where they became the parents of four sons and four daughters, and spent their entire lives engaged in farming pursuits. Hiram, our subject, was the sixth child of the family, and was born in Carroll, Chautauqua County, Aug. 30, 1824. When of suitable years he began assisting his father in the labors of the farm, and was employed also in a sawmill. Later he served an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade, which he followed for a period of twenty years in

his native State, and until coming to the farther West.

Our subject was married in his native county, Nov. 9, 1848, to Miss Helen Beardsley, who was born in Oneida County, N. Y., Nov. 26, 1828. Her parents, Hezekiah and Lois A. (Collins) Beardsley, were also natives of New York. The father was a farmer by occupation, and died in Oneida County. The mother spent her last years in Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon commenced life together in Chautauqua County, and of their union there are seven children, the eldest of whom, Selah H., is a business man of Kansas City, Mo.; Perlit S. and Lainer A. are carpenters by trade, and located at Lincoln; Carson H., also of Lincoln; Florinda H. is the wife of S. M. Benner, of Holyoke, Col.; Arthur R. remains at home with his parents; Anna M. died in New York State when an interesting child of thirteen years.

The children of Mr. Sheldon have been well reared and trained to habits of industry and self-reliance, while at the same time there have been instilled into their minds the principles of honor and integrity without which there cannot be formed a true and upright character. The family is looked upon as one of the best in the community, and Mr. Sheldon has been quite prominent in local affairs, serving as School Treasurer for a period of six years. Politically, he is independent, aiming to support the men best qualified to look after the interests of the people.

Mrs. Sheldon has proved the worthy partner of this reputable citizen, and is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

JACOB PETER, deceased. One of the leading, most prosperous and reliable citizens of Buda Precinct, prior to his demise, was the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch. He was born in York County, Pa., on Sept. 15, 1820, to George and Catherine Peter, both natives of Pennsylvania. When about five years of age, his parents migrated to Guernsey County, Ohio, where the family were among the first to settle. Here our subject spent his earlier years and



J. L. Porter.

was reared to manhood. He was married in Ohio, on the 12th of January, 1843, to Miss Savilla Egger, who was born in Monroe County, that State, on the 24th of October, 1822, to Samuel and Susanna Egger. Her father was a native of Switzerland; her mother of Millin County, Pa. Her father had emigrated to this country in the seventeenth year of the present century, here settled, and afterward married. Of six children who were born to them five survived. The names are as here recorded—Savilla, Mary, Nancy, Rebeeca, Noah, and Jacob (deceased). To Mr. and Mrs. Peter have been given three children: Mary E., born Dec. 23, 1843, died in 1876; George, born in 1845; and Saloma, Sept. 12, 1858.

For about two years after his marriage our subject made his home in Guernsey County, Ohio, after that for quite a number of years in Pike County, and then in Tazewell County, Ill. In 1870, accompanied by his family, he came to this county, purchasing 240 acres of railroad land, for which he paid \$11 per acre. The difference in the present condition and that at the time of his settlement is the difference between the wild, rough prairie and the well-cultivated, carefully tilled farm, the result of unremitting effort and intelligently bestowed labor. Throughout the whole of his wedded life he greatly prized his home and its relations, and found in his wife a true helpmate and faithful companion; very frequently, indeed, she inspired him to renewed effort and ultimate success.

Mr. Peter left to his wife and family a home upon 320 acres of land, with all the usual buildings well built and in good repair, and upon his death the loss was felt by a large number outside the family circle, for the community seemed to realize that in him it had lost one of its best friends. In the Civil War our subject served for about two months, and although his term of service was short he saw considerable fighting, and was so severely wounded in the battle of Franklin as to necessitate the amputation of his right arm. Upon leaving the service he was honorably discharged, and continued his feeling of patriotism and loyalty until the last.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter were members of the Congregational Church, and were regarded among the most devoutly consistent of the communion. In

political matters he was connected with the Democratic party, and was always deeply interested in every question which concerned the welfare of the people, consulting this and the ability of the official candidate, and governing his actions accordingly. Mrs. Peter, the widow of our subject, still resides at the homestead on section 23, in company with her daughter, and enjoys in this home the fruits of trouble and labor of previous years. In addition to this property she is the owner of 430 acres of land in her own right. Both Mr. and Mrs. Peter were accorded the highest esteem and fullest confidence of all who knew them, and the widow of our subject is the recipient of the deepest sympathy in the sorrow that has darkened her life.

JAMES L. PORTER. In entering upon active business life, some men find their pathway marked out, smoothed and rolled like a tennis lawn; others find it rough and rocky like a mountain path. One of the latter is the subject of this sketch; nevertheless, he has faced the rocks, and has struggled upward despite all the ruggedness and difficulty, snatching success from the clutch of defeat. His grandfather, Adam Porter, was born in England, but came to America while yet a young man, accompanied by two brothers, who settled in New England. To him, however, Maryland seemed to offer greater advantages; there he took a tract of land, cleared a farm, and continued to reside thereon, making from time to time such improvements as he saw were wise and within his power, until, at the ripe age of ninety years, he passed to his long home.

At this homestead was born John Porter, the father of James L., and its surroundings formed the environment of his childhood, youth and early married life. In after years this home was also the birthplace of the gentleman whose name is at the head of this sketch.

In the year 1830 John Porter and his family, which included his wife and seven children, started westward, and two wagons drawn by their six horses were sufficient to convey their belongings to their prospective home. Traveling by day, encamping

in some inviting nook by night, as they journeyed in this somewhat primitive way, they presently arrived, without meeting, as far as is known, any special incident or any adventure, in Montgomery County, Ind. The land of this district, although heavily timbered, was rich and fertile, promising abundant recompense for any labor intelligently directed that might be bestowed upon it. Here, then, the family determined to settle, and procured a tract of land about eight miles from Crawfordsville. Speedily trees were felled, logs were hewn, and a primitive mortar manufactured. Then, with strong hands and hopeful hearts, they raised their cabin—the home in the wilderness. That pioneer home presented a striking contrast, we would not say to the palatial residences upon the boulevards of our great cities, but the present pioneer homes of such districts as Montana, Dakota or Idaho. Its furniture, like its walls, doors and roof, was the work of their own hands, and a thousand and one conveniences and necessities, as we call them, were conspicuous by their absence. Nevertheless, it was, in the truest sense, "home."

Of work there was plenty for each and all to do. The fathers and sons were employed, even to the youngest, in clearing and preparing the ground for the reception of seeds and cuttings, the mother, besides her household and dairy work, in spinning and weaving material for clothing and other purposes. At that time deer, wild turkeys, and a large variety of other game, abounded in the district; naturally, therefore, James became a very expert hunter, and doubtless learned in this school lessons of self-control, caution, tact and patience, no less valuable because not learned, as were his other lessons, from a well-thumbed speller and reader in the log school-house. School-house, did we say? It were hard to recognize in that little log cabin, with its rough door and rougher benches, an institution of learning; and yet, 'tis even so, and, day by day, the sunlight struggled to gain an entrance through the oiled paper that served for a window, if, by any chance, it might aid in illuminating the undeveloped but capable intelligences there present, many of them destined to make their mark in the days of larger opportunity and horizon.

When twenty-five years of age James L. Porter

left home for Missouri, where he made good progress, working as a carpenter in Lawrence County. He continued to reside in that State for some twelve years, and in 1851 proceeded to Iowa, where he purchased a tract of wild prairie land in Harrison County, and gave his attention to agricultural pursuits. Having built his house and farm buildings, he made various and important improvements from time to time, and continued to make that his place of residence until 1866, when he sold out and came to Nebraska. This removal, similar to that of his earlier recollections, was made in primitive style, by team, for, unlike the pioneer of the present date, he found no bands of steel, lightning express and vestibule train, to carry him to the door of his "claim shanty." He now bought land west of Lincoln, but after a time took up a homestead four miles south of Lincoln, living first in a sod house until he could erect more substantial buildings. Upon this farm he continued to make his home until the fall of 1870, when he again sold out, and settled where he now resides, on section 29, Middle Creek Precinct.

In Phebe McMullen, a native of Ohio, Mr. Porter found a lady who possessed every qualification to adorn his home and complete his life's interest. Accordingly they were married Sept. 29, 1842. They are both members of the Primitive Methodist Church, in which communion they find congenial surroundings and thought, which harmonize with their religious convictions. Mr. and Mrs. Porter are the parents of six children, three of whom are living, named as follows: John R., Francis M. and Scyrus N.; the two last-named are married, and live in Middle Creek Precinct.

As we have already noted, as a necessary result of his pioneer life, the educational advantages enjoyed by Mr. Porter were very few and limited in scope, but being the happy possessor of a studious mind, logical thought and retentive memory, we see him grasping every opportunity, using the same to the fullest extent, until he has educated himself for business and social life, not forgetting also fitness for the duties and responsibilities of citizenship. His orchards are among the finest in the country, containing upward of 300 well-selected trees. In addition, he has also an extensive seed

and tree nursery, for the products of which he finds a ready market. Mr. Porter is one of the oldest settlers in this section of country, for at the time of his settlement there were but two or three buildings on the present site of the city of Lincoln. Where are now busy streets was then the home of the antelope, the prairie dog, and other creatures found on the western prairie in its natural state.

Being one of the representative men of this county, we take pleasure in presenting Mr. Porter's portrait in connection with this sketch.



JOHN WILLIAM BLIZZARD. Of the professions in which men engage none requires a more thorough and complete preparation and course of training than that which has for its basis *materia medica*. Besides the cultivation of the intellectual faculties there should be a cultivation of those virtues which are innate in every true and noble heart, for the physician must not so much prepare to mingle in the society of those well-balanced and fortunate men and women who know not physical ailments, as that he shall prepare to minister to all phases of distress and wretchedness. When the body is racked with pain, how sensitive to outward influences does it become, and what odd fancies do the mental faculties entertain! With what confidence does that physician inspire the distressed patient and his friends, who possesses a truly refined and cheerful demeanor and is kindly solicitous for the comfort of the invalid! His step light, his voice pleasantly modulated, cheerful and sympathetic, his touch firm and gentle, with unboasting but well-grounded confidence in self, he is a welcome friend and confidant.

An honor to the profession of which we have been speaking and a model to those beginning the practice is Dr. Blizzard, the subject of this sketch. Possessing unusual ability he has qualified himself by thorough study and a successful practice of over twenty years to rank at the head of his profession as a physician and surgeon. He is a son of John and Elizabeth Blizzard, his grandfather having been a native of France. John Blizzard, Sr., was born in South Carolina, and went to Delaware when a young man.

In the War of 1812 he served as a Sergeant at the storming of Georgetown. Elizabeth, his wife, *nee* Sharp, was a native of Delaware. They settled in Bellefontaine, Logan Co., Ohio, in 1824, being early pioneers of that county. The husband was a carpenter and ship builder, and he worked at his trade after coming to Bellefontaine. He died in the year 1868, at the ripe age of eighty-two years and three months. His wife survived him for half a score of years, and she too, having by that much passed her "threescore and ten" years, died at the age of eighty in the year 1878.

The subject of our sketch was the youngest of seven children, two girls and five boys, three of whom are living. Bellefontaine was his birthplace, and the date thereof, the 25th of January, 1841. He attended the village school and afterward took the completed course at High School. At an early age he decided to prepare himself for the practice of medicine, and with that end in view he began to study with his brother, Dr. S. R. Blizzard. Meanwhile the war broke out, and he enlisted on the 13th of April, 1861, for three months' service. He was mustered in at Columbus, Ohio, and participated in the campaign of Virginia, serving in the Eastern Division of the army in detached service. He was mustered out on the 1st of September, and immediately upon his release from the duties of a soldier he entered the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati. From this college he was graduated with much honor in the class of '64. Immediately after his graduation, with laudable magnanimity he offered his services in behalf of the wounded soldiers of the Union. This generous offer being duly appreciated and accepted, he was appointed Assistant Surgeon, serving with the Army of the East in the field hospitals of Virginia.

Subsequently our subject began the practice of his profession at Macedon, Ohio, during which time he led to the altar Miss Jennie Wallingford, a daughter of Lieut. Absalom and Martha Ann (McDonald) Wallingford. Mrs. Blizzard was the second of three children born to Lieut. and Mrs. Wallingford, the date of her birth being April 2, 1849. Taking advantage of the very good educational facilities offered her she cultivated her mind, and at the time of her marriage was eminently

fitted to adorn the home of the rising young physician whom she honored with her hand. After their marriage the young couple removed to Ft. Recovery, Ohio, where the husband entered into the practice of his profession, meeting with great success. He then attended the Bellevue Medical College for six months, during the winter of 1877-78. He also took a course of private instruction under Edward G. Janeway, M. D., at the Bellevue Hospital. As a testimony of his appreciation of the good work of the young student, and as a prize for correctly diagnosing a complicated case of heart disease, this eminent physician presented Mr. Blizzard with a stethoscope. From all the schools which he attended he graduated with honors, having in his possession three diplomas from as many celebrated medical colleges. These bits of vellum are of vastly more worth to the owner than would appear to a casual observer, representing as they do long terms of diligence and unceasing application.

At Ft. Recovery our subject continued to practice for over twenty years, a grand compliment to his ability and success. By the urgent request of friends he was induced to leave that place, and removed to Hickman, Neb., at which place he arrived on the 22d of February, 1887. Having since then continued his practice in that place, he has risen rapidly in esteem and favor, and enjoys the best patronage of any physician in the southern part of Lancaster County, and his practice is constantly increasing. He has a son, William E., a graduate from the Omaha School of Telegraphy in the class of '88, and a daughter, Miss Carrie, a teacher in the primary department of the Hickman Union School. Mrs. Blizzard is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Ft. Recovery, Ohio.

While our subject is entitled to honorable mention with the gallant soldiers of the Civil War, and in the first rank of the medical profession, he has also distinguished himself as a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He retains his membership in the Ft. Recovery Lodge No. 458, and has successively borne all the honors conferred by the various degrees, having been a delegate to the Grand Lodge in Ohio. He is a Republican in politics, and is a member of the Northwestern Ohio Medical Association, of Mercer County, also of the

Indiana District and Jay County Medical Societies. Such a mind as his, stored as it is with knowledge, and the genial disposition and temperament which it is his good fortune to possess, can yield only successful fruits.

HENRY SCHAAL, of the firm of Esser & Schaal, editors and proprietors of the *Nebraska Staats Anzeiger*, and successors to Peter Karberg, deceased, is an enterprising, energetic young man, of much native ability and fine business talent. He is a native of Illinois, born in Belleville, the county seat of St. Clair County, Nov. 25, 1857, being the eldest son of Philip and Elizabeth (Roth) Schaal. His father was a butcher and followed that trade in that city.

The subject of this sketch passed his early life in his native town, receiving a good education in its public schools. He was an industrious lad, earnest in his endeavors to establish himself in some work which should be, not only lucrative, but congenial to his tastes. After trying his hand at various kinds of business he determined to become a printer, and at the age of seventeen years entered the employment of a publishing house in Belleville, where he learned the printer's trade, acquiring a full knowledge of the details of every department during the four years he was connected with that establishment. After attaining his majority Mr. Schaal left Illinois, and going to Dubuque, Iowa, commenced work for Peter Karberg, editor of the *Nord Iowa Post*, with whom he remained until the following year, when he was sent by Mr. Karberg to Lincoln, Neb., to establish the present *Staats Anzeiger*, working as a compositor on the paper eighteen months. He then pushed farther west, and in Denver, Col., secured work as foreman on the *Colorado Courier*. While there the death of Mr. Karberg occurred, and our subject, returning to Lincoln, took charge of the *Staats Anzeiger*. Subsequently forming a partnership with August Esser, he purchased the paper from the administrator of the Karberg estate, and has since continued its publication. It is a thirty-six column quarto sheet, 28x44 inches, and is a neat, well-conducted paper, devoted to the interests

of the locality, and gives all the important domestic and foreign intelligence. It is Republican in politics, and has a large circulation in the city and county. Mr. Sehaal is a practical printer, and his partner attends to the editorial department.

Mr. Esser was born in Germany, at Gladbach on the Rhine, where he received a fine education. In 1882, desiring to improve his financial condition, he emigrated to America, and made his way to Iowa, coming thence to Lincoln in 1883. He secured a position as associate editor and traveling agent for the *Nebraska Staats Anzeiger*, subsequently forming his present partnership with Mr. Sehaal. Under their joint management the paper has taken a leading place among the sheets published in this section of the country, and exerts a good influence throughout the State.



JUDGE STEPHEN B. POUND, ex-Judge of the Probate Court, first President of the Lancaster County Bar Association, and a successful practicing attorney of the city of Lincoln, became identified with the people of Southern Nebraska soon after the Territory was transformed into a State, and when the present city of Lincoln was the village of Lancaster. He was for a time engaged in mercantile business, but having already a good knowledge of law, and the profession being in consonance with his tastes, he sold out and associated himself in partnership with the able attorney, Seth Robinson, with whom he continued until his election in the fall of 1869 to Judge of the Probate Court.

The Empire State, which has so generously contributed of her sons to the settlement of the Great West, contained the early home of our subject, he having been born in Ontario County, Jan. 14, 1835. When quite young, his parents changed their residence to Wayne County, that State, where his father, Nathan K. Pound, looked his last upon the scenes of earth. Stephen B. remained there with his mother until reaching manhood, and assisted in the various labors of the farm, upon which the father had died, and where the mother also spent the remainder of her life. She passed away about

1882. They were natives respectively of Massachusetts and Connecticut, the mother being in her girlhood Miss Hannah G. Lane, and the families of both were of English descent.

Upon leaving the district school young Pound became a student of Walworth Academy, and subsequently of Macedon Academy, and thus prepared himself for a college course. This latter he entered upon in Union College, in Schenectady, from which he was graduated with honors in the year 1859. Immediately afterward, at Lyons, Wayne Co., N. Y., he entered the law office of Judge Sherwood, who was County Judge Surrogate, and for whom he officiated as clerk, copying legal documents and attending to court business until 1863. By this time he had gained a knowledge of common law, and after a creditable examination was admitted to practice. In 1864, at the expiration of Judge Sherwood's term of office, he was admitted to partnership with his tutor, which lasted until the death of the latter in 1866. In the fall of that year Judge Pound came to the West, spending one winter in Platteville, Wis., and during the following year taking up his residence in this State.

In the fall of 1869 Judge Pound returned to the Empire State, and was there married, in Wayne County, to Miss Laura B., daughter of J. S. and Olivia Biddlecome. She was born in 1841, in Ontario County, N. Y. The newly married pair returned at once to Lincoln, which has since been their home. On the expiration of his term of office as Probate Judge, he, in January, 1872, formed a law partnership with C. C. Burr, which continued three years, until his election to be District Judge. In 1872 he was elected State Senator for the district composed of Lancaster and several adjoining counties. He was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention which convened in the spring of 1875, for the purpose of forming a new Constitution, which also established a new judicial system. In the fall of 1875 he was elected Judge of the Second Judicial Circuit, composed of the counties of Lancaster, Cass, Otoe and Nemaha, of which office he was the incumbent for three successive terms, and until the fall of 1887. At this time Judge Pound resigned, and associated himself in a law partnership with C. C. Burr, the firm of Pound & Burr still

existing. They command an extensive practice throughout this and adjoining counties, and are both men of standing, possessing ripe judgment and a large experience. Being free from scheming or trickery they enjoy the patronage of the most intelligent class of people within their jurisdiction.

The home of Judge Pound embraces a fine residence, with ample grounds, where, in the companionship of an intelligent wife and hosts of friends, he is in the enjoyment of sufficient of this world's goods, being surrounded by all the comforts of life. His property embraces this home and other real estate in Lincoln. His family includes a son and two daughters, the first mentioned of whom is Roscoe, a bright and promising young man, and a graduate of the State University, where the daughters, Emma L. and Olivia, are now both students. Judge Pound has been prominently identified with the legal profession at large in Southern Nebraska, taking a lively interest in maintaining its standing and reputation, and is inseparably connected with its history.



JACOB LAHM, whose extensive farm is situated upon section 28, Buda Precinct, is a native of Bavaria, and one of whom it is a pleasure to speak, because he has sought to understand the institutions of his adopted country, gather its ideas and make them his own, with the happy result that there are few who better understand or more appreciate them. He was born in the Kingdom of Bavaria, on the 7th of July, 1842, and is the son of Phillip and Catherine Lahm. He is their only son, and has received every advantage in their power to give. His education in his native tongue was extensive and thorough, and since coming to this country he has made considerable progress in his study of English. At fifteen years of age he was apprenticed to learn the trade of blacksmith and iron worker, and continued to follow it until he was about twenty-two years of age, when he joined the Bavarian army and served five and one-half years in the heavy cavalry, and was the blacksmith of his company. He was in the Austro-Prussian War in 1866, fighting on the side of Austria.

In the second battle in which he participated he was wounded in the right ankle by a grenade; this left him unfit for service, and he was honorably discharged, and subsequently received a pension of \$5 per month.

In 1868 our subject emigrated to America, taking passage at Havre, and after a voyage of seventeen days landed from the steamer that had been his floating home for that period, in the city of New York. Having recovered somewhat from the effects of the voyage he made his way to St. Louis, which was his home for about a year. He then went to Shelbyville, Ill., and for three years worked by the month upon a farm; subsequently rented a property and went to work upon his own account, and was very successful in this venture, and before very long was in a position to purchase a farm.

The Western World had sent forth its invitation for settlers, and our subject was one to accept, and in February of 1883 he came to this county, and has resided here ever since. His farm comprises eighty acres of excellent land for agricultural pursuits, and he has gone to work heartily to make every possible improvement upon it. He is quite a student in regard to husbandry, and is one of the founders of the Buda Agricultural Society, which has for its object the improvement of the stock and produce of the farm. He has held the office of President of the society.

In political affairs our subject is deeply interested though not an office-seeker, and decides upon the question of who shall receive his votes rather by the character of the candidate than the question of his party. Although not a member of any church our subject is a most respected citizen because of his regard for a high state of morals, personally and in the community. He was one of the founders of the German Family Club, of Cortland, and has been President of the club from the commencement, with the exception of two years.

One of the most important steps in the life of our subject was taken upon the 25th of December, 1867, when he became the husband of Miss Angelica Kime, a lady of culture, refinement and womanly grace, who has since stood with him, at once the brightness and inspiration of his life. Our

subject represents the ideal German-American citizen. Since coming to this country he has carefully studied its institutions and is deeply imbued with its ideas, with the result that he is most cordially in sympathy with the same and heartily attached to the land of his adoption.

WILLIAM MAXWELL REED, who has been a resident of this county since April, 1875, belongs to that large class of rugged farmers who have come from the Buckeye State and assisted so materially in the development of this section of country. Mr. Reed was born in Licking County, Ohio, March 13, 1827, and is the son of Nelson and Jane (Maxwell) Reed. The mother of our subject died in her native State, leaving six children, of whom William Maxwell is the only son. The father subsequently married Mary Cockrell, and in 1852 the family migrated to Illinois and settled in Fulton County, which ten years later they exchanged for Knox County. The father finally removed to Southeastern Illinois, and continued to reside there until his decease, which occurred in 1865.

The subject of this biographical notice was reared to farm life and received a common-school education, which he has broadened by reading and observation, until he is a well-informed man, abreast of his age, on the subjects of the day. On the 25th of March, 1852, he was united in marriage with Mary A. Snare, a native of Licking County, Ohio, and spent the next ten years in Fulton County, Ill., engaged in the occupation of farming. In 1862 they removed to Knox County, and on the 14th of August, of the same year, Mr. Reed enlisted in the Union Army, and was mustered into the service with Company B, 103d Illinois Infantry. He entered the army as a private, but he became a non-commissioned officer, and saw much active service in his three years' experience. He participated in the battles of Kennesaw Mountain, Mission Ridge, Atlanta and other places, and was present at the siege of Vicksburg. He was honorably discharged from the army July 7, 1865, after earning a good war record as a brave and capable soldier, and returning

to Knox County, Ill., converted his sword into a plowshare, and resumed his peaceful vocation. Ten years later he sold his Illinois property, and coming to Nebraska rented land, which he operated until able to secure a tract of his own. He now owns eighty-five acres of well-improved land, provided with comfortable buildings for the successful prosecution of his calling.

To Mr. and Mrs. Reed has been born a family of six children, whose record is as follows: Mahala is the wife of Samuel Walker, and Nora, of George Anderton; William D., Otis, Effie, and Huldah, the wife of Elmer Mattox. The political views of our subject find their best exponent in the Republican party, whose candidates for office he uniformly supports, while socially, as might be expected of a soldier, he is a member of Mitchell Post No. 28, G. A. R., at Waverly.

FREDERICK A. STROCKEY. There is no nation upon earth more given to journeying than the American people, unless it be the nomads of North Africa, and the difference is so great as to make it hardly worthy of mention. In the civilized world America has no equal in this regard. In every clime and upon every sea, the American tourist is recognised by his shrewd, clear-cut business air, and the intelligence of his inquiry and research. At home the same restlessness is noted, and as a people we live away from home, whether in the interest of pleasure or business, to an unprecedented degree. Upon these journeyings the traveler has learned to appreciate in the proprietor of his stopping-place those qualities which lead him to make his hostelry as homelike as a public place can be. In Princetown, Neb., just such an one is found in the subject of the present sketch, whose hotel has quite a reputation in reference to these characteristics of hotel management. In addition to the above our subject is engaged in general mercantile pursuits, and by his capacity for business is successful in the same. Mr. Strockey was born on the 6th of August, 1814, in Stephenson County, Ill., and is the son of Christian and Caroline Strockey, who were both natives of the Fatherland. Our

subject received a somewhat limited education in the public schools of his native district, and subsequently went to farm work, and continued at the same in his native county until he arrived at manhood. In the spring of 1868 he came to Nebraska and located in Gage County, continuing his residence there until the spring of 1887, when he removed to this county. In Bada Precinct he owns eighty acres of good land, which is well cultivated.

During his residence in Gage County our subject was united in marriage to Jane Nichols, a native of that county, their wedding being celebrated on the 3d of October, 1870. Their family includes four children, whose names are subjoined: Charles, Olive, Chester and Milton F. The wife of our subject is a native of Wisconsin, and was born there on the 7th of March, 1852; she is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Nichols.

Mr. Strockey has always desired to have a home of his own, and has constantly striven to that end. He went into his store business about April, 1888, and has been increasingly prosperous. It is one of the most extensive in the district, and the store proper is very commodious, measuring 18x40 feet, and is occupied by just such a stock of general merchandise as would be carried by a country store. He embarked on the hotel enterprise on Aug. 1, 1888, and it is now the leading hotel of Princeton and the entire district, and its business is by no means injured by his large popularity. The religious home of our subject is in the United Brethren communion, and he serves the local organization in the capacity of Steward. In political matters he usually devotes his energies to forwarding the interests of the Republican party, and gives to it his suffrage.

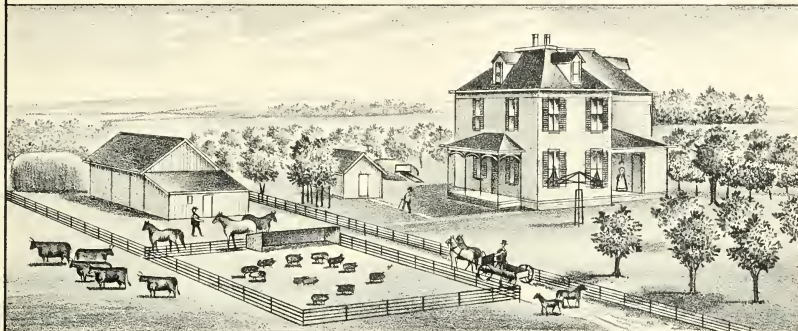


AMOS EAGER. In the present biography is offered a brief outline of the life of one who has developed a special aptitude for and delight in stock farming, and has linked with this a carefully cultivated mental power and a large capacity for work, with the result that there are few in his precinct or county whose farms are more nearly perfect in point of agriculture and gen-

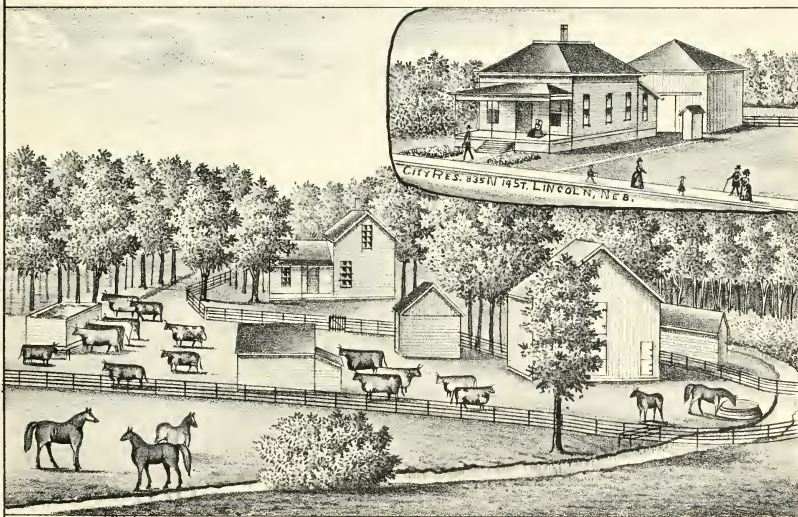
eral cultivation, or who are more successful in the breeding and raising of various kinds of stock, perhaps, more especially restricting that word as applied to cattle. The property of our subject is situated upon section 34 of Rock Creek Precinct, upon which he settled in the year 1871.

Mr. Eager is the son of William and Caroline (Northrup) Eager. His father was a native of Oneida County, N. Y., and was born in the year 1799. He continued to make his home there until 1855, when he removed to Rock County, Wis., and there continued until his death. His chosen life occupation was husbandry, and he was more than successful. He was married in the year 1826; his wife was a native of Allegany County, N. Y., and was born in the year 1808. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Eager comprised nine children, five of whom are sons. They are recorded as follows: Cynthia is the wife of Mr. Blaine, of Rutland, Rock Co., Wis.; Amy, now Mrs. Peter Case, whose husband is one of the prosperous merchants of Fredericksburg, Chickasaw Co., Iowa; Almeron M., a capitalist and manufacturer of Rock County, Wis.; Aellia, the wife of John Case, of Fredericksburg; Alvin, an extensive farmer of Grand Island, Neb.; Amos, the subject of this sketch; Rinda, happily married to John Ellison, another of Fredericksburg's farmers; and DeWitt, a merchant at Beaver Crossing, in this State.

Our subject was born on the 30th of May, 1845, in Oneida County, N. Y., and continued to live at home, passing through the usual phases of boyhood and youth, occupied with play and lessons, judiciously interspersed with chores and lighter labors, until the arrival at such an age and development of strength and muscle as to permit of larger duties and responsibilities. In 1861, upon the outbreak of the war, he enlisted in Company D, 7th Wisconsin Infantry, on the 18th of August. On the 1st of September following, he proceeded with his regiment to Washington, and was stationed in that city during the winter. The following March he was ordered to Fredericksburg, remaining there until August, when the regiment marched to Cedar Mountain, and the first battle for this regiment was fought; afterward our subject was one of the active combatants at the battles of the Rappahannock and



RESIDENCE OF H.C. FUSON , SEC. 3, WAVERLY PRECINCT.



FARM AND CITY RESIDENCE OF A.S. EAGER, SEC. 34. ROCK CREEK PRECINCT.

Gainesville. In the last battle he was severely wounded, being shot through the wrist and ankle, and from the effects of these wounds he was honorably discharged April 18, 1864.

Upon returning home our subject attended for one year the seminary at Evansville, Wis., and at the end of that time left the State and made his home in Iowa for the subsequent three years, occupied during that period in farming. In 1868 he came to Omaha of this State, and remained one year, then went to Saunders County and pre-empted eighty acres of land and remained upon it one year, and then came to Lancaster County. After some prospecting he homesteaded eighty acres of land in Rock Creek, which has since been extended, until to-day he possesses there quite a large estate. In 1873 a new farm of 160 acres of land was purchased from the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company, at \$6 per acre, situated on section 27. Seven years after another quarter-section was purchased, situated upon section 33, for which he paid \$1,200. In 1882, for the same amount, an additional eighty acres was bought. Five years after, *i. e.* in 1887, another eighty acres changed hands and became the property of our subject, for which \$1,750 was paid, so that he owns altogether about 560 acres in Rock Creek Precinct.

Our subject was married, in the year 1871, to Ellen Saffer, a daughter of George W. and Mary (Riderman) Saffer. Her father was born in the Hoosier State, in the year 1824, and made it his home for about forty-two years, and then went to Fulton County, Ill. This he made his home until the year 1870, and then came to Saunders County, Neb., where he still resides. Mrs. Saffer was born in Indiana in 1832, and departed this life in 1865. Their family circle included five daughters, of whom the wife of our subject was the third-born. This important event occurred April 23, 1855. Our subject and his wife are happy in having four children, three of whom are sons. Their names are Frank, Carl, Earl and Pearl.

Mr. Eager continued with undiminished vigor and assiduity to carry on his farms until the close of the season of 1887, when he removed to the city of Lincoln, retired from active labor, in order to enjoy the fruit of previous years of toil. Never-the-

less he has not entirely severed his connection with the farm, but still superintends with keen interest, more especially giving attention to his stock and cattle breeding. He is the owner of an exceptionally fine herd of high-grade cattle of the best varieties, devoting special care to this department.

The family of our subject are members of the Free Methodist Episcopal Church, in good standing, and receive the cordial esteem of their fellow-members. The political sympathies of Mr. Eager are with the Republican party, of which he is an old friend and supporter. His standing in the community is of the very highest.



HENRY C. FUSON, of Waverly Precinct, came to this section of country in 1875, and began his career in Nebraska upon rented land. He labored industriously five years, and by this time had accumulated sufficient capital to purchase his present farm, of which only forty acres were under the plow. There was upon it only one small building, which served as a shelter to the family until the erection of the present handsome and substantial dwelling, in 1888. This residence is one of the finest in this part of the county, and Mr. Fuson has by degrees added the other farm buildings essential to the convenience and comfort of the modern agriculturist. A view of the place is shown in this connection. His accumulations are the result of his own industry, as he is essentially a self-made man, one who was thrown upon his own resources early in life, and understood that if he was to get on in the world he must put his shoulder to the wheel. That he has done this, and with most admirable results, is at once apparent in the fine property which now affords him a handsome income, and which will amply provide for him in his old age.

Our subject was born in Champaign County, Ohio, March 18, 1845, and is the son of William S. and Sarah (Harboar) Fuson, who were natives respectively of the Old Dominion and the Buckeye State. William Fuson was but an infant when his parents emigrated to Champaign County, Ohio, where they spent the remainder of their lives. He

grew to manhood assisting in the building up of the homestead, and was married to the mother of our subject in Champaign County, of which her parents were also early pioneers.

The parents of our subject, in 1846, left Ohio and settled on a farm in Fulton County, Ind., where the father followed agriculture until his death, in 1862. The mother later joined her youngest son, Millard F., in Kansas, and is now residing there, in Trego County. The parental household included eleven children, eight of whom were living at the time of the father's death, and seven still survive: Thomas J. follows the profession of a teacher at Havana, Ill.; Ira J. is mining in the vicinity of Georgetown, Col.; Simeon J. pursues farming and carpentering combined, near Marbleton, Ill.; Willis H. died in Trego County, Kan., about 1885; Henry C., our subject, was the fifth child; Noah E. died in Fulton County, Ill. when about twenty-two years old; Mary C., Mrs. John Jackson, lives in New Mexico, and Millard F. is a mail carrier of Trego County, Kan.

Mr. Fuson, our subject, was only eighteen months old when his father removed with his family to Fulton County, Ill. where the boy developed into manhood, acquired a common-school education, and became familiar with the various employments of the farm. The second year of the war he enlisted as a Union soldier, in Company E, 53d Illinois Infantry, but was only permitted to serve about ten months, being compelled to accept his discharge on account of ill-health. He, however, participated in the siege of Corinth, and saw much of the hardships and privations of war. Upon retiring from the service he resumed farming in Illinois, and in due time, May 7, 1867, was united in marriage with one of the most estimable young ladies of Fulton County, Miss Zilla Atwater, who was born there Oct. 17, 1844. Her parents, Lyman and Jane (Lockwood) Atwater, were natives of Ohio, and spent their last years in Fulton County, where the father followed farming, and died about 1862. The mother passed away in 1873.

Mr. Fuson when starting out for himself purchased eighty acres of his father's estate in Fulton County, and lived there until coming to Nebraska. To our subject and his estimable wife there have

been born six children, of whom five are living, namely: Willis H., U. Grant, Flora Isabelle, Dora May and Charles H. One son, John R., died Dec. 28, 1885, in Nebraska, when a promising youth of fifteen years. Mr. Fuson while in Illinois was connected with the United Brethren Church, but now, with his estimable wife, belongs to the Christian Church, in Waverly. Politically, Mr. F. votes the straight Republican ticket, but has never aspired to office. As an ex-soldier he is identified with the G. A. R., belonging to Mitchell Post No. 38, at Waverly.



HON. JOHN W. DICKINSON. One of the leading and substantial citizens of Lancaster County is John W. Dickinson, the subject of this biographical sketch, who resides near Waverly, upon his farm. He is a son of Ensign P. and Fanny S. (Whitcher) Dickinson, natives of Ohio and Massachusetts respectively.

E. P. Dickinson learned and for many years followed the trade of carpenter, in his native State, where he was reared to manhood and continued to reside until after his marriage. In 1842 or 1843 he removed with his family to Wisconsin. When he came to Grant County there were very few settlers, and neighbors could only be visited after a comparatively long journey. He took up his residence near Platteville, where his services were speedily in demand, and for a considerable time he continued to follow his trade. Here, Sept. 22, 1845, our subject, John W., was born. His father, who is still living, has been a successful man. When he settled in Grant County the total amount in the family exchequer was exceedingly small, in popular parlance he was without a dollar, but by indefatigable industry and undaunted enterprise he has become one of its wealthy and most respected citizens.

The "grand old party" has always found in Mr. D. a staunch advocate, an intelligent and energetic worker. He is not a member of any church denomination, but his innate large-heartedness and liberality are such that he deals with liberal hand with every worthy and charitable enterprise, whether it

be the individual who has been overcome by the misfortunes and adversities of life, or more extensive demands from the community at large. His wife, the mother of our subject, is still living, and has borne seven children, of whom John W. is the second. The eldest was Elizabeth, now the wife of E. T. McKee, of Stockton, Cal.; after John W. was Lorain, wife of H. W. Cowell, also of Stockton; Phebe, now Mrs. Warren Johnson, of Grant County, Wis.; William, resident in Arizona, and Everett, of Ripon, Cal.; Ina L. who married A. Grindell, but afterward died in California, and Charles, now a resident of Platteville, Wis.

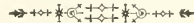
Until our subject was eighteen years of age his life was spent between attending school and rendering such services as he was enabled to upon the farm. Then (in 1864) he enlisted and went into service with Company B, 43d Wisconsin Regiment, which was commanded by Col. Allison Cobb, now of the Nebraska Supreme Bench. Mr. Dickinson participated in the battle of Johnsonville, Tenn., and a number of minor engagements, and was discharged by general order, in July, 1865, at the close of the war, when he returned home to Wisconsin. Two years after he turned his face westward, and finally located on section 14, town 11, range 8, Waverly Precinct. Here he entered a homestead claim, took up his residence upon it, and set to work to fulfil the other legal requirements. In due time he proved up, and has since continued to occupy it. He owns 180 acres of land, which is in a good state of cultivation, and upon it is found, besides his pleasant residence, substantially built farm buildings, in which attention has been given in the detail of arrangement, to such provision as shall insure the greatest comfort and convenience. In addition to his farm Mr. Dickinson has engaged extensively for the last three years in the sale of live stock and grain.

In the year 1871 Mr. Dickinson was married to Carrie A. Hulling, daughter of Samuel and Johanna Hulling. This lady was born in Grant County, Wis., where she resided until her marriage. Their home has been brightened by the presence of four children—Eusign, Fanny, Ina and Clyde.

Our subject follows the admirable example of his father in politics, and has been a careful stu-

dent, strong adherent, and eloquent advocate of the principles of the Republican party; frequently has he been called upon to fill local offices. He was a candidate for election to the State Legislature in 1886, at which time, remembering his conscientious and careful work in the other offices, respecting his manly character and integrity, judging him a worthy and true man, one fitted in an eminent degree to represent them, the people elected him.

In the G. A. R., of Waverly, of which society Mr. Dickinson is a member, he has been found to be a consistent, reliable and active member, courteous gentleman, and brave comrade, especially in the post with which he is immediately connected.



JOSEPH ROCKE is one of the prominent farmers residing in Buda Precinct, being the owner of eighty acres of land on section 1, also of 320 acres in Rawlins County, Kan. He was born on the 15th of November, 1854, in McLean County, Ill. and is a son of Joseph and Mary Rocke, both natives of Germany. His parents emigrated to America, and after reaching this country went to Illinois, and among other places in which they made their home was the county of Tazewell. They came to Lancaster County about the year 1868, and the father homesteaded eighty acres of land, it now being the home of his son, our subject. The father died in January, 1883, and the mother in June, 1886, they having been the parents of seven children, six now living, namely: Christian, the proprietor of the Washington House; Jacob, the present County Treasurer of this county; Mary, the wife of Prof. Richard Stoekfeld, who is the Principal of the schools at Cortland, Gage County; Melinda, the wife of Henry Weidaman, in Gage County; Elizabeth, the wife of John Fisher, residing in Lincoln, and Joseph, our subject.

The gentleman in whose honor this sketch is written has been a resident of this county since the year 1868, consequently he has had considerable experience as an early settler, and has watched with pride and interest the improvements that are yearly being made. On the 3d of April, 1887, he was united in marriage with Mary Roeke, a native of

Illinois, by whom he has one daughter, Clara, who was born on the 16th of January, 1888. He is a member of the Republican party, and is interested in all general public improvements.

The later residents of a country whose resources have been well developed can hardly appreciate the advantages of education and religion which they enjoy as fully as can those early settlers who have kept pace with the improvements, as they were made, and have watched with admiration the rapid progress toward perfection. Parents bravely and uncomplainingly endured the hardships and privations incident to the life of an early settler, stimulated by the thought that their children and their children's children would enjoy the fruits of their industry, and that in the history of a country none receive more honorable mention than do those noble men and women who made the first start toward colonization. The subject of our sketch will be remembered as one who has done his share in the great work of improving this vast Western country, and as he is yet but a young man will have ample opportunity to watch the further growth and development of his section. He enjoys the confidence and esteem of the people of his neighborhood, and has been fairly successful in life.



AUGUST LUCKE. As a whole, it is open to discussion whether there is a more desirable class of immigrants in the New World, taking up land or making their homes in the Western country, than those who are from the country of the Rhine. It has been noticed frequently that quite a large number of friends, relatives and acquaintances will leave their native valley together and journey to this country, and take up their claims so as to form quite a colony. Something of that kind took place in the settlement of certain parts of Lancaster County, and our subject is one who stands prominently before the people of Buda Precinct as a representative American citizen, man and farmer. His property is on section 26 of the above precinct, and comprises 480 acres of very excellent farming land.

Our subject was born in Germany, on the 18th

of October, 1839, and is the son of Louis and Charlotte Lucke, the former of whom is deceased. His mother now resides in the same precinct. Our subject was reared to manhood in his native country, and there received a good practical education. He determined to emigrate to America in the spring of 1861, and crossed from Bremen to New York in a sailing-vessel, occupying upon the voyage six weeks and five days. For about four years he continued to work steadily in Chicago, where he was employed driving teams, etc. As soon as he had saved sufficient to warrant the venture, he removed to Benton County, Iowa, and began to farm upon his own account, and continued with increasing prosperity for three and a half years. In the fall of 1872 our subject came to this county and homesteaded eighty acres of land, and it was not long before he had a thoroughly improved farm.

Subsequently our subject added to his farm, piece by piece, until to-day it comprises 480 acres, mostly of fine bottom land, all in good condition and yielding very fine harvests. In 1861, when men were called for, he enlisted in the defense of the old flag, and on the 1st of October became a member of Company H, 51st Illinois Infantry, 2d Division, 3d Brigade, Commander. Col. Bridlair, of Chicago. Among the battles in which he participated may be mentioned those of Spring Hill and Franklin, and in the fight at Nashville and a second battle at Decatur. He finally became a member of the "Thomas Corps" and was sent to Texas, and afterward returned to Camp Butler, Ill., and was at that place when discharged in December, 1862.

The marriage of our subject was celebrated on the 4th of March, 1870, at Vinton, Benton Co., Iowa, the lady of his choice being Minnie Strankman, and their family includes five children, who have been named as follows: Anne, Willie, Matilda, Rosa and Huldah. His home is very pleasantly situated, and is designed to afford much comfort and convenience; during the warm summer days, the shade and orchard trees receive much praise because of their grateful shade and fruit, while through the long winter evenings, when the family are gathered in their cosy parlor, it is hard to find a brighter or happier home.

Our subject is as conscientious in the question of

his suffrage as he is successful in his business, voting not for party, but for the man, and he who is the best, in the judgment of our subject, receives his vote. He is affiliated with the Buda Agricultural Society, and with his wife, is a member of the German Congregational Church.



ERASTUS E. BROWN, President of the State National Bank of Lincoln, has been prominent in city affairs and the business interests of this growing town since the time of his coming here in 1870. A native of Onondaga County, N. Y., he was born in the town of Jordan, Oct. 27, 1838, and was the third in a family of four children born to Russell and Laura (Sweet) Brown, who were of New England ancestry, and the father a native of Massachusetts.

Russell Brown emigrated to New York State when a youth of sixteen years, and thence, some years after his marriage, to Steuben County, Ind. The mother died in 1879. Mr. Brown and family still live in Indiana. Erastus E. acquired his early education in the district school, and when a youth of fifteen years made his way to the town of Wolcottville, Ind., and attended the academy two years. Subsequently he went to Auburn, N. Y., and entered the law office of Wright & Pomeroy, and under the instruction of these first-class attorneys gained a fine insight into legal lore. He also attended the Law School at Poughkeepsie, N. Y. He was admitted to the bar in Brooklyn, N. Y., in 1861, and began the practice of his profession at Moravia, Cayuga Co., N. Y.

Mr. Brown continued his law practice at Moravia until 1870, then, turning his face westward, took up his residence in the rising city of Lincoln, where he followed his chosen calling successfully until 1882, when failing health obliged him to withdraw from duties which were consuming too much of his time and strength. He became identified with the State National Bank as its President in 1885, and still holds this position, discharging the various duties and responsibilities therewith in a manner which has placed it upon a substantial foot-

ing and gained for its leading official the esteem and confidence of the community.

The marriage of Erastus E. Brown and Miss Jennie Churchill, of Onondaga County, N. Y., was celebrated at the home of the bride in Borodino, N. Y., Dec. 12, 1866. Mrs. Brown was born in Onondaga County, and is the daughter of Aussen and Izabenda Churchill. The father died when his daughter Jennie was five years old. The mother died in 1875. They occupy a handsome home on L and Thirteenth streets. Mr. Brown was elected Mayor of Lincoln in 1872, and was the united choice of the people of this district for the State Senate in 1877 and 1881. He was largely instrumental in securing the appropriation for the building of the State Capitol at Lincoln, which gave to this city its substantial growth and which has maintained it upon a solid basis. He is a man liberal-minded and public-spirited, and came to this section of country at a time when such men were most needed. In politics, he is a staunch Republican.



RUSSELL LOWNES, one of the enterprising and public-spirited men of Grant Precinct, owns a fine farm 320 acres in extent, which is located on section 10, and upon which he has erected a neat and substantial dwelling, a commodious barn, and the other buildings required for the successful prosecution of agriculture after modern methods. The estate is also supplied with the other appurtenances required by the progressive agriculturist, namely, first-class farm machinery, excellent grades of live stock, including horses, cattle and swine, a fine orchard of apple trees and the smaller fruits, which go to make up the comforts and enjoyments of the rural home.

Sharing in the prosperity of the subject of this sketch are an excellent and sensible wife and two bright children. The latter have been carefully reared, and given those advantages in keeping with their position as the representatives of a family which is widely and favorably known throughout this part of the county, and with whose history they are closely identified, and who have contributed their full quota in bringing it to its present position.

The communities of the West have grown rapidly, and, during the six years' residence of our subject in this portion of Lancaster County, his example and his labors have had due weight with the people around him and have proved an impetus to their own efforts, illustrating the oft repeated maxim, that much of life is due to its surroundings and associations.

The Lownes family is supposed to have originated in Wales, and the father of our subject, Joseph by name, was born in Belmont County, Ohio. Upon reaching manhood he was married, in Fulton County, Ill., to Miss Susannah J. Russell, who was born in Alexandria, Vt., and who emigrated with her parents to Terre Haute, Ind., where they remained two years, then moved to Fulton County, Ill., where they lived about four years, then changed their residence to McDonough County, of which they remained residents until December, 1882. Then, coming to Nebraska, they settled in Grant Precinct, where the mother died on the 4th of May, 1883, and the father two years later, Sept. 15, 1885. Their family included four children, the eldest of whom, Evelyn, is the wife of Charles A. Cook, of Oak Precinct, this county; J. Russell, our subject, was the second child and only son; Susannah, Mrs. Charles M. Martin, resides on a farm in Grant Precinct; Ida married Fielding Martin, and died in Grant Precinct, March 23, 1885.

The subject of this sketch was born in McDonough County, Ill., April 8, 1847, was reared to farm pursuits, and completed his education in the Normal School in Macomb, in his native county. He came to this county in the latter part of 1882. He had been married in Prairie City, Ill., Nov. 9, 1870, to Miss Frances V. Cadwallader, who was born in Ellisville, Fulton County, that State, Jan. 27, 1850, and is the daughter of Ezra and Mary M. (Lancaster) Cadwallader, the former of whom died, in Prairie City, April 14, 1872. The mother is still living, and makes her home in Lewisburg, Kan.

To our subject and his wife there were born three children, the youngest of whom, a son, Marcus, died when about one year old, in 1879. Mrs. Lownes is a very capable and intelligent lady, of good family, and occupies a fine social position as the wife of one of the leading men of this county, and repre-

senting the best phase of its agricultural and business interests. She is a member in good standing of the Free-Will Baptist Church, while Mr. Lownes was reared in the religious faith of the Society of Friends, and is still in sympathy with the principles taught him by his honored parents.

The maternal grandmother of our subject was in her girlhood Miss Susan Janey, whose ancestors crossed the Atlantic from England on the same vessel with William Penn, and were in full sympathy with the great peacemaker in his labors to implant the principles of truth and justice upon the soil of the new continent. Politically, Mr. Lownes is a pronounced Republican, and a man who keeps himself well posted upon matters of general interest to the intelligent and responsible citizen.



HON. WILLIAM W. CARDER. A well-known officer of the United States Army, in a recently written magazine article, has forcibly stated the fact of the wonderful development of the great Western plains in the following words: "The rapid and thorough reclamation of our Western possessions from the control and domination of savages, and the magical transformation of this vast expanse of wilderness from a theater of barbarous warfare into thriving cities, villages and farms, the occupants of which are provided with peaceful and happy homes, are doubtless without a parallel in the annals of civilization." As one who has been a witness of this magical transformation from wilderness to civilization, it gives us great pleasure to present in the pages of this work a biographical sketch of William W. Carder. He is a fine representative of the hardy, courageous pioneers who laid the foundations of Nebraska's present prosperity, and he has also assisted in building the noble superstructure that has since arisen, making it a great and powerful State. When he came to Nebraska in 1857 it was under Territorial Government, and there were but few settlements away from the Missouri River. It was then that he saw for the first time the broad and almost illimitable plains, stretching for hundreds of miles away to the base of the Rocky

Mountains, which form a portion of what was then called the "Great American Desert," with which in the years that followed he became so familiar. It was a wild, desolate country, where deer, antelope and buffalo roamed at will, and the Indians were still numerous and often hostile.

In 1867 Mr. Carder settled in Lincoln, and to him belongs the distinction of having edited and published the first newspaper ever issued in this city or, indeed, in the interior of Nebraska, and through its columns he was instrumental in attracting people hither and thus building up the city, which had been previously organized, although the sale of lots had not taken place. Assisted by his wife in setting the type, he sent forth to the public the first number of his paper, called the *Nebraska Commonwealth*, on the 22d of October, 1867. The name was afterward changed to *Nebraska State Journal*, and in 1868 it changed hands.

The subject of this sketch was born in Harrison County, W. Va., Aug. 2, 1838, being a son of Abbott Carder, a native of the same State, and a grandson of Henry Carder, who was born in the city of Dublin, Ireland. The latter emigrated to America with his family and settled in Virginia, where he and his brother had previously bought a large tract of land. He became extensively engaged in farming, and resided there until his death. The father of our subject was reared and married in Virginia, Susanna Staulbaker, likewise a Virginian by birth, becoming his wife, and he resided in his native State until 1839. In that year he moved to Ohio with his family, and in the town of Lebanon, Warren County, started a carriage and wagon factory, which he conducted very successfully for many years. He is still living, full of years, and honored for the upright life that he has led, making his home with his children, and a part of the time dwelling with our subject. His faithful wife departed this life in Dayton, Ohio.

William W. Carder was reared in Lebanon, and in the city schools received a liberal education. At sixteen years of age he engaged in the office of the *Lebanon Citizen* to learn the "art preservative," and in the three years that he spent there he gained a thorough mastery of his calling. After he left that office he went to Cincinnati, and for a short time

set type on the *Enquirer* and on the *Times*. He then went to Peoria, Ill., and was employed in the same manner in the office of the *Peoria Transcript*, until 1857, when he came to the Territory of Nebraska, and the following seven years was engaged in freighting across the plains as far west as Salt Lake City. These long and tedious journeys were not devoid of excitement, and were sometimes fraught with danger, as after the breaking out of the late Civil War the Indians were quite hostile, and the only safe way to travel was in large companies. Even then the trains were occasionally attacked and cattle were killed or stolen. It was while on one of these journeys that our subject met the Hon. John Cadman, one of the first settlers of Lancaster County. He was at that time (1863) in the employ of Coe & Carter, and while preparing to make a trip across the plains he was detained in Nebraska City three days after the rest of the train had started. He was provided with two pairs of oxen and a two-wheeled vehicle, and was entrusted with \$4,000 in cash and two dozen pistols, which were concealed in a dry-goods box. His employers then instructed him to make Ft. Kearney as quickly as possible by the shortest and most expeditious route, that he might overtake the train there. On the second day out he arrived at the cabin of Mr. Cadman, and asked to be allowed to stay over night. Cattle thieves then infested the country and every stranger was looked upon with suspicion, and it is thought that Mr. Cadman took Mr. Carder for a member of that fraternity, for in answer to his query, Mr. Cadman replied that he might if he would consent to be watched by a man with a revolver. Mr. Carder readily consented, and on the floor of the cabin he slept the sleep of the just until the morning hours. He then pursued his journey, and arrived at Ft. Kearney six days ahead of the train. In 1864 he resumed his old employment as a printer, and was engaged in the office of the *Nebraska City Press*, the leading paper of Nebraska, serving as foreman three years, and the latter part of the time as local editor. In 1867 he came to Lincoln to engage in the newspaper business on his own account, and in 1868 he disposed of his paper to J. Q. Brownlee, and engaged as foreman in the mechanical department for two

years. He then entered the United States mail service as route agent on the Nebraska Railway, and was thus employed for three years and eleven months. He then devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits on his land in Middle Creek Precinct, which he had taken up under the Homestead Act some years previously. He lived there until 1880, when he sold out and bought a farm in Grant Precinct, and resided there two years. At the expiration of that time he returned to Lincoln, and engaged in hotel-keeping until January, 1888. In 1885 he bought a tract of land on Holdridge avenue, and in 1887 erected his present substantial residence. On the 1st of September, 1888, he opened Carder's European Hotel, north of the post-office, at No. 934 P street. The hotel is first-class in every particular.

Mr. Carder married, April 18, 1861, Miss Nancy Swarts, who was born near London, Ontario, Canada, and is a daughter of Simon and Sarah (Banghart) Swarts, both natives of Canada, and of German ancestry. Mr. and Mrs. Carder have two children living: Emma, wife of J. B. Herrick, of Lincoln; and C. H. Gere Carder. Willie, their second child, died at the age of sixteen years; May, the third child, died at the age of eleven years.

Mr. Carder is one of the leading Republicans of Lancaster County, and has been an enthusiastic supporter of the policy of this party ever since he was old enough to vote. He has taken a conspicuous part in political affairs and has been a delegate to numerous conventions, and in 1879 was elected to represent his party in the State Legislature. He is a member of Lincoln Camp No. 190, Modern Woodmen, and he and his wife occupy a high social position generally, being liberal-minded, intelligent and cultured people.



LOUIE MEYER has been for several years a prominent figure in business circles in Lancaster County, and is considered one of the ablest and most enterprising merchants of Lincoln, where he is engaged in the wholesale and retail general merchandising business, under the firm name of L. Meyer & Co., at Nos. 108-110 North

Tenth street, opposite Government Square. He has been an important factor in building up the mercantile interests of the city, and is one of the leading public men.

Mr. Meyer is a native of Austria, born Aug. 12, 1853, near Carlsbad, the world-renowned watering place. He is the fifth in order of birth of the eight children born to Dr. David and Mary (Becker) Meyer. His father is a physician of no little note in his native land, and is the oldest practicing member of his profession now living in the nation of Austria, and in an extensive practice of fifty-five years has justly gained the confidence and friendship of a large number of patients by his careful and skillful treatment.

Our subject received a substantial education in the schools of his native country, which he attended from the age of five until he was fourteen. On leaving school he commenced his business career as a clerk in a store in Carlsbad, where he spent one year. He was a lad of more than ordinary capacity and intelligence, possessed of an indomitable will and ambition, and desiring to see more of life and make a name and a place for himself in the world, he determined to come to the United States as the country where he could best accomplish what he desired to do. Accordingly in the summer of 1870 he crossed the Atlantic, and landed on these shores at New York City. From there he made his way to Des Moines, Iowa, where he had friends, with whom he spent several months. In January, 1871, he came to Lincoln, and entered the store of Rich & Openheimer as a clerk, and his four years' experience in that capacity in that establishment proved of invaluable service to him in his after career. In 1874 our enterprising subject, who had scarcely attained manhood, established himself in the grocery business on his own account. He was doing very well, and had built up quite a good trade, when he was burned out in March, 1877. Serious as was his loss he was not for a moment disheartened, but with a courageous spirit began again, though on a smaller scale, and has gradually worked his business up to its present magnitude, where it stands on a sure and substantial foundation. In 1880 he added dry-goods to his stock, and has extensive dealings with the country merchants and

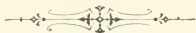


Yours Very Truly

A. H. Wilson

farmers throughout the State of Nebraska. He owns the building that he occupies, which is two stories in height, and 25x134 feet in dimensions, built of brick.

Mr. Meyer was married, Oct. 2, 1879, to Miss Anna Gunarson, of Lincoln, Neb., daughter of Andrew Gunarson. She was born in Princeton, Bureau Co., Ill. Their pleasant household circle is completed by the presence of their son Max, and two daughters, Paulina and Leah. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer are favorites in social circles in this city, and have many warm friends. Mr. Meyer, beside attending to his large business interests, finds time to spare to the duties of public office, to which he is often called. He is at present a member of the City Council, of the Fifth Ward, to which he was elected in April, 1888. He was elected one of the Directors, and Treasurer of the Board of Trade for the second term in April, 1888. In politics, he has always been a strong Republican, and in favor of the enforcement of law and order.



HENRY H. WILSON. One cannot rise from the thoughtful reading of Sir Walter Scott's works without being impressed with the strength of character, pertinacity and robust manhood of the Scotch, as a race. The descendants of this people of remarkable history mark with the same traits and characteristics their individual record, and leave their imprint upon their surroundings, whatever may be the country in which they sojourn.

Henry H. Wilson, whose portrait appears on the opposite page, is a gentleman well known throughout the country as an able lawyer and a brilliant writer. He was born near Fremont, Sandusky Co., Ohio, Jan. 1, 1854, and is the eldest son and seventh child of a family of nine. His sisters Rachael and Martha died in infancy; Caroline is married to John B. Brown, of Bryan, Ohio; Agnes resides near Ashland, Neb., and is the wife of Martin Van Horn; Rebecca married Christian Krabill, a successful farmer of Farmer's Center, Ohio; Jane is the wife of Samuel Biggerstaff, whose home is near

Ithaca, Neb.; his younger brother, William, died Feb. 6, 1888; the youngest, John J., is now living in Wahoo, Neb.

The father of our subject was born in Luzerne County, Pa., not far from Shickshinny, Sept. 13, 1813, and was the son of farmers, Robert and Agnes (Wilson) Wilson; although of the same name they were not related. Robert was the son of Joseph Wilson, who came to the United States from Ireland in pre-Revolutionary times. In Robert there was a mixture of Irish, Scotch and Welsh blood, the former predominating. The two great-grandfathers of our subject bore the same name, Wilson, and the mother's grandfather came from Ireland at the age of seven years. Until the year 1832 the father of Henry H. remained under the parental roof, surrounded by home influences and educated in the schools adjacent to that home.

In the year mentioned the father of our subject went to Ohio and began teaching, at which he continued until settling near Rome, now called Fostoria, in Seneca County. Here he soon became the owner of a farm, and continued his residence until 1841, when he moved to Jackson Township, Sandusky County, and bought eighty acres of Government land at a cost of \$100. In the home which he there built up all his children were born, and not until March, 1871, was any further removal made. Then, accompanied by all his family except the two eldest, he came to Nebraska and settled near Ashland, Saunders County. Here he purchased land and improved a homestead of 320 acres, making it his abode until the spring of 1886, when he took up 320 acres of land adjacent to Camp Clarke, Cheyenne County, and there now makes his home. He is a member of the German Baptist Church, sometimes known by the name of Dunkards. He is independent in politics, pledging himself neither to one party nor another, the dictator of his votes being his sense of right and the requirements of the office to be filled.

Mr. Wilson, Sr., is a man of slight stature and strength, and was ill prepared for the struggles of pioneer life and the hardships incident to carving a farm out of the dense and almost trackless forests of Northern Ohio of a half-century ago. He is, however, a man of buoyant spirits, strong mind and

powerful will, and by his indomitable pluck, un-failing courage, and the peculiar faculty of accomplishing by indirect means what he lacked the physical strength to do by direct means, he was enabled to subdue the forest, clear his farm and rear his unusually large family. During these years of struggle he often accomplished results that many robust men of less resolution would never have undertaken. His changes of residence, both in 1871 and 1886, were made in hope of relief, only partially realized, from the asthma from which he has suffered for thirty years. On the 1st of March, 1838, he married, in Seneca County, Ohio, his first wife, Hannah Benseoter, who died in a few months. On the 1st of April, 1841, in the same county, he married his second wife, Mary Feasel, who became the mother of our subject. She was born in Franklin County, near Columbus, Ohio, on the 23d of May, 1819, and was the eldest child and daughter of Henry and Jane (Kendall) Feasel. The Feasels were of German descent. Jane Kendall was the daughter of an English nobleman, who at an early age came to America to escape the tyranny of an elder brother. About the year 1836 Henry with his family removed to Seneca County, Ohio, where he settled adjoining his brother, and the neighborhood was familiarly called Feaselburg, from the large number of their descendants who settled about there.

Henry, for whom our subject was named, was a prosperous farmer, reared a family of nine children, and he and his wife ended their days on the old homestead in Feaselburg. The family were Methodists of the old type, eschewing adornments, and regarding luxuries and even comforts as dangerously near the dividing line between the innocent and the sinful. Mary after her marriage became closely allied in feeling and thought with her husband, and became a member of the Dunkard Church. She was a woman of more than ordinary strength, both mentally and physically. It is from her that our subject inherits his muscular strength and robust figure. She was strong in her affections, devoted to her children, and beloved by all. She died Sept. 8, 1874, mourned by her family, her friends and the community at large, who recognized and fully appreciated her many virtues, and realized

the social, religious and domestic loss occasioned by her sudden and untimely death.

The early days of our subject were spent on his father's farm, where at the early age of thirteen he assumed the entire burden of work as well as the management of the farm. Here he enjoyed the advantages of a very indifferent country school for three or four months during the winters. This very meager elementary education, eked out by one term in the Normal School at Bryan, Ohio, enabled him, after a hard summer's work on the new Nebraska farm (the last regular work done on the farm), to obtain a license to teach in an Irish settlement on Platte Bottom, near Forest City, Sarpy County. After spending a single term at the Normal School at Peru, this State, he returned to Papillion, Sarpy County, and taught two terms.

By this time a broader view of life began to dawn on the vision of Mr. Wilson, and having concluded that a more general education was a necessary preparation for his future, he entered the preparatory department of the State University in September, 1873, and resolved to complete its most thorough course, although he had to rely solely on his own efforts to maintain himself. During his college course Mr. Wilson was successively business manager and editor of the *Hesperian Student*, a college paper, and was twice made President of the Union Debating Society. He graduated with honors in 1878, with the degree of Ph. B., and in 1886 the degree of A. M. was conferred upon him by his Alma Mater.

Immediately after his graduation Mr. Wilson became Principal of the High School at Seward, in this State, and by his peculiar ability to impart his knowledge to others, as well as by his untiring zeal and enthusiasm in his work, he soon placed himself in the front rank among the educators of the State. During his two years at Seward, besides his school work, he read privately such elementary books of the law as are usually mastered by students before admission to the bar. In May, 1880, he entered the law office of Walter J. Lamb, one of the ablest as well as best known attorneys of the State, and there completed his very thorough preparation for the bar, to which he was regularly admitted Feb. 2, 1881, in the United States Circuit

Court. In November, 1881, he entered into a law partnership with Arnott C. Ricketts, an able lawyer who located in Lincoln in 1872. This partnership continued until November, 1882, when Mr. Lamb, the former tutor of Mr. Wilson, became associated with them, since which time the present firm has built up a business and a reputation second to none in the State. The same independence of character, untiring energy and patient endurance which enabled Mr. Wilson to acquire a collegiate education under the most adverse circumstances, have in the few years of his practice at the bar placed him in the front rank among the men of his age in the profession. His success in practical life has been even greater than that as a student.

In the beginning of this sketch mention was made of the ability of Mr. Wilson as a writer. It is impossible to present within the limits of this writing more than an enumeration of a few of his productions, which have appeared mostly in our magazines. In the "Popular Science Monthly" appeared a very able article, in March, 1881, entitled, "The State as an Educator." In the same magazine for March, 1884, an article which attracted much attention in the legal world appeared under the caption, "The Jury System." In December of the same year there appeared in "The Choice Literature," another paper showing his power as a constitutional lawyer, entitled, "The Unwritten Elements of our Federal Constitution." In December, 1886, the "Literary Magazine" contained another production from his pen, bearing the appellation, "The Relation of History to the Study and Practice of Law," which article was read before the Nebraska State Historical Society, was received with favor, and now forms part of their second report.

The social status of Mr. Wilson is pronounced, his standing in the profession which he adorns is undeniably high, and as a citizen he occupies a most enviable position. Socially, he is connected with the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Lincoln Lodge No. 19, in which he has filled the chairs of Junior and Senior Warden with dignity to the order and honor to himself. Although affiliating, politically, with the Republican party, voting its ticket and supporting most of its principles, he be-

lieves firmly and advocates openly and eloquently both Prohibition and Free Trade, and urges the advisability of taxing the vices and luxuries of life rather than its necessities.

Mr. Wilson was united in marriage, June 22, 1882, with Miss Emma Parks, a lady highly educated, and possessing those admirable and womanly characteristics which have enabled her to sustain a very high position in the community at large, and in the affectionate regard of her more intimate friends. Of this union there have been born three children: Henry Parks, Oct. 20, 1883, and who died December 9 of the same year; Helen, born Oct. 26, 1884, and an infant, born on the 28th of May of the present year (1888). Mrs. Wilson is the eldest daughter of Capt. Benjamin D. and Ann (Farnsworth) Parks. She was educated and graduated with honors from the Nebraska University in the year 1880, with the degree of B. S. She has one sister, Clara, now Mrs. B. F. Johnson, of Lincoln, and one brother, Frank, who, like herself, are graduates of the State University. Frank is proprietor of the *Sherman County Democrat*, in Kansas. Capt. Parks was an early pioneer of Southeastern Iowa. He enlisted and was commissioned Second Lieutenant of Company E, 22d Iowa State Volunteers, was mustered in the United States service Sept. 9, 1862, and promoted Captain June 10, 1863, but for some reason failed to receive his commission as such until about November 10 of that year. He was with his regiment in its engagements, and fell in the heat of battle at Winchester, Sept. 19, 1864, on the anniversary of his marriage, which occurred in the year 1855. He was a member of the A. F. & A. M., a valiant soldier, an honored and much respected citizen, a true husband and father. His surviving comrades in arms never tire of telling of the genial Captain, and never fail to annually decorate his final-resting place at Agency City, in Wapello County, Iowa. His widow, although left with very limited means, which was soon after nearly all lost in the destruction of her house by fire, kept the little family together, and still lives to enjoy the companionship of the children so early left to her care, and to see them all graduates of the State's highest institution of learning, now the centers of happy homes of their own.

HENRY V. HOAGLAND. This gentleman is an example of Western enterprise and well-directed energy. He was born in Somerset County, N. J., Nov. 2, 1842, and is a son of William V. F. and Sarah (Beekman) Hoagland, also natives of New Jersey. The ancestors of this gentleman were residents of New Jersey for several generations, and as a family have always been among her most respected citizens. His paternal great-grandfather, Henry V. Hoagland, who lived to the advanced age of ninety years, took part in the noble struggle of the Revolution. His grandfather Hoagland served as the Sheriff of Somerset County. His father, William V. F. Hoagland, was by trade a carpenter and builder, which business, however, he afterward left to engage in agricultural pursuits. He removed to Macoupin County, Ill., about 1856, residing there until 1886, when he came to Nebraska and took up his residence in the city of Lincoln. He is now seventy-three years of age, is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and janitor of the First Presbyterian Church, of Lincoln. His wife, the mother of Henry V., is also living, and has attained the advanced age of sixty-nine years, and is a member of the Congregational Church. Of the family of eleven children nine are living, the subject of this history being the eldest. The others are Joseph S., Sarah (wife of Calvin Tunnell), Richard, Jeanette (wife of George Bagley), Susan, Lizzie, William and James. With the exception of Sarah, who resides in Macoupin County, Ill., all are residents of Nebraska.

When the father of our subject determined to leave the old home State Henry V. was about fourteen years of age, and all his education had been received in the common schools. At the call for men to serve in defense of the old flag, in 1861, he enlisted, and was mustered into service with Company F, 7th Illinois Volunteers, which was the first regiment to go from Illinois. Six regiments from that State had taken part in the Mexican War; in the Civil War, therefore, the first regiment became the seventh. He received his baptism of fire at Ft. Donelson, taking part later in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Kennesaw Mountain, Altoona, Bentonville, besides numerous skirmishes and lesser fights. He was one of the heroes who marched with

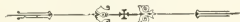
Sherman to the sea, and on to Washington, where he took part in the grand review. He passed through the war unscathed, knowing nothing personally of wounds, or that awful experience—prison. In July, 1865, he was mustered out at Louisville, Ky., with the rank of Second Lieutenant.

Returning to Illinois, our subject worked with his father as a carpenter for about one year, when he again left home to attend the Eastman Commercial College, at Chicago. In the beginning of 1867 we find him at Bunker Hill, where, in February, he was united in marriage with Mary Etta Randolph, daughter of John and Susan Randolph. After his marriage he returned to the West, locating at Springfield, Ill., engaged in the business of undertaker, serving also for two years and a half as clerk in the State Treasurer's office, under Gen. E. N. Bates. In 1872 he removed to Kearney County, Neb., and took a homestead, living upon it for three years, at which time, a favorable opportunity presenting itself, he sold this and opened a hotel at Kearney.

In 1878 our subject came to Lincoln, where his brother, Joseph S., was Sheriff, and became Deputy Sheriff under his brother, remaining in this office until 1880. Entering into partnership with his brother, he purchased a lumber-yard, which was located where the present Masonic Temple stands, at Lincoln. Here they carried on a successful and growing business for three years, when he opened a real-estate, law and insurance office. While there he was busily engaged in the organization of the Soldiers' Colony in Logan County, and became President of the colony. He made Lincoln his residence until April, 1886, when he took up his residence at Waverly. He also owns land in Logan County.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoagland are members of the Congregational Church, as are also their three children—Frank, Albert and Evaline. In politics Mr. Hoagland is a recognized leader of the Republican party, and for two years has served with general satisfaction as Justice of the Peace. With the memory of his service in the great struggle, we are not surprised to find him an active member of the G. A. R. and Past Commander of the post at Lincoln. His enterprise, energy and strength of character, together with the respect which those qualities always command, are clearly shown by his connection with the

I. O. O. F., of which society he is also a member. With great credit to himself and pleasure and profit to the order, he has filled all the chairs of the lodge, receiving as a mark of the esteem and confidence in which he is held by his brethren, the position of Representative to the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows.



JOHAN L. McCONNELL is one of the oldest business men of Lincoln, having been with the city through all its evolution, from settlement to hamlet, hamlet to village, village to town, town to city, and Western metropolitan center of commerce, finance, art and society. Our subject was born in Trivoli, Peoria Co., Ill., on the 27th of March, 1837. His father, Robert McConnell, was a native of Pennsylvania, but was reared from childhood in Scioto County, Ohio. There he was educated, and afterward engaged in business in Wheelersburg, Ohio. He removed to Illinois in 1835, and was among the first to settle in Peoria County. The journey was taken via the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois Rivers. He found Ft. Clark, which then occupied the site of the present city of Peoria, a very small collection of houses surrounded by a wild waste of prairie.

The father of our subject was not long there before he had made arrangements by which an extensive tract of land became his property, upon which is now situated part of Trivoli. He quickly put up a log cabin, and the family went to housekeeping. It was in this dwelling that our subject was afterward born. His father went extensively into farming, erected the usual farm buildings, and subsequently a frame dwelling, which were among the best in the entire district. He was removed by death in the year 1865, having lived to see the country develop, become well settled, and the home of a wealthy community.

The wife of Robert McConnell, and the mother of John L., was Abiah Page Emery, who was born at Orford, Grafton Co., N. H., and was a daughter of Rev. Samuel Emery, who was a native of the same State, and a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He removed from New Hampshire to Scioto County, Ohio, about the year 1830, hav-

ing an interest in real estate there, and continued to make it his home until 1835, when he removed to Peoria County, Ill., and purchased large tracts of land in different parts there. He made his home at Trivoli, and superintended the improvement of his farm and the business of his real estate from that point. This continued to be his residence until his death, at the age of seventy-three years, about 1859. He was a man of enterprise, business capacity, a financier and diligent worker, and several years before his death had acquired a large property. He was always an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and did much toward the organization and establishment of the church in Trivoli. He was firmly and determinedly opposed to slavery, and was one of the first citizens of that district to leave the Democratic party and espouse the cause of the Republicans.

The mother of our subject died in the year 1872, having seen her six children grow to years of maturity. Her family is recorded as follows: John L., our subject; Eliza, Thomas, Marcus, Frank and Mary. John L. received his early education in the little pioneer school-house not far from his father's property, and afterward attended three years at the Rock River Seminary, at Mt. Morris, Ill., from which institution he was graduated in due course. At the age of eighteen he commenced to learn the printer's trade in the office of the *Canton Register*, and continued in that office for about one year, then removed to Farmington and engaged as clerk in a general store, and there remained until 1858. Then he engaged as clerk in Peoria for a period of two years, supplemented by a like term at Princeton, after which he became attached to the United States Internal Revenue Department, and was stationed at Kewanee, Henry County, until the fall of 1863.

Upon leaving the revenue service our subject returned, in 1866, to Princeton, and engaged in the dry-goods business in that place, but after about eighteen months he sold out his business and went to Europe, and traveled quite extensively upon the continent, returning after an absence of a little over a year and taking up his residence at Henry, Ill., until the spring of 1868. In May of that year he came to Lincoln by way of the railroad to Kansas City, thence by river to Nebraska City, and by

stage on to Lincoln, which was then an insignificant town of small population, without railroad facility or much communication with the outside world. The larger proportion of the surrounding country was still waiting for settlers. There were two or three stone houses, but not one brick building in the city.

Mr. McConnell engaged in banking upon his arrival at Lincoln with James Sweet and Nelson C. Brock, who owned the first and for a long time only bank in Lincoln. In this business he continued for two years, and became gradually interested in real estate. In the winter of 1871-72 he opened a dry-goods store, continuing the same until 1884. He has been a resident of the city for a period of more than twenty years, and has been identified with all its material growth and development. In that time it has evolved from a very inferior town to a magnificent city of 45,000 inhabitants, with all the modern marks of improvement and signs of progress.

On the 29th of October, 1866, our subject became the husband of Matilda R. (Merriman) Reisinger, who is the daughter of George Reisinger, of Farmington, Ill. Mrs. McConnell is a most earnest member of the Congregational Church, and is active in all right and proper enterprises of benevolent or social nature. She has been a member of the Lincoln Library Association from its organization until the present, also both active member and President of several literary societies in the city. Our subject was a member of the first City Council of Lincoln, and Treasurer of the State University until that office was abolished. Politically, he is in heartiest sympathy with and one of the active partisans of the Republican party, which always receives his vote.



REV. JOHN HUIZENGA, pastor of the Reformed Church of America, Holland Village, Neb., is one of the leading divines of that denomination in the West. He is a talented man, of singular strength of character, and his fine education, which, supplemented by extensive traveling, has broadened his mind, makes him not only a great power in the church, but also an influ-

ence in social and public life. He is a native of Holland, Europe, born March 12, 1842, in the town of Kollum, in the Province of Friesland. His parents, Franz and Anna Gertrude Huizenga, were likewise natives of that town, where his father, who was a carpenter by trade, was engaged as a contractor. In 1848 he emigrated to America with his family, and settled in Ottawa County, Mich., among the pioneers. He continued to work there at his trade, and was an important factor in building up the country. His wife, a woman of good mental endowments and rare sweetness of character, died in Michigan when forty-two years old, her premature death being a sad blow to her family and to the community. She was the mother of three children—John, Lena and Bernardus.

The father of our subject came to Nebraska to spend his declining years in the home of our subject, and died here at the age of seventy-four years. In his day he was a very capable man, gifted with shrewdness and forethought, and the course of his life was that of an honorable and incorruptible man.

Rev. John Huizenga was but six years of age when his parents brought him to America, and he has since grown to be one of her most loyal and patriotic citizens, as is shown by the record of his distinguished military career during the late Civil War, and the course that he has since pursued. When he left his native land he had just made a start at school, and in his new home in Ottawa County, Mich., near Indian Village, Black Lake, there being no schools for four or five years, the country being newly settled, he was taught at home. At the age of sixteen he entered Holland Academy, now Hope College, Holland, Mich., and he there took a preparatory course and then the collegiate course. He was in the Sophomore class when the war broke out. He finally threw aside his studies and enlisted in Company I, 25th Michigan Infantry, entering as a private for a term of three months. He then enlisted for three years or during the war, Aug. 23, 1862. His regiment drilled at Kalamazoo, and was then dispatched to Louisville, Ky., and first encountered the enemy at that place. The principal business of our subject and his comrades was to check Morgan and guard the bridge at Tibb's

Bend on the Green River. Our subject was made Third Sergeant of his company at Kalamazoo, and was afterward appointed Orderly Sergeant, which position he held until the fall of 1864, when he was sent back to Michigan as Recruiting Sergeant. He was first put on duty at Camp Rendezvous, Grand Rapids, and thence he went to Jackson to take charge of Barracks No. 10. He was there presented with an elegant sword in recognition of his efficient services and of the high regard in which he was held. He was afterward transferred to the large barracks, where he had command of 500 men. He discharged his duties with such fidelity and zeal as to gain the confidence and commendation of his superior officers, and at the same time his kindness toward his subordinates won their affection and respect. He was honorably discharged from the service at Jackson, in June, 1865.

After the war Mr. Huizenga visited his friends in Michigan for two weeks, and then went to Europe for an extended tour, to revisit his old home and see many of the famous places in the Old World. He traveled through Ireland, Scotland, England, spending a week in London, and journeyed through Germany and Holland. He greatly enjoyed his travels, which were in themselves a liberal education to one of his intelligence and thoughtfulness. After returning to the United States, he taught in the Union School at Holland City, Mich., and was made Justice of the Peace at the same time, being the first Justice in Holland after it was incorporated as a city. During that time he made up his mind to enter the medical profession, and had made all the necessary arrangements in company with two college friends to become a student at the Rush Medical College, Chicago, Ill. But his plans were thwarted by certain circumstances that arose, and he was prevented from carrying out his desire of becoming a physician. He then turned his attention to the ministry, and entering the Hope Theological Seminary, completed his course, and was graduated with the class of '69, with a fine record as a scholar. He was ordained as a pastor, and went to Virginia to take his first charge, and for six years he held a successful pastorate there. During that time he and his wife paid a very delightful visit to the Philadelphia Centennial in 1876. In that year the Rev. Huizenga

was sent to Nebraska to his present church. Since his residence here he has been instrumental in propagating his faith, and he is considered one of the bright lights of the Reformed Church. By his pleasant and genial manners he has gained many warm friends, not alone among his parishioners, but in the community at large.

To the amiable wife, who has cheered and sustained him in his sacred work during nearly the whole of his ministry, the Rev. John Huizenga was united in marriage Oct. 22, 1871. She was formerly Miss Anna Boonstra, and was like herself a native of Holland, born in the Province of Friesland, in 1851. She was five years old when she came to America, where she grew to womanhood. Of the seven children that have blessed the union of her and her husband, the first three were born in Virginia, and the names of the children are as follows: Frank, Maggie, Dick, Anna Gertrude, Jennie, Elizabeth and Anna. Frank is a student at the Northwestern Academy in Sioux County, Iowa.

Our subject is a man of wealth and owns considerable valuable property. He possesses a farm of 130 acres on section 11, South Pass, and he also owns a fine farm in Virginia of ninety acres, and a beautiful country seat. He takes a commendable interest in public affairs, and as School Director has done much to advance the educational interests of Holland. In his politics, he was a Republican until 1886, but considering the cause of temperance the most important question before the people, he joined the Prohibition ranks, a most welcome addition to that party.

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JONATHAN MYERS. This liberal-minded and public-spirited citizen, who is foremost in all enterprises calculated to further the interests of Cheney, is prominent among its merchants and stock-buyers, where his face and form have been familiar for a period of six years. He is the offspring of an excellent family, John D. and Mary J. (Kritzer) Myers, who were Pennsylvanians by birth, and the father a native of Lancaster County. Their family consisted of three children only, two daughters besides our subject.

They left Pennsylvania for Ohio about 1808, locating first in Stark County. The mother died in Stark County about 1828, and the father in Summit County, in 1868.

The subject of this sketch was born in Uniontown, Stark Co., Ohio, Feb. 9, 1833, and spent the most of his time upon a farm until reaching his majority. He followed farming for a time afterward, and then for a period of nearly twenty years engaged in the manufacture of stoneware in Summit County. In connection with this he also operated a meat-market at Akron, the county seat, and there first engaged as a stock-dealer, buying and shipping in a limited manner.

Mr. Myers came to Nebraska in April, 1882, locating at once in Grant Precinct and purchasing a farm on section 8, which he operated about six years. In the spring of 1888, coming to Cheney, he established himself in his present business as a general merchant and stock-dealer. He still retains possession of his farm, which affords him ample facilities for carrying on his other interests after the most approved methods. He is systematic in his manner of doing business, prompt to meet his obligations, and thus has a substantial foothold among the prosperous and honored men of his community.

While a resident of Summit County, Ohio, Mr. Myers was united in marriage with Miss Fannie Breckenridge, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride in Springfield, Feb. 10, 1855. Mrs. Myers is the daughter of Lemuel Breckenridge, a near relative of the well-known Gen. Breckenridge, of the Buckeye State. The parents both died in Stark County, Ohio, the father when about seventy-two years old and the mother when seventy-six. In that county Mrs. Myers was born May 5, 1842. Her father was a shoemaker by occupation, and she continued under the parental roof until her marriage, acquiring a fair education in the common school and being taught by an excellent mother those household employments a knowledge of which has so much influence in the happiness of a home.

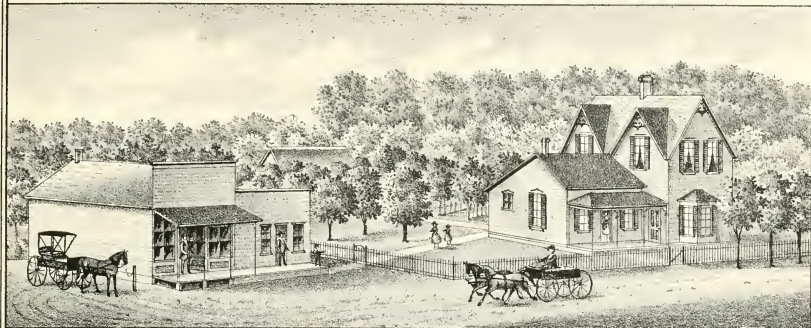
To our subject and his wife there have been born five children, two of whom, Alice and John, died in Summit County, in infancy. William, Estella and Joan are at home with their parents, the eldest be-

ing seventeen years of age and the youngest three. Mr. Myers is independent in politics, availing himself of the right of the free-born American citizen to support the men whom he considers best qualified to serve the interests of the people. Both he and his excellent wife attend the United Brethren Church.

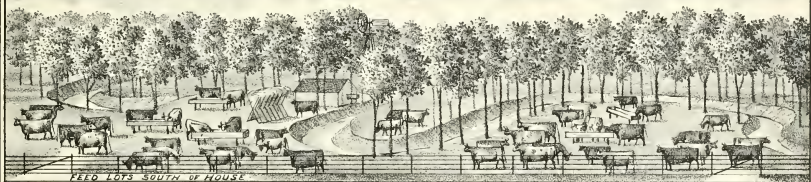


WILLIAM WALVOORD, a well-to-do and popular merchant of Holland, and senior partner of the firm, Walvoord & Co., dealers in general merchandise, has won his way to a position of eminence in the mercantile world of Lancaster County by his clear-sighted business policy, patient industry, and strictly honorable dealings. He is a native of Holland, over the sea, and is a son of G. J. and Berendina (Prusen) Walvoord, likewise natives of Holland, the father born in Lichtenvoorde and the mother in the town of Aalten. His father was a farmer in his native country until the latter part of 1870, when he and his wife and children came to this country to join our subject, who had preceded them a short time before, and they all settled in South Pass, took up land under the Homestead Act, and engaged in agricultural pursuits. The father and mother are now living in their pleasant home in Holland Village, passing their declining years in the midst of well-earned comfort, presenting the spectacle of lives rounded by various experiences into a serene and active old age, he being now seventy-two years old and she seventy-one. Nine children have blessed the marriage of these worthy people, namely: William, Jane, Grace, Tunia, Henry, Tony, Girard J., Berendina and Hannah. All are living, and make their homes in Holland Township, with the exception of Tunia, who lives in Kansas.

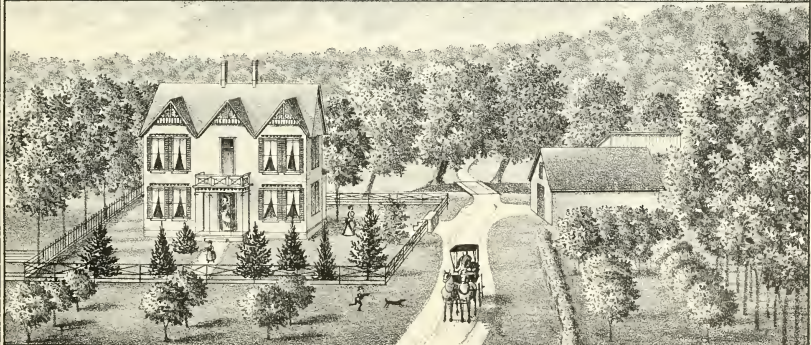
William Walvoord, who forms the subject of this sketch, was born April 17, 1843, in the town of Aalten, Holland. He was six years old when his father returned with his family to his birthplace, the town of Lichtenvoorde, to again take up his abode there. Our subject attended school there, receiving instruction in the common branches and obtaining a thorough, practical education. At the



STORE AND RESIDENCE OF W^M. WALVOORD, HOLLAND VILLAGE.



FEED LOTS SOUTH OF HOUSE



RESIDENCE OF HENRY BURCHAM, SEC. 4. SOUTH PASS PRECINCT.

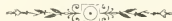
age of fourteen he was confined in the church of Lichtenvoorde. He remained at home with his parents, giving his father valuable assistance on the farm until 1868, when, having heard much of America through relatives who had come here to locate, he desired to try life in this Western world, feeling assured that a young man with plenty of courage, brain and muscle could not fail in time to win his way to success where labor was so encouraged and protected. Accordingly he embarked July 1 on a steamer at Rotterdam, bound for Quebec.

After landing on this continent, Mr. Walvoord made his way from that Canadian city to Chicago, and thence went by lake to Sheboygan, Wis., where his uncle owned a farm. His relative gave him a warm greeting and put him to work on his place. Our subject liked it so well in this country that he sent back word to the old country urging his parents to come here with the remaining members of the family. Consequently they all joined him the second year of his stay here, and after a short visit to their friends in Wisconsin, they all came to Nebraska, and, as before related, all who were old enough took up land in South Pass in the spring of 1870, and have since been very much prospered. Our subject established himself in his present mercantile business in Holland over sixteen years ago, and by strict attention to business he has met with unbounded success, and has built up a good trade. He commands the respect of his many patrons, whom he has served strictly on a fair business basis for more than sixteen years. In March, 1886, his health being poor, and feeling the need of a capable partner who could assist him in the management of his extensive business, he admitted Mr. T. Liesvelt into partnership, and they have since continued together at the old stand. Our subject has accumulated much valuable property since becoming a resident of Holland. He owns his store building, some fine village property, has erected a handsome and commodious house, and he also owns the following farms: One of 160 acres, one of eighty acres, one of forty acres, another of twenty acres, and some village property comprising fifteen acres of land, all his real estate amounting to 315 acres. Although all are worthy being pre-

sented to the reader by the artist, the view which accompanies this sketch, showing the home of Mr. Walvoord, will be of, perhaps, greatest interest.

Mr. Walvoord has been twice married. His first wife, whose maiden name was Hendrikka Wubbles, died six weeks after the wedding, thus ending what had promised to be an exceedingly happy marriage. The present Mrs. Walvoord was formerly Miss Jane Kolstee. She was born in Holland, came to America when seventeen years old, and was married at the age of twenty-two. The pleasant married life of our subject and wife has been blessed to them by the birth of five children, namely: J. Hendrikka, Berendina, John C., Eveline and Garret J.

Mr. Walvoord and his amiable wife are esteemed members of the Reformed Church of America, and take an active part in the Sunday-school, and in every other good work of the church. Our subject is especially interested in all matters pertaining to education, and has helped the cause along in his district by his faithful discharge of his duties as a school officer, he having held every position on the board.



HENRY BURCHAM. The brave men who survived the war have as true sentiments of patriotism to-day as when they left the old home for the front of the battle-field. Wherever they are found, in all questions of National or State importance, their patriotism springs forth. It is not spasmodic in its action, blazing forth only as in a comet's erratic course, in times of public trial or danger, upon great occasions and influenced by great incentives, but it is as a rule of conduct constant, equable, incorruptible and enduring. Wealth cannot bribe it, power cannot reduce it, ambition cannot blind it, friendship cannot swerve it from justice, nor can fear intimidate it.

Such are the qualifications of our subject that by right he is entitled to the highest encomium that can be passed upon patriotism and loyal devotion to his country; upon prosperity, the result of persistent hard work and good management; upon the most admirable of social qualities, mental cultiva-

tion and general public spirit. He is now engaged in the peaceful pursuits of farming, having his home on section 4, South Pass Precinct. His great-grandfather Burcham came from England in Colonial times, and his ancestry on the maternal side is English also. Grandfather Burcham served in the War of 1812, being loyal to the new country in which he expected to make his home. The father of our subject, McCarty Burcham, was born in North Carolina, and the mother, Elizabeth (Owens) Burcham, in Tennessee.

McCarty Burcham was a mechanic and followed the cooper's trade. After his marriage in Tennessee he and his wife went to Indiana when there were but four or five log houses upon the spot where now stands the handsome city of Indianapolis. They settled near what is now known as Plainfield, and by industry and energy became very well-to-do. The mother died on the homestead in Indiana in 1870 at the age of seventy; the father survived her death but four years, having attained the ripe age of seventy-four years and five months. They had ten children, seven boys and three girls, Henry being the seventh child.

Henry Burcham, our subject, was born on the 1st of August, 1844, in Hendricks County, Ind., where he grew up with the country, but like the first generation in any new State his educational advantages were quite limited. In those days the schools, such as they were, were supported by subscription, the master sometimes being a neighboring farmer whose education was sufficient to enable him to instruct the children of the community. Our subject matured early, and at the age of fifteen he had the physique of a large, strong man, blessed with good health, which the outdoor labor of farm life promoted. He engaged with Mr. Hornby for one year, and driving a team for his employer he accompanied him to Wapello County, Iowa, where he worked for one year and rather enjoyed his youthful pioneer experience.

In the spring of 1861, when the war broke out, young Burcham went back to his home in Indiana, and enlisted with Company F, 13th Indiana Infantry, for three years. Like his father, imbued with the principles of the Whig party, he could not restrain his patriotism, and willingly offered himself as

a sacrifice, if need be, for his country's defense, and with his strong, youthful arm determined to assist in protecting the stars and stripes. He was mustered into service at Indianapolis, Ind., and after being equipped for war he departed for West Virginia, where he for the first time encountered the Southern army at Rich Mountain. He fought bravely in his first encounter, and at the close of the engagement, on the 11th of July, he had the satisfaction of enjoying the victory with Rosecrans. When McClellan was appointed General-in-Chief he went boldly to the front, participating in the following battles in Virginia: Suffolk, Deserted Farm, Blackwater, Manchester, Green River, Petersburg and Cold Harbor, while he was also present in South Carolina at the sieges of Ft. Wagoner, Ft. Sumter and Ft. Gregg. At the last-named place he was taken seriously ill and was taken to Hilton Head Hospital, where he improved, but in order to give him an opportunity to recover the strength that had been spent he was sent home on a sixty-days furlough, during which time he recovered, and then joined his regiment at Cold Harbor.

For gallant deeds of bravery and for having proved himself a faithful and able soldier, our subject was in 1862 promoted to the rank of Corporal, in which position he served until the close of the war. Although never severely wounded in battle, yet there were times when he barely escaped the closest call. Once at Suffolk a spent ball struck him in the breast, disabling him for a short while; at another time a musket ball grazed the top of his head, cutting his cap into pieces and stunning him so that he fell as if dead. In his last engagement before Petersburg his life was miraculously saved in this way: It was a very hot day and most of the "boys" had divested themselves of their knapsacks, but our subject thought he would keep his on. A piece of shell flying about struck him squarely on the back and was found imbedded in his blanket, and thus he was saved from instantaneous death, on the 16th of June, 1864. The fact of his retaining his knapsack seemed but a small matter, and yet it proved to be the means of saving his life.

Being mustered out and honorably discharged, Mr. Burcham returned home to enjoy peace in the country free from war. But the noble young heart

which had so often defied volleys from the Southern musketry, being no longer invulnerable, was pierced by a dart from the quiver of the cunning little god Cupid, which was healed by his marriage to the charming and estimable young lady, Miss Hannah A. Miller. Mrs. Burcham is a daughter of John and Ann (Burkley) Miller, who were formerly residents of Kentucky, but who had settled in Hendricks County, Ind. They were the parents of ten children, six boys and four girls. Mrs. Burcham, the sixth child, was born on the 20th of July, 1843. She enjoyed the advantages of the common schools, and grew to be a cultured and refined young woman. This union has been blessed by the birth of seven children, of whom five are living, namely: Myrtle M., J. Albert, Edie H., Scott M. and Blanche B. Louril L. and Cora A. are deceased. Of the living the eldest is twenty and the youngest three years of age; Myrtle is the wife of A. J. Smith, and resides in Norton, Norton Co., Kan.; they have one child, a daughter. The other children are at home with their parents.

Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Burcham went to Champaign County, Ill., where for five years our subject engaged successfully in farming. Then, concluding to move still further west, Mr. B., in 1871, started for Nebraska, driving a four-horse team, his wife and children soon joining him at South Pass, coming by rail. He purchased 160 acres, his present place, which then had only a small log house, and sixty acres of the ground plowed. In 1875 Mr. Burcham purchased 120 acres and later eighty acres additional; he then sold forty of the 120 acres. He is now the owner of 320 acres of fine land; he has so improved and beautified this with buildings, including a very fine residence, that few would suspect it to be the same as that on which he began his labors about seventeen years ago.

The farm buildings and residence of our subject are finely situated on the banks of a pleasant little stream, whose border of trees affords a grateful shade in summer and a protection from the winds of winter. The granaries, corn-cribs, barns, yards, etc., not only give evidence of thrift and prosperity, but plainly indicate the master-hand at management, planning and building. His magnificent dwelling,

pronounced the finest in the county, was erected in 1882, and is provided with all modern conveniences. Mr. Burcham has given his attention considerably to the raising of fine stock, and has now a herd of 130 high-grade Short-horn cattle, besides the best of horses and other domestic animals.

For ten years Mr. Burcham has been Treasurer of the school fund. He is a strong Republican in politics, and figures prominently in the G. A. R. and the social circles of his community. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias, and comes to the front rank in matters of general interest and importance, socially and educationally. Mrs. Burcham is a very estimable lady, and by her charming manners is thus the presiding genius of one of the most attractive homes in the county.

The Burcham homestead gives a fine scope for the pencil of the lithographic artist, and will be acknowledged by all who look upon it as fully worthy of representation in a work treating of the important features of Lancaster County.

WILLIAM H. BURLING is classed among the able and honored members of the farming community of Lancaster County, by whose enterprise and perseverance her magnificent agricultural resources have been so finely developed. Though not among the early settlers of Nebraska, he may justly be regarded as one of its pioneers, as when he came here the country was but sparsely settled, and was still largely in a wild condition, giving but little indications of its present advanced state of civilization and opulence. Mr. Burling's fine and well-cultivated farm, so pleasantly located on section 20, South Pass Precinct, shows that, notwithstanding the many hardships and discouragements that he encountered on every hand in the early years of his residence here, he has become prosperous and well-to-do.

Our subject is a native of England, born in 1848, in Cambridgeshire, which was also the birthplace of his father, John Burling, who carried on farming on a limited scale in his native shire for a number of years. The mother of our subject was born in Wales, but was reared in England. For many years

she was the Principal of a school in England, which was supported by the charity of a rich lady and gentleman. In December, on the 31st day thereof, in the year 1854, Mr. and Mrs. Burling embarked on board a vessel bound for this country, accompanied by their children. They landed in New York City, and after living there eighteen months, removed to Bureau County, Ill., where the father died at the age of fifty-nine, in 1870. He was twice married, and by his first marriage, to the mother of our subject, had six children now living, three of whom are in Nebraska, and three in Illinois, as follows: Sarah, John, Elvira, Peter, Thomas and William. He had three children by his second marriage. The mother of our subject, a gifted, intelligent woman, of a kind and firm disposition, died in 1864, at the age of fifty-five. (For further parental history, see the sketch of the brother of our subject, the Hon. Thomas Burling).

Mr. Burling received the first steps of his education in his mother's school, and after his arrival in this country, when a lad of six or seven years, he made good use of the advantages offered him in the schools of New York City, and distinguished himself as a bright student. After the removal of the family to Illinois, the educational facilities were not so good in that recently settled county, but he finished a course in the schools of Wyanet, Bureau County. When he had finished his schooling, he was called upon, at the age of sixteen, to assist in the farm work. His mother died when he was nearly seventeen years old, and his home lost its chief attraction, and after his father's second marriage, when he was eighteen, he began to work out, not leaving his father, however, until the harvests of that year were gathered in. Our subject continued to work out by the month for four years, and then, July 21, 1870, he embarked on the first passenger train ever run on the Burlington & Missouri River Railway, bound for Lincoln, Neb., as he was desirous to try for himself the independent life of a farmer on the rich virgin soil of this State. He took up a homestead on section 30 of what is now South Pass, buying out the claim of another man, and afterward "proving up" on it. He now owns a fine farm of 160 acres, on which he has made many valuable improvements, among which is noted a

good orchard of ninety trees. His prosperous condition has not been attained, however, without many trials and hardships, especially during the trying times from 1874 to and including 1876, which would have daunted many a less courageous man. He was in a state of extreme poverty during those years, and suffered many reverses and losses from the start. The first loss was that of three horses, and then the failure of crops on account of drouths and grasshopper raids.

Our subject was married, Feb. 16, 1875, to Miss Sarah E., daughter of David and Mary (Williamson) Carter, and she faithfully shared with him the trials of their early married life, lightening them by her ready sympathy and cheerful assistance, and has increased the joys and comforts of life since they have entered upon a more prosperous period. She comes from a distinguished American family that dates its origin in this country to early Colonial times, when some of its members settled in Kentucky. Mrs. Burling's grandmother was the first white woman who slept in Knox County, Ill., of which Mrs. Burling's parents were pioneers. The wife of our subject was born there May 1, 1852, and received her education in the district schools. She came to Nebraska with her brother in 1872, who bought a farm, and she kept house for him until she resigned to preside over a home of her own. Mrs. Burling's father was three times married, her mother being his second wife, and to them were born eight children. Mr. and Mrs. Burling are the parents of five children, namely: Erastus Reese, born Feb. 27, 1876; Mary, who died at the age of one month; John E., Sarah M. and William C.

During his many years' residence here Mr. Burling has taken a conspicuous part in the administration of public affairs, and has done much to advance the intellectual, moral and social status of South Pass. He is at present holding the office of School Director, and has served on the board for many years. He has been Road Officer for nine years, and Assessor for one year. In his political views, he strongly favors the policy of the Republican party. He is a thoroughly good man in every way; he and his excellent wife do much good in an unostentatious manner, and occupy a warm place in

the hearts of their neighbors. Mr. Burling is an active Sunday-school worker, and he deserves great credit for organizing the Sunday-school in his neighborhood, which is conducted in the school-house, and has well earned for itself the appellation of the "Bee-Flve Sunday-school." It is in a very thrifty condition, has a membership of fifty pupils, the exercises are rendered very interesting, and it is indeed a power for much good in the community.

SOLOMON S. SCHWAB, one of the most substantial and enterprising merchants of Lincoln, is extensively engaged in the clothing and gentlemen's furnishing goods business. He is a native of Bavaria, Germany, born March 4. 1829, being a son of Moses and Sarah (Rockner) Schwab. His father was for many years a prosperous Bavarian farmer, owning a good farm, and also dealt extensively in hops and other farm produce. Later in life he emigrated to America, in the year 1854, in company with two of his sons, and located in Baltimore, Md. Subsequently he removed to Cleveland, Ohio, where he died in 1878, having rounded out a good and useful life, which made him deservedly respected by all who knew him. His faithful wife died in Germany in 1850, having borne to him eleven children, eight of whom survive, five sons and three daughters.

Solomon S. Schwab, of this biographical sketch, passed his boyhood and youth in his native land, entering school in his fifth year, and remaining there until he was fourteen years old, with the exception of four years between his seventh and eleventh years when he was under private tutors. Having thus obtained an excellent education, when his school days were over he entered a store in the capacity of a clerk, but at the expiration of six months he went to work on his father's farm, and remained under the parental roof until 1848. He was then a youth of nineteen years, of steady and industrious habits, good principles, and an ambitious desire to make his own way in the world, and deeming that he could best do this in the United States of America, he set his face toward this Mecca of so many of his countrymen, and after

a voyage of several weeks landed safely in an Eastern port. He then made his way to Cleveland, Ohio, whither a sister had preceded him. He remained there until 1851, when he went to Baltimore, where he was engaged as a clerk for several years. During that time he met Miss Helene Bauer, of that city, daughter of Henry Bauer, a capitalist of Baltimore, where he had removed in 1853, and they were united in marriage in 1854. To the devoted assistance of his good wife is our subject greatly indebted for his good fortune in life. In 1855 Mr. Schwab went to Detroit, Mich., to become managing partner in the branch store of A. Schnab, a clothing merchant of Cleveland, Ohio. Our subject acted in that capacity for two years, and then took up his residence in Painesville, Ohio, where he embarked in the clothing business on his own account, conducting it very successfully for ten years. Having accumulated considerable property by his business enterprise, and needing a rest, he determined to sell out in 1865, and enjoy life with his family in a trip to Europe. Accordingly he settled up his affairs, and then traveled leisurely through Europe with his wife and children, thoroughly enjoying the many beautiful scenes through which they passed, the places of historic interest that they saw, and the visit to the old home of our subject, where he revived recollections of his youth, and renewed pleasant friendships with those of his old companions who were still lingering there. On his return to the United States, Mr. Schwab established himself in business in Cleveland, Ohio, as a jobbing merchant of clothes and men's furnishing goods, entering into partnership with L. Lowman. They continued together five years, when the partnership was dissolved, but the settling up of the business required the close attention of our subject for another year. He then engaged in clothing and merchant tailoring business in Cleveland until 1878, removing in the spring of that year to the city of Lincoln. Here he engaged in general business for awhile, but now confines himself to the clothing business exclusively, and has built up a large and very profitable business, which has placed him among the moneyed men of this flourishing metropolis. His success is due entirely to his own exertions, as he began life with small means, and has worked his way up to afflu-

ence by the quiet force of persistent efforts and a constant devotion to his work.

Although Mr. Schwab has always taken a keen interest in politics and public affairs, contributing generously to any scheme to improve the city or advance its material interests, he has never aspired to office, the demands of his business requiring all of his attention. In politics he affiliated with the Democratic party until 1860, when, in his loyalty to his adopted country, disproving the measures of the majority of the Democratic party, he became a "War Democrat," acting with the Republicans of Jeffersonian principles, with whom he was more in sympathy, until Gen. Grant's second administration, when, in 1872, he resumed his relations with the Democrats.

Mr. Schwab has a good residence on the corner of L and Sixteenth streets, with pleasant surroundings. Four of the six children born to himself and wife died at a tender age. The two living are Sophia, the wife of Dr. A. R. Mitchell, of Lincoln, and Sara, who is a student at the State University.



JOHAN J. HARMS. Nebraska has among the States a name as a stock-raising State which grows increasingly fair as year succeeds year, and wherever this is true the stock-buyer is an important member of the society. One of the best known and respected of this class is J. J. Harms, the subject of this sketch, whose home is at Firth, this county. He is the son of John O. and Matilda (Radamaehner) Harms, both natives of Hanover, Germany. His parents came to America in 1857. They are now living in Atchison County, Mo. His father was born in the year 1810, and his mother two years later. The family included seven children, our subject being the sixth born. This event occurred Nov. 5, 1850, in Hanover.

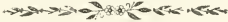
The condition of life in Germany for the youth is, in many regards, different to that in this country, and among other differences appears that of the education of young people, and lies as much in the manner and plan of teaching as the subjects entered into. When the family emigrated to America our subject was seven years of age. When he

began his schooling in this country he was only able to speak his own language, but made very rapid progress in English, and with this in other subjects also. He continued at Springfield, Ill., engaged in assisting his father, until he was twenty-one years of age. In the fall of the year 1873 our subject was married to Miss Mary Aden, who was born in 1851, in Menard County, Ill. This most estimable and excellent lady is of German descent.

After marriage the young couple went to Missouri, in the spring of 1874, and remained engaged in agricultural pursuits with increasing prosperity for four years upon a rented farm, and then bought one of their own. It was on the 1st of January, 1880, when our subject came to Nebraska. From the savings of former years he now purchased a farm in Gage County comprising 240 acres, and was soon engaged most pleasantly and prosperously in the improvement and higher cultivation of the same. All his time is now fully employed in the endeavor to make his farm the best in his precinct, and to supply the various appliances and machines for the efficient working of the same. The year 1886 saw a removal to Firth. His farm is rented, all his time being devoted to the buying, selling and shipping of stock. The large business he has created and the extensive connection he has worked up are perceptible from the fact that he ships from eighty-five to 100 cars of hogs, besides other stock, each year.

Our subject is one of the prominent members of the Live Stock Shipping Association, of Omaha, and one of its representative members in this county. He has erected a very fine frame dwelling, which is pleasantly situated in the best part of the town, and is very attractive, whether from without or within. When in Gage County our subject was one of the prominent citizens, and here in Firth he is one of the pillars of the community. Besides his property in Firth he is the owner of the Gage County property, a farm of 280 acres in South Pass Precinct, and the blacksmith-shop at the same place, also a farm in Harlem County comprising 160 acres. His political opinions are along the line of the Democratic party, to which he lends his influence and gives his vote. Socially, the Order of Odd Fellows counts him among its most worthy and honorable members. He has held important offices in the

order, and has filled most creditably every chair in his lodge. Our subject is one of the most successful, popular and honored of the citizens of Firth.



JAMES E. PHILPOTT. The legal profession of Nebraska is ably represented by the subject of this sketch, who began life in the town of New Providence, Clark Co., Ind., July 5, 1839. When an infant of five months, his parents removed, first to Louisville, Ky., and thence to Carroll County, Ohio, where James E. was reared to manhood. His mother, Rhoda (Kelley) Philpott, died when her son James was a little lad five years of age. The father, Charles H. Philpott, survived until 1862, passing away at his home in Carroll County, Ohio.

The early studies of the subject of this sketch were conducted in the common school, and later he became a student of the college at Hagerstown, Ohio, where he remained two years and then began the study of medicine. A year later, however, he abandoned this to take up the study of law at Carrollton, Ohio, in the office of Gen. E. R. Eckley, and was admitted to the bar in 1860 and commenced the practice of law at Carrollton.

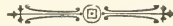
The career of our subject as an attorney received an early interruption by the outbreak of the Civil War, and he enlisted first in the three-months service, but upon getting as far as Camp Chase found there were more volunteers than were required, and he, with others, was excused and sent home. He had determined, however, to assist in the maintenance of the Union, and not long afterward re-enlisted, in Company A, 80th Ohio Infantry, and was assigned to the 17th Corps, Army of the Tennessee. He was soon called to take part in the siege of Corinth and the battle of Iuka, being at the latter wounded in the left arm by a gunshot, which necessitated his confinement in the hospital two months. He rejoined his regiment in time to participate in the battle of Port Gibson, and was subsequently at Raymond, also in the first battle of Jackson, the siege of Vicksburg, and in a number of minor engagements. His army experience covered a period of three years, during which he was commissioned on

the 1st of November, 1861, as Second Lieutenant, subsequently promoted to a First Lieutenant, and also served as Adjutant until January, 1863. Later he was commissioned Captain, and also a Colonel, but on account of the regiment being under the minimum, was not mustered in.

In November, 1865, the war being ended, Mr. Philpott retired from the service with an honorable discharge, and resumed his law practice at Carrollton, Ohio, where he remained until the spring of 1867. In April of that year he came to the new State of Nebraska, taking up his residence in Lincoln, and soon after opened a law office in partnership with Ezra Trellis, which continued three years. He next associated himself with S. J. Tuttle, and subsequently with T. J. Canton, later with R. E. Knight. The latter was a very able lawyer. The next partner of our subject was J. C. Johnston, a member of the State Legislature.

Mr. Philpott, in 1872, was elected to the first State Constitutional Convention, where his judgment in relation to the important matters therewith connected, served to place him still higher in the estimation of the people of Southern Nebraska. In 1880 he was considered a fit candidate for the County Judgeship, was accordingly elected, serving his term acceptably, and since its expiration has devoted himself to his private interests and his general practice.

The marriage of James E. Philpott and Miss Anna B. Field, sister of the present District Judge, Allen W. Field, was celebrated at the home of the bride in the city of Lincoln, Sept. 18, 1872. This union resulted in the birth of two children—Imogene M. and Charles W. Mr. Philpott is a Republican, politically, but supported Greeley in 1872. Socially, he is a Master Mason, and a member in good standing of the G. A. R.



DOYLE MONTGOMERY has been engaged in agricultural pursuits on his present farm on section 22, South Pass, since 1874, and his industry and perseverance have been well rewarded, as his fine farm of eighty acres, for fertility and productiveness compares with the

best in the township. John and Mary (Shatto) Montgomery, his parents, were natives respectively of Maryland and Ohio. The father went to Ohio when young, and there met and married the mother of our subject. They settled in Wayne County, that State, where Mr. Montgomery was engaged in business as a carpenter. In 1844 he removed with his family to Missouri, and became a pioneer of Sullivan County. They traveled to their destination the most of the way on the Ohio, Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, landing at New Brunswick, Mo., and then penetrated sixty miles into the interior into an entirely new country. Mr. Montgomery became the owner of 400 acres of land, and became an extensive farmer. He lived to see the country developed into a fine farming region, and was an honored and respected citizen there until the day of his death, which occurred in 1875, when he was seventy years of age. He was a man well gifted with physical and mental energy, sound common sense, and shrewd foresight. His wife, now seventy-nine years of age, still lives on the old homestead in Sullivan County, Mo. She was an important factor in her husband's prosperity, as he was often aided by her good judgment and ready helpfulness. She is the mother of nine children, eight sons and one daughter.

Doyle Montgomery, of whom we write, was the eldest child of his parents, and he was born in Doylestown, Wayne Co., Ohio, Aug. 12, 1828. His education was conducted in the schools of his native town, and he was sixteen years of age when he left the place of his birth to accompany his parents to their new home in Missouri. He experienced with them the hard labors and privations of a pioneer life far from the centers of civilization, and many a day did he follow a breaking-plow drawn by oxen, and otherwise assist his father in preparing his land for cultivation. Markets were not very near, and the nearest gristmill was twenty-four miles away. Our subject remained an inmate of the parental home until he was twenty-one years of age, then, ambitious to do something for himself and to see more of the world, he went to work as a carpenter in Keokuk, Iowa, continuing in that city for two years. He then returned to his old home in Sullivan County, Mo., where he had

resolved to manufacture lumber. He erected a sawmill at a cost of \$1,500, the result of his hard earnings, but he was exceedingly unfortunate in this venture, as a freshet arose and swept the mill away; with it all his property was gone, and he had labored for naught. He did not lose his courage, however, and the strength to work with it, but he manfully set about to retrieve his lost fortunes, encouraged and assisted by the young wife whom he had married in 1853, while his mill was being built.

Mrs. Montgomery's maiden name was Maria Doyle, and she is a granddaughter of William Doyle, who planned and laid out Doylestown, Ohio. She was born May 11, 1834, near the town which her grandfather had founded, and grew to womanhood in the home of her birth, receiving her education in the common schools. She accompanied her parents to Missouri before her marriage. To her and her husband have been born seven children, all of whom are living, namely: Sarah J., Alice A., Florence V., Daniel, Mary U., Eleanor B. and Georgiana M. Sarah is the wife of Harry Yapp, and they have two children; Alice is the wife of David Strickland, of Lancaster County, and they have eight children; Florence married Benjamin Debord, of Lancaster County, and they have one child; Daniel married Alice Gamble; they live in Lancaster County, and have two children. Mary is the wife of James Vaughn, of Red Willow County, Neb., and they have two children; Eleanor married Milford Suigert, and they have one child; Georgiana lives at home with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery commenced their wedded life in Sullivan County, Mo., and after the loss of his sawmill he fell back on his old trade of a carpenter as the best means of earning a living. He was thus engaged until the breaking out of the Rebellion, when, sympathizing with the North, it was not safe for him or his family in a hostile State, so he preferred to take up his abode in a more northern latitude, and came with his wife and children to Nebraska City. He resumed the carpenter's trade there and was quite profitably engaged in it for several years. In 1874, however, he decided to turn his attention to farming, and came to Lancaster County with his family and purchased his present farm. He has erected a fair set



G. G. Fischer



Barbara K. Fischer

of buildings, dwelling, barns, etc., has a fine grove and plenty of fruit trees, all of which he set out with his own hands. The farm is well watered, and exceedingly productive.

In our subject this community finds a useful citizen, his neighbors a kind friend, and his family a good husband and father. In their religious views both Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery favor the Southern branch of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically, Mr. Montgomery is a true Democrat.

ANGUS McEACHRAN, a worthy representative of the agricultural interests of Highland Precinct, came to this part of the county in February, 1877, and operates 160 acres of land pleasantly situated on section 13. Most of this is under a fine state of cultivation, and has been brought to its present condition by our subject. It was a wild and unbroken tract at the time of his taking possession, having been the property of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad.

The subject of this notice was born on the other side of the Atlantic, in Argyshire, Scotland, Dec. 4, 1820, and traces his ancestry back to a long line of one of the best nationalities in the world. His father, John McEachran, was a farmer and carpenter combined, and spent his entire life in his native Argyshire, dying there at the age of fifty-nine. The mother, Mrs. Catherine (McIsaac) McEachran, was a native of the same section of country as her husband and son, and spent her entire life in Argyshire, dying at the advanced age of ninety-five years.

The subject of this sketch was the third child of a large family born to his parents, the most of whom died in early childhood. He was reared near the place of his birth. He was united in marriage to Miss Margaret McEachran, who was born and reared near his own home, and was also of pure Scotch ancestry. After marriage the young couple began life together on a rented farm, where they continued until resolving to emigrate to the United States.

Our subject with his family, in the spring of 1860, embarked at Liverpool on a sailing-vessel bound

for America, and coming directly westward, located first in Winnebago County, Ill., where he rented land, but sixteen years later made his way to this county. His family includes seven children, a part of whom, however, have fled from the home nest. John, the eldest, married Miss Mary Conway, and carries on his trade of miller at Milford, in this State; Hugh is operating a farm in Highland Precinct; Flora is the wife of J. R. Sharp, a well-to-do farmer of Valley County; Catherine, Charles and Dan (twins), and Lizzie continue at home with their parents. Mr. McEachran gives his attention mainly to his farm and his family, having little to do with political affairs, but uniformly votes the Republican ticket.

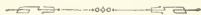
GL. FISCHER has been very prominent among the people of Lancaster County, and although on Nov. 15, 1884, he passed away to enjoy the recompense of his useful life, his memory still lives, and his honorable and successful career stands forth as a fitting example of what can be done by earnest and constant effort. He was one of the leading farmers of the vicinity of Olive Branch Precinct, his house being located on the county line between Saline and Lancaster Counties. The homestead consisted of 160 acres of good and well-improved land, and besides this he owned other large tracts of land, part in Big Blue Precinct and part in Olive Branch. He had become a large stock-raiser and was usually very successful in his undertakings, being well known as a good, honest, worthy citizen, and a man of standing.

Our subject was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1826, and had ample reason to be proud of the pure German ancestry from which he sprang. His father had been a successful farmer in Germany, but he died before his son, our subject, was very old. The gentleman of whom we write was reared in his native State, and in the year 1848 he came alone and single to the United States, preferring to locate at Oswego, Ill. For two years he farmed in Kendall County, and went thence to Grundy County, Ill., where he purchased 160 acres of land, on which he worked until he came to Nebraska. In 1854, while living in Grundy County, Ill., he

was united in marriage to Miss Barbara Krug, who was also a native of Bavaria, Germany, her birth having occurred on the 27th of January, 1836.

The father of Mrs. Fischer, John C. Krug, was a farmer of Bavaria, in which place he married his wife, Barbary Dialine, and after the birth of all their children they came to the United States, in 1852. They located on a farm in Grundy County, Ill., and there the father and mother died, being aged about fifty-two and sixty years respectively. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Fischer began life as farmers, and improved their farm of 160 acres in Illinois, leaving it, however, in the year 1874, for Nebraska, where they resided until the death of the husband. Since her bereavement Mrs. Fischer has managed the farm successfully, being entitled to the praise and honor which rightly belong to any woman who has successfully labored to fill the position in life in which she is placed. She is the mother of nine children,

With the exception of one child the family of Mrs. Fischer are all living, and recorded as follows: Mary was married to Mr. H. G. Walage, residing at Crete, and has two children; Maggie became the wife of C. Durring, and lives on a farm in Saline County, Neb.; William married Miss Barbary Fix; they live in Seward County, Neb., and are engaged in farming; George J. (see sketch); Minnie became the wife of William Elfeldt, and lives on a farm in Lancaster County; Louisa, the present wife of H. G. Walage, and Charles, Ellen L. and Augusta C., all at home with their mother. Our subject while living, and his wife and children, are members of the German Methodist Episcopal Church, of Olive Branch, and the former was a member of the Republican political party. As a man of upright, honest character, who abhorred trickery and deceit, he had won a position of esteem and confidence among honest men. We present the portraits of Mr. Fischer and his wife in this connection.



CHARLES WESSEL has been for several years a prominent factor in developing and sustaining the great agricultural interests of Lancaster County, and the fine farm that he has im-

proved from the wild prairies, beautifully located on section 30, South Pass Precinct, comprising 230 acres of the richest and most arable land in this region shows him to be a skillful and competent farmer, and the income that he derives therefrom places him among the most substantial and well-to-do citizens of the place.

Mr. Wessel is a Prussian by birth and breeding, as were also his parents, Charles and Mary (Cutmeyer) Wessel, they having been born near the village of Tangan, in Westphalia. His mother died in the Fatherland when he was thirteen years of age, in 1852, when she was forty years old. A true wife and a loving and devoted mother was thus taken away from her husband and the five children who were growing up around them, some of them at the age when they most needed a mother's tender care. The names of her offspring were Christian, Mary, Charles F., Fred (deceased) and Henry. All the family, with the exception of our subject, reside in Woodford County, Ill. His father belonged to the middle classes in his native country, and was there engaged in farming, which occupation he has carried on in Illinois since coming to the United States, and by his industrious, honest and upright life, he has won respect and esteem from all about him.

The subject of this sketch began to attend the Prussian schools at an early age, and as a bright scholar made rapid progress in his studies in the scientific course that he pursued. He also received religious as well as secular instruction, and was confirmed at the age of fourteen. After leaving school he began to learn the tailor's trade, but, not liking it, he preferred to work out on a farm. When our subject was eighteen years old, in company with his brother Christian and sister Mary, he set sail from Bremen on the American-bound ship "Aselelius," and after a long voyage of nine weeks and two days, landed in New Orleans in the latter part of October, 1857. From that city they proceeded on a steamer up the Mississippi River to Burlington, Iowa. Our subject soon found work in that city as an employe of William Brickman, with whom he remained one year. He continued to work out, as did his brother and sister, and they faithfully saved their earnings to liquidate a small

debt that their father had contracted, and to pay his and his remaining sons passage to this country, sending \$300 across the water to their father and brothers, who joined them in the fall of 1859 in Woodford County, Ill., whither our subject, his brother and sister had moved. They all rented a farm together, and our subject remained with his people until his marriage, in 1864, with Miss Henrietta Wittstruck, when he established a cozy home of his own. Mrs. Wessel was born in Germany, and was but a child when she came to America with her parents. She has proved an invaluable assistant to her husband in his work, and has made a comfortable home for her family.

After marriage Mr. Wessel rented a farm for himself, doing very well thereon for four years. At the expiration of that time, in 1868, he bought a farm of eighty acres, which he sold in the fall of 1869, as he had been allured by the brilliant inducements held out to farmers by the wonderful agricultural resources of the then young State of Nebraska, and had determined to take advantage of them. He started with three wagons, three spans of horses and a stallion, with his wife and two small children, and their household goods. They arrived at Nebraska City on the 15th of November, having been exactly one month on the way. Mr. Wessel immediately looked up a suitable location, and being pleased with the country around South Pass, he pre-empted a tract of 172 acres on section 30, and two years afterward added the eighty acres on which his house now stands, which he took up under the provisions of the Homestead Act, and by further purchase he has further increased the acreage of his farm to 280 acres, all of which is in a fine state of culture, and provided with a substantial set of farm buildings.

To our subject and his wife have been born eleven children, namely: Laura, Adolph, Mary, Clara, Anna, Charles, Kate, Fred, Lena, Louis and Eddie. Laura is the wife of Louis Rambow, of South Pass, and they have two children, Louis and Fred; Adolph assists his father in the management of the farm; Mary is the wife of C. Clurman, of Lincoln, and they have one child, Edward; Clara works in Lincoln. The remaining children live at home with their parents.

Mr. Wessel is an active, wide-awake man, of resolute character, and undoubted integrity. Although of foreign birth, the years of his manhood have been passed in the United States, and as an intelligent citizen, familiar with her institutions and laws, our subject takes a hearty interest in the welfare of his adopted country. He sincerely believes the Democratic party can be most safely trusted with the guidance of National affairs, and earnestly advocates its principles. In matters pertaining to township and county affairs, he is, however, independent, voting for the man whom he thinks best adapted to the position. He has himself held public office very acceptably, serving the township as School Director, and as Road Master. He is a man of firm religious convictions, and he and his family are valued members of the Presbyterian Church, at Princeton.

AMUEL McCLAY, ex-Sheriff of Lancaster County, is a native of the Buckeye State, and born near the well-known town of Findlay, July 28, 1834. When a little lad seven years of age, his parents removed to Champaign County, in that State, and from there later to Illinois, living for the first few years both in Tazewell and Fulton Counties.

John McClay, the father of our subject, was born in Franklin County, Pa., and married Miss Jane Thompson, also a native of the Keystone State. He was a farmer by occupation, and after removing to Fulton County, Ill., established himself permanently and built up a good home, where his death took place in 1862. The mother later went to live with her children in Woodford County, and died there in 1868. The family circle included six sons and five daughters, and ten of the children lived to mature years; five are now living.

The subject of this sketch was the sixth child of the parental family, and spent his childhood and youth under the home roof, becoming familiar with rural occupations and attending the district school. Later, in Illinois, he took a year's course at Brimfield Academy. He then began an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade, which he followed four years

and until the outbreak of the Civil War. He was then one of the first to respond to the call for troops, enlisting in Company H, 17th Illinois Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee, and operated considerably in Mississippi. The 17th Regiment was a part of the 17th Army Corps, under command of Gen. McPherson. Our subject was first under fire at Fredericktown, Mo., and later participated in the battles of Ft. Donelson, Shiloh and Vicksburg, besides meeting the enemy in various minor engagements and skirmishes. At Fredericktown he was shot through the arm, which disabled him for six months, but after rejoining his regiment he suffered no further injury, although experiencing many hairbreadth escapes. At the expiration of his term of enlistment he received his honorable discharge, in June, 1864, at Springfield, Ill., and returned to his old haunts in Illinois.

Mr. McClay, after being transformed from a soldier to a civilian, resumed carpentering, which he continued in the Prairie State until the spring of 1867. Then, determined to seek the farther West, he made his way to the newly admitted State of Nebraska, stopping for a time at Omaha, and coming in October following to Lincoln. He soon embarked as a contractor and builder, meantime being recognized by the citizens of this county as a valued accession to the community, being wide-awake, intelligent and energetic, with excellent business capacities and a good fund of information concerning matters in general. He was accordingly pushed to the front, and in the fall of 1869, after acquitting himself creditably in other positions of trust and responsibility, was elected Sheriff of Lancaster County on the Republican ticket. This office he held for a period of eight years, and upon retiring sought the quiet of the country and engaged in farming and stock-raising, having, however, his residence in the city.

Mr. McClay was five years employed as a farmer, then turned his attention to real estate, and began handling both farm and city property, and since that time has been mostly thus occupied. The lady who has presided over his home for the last sixteen years was in her girlhood Miss Sarah J. Lamb, with whom he was united in marriage Feb. 8, 1872.

Mrs. McClay was born at Mt. Vernon, Ohio, May 21, 1845, and is the daughter of John and Sarah E. (Cassell) Lamb, who were natives of Pennsylvania and Maryland respectively; the father is dead, and the mother is still living in Lincoln. Of this union there have been born two children, both daughters—Minnie J. and Hattie L. Mr. McClay has always been strongly identified with the Republican party.



DANIEL A. GILBERT. It has been customary to speak of men who have raised themselves to honorable stations in life without the aid of wealth or influential friends, as self-made men. There is much less significance in this expression than people suppose who use it. It would seem to imply that there are some men who are not self-made, that they were made by others, and that the qualities necessary to render a man successful in life need not be acquired, but may be conferred. That is not altogether true, though true to some extent, for all men must be self-made, if made at all. Every man must be the architect of his own fortune. There are many advantages, however, to be gained from having friends and means. A man starting out in life without either of these may finally achieve eminent success; and on the other hand, a man starting out in full possession of these advantages may make a signal failure unless he brings to bear some innate worth or virtue whereby to shape his course.

Such efforts have been put forth and such success attained by the subject of this sketch, that he may well take rank among those who have molded for themselves successful careers. Mr. Gilbert is a native of Saratoga County, N. Y., the date of his birth being May 23, 1830. He is a son of Platt C. and Susan Gilbert, who were reared in the State in which he was born. He spent the years of his youth and early manhood in close proximity to the land through which flows the ever beautiful and picturesque Hudson River, his father living on a farm, of which there are none more romantically situated than are those in Eastern New York.

Having received a fair common-school educa-

tion, Mr. Gilbert then decided to follow the advice given by Horace Greeley, "Young man, go West and grow up with the country," so in the year 1873 he came to Nebraska, and located in Lincoln. For some six years he engaged in the dairy business, in which he was successful, and afterward he engaged in the grocery business in the same place, which he conducted for some five years. Subsequently he farmed for two years in Denton Precinct, again returning to the mercantile business at Denton in 1885, since which time he has been here. He is the general merchant of this place, and besides his store business, he is engaged in buying and selling grain and coal, and anything in the line of farmers' produce. His storeroom is 24x40 feet in dimensions, the storeroom and village post-office occupying the front part of the building.

Mr. Gilbert was appointed Postmaster in the spring of 1886. He enjoys the esteem and confidence of those with whom he is associated in business, and his integrity and uprightness of character are unquestioned. He not only enjoys a reputation as a successful merchant, but in his duties as a servant of the Government he has given general satisfaction. He is a Republican in politics, and readily approves of any measure by which the good of the community in which he lives can be secured or advanced.

In New York State Mr. Gilbert was married to Sarah F. Coon; they have had seven children, five of whom are living, as follows: James C., Charles A., Carrie B., Martin T. and Mattie F. In the enjoyment of these domestic ties, and with the esteem and friendship of his fellowmen, may he continue his prosperous career, serving his country in the position which it has bestowed upon him with the strict integrity and uprightness which have heretofore been his characteristic virtues.



MICHAEL PETER. While every man is to a great extent responsible for the reputation which he bears among his fellowmen, there may be some circumstances bearing upon him to augment or depreciate in some degree what he might otherwise have become as an inde-

pendent factor. It is true that to some extent heredity makes a man what he is; if his ancestry is illustrious, some beams of luster will fall on him; if it is degrading, some stain from the degradation will mar his otherwise spotless name. We are pleased to state that the subject of our sketch need mention only with feelings of pride the ancestry from which he is sprung.

William Penn is one of the most estimable characters in English biography; he embraced the tenets of the Society of Friends, and when religious intolerance became unbearable to him he obtained a patent from Charles II to found a settlement in North America, where the Friends might live unmolested. The settlement was organized on principles of perfect toleration, on the land which Penn purchased from the Indians, and on the 24th of August, 1682, he founded the city of Philadelphia (brotherly love), as the capital of his colony in Pennsylvania. The name of the city embodies the principle which he had at heart, his object in planting the colony "to afford an asylum to the good and oppressed of all nations, to frame a government which might be an example to show men how free and happy they could be." Among the people who composed this celebrated colony were the ancestors of the gentleman in whose honor we write this sketch.

Mr. Peter was born on the 16th of November, 1818, in York County, Pa., and is a son of George and Catherine M. Peter, both natives of the same State. They had born to them a family of ten children, of whom but four now survive. Abraham is in Noble County, Ohio; Leo, now Mrs. Kline, and George, are also both in Noble County; and Michael, our subject, is one of the pioneers of Buda Precinct, residing on section 12. When Michael was about eight years old his parents migrated to Ohio and settled in what is now known as Noble County, where the family were pioneers of the year 1826. There our subject was reared to manhood, and received what education he could from the early schools of his time.

On the 10th of March, 1842, Mr. Peter was married, in Ohio, to Elizabeth Sebell, a native of Bucks County, Pa., and they became the parents of twelve children, of whom the following survive: Andrew

lives in Colorado; Jacob in South Pass Precinct; Daniel in Noble County, Ohio; John in Sherman County, Kan.; Catherine, wife of Henry Oldemeyer, in Lincoln, this county; Margaret, wife of Hein Oldemeyer, in Colorado; Lydia, wife of S. B. Bundy, in Sherman County, Kan.; Mary, wife of George Sowers, in Gage County. In 1871 our subject and his family came to Lancaster County, and have since resided here.

Mr. Peter homesteaded eighty acres of land, and improved it until it presents the fine appearance of to-day, having also seen the development of the surrounding country in a like manner as was his own farm. He is interested in progress and improvement, and active in supporting any measures by which the good of the country can be secured. He is a member of the Congregational Church, at Princeton, in which he has served as Elder for a number of years. He is a Democrat in politics, and is now past seventy years of age but still able to do a great deal of labor, being in the enjoyment of good health. He possesses the entire confidence of his neighbors, and is one of the living pioneers who have done much to make this county what it is. No one is more worthy of a place in this work than the gentleman of whom we write, as is manifested by the respect and esteem in which he is held by the people of his community.



PETER GLEE is one of the old settlers of Centerville Precinct, residing on section 32. He is the youngest child of a family of nine children born to his parents, the names of his brothers and sisters being John, Hans, Inca, Anna, Henry, Katie, Dedlif and Telcia. This family were all born in their parents' native country of Prussia, Germany, and our subject was born on the 1st of January, 1834. He was enabled to acquire a very good education in his native tongue, and the education thus gained has been of countless worth to him.

In the year 1864 our subject concluded that he would like to see the "America" of which so much had been said, and the name of which had long been ringing in his ears. It is not always pure

curiosity that prompts those worthy people of foreign countries to visit this country, but it is oftener because she holds out inducements for the bettering of their condition, the truth of which they cannot help but believe and appreciate. Thus it is that so many industrious people have left their native homes to which they were then and still are very much attached, to seek in America that freedom, protection and encouragement which they did not before enjoy. Taking passage on an ocean steamer, our subject left Hamburg, and after a voyage of seventeen days he landed in New York City, from which place he went to Clay County, Ill. There he resided for two years, and in the year 1866 he came to Lancaster County, where he settled on the land which constitutes his present farm.

In the year 1866 our subject was married to Elizabeth Krull, and they became the parents of eleven children, six of whom are living. The children who have been spared to brighten their days are William, Charles, Peter, Otto, Addie and Agnes. Those who were taken from them were Osear, Iina and John, and two who died in infancy unnamed.

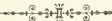
When Mr. Glee came to this county he took up a homestead of 160 acres, and by careful management and industry he has subsequently been able to purchase at different times, until now he is the owner of 520 acres of good, well-improved land. He came without means other than a strong, vigorous body, a good education, and above all, a determination and will to succeed, which are really worth much more to a young man starting out in life than any amount of mere dollars and cents. When parents can bestow upon their children a certain amount of worldly goods, it may enable them to secure for themselves a fortune without really great labor, but if they cannot do this, they can yet send them out into the world fully equipped to lead successful and honorable careers, if they have but endowed them with strong bodies, good, sound minds and educational advantages, and taught them that self-reliance will accomplish great things.

Our subject has been a worker all his life, and that, coupled with the fact that he is a good manager, has made him successful in what he has undertaken. He is a respected member of the German Lutheran Church, and in politics he votes with the

Republican party. When the Lutheran Church was being built in Centerville Precinct, he served as a member of the building committee, and is otherwise interested in the promulgation of religious principles. He is in favor of all the institutions that will lead to the advancement of the people and the improvement of the country, and as far as he is able he gives them his support.

In connection with his regular farm work our subject has made a specialty of breeding fine stock and cattle, and he has a fine stallion of the Clydesdale breed which is now fourteen months old, and promises to be a fine horse. By giving attention to the improvement of the grade of those domestic animals and very useful servants, a farmer not only secures better results from their work, but exemplifies one of the truths of political economy which teaches that the best that can be done should be done for the general improvement of labor and the country.

It is to the live, active, industrious and go-ahead principles which characterize our subject, that this county is indebted for its rise from a state of uncultivated, natural prairie land, dotted here and there with log houses and perhaps a school or two, to a state of the highest improvement in the condition of the farms, and the many beautiful and commodious dwellings and school buildings for which this county is particularly noted. As one of the men who has done much for the advancement of his adopted country, Mr. Glee is entitled to the respect, admiration and remembrance of the people in his community.



HON. HIRAM D. HATHAWAY, business manager of the State Journal Company, at Lincoln, a gentleman of education and ability, was born in Trumbull County, Ohio, Oct. 20, 1835, and is the third son and child of Artemas D. and Rachel (Hampton) Hathaway. The Hamptons were early settlers of New England, whence they removed later to Pennsylvania. Artemas Hathaway was one of the pioneer settlers of Ohio, locating in Trumbull County about 1826. Hiram D. remained on the farm during his boyhood,

and acquired a district school education. His father died when he was only seven years of age. When sixteen years of age he migrated to Council Bluffs, Iowa, where he commenced the printer's trade, in the office of the *Frontier Guardian*, in 1852. This sheet was run off through an old-fashioned hand-press, and the first duty of young Hathaway was to act as roller-boy. Pining, however, for a more active life, he the following year set out on the long and hazardous trip across the plains to California, and remained five years upon the Pacific Slope, engaged in mining, lumbering, cattle-raising and farming.

Our subject, in 1858, returned eastward as far as this State, which was then a Territory, stopping for a time at Wyoming, and resuming the printer's trade in the office of the *Wyoming Telescope*, of which, in due time, he became the business manager. From this point a year later Mr. Hathaway pitched his tent in Nebraska City, where he was employed as a "jour" on a paper called the *Spirit of the West*, and with which he continued until it collapsed. We next find him in the office of the *Nebraska City News*, of which he assumed charge of the mechanical and business department, remaining with it until 1865.

In April of that year Mr. Hathaway established the *Nebraska Herald*, at Plattsmouth, which he conducted successfully for a period of seven years. Then withdrawing, he purchased a half-interest in the *State Journal*, at Lincoln, becoming the partner of Charles H. Gere. In December of the following year they added another member to the firm, and established a general printing, book-binding and stationery department, which from the start received an extensive patronage, and now gives employment in some seasons of the year to as many as 200 men. They carry a complete stock of job and printing material, besides fine stationery. They have added electrotyping, stereotyping and lithographing to their line of work, and have now one of the largest and cleanest establishments in the Northwest.

Mr. Hathaway, when twenty-five years of age, and while a resident of Nebraska City, was united in marriage with Miss Anna Lauer, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride, Aug. 1, 1860, in Nebraska City. Mrs. H. was born in New York

City, in March, 1838. Of this marriage there have been five children, three living and two deceased, in order of birth: Charles C. died at the age of twenty-one; Fred H. died at the age of twenty; Frank L. is connected with the stationery department of the *State Journal*; Lillie E., a student of the State University; and Ralph H., attending the common school.

In politics Mr. H. is an uncompromising Republican, and has done good service for his party in Nebraska. He was elected a member of the Lower House of the Legislature in 1867, and two years later was elected State Senator at the first session held at Lincoln. In whatever station he has been called to fill he has acquitted himself conscientiously and intelligently, thus earning the esteem and confidence of the people at large. His comfortable and well-appointed home is located in the central part of the city, at the corner of Sixteenth and M streets, among whose people his face and form have been familiar for many years, and who have learned to estimate him at his true worth.



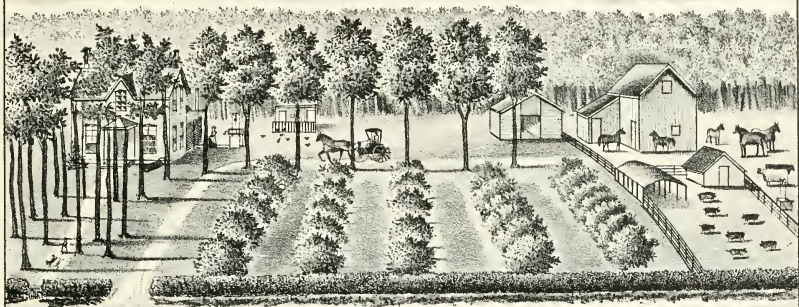
WILLIAM J. FOWLIE has one of the finest located farms in Lancaster County, situated on section 18 in the beautiful precinct of Nemaha, and its carefully cultivated acres, under his skillful management, are made to yield to the utmost the abundant harvests gleaned therefrom, furnishing evidence of the extreme richness and depth of the soil.

Our subject is the son of William and Jennie (Chalmers) Fowlie, natives of Scotland, the father born in Aberdeenshire. The latter was a young man when he came to this country, and the mother was but a girl of fourteen or fifteen years. Mr. Fowlie was a miller and millwright by trade, and after settling in Smith's Falls, Province of Ontario, Canada, he built and ran a mill. He was very prosperous until his premature death, while still a young man, the result of having contracted a severe cold when in the water repairing the water-

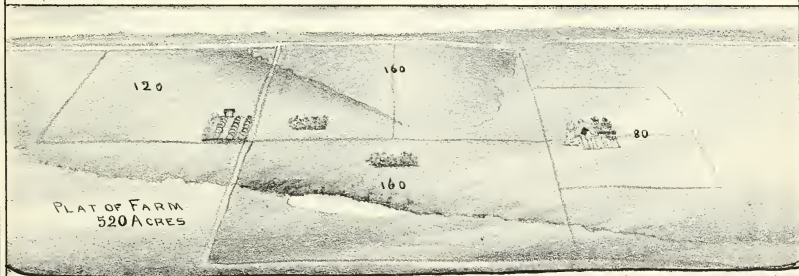
wheel. He was gifted with energy, enterprise and a sound mind, all of which attributes made him a desirable citizen, whose death was a loss to the community in which he resided. The mother of our subject married a second time, John Scott becoming her husband, and they now reside in Ames, Story Co., Iowa. Mrs. Scott has no children by her second marriage. The four by her first union are: Gabriel C., William J., Margaret and Jennie.

William Fowlie was born Sept. 13, 1846, at Smith's Falls, Ontario, Canada. He was a boy of nine when his father died. When he was ten years old he met with a serious accident while at play, breaking his leg, and it being improperly set, he did not recover its use until he was twenty years of age. This, while being a great misfortune, and at the time a great disadvantage to him, depriving him of the pleasures of boyhood, darkening his youth, the pain unfitting him for study, may in a manner have helped to strengthen his mind and mold his character, making him more thoughtful and observant, and turning him to books for companionship when he was able to read. As soon as regaining his vigor, he took up the business of photography, and did very well at it, considering his inexperience and lack of capital.

Mr. Fowlie subsequently was offered a position as overseer or manager on a stock farm owned by a friend in Otoe County, near Nebraska City, this State, at which point he arrived in 1866. He took charge of the ranch for a year and a half, and then worked at carpentering for a year. He then took up the homestead where he now resides, on section 18, and after settling on his land he commenced to team lumber from Nebraska City to defray the expense of living and improving his land. The country round about was newly settled at that time, and there were no capitalists among the pioneers, our subject having but three cents after he arrived in Nebraska City. Since the trials and privations of those early years he has been prospered, and may be numbered among the substantial citizens of Lancaster County. He owns eighty acres of land, and operates 160 acres, having rented eighty acres of his brother, who came to Nebraska in 1869, and pioneered with our subject on the adjoining homestead. He has a thrifty orchard of



RESIDENCE OF W. J. FOWLIE, SEC. 18, NEMAHA PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF ABRAHAM HERTER, SEC. 9 & 10, STOCKTON PRECINCT.

200 apple trees, thirty cherry trees, and a great number of plum trees.

Mr. Fowlie was married, Sept. 13, 1874, to Miss Viola, daughter of the Rev. Jerome and Melinda (Jordan) Blackman, of Illinois, in which State Mrs. F. was born Nov. 14, 1856. Her parents moved to Nebraska when she was young. Mr. Fowlie owes to her excellent management the pleasant and comfortable home that he enjoys with her and their children, four of whom complete the family circle, as follows: Ernest, Charles, Pearly and Blanche.

Mr. Fowlie is a well-informed man, with broad and liberal views concerning the practical questions that form the topics of the hour. He does not stay to query whether life is worth living or no, but does what he can to make it so. Through his liberality and public-spiritedness this community has been benefited in more ways than one. Especially is this true concerning the excellent school advantages that the youth of the rising generation now enjoy in the district of which he is Director, as he has distinguished himself by his labors in bringing the school to its present high standard, procuring one of the best teachers to be had, and providing in every way for the convenience and advancement of the pupils. In his political views, Mr. Fowlie is a stalwart Republican, firmly advocating the policy of his party.

The view of the Fowlie homestead, which will be found on an adjoining page, sufficiently indicates the taste and industry of the proprietor.



A BRAHAM HERTER. The subject of this sketch, who has a valuable farm finely located on section 10, is one of the most extensive agriculturists of Stockton Precinct, and has contributed largely to its farming interests, being a man energetic, enterprising and industrious, and one who takes pride in his farm, his family, and the growth and development of his adopted country. In the view of his premises which appears in this connection, is illustrated par-

tially the results of his labors, which have been attended with prosperity.

A native of the Canton of Zurich, Switzerland, our subject was born Aug. 21, 1831, and for the first eleven years of his life lived among the beautiful scenes of his native country. His parents were in moderate circumstances, and he was at an early age imbued with those habits of industry which have been the secret of his later success. When quite young he was employed in a dyeing establishment, and in April, 1855, when a man grown, resolved to seek his fortunes on another continent. Accordingly, embarking on a sailing-vessel at Havre de Grace, he arrived, after a safe voyage of seven weeks, in the city of New Orleans, whence he made his way directly to St. Clair County, Ill., taking in the city of St. Louis on his way. He was thereafter variously employed, in the meantime saving what he could of his earnings, which he later invested in a farm in St. Clair County, Ill., which he operated until the spring of 1876. Then, selling out, he came with his family to this county, and purchased 240 acres, eighty of which comprised a part of section 10, in Stockton Precinct, and the balance is on section 35, in Stevens Creek Precinct. Here he has since made his home, erecting a fine set of frame buildings, and bringing about the other improvements which invariably arrest the attention of the passing traveler. His horses and cattle give ample evidence of the care extended them, and the shipments are chiefly made to Omaha and other cities. His land has yielded generously under careful and judicious cultivation the richest crops of this section of the State.

While a resident of St. Clair County, Ill., our subject was married, Dec. 1, 1861, in Mascoutah, to Miss Catherine Oberle, who was born in Ottenheim, the Grand Duchy of Baden, Germany, Jan. 21, 1835, and came to America alone in 1859, when twenty-four years old. Her parents were of pure German ancestry, and spent their last years in the Fatherland. Their household included eight children, four sons and four daughters. Two are in Germany, and the others in America. To Mr. and Mrs. Herter there have been born nine children, three only of whom are living, namely: Jacob W.; Katie C., the wife of Phillip Faulhaber, and Freder-

ick C. The deceased were named respectively: Abraham, Catherina, Abraham (2d), Ida, Anna M. and Edward, Mr. Herter on becoming a naturalized American citizen cast his lot with the Democratic party, and in religious matters the family is in sympathy with the doctrines taught by Zwingle, the bosom friend of Martin Luther.

GEORGE L. ANDERTON. The subject of this notice represents a man of excellent education, cultivated tastes and good business capacities, and who until the year 1887 followed mostly the profession of a teacher. He is now pleasantly located on a good farm of eighty acres, embracing the northwest quarter of section 15, Waverly Precinct, with good buildings and the machinery required for the prosecution of agriculture after modern methods. He also owns eighty acres on section 10.

The residence of our subject in this county dates from May, 1878. His early home was on the other side of the Atlantic, in Lancashire, England, where his birth took place June 5, 1849. His parents, James and Hannah (Lemming) Anderton, were natives of the same shire, and George L. was but six months old when they emigrated from their native land and located on Staten Island, where they resided for a period of nine years, and the father pursued his trade of printing.

From Staten Island the Anderton family removed first to Rhode Island and next to Taunton, Mass., where the father, who had followed the trade of printer, found that block printing was superceding the old methods and his occupation was practically gone. He for a short time worked in a bleaching house, but finally resolved to take up farming in the West, and made his way to Manitowoc County, Wis., where he tilled the soil and resided until 1877. In the meantime the mother died there, about 1873. The father later returned to Massachusetts, but in a short time joined his son, our subject, in this county, and now makes his home with him.

The parental family included eleven children, three of whom died in infancy. Alice became the

wife of James Walker, and died in Waverly Precinct about 1884; Diana, Mrs. Oswald Rogerson, lives in Massachusetts; Grace married George Chatterton, and is now a resident of Wisconsin; Mary A. is the wife of Henry Berry, of Connecticut; Jennie, Mrs. Calvin P. Green, lives in Connecticut, and John in Rhode Island.

The subject of this sketch attended school quite regularly until a youth of sixteen years, then commenced his career as a teacher. The year following he went with the family to Wisconsin, where he supplemented his education by attendance at the Normal School in Oshkosh, and thereafter taught school and farmed alternately until coming to Nebraska in 1878. For a period of nine years he occupied himself as a grocer at Waverly, and in 1887 settled upon the farm where he now resides. He had purchased the land some time previously. He put up a fine two-story residence in the spring of 1888, which is one of the best structures of the kind in this part of the county. His land, with the exception of sixty acres, is under a good state of cultivation, and everything about the premises is suggestive of comfort and plenty, the whole place presenting a most attractive picture of prosperous rural life.

The wife of our subject, to whom he was married Sept. 28, 1879, was in her girlhood Miss Norah, daughter of W. M. and Snares Reed, a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this volume. They are now the parents of four interesting children, three sons and a daughter—Arthur, Edgar, Grace and Bennie. Mr. Anderton is a Republican, politically, and has served as Town Treasurer and School Director.

EDWARD LAUTERBACH is one of the rising young men of Nebraska, the owner of a good farm of eighty acres on section 21, with a good house and every necessary and convenient arrangement in the line of farm buildings, one who seems anxious to be in the advance. He was born upon the 26th of May, 1862, to Adam and Frederica Lauterbach, at their home in Jefferson County, Iowa. He came to this county with his

parents in 1879, and has continued his residence here ever since. Upon his farm he is giving evidence of much intelligence and thorough knowledge of his chosen occupation, and it goes without saying that there is a future before him worthy of his enterprise.

At present our subject is filling the position of appraiser of the Olive Branch Aid Society. He also holds office in the Methodist Episcopal Church Sunday-school, he being Superintendent of the same. He was united in marriage on the 26th of August, 1885, when he took as his wife Miss Louisa Elfeldt, daughter of Charles and Sophia Elfeldt, who were among the first settlers of the precinct. They are parents of one daughter, Cora, who was born Sept. 16, 1887.



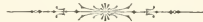
ADAM LAUTERBACH. The discussion concerning the naturalization laws, arising from their abuse, is always rife, and in some cases would seem to favor extreme measures being devised, but whenever one meets a citizen who has so thoroughly caught the spirit of the country and Government as has our subject, one cannot but be glad for the opportunity which enables the country to derive the advantage of such intelligence and earnest manhood. Mr. Lauterbach, whose home is on section 21, Buda Precinct, is worthy the name of representative as a man and citizen. He is a native of Germany, and was born on the 2d of April, 1838. He is the son of Henry and Catherine E. Lauterbach.

In June of 1857 our subject took passage at Bremen on a sailing-vessel, and after a most interesting voyage of six weeks landed at Baltimore. He came to Franklin County, Ohio, and for six months following worked as a farm hand, and then removed to Jefferson County, Iowa, working in the same capacity for about three years. At the close of that period he bought a farm of forty acres, and farmed that until he removed to Lancaster County in the spring of 1879. Here he purchased 160 acres in this precinct from the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company for \$7 per acre. At the time he took the farm there were no improvements

made thereon, but fifty acres were broken; to-day it will stand favorably in comparison with any of its neighbors, for by personal labor and perseverance he has brought it to a condition of development seldom surpassed. In Iowa our subject worked hard every day from morning until night to obtain what is now his, and has made his own way entirely from the start.

The 3d of September, 1861, Mr. Lauterbach was united in marriage with Frederica Pfeiffer, whose parents were from Wurtemberg; she was born May 10, 1840, on the Atlantic Ocean, and their family circle included eight children, of whom five are living, whose names are here given: Edward; Julia, wife of William Miller; Eliza, wife of H. Oliver Hoffman; Mary, who is at home; Clara, wife of Christian Shafer. Three are deceased—Lydia, John H. and Martha E.

Our subject and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he has served the same in various official positions at different times. He is very active and earnest in Christian work, and as a leader of prayer and other meetings has few equals, and upon occasions he has filled the pulpit with much acceptance. He has upon two different occasions served upon the Grand Jury, and by his intelligent grasp of the situation has done good work. He is quite well educated in his native language, and by his acquirement of the English tongue is largely enabled to apply the same. Politically, his sympathies are with the Republican party, which claims him as one of its staunchest friends. In every department he is a success, whether upon the farm or other matters, and enjoys the entire confidence and esteem of his neighbors and fellow-citizens.



ANDREW J. YOUNG, a prosperous farmer of South Pass, residing on section 28, may well be classed among the pioneers of Nebraska, although not among the first settlers of the State, as he had to endure all the hardships and privations that befell the early comers, before he could bring the 160-acre tract of wild prairie land, that he took up under the provisions of the

Homestead Act, into its present highly cultivated condition, where it ranks among the most fertile and productive farms in this locality.

Mr. Young is a son of Jackson and Louisa (Van) Young, natives of South Carolina, the father of a sturdy Scotch ancestry, and the mother of thrifty Dutch descent. When his father was a young man he went to Tennessee, and taking up a tract of uncultivated land in a newly settled part of Monroe County, led the life of a pioneer farmer there for many years. He is still a citizen of that county, living in the comforts supplied by his own hard-won earnings, and enjoying the respect of his fellowmen for the honesty and uprightness of a life that has now reached the seventieth milestone that marks man's journey from the cradle to the grave. His good wife, whose sterling qualities made her an object of esteem by all about her, passed away from the scenes of earth in 1883, at the age of sixty-six years. Eleven children were born of their union, eight boys and three girls.

The subject of this sketch, the seventh child of his parents, was born Jan. 8, 1848, in Monroe County, Tenn., and there, amid the pleasant surroundings of the home of his birth, he grew to be a manly, strong, self-reliant lad. His educational advantages were limited, but he made the best of those offered, and supplemented them by his native intelligence and powers of observation, so that he became well informed. When the war broke out it found him a boy of twelve years, intensely interested in the struggle, and as soon as opportunity offered, when he was sixteen years of age, in 1864, he showed his patriotism and loyalty to the Union by joining the brave Tennesseans who had been true to the old flag, and a soldier of the Union army, under Capt. John C. Wright, of the 9th Tennessee Cavalry, he went forth to help fight his country's battles. Although so young, he showed the courage and efficiency of a veteran, but his honorable career was cut short for awhile by the capture of the battalion of which he was a member, and he and his comrades were taken prisoners and sent to Belle Isle, and thence to Libby, where they were finally paroled. In February, 1865, our subject joined his regiment again, and was mustered into service a second time at Knoxville, Tenn. After

the close of the war he was discharged, having won a praiseworthy and honorable record for bravery on the battle-field, and for his devotion to the Union when it cost much in a Southern State to be true to the stars and stripes. When he left the army Mr. Young returned to his father's farm, and resumed the work that he had dropped to become a soldier. He remained at home with his parents until 1868, when he removed to Missouri, whence he came in the following year to Lancaster County. He took up the Government land that now forms his farm, and immediately commenced its improvement.

In the years of toil and trial that followed Mr. Young was not wholly without encouragement and assistance, as he was married, in 1872, to Miss Sarah Jane Yeigh, daughter of Frederick and Jane (Fry) Yeigh, who came to Nebraska in 1870. Ten children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Young, six of whom are now living, namely: George, Frank, Martin, Louisa Van, James and Calvin.

Our subject and his wife are open-hearted, hospitable people, whose undoubted integrity of character commends them to the confidence of the community, of which they are respected members. Mr. Young is independent in his views, and though he is a true Republican in politics, yet he reserves the right to vote for any man whom he deems worthy to uphold the principles of government sanctioned by the Constitution.

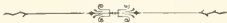
WILLIAM H. SNELLING, attorney-at-law, Justice of the Peace for the city of Lincoln and Lancaster County, generally, is one of the most noted members of the legal profession in the State of Nebraska. He is a native of Kentucky, born in Mercer County, Nov. 21, 1835, but when he was a small child his parents removed to Morgan County, Ill., where he grew to manhood. His father, Aquilla Snelling, was a native of Woodford County, Ky., Elizabeth, his wife, a daughter of Bartlett McAlister, and she was born in Franklin County, Ky. Her father was born in the Shenandoah Valley, Va., being a descendant of an old Scotch family. The Snellings were of German

origin. After their removal to Morgan County, Ill., they settled on a farm, and Mr. Snelling was extensively engaged in agricultural pursuits there until his death, in 1852. His amiable wife survived him several years, dying in November, 1863. They were people of sterling integrity of character, which made them influential and respected in the community where they made their home. Their married life was blessed to them by the birth of four children, of whom William H. was the eldest.

Our subject passed his school days in Morgan County, assisting on the farm, when not engaged in his studies, until he was eighteen years old. He then began his career as a teacher, a profession for which he was well equipped both by temperament and education. He diligently pursued his chosen calling until the breaking out of the Civil War, when he abandoned his peaceful vocation to aid his country in her exciting struggle on Southern battlefields; he enlisted as a private in the 10th Illinois Cavalry, Company I, of which his brother George was Captain. He served in the ranks until 1862, when his efficiency as a soldier in camp and field was duly recognized by his promotion to the position of Commissary Sergeant of Davidson's cavalry, which operated in the Southwest, and combined all the cavalry in that region. On account of sickness, Mr. Snelling was placed on detached duty, and consequently was not with his regiment in all its engagements. He was mustered out with his regiment in February, 1865, having won an honorable record as a faithful and patriotic soldier. After leaving the army our subject returned to Jacksonville, Ill., where he was offered, and accepted, the position in the Provost Marshal's office. In 1866 he was appointed by Secretary McCullough, Assistant Assessor of the United States, an office which he held up to September, 1868, when, for personal reasons, he resigned his position, having discharged its onerous duties with marked ability, and to the entire satisfaction of those concerned. He removed to Macoupin County, Ill., six miles east of Carlinville, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits for some eighteen months. But his health was such that he had to abandon farming. He then resumed his early vocation, and while teaching school studied law, and was admitted to the bar at Carlinville, Ill.

In the fall of 1872 he was a nominee on the Republican ticket for the office of Prosecuting Attorney for the county, but the county being strongly Democratic, he was defeated with the other candidates of the party. Mr. Snelling remained in Illinois, being actively engaged in the practice of his profession until 1878, when he removed to Lincoln, Neb. Soon after coming here he formed a co-partnership with a leading lawyer, and this partnership continued for about one year. Mr. Snelling has built up a large practice, and stands high in the profession in the State. In 1887 Mr. Snelling was elected Justice of the Peace for the city of Lincoln and for Lancaster County, a position for which his legal acquirements and other qualifications amply fit him. He is a gentleman of calm and dignified presence, in whose judgment and honor his clients justly repose the utmost confidence, feeling assured that their interests will not suffer in his hands.

Mr. Snelling was married, May 19, 1868, to Miss Lizzie Lewis, whose acquaintance he made while attending college at Jacksonville, Ill., she being a daughter of John Lewis, a prominent citizen of Macoupin County, Ill. Her gracious presence makes their cozy home the center of true hospitality, whose bounties she dispenses with a free hand, as all know who have crossed its threshold. Three children complete the family circle—Grace, Katie and Warren L. Mr. Snelling is a leading member of the following organizations: The Masonic Lodge, the G. A. R., and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In politics he is a staunch Republican.


DR. ALBERT R. TOU VELLE, the popular and able young physician and surgeon of Firth, occupies a distinguished position among the members of the medical profession of Lancaster County. He is descended, as his name indicates, from a renowned French ancestry, and the first representative of the family to leave the old ancestral home in France to become a citizen of this country was Robert Tou Velle, the great-great-grandfather of our subject, who crossed the ocean in 1760 and settled at Baltimore, Md.;

further than that we are told nothing more concerning his history. The paternal grandmother of our subject was, prior to her marriage, a Miss Mary Hall, who was of mingled Scotch and English blood, and was born in Virginia.

T. G. Tou Velle, the father of our subject, is one of the leading citizens of Mercer County, Ohio, has been prominently identified with the political affairs of that county for many years, and has held public office longer than any other citizen in the county, having faithfully served the public in various official capacities for twenty-seven years. He has served as Recorder, Auditor, and Clerk of the Common Pleas Court, and is at present County Auditor of Mercer County. He has a clean and honorable record as a public man, and his genial, social qualities, combined with the dignity and reserve of a gentleman, render him popular as well as respected. He is a native of Bloomfield, Ohio, and at an early age he became identified with the educational profession as a teacher, in which vocation he engaged for several years. He next turned his attention to the mercantile business, which he carried on in Macedon, Ohio, for six years. He then entered upon his long career as a public official. Mr. Tou Velle has been twice married. His first wife, mother of our subject, was Paulina Langel, a native of Macedon, Ohio. She was a lady of lovely character and refined tastes, and her premature death in 1863, at the age of twenty-four, was a source of sorrow to many friends. She left two children—Albert Ross and William Ellsworth. To his present amiable wife, formerly Miss Mary L. Phelps, Mr. Tou Velle was united in marriage in 1865. One child has blessed their union, Louisa Belle.

Dr. Tou Velle was born Aug. 10, 1857, at Macedon, Ohio, and he was four years old when his parents removed to Salina, at the time his father began his political life. He attended the public schools in that city, and at the age of thirteen became a messenger boy in the House of Representatives, at Columbus, holding that position during the sessions of Legislature from 1870 to 1872, though not strictly in accordance with his father's wishes, as he desired that he should complete his education. At the age of fifteen he entered Mt. Union College, and continued a student there one year. He then

began to work in the County Clerk's office, and in 1876 he was appointed Deputy Clerk. He retained that position until he began the study of medicine under Drs. Rush and Tou Velle, both physicians of Salina, and he studied under their direction for two years, thus receiving a fine equipment for entering college. In 1880 he became a student at the Ohio College of Medicine, at Cincinnati, and was graduated therefrom in the class of '82. Dr. Tou Velle then entered upon the practice of his profession in Salina, in connection with his former preceptors. But in the great and growing West he foresaw a broader field of usefulness and a better chance of rising in his beloved profession, and selecting Nebraska as a desirable location, he came here with his family in August, 1882, and established himself in Firth, and has since built up a good practice in this and surrounding towns. He is a skillful and conscientious physician, and his success is well deserved, as he is enthusiastically devoted to his profession.

Dr. Tou Velle was married, in 1880, to Miss Margaret, daughter of J. E. Blizzard, editor of the Hickman *Enterprise*, of whom see sketch. Mrs. Tou Velle was born in 1862, in Bellefontaine, Ohio. She attended school both in Ohio and Delaware, and finished her education by pursuing a general course at the seminary in Toledo, Ohio. She is well endowed mentally and physically, and is in full sympathy with her husband in his work, and takes pride in his advancement. This pleasant household is completed by the one son that has been born to the Doctor and his wife, Mortimer Leslie, a bright boy of seven years. The Doctor is a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, and is at present holding the office of Senior Deacon. He takes a deep interest in politics, and is a firm supporter of the policy pursued by the Democratic party; he is also a member of the Knights of Pythias.

WILLIAM H. AMES, in the spring of 1880, made his way from Venango County, Pa., to Nebraska, settling on his present farm in Yankee Hill Precinct, where he cultivated 160 acres in that thorough and systematic manner which

seldom fails to be productive of good results. With the assistance of an intelligent and efficient wife, he has accumulated a good property and attained to a desirable position among his neighbors. Upon turning to the view of the home and part of the farm of our subject, not only the general outline thereof, but some details of arrangement, construction, extent, etc., will be at once obtained, and it would be well if referred to in this connection as making plain what must otherwise be but imperfectly conceived in the mind of the reader. He is a man of decided ideas, being, with Mrs. Ames, a zealous member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a Prohibitionist in politics.

Our subject was born in the northwestern part of New York State, in Orleans County, Feb. 14, 1849, and is the son of Thomas J. and Elizabeth (Watson) Ames, who were natives of England, and emigrated to America after their marriage, about 1831. The father was a carpenter and joiner by occupation, and the household circle numbered eleven children, nine of whom survive, namely: George, James and Robert, residents of Michigan; William H., our subject; Charles, who lives near Philadelphia, Pa.; Oscar, of Venango County, that State; Elizabeth, of Allegany County, N. Y.; Mary, of Jamestown, and Nellie, of Minda, N. Y.

The parents of our subject, in 1859, when the latter was a lad ten years of age, removed from Orleans to Allegany County, N. Y., almost directly south and not far from the State line, where William H. resided with them upon a farm until a youth of nineteen years. Then, ambitious to start out for himself, he made his way to Kalamazoo, Mich., and from there, in 1869, turned his steps eastward to Venango County, Pa., where he lived until 1880, and which place was the residence of one of his brothers. There he formed the acquaintance of Miss Mary Babcock, which ripened into a mutual attachment, and they united their lives and fortunes on the 9th of April, 1872, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride in Delaware Township, Mercer Co., Pa.

Mrs. Mary Ames was born in Mercer County on the western line of Pennsylvania, April 28, 1849, and is the daughter of Oran and Cornelia (Cheasman) Babcock, who were natives of New York

State and took up their residence in Pennsylvania before their marriage. She was reared in her native county and was one of a family of eleven children, the offspring of three marriages of her father. Of these the following survive: Sylvanus R., of Mercer County, Pa.; Sarah E., Mrs. John Remley, of Delaware; Oran, of Salamanca, N. Y.; Marcy, the wife of Alexis Ewing, of Crawford County, Pa.; Hester, of Cattaraugus County, N. Y.; Gilbert B., of Mercer County, Pa., and Mrs. Ames, the wife of our subject.

Our subject and his wife embarked in life together with little of this world's goods, but with strong hands and willing hearts, making their first home in Pennsylvania, where our subject was engaged as an engineer until 1880. Their union has been blessed by the birth of four children: Arthur T., born Aug. 3, 1873, and died March 14, 1875, in Pennsylvania; Albert A. was born April 24, 1876; William H., Jr., Sept. 14, 1877, and Rial E., July 31, 1881, the latter only being a native of Nebraska.



JOHAN J. MEYER is a son of John H. and Eliza Meyer, now residing in Saltillo Precinct. His parents are natives of Germany, who emigrated to America many years ago, the father being now over seventy years and the mother more than sixty years old. Our subject was born on the 14th of April, 1847, in Clayton County, Iowa, where he lived until the years of manhood and received his education in the district schools. He came to Lancaster County when he was but a young man, and in 1869 he received from the Government eighty acres of land on section 28, Buda Precinct, on which he has since made his home. He has added to that amount by subsequent purchase, and is now the owner of 320 acres of land in Buda Precinct and one section in Cheyenne County, Kan.

When our subject first came into possession of his land his financial condition was not such that he could make many improvements on it, and for the first and second years of his residence here he was in the employ of others, in the meantime making what improvements he could on his own land, and

for a number of years engaged in running a threshing-machine during the harvesting season. He has had to pass through many struggles in working his way upward, and in common with all the early settlers he had to undergo many hardships and privations and be content with such things as he could get. With the perseverance that has characterized his whole life he still kept on his way, and after he secured a firm footing on the road to success, the remainder of the journey was made with more ease, and he accumulated his present wealth.

Mr. Meyer was married, on the 13th of March, 1873, to Louisa Heidecker, who is also a native of Iowa, and a daughter of Christian and Barbara Heidecker. The parents of Mrs. Meyer came from Iowa to Buda Precinct in the year 1869, and are numbered among the early pioneers of this county. The experience of our subject has been similar to that of all who have taken possession of new land in this county at an early day, his labors consisting in breaking the before untilled soil, dividing the farm into fields of convenient size for planting and tending, building a house, barn and fences, and in various ways adding improvements to make a beautiful landscape from a tract of barren land.

Our subject is not so deeply engrossed with his occupation that he does not have time to look to the welfare of the public, but on the other hand he takes an active interest in the educational, political and religious movements of the day. For a number of years he has been the School Moderator of his district, and for a time he has acted in the capacity of Road Supervisor. He is an advocate of the policy of the Republican party, and one of the leading German citizens of his precinct, well worthy an honorable mention in this collection of biographies. He is a member of the German Lutheran Church, of which he has served in official capacity, and is esteemed because of his own moral worth.

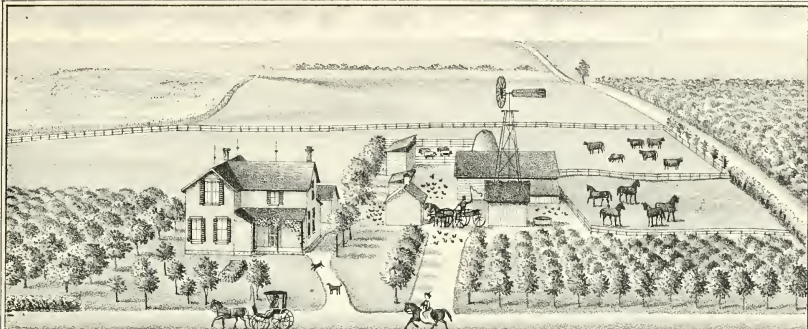
BURCK. Among the different institutions of this county, and one which is offered to every citizen, but for various reasons almost an impossibility to natives of the Old World, is that of a home of their own, erected upon ground

to which they hold the title. This possibility attracts countless numbers of the best citizens of European countries, where, despite a lifetime of toil, comparatively few can own such a property. Buda Precinct has received a large number of such, and to-day they are the possessors of cozy, comfortable farm buildings and homes in the midst of their own broad acres. Among those who have established themselves in the above precinct, whose home is one of the pleasantest, and whose farm is one of the most flourishing, is the subject of the present sketch, who resides upon section 22.

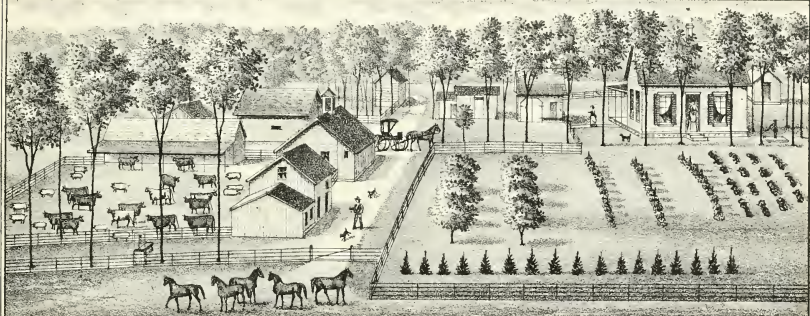
Mr. Burck was born in Semlow, Prussia, on the 4th of August, 1835, and is the son of John and Mary Burck, both natives of the same country. He was reared to the estate of manhood there, receiving a good education in his native tongue, and has since acquired quite a good understanding of English. From the time of leaving school he gave his attention to farming, in order that in later years he might have the means of supporting himself and those who might be dependent upon him.

Our subject, in October, 1862, was united in marriage with Mary Knuck. To them have been born four children, whose names are recorded as follows: Reaca, born on the 20th of November, 1865; Lizzie, June 1, 1867; Bessie, Nov. 10, 1869; and Frank, Dec. 7, 1871. The two elder children of our subject were born in Germany, and accompanied their parents to America in the summer of 1868. The Atlantic passage was made in one of the Hamburg steamers, and occupied seventeen days, landing them in the city of New York.

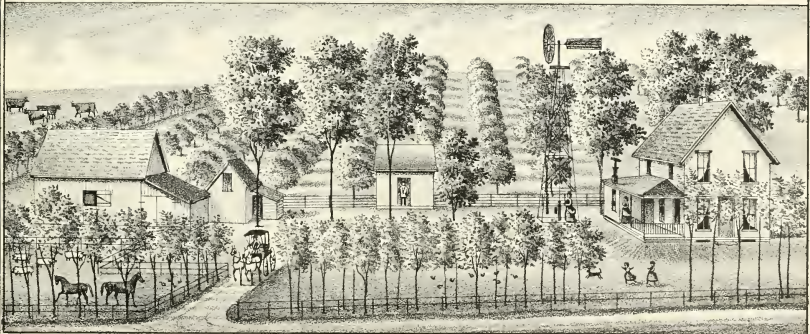
Life in the New World began in Cook County, Ill., whither the family proceeded immediately upon their arrival, and remained for two years, during which time our subject was occupied in day labor. At the end of the two years a removal was made to McHenry County, which was their home until the spring of 1883, when they removed to Lancaster County, and settled upon their present farm. The change from McHenry brought with it a change of occupation. At McHenry our subject had been employed by the Northwestern Railway Company, as switchman, and was placed in charge of the engine water tank. Now he is fully occupied with his farm, and has seen a very large measure of success



VALLEY VIEW STOCK FARM - J. S. TEMPLE, SEC. 13. GRANT PRECINCT.



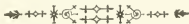
RESIDENCE OF CARL BERGMANN, SEC. 12. STOCKTON PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF L. B. KING, SEC. 27. NEMAHA PRECINCT.

resulting from his efforts. The eighty acres which comprise the farm of our subject have been brought to the very perfection of husbandry, and are well provided with all necessary stock and farming implements. Whatever Mr. Burek has acquired has been solely the reward of his indefatigable perseverance, and the ambition resulting from the exuberance of pleasure and delight in the prospect of being the sole possessor of a home wherein he may bring happiness to those who form an integral part of his life.

Mr. Burek is a member of the Congregational Church, where also his wife finds that which is congenial to her religious sentiment. Our subject has been too busily occupied with home matters to give much attention to political matters, but has sought to understand the institutions of his adopted country, and usually votes with the Republican party.



HON. THOMAS R. BURLING is one of the leading citizens of Nebraska, of which he was an early pioneer, and with whose interests he has long been identified as an agriculturist, as a statesman, and as a merchant, and in all that relates to her commercial, social and political life, he is pre-eminent. He is now carrying on an extensive business in the town of Firth, as a dealer in dry-goods, hardware, clothing, boots, shoes, groceries, and other merchandise. He is a native of England, but coming to this country when a child, he has become thoroughly Americanized, reared, as he was, under our institutions and educated in our schools.

Our subject is a son of John and Mary (Harry) Burling, natives respectively of Cambridgeshire, England, and Wales. Mr. Burling was a farmer, and prior to coming to this country with his family he was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits about five miles south of Cambridge, in his native shire. The mother of our subject was a woman of superior refinement and education, and for twenty-one years taught a school in England. In 1854 Mr. and Mrs. Burling decided to leave the old home on English soil, and with the other members of their family, begin life anew in the United

States of America, whither their two eldest children, Sarah and John, had preceded them. Our subject was then but eight years old, but he remembers well how they sang as they stepped on board the sailing-vessel "Emerald," bound for this country:

Good-by, church,
Good-by, steeple,
Good-by, Englishmen,
And all good Irish people.

Singing with a mingled feeling of mirth and sorrow, as they left their native isle forever, with all its tender and hallowed associations, to seek a new home among strangers in a far-away country. Mr. Burling and his family finally arrived safely in port at New York City, after a voyage of twenty-eight days, about the middle of December, 1854. They remained in that city about eighteen months, Mr. Burling readily finding employment in the building of the Singer Sewing Machine Company. After that he removed with his wife and children to Bureau County, Ill., and took up his residence in Wyanet, where he remained for three years, engaging in various occupations. He then purchased a farm near Buda, Ill., and from its 160 acres derived a comfortable income. In 1862 his household was deeply bereft by the death of the noble woman who had so patiently aided and encouraged him in his work since the early days of their wedded life, and who had tenderly and wisely reared their children to become good and useful members of society.

Thomas R. Burling, of this sketch, was born March 15, 1846, in Cambridgeshire, England, and there spent the first eight years of his life, gaining in the school of which his mother was teacher his first knowledge of letters. He received his first instructions in America in the excellent public schools of New York City, where, by reason of his quickness and fine scholarship, he became the banner scholar of his classes, as is proved by the records that he has preserved of his rank. When his parents removed to Illinois he attended the public, district and village schools very regularly for some years, and maintained the same high standing that had characterized his scholarship in the schools of New York. After he was fifteen years old his education was conducted more irregularly than before,

as he was often kept at home to work on the farm, a common experience of farmers' lads. About that time his brothers John and Peter enlisted to help fight the battles of their adopted country, becoming members of the 93d Illinois Infantry, and our subject and a younger brother were detained at home to manage the farm, which they did very successfully, their father continuing to realize good profits therefrom. Our subject continued at home until he was twenty-one, and, as he was then no longer needed, he went to work on a farm until 1863; his mother having died the year previous to that time, his old home had lost all its charms for him. When he went forth into the world to work among strangers he was poorly and insufficiently clad, and with a light purse, but he lacked not courage, manliness, nor the true spirit of independence, and was firm in his resolution to make the best of his situation and to make a success of life. At the age of nineteen he met and became enamored with the grace and pleasing manners of Miss Mary A. Strector, but on account of changes in his father's home, their marriage was postponed for three years, finally taking place Oct. 22, 1868, in Lincoln, Neb., their marriage being among the first recorded in the State. Mrs. Burling was born near Galesburg, Ill., Jan. 21, 1851, being the senior in a family of three children born to A. J. and Deborah (Boom) Strector. Her father was the nominee of the Union Labor party for the office of President of the United States. The most of her girlhood was passed at Galesburg, until the removal of her parents to Bureau County, Ill., where she met our subject. She afterward went to Lincoln, Neb., to live, and had been residing there about a year when she was married, Mr. Burling arriving here a week before that event to claim the hand of his promised bride.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Burling pre-empted eighty acres of land in Buda Precinct, on section 24, and bravely and cheerfully faced the trials and privations of the pioneer life that lay before them, beginning their housekeeping in the most primitive manner in the little sod house, the characteristic habitation of the early settlers of this region. This was afterward replaced by a small log house, still standing on the old homestead. The years that followed were fraught with many hardships and

discouragements, so great indeed, that many of the early settlers left Nebraska and returned to their old homes in the East, rather than run the risk of starvation under the *regime* of the grasshopper, and the drouths that prevailed for several seasons to an alarming extent. But the tide at last turned, and after experiencing many privations and severe hardships, their labors were rewarded, and they became possessed of an assured income and a fine large farm. Mr. Burling sold his homestead in 1877, but he still owns 600 acres of very valuable land, and his marked success has placed him among the moneyed men of Lancaster County.

In 1878 Mr. Burling was selected by his party to represent the people of this district in the State Legislature, he being regarded as a man of conspicuous ability, excellent business principles, and of undoubted integrity of character, and his brilliant record as a statesman amply justified his constituents in their choice of him. While faithful to the responsible trusts imposed upon him as a Legislator, he devoted his leisure time to the management of his large farming interests. During his term in the Legislature Mr. Burling was instrumental in bringing about some much needed legislation to protect the interests of the State and of the people. He was the author and introducer of a bill urging the right of a Sheriff to offer a man \$50 for the capture and conviction of a horse thief. He also introduced a bill to exempt fruit and forest trees from taxation, and likewise a bill allowing any agricultural society to hold 160 acres of land as fair grounds, free from taxation. All these bills became laws and have proved very beneficial. Mr. Burling was very active in securing the necessary appropriations for the capitol building of Lincoln, which was passed upon by a bare majority after a long and severe debate. In all of his legislative career our subject was devoted to the interests of the people, and at the same time was true to the Republican party, of whose principles he is a staunch advocate. After his retirement from public life, Mr. Burling resumed his agricultural pursuits with renewed energy, and made many valuable improvements upon his estate. It is amply supplied with buildings, among which may be mentioned a commodious frame dwelling, two stories in height; a

barn for horses and cattle, 40x54 feet in dimensions, the largest in the township. A fine supply of water is secured by windmill pumps. Mr. Burling pays much attention to raising choice fruits; has strawberries in abundance, and also has a fine young orchard of about 200 trees, apple, cherry and plum.

In 1886, Mr. Burling desiring to secure the exceptionally fine school privileges of the town of Firth for his children, removed here, and in the month of December bought a half-interest in the old Champion stand, entering into partnership with Mr. Champion. The latter retained charge of the business until October, 1887, when our subject purchased the whole business and has since managed it alone. He carries the largest stock of any merchant in Firth, and is doing a fine business.

To Mr. and Mrs. Burling have been born seven children, namely: Harry H., Fanny E., Frank A., Worthington (deceased), Perry R., Blanche A., Earl (deceased). Mr. Burling is regarded as a great addition to this community, as he is liberal and public-spirited, and greatly interested in advancing the educational interests of the town. He is a prominent member of the I. O. O. F., at Firth, and has been through every chair. Mrs. Burling, who is a woman of fine character and perceptions, is a valued member of the Presbyterian Church, of Firth.



FRANK CANON is one of the oldest settlers and residents in Elk Precinct, and was born in the beautiful, fertile, agricultural district comprising Hampshire County, W. Va., on the 18th of March, 1833. His father, George Canon, followed agricultural pursuits, and so far as is known, spent his entire life in his native State, which was brightened and completed by his marriage with Ann Martha Gray, a native of the same State.

One of the greatest calamities that can overtake any person fell to the lot of our subject when he was four years of age. Although hardly able to realize the fact, and with the full meaning entirely incomprehensible to him, he was left fatherless, to grow up and enter into life without the guiding counsel, protecting arm and helping hand of that parent. Not long after he was bound out to a

Quaker, to learn the duties of farm work, and continued with him for some seventeen years. At the age of twelve he accompanied his employer in his removal to Highland County, Ohio, and took up his home in the midst of its broad plains, beautiful valleys and gently sloping hills, and there he continued to live until he attained his majority, when he was given a good suit of clothes and a horse, and started out into the world for himself. He continued to work by the day and month in different parts of Ohio until 1863, when he went to Illinois, and was employed upon farms in Christian and Shelby Counties until 1869, when he made up his mind that he would come to Nebraska and seek a home. Accordingly, upon arrival in Lancaster County, in November, 1869, he looked around and located upon the place he has since occupied.

The property of our subject, as would be surmised from the date and circumstances, was Government land, in all the rugged wildness of its natural state, and our subject had his hands full for many months to come. He first built a dug-out, and occupied the same with his wife for a period of seven years, and then erected his present pretty and comfortable frame house. When he turned his attention to the land he found his presence and possession disputed by the original denizens of the same, for at that time it was still occupied by all manner of wild game, although of late years they have been conspicuous by their absence. The view of this property given in this volume will convey a fairly complete idea of the pleasant home and surroundings, in and amid which the days of our subject are spent.

Our subject was happily married, in the year 1869, to Miss Sarah Pickering, who was born in Highland County, Ohio, Feb. 4, 1830. Her father was Jonathan Pickering, a native of Frederick County, Va. Her grandfather, so far as is known, was a native of Virginia, by occupation a millwright, which trade he followed nearly all his life, and who removed to Ohio in quite the later years of his history. His son, the father of Mrs. Canon, learned and followed the same trade as his father, after a few years combining with it that of farming, gradually working out of the millwright business.

The maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Canon

was Mary A. Cline, a native of Hampshire County, W. Va., and a daughter of Phillip and Elizabeth (Switzer) Cline. Her last years were spent in Highland County. Mrs. Canon secured the earliest opportunity offered to secure an education, having an ambition to develop and train her mental powers, and to be well informed on all general topics. The foundation and earlier work in this direction was obtained in the district school, after she was twenty years of age, and she has never allowed herself to consider it complete. She afterward received more advanced instruction in South Salem, and still subsequently at Labanon. From that until the time of her marriage she did some very efficient work as a teacher in the public schools of Ohio. Mrs. Canon's father was a member of the Society of Friends, but having married out of the church his children had no part or lot in the matter, although his daughter afterward, by her own desire, joined the same church in 1865. The church to which Mrs. Canon belonged employed her to go to Little Rock, Ark., there to teach the freedmen. She continued as a teacher for two years, spending her vacations at home.

Among the inhabitants of Elk and district it will be hard to find a family more entitled to the admiration and respect which are accorded to those who face the difficulties of life and overcome them. When we remember the early history of our subject, his loneliness and helplessness, and then see him to-day the owner of his own farm and stock, respected and esteemed by his fellow-citizens and neighbors, we are reminded that there is such a thing as "the survival of the fittest." His farm comprises eighty acres.



HENRY HOCHHEIM is honored, not only as an early settler of South Pass, but as one of its substantial citizens of the present day. He has been more than ordinarily successful as a farmer, and now owns one of the largest farms in Eastern Nebraska. He is a fine type of the so-called self-made man of our country, as all that he is and all that he has he owes to his own exertions; and while building up his own fortune, he

has been an important factor in developing the resources and aiding the growth of this part of the State.

Mr. Hochheim was left an orphan at a tender age and, thrown on the charities of a cold world, his parents, William and Leua (Winch) Hochheim, having at the same time been swept away by the cholera, in St. Louis, he at the age of thirty-five, and she at the age of thirty-three. They were natives of Prussia, who but a short time before had emigrated to this country and settled in St. Louis, where the father engaged in various occupations. When they were thus suddenly cut off in the prime of life they left two little children, Henry and Charles, unprovided for, and they were placed in an orphan asylum by the city authorities. The former child, the subject of this sketch, was born in Prussia in 1847, and was two years old when his parents brought him to America. He was but three years of age when he was left an orphan, and when he was seven years of age his grandfather, Henry Winch, and his grandmother, came to this country, and took him and his little brother out of the asylum and gave them the benefit of a kind and comfortable home, and all the educational advantages possible. They were reared on a farm, and our subject remained with his grandparents until he was fifteen, receiving in the meantime a good education, comprising instruction in English and German. He was an independent, ambitious lad, and wished to make his own way in the world, and started out to do so at the age above mentioned. He readily found work as a day laborer, and was thus engaged until he was twenty-one, when he came to Nebraska in 1869. From Lincoln he came to South Pass and took up a homestead claim of eighty acres of wild land. He was then entering on a strong and vigorous manhood, with health, a practical, sagacious mind, and an enterprising disposition in his favor, to say nothing of the excellent opportunities afforded him by the wonderful climate and extremely fertile soil of the State where he had determined to make his future home. For three years he continued alone on his homestead, but at the end of that time he was so fortunate as to secure a helpmate and companion in the person of Miss Victoria Mier, to whom he was united in marriage

in 1872. Their union has been blessed to them by the birth of five children, namely: Henry (deceased), Charles, Lena, John and Annie.

Our subject has been greatly prospered in his undertakings since becoming a resident of Nebraska, and has increased his landed estate from time to time, until he now owns 640 acres of land, lying partly in Lancaster County and partly in Gage County, forming, with its many improvements, one of the most valuable and best managed farms in Eastern Nebraska. After taking up eighty acres of land as a homestead, Mr. Hochheim pre-empted 160; at three different times he purchased three 80-acre tracts of land in Gage County; his fourth purchase comprised eighty acres of land in Lancaster County, and his fifth and last purchase comprised another 80-acre tract of land in Gage County.

Mr. and Mrs. Hochheim are valued members of the community for which they have done so much. They are quietly and unostentatiously liberal, abeying withholding their hands in cases of need, and showing in their every-day lives that their religion is not a mere form, but is deeply seated within their hearts. They are faithful and zealous members of the Lutheran Church, of South Pass. In his political views, Mr. Hochheim is of the opinion that the policy of the Republican party is the proper one to pursue in regard to National and local matters, and he acts in accordance with his opinions at the polls.



JOSEPH EPPS. George Epps, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of France, and came to this country accompanied by his family, consisting of his wife and four children, located in Indiana, and was one of the pioneers of Putnam County, where he entered land, improved a farm, and afterward sold out and went to Iowa, taking a farm tract in Warren County, where he spent his last days. His remains are buried in Warren County. The family had increased to seven children, named as follows: Frank, Edward, James, John, William, Henry and Percy. At the time of emigration his son John, the father of our subject, was quite small, and the years of his childhood were spent in Indiana. He

accompanied the family upon their Iowa journey, and took his place in the farm work until the year 1858, when he married, and settled in Warren County of that State, bought a tract of land, and went to work to cultivate the same.

When the alarm of civil war sounded throughout the country, and made itself heard in the homestead in Warren, John Epps, bidding farewell to wife and home, offered himself in defense of the old flag and the Union, and enlisted in an Iowa regiment. After a service of three years and two days he returned once more, but no longer the strong, healthy man he had been previous to his departure. The hardship of the bivouac, the forced march, the battle-field, in heat or cold, rain or shine, had undermined his constitution. His health was broken and hard labor was an impossibility. During the time of military service our subject had done considerable harber work for his comrades, and he now sold his farm and opened a tonsorial establishment at Grand Junction, Iowa. His death took place in Des Moines, Iowa.

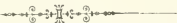
Charlotte Evans was the maiden name of Mrs. Epps. She was born in Pennsylvania, is of German descent, and is at present a resident of Mitchell, Dak. Of this union there were born six children—Christopher, Rachel, Agnes, Joseph, Mary and Amanda. The mother of our subject was twice married; first to George Carter, by whom she had four children—John, Riley, Eliza and William.

Our subject was three years of age when he removed with his parents to Iowa. His father was an early settler in Polk County. He continued to make his home with his parents until twenty-one years of age, when he began life for himself, renting a farm one season. He purchased a team, but shortly after lost one of his horses and purchased another. He continued to struggle on against every adversity, renting his farm for three years longer, when he bought a team and went West. Upon arrival in Nebraska he spent some time in prospecting, wintered at Rulo, then returned to Iowa and rented land at Hamburg for one season, returned to Polk County and rented improved land; in 1884 he sold his property, and on the 2d of March, 1884, settled in this county. He had accumulated some \$500 in cash, and had intended to purchase a farm,

but his wife and child were taken sick, and this took the greater part of his savings. He was therefore obliged to commence anew. In the spring of 1885 he clerked in a grocery store in the city of Lincoln, and has continued in business since then upon his own account. By strict attention to business, and honorable, square dealing, he has gained the confidence of the people and built up a large business.

In 1876 Mr. Epps was united in marriage with Miss Jane Stanton, at Des Moines, Iowa. Their home has been brightened by the birth of four children—Minnie, Fanny, Bessie and Harriet. This lady is the daughter of John and Ruth Stanton, and was born in Holt County, Mo., in 1862. She has been to him all that a helpmate and wife could be, and has stood nobly by in every time of trouble, trial and difficulty, helping and cheering.

Our subject is a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity, and has ordered his life according to the designs on the trestle board of the Grand Master, so that his brethren have had pleasure and profit in his companionship; he lives in the brightness of the truth of the mystic pillar and acacia. From his earliest years his life was one hard struggle of "onward and upward," and whatever he is today, in character, in manliness, in social status and affluence, he owes under Providence to his own ambition and effort. In politics he is a staunch Republican.



EDWARD HEALY. Among the many fine farms which are to be found in Lancaster County, there are not many that surpass that situated in Little Salt Precinct, comprising 320 acres upon sections 1 and 12, and owned by the subject of this sketch, who is a descendant of the historic, liberty-loving Emerald Isle.

Edward Healy, father of our subject, was born about the year 1787, in Southport, Ireland, and after he had picked up a somewhat rudimentary education he was initiated into the mysteries of binding upper to sole in such a manner as to make the sole do its work on the earth creditably. He continued to follow the trade of a boot and shoe

maker for many years, but in his later years turned to agricultural pursuits. He was united in marriage with Margaret Cashion, and they were the happy recipients of nine children, one of whom it was their sorrow to lose in the years of its childhood. Mr. Healy and family are very devout members of the Catholic Church. He never left his native land, and in the year 1847 he had finished the pale of his life and lay down to his last rest. After her bereavement Mrs. Healy followed her children to this country, and took up her residence with her daughter in Iowa, where she continued to make her home until her death, in 1869, at the age of seventy-five years. Our subject was born in Tipperary, on the 15th of August, 1839, and having in boyhood days imbibed somewhat of an education in the schools of his native county, he went to work upon a farm and continued at the same until about seventeen years of age, when, accompanied by a brother, he came to America in 1856 to seek his fortune.

Not every one who has seen the light of promise in the distance has been guided to success. Many, alas, have found it an ignis-fatua. Not so our subject; true, the path was rough and the journey long, but the fortune sought and the promise which lit up the Western horizon and invited the intrepid youths to follow, did not disappoint. It, however, simply led them to where a fortune was a possibility. It did not give them the fortune; that came as a result of their own untiring industry and bravery. Upon landing at New York City they went to work upon the old York & Erie Railroad, in which employment the brothers continued all the fall of 1856. From there our subject went to Savannah, Ga., and speedily obtained work on the Savannah & Gulf Railroad, and after that was completed he spent one year at work in the Cumberland Mountains, and then went to Clinton, Iowa, where he spent seven years, and in the spring of 1866 removed to Cheyenne, Wyo., and remained for two years, and in 1869 made his last removal, when he took up his residence in this country. Of all the States he had visited, whether in the North or South, he preferred this country, and accordingly took up his first eighty acres in that year. Until he could build upon his ground he took up his

residence in Lincoln, but worked his farm, and in the space of one year he had his homestead ready for his family, and from that time they have lived upon the farm. As may be supposed, their land was then in precisely the same condition as the prairie that had not been settled upon. It was in all the wildness of its nativity, but our subject speedily began to break it in, and by much labor and thought has brought it to its present magnificent condition. To our subject must be given the honor of planting the first tree in the entire district, and also of having put up the first frame building. By his good management and constant effort Mr. Healy has added to the original eighty acres until he now owns 320 acres. Fully fifteen acres are given over to the occupancy of forest trees of all kinds, including black walnut, ash and maple. His orchard, likewise, is over five acres in extent, and filled with beautiful, select and thrifty fruit trees of all kinds that the climate will produce. The better to enable the reader to realize this, we present a view of the home with adjacent buildings, which will without doubt be appreciated, especially by those who retain pleasant memories in connection therewith.

The chief business of our subject is stock-raising, although considerable room is devoted to general farming. Mr. Healy is the possessor of a very fine herd of about 130 Short-horn cattle, also a number of choice brood mares and swine in proportion. Both our subject and his family are devout and consistent members of the Catholic Church, having continued their allegiance to the faith in which they were brought up, and the Catechism which was taught and explained to them by the confessor of the family in the old country home.

In Miss Mary Allen our subject found the lady with whom he desired to link his life, and upon her acquiescence their union was celebrated Sept. 20, 1855. This has been happily consummated by the birth of thirteen children; the living are as follows: John, Ellen, Margaret, Julia, William, Mary, Johanna, Thomas and James C. Mary (Allen) Healy was born in Ireland in 1838, and came to this country with her parents when about five years of age. They settled in Massachusetts, but in 1854 removed to Pennsylvania, which was their home until 1865,

and thence to Washington, D. C., for a period of about twelve months. She is the daughter of Cornelius and Julia (Mahony) Allen. Her mother died about the year 1854, and Cornelius Allen, after his residence at Washington, made his home with our subject and family in his old age.

The eldest son of our subject is residing upon his property in Kansas; Ellen has now become the wife of James Nellis, a carpenter and builder, and resident of Davey; Margaret, also residing at Davey, is now Mrs. James O'Brien, her husband being the leading hardware merchant of that town. The remainder are still at home. Our subject is realizing the truth of the old proverb, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart therefrom."

Mr. Healy and his family are held in high appreciation by the community, and he, by strict attention to business, faultless integrity and manliness, holds a prominent place among his townsmen. He has for some time been the Moderator of his district, and also Supervisor of his township. He is a staunch friend of the Democratic party, and has, we believe, yet to be heard from in positions of political trust, which his high character would suggest his fitness for.



EUGENE F. SULLIVAN passed the years of his early youth in the home of his nativity, the county of Cork, Ireland, the date of his birth being about 1850. He is the son of Eugene and Mary Sullivan, who spent their entire lives on their own loved "Emerald Isle." They had three children: Murty, Hannah, and Eugene, the subject of this sketch. When about nine years old Eugene, with his brother and sister, emigrated to America to try their fortunes in a new and strange country. They first went to Massachusetts, where for four years they resided, and then, alone, the subject of our sketch went to Michigan, and remained there until 1877, when he came to Lancaster County, where he has since resided.

Mr. Sullivan received but a limited education, having been early thrown on his own resources. In the month of August, 1872, he was married in

Massachusetts to Bridget Sullivan, and was the father of eight children, five of whom are living, viz: Murty, Timothy, Katie, Ella and Eugene.

As a reward of his diligence and persevering industry, Mr. Sullivan is now the owner of 160 acres of land in Denton Precinct, section 25. For his land he paid the price of about \$4.95 per acre, purchasing it from the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company. With untiring zeal and energy he has cultivated his land, until it is now worth many times its former value. It is under such circumstances as these more than any other that a man is able to appreciate and enjoy the fruits of his industry.

Mr. Sullivan is a member of the Catholic Church, at Lincoln, and he so conducts himself, socially and in business, that among his acquaintances he is universally respected, and his word is considered as good as his bond. It is impossible to estimate the extent of the influence for good which the life of one honest, upright citizen exerts upon the lives and conduct of those with whom he comes in contact. It is the silent influence of a worthy example that tells more truly than sounding words or outward profession the state of the heart within.

When a man affirms that he belongs to this or that political party, and gives his influence to the support of that party, irrespective of the platform and opinions which that party adopts, he sometimes makes an irretrievable error; by his influence he may mislead others. The gentleman in whose honor this sketch is written seeks to avoid that error by upholding and approving only that which is good in a party and as illustrated by its representative—the man.



CHRISTEL RAUSCH, a large land-owner of South Pass Precinct, residing on section 19, occupies a leading position among the progressive and well-to-do farmers of Lancaster County. He is a fine example of a self-made man, as he began at the foot of the ladder as a carpenter, at which trade he has worked in various places in

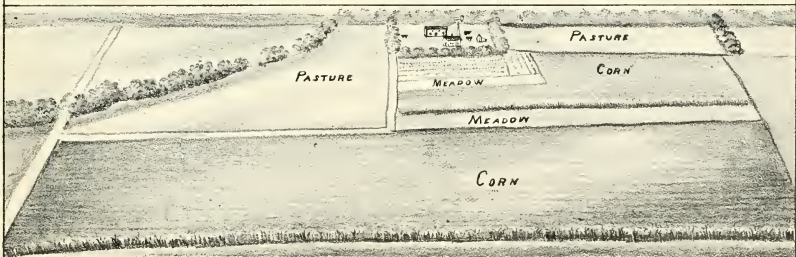
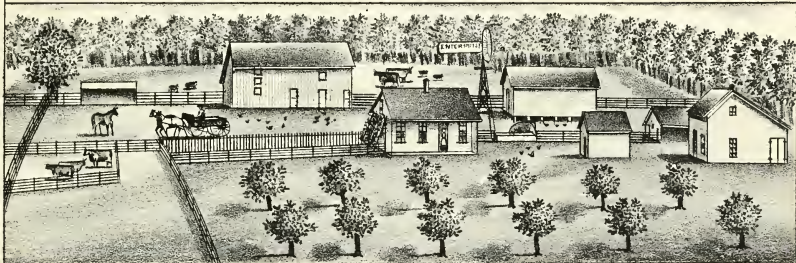
the Northwest. By his industry, skill, and good business habits, he worked his way up to the position of a contractor, and earned quite a fortune in that business. He then turned his attention to agriculture, and has been equally successful in this.

Mr. Rausch is a native of the town of Minden, Province of Hanover, Germany, his birth taking place there May 14, 1839. This was also the birthplace of his parents, Frederic and Henrietta (Lotze) Rausch. His father was a carpenter by trade, and in 1855 emigrated with his family to America. He first went to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he lived six months, and then he removed with his wife and children to Clayton County, Iowa, where he bought a farm. He accumulated quite a fortune before his death in 1877, at the age of seventy-one years. His devoted wife did not long survive the severe blow of his death, as she died six weeks later, at the age of seventy-six years. They were heartily respected by all who knew them, as people whose daily lives exemplified the honesty and uprightness of their characters. They were the parents of four children—Fred, Louis, Christel and Fredreke.

Christel Rausch, of this sketch, received a fine education in the excellent schools of his native land, and at the age of fourteen was confirmed in the church. He learned the carpenter's trade and worked at it for one year before coming to America with his parents, when he was a boy of fifteen. He was employed at his trade in Cincinnati the first summer that he lived in this country, and then went to Clayton County, Iowa, with his father and mother, and worked at his trade there in the summers and on his father's farm in winters until he was twenty-one. He then went with his two brothers, Frederick and Louis, to St. Paul, Minn., where they set up a shop and became contractors and builders. He continued in St. Paul five years, and made a small fortune at his business. He then went back to Clayton County, Iowa, purchased a farm of eighty acres, and was there married, in 1865, to Miss Wilhelmina, daughter of Christian and Elizabeth (Lindukul) Severin, natives of Saxony, Prussia, who came to America with their family in 1856. Mr. Severin was a wagon-maker by trade, but when he settled in Guttenberg, Clayton Co., Iowa, he bought a farm and worked it.



RESIDENCE OF O. S. LAMB, SEC. 16. STEVENS CREEK PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF CHRISTEL RAUSCH, SEC. 19. SOUTH PASS PRECINCT.

He brought considerable money with him from Germany, and is now very well off, and at the age of seventy-three is enjoying the comforts of a good home in the pleasant companionship of his estimable wife, who is sixty-six years old. Seven children blessed their union, namely: Christian, Henry, Wilhelmina, Charles, Mary, August and Amelia, all in Nebraska. Mrs. Rausch was born July 26, 1846, in the Kingdom of Saxony, Germany, and received the preliminaries of her education in the famous Saxon schools. She was ten years old when she came to America with her parents, and made her home with them in Clayton County, Iowa, where she first attended an English school. She became very proficient in the language, and also retains her knowledge of German, and is well versed in the literature of both languages, being an intelligent and accomplished lady. The chief sorrow of the happy wedded life of our subject and his wife has been in the death of their only child, at the age of one year and four months. But life's lesson may have taught them that it is better,

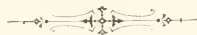
Far better to smile with a deep content,
O'er a baby quietly sleeping,
O'er a little one safe from all that can harm,
Safe and quietly sleeping.

The sun comes up, and the sun goes down,
On sorrow, and sin, and aching,
And to all the evil that's in the world,
Their darling will know no waking.

Mr. Rausch continued to farm in Iowa for ten years after his marriage, finally leaving that State and coming to Nebraska in 1875. He lived in Buda Precinct for two years, and then purchased his present homestead in 1877, comprising 160 acres of land. The man who had owned the land having left it, it was sold a second time, to our subject, only four acres of it having been broken, he paying for it \$1,000. He has since bought 160 acres more land on section 33, the northeast quarter, and eighty acres on section 20. Mr. Rausch built a substantial and commodious barn in 1877, doing the work with his own hands. The next year he erected his present fine residence, living in the meantime in the first house that he had built for a granary until the next spring. Our subject has paid much attention to fruit culture, has an orchard

of forty trees of choice varieties of cherries, and he set out two acres of grape vines, and now has a fine vineyard, his vintage of 1887 yielding 420 gallons of a wine of superior quality. Mr. Rausch also owns some valuable village property in Roca and Firth, and may be classed among the wealthy men of Lancaster County. He and his wife are widely respected, and occupy an important social position in the community. In their religious views they adhere to the creed of the Lutheran Church, in which they were reared. In his political affiliations Mr. Rausch is a Democrat.

The Rausch homestead is amply worthy of a place among the other illustrations of the enterprise and industry of the men of Lancaster County, and it gives us pleasure to assign it among such good company, as fulfilling the modern idea of the well-regulated country estate.



OSCAR S. LAMB. The subject of this sketch located on the northeast quarter of section 16, in Stevens Creek Precinct, in the spring of 1877. He has now 160 acres of land under cultivation, with a good residence, a substantial barn, and the other out-buildings necessary for his convenience. Although perhaps not the hero of any very thrilling event, he has pursued the course of an honest man and a good citizen, and contributed his quota toward the building up of his county, in the establishment of one of its valuable homesteads, a view of which will be noticed on an accompanying page.

The childhood home of our subject was in the vicinity of Ft. Ann, Washington Co., N. Y., where his birth took place April 29, 1849. His parents, Samuel and Emma (Lilley) Lamb, were among the earliest settlers of that region. The father also was a native of the Empire State, but the mother was born in Vermont. Samuel Lamb in early manhood became an expert in the manufacture of woolen goods, and for a number of years was part owner of a factory at Ft. Ann. Later he kept hotel, and died at Ft. Ann, Oct. 14, 1886, when well advanced in years. The mother is still living,

and makes her home with her daughter at Whitehall, N. Y.

To Samuel and Emma Lamb there were born nine children, one of whom, a son, Charles M., died at the age of three years. Seven daughters and one son are still surviving. Harriet, the eldest, is the wife of William B. Nelson, of Toulon, Ill.; Adeline, Mrs. William Bilson, lives in Green Island, N. Y.; Carrie married Mr. H. E. Griswold, who is now deceased, and she, still remaining a widow, resides at Ft. Ann, N. Y.; Emma, Mrs. Alphonso Brown, and Cornelia, the wife of Rodney Van Wormer, continue residents of their native place; Eva is the wife of James P. Gillette, of Whitehall, N. Y.; Gertrude married Edward W. Clark, and they live in Nebraska City, this State; Oscar S., our subject, is the only son living.

Mr. Lamb remained under the parental roof until twenty-three years of age, occupying himself mostly in a woolen factory. When twenty-three years old he was married, March 13, 1872, at the home of the bride in Ft. Ann, to Miss Frances L., daughter of Sylvester and Sarah A. (Colton) Skinner, who was a native also of Ft. Ann, N. Y., and was born Oct. 16, 1853. Her father was a native of Ft. Ann, and her mother of Middletown, Vt. Sylvester Skinner was a farmer by occupation, and spent his last days in Ft. Ann, passing away on the 17th of January, 1884. The mother is still living there. The parental household included three children only, a daughter and two sons, Mrs. Lamb being the only girl in the family. Her brother, Charles H., died at the age of twenty-five years, leaving a widow and one son, Freddie; the other brother, Calvin C., died when a lad of nine years.

Mr. and Mrs. Lamb after their marriage settled near Ft. Ann, N. Y., where our subject occupied himself at farming until coming to this State, in 1877. The little household embraces two children only, a son and a daughter, Herman S. and Millie E. Mr. Lamb cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Grant, and uniformly supports Republican principles. He occupies a good position among his fellow-citizens, and has served in the various local offices. Socially, he is a Royal Arch Mason, becoming identified with the fraternity while a resident of his native State, and now belongs to the

lodge at Lincoln. About 1880, desirous of a change of location and occupation, he went into the gold and silver mines of Colorado, where he spent about three years. With the exception of that time, he has been a continuous resident for the last eleven years of Lancaster County.

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ROLLIN E. BAKER is one of the prosperous farmers of Centerville Precinct. He is the owner of an exceptionally well-cultivated farm, comprising 240 acres, situated upon section 2. The day of his nativity was the 2d of September, 1856, and the place of his birth Kane County, Ill.; he was the second child born to Sannel and Mary A. Baker, who at present reside in Henry County, Ill. The father of our subject is a native of Washington County, N. Y., and his mother of the Province of Quebec. Their family comprised five children, only two of whom, however, are living, our subject and Emerit E., who is living in Henry County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Baker, Sr., are devout members of the Christian or Disciple Church; Mr. Baker has held for several years official connection in the church. He is now about sixty-seven years of age, and his wife about fifty-six. They are now enjoying in retired life the results of former years of toil and trouble.

The family can be clearly traced, and always with honorable record, back to the colony formed by the voyagers of the "Mayflower." The grandfather of our subject, Nestor Baker, served throughout the War of 1812, and received commendation and promotion. The various phases of the conflict for freedom through which our beloved country has passed have not been without beneficial effect to the citizens, but also through them to the world at large. The storms which have beaten upon the tree of independence planted at Philadelphia in 1776, have but made it strike its roots deeper into the soil, take firmer hold, drink more deeply of the hidden springs of loyalty, patriotism, liberty and humanity, and flourish until the peoples of the earth, from every clime, nation and tongue, come to her for refuge, home and welcome.

Our subject was reared to manhood in his native

State, received a thorough groundwork of education in the common and High schools, and afterward took a full course in and graduated from the Northwestern Business College, of Naperville, Ill. When sixteen years of age he engaged in the grocery trade as clerk, continuing for three years. From that until he was about twenty-two he was engaged in attending school. About the year 1878, with his parents, our subject removed to Lancaster County, which has continued to be his place of residence ever since. He was united in marriage, on the 20th of July, 1882, with Eliza Reugnitz, a daughter of Charles and Mary Reugnitz, both of whom are deceased.

From a local paper, which gives a very full and exhaustive account of the last hours and funeral services of Charles Reugnitz, we call the following: "The gentleman was born in Warren, Mecklenburg, Germany, on the 27th of January, 1822. He received his early education in the Fatherland, and there learned the cooper's trade, which he continued to follow through life. He was married, Nov. 22, 1846, to Miss Mary Meder, of the same place. She had been the companion of his childhood and youth, and had grown up to maturity by his side, and through the long years had been faithful and loving as wife and mother. They became the parents of eleven children, nine of whom are still living, and grown to man and womanhood. His first wife died Dec. 12, 1879, and a few months before his death he was married a second time, the lady being Mrs. Elsie Scapper. Mr. Reugnitz had been sick for some weeks, but about the 10th of August, 1882, his illness assumed a more serious form, and he died at 2 o'clock, on Monday, Aug. 14, 1882, leaving a widow and nine children." The article above referred to is largely occupied with the very feeling, appropriate and impressive address, delivered at the obsequies, by Mr. J. F. Thompson, at the request of the family, which sketches the life, development and success of Mr. Reugnitz, and his success in life, linked with remarks of a more general but no less opportune and happy nature.

Mrs. Baker was born in Germany, Dec. 7, 1859, and five years later accompanied her parents to this country. Shortly after arrival they settled in Clayton County, Iowa, and there made their home

until death. Her brothers and sisters numbered ten, of whom eight besides herself are living. Their names are as follows: Charles, George, August and Max reside in Iowa; Albert is in Wisconsin; Mary is the wife of O. D. Outhout, and is a resident of Iowa; Herman and Lewis live in Colorado.

Our subject is the owner of 240 acres of well-improved land, the improvements comprising not simply the perfection of cultivation of broad acres in grain, but also horticulture, forestry and orchard trees, with the houses for storing and preparing the fruitful harvest of the same; barns, stabling and other buildings; and not excepting the pleasant, comfortable and convenient farm dwelling, which is his home, and of which an excellent view is given in this volume. Mr. Baker is in every regard a self-made man; that is to say, his start in life was the result of his own effort and energy, after the foundation had been laid for success by the education his parents were enabled to give him. He is highly respected as a citizen and as a man, whether in social or domestic relations. He is not an office-holder, but at the same time realizes the privileges and duties of citizenship, and is loyal to the same. His political sentiments are in accord with those of the Republican party, and this receives his vote and support. Religiously, he is, with his wife, associated in the membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and they are accounted among the most consistent and devout, and are held in highest esteem.



WALTER J. HARRIS. To the energetic laborers, enterprise and business tact of this gentleman and his associates, is Lancaster County indebted for her high position as one of the leading stock-growing and grain-raising sections of Nebraska. He is an extensive farmer and breeder of fine stock, and owns one of the largest and best managed farms to be found within a radius of many miles of the State capital. It is admirably located in Lancaster Precinct, town 10, range 7, southeast quarter of section 10, six miles from Lincoln, and embraces 160 acres of very fertile and highly cultivated soil. Mr. Harris also owns two farms in Stevens

Creek Precinct, three miles from his homestead, comprising altogether 460 acres. His favorite breed of cattle is the Hereford grades, also Poland-China hogs, and poultry of the best breeds.

Our subject is of mingled Scotch-Irish ancestry, his grandfather, Walter Harris, being a native of Scotland, who came to this country and settled near Martinsburg, Va., prior to the Revolutionary War. He subsequently migrated to Cincinnati, Ohio, in the very early days of its settlement, and actively engaged in the Indian War that followed the Revolution during Washington's administration. He married Elizabeth Reed, a widow, and they had three children, two sons and one daughter. His wife had four children by her first marriage, and the seven children were brought up harmoniously in the same family.

One of these, Thomas, the father of our subject, was born April 23, 1803, in Butler County, Ohio. His father died when he was but three years old, and he lived with his mother until he was twenty-three years old. He married, in April, 1829, Miss Eliza Emmons, daughter of John and Johanna Emmons, of New Jersey. He continued to live on the old homestead until after the birth of three of his children, when he removed to Vermillion, Ind., where the remaining five of his children were born. He was a man of sound, practical wisdom, and was influential and prominent in public affairs, and while a resident of Indiana was a Justice of the Peace for eight years. In politics he was an uncompromising Democrat. He died revered and lamented, June 28, 1844, on the farm that he had improved from a wild tract of Government land, located in Vermillion Township, Vermillion County, near Newport, the county seat, and only three miles from the Illinois line. His estimable wife survived him ten years, and then died on the home farm Nov. 10, 1854. Six of their eight children grew to maturity, as follows: Joanna H. became Mrs. French; at his death she married Mr. Lannen, and died at Beaver Crossing, Seward Co., Neb. James E. lives in Idaho; Elizabeth is Mrs. Southard, of Vermillion County, Ind.; Mary Jane is Mrs. Jackson, of Colorado; Hannah was Mrs. Clarke, who died in Indiana, and Walter J.

The subject of this biographical sketch was born

March 5, 1832, in Trenton, Butler Co., Ohio, and when four years of age accompanied his parents to their future home that they planted in the wilds of Indiana. He lived at home until twenty-two years of age, attending the public schools during the winter terms, where he obtained a very good education, and, after the death of his father, actively assisting in the maintenance of the family. He established a home for himself at the age mentioned, having been united in marriage, March 23, 1854, to Miss Charlotte Frances Shaw, daughter of Jesse and Mary (Harris) Shaw. She was born Nov. 3, 1832, at Rushville, Ind., and there died March 5, 1861, at the age of twenty-nine years, leaving two children—Florence E. and Frances H. The former married Orin Richey, of Indiana, and the latter was united in marriage with Nathan Barris, a resident of Dayton, W. T.

After his marriage Mr. Harris had moved to Crawford County, Wis., where he engaged in farming for six years. In 1860 he removed to Rushville, Rush Co., Ind., and his wife dying in the following year, on the 5th of March, thus ending a happy wedded life and breaking up his home, he was ready to respond to his country's first call for assistance at the outbreak of the war, and on the 22d of April he enlisted in Company C, 16th Indiana Infantry. In June, 1861, he was transferred to the 13th Regiment for the three-years service, and fought bravely under the old flag in its defense until July, 1864, when he was honorably discharged, having undergone all the trials and hardships incidental to a soldier's life. He was in the Army of the Potomac when McClellan commanded it, but was under the immediate command of Rosecrans at Rich Mountain, which was the first battle he took part in. He at one time served as guard of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. He took part in thirty-two battles and skirmishes with his regiment and was wounded but once, when he was disabled by a spent ball, and was thereby confined in camp in front of Petersburg until his discharge. The chief battles in which our subject engaged were: Winchester, Rich Mountain, Cheat Mountain, Greenbrier, Allegheny, Port Republic, Harrison's Landing, Battle Deserted Farm, siege of Suffolk, Hanover Run and Hanover Junction, siege of Ft. Wagner,


Bermuda Hundred, Chester Station and many others, besides numerous skirmishes.

After his retirement from the service Mr. Harris made his home in Indiana for awhile, and was there a second time married, Feb. 23, 1865, Miss Emily J. Hoeker, daughter of Uriah and Frances E. Hoeker, of Parke County, Ind., becoming his wife, a woman of much ability, who has greatly helped him in building up their pleasant and cozy home on the prairies of Nebraska. Four children, two sons and two daughters, complete the household, of whom the following is the record: Thomas U., born Jan. 4, 1866; Charlotte E., born June 14, 1867, is now the wife of George J. Johnson, and they reside in Lincoln; John R., born Feb. 8, 1871; Hannah Augusta J., Feb. 25, 1874. Three are living at home with their parents.

Soon after marriage our subject and his wife came to Nebraska, June 5, 1865, and he took up 160 acres of land under the provisions of the Homestead Act, located on the corner of Thirty-third street, and now near the heart of the city of Lincoln. In the same year he bought the northwest quarter of section 17, township 10, range 7 east, which he owned until November, 1886, when it had so increased in value that he sold it for \$110 per acre. His home farm he sold for \$30,000. On the 25th of the same month he bought the southwest quarter of section 10, township 10, range 7, paying therefor \$44 per acre, and has since made his home here. A view of the residence and its surroundings, which the artist enables us to present to the reader, will bring these within the mental grasp better than any verbal description, though ever so complete and graphic.

Mr. Harris is a shrewd, far-seeing man, of a keen and resolute nature, and of more than ordinary capacity, which places him among the leading citizens in public and social affairs. In 1867 he was elected Assessor for one year for Lancaster Precinct, which office he held altogether sixteen years, discharging its duties efficiently and with due regard to the interests of his fellow-citizens. He is a charter member of the F. & A. M., No. 19, and is also the oldest initiated member of Capitol Lodge No. 11, I. O. O. F.; he is likewise a member of the Encampment of Odd Fellows, and of Farragut Post

No. 25, G. A. R., Lincoln. In politics Mr. Harris has emphatically placed himself on record as a Protectionist, and he firmly supports the principles of the Republican party as applied to national affairs, but in local matters he is independent, voting for whom he considers the best man, irrespective of party.



ANDREW McDIVITT. The homestead of this gentleman forms one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of Grant Precinct, and embraces 240 acres of finely cultivated land on section 1. The hand of thrift and industry is everywhere apparent, from the neat and substantial buildings to the fertile fields, which are neatly laid off with well-kept fences, while the farm stock is of excellent grades and the machinery for carrying on agriculture after the most approved pattern. It is evident that the owner of this property has the true conception of what rural life should be, and presents in the result of his labors a phase of it in its most attractive form.

Andrew McDivitt, Sr., the father of our subject, was, it is supposed, of English ancestry, and was born near Steubenville, Ohio. He married Miss Eliza Corkhill, who was born on the Isle of Man, and came to the United States in her youth. After marriage they turned their faces to the farther West, and crossing the Mississippi settled in Henry County, Iowa, among its earliest pioneers. The father built up a good homestead from an uncultivated tract of land, and there spent the remainder of his days, his death taking place in 1872. The mother still survives, and is living with her children at Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.

The parental household of our subject included five children, all of whom are living, and residents of Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Colorado. Andrew was the fourth in order of birth, and first opened his eyes to the light in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, Feb. 23, 1853. His early life was spent in his native county of Henry, mostly on a farm, while he studied first in the common school, and completed his education in the Iowa Wesleyan University, at Mt. Pleasant, where he was a student two years. Upon laying aside his books, like the sensible youth that

he was, having no foolish city longings, he returned to the farm pursuits in which he had been reared, and carried on agriculture in his native county until the spring of 1880.

Our subject now resolved upon a change of location, and coming to Otoe County, this State, purchased a quarter-section of land, where he lived until selling out, in 1882, and taking up his residence at his present homestead. Here he has effected many of the improvements which the passing traveler now looks upon with admiration. He makes a specialty of stock-raising, and has been uniformly successful as the result of his long experience and thorough knowledge of his calling.

Our subject sought for his wife one of the most attractive maidens of his native county, Miss Elizabeth Fullerton, to whom he was married in Mt. Pleasant, Jan. 31, 1878. Mrs. McDivitt is the daughter of William and Margaretta (Lamb) Fullerton, who were natives of Ohio. The mother died in Mt. Pleasant about 1878. Mr. Fullerton is still living, and is a resident of Lincoln, this county. Mrs. McD. was born in Warren County, Ohio, Feb. 12, 1854, and came with her parents to Iowa in 1869. Of her union with our subject there have been born three bright children: William E., Jan. 19, 1879; Frank K., Nov. 17, 1881, and Charles F., Aug. 17, 1883. Our subject votes the straight Republican ticket upon all occasions, and, with his estimable wife, belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church, to the support and maintenance of which they are cheerful and liberal contributors. Their home is noticeable at once as the abode of culture and intelligence, and they enjoy the society and friendship of a large circle of acquaintances.



JOSHUA H. BUEL. Among the old settlers of Centerville Precinct, whose work upon his own property and in behalf of the precinct and county so far as opportunity has offered for the same, and whose own personal character and financial success require some notice in order to have anything like a complete history of the precinct, is the subject of the present sketch, whose well-tilled and fertile farm is situated on section 28.

Mr. Buel is a native of Licking County, Ohio, and reckons the years of his life from the 14th of November, 1843. His parents, Joshua and Lucy Buel, were natives of New York State, and were members of a family not unknown in the history of the Eastern colonies in the pre-Revolutionary era. On his father's side the ancestry were English. His great-grandfather fought in the Revolutionary War, and his son, the father of our subject, went through the War of 1812. The family of which our subject was a member comprised ten children, besides the father and mother. The names of those living are as follows: Mary, living in California, is now Mrs. M. Harker; Lucy, the wife of J. B. Johnson, of Lincoln; Edwin, living in Licking County, Ohio; Joshua, our subject; and Minson P., of Chicago.

Our subject was reared to manhood in his native State and county. His education was more extended than usually obtained by young men of that section in those days. After completing the course of the common school he attended and graduated from an academy, and in 1861 was a graduate of Hiram College, Ohio, the same institution in which the martyred President, James A. Garfield, was first a student and afterward professor and President. Our subject for about six months received his instruction from Mr. Garfield, who has always been remembered more on account of his qualifications as a teacher, the sympathy, interest and friendship extended by him to his students, than on account of any political reminiscence.

After leaving the above institution our subject was engaged in farming and stock-raising, and these have been the business of his life, linked necessarily with that of stock-raising, stock dealing and shipping. In the spring of 1886 our subject came to Lancaster County, and settled upon the farm that is still his home. All the improvements which appear in buildings or fields are the result of his thought and labor. The farm includes 272 acres of admirably situated arable land, and is cultivated upon the line of general farming and the provision of feed for his stock. He is the owner of a good herd of Short-horn cattle of nearly 100 head, and Highlander and Red Morgan horses.

The home of Mr. Buel was lacking in beauty and tone until the 28th of January, 1868, when he was

united in marriage with Fanny Cake, a native of Knox County, Ohio. Their happiness has been increased and the bonds uniting them have been more firmly welded by the birth of nine children, of whom the following survive: Fred, Helen, Musa, Lucy, Joshua, Clare, Myrtle and Pearl. Mrs. Buel was born April 6, 1848, and was the daughter of Samuel and Ann Cake, both natives of Berks County, Pa. Her father was of German descent, and her mother of Scotch-Irish, thus forming an amalgam of the Teutonic, Gallic and Celtic races. She was the thirteenth child born to her parents, the family circle including thirteen children, of whom the following are now living: Sarah, wife of H. K. Robinson, of Anderson County, Kan.; Susan, now Mrs. Chauncey, of Lincoln, Ark.; Jennie, who is married to Albert Hildreth, of Knox County, Ohio; Erastus, a Christian minister in Missouri; Ella, now Mrs. R. N. Smith, of Abilene, Kan.; Anna, now Mrs. Graham, of Ohio; Howard, a farmer in Miami County, Kan., and Fanny, the wife of our subject.

In political matters our subject is loyal to the responsibilities of citizenship, but is not prominent in official circles; he is a devoted friend and admirer of the Republican party, is an advocate of social enterprise and good morals, and both as a man and citizen receives the unqualified esteem of his fellows.



LOUIS C. MEYER. In the northern part of the Empire of Germany, about seventy miles from the mouth of the River Elbe, there lies a city crowded with historic memories. At one time it was strongly fortified, and has withstood the shock of assault and the lingering terrors of the siege. To-day the visitor to this city, Hamburg, finds upon the site of the old fortification a most pleasant drive after the style of the boulevard, with broad plank walks beautifully shaded. Around the old city has grown up a newer surrounding, the whole about four miles in circumference. To its ancient, but still sustained, reputation of learning must be added that of a manufacturing center of importance, and being, perhaps, one of the most

important of shipping points of Germany, it sustains a very extensive mercantile connection, and is a port for the North-German Lloyd trans-Atlantic, and Red Line Company steamers, also several other important steamship lines to all parts of the world.

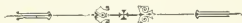
In this city, Hamburg, was born Louis C. Meyer. His father, Henry Meyer, was born in 1800. He received a fair and practical education in the city schools. As a young man he married and settled in life. Louis C. Meyer, the subject of this sketch, was the second son of this gentleman. He was born May 11, 1836, and afterward attended the school of his native city, and continued in the same until he was fourteen years of age, when he was apprenticed to learn the trade of brush-maker, being articled to his uncle, whose residence is near the city. After a service of six years in his uncle's factory he determined to emigrate to America.

In 1856 our subject sailed via Bremen, and arrived in Baltimore seven weeks from the time he started. Bewildered by the strange experience of the preceding voyage, hardly recovered from the problem of perpetual motion, his confusion is by no means decreased by being thrust suddenly into the bewildering vortex of strangeness in a strange city of a strange land. To this was added the difficulty of language, and the fact that he was still somewhat in debt for his passage. He was not of that class who face their difficulties backward; neither did he find a place among those whose method of facing difficulty is to sit down before them, with brooding and tears. He was made of better stuff. Knowing he had to fight a battle he had counted the cost beforehand, and was not prepared to give up thus early in the campaign. With hope in his heart he set out for Wheeling, Va., hunted up some work, and kept at it until he had sufficient to carry him to Cincinnati, where he began to work at his trade, which he continued prosperously for twelve years.

The next home of our subject was Clayton County, Iowa, where he established a brush factory, where for sixteen years prosperity was his close friend. Time rolled along until the calendar marked the year 1885, when he removed to Malcolm and engaged in mercantile pursuits. After a short time

he received the appointment of Postmaster, which position he has since held. His business is constantly increasing, and he is rapidly becoming one of the well-to-do citizens.

In May, 1858, Mr. Meyer was united in marriage with Anna Luebbe, a native of Germany, and after a happy union of twenty years she died in Clayton County, Iowa. In 1880 our subject contracted a second alliance, the lady being Augusta Pischke, likewise a native of Germany, but reared in this country. There are three children living by his first wife: Amelia, wife of James V. Willman; Amanda and Alma. By the second two, Amy and Louisa. The family of our subject enjoy the esteem of the community, and he, also, both in commercial, political and social circles. His political sentiments are Democratic.



CHARLES D. STEVENS. "There is a tide in the affairs of men, which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune." Few realize the truth of this more than the pioneers of the Western Territories and States. With many the tide is at its lowest ebb in the genesis of their history and effort, but presently it turns, and if by intelligence they are enabled rightly to read the progress of that tide, and recognize its flood, then, boldly and with determined effort, push off their bark from the shore, keep its prow cutting the waves, heading for the more open waters, then they find themselves speedily, and almost before they are aware, across the bar of adverse circumstances, and pass lightly upon their voyage to ultimate success.

The above might serve to sum up in one parabolic sentence the history of our subject, one of Denton's prosperous farmers, whose property is situated on section 6, and comprises 160 acres of well-tilled land. He a native of Henry County, Iowa, where he was born Aug. 14, 1858. In his parents the star-spangled banner and the Canadian ensign met in kindred folds; the States and the Dominion clasped hands. The father was born in Ohio, the mother in Canada; the latter's maiden name was Elizabeth Cox.

Thomas E. Stevens, the father of our subject,

settled about the time of his marriage in Henry County, Iowa, at the time when settlers were just coming into the county. The story of his life there is that oft-told but always interesting one, the tale of the pioneer, in which we strip the country of its broad acres of grain, its pretty homes, churches, towns, railroads, and other recent innovations, and re-people it with the wild, uncouth creatures, or more graceful deer and antelope, in imagination rear again the tall forest trees, bringing them thickly together, until they are well-nigh impassable, hear again the ringing of the woodman's ax, the sharp report of the rifle, quickly followed by the baying of the hound, make our way down to the little log cabin, where the young, healthful, happy housewife is busy at her spinning-wheel or bustling about preparing the evening meal, peep down into the cradle with its precious little treasure, reposing in sweetest slumber, and, as we turn away, muse upon the unwritten history of its future, and ask ourselves the question, "What will he become?"

The union of the parents of our subject was richly enhanced by the birth of four children, two of whom are now living, our subject and his brother William T., an attorney-at-law, resident at Lincoln. The parents of our subject are both devout members of the Baptist Church, and find their chief delight and prime enjoyment in a life which might be characterized by the words "doing good," for this seems to be their every desire, and their happiness is that of making others happy.

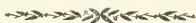
The environment of the early days and young manhood of our subject was that of his native State, and there he received the somewhat meager, though practical, education furnished by the common school. He was married, Sept. 10, 1879, to Josephine Parriott, in Henry County, Iowa, and found in his wife the one who could bring into his life and home those elements without which it would have been incomplete. This lady was born Oct. 1, 1859, in Des Moines County, Iowa, and is the daughter of Turner and Adeline Parriott, who were among the earliest pioneers of Des Moines County.

To Mr. and Mrs. Stevens has been given the happiness of a complete home. We are often met upon entering the house by the legend, beautifully engraved, artistically mounted, and suitably framed,

"What is home without a mother?" We would rather amend it by saying, "What is home without the children?" Certainly they are all that would be required to complete many homes, and be the salvation of the domestic felicity, which, after struggling for an existence in the family, is about ready to take to itself wings and fly away. The children of Mr. Stevens are: Ella L., born Feb. 28, 1851; Addie, May 21, 1882; Emma L., July 8, 1884, and Charles T., April 10, 1886.

From Iowa our subject came to Saline County, in the fall of 1884, and the following spring settled upon his present farm in Lancaster County, where he has continued to reside. The 160 acres of land, which is cultivated to the highest condition of perfection in agriculture, owes its conversion from the state of nature to the intelligent, persistent labor and effort of our subject. The house and other buildings are also largely the work of his own hands, and likewise the improvements along the line of forestry and horticulture. Everywhere is visible the handiwork of the restless energy and excellent management of a master.

Politically, the loyalty and patriotic sentiment of our subject lead him to the associations of the Republican party, and by his compatriots he is esteemed a sterling and true supporter and friend, and although not an office-holder, is as anxious for the success of his ticket as though he held all of them. Mr. Stevens is also one who always has time to consider any inclination to support whatever enterprise or legitimate undertaking is advanced for the benefit of the surroundings, whether of the immediate vicinity, the county, or the State.



HEMAN A. BABCOCK, State Auditor of Public Accounts, residing at No. 1304 J street, Lincoln, has long been prominently identified with the public interests of Nebraska, whose growth and development he has greatly aided, and he may justly be considered one of her most able and trustworthy citizens. He is a native of Persia, Cattaraugus Co., N. Y., where he was born May 19, 1842, to George C. and Almira R. (Brown) Babcock, who were natives of Madison

County, the same State. His father was born June 10, 1810, and his mother in 1812. His father's principal business has been that of a farmer. He is a man of varied talents and much capacity. He early displayed a love for books, and became a self-educated man, and for many years utilized his knowledge in teaching school. He also occupied the pulpit for many years as a minister in the Seventh-Day Baptist Church, and ranked among the ablest preachers of that denomination. In his day he also bore a prominent part in the political affairs of his community, and his judgment and opinion were often sought on weighty matters. In 1845 he removed from the Empire State to Wisconsin, where, in Rock County, he was extensively engaged in farming for several years. He is still living, though in feeble health, at the advanced age of seventy-eight years. He is surrounded by the loving care of numerous friends, and is calmly and quietly awaiting the summons that shall call him to a higher life. His wife, a most estimable woman, beloved by all who knew her, was born in 1812, and passed away in 1870, at the age of fifty-eight years.

Four children were born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. George C. Babcock, namely: Oscar, Delia, Ellen and Heman A. Oscar is a well-known and honored citizen of Valley County, Neb., whose people he ably represented in the State Legislature one term. He served as County Judge of Valley County for two years, and also as County Superintendent of Schools for a like period. He also took an active part in public affairs while a resident of Waushara County, Wis., serving as a Representative in the State Legislature in 1864 and in 1866. He is considered one of the leading ministers in the Seventh-Day Baptist Church, and has occupied the pulpit for many years. He has been twice married, but both of his wives are now dead. The maiden name of his first wife was Meita A. Bristol; she died in October, 1872. His second wife was before marriage Miss Hattie A. Payne. Delia is the wife of Henry C. Chase, a farmer of North Loup, Valley Co., Neb.; Ellen died in infancy.

Heman A. Babcock was the youngest child of his father's family, and until he attained his majority assisted in the labors of the farm, and attended the public schools, where he obtained a liberal educa-

tion. He was reared in Wisconsin, having been but three years of age when his parents moved to that State. In 1860 he learned the art of photography, and was engaged at that very successfully until March, 1864. At that date he threw aside all personal aims in order to place himself among the brave defenders of our country, entering the service as a private in Company G, 37th Wisconsin Infantry. He was noted by his superiors to be an efficient and courageous soldier, and was rapidly promoted from the ranks, becoming Sergeant Major within a few months after his enlistment, and at the close of the war he had been commissioned First Lieutenant. He was in the Army of the Potomac, under Gen. Grant, took an active part in the fight before Petersburg, and was present when it was surrendered. After Lee surrendered he participated in the grand review at Washington, and remained in camp at Georgetown, near Washington, until July 27, when he was mustered out. The regiment was ordered to Madison, Wis., where final discharge took place Aug. 18, 1865.

Shortly after our subject was honorably discharged from the army he went to Linn County, Mo., and the following six years were passed on a farm, actively engaged in agriculture. In the spring of 1872 he came to Nebraska and took up a tract of 160 acres of land in Valley County, under the provisions of the Homestead Act. This he still owns, and has made it one of the finest farms in the county. His strength and stability of character, and rare business qualifications, soon brought him prominently before the public as a candidate for office, as the people saw in him a man whom they could safely trust with the affairs of the county. He took an active part in the organization of the county in March, 1873, and in the fall he was elected Sheriff of Valley County for a second term, holding that office for two years, and he made the first arrest that was ever made in the county. He filled the office of County Commissioner for three years, and in the fall of 1875 was elected County Clerk and ex-officio Clerk of the District Court, which offices he held for eight years, or until Jan. 1, 1884. In the fall of that year he was elected to his present position as State Auditor, and entered upon the duties of his new office Jan. 1, 1885, for a

term of two years. He was re-elected for the same position in the fall of 1886. In all these years as a civic officer, Mr. Babcock has displayed an unwavering devotion to his duties, which he has discharged with signal ability, and he has fully justified the confidence placed in him by his constituents, always showing himself to be a manly, upright and dignified man. In his political views he is a sound Republican. Socially, he is a member of the I. O. O. F., having been connected with that organization for some five years. He is also identified with the G. A. R., as a charter member of Appomattox Post No. 214, of Lincoln.

Mr. Babcock was married, in 1862, to Miss Rettie O. Bristol, who was born in Kenosha County, Wis., in 1842. She is a daughter of the late Ira S. and Nancy H. (Warner) Bristol, natives of New York State. Her father died in February, 1886; he was a man of great worth, and was regarded as one of the shining lights of the Christian Church, being a respected minister of that denomination for many years. His beloved wife died July 4, 1885. Their marriage was blessed to them by the birth of seven children, namely: Catherine M., Marietta A., Cicero L., Lawrence I., Medora E., Rettie O. and Henry O. Mr. and Mrs. Babcock are the parents of two sons: Everett C., born June 27, 1863, now a book-keeper in his father's office, and Royal O., born Nov. 3, 1874.

The portrait of this excellent citizen and trusted official is cheerfully given a place in this volume among those of other leading and representative men.



HENRY C. SPELLMAN. The thrifty German element of Highland Precinct finds a most worthy representative in this young and enterprising farmer, who owns and operates 240 acres of fertile land on section 13. Of this 120 acres are in a high state of cultivation, and the farm is supplied with good buildings, fairly stocked with horses, cattle and swine, while our subject has the necessary machinery for carrying on agriculture after the most approved methods.

Mr. Spellman became possessor of his property in 1878, at a time when a greater part of the

land had been unbroken by the plowshare. The condition in which we find it to-day indicates the perseverance and industry with which he has labored, for he now has one of the best appointed farms in this section of the county. His birthplace was Scioto County, Ohio, and the date thereof Sept. 1, 1857. His father, Henry C. Spellman, who was of pure German ancestry, was born in the then little Kingdom of Hanover, and came to the United States when a young man unmarried. He took up his residence in Scioto County, Ohio, and there formed the acquaintance of Miss Elnora R. Reller, whose birth took place in the German Empire near the early home of her husband, and who came at an early age to the United States, settling in Scioto County, Ohio.

After marriage the parents of our subject located upon a farm in the above county, of which the elder Spellman in due time became owner, at the same time also owning and operating an iron furnace and a store of general merchandise. He was successful in his labors and business transactions, and continued a resident of the Buckeye State until about 1863, then, resolving to push on further westward, he crossed the Mississippi into Clayton County, Iowa, and there also carried on general merchandising for a period of five years. Upon selling out again he came to Nebraska, and purchased land from the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company, which later he sold to his son, our subject, and removing to Cortland, Gage County, is there spending his declining years retired from active labor, and with his estimable wife, in the enjoyment of a competence. Both have passed their threescore years, during which they have built up for themselves a good record as hard-working, honest people, who have striven to do their duty wherever in life they have been placed. Both are members in good standing of the United Brethren Church.

Our subject is one of the younger members of a large family, four sons and six daughters, seven of whom are living and are residents mostly of Nebraska. He was a little lad nine years of age when his parents came to this State, and completed his education in the schools of Centerville. He was early in life taught those habits of industry and

principles of honor which form the basis of every worthy character, and, like his father before him, is one of the most highly esteemed citizens in his community. He worked with his father until approaching his majority, and when ready to establish domestic ties of his own was united in marriage, at the home of the bride in Centerville, March 31, 1881, to Miss Lydia Bohl.

The wife of our subject was born near Muscatine, Iowa, Jan. 21, 1862, and came with her father, Nicholas Bohl, to Nebraska when a young child. Her parents are now living in this State. Her education was completed in the schools of Centerville Precinct, of which her father is a prominent resident and successful farmer. Of her union with our subject there have been born three children—George N., Nellie and Henry. Mrs. Spellman attends the German Methodist Church, and our subject, politically, is a solid Republican.

ANSON S. WILLIAMS, a resident of section 21, Yankee Hill Precinct, is a native of Hampshire County, Mass., and was born Feb. 7, 1840. When Yankee Hill was yet but little known, and its broad acres were yet untitled, when the settlers were so few that their numbers could be counted upon the fingers, our subject first made his home here, and is therefore one of the pioneers of the district.

Mr. Williams' family are descendants from the Puritanic and liberty-loving New Englanders, who have transmitted tendencies and influences which, though often misdirected and confined by mistaken religious zeal and bigotry, contain within themselves the settled powers that under other circumstances go to produce the American character, which is at once known and respected throughout both hemispheres. He is the son of Morris and Clarissa Williams, but it was his ever-to-be-mourned misfortune and irreparable loss that they were removed by the hand of death while he was but six years of age. Left alone, hardly realizing the meaning of the thickness of the dark cloud which now overshadowed his young life, beginning to learn the meaning of the word orphan, he began a new chap-

ter in his life's history, and went to reside with his uncle, Spencer Searl.

This gentleman was a brother of Mrs. Williams, who, prompted by affection to his sister, and the desolate helplessness of her child, did his best to fill the void occasioned by her death, and for nine years gave him such opportunities and training as were within his power. At fifteen years of age he went to live with his sister, Mrs. Sarah Lyman, in Massachusetts, and continued with her until he was about eighteen. At that time he was engaged as clerk in a store, and continued in that occupation for several years. By strict attention to business and its details, he gave general satisfaction, and received promotion. He next entered, for part of the years 1864 and 1865, the office of the Quartermaster, as clerk in the Army of the Potomac, and when the necessities of the case rendered further service here unnecessary, he engaged in mercantile pursuits in the city of Chicago, Ill., forming a partnership, and doing business under the firm name of Williams & Stoddard. Success again attended his efforts, which were, however, limited to a period of two years.

In 1868 our subject journeyed West, and bought 160 acres of land, for which he paid \$10 per acre, on section 21 of this precinct, which comprises the farm upon which he is still a resident. In the untamed land which formed the new object of his energies, he found sufficient demands for his best thought and persevering efforts. The difficulties which were to be overcome, the unceasing toil demanded, were simply those common to all who enter into a new country, where for the first time the lordship of the man is asserted, and his scepter demands submission. There were large calls upon his self-denial and endurance in these earlier years of the combat with untamed Nature, and when these were overcome new difficulties presented themselves, of which, perhaps, the most noteworthy would be the plague of grasshoppers and drouth.

Our subject has certainly achieved success in both business and agricultural life, more especially when we remember the surroundings and happenings of his early life. He was married, Nov. 27, 1873, to a lady of rare culture, possessing the rare and amiable qualities which are the charms of true wom-

anhood. This lady, Mary C. Brown, is a daughter of Samuel and Mary J. Brown, all natives of Ohio. The fruit of their union was George L., born Sept. 12, 1875; Homer D., born June 10, 1877; Watson born July 6, 1885; an infant, Frank A., born May 23, 1888; Ella, born Sept. 22, 1880, died March 14, 1887; Ralph A., born March 21, 1882, died Feb. 13, 1887; and Myron, born Oct. 25, 1883, died Aug. 22, 1887.

Mr. Williams holds a very high place in the esteem of the best citizens, and for nine years has served faithfully and with much satisfaction to the community, teachers and others concerned, as School Director. He is a member in good standing of the order of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, in which, locally, he holds a first place. His life evidences that he has endeavored to order his life according to the designs marked out by the Grand Master of the craft upon His trestle board. His political aspirations and sympathies are upon the line of Republicanism, which party acknowledges him a friend and supporter.

Mr. Williams has watched the development of the county and this section of the State with keen interest, and nothing which looks toward its improvement and advancement is neglected by him; every project and enterprise commended by wisdom as practicable receive at all times his heartiest co-operation and support.

ROBERT McDEVITT. Among the farmers of North Bluff worthy of the name representative, both as a citizen and business man, is the subject of the present writing, a native of Ireland, of Irish parentage. His property is situated on section 26, and is in every regard well cultivated, and supplied with the various implements and machines for its careful and intelligent cultivation; of this the reader will be better assured by a careful consideration of the view of the residence and its environments which has been so faithfully portrayed by the artist.

The father of our subject, James McDevitt, was born in County Donegal, Ireland, about 1818, and all his life followed the occupation of farming.

His life partner and companion was Mary Arnold, to whom he was married in the year 1839. She was the daughter of Robert and Sarah (McCowin) Arnold. They were natives of Ireland, and of the same county. The family circle includes four children, of whom our subject is the only one living. The names of his brothers and sisters were Hugh, Mary Ann and Susan, whose remains lie in the cemetery of their native town, as do also those of their father. Mrs. McDevitt contracted a second alliance in 1852, and became the wife of John McClusky, of Glasgow, by whom there was one child born. Her second husband died in the year 1855, and his widow resides with our subject in Lancaster County, having come to this country in 1854.

The subject of this sketch was born Nov. 12, 1842, in County Donegal, in the northern part of the Emerald Isle, one of the counties included in the Province of Ulster. In 1854, in company with his mother and step-father, he came to the United States and made his home in Connecticut, where he resided until the year 1858. In that year they removed to Cass County, in this State, and entered land for farm work. After about eight years spent in this way our subject came to North Bluff of this county, and bought a farm of 440 acres on Salt Creek, and has continued ever since to make it his home. The first experience in Cass County for our subject was not at all enviable. He contracted malarial trouble almost immediately upon arrival, and suffered every day for almost seven months the effects of this difficulty, which shook not only the body, but also undermined the constitution. At the early period of settlement the white man was by no means so secure as now from Indian interference and outrage, and many recitals might be given for instance in this line.

Mr. McDevitt was most happily married to Miss Kate Daily, at Lincoln, in 1868. This lady is endowed with much womanly grace, and in every way competent to make the life and home of her husband complete. She is the daughter of James and Ann (Scott) Daily. Her mother was a native of Mayo, born in the year 1823; her father was born in County Kerry in 1813, where he made his home until he came to Canada, in 1830. Eighteen years after this he was married, and the result of the union was

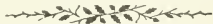
a family of seven children, six of whom are living. Their names are recorded as follows: John, now of Denver, Col.; Michael, living at Leadville, in the same State; Kate, the wife of our subject; James, who is living at Cheyenne; Sarah, now Mrs. James McLaughlin, a prosperous farmer in Wyoming, and Ellen, married and living in Boston, Mass.

The wife of our subject was born Dec. 20, 1852, at Tippecanoe, Ind., and was married upon her birthday in the year 1868. So far from being wealthy at this time, our subject was compelled to borrow \$10 from a friend to cover the matrimonial expenses. The service which made them lawful man and wife was performed in Lincoln, by the clergy of the Catholic Church. After this our subject handled lumber from Plattsmouth and Omaha to Nebraska City. The lumber to build his house cost him \$80 per 1,000 feet, exclusive of hauling.

In 1870 Mr. McDevitt bought 120 acres from his mother. The first crops upon this land they cut with a cradle and threshed it on a rail floor, and screened it with the wind. It was then hauled to Nebraska City and sold for thirty-five cents a bushel, and the trip with oxen took five days to make. For several years they raised only what grain they required for their own use, but when wheat came up to \$1.50 a bushel they were enabled to raise a large crop and dispose of it profitably. He then bought eighty acres of land from the State, and subsequently another eighty, both at the rate of \$8 per acre.

As remarked, the special attention of our subject is given to stock-raising. He is the owner of a nice herd of high-grade stock, besides other less valuable cattle. Hogs, also, he raises in large numbers, but next to his cattle is most particular in regard to horses. Of these he has some splendid specimens, and a good foundation is already established therein. For fifteen years our subject has been School Director of his district, and Supervisor for nearly eleven. Both he and his family are devoted members of the Catholic Church at Lincoln, where they are most highly esteemed. In politics he was for many years a Republican, but latterly, for reasons satisfactory to himself, has crossed to the plat-

form of the Democratic party, and as he is a man of shrewd intelligence and unquestionable integrity, he retains the respect of his old friends, at the same time enjoys that of the new. A certain political leader upon being twitted by an opponent on account of his change of opinion and policy, remarked in substance, that the only possible reason his friend was so stanch in his adherence could be, that his opinion was borrowed and his mind a nonentity. The only man who can change is he who has something to change; this is, therefore, a sign of advancement and progress, rather than retrogression.



FREDERICK HERPOLSHEIMER. Almost every man has his hobby, and hobbies are almost a necessity in the nature of things. Like almost everything else, there are hobbies and hobbies; some harmful and injurious, others innocent and beneficial. Seldom is Prussia thought of without a passing reference from memory's inexhaustible collection concerning Prussia's great Emperor, Frederick, and his hobby, as expressed in his world-renowned guards of colossal stature. We are not so likely, however, to remember what is equally true, that many of the citizens of this Republic, who stand head and shoulders above their fellows in those qualities which go to make the noblest manhood and most loyal and patriotic citizen, are of that Empire or descendants of Prussian parents.

Our subject, whose stock farm is situated on section 31, Denton Precinct, was born May 16, 1838, in the above-named country, and is the son of Christian and Anna Herpolsheimer. His mother died in St. Joseph County, Ind., in the year 1885. When our subject was eleven years of age his parents emigrated to this country, and Milwaukee, Wis., was the first place of residence, and in that city they continued for three years. At the end of that time a removal was effected to St. Joseph County, Ind., where the father of our subject settled upon a farm. His son Frederick received his education in the common schools of that county, and continued to make his home with his parents until he arrived at the age of full manhood. He

has, however, always considered the mental discipline and schooling of youth as initiatory and introductory to the years of larger opportunity and experience, and accordingly his life has been marked with a desire for knowledge, and books have been his constant companions and instructors.

In August of the year 1860, our subject enlisted in the 2d Regiment of the United States Infantry, of the regular army. His army experience extends over a period of five years, and is full of thrilling incidents. He was an active participant in fourteen major engagements. Among these might be mentioned Malvern Hill, Gaines' Mills, Antietam, Bull Run (second), Yorktown, Shepherdstown Ford, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, battle of the Wilderness, Ann River and Cold Harbor, besides a large number of minor engagements and skirmishes. He was honorably discharged in the month of August, 1865, returned home for a short time, and then went to Iowa and took a farm on rental, in Pottawattamie County.

New York City was the next scene of labor, and here our subject was engaged as superintendent in a manufacturing business. In the month of December, 1867, he engaged with his brother-in-law, George Zucker, with whom he remained for a period of twelve years, and after that returned to St. Joseph County, Ind., where he made his home for about eighteen months. From Indiana he came to this State, and located in Lincoln in the year 1880, and the following spring settled upon his present farm, which comprises an entire section, or 640 acres of arable land, which is kept in splendid condition, and in every portion and department indicates the superintendence of an intelligent, careful master-mind.

Shortly after leaving the army, in the year 1865, the subject of this sketch bade farewell to the solitary pleasures of celibacy, and became the husband of Catherine Butz, a lady in every way congenial, and by education, culture and refinement capable of making the home bright with the sunlight of affection, and healthful with the pure atmosphere of ennobling moral principles. There were born to them ten children, eight of whom are still living and bear an honorable part in life. After a happy union of twenty years the guiding star of this mortal house-

hold and happy home bade husband and children a last adieu, and departed to take her place in the home which knows no sadness or parting, whither her two children, Mary and Henry, had preceded her. Those still living are Anne, Emma, Lizzie, Frederick, Katie, Louisa, Daniel and Minnie. The eldest daughter is the wife of Henry Haase, and Emma is married to Frederick Haase, both residents of this precinct.

Our subject is a member of the Lutheran Church, in which communion he was brought up, and has always remained faithful. Realizing the importance of the advancement of society, and the elevation of the community, he is earnestly in favor of every measure, organization or society which has these objects in view. As a loyal citizen and public-spirited man he is second to none in his district. Although living solitary and alone since the death of his wife, the happy influence of the years spent in her company is still with our subject and his family, and without doubt can be traced in the history of to-day, for she left behind a memory which still has its charm among many beyond the narrow circle of her household, and a wealth of affection more happy and enduring than any funeral cenotaph. In matters political Mr. Herpolsheimer is attached to the principles of the Democratic party, although in nowise slavishly held to its ticket unless he can do so with the full indorsement of his conscience, intelligence and moral conviction. When either of these opposes he exercises his right to place his suffrage where the nation or State will be most benefited, and the happiness of the largest number assured.



ADELBERT W. REDDISH. The splendid farm of the subject of this sketch is a standing monument to his industry and enterprise, and attests fully the leading points of his character. It is finely located on section 32, Yankee Hill Precinct, of which Mr. Reddish has been a resident since 1879, locating upon his land in the pioneer days. He first homesteaded eighty acres, and being prospered, in due time added eighty more, so that he now has a quarter-section, which under his judicious management yields in abun-

dance the richest crops of Southern Nebraska. In the growth and development of Lancaster County Mr. Reddish has been no unimportant factor, his very example itself proving a stimulus to the men about him.

Our subject was cradled over forty-six years ago, in Wyoming County, N. Y., his birth occurring on the 7th of May, 1842. The son of Hiram J. and Eliza M. (Watkins) Reddish, he sprang from one of the best families in Wyoming County, who trace their ancestry back to the Highlands of Scotland. His paternal grandfather, John Reddish, carried a musket in the War of 1812, and spent his last years in Warsaw, N. Y.

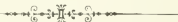
To Hiram and Eliza Reddish there were born ten children, nine of whom are still living; Mary is the wife of James Thomas, of Saunders County, this State; Allen C. is farming in Yankee Hill Precinct, this county; Orville H. continues in Wyoming County, N. Y.; Adelbert W. was the fourth child of the family; Edgar W. lives near the old homestead in Wyoming County; Charles M. is a commercial traveler; Frank O., Eugene A., and Florence, the wife of E. D. F. Miller, continue residents of their native county.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were spent mostly upon a farm, and he received a fair education in the common school. In the fall of 1861, soon after the outbreak of the Civil War, he enlisted in Company A, 9th New York Cavalry, and was present at twenty-six engagements with the enemy, being in the battle at Petersburg, the seven-days fight in the Wilderness, at Winchester, Cedar Creek, Fredericksburg, operating entirely in Virginia and Maryland. Although experiencing many hairbreadth escapes, and having a horse killed under him at Winchester, he fortunately came out unharmed from his army experience, receiving his honorable discharge in July, 1865, and was mustered out as a Corporal, being promoted soon after his enlistment.

Upon becoming a civilian Mr. Reddish returned to his native State, where he occupied himself at farming, making preparations to establish a home of his own. On the 27th of February, 1867, he was united in marriage with Miss Marian C. Ranney, who was born in Genesee County, and was the

daughter of Ozias and Abigail Ranney, who were natives of New York State, and spent their last years in New York. His union resulted in the birth of two children: Oscar D., who was born Aug. 17, 1875, and Clarence V., Aug. 9, 1879.

Mr. Reddish, in March, 1879, turned his face toward the Mississippi, and coming to this county, took up his residence in the manner already described. He is intimately acquainted with the hardships and privations of life in a new country, and has witnessed with warm interest the growth and development of Southern Nebraska. He has contributed his quota to the march of progress by building up one of its most desirable homesteads, which not only reflects credit upon himself, but adds to the value of property around him. He votes the straight Republican ticket, and, with his estimable wife, is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. To those enterprises which have been set on foot having for their object the general welfare of the people, he has been a cordial supporter, and given of his means as he was able to every good cause.



THEODORE HORN. The thrifty German element which has always been existent in the West since the opening up of the country to settlement, is working its impress upon this State as upon all others, and finds one of its most worthy representatives in the subject of this sketch. He came to Nebraska in 1880, and located upon his present farm in Yankee Hill Precinct, where he has operated with the perseverance and industry common to the men of his nationality, and has met with the results which legitimate labor invariably brings. A substantial roof now shelters his head, while around him are fertile fields, which yield a generous income and promise ease and comfort for his later days.

Our subject first opened his eyes to the light in what was formerly the Kingdom, but is now the Prussian Province, of Hanover, on the 28th of April, 1835, and continued upon his native soil until he was thirteen years of age. Then, with his father's family, he started for America. They took

passage on a sailing-vessel at the port of Bremen, and landed in New York City after an ocean voyage of seven weeks and three days. At once proceeding directly westward to Illinois, they located in LaSalle County, where the father engaged as a tiller of the soil, and where both parents spent the remainder of their lives. The mother only lived eight years after coming to this country, her death taking place in 1858. The father survived his partner a period of twenty-six years, passing away in 1884, at an advanced age.

The parents of our subject, Charles and Hattie (Behines) Horn, were of pure German ancestry, and their family included two children. Theodore continued with his parents in LaSalle County, Ill., and was there married, Sept. 8, 1856, to Miss Bibiana Klotz, a native of his own country, who came to America with her father. Mr. Horn followed his trade of carpenter until 1880, and in the spring of that year, deciding upon a change of location, crossed the Mississippi into this State and located on his present farm. He has eighty acres of good land, which property he has accumulated by his own persevering industry, having nothing at the time of starting out for himself. His household included in due time eight healthy and intelligent children, who were named respectively: Charles G., Amel, Hattie, Theodore, Jr., Oscar, Emma, George and Otto. Upon becoming a naturalized citizen, Mr. Horn identified himself with the Republican party, and is one of the oldest members of that following in the United States, having cast his vote for Fremont in 1856, at the time of its organization. Coming from a land which had no sympathy with human slavery, he was from first to last totally averse to the peculiar institution, and during its existence was never backward in expressing his opinion. His father before him was also a decided Abolitionist, and in religious matters a member in good standing of the Lutheran Church.

When the war came on our subject practically illustrated his Abolition and Union sentiments by enlisting as a soldier in Company I, 24th Illinois Infantry, and participated in many of the important battles which followed, viz: Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga and Mission Ridge, besides innumerable skirmishes. He was captured in Ken-

lucky, in 1862, by the Morgan raiders, and confined at Camp Bonagard about two weeks. At the close of his term of enlistment, in September, 1863, he received his honorable discharge, and returned to his home in Illinois with the comfortable conviction that he had discharged an honorable duty toward his adopted country. The German soldiery distinguished themselves as always brave and reliable, and our subject was never found evading his duty or absent from his post during the memorable period of his army life. Since that time, as a private citizen, he has followed out the same principles which actuated him at a time when the eyes of a world were upon the defenders of their country.

AUGUST L. AXTHELM is one of Buda Precinct's successful agriculturists, and the owner of a fine farming property on section 19, comprising 160 acres. He is a native of Dutchess County, N. Y., where he was born upon the 16th of April, 1856. He is the son of Frederick L. and Theresa Axthelm, both of whom are natives of the Kingdom of Prussia, but who emigrated to the United States early in the year 1853. For a considerable period after landing they made their home in New York State, as above, but when our subject was about five years of age they removed to Keokuk County, Iowa. There our subject was reared to man's estate, and his parents still reside. They were among the very early settlers in the county, and have been privileged not simply to see but also to aid in its development.

The education of our subject was commenced in the common schools, and afterward supplemented by the Keokuk Normal School course, and completed by the full curriculum of the Mt. Pleasant University, located at the town of that name. After his graduation our subject followed the profession of teaching for about nine terms, devoting all his spare time to farming. In both of these he saw an increasing prosperity, and there laid the foundation of his after prosperity.

Mr. Axthelm was united in the bonds of matrimony, on the 13th of February, 1879, with Minnie J. Hoffman, a native of Keokuk County. This step

their subsequent family history proves to have been wise and unregrettable. Their home has been blessed by the birth of four children, three of whom live. Their names are as follows: Edwin F., born Feb. 5, 1880; Alma, Oct. 17, 1881; Adelia, born Oct. 30, 1884, and died Oct. 27, 1886, and Elmer A., born Aug. 17, 1887. Mrs. Axthelm is the daughter of Andrew J. and Minnie Hoffman, natives of Germany, and who have been residing in Keokuk County since about 1850.

In the year 1879 our subject came to this county, and after prospecting settled upon his present farm. He is now the owner of 160 acres of excellent farm land, all under cultivation, and worked to the utmost perfection of husbandry. His farming is chiefly upon the line of grains, although considerable attention is also given to stock-raising. Whatever success he may have achieved, whatever property he may have acquired, whatever character with its out-growing influence may be his, is, humanly speaking, the result of his own ambition and effort, although, doubtless, but for the companionship of his wife, and the higher interests she has brought to bear upon his life, many of these results would be found lacking. The only inheritance he received was that of his education. For three winters our subject taught night school in Buda, and met with considerable success in his work.

Our subject has served two terms as Justice of the Peace, and filled that office with a very impartial and honorable service. For a number of years also he has continued as School Director. His religious home and that of his family is in the German Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is at present a Trustee of the same. In political circles our subject is not prominent, but performs conscientiously his duty as a citizen. He is a strong and ardent advocate of the Republican party, and has so continued for many years.

JAMES PEART. At the entry of the Genesee River, where it mingles with the waters of Lake Erie, is the lake port of Charlotte; seven miles up the river, situated on either side of the same, in almost equal parts, is the beautiful and

enterprising city of Rochester, the county seat of Rochester County. The first settler looked around upon the adjacent country and built his solitary cabin upon this site in the year 1788; twenty years afterward a small settlement began to form, which grew into a hamlet, advanced to the dignity of a village, progressed to the larger proportions of a town, finally reaching its maturity as a city. It now covers an extent of nearly nineteen square miles, and has a population of about 100,000. Its people and citizens are large-souled, public-spirited, enterprising, and their city is widely and favorably known as a manufacturing and commercial center. It is surrounded by a very choice country, undulating, well wooded and watered, arable, tillable and fertile, and one of the most healthful sections of New York. In this county, and not far from this city, was born, Sept. 11, 1850, the gentleman whose biographical compendium is herein offered.

James Peart, whose excellent farming property is situated on section 3 of Denton Precinct, is a son of Edward and Elizabeth Peart, both natives of England, who emigrated to America about the year 1844, and settled in the county seat of Rochester. What the county of Kent is to London, as expressed by the phrase, "the market garden of London," that is the county of Rochester to New York. Gardens of all kinds and variety are found upon its broad acres, and in them the father of our subject found the employment which supplied his home and family with the necessaries of life. While their son James was a mere child they removed to LaSalle County, Ill., where they settled and were among the very earliest pioneers.

LaSalle County had been the residence of the Peart family when the husband and father was removed by death, and the home he had begun to establish would have been lost but his widow took charge with spirit, and executed the plans she had hoped to have completed with her husband. She is still a resident of the same county, at Mendota. Her family included thirteen children, of whom those whose names are subjoined survive: Richard, Thomas, and Eliza, now Mrs. Henry Duhart, make their homes in LaSalle County; William, in Illinois; George, in New York State; Edward, in the Far West; Elizabeth, the wife of William Miene; Kitty,

now the wife of John Platt, both of New York State, and our subject.

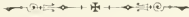
Our subject was about eight years old when he lost his father, and since that time has been dependent upon his own resources, not simply for the ultimate success, but also the first start in life. The large number of children in the family rendered it impossible for his mother to do very much for the older ones. At the age of ten years James was engaged with a butcher, and learned the business, which he continued as his chosen occupation until he came to his present farm. For a time he ran a meat-market at Mendota with considerable success, but his work in the various departments of butchering has been spread over quite a number of different towns, and with various parties.

In 1871 our subject came to Nebraska, and began to work at his trade at Lincoln and elsewhere, and so continued for about fifteen years, when he settled upon his present property, which his prosperity and success in business had rendered possible. He is the owner of 160 acres of land in Furnas County. The farm upon which he resides is of equal extent, and is the property of Mrs. Peart. Both the home farm and that of Furnas County are worthy of remark, as indicating all those attributes in their owner which are necessarily indicative of character, intelligence and industry.

The matrimonial experience of Mr. Peart is of twofold recital. He was first united in marriage, in February, 1874, to Elizabeth Boodry, by whom he has one daughter, named Hattie M., who is being educated at Lincoln. About eight years after his first wife's death he was wedded to Mrs. Catherine A. Brown, a native of New York State, who is still living and, with our subject, in the enjoyment of the large measure of prosperity that has crowned their efforts in life.

The political sentiments of our subject lead him to affiliate with the Republican party and to vote conscientiously and continually their ticket. If there is one lesson more noticeable than another in this sketch it is the fact that our country is one—we might say the only one—where a boy, left as was our subject, in the tender years of life, to fight his way alone, can achieve by the exercise of those qualities which are necessarily concomitant factors of

higher manhood and true citizenship, most brilliant success in self education and improvement, and the other needful parts of a successful and happy life. Our subject is accorded heartily by friends and citizens the respect and esteem which his character, social status and financial prosperity, demand.

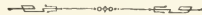


GEORGE P. LOOS owns 240 acres of as fertile and productive farming land as may be found in all Lancaster County. It is very pleasantly located on section 15, Yankee Hill Precinct, and is admirably adapted to the various branches of agriculture which our subject is so successfully prosecuting within its bounds. Mr. Loos was born in Adams County, Ill., Nov. 16, 1850, being derived of good German stock. His parents, Michael and Mary M. Loos, were natives of Germany, the father born in Hesse-Darmstadt. His mother came to America with her parents when she was only four years old, so that nearly the whole of her life has been passed in this country. The father of our subject emigrated to this country in the very prime of young manhood, being but twenty-four years old when he left the Fatherland behind to establish for himself a home and found a family in these United States of America. He became an early settler of Adams County, Ill., where his death occurred March 19, 1873. He was in every sense of the word a good man, honest and upright in his dealings, and for many years a valued member of the Evangelical Church. To him and his wife were born eight children, of whom six survive, all, with the exception of our subject, making their home in Adams County, and the following is their record: Elizabeth is the wife of Frederick Smith; George F., George P., William, Louis; Rebecca A., wife of William Wolfmyer. The mother still makes her home in Adams County, and is held in the highest respect and esteem by all who know her.

Our subject was reared to the life of a farmer in his native State, receiving but a limited education in the public schools. He is essentially a self-made man, well gifted with the physical vigor, sound judgment and cool, clear-headed foresight that have led so many men born in humble circumstances on

to fortune. By his industry and wise frugality, at a very early age he was enabled to establish a home, and on the 29th of April, 1873, was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Sittler, who has since been an important factor in aiding him to make his life a success, as she is capable, a good housewife, and ever ready to do all that she can to promote the best interests of her family. She is, like her husband, a native of Adams County, Ill., born Jan. 26, 1851, being a daughter of John J. and Anne E. Sittler, the former born Sept. 17, 1812, and the latter Nov. 15, 1816. Her parents were born and reared in Germany, and came to America after marriage, becoming early settlers of Adams County in 1844, and the father died in the pleasant home that he and his wife had, by their hard toil and thrifty management, built up there, his death occurring Oct. 2, 1871. His estimable wife is still living in Illinois. She is a devout Christian, and a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. To her and her husband were born eight children, six of whom are living, as follows: John A. and John Julius, in Nebraska; Elizabeth; John Edward; Mary C. P., wife of Andrew Hochgrave, of Adams County; Anne M. To Mr. and Mrs. Loos have been born seven children, of whom the following is recorded: Anne E., born June 18, 1874; Sarah M., March 18, 1876; George O., May 1, 1878; Edwin, Sept. 13, 1880; Oska, Nov. 5, 1882; Ella C., Nov. 18, 1884; and Cora E., Nov. 19, 1886.

In September, 1879, our subject determined to try his fortunes on the fertile prairies of Nebraska, and here he has met with even more than the hoped-for success. His steady habits, sound business principles and well-known integrity have won for him the respect of the community, which respect is also shared by his wife. In his political views he is a firm adherent of the Democratic party. Mr. Loos is now building a fine residence on his farm.



JOHN KRUSE. The ambition that was Napoleon's to make Europe one Empire was revived to some extent in the brain of Count Von Bismarck. His ambition did not apparently reach to such an extent, but the object of his life seemed to be to consolidate and bring into

one Empire all those lesser States and Duchies by which Prussia was surrounded, and the result of his effort is one of the mightiest European powers—the German Empire. Its people are among the most patient, persevering and practical of any nation, and the effect of emigrants coming into the newer States and Territories of this country has been to form and establish settlements of citizens who by these good qualities quickly take their places in the front ranks of their class. Among those who have come to this country, appreciate its institutions, and are willing to give in return their best efforts toward the success and development of the country, is the subject of this sketch, at present residing on section 36, in Buda Precinct.

The subject of this biography was born Feb. 15, 1849, in Sleswick-Holstein, one of the consolidated German States. He is a son of Hans and Annie Kruse, both natives of the same section, and the latter of whom is deceased. As their son grew to sufficient years he was given a good, solid practical education in his own language. He emigrated to the United States in the year 1873, taking passage from Hamburg on a steamer, and after an ocean voyage of nine days landed at New York City, and pushed on rapidly to Lancaster County, here took up a tract of land, and in connection therewith operated a mill, where he continued with growing prosperity until 1882, when he settled in his present home.

Mr. Kruse is the owner of 120 acres of well-situated rolling prairie land, which he has brought to a very high condition. He is chiefly engaged in raising grain crops, the average yield being about forty bushels per acre. Upon his farm are good buildings, including barn, stabling, granary, etc., all well built. His house is well situated, and commands a good view of the country, and makes one of the most comfortable farm dwellings in the district.

Mr. Kruse was united in marriage with Anne Alberts, who was born Aug. 10, 1852. Their family comprised seven children, of whom five are living. Their names are here appended: Mary was born Nov. 13, 1877, and died July 28, 1880; Minnie, born Dec. 31, 1878; Henry J., born Aug. 31, 1880, and died Feb. 18, 1882; John F., born Sept.

7, 1882; Harry F., born Jan. 3, 1884; Anna R., born Sept. 21, 1885, and William H., born May 28, 1887. Mrs. Kruse is a native of Hanover, a daughter of John and Rebecca Alberts. Her mother died when she was about twenty years of age, and about two years after that she emigrated to this country with her father and other members of the family. They proceeded direct to Nebraska, and here continued to reside.

Mr. and Mrs. Kruse are members of the Congregational Church in good standing, are very attentive to their duties, and are held in high esteem by their fellow-members. He is a man of high character, sterling worth, and in all business circles is looked upon as perfectly honorable in every regard, and not infrequently is his word taken where in another his bond would be required.

DANIEL KELLY, of Grant Precinct, occupies a good position among the agriculturists of this part of Lancaster County, and is also a citizen full worthy of representation in a work of this kind. He is an offspring of one of the best Scotch families who originated in Argyleshire, the "land of the thistle," where his father, John Kelly, was born, and there married Miss Margaret McNevin, a native of the same locality. They emigrated to America in 1851, after their marriage, and settled in Winnebago County, Ill., where the subject of this sketch was born July 3, 1854. The father died two years later, in 1856. The mother is still living, and makes her home with her son Daniel.

Our subject is the only child of his parents, and was reared mostly upon a farm. When five years old he crossed the Atlantic to the land of his forefathers with his mother, remaining there for a period of nine years, and until he was fourteen years of age. He then returned to the United States with his mother, settling again in Winnebago County, Ill., where he completed a common-school education, and remained until the spring of 1878. In the first part of that year he crossed the Mississippi into this State, locating in Grant Precinct, where he purchased eighty acres of land on section 8, and

where he has since remained. Eight years later he returned to Winnebago County, Ill., where he was married June 17, 1886. His wife was formerly Miss Mary, daughter of Edward and Elizabeth (Brown) Brown, who were also natives of Scotland, and the father a farmer by occupation. The mother died in Winnebago County, Nov. 9, 1880. Mr. Brown is still living and resides there. Their family includes ten children, of whom Mrs. Kelly was the seventh in order of birth. She was born in the above county, Jan. 12, 1858, and continued with her parents until her marriage. Her union with our subject has resulted in the birth of one child, a son, John E., who is now a bright boy sixteen months old.

Mr. Kelly cast his first Presidential vote for Hayes, and is a fervent supporter of Republican principles, and with his estimable wife is prominently connected with the Congregational Church. He represents the best element of his community, where he is held in the highest respect.



BENJAMIN F. SMITH is a pioneer of Lancaster County, who has borne an active part in developing its great agricultural resources and making it one of the most productive regions in the whole country. He has developed for himself a fine farm on section 32, Yankee Hill Precinct, of which he was one of the first settlers. Mr. Smith is a native of Blair County, Pa., Nov. 3, 1840, being the date of his birth. His parents were Eli and Eva (Smith) Smith, natives of Pennsylvania, his paternal ancestry being English and his maternal ancestry German. There were twelve children born to his parents, of whom the following survive: Adam R., John, Zachary T., Eli W., Benjamin F., Andrew J., Martha, Catherine and Elizabeth. The father was a woolen manufacturer for many years, but finally turned his attention to farming. He was a man of solid worth, good business ability, and was highly esteemed as a man and a citizen.

Our subject grew to manhood in his native State, and in the public schools received a fair education, which he has further supplemented by reading the best literature, he being a great lover of books, and

his mind is well stored with useful information, and he can talk as intelligently on the topics of the day, that require careful study and thought, as many a college-bred man. He was early set to work in his father's woolen factory, and was there employed until he was fourteen years old, when his father settled on a farm, and he began under his instruction his first practical lessons in the work which he afterward adopted as his own, and which he is still prosecuting with great success. Before he had attained his majority the war broke out, and with youthful ardor and patriotism he sprang to the defense of the dear old flag, being among the first to respond to his country's call, enlisting April 1, 1861, in Company D, 3d Pennsylvania Infantry, the term of his enlistment being three months. His regiment formed a part of the army under the command of the gallant Gen. Patterson, operating in the Shenandoah Valley. Our subject was discharged in August, 1861, and subsequently enlisted, Feb. 1, 1863, in Company K, 13th Pennsylvania Cavalry, and was then directly under command of the heroic Sheridan until Feb. 14, 1865, when his regiment was put under the brave Kilpatrick, who was then operating in North Carolina. Our subject took part in the battle of Fisher's Hill, and in numerous skirmishes, and during the last three months of his service he acted as police guard to protect Government supplies at Fayetteville, N. C. After the close of the war he was honorably discharged from the army in August, 1865, and returned to his old home in Pennsylvania, to quietly resume the labors that had been interrupted by the breaking out of the Rebellion.

On Christmas Day, 1866, our subject took unto himself a wife in the person of Miss Elizabeth Harnish, who has, indeed, been to him a helpmate, and has ably assisted him in the accumulation of his property. She was born in Pennsylvania, Oct. 8, 1846, and is a daughter of Daniel and Susanna Harnish, natives of Pennsylvania. Her mother died when she was twelve years old, leaving five children to mourn their loss, namely: Elizabeth; Mattie, wife of William Heffner, of Ohio; Sarah and Zachary, in Pennsylvania; David, in Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are the parents of seven children, of whom the following is recorded: Eli M., born Jan.

8, 1868; Ida M., Oct. 22, 1869; Daniel L., Jan. 16, 1873; Marian C., Jan. 16, 1875; Emma B., June 1, 1876; John Q., born Oct. 24, 1871, died Sept. 20, 1872.

In 1868 Mr. Smith came to Nebraska with his family and settled on his present farm, which was then a wild tract of rolling prairie land, not a sod of which had ever been turned by a plow. It is now a splendid farm, a standing monument to his industry, whose broad acres yield abundant harvests to his careful and wise cultivation. Our subject is, in the truest sense of the word, a self-made man, as his prosperity has been brought about mainly through his own exertions. He is a man of good mental endowments, is well gifted physically, and as in times of war he proved himself a brave soldier, so in times of peace he has proved a good citizen, one in whom his fellowmen can safely trust. He has interested himself in the cause of education, and has served as School Treasurer and Moderator in his district. In his political views he is a strong Republican.



HENRY SIECK. Highland Precinct was fortunate in being settled up by a large proportion of thrifty German citizens, who have developed the soil in an admirable manner, and contributed to it that solid and substantial element which insures its standing among the communities around it. The subject of this sketch owns and operates a fine farm of 280 acres on sections 23 and 24, the greater part of which is in a productive condition, enclosed with good fences and supplied with suitable buildings.

Mr. Sieck came to this county about 1868 or 1869, and purchased 120 acres of land from Uncle Sam. He was poor in purse, and his possessions to-day are the result of his own honest efforts. Upon taking possession of his land he contemplated a task requiring the labor of years, as there had been little attempt at cultivation and no improvements whatever. The opportunities before him, however, appealed to his strong common sense, as he saw that under proper management the soil would become highly productive, and the face of the country was

surely unequaled in point of beauty and natural advantages.

Our subject before coming to this county had been a resident of Clayton County, Iowa, three years, where he carried on farming, but not with the success which he desired. He was born on the other side of the Atlantic, in what was then the Kingdom but is now the Prussian Province of Hanover, Dec. 10, 1827, and is the son of Adlam and Elizabeth (Gillen) Sieck, who were natives of the same place as their son, and of pure German ancestry. His father was a farmer by occupation, a hard-working, honest man, and passed away after reaching his threescore years. Both parents were members of the Lutheran Church. Their family included six children, of whom Henry, our subject, was the eldest son and second child.

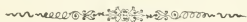
Young Sieck developed into manhood in his native place, and about the time of reaching his majority crossed the Atlantic and located in Scioto County, Ohio. He carried on mining there, and was married, Sept. 10, 1854, to Miss Eliza Wellner, a native of his own country, and who was born Nov. 8, 1835. Mrs. Sieck is the daughter of Frederick and Flazia (Frazier) Wellner, the former of whom was a farmer by occupation, and died at Portsmouth, Ohio, when well advanced in years. He also was a native of Hanover, and came to the United States soon after his marriage. He spent his life thereafter in Scioto County, Ohio, where the mother is still living, and is now more than eighty-five years of age. They were trained in the doctrines of the Lutheran Church, to which they religiously adhere.

Mrs. Sieck was a young woman nineteen years of age when she set out for the United States, unattended by any of her family. She located in Scioto County, Ohio, where she supported herself at whatever she could find to do until her marriage with our subject. She has proved to him a most efficient companion and helpmate, and they have become the parents of eight children, the record of whom is as follows: John, the eldest son, married Miss Carrie Smith, and operates a quarter of section 13 in Highland Precinct; Henry married Miss Effie Livingstone, and is also farming in this vicinity; Lewis owns and operates a farm in Highland Precinct, and is unmarried; Mary is the wife of Christ Weilger,

also a successful farmer of Highland Precinct; Elizabeth, Frederick, Charlotte and Frank remain at home with their parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Sieck began the journey of life together on a farm in Scioto County, Ohio, but the first year of the Rebellion our subject enlisted as a soldier in the Union Army, Oct. 18, 1861, responding to the second call for troops. Becoming a member of Company B, 56th Ohio Infantry, he marched with his comrades to the front in time to witness the surrender of Ft. Donelson, and later was in the battle at Memphis, Tenn. He also fought at Ft. Gibson and in the siege at Vicksburg, was also at the battle of Jackson, Miss., and at the latter was wounded by a ball which passed through the strap of his haversack and plowed through the flesh, making an ugly scar which he will carry to his grave. He, however, soon recovered sufficiently to resume his place among his comrades, and participated in various other engagements until receiving his honorable discharge, in New Orleans, at the close of his term of enlistment.

After leaving the army our subject returned to his home in Scioto County, Ohio, where he followed farming until his removal to Iowa. It is hardly necessary to say that he votes the straight Republican ticket, and, with his estimable wife, is a member in good standing of the Lutheran Church.



GEORGE LONGTON. This name, which is familiar to a large proportion of the residents of this county, is that of one of its earliest settlers and most worthy men. He came to this county during the process of its early development, and endured in common with the people about him hardship and privation, and now, sitting under his own vine and fig-tree, is enjoying the reward of his early toil and sacrifices in the possession of one of the productive farms of Southeastern Nebraska.

The property of our subject embraces 320 acres of land, a part of which, however, has only been subjected to the process of cultivation, Mr. L. having made a specialty of stock-raising and grazing numbers of cattle for the last fifteen years. In this

industry he has been quite successful, realizing a comfortable income. He came to Nebraska in 1860, while it was still a Territory, but at that time passed through into Colorado, where for two years he employed himself in the mines. In 1862 he took up his abode in Nebraska City, Otoe County, then came to Highland Precinct, this county, and purchased the land which he now owns. He at once established a ranch, and at the same time made it the headquarters for one of the stage lines from Omaha and Lincoln to Denver, boarding and stabling the horses, keeping on hand a good store of provisions, and giving shelter and entertainment generally to both man and beast.

During that period Mr. Longton operated as "mine host" to thousands of Western travelers, many of whom still live to recollect his genial countenance and his kindly offices. His house was the headquarters for travel through this region for a number of years, including the period when Indians were numerous and his farm bordered on one of their principal trails. The path is still faintly indicated by a furrow in the ground, along which the red man made his way. It was known as the "Pole Trail," as the Indians were in the habit of dragging their poles with them while mounted on their ponies in migrating from one camping-ground to another, thus being enabled to set up their wigwams in short order.

The Indian troubles after the war occurred while Mr. Longton was a resident of this section, but so wise had been his conduct in his intercourse with them that while all the settlers around him were driven out in fear of their lives, he remained, notwithstanding the threats of some of them to annihilate himself and family. For the most part, however, the Indians were friendly to Mr. Longton, and his firm but kindly methods of dealing with them were the means of securing their wholesome respect, and they indeed finally exerted themselves to befriend him. He has been the witness of many thrilling events, similar to those connected with the names of Kit Carson and Daniel Boone, and his brave demeanor in times of danger has become a matter of history in these parts. In the mountains of Colorado, likewise, he met with many adventures calculated to try the courage of any ordinary man, but out of

which he came unharmed, and found friends wherever his lot was cast.

Mr. Longton began his operations as a cattle dealer after the building of the railroad, and subsequently carried on general farming until about 1882, when he practically retired from active labor. He is now quite well advanced in years, having more than reached his threescore and ten. He was born on the other side of the Atlantic, in Lancashire, England, Jan. 5, 1818, and is of pure English stock as far back as he can trace his ancestry. His father, George Longton, was a well-to-do farmer who spent his entire life in his native shire, and died at the age of sixty-two years. He married, in early manhood, Miss Mary Burton, a highly educated and intelligent lady who came of a wealthy family. She passed away previous to the decease of her husband, at the age of fifty-two.

To George and Mary Longton there were born nine children, five sons and four daughters, of whom George, Jr., our subject, was the third. Two sons and two daughters are yet living in England. Our subject is the only member of the family who came to the United States. He was carefully reared and well educated, and crossed the Atlantic when about thirty years old, in November, 1849. He was unmarried and for three years following was employed in a barrel factory in Pennsylvania. Upon leaving that State he repaired to Kalamazoo, Mich., and next to Mendota, Ill., where he opened a butcher shop, which he operated successfully for a period of seven years. At the expiration of this time he crossed the Mississippi, and spent a year in this State; then, gathering together four teams, he started out with a large load of provisions for the Far West, distributing them among the mountains of Colorado. This venture, however, did not result in any financial benefit.

Upon deciding to locate permanently in this country, Mr. Longton had in his house a Mr. John Gill and his wife, who remained with him about five years. Then Mr. Gill died, and Mr. Longton married his widow, Mrs. Sarah Gill, Dec. 1, 1879. Mrs. Longton was born on the Isle of Man, in 1824, of which place her first husband, Mr. Gill, was also a native. Mr. Gill made his way to Liverpool when a young man, learning the trade of ship carpenter, and

becoming an expert at his trade. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. G. returned for a while to their native isle, whence they emigrated to America in 1852. They lived for a time in Cleveland, Ohio, then in Quincy, Ill., whence they removed later to Missouri, and in 1860 to Colorado. Mr. Gill followed his trade successfully, making considerable money and also losing it. Upon coming to Highland Precinct he pre-empted a homestead of 240 acres, which property he retained until his death, about 1878.

Our subject is a staunch supporter of Republican principles. He is a good man in the broadest sense of the term, and has held various positions of trust and responsibility in the county where he has lived so long and built up such a good record. He was reared in the Episcopal Church, to the faith of which he still religiously adheres.



WILLIAM WILTERDINK. The hand of industry is everywhere apparent among the home surroundings of the subject of this sketch, who came to this county in the spring of 1870, and homesteaded eighty acres of land on section 25, in Yankee Hill Precinct. From the primitive soil he has eliminated a good farm, and provided himself with those comforts and conveniences which are inseparable in the life of a well-ordered citizen. In addition to general agriculture, he makes a specialty of stock-raising, handling good grades of cattle, horses and swine, and besides being a thorough and judicious tiller of the soil, holds a good position, socially and financially, among his neighbors.

Onondaga County, N. Y., contained the early home of our subject, where his birth took place under the modest roof of his parents on the 15th of March, 1849. His father, John H. Wilterdink, a native of Holland, emigrated to America in 1831, bringing with him all the substantial elements of a most excellent ancestry. The mother, a native of the same country as her husband, and now deceased, was by name Christina, and the parents settled in Onondaga County, N. Y., where they lived until about 1850. That year they changed their residence to Sheboygan County, Wis., where their



Luke Hall

son, William B., was reared to manhood, and where the father is now living, having arrived at the advanced age of seventy years. The mother died about 1860.

John H. Wilterdink, after the death of his first wife, contracted a second marriage, and his last wife is still living in Wisconsin. He was a member of the Dutch Reformed Church, honest and conscientious in his beliefs, and was a strict tutor of his large family of children, eleven in number, and nine of whom survive. These were named respectively: William B., our subject, who is the eldest of the family; John G., a resident of Buda Precinct, on the southwestern line of this county; Henry, who is a farmer in Colorado; Garrett; Albert; Cena, the wife of D. Foss; Kate, Mrs. Russing, a widow; Annie, Mrs. Samuel Dinawold; Mary and Gertrude, all live in Wisconsin.

The subject of this sketch grew to manhood in the Badger State, receiving a limited education, but being fond of reading, kept himself well posted in regard to matters of general interest, and has since kept up his early habit of perusing the reliable journals of the day. When starting out for himself in the spring of 1870, having reached his majority, he made his way to this county and homesteaded eighty acres of land in Yankee Hill Precinct. In 1877 he sold this, and removed to his present farm. This is also eighty acres in extent, where he has erected good buildings and gathered together the appliances indispensable to the well-regulated country estate. His father had no property to give him, and his possessions are solely the result of his own industry and perseverance.

Our subject, when assured that he could comfortably maintain a family, secured for himself a wife and helpmate, being married, July 4, 1874, to Miss Caroline, the daughter of Henry and Kate (Walker) Simmons, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride, in Grant Precinct. Henry Simmons was a native of Ohio, and one of the pioneers of this county. Mr. and Mrs. Wilterdink commenced life together in a manner suitable to their means and station, making it a point to live within their income, and each year has seen something added to the comfort of their home, which has been blessed also by the birth of seven children.

These were named respectively: James H., Kate, Edna, Ernest, Walter, Annis and Levi.

Mr. Wilterdink is a decided Republican, politically, and has been Moderator in his school district for several years in succession. Although not a member of any religious organization, he makes it a rule of his life to follow the Christian precept of doing unto others as he would be done by. No man has been more warmly interested in the growth and development of Southern Nebraska, and by bringing a portion of its soil to a state of cultivation, he has materially assisted in bringing about this condition of affairs. The men who have labored quietly and conscientiously each in his separate place, although making very little noise in the world, really form the bone and sinew of a community, without which the fabric would soon, metaphorically, fall to pieces.



LUKE HALL. One of the most important victories gained by Richard the King-maker, as the Earl of Warwick was called, over the Lancastrians in the War of the Roses, was that at Northampton, the chief city of Northamptonshire, one of the central counties of England, about 985 miles in extent. It is a beautiful county, and of international renown by reason of its gently sloping hills covered with a green carpet of velvety grass, noble trees, broad valleys and shady glens, inviting and enticing by their bewitching beauty. In this county was born, March 16, 1818, to William and Ann Hall, the subject of this writing, now a prosperous farmer in Denton Precinct, residing on section 7.

Mr. Hall was reared to manhood among the hills and dales upon which his infant eyes first gazed. His education was limited and his advantages few, as compared with the opportunity and the helps provided the present generation; nevertheless, by giving his close attention to reading, he has advanced so that very few are better informed upon current topics and items of general knowledge.

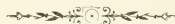
In 1853 the determination to see the New World caused our subject to bid farewell to friends and home, say his good-bys to his native hills and shadowed glens, and emigrate to America, taking passage in the sailing-vessel "Narragansett." A six-weeks voyage was only relieved by the sight of an occasional sail and the alternate storm and calm. Upon landing at New York our subject proceeded to Aurora, Ill., and obtained work on the railroad for about two and one-half years. He next went to Burlington, Iowa, where he was section boss for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company a period of twenty years. Upon abandoning railroading Mr. Hall came to this State in the year 1880, and procured 160 acres of land, which was but slightly improved when he settled upon it. He has since erected a very comfortable farm dwelling, and the green sward surrounding this, the flower beds and kitchen garden, with a background of stables, the barn and other out-buildings, present a most pleasing picture.

Mr. Hall was married in his native shire to Mary A. Barrett, in June, 1841, and by her became the parent of two children, William, and an infant, deceased. William went through the whole of the war of 1861-65, and was twice veteranized; he resides in Fremont County, Iowa.

If there be such a thing possible as a self-made man, our subject is to be found in that category. At the time he landed in Illinois, fresh from the Atlantic, he was in debt to the amount of \$55; to-day, although by no means the largest farmer and wealthiest citizen, he is the owner of a first-class farm, and an exceedingly comfortable and happy home, and whatever has thus accrued to him is the harvest of diligence, thrift, perseverance and manly effort. His character and education have developed even more favorably than his finances. The political situation finds its solution for him in the principles of the Republican party, and it receives his earnest support. He is most heartily esteemed by his fellow-citizens, who know only too well how to respect the qualities which have made his life a success.

We are pleased to add to the portrait list of Lancaster County the pictured features of Mr. Hall, who has proved himself one of its most reliable

citizens. In the elimination of one of its best homesteads from the primitive soil he has thus added much to its cultivated acreage, and consequently to its real-estate value; of all such men we say "success attend them."



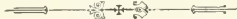
FREDERICK STRELOW. The subject of this biography in 1877 purchased 160 acres of school land on section 16 in Highland Precinct, where he has since operated with excellent results, bringing the soil to a productive condition, and effecting the improvements which have established him as one of the progressive agriculturists of this region. Previous to purchase, however, he had contracted for it as a lessee for a period of twenty-five years, and thus redeemed it from the wild prairie.

Mr. Strelow came to this county from Michigan, in 1874, and to that State had migrated from Cook County, Ill., after having also been at one time a resident of Chicago. In the great city he followed the trade of carpenter, which he had learned in his native Prussia, he having been born on the other side of the Atlantic Sept. 13, 1836. He was trained and educated in that strict and careful manner common with the German nationality in rearing their children, and was married in his native Province to Miss Mary Benning, who was born not far from the early home of her husband, on the 27th of March, 1838. Like him she is of pure German ancestry, and for a period of five years after their marriage they continued upon their native soil, where their two eldest children, Minnie and Lewis, were born.

Our subject and his family, in 1865, set sail for the United States, landing in New York, and proceeding directly westward to the city of Chicago. After coming to this country their household was increased by the birth of nine more children. William died in DuPage County, Ill., when two years old; Mary is the wife of James Roop, Jr., and resides in Highland Precinct; Charles and Lewis died in Chicago when three months old; Bertha, a very industrious and energetic young lady, is carrying on business for herself as a dressmaker in Crete;

Robert and George are at home with their parents; John and Fenton died at the homestead in Highland Precinct, when nine days and fourteen days old, respectively.

Mr. Strelow will not be confined within any party lines, but reserves the right to support the men whom he considers best qualified to have in charge the interests of the people. He has held the various local offices of his township, and is a man whose opinions are uniformly respected, being possessed of strong good sense and that integrity of character which holds in scorn a mean action. He has also officiated as Road Supervisor for a period of three terms. Both he and his excellent wife were reared in the doctrines of the Lutheran Church, and usually attend services with the society in Highland Precinct.



EDWARD MARSHALL, a prominent farmer, whose property is situated upon section 11, Denton Precinct, is a scion of a Virginian family whose history extends back to the pre-Revolutionary period, and whose names are connected with that memorable struggle. His paternal ancestors were English, who, with the desire for larger liberty, both in regard to conscience, and things more palpable to outward sense, came to this country among the earliest colonists. The grandfather of our subject served under Washington throughout the whole of the War for Independence. His maternal ancestors were Germans, and emigrated to America after the formation of the United States. The Marshall family finally settled in Virginia, where the father of our subject was born, reared and married, and in the early part of the year 1834 emigrated to Indiana, which was his home until 1847. He was survived by his wife only about two years.

Our subject was born at the home in Marion County, Ind., on the 22d of May, 1836. The name of his father was William, and his mother Catherine Marshall. Their family circle included five children: William R., a resident in Miami County; our subject; Anne, now Mrs. Kercher, of Wabash County, Ind.; James, of St. Louis, Mo.; and Henry

M., a successful farmer in Wabash County of his native State. It will be noticed that our subject was only ten years of age when he was left fatherless, and twelve when, as an orphan, he was left to face the cold, unfeeling world alone. Upon the death of his mother he was apprenticed to a blacksmith to learn the trade, and in this business continued until he attained his majority.

As a young man our subject started out for himself, and opened a blacksmith-shop and shoeing forge in Howard County, Ind. In this he remained for five years, and so faithfully had he worked, and so well had he learned his trade in the days of his apprenticeship, that each year his favorable reputation was extended, with the desirable result that he was enabled to lay by a snug sum against a time of need. After five years our subject engaged in the sawmill business, with W. G. Mulligan as a partner. Their headquarters were situated at Petersburg, Ind., and for seven years our subject was even more successful than he had been in his previous business.

From the creaking bellows and ringing anvil, our subject had gone amid the clatter of machinery and whirr-r-r of the buzz-saw. He now exchanged the latter for the vocation of the farmer under the free canopy of the eternal blue, with the lowing of cattle and the singing of birds. In 1884 he severed his connection with Mr. Mulligan, and purchased a farm in Howard County, Ind. After a period of about three years he determined to follow Horace Greeley's advice, and "go West," and having been so successful in Indiana, argued that, with the larger facilities and the fine climate of Nebraska, he could be even more so, and in 1884 settled upon his present farm, having fourteen years previously spent some time in Nebraska, prospecting and investing in land, situated about twelve miles north of Lincoln, near the site of Davey Station, which has since grown up in that neighborhood. Here he had purchased 160 acres from the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, for which he paid \$640. This property he afterward traded for his present farm, giving in addition \$1,000 in cash.

Until the year 1859 our subject had been content to bear the loneliness resultant from the death of his parents, but upon the 18th of August, that

year, this was numbered with the things of the past, and he was wedded to Helen E. Couse, a native of New York State, born Dec. 29, 1840. Her father was John Prudence, a resident of New York. This marriage our subject has never had cause to regret; its felicity was assured, but has, nevertheless, been largely augmented by the appearance from time to time of the little ones given to them. Four of these returned in early life to the home of the Great Father of all. The remaining four have grown up to be honored and beloved in the home, and respected in the larger circles of daily life. Anne B., the eldest, is the wife of G. W. Felton, of Lincoln; Charles, Harry and Hattie are still at home. The names of those deceased are recorded as follows: Ida, Edward, Pearl and William.

Our subject is a large-hearted, public-spirited man, self-reliant and having large reserve force. Whatever he has acquired, whether in education, property, character or influence, it is his own work, ambition and energy. Such men are indeed worthy of the admiration and respect which we in this grand Republic, as citizens, are so ready to accord.



JOHAN W. MENLOVE, a wealthy capitalist of Lincoln, Neb., has for many years been prominently identified with its business interests, and has materially aided its growth from a small village to a large and populous city of nearly 50,000 inhabitants. He is a son of John Menlove, who was one of the first settlers of Stephenson County, Ill., and he was born Nov. 17, 1840, in the humble abode that his father had erected on his homestead in the town of Erin. The father of our subject was a native of England, and when he left the home of his childhood and youth to make his own way in the world, he selected Stephenson County, then a wild and sparsely inhabited country, as his future abode, and he became one of the leading pioneers of that county. He took up a tract of land from the Government and built a log house, the roof of which was covered with shakes, which, in lieu of nails, were held in place by the weight of poles. Chicago, 125 miles distant, was the nearest market, and oftentimes, the price of grain being

low, the expenses of the journey would consume nearly the price of a load. Mr. Menlove lived to improve a good farm in the town where he made his home, and he also became the owner of a large and valuable farm of 320 acres in Plum River district. He spent his last years on his Stephenson County farm, and died respected and lamented by the whole community. His wife, whose maiden name was Miss Mary Pritchard, was also a native of England.

John Menlove, of this sketch, received his education in the primitive pioneer schools of his native county, which were constructed of hewn logs and fitted up with rude, home-made furniture. As soon as large enough he commenced to assist his father in the farm work. But the same bold, enterprising spirit that had actuated his father to become a pioneer seemed to have animated him, and in 1867 he determined to go West and seek a location, so in the fall of that year he visited Grundy County, Iowa, and bought a tract of wild prairie land. He then went back to Illinois, and in the spring of 1868 returned to Grundy County with Mr. Ledwith, who had bought land adjoining his, and they built a shanty on their land and kept a bachelors' establishment together. Mr. Menlove's investment proved to be a good one, for in the fall, after having broken forty acres and commenced a house, he sold his land at a good advance, and the money that he thus secured was the nucleus of his present fortune. He returned to Illinois, and a short time after, in 1869, came to Lincoln and bought property on the corner of Eleventh and P streets, and after spending the following winter in Illinois, he returned in the spring of 1870 to this city, and formed a partnership with James Ledwith. They erected buildings on their property on the corner of Eleventh and P streets, and established a feed stable. In a short time they added the livery business, and their means being small they commenced on a humble scale, but they soon increased their stock and did a thriving trade. They afterward added the sale of coal and wood to their business, which they made very profitable. They continued together eight years, when they divided their business and land, our subject taking the livery business and forty-two feet of the north part of the lots. At

the end of a year and a half he leased the barn and went out of the trade. During that time he had bought a tract of wild land in Hamilton County, which he partly improved, and he then sold, and bought another tract of 320 acres in Saline County, which he has improved into a fine farm, and still owns. In 1879 he bought lots on Q street, and when Eleventh street was laid out these lots faced that thoroughfare, and he erected a business block on them which he still owns. In 1872 he erected his present substantial, well-appointed residence on Q street, between Eleventh and Twelfth streets, his dwelling now in the heart of the city being then on the outskirts, which well illustrates the extremely rapid growth of the city within the last few years. Our subject came here with limited means, but by the exercise of sound judgment and a shrewd business policy he has placed himself among the moneyed and substantial men of the capital city. He is extensively known through his business connections, and is widely respected as possessing in a large degree those qualities which make him a desirable citizen.

The home life of our subject is made pleasant by the presence of a devoted wife, to whom he was married Nov. 28, 1872, and their four children—Bessie, Stella, Lulu and Edward. Mrs. Menlove was formerly Miss Mary A. Ledwith, a native of Dover, N. J., and a daughter of James and Mary (Carbery) Ledwith, early settlers of Stephenson County, Ill. Her father improved a valuable farm there, on which he resided until his death. His estimable wife, mother of Mrs. Menlove, still lives on the old homestead.



L EON G. ANDRESS. Whatever may be the engagements in life, whatever the sphere, it is assuredly true that, however liberal the education may be, there is not one useless part or adjustment to be found. From the Greek or Hebrew roots, which have been dug with such painful efforts, to the bewildering concatenation of intricacies of Euclid's problems, everything is of use, and the educated man, other things being equal, is the man who is able to engage in new employments or

take up new and difficult tasks successfully. True, occasionally here and there you will come across an uneducated genius, but his power is cramped and warped as compared with what he would be with the enlarged outlook, and developed mental power and training.

Our subject, the owner of a beautiful and well-appointed farm upon section 3, West Oak Precinct, comprising 160 acres of very fine land, devoted to general farming and stock-raising, is the son of George H. Andress, who was born on the shores of Lake Erie, in Lorain County, Ohio, on the 5th of August, 1834. After a schooling obtained in the common institutions of his native town, his education was completed in Berea College, Ohio, from which he was graduated in due course. From that he entered upon the duties of his chosen calling, that of farming and stock-raising, giving especial prominence to horse-breeding. He became the owner of 234 acres of ground, all of which was in later years devoted to this purpose.

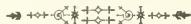
Mr. Andress was most happily married to Matilda Elson, who was born Feb. 1, 1837, and their happiness has been completed by the birth of three children, of whom two still live, our subject and his sisters Maud, now Mrs. F. Fowler, of Ohio. Mrs. Andress died Jan. 10, 1868. She was the daughter of Joseph Elson, and was born in the town of Vermillion, Ohio. In 1872 the father of our subject was again married, the lady of his choice being Permelia Hutchinson.

Leon G. Andress was ushered into life in the town of Henrietta, Lorain Co., Ohio, upon the 13th of March, 1865. He was a careful and earnest student while in the common school, and equally so when at Oberlin College, where he went to finish his education. At the conclusion of his studies in that institution, he passed a searching examination, and was graduated with honors. He then returned home, and worked with his father until the 1st of April, 1886, when he came to this State, and purchased his present property, which was but slightly improved. Although our subject is only about twenty-three years of age, he has taken hold of affairs in a very enterprising and intelligently masterful manner. He has erected a good frame house, put up a large and conveniently arranged barn and stable,

set up all the fences, and has the only windmill in the vicinity. He has eighty acres of corn in, all of which he will require for his stock. He is raising hogs on a very extensive scale, and is the owner of a herd of high-grade Herefords and Short-horns, and has a very excellent dairy. Like his father, he is giving special attention to horses, and is the proprietor of a super-excellent Hambletonian stallion, registered full-blood. Knowing how greatly the eye assists the perceptive powers, we have inserted a view of the above, which we feel sure will be appreciated.

The grandfather of our subject, Carlo Andress, was a native of New York, and came early to Ohio, following the avocation of agriculture all his life. He departed this life in the year 1871. His son, the father of our subject, was County Treasurer of Lorain in 1886-88, and also Justice of the Peace ever since the earliest recollection of our subject, who bids fair to follow in the footsteps of his honored progenitor.

Mr. Leon Andress is quite popular with the people around him, and since his coming to this State has shown marked business ability, which has made all competent judges confident that there is a still greater future before him. He is a man of steady habits, of large intellect and well-trained mental power. In politics he follows the most excellent example of his father and grandfather, and affiliates with the Democratic party, and no one who is acquainted with him, and watched his career, can fail to believe that among the honored names of this State in days not far distant will be found that of Leon G. Andress.



JOSEPH W. WAUGH, a prominent farmer of Denton Precinct, residing on section 15, is a native of Steuben County, N. Y. He was born Dec. 25, 1823. His father and mother, Abraham and Martha Waugh, were both natives of Pennsylvania, and both also of Scotch descent. They had nine children, of whom six are now living: Joseph W., our subject; Sarah, wife of D. S. Pryor, of Rockford, Ill.; Abraham M., also in Rockford; Margaret, wife of Lewis Rogers, in Living-

ston County, N. Y.; Martha E., also in Livingston County, and Adelaide, wife of J. D. Revere, of the same place.

Our subject was reared to manhood in his native county, and received a rudimentary education afforded in the early schools of that day. Having a great fondness for reading he indulged that liking, and became well informed on general topics of the day. His general knowledge and intelligence have aided him materially to follow the pursuit of agriculture, of which he has made a successful study.

Mr. Waugh was married, in New York State, in 1852, to Diana Woodard, by whom he had one child, Martha, deceased. He was a second time married, in Illinois, to Sarah Martin, who bore him two children: Maggie, wife of Ira Jinders, of Rockford, Ill., and Carrie, wife of E. Drake, of Valley County, Neb. In 1872 he married for his third wife Mrs. Margaret Robinson, she being the mother of Mrs. Frank R. Denton by her first marriage. The fruits of this union were two boys—Edgar and Albert.

In 1853 the subject of this sketch quitted his native State, and went to Winnebago County, Ill. Thence he came to this county in 1878, where he has since resided. He is essentially a self-made man in the truest sense of the word. By his industry and careful management he has become the owner of eighty acres of well-improved land. He has served with much credit in some of the school offices of his precinct.

In politics our subject is a Prohibitionist. His views as to general government are liberal and well advanced. He keeps abreast of the times, and favors everything that leads to the improvement and enlightenment of his country. He is public-spirited, and desires nothing so much as the welfare of the people.

Mrs. Margaret Waugh is a native of Ontario, Canada, the date of her birth being Aug. 8, 1835. She is a daughter of John and Jane Straight, the latter deceased, both natives of Northern Ireland, and of Scotch descent. Her parents emigrated to America early in the thirties, and settled in Canada, where the father still lives. The mother died July 15, 1876. To her parents were born nine children, seven of whom are living: Margaret, Matilda,

Samuel, David, Elizabeth J., Thomas, John, Mary and Eunice. On the 28th of December, 1852, Margaret was married to David Robinson, by whom she had four children, James, John and Mary now living. Shortly after her marriage she removed with her husband to Illinois, his death occurring in that State in 1868. In 1872 she married her present husband, Mr. Waugh. She is an honored member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, well meriting the esteem and good-will of all who know her.

THOMAS HUDDLESTON is one of the farmers of Denton Precinct, without mention of whom this work would be incomplete. He is a native of Lancashire, England, one of the northwestern counties, its coast line washed by the Irish Sea, and as well known throughout the world as the land of the Lancashire clog, whence came the "clog dancers," as from any point of its historical, geographical or commercial importance. The clog will remain identified with Lancashire as the sabot is with France and French peasants.

The birth of our subject occurred on the 14th day of November, 1855. His parents were George and Elizabeth Huddleston, also natives of the same county. There were seven children included in their family circle, six of whom are still living: Mary, now Mrs. T. A. Corvin; Isabella, wife of Daniel Jeffrey; Sarah, who is married to William Hartley; Jane, who is united to T. J. Wilkinson, all residing in Lancashire. Besides these there are our subject and his brother John, who divides his time and residence between the old country and the new.

No man can be successful in life whose mind is not developed by some educational process. This may be received in the hard school of experience, as in the case of our street arabs, and some others who, although belonging to a higher plane of life, have no opportunities for becoming any better acquainted with institutions of learning than may be obtained from the exterior. One of the greatest institutions and blessings of our beloved country is the fact that, whether in the busy city with its teeming thousands of people, or in the country settlements, even in the far-off and newly settled

districts, the children find more or less complete instruction in necessary branches under a *regine*, and by the assistance of school paraphernalia of all kinds, that even a few years ago would have been considered a prodigality.

Our subject received his education in the common school and continued until he was fourteen years of age. From that time he worked upon the farm until he reached his nineteenth year, when he turned his efforts in the direction of mining iron and coal in different mines in England. This he continued to follow until his emigration to America in 1879. His journey to this country was undertaken without any definite knowledge of future undertaking, but with large hope of prosperity, at least to the extent of becoming his own master and proprietor of his own home.

The voyage was long and tedious from Liverpool to Quebec, as compared with the rapid coursing of the "Atlantic Greyhounds," for every year witnesses some new invention, some stride forward in the perfecting of the bridge of boats which unites the Eastern and Western Hemispheres. Our subject proceeded immediately to Nebraska, and was not long in deciding that Denton Precinct was the place for him, and accordingly he took up his residence on a farm on section 10 for a time, removing in the spring of 1886 to his present property, which is situated upon the second section. His hopes have been realized, for he is to-day the owner of 160 acres, cultivated to the highest efficiency, and yielding him, other things being equal, exceptionally good crops. His home and farm buildings are well built, substantial, comfortable and pleasant. All of this he has acquired by his own industry, with the exception of a small sum given him by his father in order to start.

The success which has attended our subject has been shared in by his wife, Lois Harley, who is a sister of John Harley, of Denton Precinct. (See sketch.) She has proved to him a most faithful friend and companion through all the varied phases of their life, and now, having been his helpmate in the rush, is his associate in the more quiet but substantial elements of the hush of life. They are upon the high road to solid success, for he is in every way worthy, and if honesty, industry, intelli-

gence and the attributes of manliness count for anything—and they do—he will go on prospering.

The home of Mr. Huddleston has been rendered more completely happy, and the delectable charm with which his wife has endowed it greatly increased, by the presence of their five children, whose names are here given: George E., Harriet E., Herbert E., Flossie D. and Edith. In the communion of the Methodist Episcopal Church there are very few if any members more highly esteemed for their personal worth and higher life and devotion than our subject and wife, and what is true of their religious relationship is equally so in every circle outside its pale. Among friends, neighbors and fellow-citizens Mr. Huddleston and his family are accorded the honest admiration and regard which are offered to every honorable man and loyal citizen.



HENRY HAACK is one of the solid and substantial citizens of Yankee Hill Precinct, where he is actively engaged in farming on section 7. He is a native of Mecklenburg, Germany, born Dec. 31, 1842. His parents, John and Dora (Miller) Haack, were natives and lifelong residents of Germany. They were justly esteemed by all about them for the uprightness of their lives and industrious habits. Six children blessed their marriage, namely: Lotta, Mary, Charles, Louis, William and Henry.

The latter, who is the subject of this biography, received a fair education in the German schools, and remained a citizen of the Fatherland until 1869, when he decided to come to America, as a land offering more inducements for a man to make his way to prosperity than his native country. Accordingly he embarked on a small steamer at Copenhagen, and went to Hull, England, where he took an express train, and was whirled across the island to Liverpool. He there boarded an American-bound steamer, and after a passage of sixteen days on the ocean, found himself in New York City. He worked there about six weeks, and then went to Mauch Chunk, Carbon Co., Pa., where he established himself as a carpenter, soon forming a partnership with

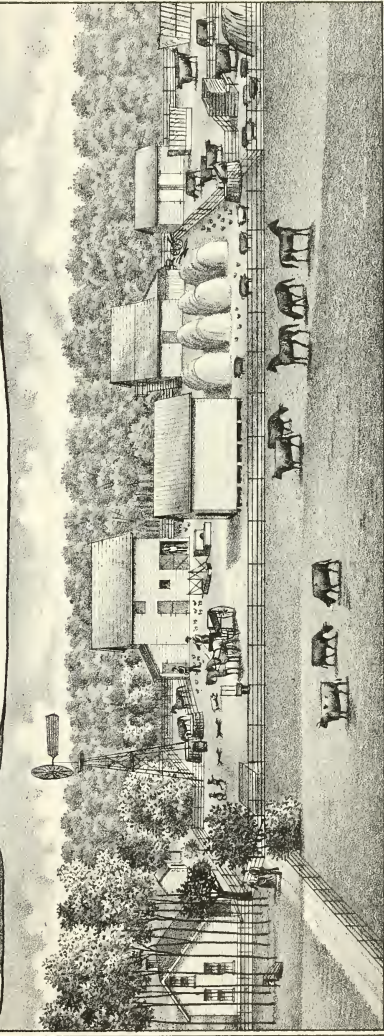
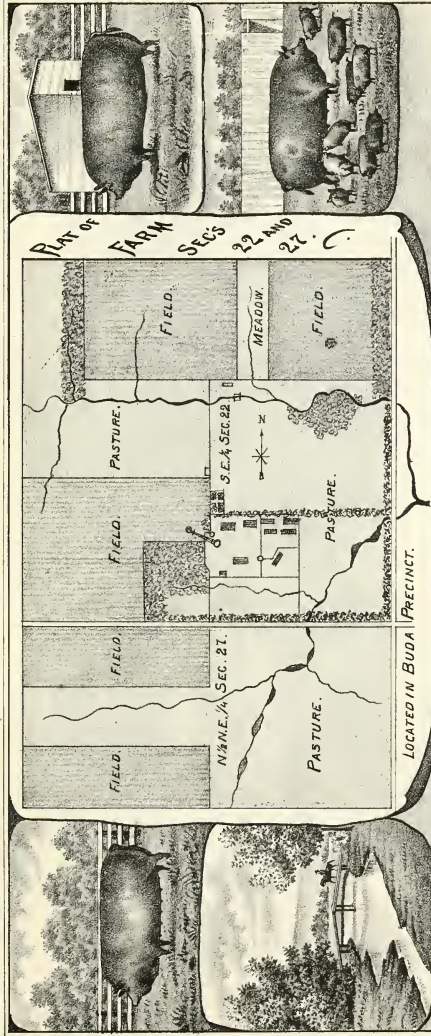
one Fred Miller as a contractor, which business they successfully conducted for ten years with good financial results.

While residing in Pennsylvania our subject took upon himself domestic cares, being there married, Sept. 12, 1872, to Miss Mary Oalman, daughter of George and Dora (Schulds) Oalman, natives of Germany. She was born Sept. 26, 1848. Eight children have been born of this marriage, namely: Emma, William, Louie, Minnie, Henry, Adolph, and Dora and Mary, who are deceased.

In 1878 Mr. Haack closed up his business in Pennsylvania, having resolved to turn his attention to farming and to take advantage of the splendid agricultural facilities and fine climate offered by the State of Nebraska. Accompanied by his wife and children, he came to Lancaster County and located in Yankee Hill Precinct, where he has ever since been a valued citizen. He now owns a good farm, whose productive soil well repays all his care and cultivation. He has been quite prosperous since coming here, and generously attributes a part of his success to the energetic assistance of his good wife. He is a man whose habits and conduct in life are above reproach, and the sound principles upon which he conducts his business transactions have gained him the confidence of the people with whom he comes in contact. He is a manly and sincere Christian, and a member of the Evangelical Association. In politics he stands firmly by the Republican party, using his influence by voice and vote to advance the interests of the party.



AUGUST F. SEVERIN, who is widely and favorably known throughout Buda Precinct, has a very fine farm on section 22. He has distinguished himself by the most persevering industry, and a pleasing and attractive picture is afforded to the passer-by as he glances over the premises, the well-tilled fields separated by rows of good fencing, the pastures dotted here and there with the farm animals roaming at will, while in a pleasant and well-selected spot is situated the



FARM PROPERTY OF AUGUST F. SEVERIN, (BREEDER OF THE CELEBRATED TAMWORTH SWINE.) SECS. 22 & 27. BUDA PRECINCT. POST O. COURTLAND, NEB.

dwelling, with convenient buildings adjacent, all indicative of prosperity and comfort.

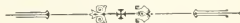
The subject of this notice was born on the 12th of October, 1860, in Clayton County, Iowa, where his parents, John J. and Elizabeth Severin, settled among its earliest pioneers, and of whom honorable mention is made elsewhere in this ALBUM. August F. from there came with his parents to this county in the year 1869, and here has since made his home. He received his early education in the district schools, afterward taking a course of instruction in a German private school.

Mr. Severin before reaching the twenty-third year of his age was married, May 24, 1883, to Miss Elizabeth Geselman, who was born in Germany, and at a tender age crossed the Atlantic with her parents, Laurens and Susan Geselman. Soon after reaching America they proceeded westward across the Mississippi and located in this county. Of this marriage there are three children, who brighten with their infant prattle and charming ways the home that holds them dear. Robert R. was born June 18, 1884; Clara, July 9, 1886, and Arthur F., Aug. 24, 1887.

Although Mr. Severin received some financial aid from his parents, it may be said that in the main he is the architect of his own fortune. He has carved out by his industry and self-reliance a place in society for the honorable mention of his name. He is the owner of 240 acres of good land, on which he is constantly making improvements, and besides grain and all kinds of farm produce, he gives considerable attention to the raising of cattle and other live stock. He is introducing the celebrated Tamworth stock of swine in this State. He has not only devoted himself attentively to his farm work, but has taken an active interest in the affairs of his community, serving as School Director three years, and otherwise identifying himself with its best interests. He at one time held the honorable office of Vice President of the German Family Club, which has its headquarters at Cortland, also for one year served as Treasurer of the same. He is also Vice President and an active member of the German Agricultural Society, of Buda Precinct. The principles of the Republican party most nearly meet his ideas of political economy, and to these he gives

his uniform support. Both socially and in business life Mr. Severin ranks high among the citizens of his precinct, who consider his word as good as his bond.

Those who are interested in the surroundings of the progressive and self-made man, will notice with gratification the view of the homestead of Mr. Severin, which stands as the worthy monument of his persevering labor.



DAVID LATTURE. In the Southern States, prior to the publishing of the Emancipation Act, there were not wanting men, who, although doubtless not heartily approving of everything that was done at Washington, felt strongly that one flag and one eagle were sufficient for the land that lies north of the Gulf, and south of the Dominion line and Great Lakes. The men of the South had proved themselves in the old days and memories which encircle around the "Boston Tea Party," and Fourth of July, '76, as truly heroic and self-sacrificing as their brethren of the more northern parallels, and to-day the South still has an increasingly large place to fill in the history of the Republic. The subject of our present sketch is one of those born south of Mason and Dixon's line, who suffered imprisonment and deprivation for what we call the Union cause, and in spite of the arguments of friends, and the more forceful urgings of authorities, was nobly true to himself and country.

Among the sons of the Solid South who have yielded their children for the development and opening up of their native country was Samuel Latture, the father of the subject of this writing. He was born in Tennessee, and in that State he spent his whole life. By occupation he was a farmer, in which he was very prosperous. He was married to Miss Catherine Davault. To them were born five children, two sons and three daughters, all of whom lived to years of maturity. They were named as follows: Martha, Jacob, Eliza, Elizabeth, and David, our subject. Miss Davault, like her husband, was a native of Tennessee. Her husband was one of the heroes of 1812, with the rank of Lieutenant.

From such stock and such a family came our

subject, David Latture, who was born in Sullivan County, Tenn., May 17, 1840. He received a practical common-school education to assist him, at least in some measure, in the fashioning of his experience in after days. The curriculum of school being completed, he continued his residence at home, and went to work upon the farm. Our subject did not escape the fortune, or more correctly speaking, the misfortune of war. During the late unpleasantness he was twice a prisoner in the Southern army, first in the fall of 1861, at which time he was compelled either to take the oath of allegiance, or be sent a war prisoner to Tuscaloosa, Ala. Upon taking the oath he was released as a citizen. In the following year he was conscripted for the rebel ranks, but, with eighty-four others, he endeavored to evade this, and attempted to cross the mountains between the rebel pickets and Union forces, but was captured and placed in the hands of the conscripting officers, and put in jail at Bluntsville, his native place. Thence he was sent by railroad to a more secure prison, viz: Zollicoffer or Union. After some time he was released by Gen. Carter, of the Union forces. He then left Tennessee with the boys in blue, and came North to recruit his health. As soon as he was strong enough to justify the act, he returned to Nashville, and enlisted in Company A, 9th Tennessee Cavalry, under command of Col. Parsons. Our subject enlisted as a private, but was at once appointed Duty Sergeant, and served in that capacity until the close of the war, when he came North, and settled in Clinton County, Ind.

Metaphorically speaking, our subject's sword has become the pruning-hook, and the vocation of war has been exchanged for the employments of peace. For five years he is found working as a farm hand in Clinton County. During this time he became acquainted with a charming and most estimable lady, Miss Martha Kingsolver, a native of the same county, with the result that in due course of time they were united in the closest of all earthly relationships, in October, 1869. Mr. Latture now purchased a farm in Boone County, and for two years was prosperous on that place. It was at that homestead that their only daughter was born, Dora. In the autumn of 1871 he removed with his family, and purchased a farm in the southern part of this

county. After a residence of about two years another removal was made, this time to Little Salt Creek. For four years he continued to make this his home, and was quite prosperous upon the farm. Having a good opportunity he sold out, and purchased his present property in the year 1879. Since that time he has built a large two-story frame house, and in addition, for stock purposes, a comfortable barn and the usual farm buildings. Nearly the whole of his splendid farm is under the plow or in plain grass. The view is very commanding from his residence over a vast expanse of fertile farms.

The family circle of our subject has grown to include four sons and one daughter, viz: Dora, Samuel, Robert, James Lewis and Oliver, all of whom are living. His wife is the daughter of James and Mary Kingsolver, and was born in Sullivan County, Tenn., March 5, 1848, but with her parents removed to Indiana while very young. Her education was received in Indiana, which was to all intents and purposes, if not in actual fact, her native State, for her earliest recollections were supplied by its scenes, and she continued to make it her home until some years after her marriage. Her parents at present reside in Smith County, Kan., and although quite aged preserve good health and the enjoyment of every faculty.

Mr. Latture and family are honored members of the Presbyterian Church, and among its most hearty supporters. Mr. Latture dates his membership in this communion from about his eighteenth birthday. The family is now connected with the church at Raymond. In politics he is somewhat inclined to be radical rather than conservative, and is a strong supporter of the Prohibition cause.

Our subject is very particularly careful in regard to his stock, and has expended much thought, capital and labor in this department, and is the owner of good blooded stock in the county. He owns a very fine herd of Short-horn Durhams of super-excellent grade, and with Mr. Batten is the owner of a registered Durham bull. He is the possessor of a Norman stallion, a magnificent creature, which weighed 1,110 pounds the day he was two years old. Mr. Latture is exceedingly exact in all things that appertain to stock, and especially in the selec-

tion and the maintenance of Short-horns. He was among the first to enter into high-grade stock-raising in this county. Now the best part of his beautiful farm of 160 acres is devoted to this enterprise. The property is most admirably situated on section 8.

Mr. Latture necessarily ranks among the prominent farmers, not so much on account of his general farming as in his stock interests, in which he has invested considerable capital. Although there is little to be observed in reference to his position in political affairs, too much cannot be said regarding him as a man in any of his relations in life, whether domestic, social or otherwise. He is eminently worthy to be called a typical man and citizen, as he represents a high type of manly character, and illustrates the fact that intelligent, well-directed effort, sustained with persistent perseverance, will meet with due reward and prosperity in life.



CHARLES L. GUMAER. The farming community of Yankee Hill Precinct numbers among her best men the subject of this biography. He is now approaching his threescore years and ten, having been born Dec. 3, 1820, in Onondaga County, N. Y., and was one of the earliest pioneers of this county, coming within its borders in 1870. He has watched the face of the country during its transformation from an uncultivated tract to productive farms and beautiful homesteads, and as far as in him lay has performed his part worthily as a useful member of the community.

Elias and Mary (Lewis) Gumaer, the parents of our subject, were also natives of the Empire State, and, like their son, born in Onondaga County. The paternal ancestors were direct descendants of the French Huguenots who fled from their native country to escape religious persecution. Elias Gumaer settled with his family in Onondaga County about 1799, and there spent the remainder of his life, passing away about 1838. The mother later, with her family, migrated to Wisconsin, and died in Oshkosh, in 1863. Of the ten children comprising the household circle but three are now living,

namely: Jane, Mrs. Holdsworth, a widow, of Penn Yan, N. Y.; Elizabeth, the wife of Jerome Crocker, of Weyauwega, Wis., and Charles L., our subject.

The elder Gumaer was a contractor on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canals, between Harper's Ferry and Washington, for a number of years, and during which time his family resided in the latter city probably a period of twenty years. Charles L. pursued his early studies in the schools of the National capital until about thirteen years of age, and was then made a page of the Senate Chamber during the times of Henry Clay and Daniel Webster, Tom Blunt, Lewis Cass and other eminent men, with whom he became familiarly acquainted. The old hero, Gen. Jackson, often had a kindly word for the boy, and was an intimate friend of his father.

Upon approaching manhood our subject employed himself at book-keeping, and when ready to establish a home and domestic ties of his own, was united in marriage, Sept. 15, 1848, with Miss Martha E. McAlister, whose father, John McAlister, was then a resident of Waterloo, N. Y. Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Gumaer located in Wisconsin, where our subject carried on various kinds of business until 1861, then went eastward as far as Chicago with a Mr. Pollard, and from there came to this county in 1870. Two years later he secured eighty acres of land in Yankee Hill Precinct, where he has since lived and labored to good advantage, building up his comfortable home and securing a competency for his declining years. He is a staunch defender of Democratic principles. He has been quite prominent in local affairs, and served as Clerk of the United States Land Office at Lincoln for a period of five years.

Mrs. Martha E. Gumaer was born Sept. 28, 1829, in Seneca County, N. Y. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania and of Scotch descent. Her mother, Eunice D. (Tousley) McAlister, was born in Vermont. The parents spent their last years in New York, the father passing away about 1853, and the mother in 1884. Her paternal grandfather, Roswell Tousley, did good service in the Revolutionary War, and was the close friend of Gen. LaFayette. The family of her parents included seven children, five of whom are living, namely: Laura, the wife

of James N. Eckman, of Pawnee City, this State, and President of the First National Bank there; Elizabeth, the wife of C. C. Waldo, of Lincoln; Jessie, Mrs. B. G. Safford, of Yankee Hill Precinct; Helen B. and Fanny; Ella B. and John M. died in Wisconsin and Chicago respectively.

The father of our subject was a Colonel in the War of 1812, and he had a paternal uncle, Peter E. Gumaer, in the Revolutionary War.

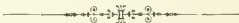


CHAUNCEY DEAHL, one of the youngest representatives of the agricultural community of Lancaster County, is regarded as a farmer of more than ordinary promise, as he is already well established in life, owing a valuable farm on section 16, Saltillo Precinct, and a beautiful home. He is a son of the late Andrew and Matilda (Schultz) Deahl, and was born July 22, 1864, in Alleghany County, Md. He did not, however, remain in his native State a great while, as in 1865, when he was but a year old, his parents removed with their children to Illinois, and there his boyhood was passed until he was sixteen years old, when his parents made another move and came to Nebraska, to spend the remaining years of their lives. He was a bright, studious lad, and having fine opportunities for attending school in Illinois, he received an excellent education, and, besides, a good training in agriculture under the experienced eye of his father. He early displayed an ambitious, self-reliant spirit, and a desire to be independent. He purchased his present farm in 1885, and immediately entered upon the task of improving it. The land is under good tillage, and he has erected suitable and conveniently arranged farm buildings. His neat and commodious two-story dwelling is tastily fitted up within, and is surrounded by a beautiful lawn, ornamented by shade trees and a great variety of shrubbery, as well as a thrifty orchard of apples, cherries and plums. He has besides plenty of strawberries of the choicest kinds, in their season.

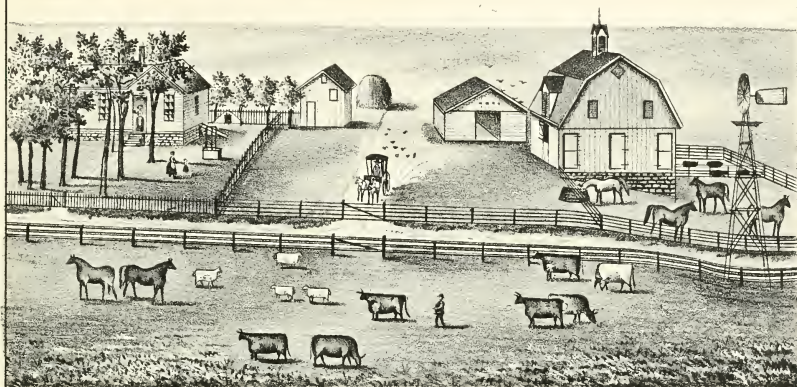
Mr. Deahl remained in the home of his parents until his marriage, Sept. 29, 1885, to Miss Flora Bitinger, daughter of Simeon and Sarah (Wiland) Bitinger. She is, like himself, a native of Alle-

ghany County, Md., her birth occurring there Jan. 11, 1867. When she was twelve years old she came to Illinois with her parents. She received the rudiments of her education in the common schools of Maryland and Illinois, and later completed it by a course at the High School of Shipman, in the latter State. She possesses many charms both of person and of mind, and presides with grace over the lovely home provided for her by her husband's care. Before inviting her to leave her parents' sheltering roof, to share life's responsibilities, pleasures and sorrows with him, he had his house all ready for occupancy, believing in getting the cage before capturing the bird. Their marriage has been blessed by the birth of two children—Allen A. and Winne E.

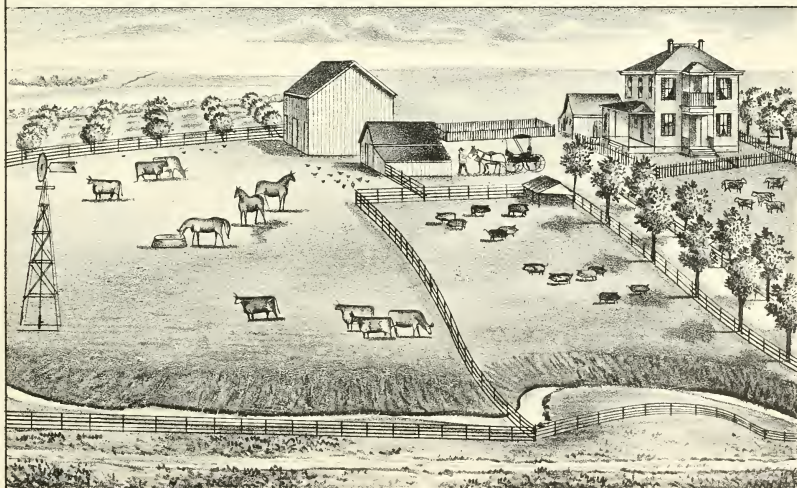
This brief record of the life of our subject will show that he is gifted with great enterprise, perseverance, and a keen, resolute nature that will in the end accomplish everything that in reason he may desire. His strict integrity of character and high sense of honor tend to keep him in the path of right. Religiously, he is a member of the Lutheran Church; politically, he is, like his brothers, an enthusiastic Democrat. In the homestead which he brought to its present state by his enterprise and industry, is illustrated his innate force of character, and it speaks for him in a more impressive manner than words can. The fine lithographic view of this, which we present on an accompanying page of this work, will be regarded with interest by others than the immediate friends of Mr. Deahl.



JOHAN A. DEAHL is a young man whose untiring industry and shrewd management have already made him successful in his career as an agriculturist of no mean skill, as is attested by the fine condition of his farm, which is beautifully located on sections 16 and 21, of Saltillo Precinct, in a region noted for the fertility and productiveness of its soil, and for its numerous highly cultivated and valuable farms. He is a son of the late Andrew and Matilda (Schultz) Deahl, and was born Aug. 9, 1855, in Alleghany County, Md., where he passed the opening years of his



RESIDENCE OF J. A. DEAHL, SEC. 16, SALTILLO PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF C. F. DEAHL, SEC. 16, SALTILLO PRECINCT.

boyhood, being ten years of age when his parents removed to Illinois. His first attendance at school was one term in his native Maryland, and he completed his education in Macoupin County, Ill. He remained under the parental roof until establishing a home of his own, and in the meantime gained a thorough knowledge of farming under his father's instructions.

In early manhood, before he had attained his majority, Mr. Deahl assumed domestic ties in his marriage, April 30, 1876, to Miss Susan Boger, a young lady of rare excellence and capacity, and they may well be proud of the cozy home which is the joint product of their labors. Mrs. Deahl is a daughter of Peter and Sally (Peck) Boger, natives of Germany, who settled in Preston County, W. Va., where they still make their home. They are the parents of six children, three daughters and three sons. Mrs. Deahl is the oldest daughter and the fourth child in order of birth. She was born Oct. 3, 1854, in Preston County, W. Va., grew to womanhood with her uncle, and enjoyed the advantages of a good education in the common schools. When a young lady she went to Illinois to visit some friends, and there met her future husband. They were mutually pleased with each other, and the warm friendship that sprang up between them soon ripened into the deeper and stronger attachment that resulted in their uniting their lives for better or for worse, to travel the thorny path of life together.

After marriage Mr. Deahl still continued to live in Illinois a few years, but in 1879 he settled up his affairs in that State, and with his wife accompanied his father's family to Nebraska. Our subject soon bought forty acres of school land and forty acres of railroad land, which he has since improved into a valuable farm, having completed the payment on it in a short time after purchase. He has many good improvements, in the way of a substantial house, commodious barns and other farm buildings. He has also a beautiful young grove of shade and ornamental trees, as well as a thrifty orchard. Everything about the place evidences a tasty and dexterous owner.

The happy household circle of our subject and his amiable wife is completed by the four children

who have blessed their marriage: Edwin and Laura, who were born in Illinois, and Cora and Jessie, born in Nebraska. Mr. and Mrs. Deahl are prominently connected with the Lutheran Church, of Roca, of which he is a charter member, has been a Trustee, and was also active in helping to build the church. He is a true Christian gentleman, as all who have the honor of knowing him testify, and he is zealous in promoting every good work with heart and hand. In his political views he is an earnest Democrat.

The homestead of Mr. John A. Deahl stands the best monument to his industry and enterprise, and we know of no better method of illustrating these qualities of his character than by placing the pictured result of his industry before our readers in the view which will be found on an accompanying page.



PH. SUDDUTH came to Waverly Precinct, this county, in June, 1866, and homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 20, where he has since operated with excellent results, and has fully established himself in the esteem and confidence of his community. His land is in a highly productive condition, and the buildings, put up by himself, are all that are required for the comfort and convenience of the modern agriculturist. As a man and a citizen, Mr. Sudduth is straightforward and upright in his transactions, prompt to meet his obligations, and in all respects a leading representative of the respectable portion of this county.

The early tramping ground of our subject was in Harrison County, Ohio, where his birth took place Nov. 14, 1837. His parents, Elias and Margaret (Garrett) Sudduth, were natives of Virginia, but emigrated to Ohio early in life, where it is probable their marriage took place. Isaac Sudduth, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was one of the earliest settlers of Harrison County, Ohio, removing thither after he had done good service as a soldier of the Revolutionary War.

The father of our subject, after his first marriage, settled on a farm in Harrison County, Ohio, and of this union there were born four children—Dorcas,

Bashbe, Nancy and Ellen. The first wife died while a young woman, and he was then married to the mother of our subject, of which union there were born ten children: Susan is the wife of John Carpenter, of Indiana; Hiram died when about ten years old; Patrick H., of our sketch, was the second son and third child; Tacey Jane married Lafayette Murphy, and is living in Ohio; William II. is in Indiana; Amanda is the wife of Isaac Sudduth, of Lancaster County; Debora J. married Daniel Minnie, and lives in Nebraska; Emma I., Mrs. Marian Fowler, is a resident of Lincoln, Neb.

Our subject spent his early years on the farm, and attended the district school, but when a lad of fourteen began an apprenticeship at the shoemaker's trade, which he followed until 1862. The Civil War being then in progress, he enlisted as a Union soldier in Company K, 69th Ohio Infantry, of which he became Second Lieutenant and served one year, then resigned and returned home. The year following, however, he re-enlisted as a private, in the 98th Ohio Infantry, and participated in many of the important battles of the war, going through the Atlanta campaign and marching with Sherman to the sea. Later, he went with the troops to Washington, and was present at the grand review. While in Washington he had been transferred to the 74th Regiment, and was mustered out at Louisville, Ky., in July, 1865.

Mr. Sudduth now returned to his old haunts in the Buckeye State, and resumed his work at the shoemaker's bench, following his trade until October of that year, when he sold out and started for Nebraska Territory. On his way hither, however, his wife was taken ill, and he was obliged to spend the winter in Knox County, Ill., resuming his journey across the Mississippi in the spring. Not long thereafter he homesteaded the land which he now occupies, and to which he has given his undivided attention.

The wife of our subject, who was formerly Miss Mary A. Haines, and whom he married Feb. 11, 1858, was a native of his own county, and the daughter of Hiram and Mary A. (Maston) Haines, who were natives of Pennsylvania, and are now dead. This union resulted in the birth of six children, of whom one, a boy named Garfield, died in

childhood. The five surviving are Lenora, Hattie, Lewis S., Mamie and Maggie. Two of these are married, Lenora and Hattie.

Mr. Sudduth cast his first Presidential vote for Lincoln, and has always supported the principles of the Republican party. He has served as Justice of the Peace and County Commissioner, and socially, belongs to Mitchell Post No. 38, G. A. R., at Waverly. In religious matters he is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

JOHNSCHMIDT. Early in 1847 there arrived in New York a family from Germany, Frederick Schmidt, his wife and four children. Of these the youngest was born Feb. 9, 1846, and is the subject of this writing. Frederick Schmidt was by trade a shoemaker, having served his apprenticeship and followed this business in Germany. On arrival in this country the family proceeded to Ohio, and settled in Dayton, where Mr. Schmidt worked at his trade.

After about one year Mr. Schmidt left Dayton and settled in Clayton County, Iowa, where he was one of the earliest settlers. Then began a new life; subduing nature, clearing the giant forest, taming the wild ground, making it to do his bidding and yield the rich harvest of its hidden wealth. In common with all pioneers of similar districts his home was now a log house, the result of his own ingenuity and toil. Though always plain, often inconvenient, these pioneer homes were made elegant and bright by the charm of true domesticity of life, lived in harmony with the environment of nature.

Clayton, on the Mississippi River, was the nearest market to this farm, which was Mr. Schmidt's home until 1869, when he sold it and went still farther west until he came to Middle Creek, Neb., where he bought land and remained until the spring of 1875, when he removed to Lincoln. Soon after a cloud gathered over this new home; the wife and mother, who had so long and so bravely borne her share of the burdens, cares and hardships incident to life on the confines of civilization, after a brief illness was laid away to her rest. This was the cause of another removal, and the bereaved husband re-

turned to Clayton, where he resided with his sons until his death. There were eight children in all, four, as noted above, having been born in Germany. They are recorded as follows: J. B., Wolfgang, Barbara, John (our subject), Christopher, Fred, Henry and Amelia.

Being so young when he left his birthplace, the earliest recollections of our subject cluster around the Clayton County farm, where he was reared. His education was obtained in the common schools of the same district, and although not collegiate in its curriculum, served as a broad and firm foundation whereon to rear a superstructure of his life work. He resided with his parents until 1864, when he enlisted in Company I, 27th Iowa Volunteers. Although entering toward the close of the war he saw considerable service in Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. When the danger which had threatened the Union had passed, and his services were no longer needed in actual conflict, he was transferred to the 12th Iowa Volunteers, and did garrison duty in Montgomery and Jacksonville. Mr. Schmidt was engaged at Ft. DeRus, Mansfield, La., the big battle at Memphis, besides numerous minor engagements.

In January, 1866, Mr. Schmidt was discharged, and laid down the musket and bayonet for the implements of a more peaceful avocation. Returning to Iowa, he found profitable employment in teaming in the city of Elkader, Clayton County, where he remained until 1868, when he removed to Nebraska and settled in Otoe County. Here he purchased land, and was very successful as a farmer until his removal to Lancaster County, in 1871, when he took a homestead claim in Middle Creek Precinct. This county was still sparsely settled, and the prairie was still occupied by such of its original denizens as deer, antelope, prairie chickens and jack-rabbits. The railroad was about this time completed to Lincoln, bringing them nearer to Eastern civilization. In 1866 he again sold out, and bought the land upon which he now resides. He has 160 acres of land, about eighty of which are under the plow. His house and farm buildings are substantially built and conveniently arranged.

Mr. Schmidt married, in 1868, Sophia Honroth, and has eight children in his family, viz: Frederick

A., Katy, Carrie, Lucy, Clara, Henry, Mary and Willie. He has remained a staunch adherent of the religious faith in which he was reared—the faith established in Germany by the great Reformer, Luther. Politically, his principles have been the principles of Republicanism. His influence and suffrage have been given to the support of this party.

Mrs. Schmidt is a native of Ohio, being born in the city of Cincinnati, Nov. 28, 1849. Her father, Frederick Adolph Honroth, was a native of Germany. He came to America when sixteen years of age and settled in Cincinnati. There also he married and made his residence until 1852, when he removed to Clayton County, Iowa. The journey was long, difficult and dangerous. They had to traverse the waterways of the Ohio and Mississippi. Arriving in Clayton County, he bought land and followed agricultural pursuits until 1868, when he came to Nebraska and bought a tract of untamed prairie near Nebraska City. By unremitting diligence and constant care his farm was brought to a high state of cultivation, orchards were set out, a substantial residence and farm buildings erected. From there he removed to Sheridan County, Kan., and bought 320 acres of land, where he now resides.

The maiden name of his wife, the mother of Mrs. Schmidt, was Elizabeth Tetetohine. The family comprised nine children, of whom three are living—Mrs. Schmidt, Lizzie and Adolph.



ARTHUR D. KING. One of the most interesting, romantic periods of English history, one filled with exciting events, often dramatic and far-reaching in their effects, was that comprised within the history of the "Wars of the Roses," during which the Red Rose of Lancaster and the White Rose of York struggled for the throne. The city of York, the chiefest of Yorkshire, the largest county in England, situated in the north-eastern portion of the country, was the headquarters of the latter party, and its history is full of historical reminiscences connected therewith. The city is

also notable because it is the second ecclesiastical city of the Kingdom, containing the venerable and magnificent pile known to all archaeologists as the York minister or cathedral, also the palace of the Archbishop, who is the second in religious authority in the State Church.

In the above city was born, about the year 1817, Thomas King, father of our subject, who is, therefore, now about seventy years of age and in the enjoyment of good health and every faculty, a resident of London, England, and until recent years always actively engaged in husbandry. His wife, the mother of our subject, is a native of the same place, and was born about two years previous to her husband, and is still resident with him. Their family, which comprised four children, they have been privileged to see live and take positions of honor and trust in life. Our subject is the first-born of this interesting family. His sister Eliza is now the wife of the Rev. Thomas S. Smith, M. A., a clergyman of the Church of England, in the diocese of York. His second sister is residing in London, the widow of John Mattinson. The youngest of the family, William Henry, after passing a rigid and most searching examination before the Civil Service Commissioners of England, received the appointment of Civil Engineer from the British Government, which he has held for twenty years, which fact speaks more for his character and ability than any verbose eulogy. He is at present serving in India.

Our subject was born in York on the 5th of August, 1842. His parents were very careful that he should receive what is frequently of more real value than a fortune in coin and bank note, viz: a good education. After passing through the classes of the more primary institution he spent three years in a private school in London, and thence proceeded to take a full course in the collegiate school, which, owing to his previous training, he completed in one year. From the time of leaving school he was engaged with his father upon the farm until that property was sold and his father retired from active life. The next two years were spent in prospecting for some business or other engagement, but nothing very satisfactory was met with. He came to Lincoln, Neb., in 1872, and worked for one year be-

fore investing his money, but being abundantly satisfied that mistake in that line was impossible, he purchased a quarter-section of land from the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company, at \$8 per acre, which figure, however, was discounted, payment being made the same year.

For two years after this our subject lived on an adjoining farm, and then commenced breaking upon his own place. His house was built in 1874, and is a pleasantly situated building, of very cheerful outlook and convenient arrangement internally. He continued to live alone until the year 1878, when the brightness and solitary joys of single blessedness paled like the waning moon before the rising sun, and he joined the ranks of the benedicts. The name of the lady who came to the heart and home of our subject in the closest of all earth's relationships was Mahala Ellen Thomas, a daughter of Phineas F. and Malvina (Gray) Thomas. The father of this lady was born in Wayne County, Ind., and her mother in Parke County, Ind., where they lived for ten years, and in 1877 removed to Lancaster County, Neb., where he has a very good farm. Their home circle includes six children, of whom two are sons. Their names are here recorded in the order of birth: Mahala, the first-born, is the wife of our subject; her brother, William R., is a farmer in Oak Precinct; Frank is also a farmer in the same precinct; May Ivy, now Mrs. William Jones, resides upon their farm in Little Salt Precinct, near her sisters; Antha J., the wife of Charles J. Crow; also Ida G. Mrs. King was born on the 17th of June, 1857, and made her home with her parents until her marriage.

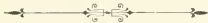
The subsequent years have abundantly shown that the life of our subject has been a success so far as it affects his business and financial interests. But this is even more true of his domestic relations, and as the months have passed into years, so the tide of domestic felicity and current of home joy has broadened, deepened and strengthened. Five children have appeared at different times by the fire-side, making the home bright with their presence, and its rooms to ring with their merry, gleeful hilarity. Their names are recorded in the family genealogy as subjoined: William E. was born Oct. 23, 1878; Bernard E., Aug. 17, 1880; Dosey G.,



Elles Stone

Sept. 6, 1882; Arthur M., May 29, 1884, and Mary B., Oct. 6, 1886.

Mr. King since his residence in Nebraska has suffered considerable loss from the Rocky Mountain fly, or grasshopper, but not as some of his neighbors, from hailstorms. Mr. King and his wife are enterprising and active Christian workers in the Presbyterian Church, and among its most devoted members. Politically, our subject has always been a very strong supporter and ardent admirer of the Republican party, and although not prominent in civic affairs, realizes and discharges his duty as a citizen. He commands the hearty respect of the community as a man established and reliable; honorable in every transaction of business life, and in every other relation worthy of admiration and imitation. Elsewhere in this volume is given a view of the home of our subject and its surroundings, which will greatly assist the mind of the reader to conceive the pleasantness and comfort thereof.



ELLES SHANE. Of the inventions and improvements by the hand of man in the years gone by, we can think of none that has required so much self-sacrifice, enduring of hardships and unmitigated labor, none that affords so great a source of pride and gratification to the American heart, as the unparalleled achievements accomplished by the men who were the early settlers, the pioneers, of this new, vast and fertile Territory. To pave the way for those who followed them, to secure advantages to the coming generation, they willingly deprived themselves of pleasant surroundings, left home and kindred, willing to sow that others might reap.

Among the foremost in rank of the early settlers of Denton Precinct stands Elles Shane, the subject of this sketch. He is a native of Pennsylvania, the date of his birth being the 16th of November, 1833. He is a son of Michael and Sarah Shane, also natives of the same State, the latter still living. Mr. Shane's great-grandfather on his father's side was a German who early conceived a love for the new country, and came to America before the Revolutionary War, before she had attained her freedom

and independence. The maternal ancestors were also Germans, who left the Fatherland for the inducements offered by their adopted country.

For the companions and playmates of his youthful days Mr. Shane had ten brothers and sisters, four of whom are now deceased. Those of the family who survive are Elles, our subject; Mathias, Thomas and John, in Iowa; William, who is residing in Nebraska; Clark, who is also in Iowa, and Mary, residing in Chamberlain, Dak. In the early days of 1848, when the previously undisputed monarchs of the Territory, the American red men, were losing their hold on these possessions, the subject of this sketch removed with his parents to Stephenson County, Ill., where they were early settlers. In this undeveloped country he was reared to manhood, lending his time and strength to the improvement of this western wild, consequently he received but a rudimentary education in the early schools of his time, the greater part of which was acquired during the winter months, the only time in which the sons of the soil were permitted to attend school.

His father then engaging in the lumber and saw-mill business, for a number of years our subject assisted him in the mill. At the age of nineteen he began the blacksmith trade in Illinois, which occupation he continued until the year 1862. Then came the cry for men in defense of the country—not puny, weak, irresolute men, but those strong, stout of heart, willing to face shot and shell—for to such an extremity had this fair land come! With self-sacrificing devotion thousands and tens of thousands answered the call, and enlisted in the service. Among these brave men was Mr. Shane, who first entered Company B, 38th Iowa Infantry. He was stationed at New Madrid, Mo., for a time, thence going to Vicksburg, where he assisted in the siege of that city until the surrender to Grant, July 4, 1863, after a siege of forty-one days. While the loss of human life at this encounter was estimated to be 60,000 men, our subject escaped uninjured, and from there he went with his company to Port Hudson for a short time. After this he was in camp at New Orleans for a time, then he went to Brownsville, Tex., where he remained for several months. Returning afterward to Alabama, he as-

sisted in the siege of Ft. Morgan in that State until its surrender, and thence to Donelsonville, La., for a short time. He was transferred to various points after this, and was mustered out at Houston, Tex., receiving a final discharge at Davenport, Iowa, in September, 1865. After the war he came to Lancaster County, Neb., and homesteaded 160 acres of land on section 20 of Denton Precinct.

In the spring of 1866 Mr. Shane settled on his land, and he is one among those who have seen with interest their country developed from a primitive condition to the cultivated fields and farms which present such a fine appearance to-day. He now owns 280 acres of land, having added to his original homestead, and by the labor of his own hands, and his own careful management, he has attained to eminent success.

On the 3d of September, 1862, our subject was united in marriage with Angeline Cummings, a resident of Ohio, and about them grew up a family of six children, being deprived of but one other child by its death. The members of his family are: Ulysses G., Sadie, James, May, Adelbert and Leonard, the little daughter Angie being deceased. On the 10th of December, 1885, the mother of these children was taken from them by the providence of God, leaving a wealth of affection and love in the hearts of her husband and children.

In politics Mr. Shane is a Republican, and having seen and enjoyed the progress and development of his country, he still wishes to see it go on to higher things and greater perfection. He is now serving as School Director, and has creditably filled that position since the year 1872.

Among the portraits of representative men of Lancaster County, given in this volume, may be found Mr. Shane's, which the publishers present in connection with this brief sketch of his life.



BENJAMIN F. MUNDORFF. The solid and reliable element of the community of Yankee Hill Precinct finds a most worthy representative in the subject of this biography, who operates a productive farm of eighty acres on section 33. When he took possession of this

land it was in a wild and uncultivated state, and he generously acknowledges that his own industrious efforts were ably seconded by his excellent and amiable wife and helpmate, who has stood by him in storm and sunshine, for these many years, and has amply illustrated the amount of influence which a good woman will have upon the home and fireside. This worthy pair are now able to rest, as it were, on their oars, looking back over well-spent lives, and they experience much comfort as the result of their united toils and sacrifices.

A native of the Keystone State, our subject was born in Lancaster County, June 23, 1835, and spent the most of his childhood happily and peacefully among the quiet scenes of his early home. His father, David Mundorff, was born in Lancaster County, Pa., and departed this life at his home in Dallas County, Iowa, in 1884. The mother, Mrs. Sarah (Staley) Mundorff, is still living, and a resident of Madison County, Iowa. The paternal great-grandfather of our subject was born in Germany, and emigrated when a young man to the United States, settling in New Orleans. Later he migrated into Pennsylvania, locating on the Susquehanna River, in Lancaster County, where he reared a family of sons and daughters, and it is supposed spent the remainder of his days.

Another David Mundorff, a distant relative of the father of our subject, served as an officer in the American army during the War of 1812, and was given a warrant for land in Illinois, where he settled and probably spent the remainder of his days. The parents of our subject, in 1845, when he was a lad ten years of age, left Pennsylvania and moved to Henderson County, Ill., where they settled among its earliest pioneers. After a residence there of twenty-five years they disposed of their possessions, and crossing the Mississippi, settled in Dallas County, Iowa, where the death of the father took place in 1884. The parental household included seven children, only three of whom are living, viz: Aaron T., a resident of Council Grove, Kan.; Mary, the wife of William Coats, of Madison County, Iowa; and Benjamin F., our subject.

Mr. Mundorff lived with his parents on the farm until nineteen years of age, receiving limited school advantages, but being fond of his books made such

good use of his time that he became qualified for a teacher, and pursued this calling for a time, and later was in the employ of a publishing house as their agent at New York. Soon after the outbreak of the late war he enlisted, in July, 1861, in Company E, 10th Illinois Infantry, as a private, going first to Cairo, Ill., and later to the South with his regiment. They were assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, under command first of Gen. Grant and afterward under Gen. Pope. Mr. Mundorff saw much active service, being present at the siege of New Madrid and Island No. 10, besides meeting the enemy in various other important battles and skirmishes. He fought at the siege of Corinth, and after being transferred to the Army of the Cumberland, was at the battles of Mission Ridge and Stone River, although not actively participating in the latter, his corps being held in reserve. He did not receive any wound in battle, but was hurt in the left foot while returning to Chattanooga from the Knoxville campaign, and was confined in the hospital from December, 1863, to April, 1864. His term of enlistment now having expired, he received his honorable discharge, and returning to Henderson County, Ill., engaged in the lumber business until the spring of 1869.

Our subject now resolved to cross the Mississippi, and took up his abode on a farm in Madison County, Iowa, where he continued three years. In 1872 he homesteaded a tract of land in Osceola County, that State, which he occupied five years, then came to Nebraska and settled on his present farm, in Yankee Hill Precinct. He made the journey hither from Iowa with his family in a wagon drawn by one team of horses and two ox-teams, the journey consuming twenty-six days. Rain fell the greater portion of this time and they camped out wherever night overtook them. Upon their arrival here they slept in their covered wagon until October, when Mr. Mundorff put up a small house.

Mr. Mundorff, upon coming to this county, purchased eighty acres of land from the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company, for which he paid \$10 per acre. Some discouraged settler had broken a few acres and then abandoned it. Aside from this there had been no attempt at improvement. Our subject before leaving Illinois had been

married in Henderson County, Oct. 26, 1865, to Miss Sarah J. Graham, who was born there Sept. 3, 1840. Her parents, William M. and Jane (Popham) Graham, were among the earliest pioneers of that region. They were natives of Kentucky, and the father, by two marriages, was head of a family of twelve children, ten of whom are living; Andrew R., in Illinois; Robert C. and Thomas, in Kansas; William and Joseph, in Iowa; John, in Kansas; Mary, Mrs. William Graham, in California; Samuel, in Kansas; Sarah J. and Martha A., in Warren County, Ill. William M. Graham departed this life at his home in Iowa, in 1882, and the mother is still living in that State.

Mr. and Mrs. Mundorff began the journey of life together in Illinois. The birth of their four children is as follows: Florence C., Nov. 15, 1866; David F., July 28, 1869; William M., Nov. 15, 1871, and Arthur A., June 23, 1873. They all, with their parents, are identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and respected members of society. Mr. Mundorff, politically, is a staunch Republican, which party he has supported since its organization, casting his first vote for Gen. John C. Fremont, in 1856. He has held the various local offices, serving as School Director in his district, and while in Iowa was County Commissioner. He deservedly ranks among the honored pioneers of this county, and although many men in this region commenced poor in purse, there are few who can recount the trials through which he passed, and out of which he came master of the situation.



MAJOR GILBERT BOHANAN, senior member of the firm of Bohanan Bros., occupies a good position among the business men of the city of Lincoln, carrying on a lively trade in fresh and salt meats, fish, poultry, etc. He is a gentleman in the prime of life, having been born March 14, 1842, and a native of Peoria, Ill. His parents, Edward and Mahala T. (Wilber) Bohanan, were natives respectively of New York State and Massachusetts.

The father of our subject was born Jan. 2, 1809, and emigrated to Illinois when a young man twenty-

three years of age. For many years he was engaged as a butcher, meeting with success, and is now living in retirement in Peoria, Ill. The lady to whom he was first married became the mother of seven children, and died at her home in Peoria, Feb. 17, 1865, at the age of fifty years. Their fourth and fifth born died in infancy; Major G., our subject, was the first child; Franklin H., Walter G. and Edward G. are residents of Lincoln, Neb; Lavinia M., Mrs. Gatewood Lock, is a resident of Kansas City.

Mr. Bohanan spent his boyhood and youth in his native city, attending first the common schools and later took a course at the Coles Commercial College, from which he emerged reasonably well fitted for his future career. He came to this county in April, 1868, and in June following established himself in business, in which he has met with success. He became associated with his brother in 1865. He was married, on the 29th of October, 1872, to Miss Lydia S. Rakestraw, who was born in Coles County, Ill., Oct. 7, 1855, and is the daughter of Isaac and Dicy Rakestraw, who were natives of Ohio. The father is now a resident of Kansas and the mother is deceased. Of this union there have been born four children, namely; Edward I., Myrtle A., Clarence O. and Franklin Leroy. The family residence is pleasantly located at No. 927 M street, Lincoln, and is in all respects the home of comfort and refinement. Mrs. B. is a lady greatly respected in her community, and a member in good standing of the First Baptist Church.

Bohanan Bros. represent a large amount of property in this county, including farm lands and city lots. They put up the business house which they now occupy in 1872. It is a substantial two-story brick building, and the portion devoted to their market operations is finely equipped and fitted up with every convenience and they give employment to seven men. In addition to this they erected a fine block at the intersection of Tenth and N streets, which occupies an area of 100x106 feet, and is also three stories in height. It contains the largest public hall in the State and two smaller ones. They have also a livery barn of ample dimensions, a fine brick and stone structure 36x130, which is an ornament to the business part of the city. The business of this they also conduct in addition to their mar-

ket operations, having a fine lot of vehicles and horses, the latter including some of the best driving stock in the State. The stables were established in 1876, and command a fine patronage.

Bohanan Bros. have also invested a large amount of capital in a number of residence buildings in the city. Considering the fact that they commenced business with \$89 and a few tools, their career is something remarkable. Major G., socially, is a member of the I. O. O. F., while his estimable wife is identified with the Daughters of Rebecca. She is a member of the society of the Home of the Friendless; she is a member of the Baptist Church, and also of the society for the benefit of the poor of the church. Mr. B., politically, is an uncompromising Democrat, and an active member of the Board of Trade in the city of Lincoln. The brothers purchased, in 1882, the first omnibus line in the city, which had been established a short time before, and have also facilities for undertaking, including ten double teams of fine gray horses and all the requisite paraphernalia for funerals and weddings alike. They are connoisseurs in horseflesh, and their stables include two valuable imported Clyde stallions, besides other valuable stock.

Mrs. Bohanan is an artist of fine talent and has produced some very fine oil paintings. Their handsomely furnished residence bears upon its walls many specimens of her taste and skill, and which evidence a love of and rare adaptability to this art. The family have a large circle of friends and acquaintances among the cultivated people of the city, where they occupy a leading position and command the influence which always goes hand in hand with intelligence, mental capacities and business talent.

THEODORE C. MILLER is a native of Fayette County, Pa., and was born Feb. 5, 1830. He is a son of Nicholas and Frances Miller, natives of the same State. The family is of Scotch-Irish extraction. His father has been twice married, and has had seven children, although five only are living—Theodore, John T., Sophronia, Elvira and Clarinda. Of these our subject is the eldest. John T. is a resident of Rock Island, Ill.;

Clarinda is the wife of Henry Shuster, of Beaver Falls, Pa.; Sophronia married Elijah Starrett, of the same place, and Elvira is now Mrs. H. M. Myers, also of Beaver Falls.

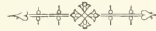
Until manhood our subject remained at home, and was educated in the public school of the district. In it he received an education which, although not so extensive and erudite as might have been obtained in larger institutions, was sufficient for all practical purposes until he should enter the school of experience. He has always been a careful, extensive and retentive reader, so that he is well versed in a large range of subjects, and is enabled to grasp not simply the outline but very many of the details of the more stirring questions of the times. He has devoted much time to traveling in the following States: New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, New Jersey, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Colorado, Minnesota and Dakota Territory. These journeyings, while usually originating in some business cause, have been made to yield much pleasure and instruction.

When thirteen years of age our subject engaged as a clerk in a store, and by business tact, diligence, and attention to the details of business, he won the confidence of his employer, and passed from one position to another until he was eligible to enter into mercantile life upon his own account. If we could have seen him as he performed the duties of his first clerkship, and could have followed him in the various positions he was called upon to fill, have accompanied him through the years when he was the employer instead of employe, we should naturally expect that whatever he might undertake and however be employed, it would be his business to succeed.

In the spring of 1879 Mr. Miller left the store and desk for the farm. He began to use the plow, the harrow and the cultivator instead of the pen, the balance and the measure. He settled in this county, where he continues to reside. He is the owner of 160 acres of fine land, which has become, under his good management and untiring industry, one of the best farms in this section. He was married, May 20, 1853, to Asenith Stantz, a native of Fayette County, Pa. She was the daughter of Thomas

and Susan Stantz, who were also natives of the same State. Their marriage has been blessed by four children, although the eldest, Alvin, is deceased. The others are John C., Arthur M. and Harry W. Our subject has for many years been recognized as a true and worthy brother and member of the A. F. & A. M., and, doubtless, the lessons learned in the blaze of the great light before the Masonic altar have enabled him, with more honor to himself and charity toward all others, to walk along the level of time, and will continue so to do until he shall cross the "bourne from which no traveler returns."

Mr. Miller, from the time when he cast his first ballot until the present, has been an enthusiastic Republican, and is a firm adherent to the principles of that party. Mr. Miller's wife died on the homestead Dec. 29, 1884.



WILLIAM R. EGGLESTON. In the pleasant town of Grantham, in Lincolnshire, England, situated about twenty-two miles from the city of Lincoln, was born, Feb. 16, 1824, the subject of this sketch, now a prominent and prosperous farmer in Elk Precinct, his property there comprising eighty acres of good land in excellent condition, and exhibiting in its various parts an excellent knowledge of husbandry, not only possessed but put into actual use.

George Mercer Eggleston, father of our subject, is likewise a native of England, born in Newark in Nottinghamshire, as was also William L. Eggleston, the grandfather, and William Eggleston, the great-grandfather of our subject. While quite a young man, the grandfather of our subject ran away from home in an excess of patriotic ambition, and enlisted in the Coldstream Guards, one of the crack infantry of the English army. After a faithful service as private and Corporal he was promoted to the position of Sergeant. After the death of his father he bought his discharge from the army, and having nothing but an excellent and honorable record, this was obtained, and he settled in Grantham and opened business as a baker and confectioner. He

afterward carried on the same in London and Stamford; in the latter place he died in 1830.

George M. Eggleston, son of the above, was reared in Lincolnshire, where he also obtained his education in the British schools, and afterward learned his father's business and continued as his assistant, and carried on the business at Grantham until his death, in 1837. He was a member of the first lodge of I. O. O. F. ever organized, and at his death the obsequies were conducted under the auspices of that fraternity. He was the husband of Maria Watson, a native of Hull, a large and important seaport on the eastern coast, the most important shipping point in Yorkshire; she died in Grantham in the year 1858. She was the mother of three children: George, who now resides in Grantham, William R., and Mary A., now deceased.

William R. Eggleston was the only member of his family to come to this country. He was reared to manhood in his native town, and there also was married and continued to reside until about twenty-six years of age, when he emigrated to America. He set sail from Liverpool on the 1st of August, 1850, in the "Western World," a sailing-vessel, and was consequently much longer upon the voyage than a steamer. After five weeks tossing and tumbling upon the Atlantic rollers he landed in New York. On this voyage he was accompanied by his wife and son George W. H. The family immediately proceeded to Ohio, and settled in Cayahoga Falls, where he continued to live for nearly six years, occupied in gardening. He then removed to Peoria County, Ill. There he rented a farm and continued with increasing prosperity until 1861, when he removed to Cedar County, Iowa, and in the fall of the same year went to the mountains of Colorado, performing the journey by the aid of a four-mule team and wagon, and until the year 1863 was employed in mining. He then returned to Cedar County via Omaha, where he remained until 1870, when he came to this country.

Eighteen years ago Nebraska, as would be expected, presented a very different appearance to what it does to-day. Then the land which is so fertile, where corn, wheat and other grains flourish in rich profusion, where are homesteads dotting the whole landscape, where are now extensive orchards

extending their fruitful invitation to refreshment, and gems of horticulture perfuming the air with a myriad deliciously delicate scents, then was nothing but the wild, rolling prairie, occupied only by the buffalo, wolf, elk and antelope, with here and there a little claim shanty or dug-out, or possibly an Indian wigwam. Here, with a few men of like spirit, and doughty pioneers, he settled, entering a homestead, his present property, built his house and farm buildings, and lived for two years, which were crowded with work of various kinds for the improvement and cultivation of his farm, and in this he was so successful as to be enabled to erect his present dwelling, a comfortable and substantial frame house.

About two years before Mr. Eggleston left England, in the year 1848, he was united in marriage to Sarah Bavin, a native of Grantham. In the year 1859, during their residence in Peoria, the bands were severed by her death, which occurred after a short illness. She left two children: George, who came with them from England, and Lucy Ellen, born in Cayahoga Falls. The former is now a prosperous grain-dealer at Bennet, and Vice President of the bank there. (See sketch.) Lucy has become the wife of Lyeurgus Pearson, and is living in Cedar County, Iowa. Our subject was married again in July, 1880. His present wife is Rosa (Harford) Whilock.

Mrs. Eggleston was born in Birmingham, England, in September, 1844; her father, John Harford, was a native of Worcestershire, and was by trade a tanner, which he afterward changed to that of wine merchant on his removal to Birmingham, where he continued to reside until his death. The maiden name of his wife, mother of Mrs. Eggleston, was Mary A. Field, a native of Birmingham, in which city the greater part of her life had been spent. This marriage was happily blessed by the birth of nine children, five of whom afterward came to America. He afterward married a second time, by which marriage there were seven children. Rosa Harford was first married to Thomas S. Whilock, also of Birmingham; they came to Nebraska in 1868 and settled in Nebraska City, and after a residence of nine years removed to Lincoln, where, the year following, Mr. Whilock died, in the month of

December. By her first husband she became the mother of five children, of whom four are living—Frances R., Mary E., Thomas H. and Louisa. Her union with our subject has been blessed by the birth of two children—William and Clara.

Mr. Eggleston has always held a high place in the estimation of his fellow-citizens, both on account of his personal character and eminent respectability, his social status and large intellectual caliber. He has always taken the deepest interest in educational and school matters, and has several times served on the District Board, and is a careful student of all the questions which are before the nation, especially such as look toward the educational department. He was elected the first Justice of the Peace in Elk Precinct, and while occupying that seat, his careful investigation and discrimination, linked with his impartial decisions, gained for him the admiration of every friend of justice. In politics he is a Democrat.



JAMES A. McNABB. Among the younger members of the farming community of Yankee Hill Precinct, few have a more prosperous outlook than the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. Besides being enterprising and industrious, he is a good financier, investing his proceeds judiciously and looking after his business affairs in a manner which would do credit to one of many more years experience. He operates a good farm of eighty acres on section 16, where he has good buildings, live stock and machinery, and all the appurtenances of a well-conducted rural home. His family consists of an intelligent wife and four bright children, the latter born as follows: Hattie B., Dec. 24, 1881; Ethel, Feb. 13, 1883; Archibald, Dec. 29, 1884, and Jessie, Jan. 1, 1887.

The McNabb family is of Scotch ancestry, and was represented on this side of the Atlantic probably in the Colonial days, although the branch from which the parents of our subject sprang continued in their native Highlands. The latter, John and Margaret (Morrison) McNabb, emigrated to the United States before their marriage. The

father was one of the earliest settlers of Putnam County, Ill., where he still resides, and where James was born Feb. 22, 1856. The mother died there March 13, 1880. The parental roof sheltered seven children, six of whom are living, namely: Daniel, John, Robert and Orsilla, residents of Putnam County; our subject and Jane, both residents of Yankee Hill Precinct, this county.

The subject of this biography spent his early life after the manner of most farmers' sons, learning to plow, sow and reap, and acquiring his education in the district school, mostly during the winter season. He left the parental roof at the time of his marriage, in March, 1881, being then a little past twenty-five years of age. The lady chosen to share with him the vicissitudes of life was in her girlhood Miss Antoinette Laughlin, a native of his own county, and a daughter of James and Julia (Smith) Laughlin, who are now residents of Bureau County, Ill.

Mr. and Mrs. McNabb began life together in Illinois, and came to Nebraska in 1883, settling at once upon his present farm. Here he has eighty acres of productive land, the condition of which he is improving each year, keeping up the buildings in good shape and gradually adding those conveniences which are essential to the comfort and prosperity of the progressive agriculturist. He gives very little attention to political affairs, although keeping himself well posted upon matters of general interest, and uniformly votes the Republican ticket. Aside from serving as Treasurer in his school district, he has refrained from the responsibilities of office, although amply qualified by habits and training to assume the duties which too many undertake with questionable results.

The father of our subject during the Civil War distinguished himself as an earnest advocate of Union principles, not only in his own immediate neighborhood, but often delivered public speeches, including also in the maintenance of an undivided country the principles of freedom to all men, believing that the institution of slavery was one unauthorized by the Creator, and in direct opposition to right and justice. He was a man of decided views, and presented his sentiments in that clear and forcible manner which bore conviction with

them, and stamped him at least as a man thoroughly in sympathy with the words he uttered, and which placed him upon record during those stirring times as a true patriot. Our subject was then a little lad, but he remembers many of the incidents of those stirring times, and it is not to be wondered at that he is a Republican of the first water, politically, and thoroughly in sympathy with this progressive age of freedom and enlightenment.

LUCIUS H. COMPTON. Among the pioneer settlers of Buda Precinct must be mentioned the subject of this sketch, who was, however, by no means unacquainted with pioneer life at the time of his settlement, for he was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, on the 5th of April, 1845. He is a son of William and Mary A. Compton. His father was a native of New Jersey, and of Scotch-Irish extraction, as was also his mother. They were among the first settlers of Muskingum County, and settled there over fifty years ago, and had reared a large family of children upon their farm, of whom the following survive: Martha, Lucius H., Amelia, William F. and Orington J.

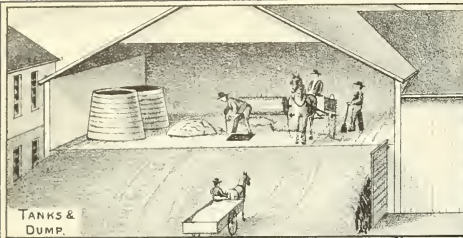
The father of our subject had practically grown up with the settlement in the above county, and being energetic, intelligent, and anxious to see the country develop, took a prominent part in almost everything that looked to that end. He was widely known and respected throughout the county, and upon his death, May 4, 1888, the community seemed to realize that they had lost one of the pillars of their social structure. At the funeral, as evidencing the above fact, there were 110 carriages at the house and about thirty at the grave. His wife had preceded him in this last journey by thirty years, having departed this life March 18, 1858. The names of their children deceased were John L., Phebe C., Elizabeth E., Orpha J., Mary P. and Ida C.

In the above home and its surroundings our subject was reared to manhood, and bore his full share of the hardships, trials and difficulties of pioneer life. What education he received was obtained at the Stony Point public schools. He taught school

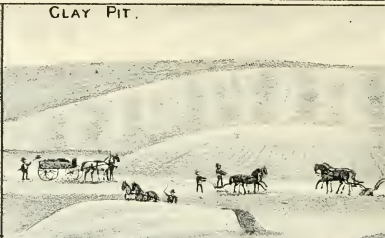
for three terms in Lancaster County, the remainder of his time being devoted to farming. In 1870 he came to this county to settle, homesteaded eighty acres of land and set to work. For the first few years before he settled upon his farm he procured work among the farmers, often, as occasion permitted, teaching during the winters, frequently having quite a large number in attendance, and meeting with good success. By his previous labors he had been enabled to procure sufficient to stock his farm, at least to some extent, and also purchase the necessary implements. As the years have passed by he has grown increasingly prosperous, and is now one of the representative well-to-do citizens of the district.

Our subject has been for many years a strong Republican, and has consistently voted the ticket of that party. Although not an office-seeker, he has at times been called upon to fill some position, and is at present School Director of District No. 114. He is, in every sense of the word, a self-made man, and the success that has crowned his efforts in life is the result of his continued efforts intelligently directed, and inspired by laudable ambition. Both he and his wife are active members of the Congregational Church at Cortland, and are very highly esteemed, not simply within the church circle, but throughout the entire community, as those whose faith and practice are every day consistent.

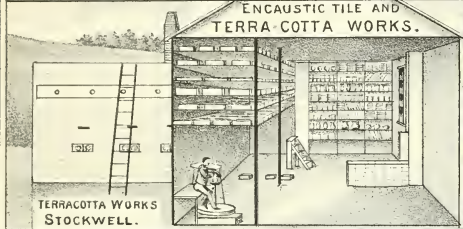
JOSEPH E. STOCKWELL. The manufacturing interests of Lancaster County have in the person of the gentleman whose biography is here briefly recited, a most admirable and worthy representative. This gentleman, like the greater number of the best American citizens, has made his own way in life, beginning in comparatively humble fashion, gradually accumulating and progressing as the result of undeviating rectitude and intelligent industry. He is one of the leading manufacturers of brick, tiling and terra cotta in the State of Nebraska, and is the proprietor of very extensive works and brickyards, which are situated in Yankee Hill Precinct. The artist has very faithfully portrayed in the illustration accom-



TANKS & DUMP.

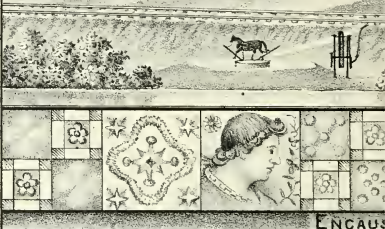


CLAY PIT.



ENCAUSTIC TILE AND TERRA-COTTA WORKS.

TERRACOTTA WORKS STOCKWELL.



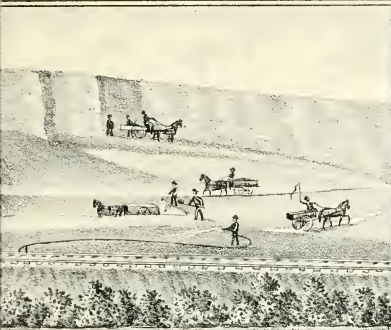
ENCAUSTIC



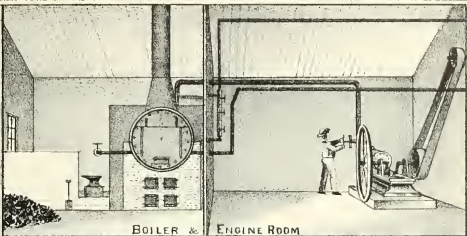
GENERAL VIEW OF VILAGE & BRICK-WORKS

RESIDENCE.

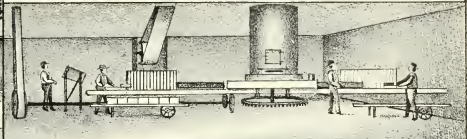
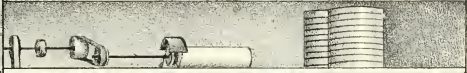
RESIDENCE AND BRICKWORKS OF J. E. STOCKWELL, STOCKWELL



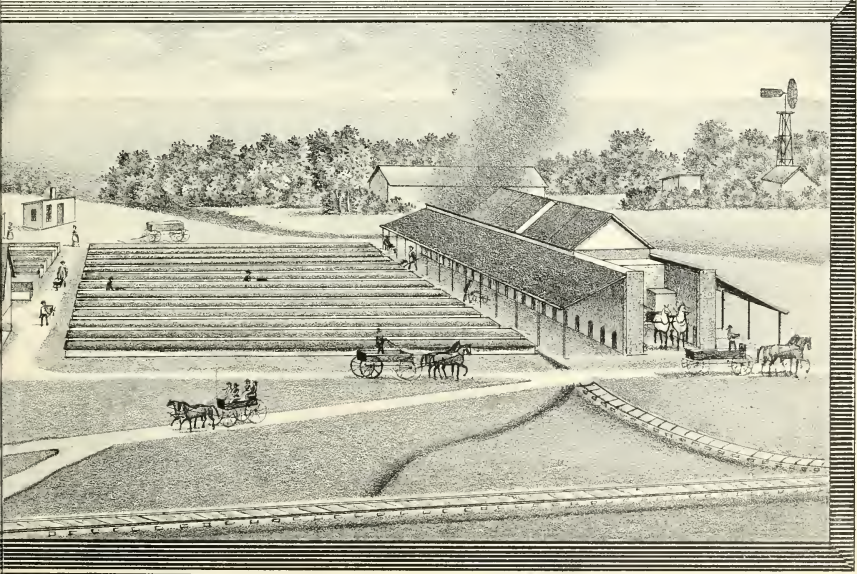
C TILES.



BOILER & ENGINE ROOM



PRESS ROOM.



L VILLAGE, YANKEE HILL PRECINCT, LANCASTER COUNTY, NEB.

panying this sketch these works, and has also given a peep of the interior of some of the workrooms, besides a few samples of the tiling, but it is impossible to give any idea of the delicate tracery and beautiful finish that lend their charm to these articles as sent from the works.

The subject of this history is a native of Lake County, Ohio, and was born on the 29th of August, 1848. He is a son of Nathaniel C. and Luthera A. (Ricardson) Stockwell, both of whom are natives of Massachusetts, but for many years they have been residents of Lake County, Ohio, and were found among the very early settlers there. They have always wielded an influence for good in the community where they have made their home, and as the years have added number after number, this influence has only extended, broadened and deepened; they have been honored and esteemed by all for their strict integrity, firmness in the interests of right and truth, and beautiful character.

The parents of Mr. Stockwell gave him every opportunity in their power to attend the district schools of his native place until he obtained a good, practical, English education, and he had by constant and careful reading kept himself posted upon all general topics and is worthy to compare with the most intelligent citizens. He grew to manhood upon his father's farm, taking his whole share of the various duties and responsibilities thereof. Shortly after he attained his majority, with his characteristic energy and good judgment, he had accumulated sufficient to enable him to establish a home of his own, and on the 15th of December, 1869, he was united in marriage to the lady of his choice, Miss Lavilla J. Henderson. She is a native of Lake County, Ill., and is a daughter of Gideon and Alicie (Law) Henderson. Their union has been blessed by the birth of two children, Nathan and Lela A., whom it has been their pleasure to watch, as they have developed and manifested personal traits and dispositions that promise much for their future happiness and prosperity.

In the matter of enterprise and decision of character the subject of our sketch has few equals. He is a man of wonderful resource and large mental grasp, just such a one who can both think, attempt and execute great things when occasion requires.

To such a one the unprecedented development of the Western States held out many attractions, and in the year 1881 he removed with his family to Doniphan County, Kan., and there cast in his lot with the men whose ability to promote the advancement of the agricultural, commercial and manufacturing interests of that and the surrounding States has been fully verified, and the happy results of whose foresight and enterprise are being enjoyed by thousands to-day.

The following year, 1882, Mr. Stockwell came with his family to this State and decided to locate in the neighborhood of Lancaster County, not simply because there is contained therein one of the most beautiful belts of country, but also on account of the salubrious atmosphere, that has gained for the district no little renown because of its healthfulness. Another and important reason for his settling in it was that he found here most excellent material for his business, such as would enable him to do even finer work than previously, and add to rather than detract from his reputation. He finally decided for these reasons to make his home and establish the works connected with his business at Yankee Hill.

In 1881 our subject had commenced the manufacture of brick, and even within the first year the demands of his business were such as to keep constantly employed from fifteen to twenty men. This continued to increase, and he has now constant employment for over fifty skilled workmen. This will give some conception of the large amount of work turned out from his yards every week. Not only does he supply by far the greater part of the local trade, but ships also to all parts of the State, although perhaps his trade chiefly concentrates itself in the various towns and cities within a radius of 100 miles. The material employed in the manufactory is a peculiar kind of clay most admirably adapted for his purpose, and indeed it was this property that decided largely in the question of his settlement in the district. In his works will be found some of the finest machinery made for use in such establishments, and is made by J. W. Penfield, of Willoughby, Ohio, a name that at once stamps it as among the very best obtainable.

Mr. Stockwell is pre-eminently a man of public

spirit and generous beneficence. He is always found contributing liberally to such projects and enterprises as are for the benefit of the precinct or county, and also such as may have for their object a more limited sphere, such as the extension of some religious work, or even private charity. His pleasant and comfortable home is admirably presided over by his most estimable wife, who enjoys the reputation of being an unparalleled hostess, and makes her home the center of a generous and hearty hospitality. In politics our subject heartily supports the Republican party, and has for many years been an ardent and deeply interested member of that party.



HERMAN J. TE SELLE is a prominent farmer residing on section 22, South Pass Precinct, Lancaster County. His father, John Albert, and mother, Dela (Van Ten Damme) Te Selle, were natives of Holland. The father was engaged in farming in that country, and remained there until his death at the age of forty-three years. The mother died in 1885, at the age of eighty-two years, having been the mother of seven sons, their names being as follows: Derrick W., Tobias, Henry J., John A., John H., Garret J., and Herman J., our subject. The gentleman of whom we write was born on the 4th of December, 1844, in Holland, and having begun attending school at the age of six years, he secured a very good common-school education in the Dutch language. At the age of twenty years he determined to come to America, and, in company with his brother John Henry, he sailed from Rotterdam, via Hull and Liverpool, by ocean steamer to New York, at which place they arrived safely after a journey of seventeen days, landing in November, 1865.

The destination of our subject being Sheboygan County, Wis., he went at once to that place, and for five months he worked out at general work. At the age of twenty-one he was married, in 1866, to Miss Berendina A. Buesink, who was also a native of Holland, having come to Sheboygan County when she was thirteen years old. Mr. and Mrs. Te Selle and

family came to Nebraska in 1871, where the husband homesteaded a claim of eighty acres, then bought eighty acres additional the following year, and again in 1881 he bought his third eighty acres, having now a farm of 240 acres. He also owns a dwelling in Lincoln.

Our subject is the father of eight children, the names of those by his first wife being: Dela, who was born in Wisconsin; and Willie, born in Nebraska. The children by the second wife are: Dena, Evert J., Albert, Helena, Minnie and Bertha. The daughter Dela married Mr. Dick Abbink, residing in Panama Precinct. Mr. Te Selle's first wife died in the year 1874, and he married Miss Johana Brethower, a daughter of Dr. Brethower, of Holland. Our subject and his wife and family are devout members of the Reformed Church of America, and lead active and consistent lives. The father coincides with the opinions of the Republican political organization, and takes an active interest in the educational affairs of his precinct, having for twelve years held the office of School Treasurer.

While Mr. Te Selle experienced some disadvantages on his arrival in this county, his own industry, self-reliance and energy have enabled him successfully to surmount the difficulties presented, and he has continued upward in the path of success until he has reached a state of independence and prosperity. Although his schooling in the English language was somewhat limited, he compensated for that lack by a course of general reading, and has become well informed on all matters relating to his adopted country. He has a pleasant, cheerful disposition, is not averse to enjoying a good joke occasionally, and is one of the real live business men of South Pass Precinct.



ANTON DIERKS. The Great West has been peopled largely by those who came from over the sea, and among this class none have proved more valuable citizens than those coming from Germany. A representative of this people in Lancaster County, as well as a truly representative American citizen, for he claims to-day citizenship in this great country, is Mr.

Dierks. He is a prominent farmer and stock-raiser of Buda Precinct, having his residence on section 7. As above mentioned, he is a native of Germany, where he was born July 14, 1831. His parents, Dierk and Catherine Dierks, were likewise natives of Germany, and Anton is their second son.

Mr. Dierks has received a very fair education, both in his native and the English tongue; the latter he speaks fluently, and transacts all his business in the language of his adopted country. When fourteen years of age he began to learn the trade of weaver, which occupation had been followed by his father from boyhood, and in fact continued his occupation through life. Anton labored faithfully at the loom until he emigrated to America, which event occurred in 1863. He had begun to feel that the opportunities for securing anything like a competence in his native country were too limited, and, like many others, looked to the Western Continent as the goal which had for him a fair measure of success, and a higher development than could be hoped for at home. He came over in a sailing-vessel, boarding it at Bremen, and the voyage lasted seven weeks. He then landed at New York City and came directly to Kane County, Ill., where he remained about one year, being engaged as a farm hand. At the end of that time he came farther West, stopping in Clayton County, Iowa. He, however, only tarried here for a brief time, for in the summer of 1865 we find him in Lancaster County, turning the virgin soil and planting a crop to be garnered in the coming autumn. He had taken advantage of the offer of a generous Government to give to actual and willing settlers a quarter-section of land. He had selected his on section 7 of what is now Buda Precinct. Here he has since resided, becoming a well-to-do farmer, and wielding an influence for good in the community which has grown up around him.

As might be well imagined, the life during the first few years of a settler in a new country is by no means tempered with the conveniences and comfort making surroundings that one finds now in a well-developed district. Consequently the life of Mr. Dierks for the first four or five years was one of privation and hardships. He then made his home in a dug-out, being unable to provide better,

and in fact the material for doing so was both difficult to get and very expensive. By his diligence and economy, however, he garnered from his fertile field a few crops which enabled him to erect a more comfortable dwelling, and now the farm upon which he turned the first furrow is well improved, and in fact may justly be termed a splendid farm. As might be inferred Mr. Dierks is a hard-working, economical man, and all that he has to-day is the result of his own labor. Besides the 160 acres first secured from the Government, he has an additional quarter-section in Buda.

Mr. Dierks has taken great interest in whatever has in view the improvement of the county, and in the elevation of its people socially, intellectually and morally. He has devoted considerable time to the educational interests of his district, and has served as Moderator of District No. 61 for nine years, and it may be said to his credit that he rendered efficient and valuable service. In his political views he may be classed as an Independent, voting generally in local elections for the best man. In the National campaign, however, he may usually be found voting with the Republican party.

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JACOB PLANK. It is often remarked that the agriculturist and husbandman are at the foundation of all national prosperity, and that a country's wealth must come primarily from the soil through the farmer. Be this as it may, and we do not challenge it, it is equally certain and most undeniable that an indispensable necessity of modern times is the man who will bring to us the various articles of every-day requirement usually found upon the shelves and in the bins and canisters of the drug and grocery store, and he who can intelligently and successfully keep such a store in good working order is as certainly a public benefactor as the farmer. The subject of this sketch is a representative of this class of benefactors, to which he has added that of druggist, and whose store is situated in Raymond.

John Plank, father of our subject, was a native of the Quaker State, Pennsylvania, where he was born about 1802, and after a few years, while still

quite young, accompanied the family upon their removal to Logan County, Ohio. Here he received his early education in the common schools, afterward continuing for some time as teacher. He now turned his attention to another employment, and we find him working during the summer at the carpenter's bench, and during the winter engaged in shoemaking. At this place he became acquainted and was most favorably impressed with the many virtues of Miss Sarah Shoup. Their marriage was celebrated in 1825. The fruit of this union comprised eleven children, six of whom they were allowed the privilege of rearing to maturity. Their names are recorded in the order of their birth as Barbara, Elizabeth, Lydia, Jacob (our subject), Sarah and John.

Another change was made in 1851, at which time Mr. Plank left the bench and lapstone and purchased a farm, which he set to work to improve, and continued to make his residence until the warning came by which he recognized that he was no longer a young man. He accordingly sold his farm and bought a small place. From that time until his death, which occurred in the year 1870, at the age of sixty-eight years, he lived a very quiet life. It was not very long that his widow was left to mourn in loneliness, for she was soon called upon to rejoice him in the world that knows no parting. Her husband died in the spring, and in the early fall they were reunited.

Mrs. Sarah Plank was the daughter of Jacob Shoup, and was born in Pennsylvania about 1807. Early in her life the family removed to Ohio, and her education was obtained in that State, and until her marriage she continued to reside at home.

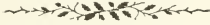
Our subject was born on the 9th of June, 1833, in Holmes County, Ohio, near Bellefontaine. His education was received in the usual institution, where he obtained, if not an elegant and extensive education, a practical one. After school days were over he continued to live with the family, and assisted his father until he came to manhood. In the year 1861 he sought an alliance with Miss Sarah Strickland, a native of Pennsylvania, but from youth a resident of the Buckeye State. The consummation of this most unregrettable selection and happy choice took place upon Dec. 15, 1861, when

they celebrated their marriage at her home, in Logan County, Ohio. After his marriage he bought a farm, which he continued successfully to operate until the spring of 1873, with the exception of the time spent at the front in defense of the old flag.

Our subject enlisted in Company E, 132d Ohio Infantry, as a private, in which capacity he continued. He saw considerable service and was attached at different times to the 13th, 17th and 18th Army Corps, and was honorably discharged on the 10th of September, 1864. In 1873 he was enabled to sell to advantage his farm, came West, and purchased property located some two miles south of Raymond, and there he was among the early pioneers. The farm now purchased he began immediately to improve; he put up a very comfortable residence and convenient barn, proceeding with other matters from time to time, and continued to live on this property thirteen years, *i. e.* until the year 1886, when he sold his farm and came into the city to engage in his present business, in which he is very prosperous. His is the only drug-store in Raymond. To our subject has been born one daughter, now Mrs. J. W. Montgomery, who has become the mother of two children, a son and a daughter.

Sarah (Strickland) Plank, the beloved wife of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania, Aug. 12, 1831. When she was two years of age her parents removed to Logan County, Ohio. Her education was received in the school of that district, and upon completing her education she continued to reside at home until her marriage. She is still living and in the enjoyment of all her faculties, and in good health. Her father, George Strickland, was a native of Maryland, and was there educated and reared. At the close of his school term he was apprenticed and learned tailoring, after which he removed to Pennsylvania and worked at his trade. He was married to Mary Ann Strayer. From Pennsylvania they removed to Ohio. He discontinued his original business and bought a farm. This he continued most successfully to operate until the weight of years imperiously forbade further toil in that direction; he therefore retired from active labor, but remained in farm life until his death, after completing a cycle of 100 years.

Our subject, Mr. Plank, is and always has been a staunch Republican, and always votes the ticket of his party. With his family, he is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, where they are held, as in the community generally, in the highest possible esteem.



WILLIAM D. HAYES. When the outlying Territories of the West began to fill up, and the wild prairie was caught within the network of the farm fence and made subject to the plow, when the seeder and cultivator had traversed the broad acres, and in the harvest time the headers and self-binders had gathered in the golden store, the farmer found himself face to face with a difficulty which was none the less pressing or reduced in its dimensions because it had been present in his mind while the grain had been maturing. It was the question of a profitable market for the treasures now gathered and lying upon the threshing floor in a mountain of beautiful, ripe grain.

In the present sketch it is our pleasure to present an outline of the history of one who has helped to solve this problem. The corporations and heavy grain buyers for the world's markets have been busy connecting the East and the Far West with a chain of outposts, until nearly every town, even the smaller ones, became possessed of grain elevators, which, although very infants when placed beside the mammoth concerns of the great shipping points, were, nevertheless, the key of hope to the door of release from the difficulty above stated. In these elevators were stationed men who were well acquainted with the various kinds and qualities of grain, and who were kept posted by their employers regarding the market price of their commodity, and it was their business to buy from the farmer the reward of his toil, and see it shipped in due form to the East. Thus he stood, the connecting link between the farmer on the prairie and the market.

Alonzo Hayes, the father of our subject, was born in the year 1810, in Barrington, N. H. He received a liberal education, passing by regular graduation from the common to the High schools,

and thence to Andover, from which institution he graduated with honors, and then was ordained to the ministry of the Congregational Church. He first located at Barnstable, Mass., where he continued for several years, and after holding some other charges retired from the ministry and bought a farm in Virginia, which he worked so that he became quite a prosperous man. He continued in this occupation until his death, in 1858.

Alonzo Hayes was united in marriage with Malvina E. Gilman, at Washington, D. C. She was born Sept. 18, 1810, in Alexandria, Va. Their children were named Annie M., Mary H., Alonzo G., and William D., our subject. Mrs. Hayes is still living, and enjoys, considering her age, good health; she is residing in Alexandria County, Va. Mrs. Hayes is the daughter of Ephraim Gilman; was born in Alexandria, in 1810, and received her education in its school, although some time was subsequently spent in an educational institution near Washington, D. C. With the exception of our subject, all the family continue to reside in the same place.

W. D. Hayes entered this life May 4, 1853, at the home of his parents just outside the limits of Washington, D. C. After the usual course of study in the common school had been pursued he was apprenticed to a machinist, and learned the trade. After about four years he came West, and started to work as an engineer at the State's Prison at Lincoln, in which appointment he continued for eighteen months. In the year 1878 he purchased a farm in Clay County, and began to work as an agriculturist. After a period of two years he sold out and went to Johnson County, where he remained one year, and then purchased his present property, a fertile farm well situated on section 5, Oak Precinct, a mile southeast of the village of Raymond, comprising eighty acres. He has effected several improvements of value, among which may be mentioned that he has put out an extensive orchard of choice trees, which are in a thriving condition, also, a considerable number of forest and shade trees, has also erected a substantial residence, suitable barn and stable, and brought the whole farm under cultivation.

The associations of Alexandria, Va., were such that our subject did not sever himself utterly from

them, and upon the 1st of October, 1878, he led to the altar Miss Etta M. Cameron, a resident of that place. This lady was born in Chariton, Lucas Co., Iowa, on the 14th of November, 1857, and is the daughter of Anderson and Emily Cameron. While she was quite a child the family removed to Henry County, Iowa, where she had to face irreparable misfortune and loss in the death of her parents. After this mournful experience she removed to Washington and made her home with her grandparents, where she continued until her marriage. She has presented her husband with three daughters and one son; the eldest has been named Emily M.; the son Douglas C., and the two youngest Margaret and Janet.

Mr. Hayes is at present the principal agent for the firm of Hinebaugh & Merriam, of Omaha, who are extensive grain buyers, and has been with them three years. He has had extensive experience in grain buying, and is, perhaps, the largest buyer in the whole valley. Our subject is Director of the Raymond school, which office he has held since July past, and has filled the duties of the same in a manner most complimentary to himself and reflecting favorably upon the judgment of those by whose suffrage he was elected. In politics he affiliates with the Republican party, and is an ardent, adherent and outspoken advocate of the cause. In the Presbyterian Church Mr. and Mrs. Hayes are among the most consistent and active members, and are held in very high regard. The same is true, also, of their general social relations to an eminent degree.



JOHN G. MULLER. Highland Precinct has been the home of the subject of this sketch for the last nineteen years, where he has operated with more than ordinary success as an agriculturist, tilling the soil of 160 acres of good land on section 12. He is a thorough and skillful farmer, a man upright in his business transactions, and one who holds a good position among his fellow-citizens.

Mr. Muller came to Southern Nebraska in the spring of 1869, and secured eighty acres of land

from the Government, settling upon it and being determined to remain until he accomplished the task of securing a good homestead for himself and his family. Providence smiled upon his efforts, so that he now has one of the best developed farms in this part of the county, with suitable and convenient buildings, fruit and shade trees, and all those little embellishments which go to make up a complete rural home. He had formerly resided in Muscatine, Iowa, where for a period of four years he was occupied as a mechanic and machinist, being a skillful workman and master of his business. He left that place amid the regrets of many friends, and the business men who had often availed themselves of his labors.

Our subject, a native of the Kingdom of Wurtemberg, was born in the city of Nelmersbach, April 25, 1838, and is the son of Jacob and Mary (Beiswanger) Muller, who spent their entire lives upon their native soil in Germany, and died before our subject emigrated to the United States. The father was a successful farmer, owning his own land, and a man of more than ordinary intelligence and business capabilities. He was prominent in public affairs, often holding positions of trust and responsibility, especially in connection with the settlement of estates. He also held the post of Superintendent of the Orphans' Home, and was Treasurer of the above-mentioned city. In religious matters he belonged to the Lutheran Church.

The parental family of our subject included six children, of whom John G. was the youngest. He came to the United States at the age of seventeen, with his brother George. Two of his brothers, Jacob and George, during the late Rebellion served as soldiers in the Union Army; George, being captured by the rebels, met death by starvation in one of the Southern prisons. Jacob lost part of a hand; he is now a resident of Philadelphia, Pa., living upon a competence, retired from active labor. His sister Mary became the wife of Frederick Pound, a wealthy citizen of Philadelphia, who followed the business of a butcher and is now deceased; Christian Muller is a successful farmer of Johnson County, Iowa, residing near Iowa City; a sister Katie died in Germany two years after her marriage.

Our subject was reared and educated in his na-

tive town, and upon coming to America located with his brother George in Philadelphia, Pa. Not long afterward he began working as a farm hand in Bucks County, where he was employed for a period of five years. Then he turned his steps westward, and for eighteen months lived in the vicinity of Iowa City, employing himself at whatever he could find to do. With genuine German thrift and prudence, he managed not only to keep his head above water but always to have a little something in his pocket-book, and, being desirous of establishing a home of his own, he was united in marriage with Miss Minnie Herzer, the wedding taking place in Iowa City, on the 16th of November, 1861.

Mrs. Muller is a native of the town of Bretten, in the Grand Duchy of Baden, which place had been honored by the birth of Melancthon, the German reformer and the close friend of Martin Luther. She was born May 16, 1839, and is the daughter of Frank and Sophie (Kesler) Herzer, the former of whom was of French parentage and closely allied to royalty. The Herzer family prior to the seventh century owned large estates, but during the troubles incident to the Reformation were driven from their possessions and fled to Germany, where they might enjoy freedom of religious thought. The Keslers also were people of high standing in Germany, and likewise sympathized with the reformed faith, on account of which they sacrificed much property and met practically with the same misfortunes which the Herzers encountered.

The father of Mrs. Muller was prominent in public affairs and acquired a good property. At one time he was closely connected with the Government, and a representative of one of the Dukes of his native Province. Both parents spent their entire lives in the Grand Duchy of Baden, the father passing away in the prime of life, when forty-seven years of age, and the mother dying at the age of fifty-seven. Religiously, they were connected with the Evangelical Church, in the success of which they took an active interest. Their family consisted of eleven children, who were carefully trained and educated, and of whom Mrs. Muller was one of the younger members. Only four survive.

The wife of our subject came to the United States

with her sister Sophie, when a young lady twenty years of age, and they lived for the first nine months in Macoupin County, Ill., then changed their residence to Iowa City, where Mrs. Muller met her future husband. She is a very intelligent lady, and recalls many of the incidents of her early life in her native Empire, and the matters connected with the history of her parents. She has been the efficient helpmate of her husband, and his chief assistant in the building up of the homestead. Of their union there have been born eleven children, and they reared another child besides.

CHARLES A. PIERCE, Cashier of the Citizens' Bank at Bennet, a young man capable, business-like and energetic, is the son of one of the leading citizens of Waverly Precinct, Hon. Charles W. Pierce, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. He was born at Havana, Ill., Dec. 8, 1860, pursued his early studies in the common schools, and was graduated from the University of Nebraska in the class of '83.

Mr. Pierce commenced his business career as an Assistant Division Engineer on construction in the employ of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company in Kansas, but a year later was obliged to return home on account of failing health. When recovered he was made an attache of the County Clerk's office at Lincoln. In April, 1886, he was appointed Cashier of the Citizens' Bank of Bennet, in which institution he is also a Director. In 1883 he was appointed Notary Public, and is also a member of the Village Board of Bennet. Cool-headed and conscientious, the friends who are watching him with kindly interest predict that he has before him a creditable and prosperous career.

Our subject was married in Shepardsville, Clinton Co., Mich., Aug. 25, 1886, to Miss Ida Shepard, who was born in Waterford, Pa. Mrs. Pierce is the daughter of B. M. Shepard, now living in Shepardsville, Mich. Mr. and Mrs. Pierce are now the proud parents of twins, a boy and girl, Charles S. and Olive, who were born Sept. 17, 1887. Mrs. Pierce is a member of the Episcopal Church, and Mr. P., politically, affiliates with the Republican

party. He identified himself with the Masonic fraternity in 1882, being now a member of Blue Lodge No. 94, at Bennet, and also of Delta Lodge, A. A. S. R., at Lincoln. He also belongs to the Loyal Legion of the United States.



PHILLIP ROHMAN. Among the Provinces which have gone to make up the consolidated German Empire there were probably none that could surpass that over which ruled that passionate lover of music, Ludwig, of Bavaria; just, honorable and well-balanced as a man and ruler, the peasantry of his domain were bright, happy and prosperous. The subject of this sketch is a native of Bavaria, as was also his father and immediate ancestry. To-day he is the owner of a magnificent farm on section 15, West Oak Precinct, his property comprising 320 acres, chiefly devoted to the raising of stock.

Peter Rohman, the father of our subject, was born in the above section of the German Empire, in the year 1813. He was by occupation a farmer, and owned his own farm in his native land. He was the husband of Miss Anna Arnold. The home circle comprised nine children, all of whom accompanied him to this country. This event transpired in the year 1846, shortly after the death of his wife. With his children he proceeded to Peoria, Ill., where he followed his usual avocation and continued in the same until his death, at the age of seventy-seven years.

Our subject was born Oct. 24, 1825. His education was received in a private academy in his native country, and upon its completion he was apprenticed to learn the trade of blacksmith, which he continued until the journey to America. Then he gave his time and attention to farm work, assisting his father at Peoria, but shortly after he took up a farm of 160 acres for himself and began the improvement of the same. It was situated in Woodford County and was covered with a timber growth of many years, he had, therefore, literally to hew out a farm, which he gradually did, and was very prosperous for a period of eighteen years, when he

purchased a farm near Peoria, which he set to work upon immediately, erecting a good, substantial and comfortable farm dwelling, besides other necessary buildings, set out fruit and shade trees in abundance, and continued to make it his residence until he came here in the year 1881, where he immediately took up his present property, which has been transformed from wild prairie land to one of the best preserved and cultivated farms in this district, which is saying a great deal, for as a whole the community is much above the average.

For a period of three years past our subject has lived in Lincoln, and this in order that his children might have the benefit of the excellent city school. During that time his new residence has been built on the farm and he has just moved into it. The new dwelling shows most clearly that the owners possess much of the refinement of life, taste and culture, whether we gaze at the exterior, its architecture and decoration, or examine the interior with its modern adornments and artistic tinting; its furnishing also is entirely in keeping, the whole forming a home dwelling worthy of such a successful life.

Upon the 29th of June, 1847, our subject took to his heart and home Miss Barbara Egstine, of Woodford County, Ill. This lady was born Nov. 13, 1832, in Germany, and in 1837 came to America with her father, Michael Egstine, who took up land in Woodford County in that year, and continued to work the same until his death in November, 1869. The marriage of our subject has been consolidated and rendered more felicitous by the additions which have been made from time to time to the home circle. Ten children have been born, of whom eight are living, whose names are here appended in the order of birth: Mary, Peter, Frank, Charles, Effie, Maggie, Emma and Fred. Charles the fourth child of our subject, is now the husband of Edie Steiner, and resides in Lincoln; his sister Effie was united in marriage to John Costello, and resides in Illinois; the three younger children are still at home with their parents. Mary, the oldest child, is now Mrs. William Stark, and lives at Colorado Springs; she has become the mother of three children. Peter is married to Josephine McGoogan; Frank is the husband of Elizabeth Lyon, and resides on section 15, and has become the parent of three children; his next



Yours Truly
Ed. P. Sizer.

door neighbor is his brother Peter, whose family comprises a like number. The political sympathies of our subject are with the Republican party, which finds an ever ready supporter in him. Both he and his family are the recipients of the entire confidence, and high regard of their neighbors.

PHILIP FINK, Jr., a well-known and prosperous farmer of Buda Precinct, is a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany. He was born to Philip and Gertrude Fink upon the 23d of January, 1850. His parents emigrated to this country in the year 1868, journeying from their home to Antwerp, and thence to Liverpool, England, where passage was taken upon one of the trans-Atlantic steamers, which, after a voyage of fourteen days, landed them in New York City. The mother is now deceased.

Our subject came on to Lancaster County in the fall of 1878, and purchased eighty acres of land, where he still resides, and which he has brought to a very perfect state of agricultural efficiency. While a resident of New York State, Mr. Fink became the husband of Sarah E. Priest. They are the parents of four children, whose names we record as follows: Fayett, Mattie, Gertrude and William.

Mr. Fink has accorded to himself and family the esteem and confidence of the community. He is now serving his second term as School Moderator with much satisfaction to all parties concerned. In the United Brethren Church, of which they are old and active members, they find that which is congenial to their religious principles, and are held in high esteem.

EDWARD R. SIZER, Clerk of the District Court of the Second Judicial District, in and for Lancaster County, Neb., came to Lincoln in 1874, and soon afterward was employed as Deputy District Clerk under R. M. Vedder, now deceased. Filling that position acceptably until 1879, he, in 1883, was nominated by acclamation by the

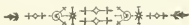
Republican party for his present office, and elected by a majority of over 3,000. In 1887 he was re-nominated by acclamation, elected by an increased majority, and has discharged the responsible duties of his office in a manner highly creditable to himself and satisfactory to his constituents. His present term expires Jan. 1, 1891.

The city of Ottawa, Ill., was the early home of our subject, where his birth took place thirty-eight years ago, on the 25th of August, 1850. The eldest son of a family of four children, he is the offspring of Randolph and Marinda (Root) Sizer, who were natives of Massachusetts, and who emigrated to Illinois in 1833, being thus among its pioneer settlers. His father carried on an extensive business as a lumber merchant of Ottawa, and for many years operated as a contractor and builder, continuing there actively in business until his death, which occurred Sept. 28, 1856. The mother continued a resident of Ottawa, surviving her husband until Dec. 16, 1869, when she too passed to the land of the hereafter.

Young Sizer spent his boyhood and school days in Ottawa, Ill., and was graduated from the High School of that city. He commenced his business career at Princeton, Bureau County, in a mercantile house, where he continued fifteen months. His next removal was to this State. He was accompanied hither by his wife and one child, having been married in Ottawa, Ill., May 10, 1871, to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of David and Mary H. (Armstrong) Atkinson, who were natives of West Virginia. The father died in 1858; the mother is now living in Lincoln. To our subject and his estimable wife there have been born five children, three sons and two daughters: Maud V. (now deceased), Edward R., Jr., Bessie L., William A. and John A.

The tasteful home of our subject is pleasantly located at No. 1740 D street, and, presided over by a pleasing and intelligent wife, is the resort of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. Mr. Sizer has taken a genuine interest in the development of his adopted city, and socially, belongs to Lincoln Lodge No. 138, I. O. O. F. He is also a Knight of Pythias, a member of A. D. Marshall Lodge No. 141, and Marshall Division No. 10, U. R. K. P., also

Colonel and Aide-de-Camp on the staff of Maj. Sizer be given among those of other prominent men of Lancaster County, and as that of a man having in charge interests of importance to a large number of individuals, it will be looked upon with corresponding interest.



WILLIAM F. STUTHEIT is one of the old settlers of Centerville Precinct, residing on section 29. He is a native of Clayton County, Iowa, and was born on the 16th of August, in the year 1855. He is a son of Henry and Caroline Stutheit, his parents both natives of Germany. When they were quite young both the father and mother of our subject were brought to America by their parents, who were among the number of emigrants at that time. The father lived in Ohio until he reached the years of manhood, when he removed to Iowa. To the parents of our subject there were born eleven children, of whom the following survive: Maggie, wife of Herman Spellman, residing in Sprague, Neb.; Lucy, the wife of George Beckman, residing in Kauss; August, in Lincoln, Neb.; William F., Cornelius and Louis, in Centerville Precinct. Mary, Edward, John, Matilda and Louisa are deceased.

When our subject was but a boy he came with his parents to Lancaster County, the family settling in the southern part of Centerville Precinct, at which place he resided a number of years. His father is among the German representative pioneers of the precinct in which the family reside, and was able to give his children a fair district-school education. On the 26th of September, 1878, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Magdalena Spellman, a daughter of Hon. Henry Spellman, now residing in Cortland, Neb. By this union there have been six children: Arthur, Earl; Clara and William, deceased; and Mabel.

In the year 1878 our subject settled on his present farm, being now the owner of 160 acres of good

land, having been able to purchase it and free it from indebtedness by his own perseverance, industry, and the labor of his own hands. He has taken an important part in political, educational and religious matters, having served as School Moderator in his district for two years, and being a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In the church he has honorably served as Steward, and by his consistent Christian life he was eminently qualified to assume the responsible position of Class-Leader, joining in sympathy with the aged who had nearly run their Christian race, in congratulations to the middle-aged that the religious advantages were so great, and in earnest advice to the young, that they might continue their religious experience, and grow up to be exemplary men and women.

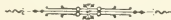
When we speak of a man as being "public-spirited," we do not mean that he is willing and ready to participate in public matters only when solicited, but that he is a man of sufficient energy and thoughtfulness to devise new means by which the public in general may be benefited, taking upon himself the responsibility of introducing a new theory or reform. A man is public-spirited when he is awake to the necessities of the times, who looks abroad and sees what the great world is doing, and then, with ever laudable emulation, he strives to imitate, and perhaps to surpass, in his own community the improvements and progress which he has noted abroad. Such a man is our subject, to whom the above term is appropriately applied, and whose educational and religious zeal is much to be admired.



ELDER JAMES H. RING, who has recently purchased a farm in Grant Township, and expects soon to take up his residence here, is a son of George Ring, and has officiated as a minister of the Baptist Church for a period of over thirty years, and has labored to good advantage in the Master's vineyard. A native of Fairfield County, Ohio, he was born July 27, 1840, where he was reared to manhood, and was married in 1861, in Gratiot, Muskingum County, to Miss Mary J.

Simpson, who was born there Nov. 30, 1838. Soon after they settled in Logan County, Ill., which has been their residence now for a period of nearly twenty-five years. There their ten children were born, all but two of whom, Susie and Bessie, are living. These two died, one when one year and a half old, and one in infancy.

The eight living children of our subject and his wife are named respectively: Charles M., George S., William F., Thomas E., Frances M., Samuel C., Emma G. and Penelope P. They are living with their parents. Mr. Ring began his ministerial labors in Fairfield County, Ohio, and later preached in different places in Illinois. His labors have been attended with success, he being a clear and forcible speaker, and having labored with that conscientious industry which has always been a guarantee of his warm interest in his pious work, and his endeavor to so present the truths of the Christian religion as should convince the skeptical, and result in the prosperity of the cause. Politically, he has been a supporter of the Republican party for many years, and his removal to this county will be welcomed as an accession to the number of its capable men.



REUBEN W. HYERS. Life has its two sides; the one light and the other dark, and ever since the entrance into the world of wrong, of "that which ought not to be," of transgression, there has arisen a necessity in human society for some system of regulation and repression. This has evolved to the present super-excellent prison system. The gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch is officially connected with this system, as Warden of the State's Prison at Lincoln.

Mr. Hyers was born at West Point, Lee Co., Iowa, on the 17th of September, 1843. His father, William Hyers, was a native of New York; his mother, Eleanor Wagner, of Ocean County, N. J. They were early pioneer settlers in Lee County, where his father was engaged as stage driver from West Point to Ft. Madison, continuing the same until his death, at West Point, in 1847. After this mournful event and terrible affliction, the

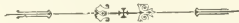
mother of our subject removed with her five children to Illinois and located in Tazewell County, and there spent the last years of her life.

As will be noted above our subject was but four years of age when his father was taken from them, so that he has never practically known a father's care. His mother filled the breach as far as she was able. He attended the public schools of Illinois, and at a very early age began to assist in the farm work. When there came the call for men to go to the defense of the flag and eagle, our subject responded heartily, and enlisted in Company B, 108th Illinois Infantry, commanded by Col. Charles Turner, and in due time took his place at the front. He took part in the battles of Vicksburg, Ft. Hinnman, Guntown, Miss., and several other engagements. He was taken prisoner on the 10th of June, 1864, and confined in Andersonville Prison until April, 1865, when he was paroled, after suffering all the horrors, privations and hardships of that abominable institution for a period of ten months; when released his health was shattered, and his constitution undermined. He was honorably discharged at Springfield, Ill., July 25, 1865, and returned to Tazewell County, Ill.

After farming with continued success for about five years in the above county, Mr. Hyers removed in 1870 to Cass County, Neb., and settled near Weeping Water, upon 160 acres of fine land, only twenty acres of which were broken. There were no buildings of any description on it at the time of his settlement, and his first employment was in this direction. He erected a set of good, stout and comfortable farm buildings and frame house, and continued his residence until 1877, when he was elected Sheriff of Cass County, and was re-elected in 1879, 1881 and 1885. He was sent to the Senate as a representative from Cass County, and served from 1885 to 1887, when he was appointed to his present position by Gov. Thayer, which he holds and fills with exceptional ability and unqualified satisfaction.

Upon March 13, 1866, Mr. Hyers was married to Martha King, a lady of culture, refinement and womanly grace. She is the daughter of Mrs. J. M. King, and was born in Jerseyville, Ill. They have had six children, four of whom are now living.

Mr. Hyers is a gentleman of character, kindly firmness, a strict disciplinarian, and yet withal generous and affable. In political matters he has always been a staunch friend and supporter of the Republican party. Socially, he is connected both with the I. O. O. F., holding his membership in Prairie Lodge No. 25, Weeping Water, and with the Farragut Post, G. A. R., at Lincoln.



ALBERT WATKINS, Postmaster of Lincoln, is a man whose natural ability, business tact, and fine education, have brought him into deserved prominence among the eminent citizens of Lancaster County. He was born in the city of Worcester, England, Nov. 16, 1848, to James and Mary A. (Crockett) Watkins, but he was reared and educated in the United States.

Both our subject's paternal and maternal ancestry for many generations had been born and reared in that English city where he first saw the light. His father was born there Dec. 16, 1816, and remained an inmate of the old home until he was twenty-one, attending school, where he received a sound education, and assisting his father in the manufacturing business. When he attained his majority he married, taking as his wife the second child and eldest daughter of Thomas Crockett, a representative of an old Worcester family, in which city she was also born in 1815. After the birth of four children, of whom our subject was the youngest, Mr. Watkins determined to abandon the dwelling-place of his forefathers, and in the Western wilds of America found anew a home for himself and family, his parents, James and Elizabeth Watkins, having come to this country the year before, with their only daughter, Amelia E. Cotterell, and two of our subject's uncles, James and Edwin Crockett, all being early pioneers of Mineral Point, Iowa Co., Wis.

Mr. Watkins and his family set sail from Liverpool in the good ship "Guy Mannering," and after landing in New York City, went directly to Wisconsin by way of the Hudson River, Erie Canal and lakes to Milwaukee, and thence by wagons to Mineral Point. Mr. Watkins purchased a large tract of land

in Dodgeville, Iowa County, and afterward in Linden in the same county, successfully engaged in farming until his death on the homestead, June 9, 1868. He occupied an honorable position in the history of Iowa County, as one of its early pioneers who took a conspicuous part in its development, and as a citizen. He was a prominent member of the Druid Society, and religiously, was a member of the Church of England. Politically, he affiliated with the Democratic party. He took a lively interest in politics and public affairs. He took out naturalization papers on coming here, and cast his first vote for Buchanan in 1856.

Mrs. Watkins was a very energetic, industrious, persevering and pious woman, well fitted by nature for the hardships of a pioneer life. She was a devout member of the Church of England, but when she went to her wilderness home in Wisconsin, she joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, which was the only religious organization in the county at that time. She did not long survive the death of her husband, but died in 1870. She was the mother of six children, of whom the following is recorded: Mary A., born May 11, 1843, married Stephen De Yoe; James was born April 14, 1845; Amelia was born Jan. 3, 1847, and married D. H. Baker; Albert, our subject; George was born June 20, 1852; Eliza C., born July 28, 1855, married Elwood Pike.

The early days of our subject were spent in Wisconsin, following the usual routine of boys at that time, working on the farm in summer and attending school in winter, up to the time when he was nearly seventeen years of age. He was an ambitious youth, and being anxious to secure an education, then entered a private academy at Linden, in the same county where his home was, his father, who took a lively interest in the cause of education, being one of the incorporators and founders of that academy. He was prepared for college in that institution, and entered the State University at Madison in 1867. He was afterward graduated from the literary department of the university. He then became a student in the law department, and was graduated in the class of '72, receiving the degrees of Ph. B. and LL. B. After completing his collegiate course, Mr. Watkins entered the law office of Alex. Wilson,

Esq., afterward Attorney General of the State, who was at that time practicing his profession in Mineral Point. After remaining there nearly a year, he formed a law partnership with the County Attorney, under the firm name of Reed & Watkins. Being finally obliged to abandon the practice of law on account of poor health, Mr. Watkins, having a natural taste for literary work, bought an interest in the Mineral Point *Democrat* in 1874, and became its editor, conducting the paper for nearly three years in partnership with George Crawford. He was appointed County Superintendent of Public Instruction in 1874, to which office he was subsequently elected for the full term on the Democratic ticket, in the fall of 1875. In the fall of 1877, his term of office expiring, Mr. Watkins sold out his interest in the Mineral Point *Democrat*, and went to Sioux City, bought an interest in the Sioux City *Tribune*, and was its editor for three years. He then sold out and bought an interest in the *Daily State Democrat*, of Lincoln, Neb., of which he was one of the editors until he received his appointment in November, 1885, as Postmaster of Lincoln, the onerous duties of which office he has since discharged with great satisfaction to the citizens of the city.

Mr. Watkins was married, Dec. 31, 1875, to Miss Margaret Anna Baker, daughter of John U. and Elizabeth (Dale) Baker, who was born near Mineral Point, Iowa Co., Wis., Aug. 6, 1851, being the fourth in a family of twelve children. The names of these children, all of whom are living but one, are as follows: Edward Dale, John Turner; Elizabeth Ann, wife of John Osborne, of Scranton, Iowa; Margaret Anna, wife of our subject; Clarkson, who died in infancy; Joseph Uglow, Nicholas Dale, Osmon Cleander; Alma Louisa, wife of Rev. Samuel Trowsdale, of Eau Claire, Wis.; Clara D., wife of W. H. Flett, of Merrill, Wis.; Carrie, Lillie Dale.

Mrs. Watkins' father was a native of England, born Feb. 6, 1815, in Devonshire, which had been the home of his ancestors for many generations. In 1837 he emigrated to this country in company with five brothers, and settled in Wisconsin in 1838. They were early pioneers of Iowa County, where they all purchased large adjoining tracts of land,

and improved fine farms. Mr. Baker remained a resident of that county, extensively and prosperously engaged in farming, until 1877, when he moved with his family to Madison, where he now lives, that he might educate his children in the State University. He affiliates with the Democratic party, and is a staunch supporter of its principles. He was in his early days a member of the Church of England, but since coming to the United States has, for nearly fifty years, been a leading member and local minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Socially, he is identified with the A. F. & A. M. He is a man honored and respected wherever known, and has been successful in all his business career. His wife, who is a native of Cornwall, England, also belongs to the Methodist Church, and is a true Christian. She is a woman of remarkable personal energy and great executive ability. While her husband is, and always has been, a Democrat, she was, in ante-bellum times, an outspoken Abolitionist, but is now an ardent Prohibitionist. To our subject and his wife three children have been born: Clara Anna, born Nov. 12, 1876; Albert Vilas, March 23, 1879; and Margaret, Jan. 10, 1887. Mrs. Watkins is a woman of culture, having been educated in the State Normal School, at Platteville, Wis. She is a member of the Congregational Church, of Lincoln. She occupies, with her husband, a prominent social position, and her rare gift as a singer often brings her before the public, where her rich contralto voice is heard with pleasure by lovers of music.



JOHAN L. HERMANCIE is another of those who rightly deserve the name representative, as applied either to their position as citizens or referring to their occupation. Our subject is a prominent farmer and stock-raiser, devoting his special attention to the higher orders of pedigree and blooded stock. His extensive and well-ordered farm is situated on section 20, Oak Precinct.

The father of our subject, John S. Hermance, was born about the year 1806, in New York State, and in due time received his education in the common schools of his native town, after which he was engaged in farming and in the lumber trade and gen-

eral traffic. New York State was always his home. About the year 1825 he was married to Miss Marion Bristol, of Columbia County, N. Y. Of their family five are still living, the remaining two having died in early years. The eldest daughter was named Elizabeth; the next child James, and then John L. (our subject), Robert and Catherine. Elizabeth married Edwin Annis, of Cattaraugus County, N. Y.; her brother James lives in Allegany County, N. Y.; Robert is a resident of Pittsfield, Mass.; and Catherine is the wife of Lewis Stanley, and is a resident of Wellsville, N. Y.

The father died in December, 1885, at Cuba, N. Y., at the ripe age of seventy-nine years. His wife, Marion Bristol, was the daughter of John Bristol, a clergyman of the Baptist denomination in Columbia County, N. Y. She was about the same age as her husband, and died in the year 1862.

Our subject, John L., was born in 1832, on the 16th day of January, in Rensselaer County, N. Y. In the schools of Columbia County he received his education, spending some time latterly in those of Canaan. After finishing his schooling our subject went to work upon his father's farm, in which occupation he remained until his marriage. This important event transpired March 28, 1852; the lady of his choice was Miss Esther Hawkins, a most amiable and excellent lady. To them have been born three children, two of whom are living—a son, Ernest, and Helen, now the wife of Mr. Luther Batten, of Oak Precinct. (See sketch.) After marriage our subject continued farming, and extended his connection in the lumber business until the year 1861, when the bugle note of war's alarm sounded throughout the country, and in response he enlisted in Company C, 67th New York Volunteers, as a private, May 9, 1861. He continued service in the ranks until 1862, when he was detached and sent to Douglas Hospital, Washington, D. C. Upon recovery he became Ward Master in the same institution until July of the same year, when he was mustered out on account of ill-health. Nothing daunted, with the return to health he again enlisted, this time in Company A, 188th New York Volunteers, and was appointed color-bearer for the regiment. He remained in this position until the surrender of Lee to Grant. At this deeply impres-

sive scene our subject was present in charge of the colors of his regiment, which was then in the 5th Army Corps. He was engaged in quite a number of battles and minor fights. At the close of the struggle he returned with his regiment to Washington, and was mustered out after the grand review, from thence returning to his home in Allegany County, N. Y.

Nebraska was visited in the year 1872, and upon April 24 of that year Mr. Hermance took up a homestead nine miles north of Lincoln, which he proceeded to improve, and subsequently obtained the title. Shortly after this he was appointed Superintendent of the Poor Farm, and so satisfactory was the manner in which the duties of this office were discharged that he retained it for six consecutive years. He then purchased a farm of 160 acres somewhat nearer to Lincoln, and this he has brought into a very perfect state of cultivation. The buildings for farm use are commodious and well arranged, with a view to the uses to which they are required to be put. The residence is a substantially built house, pleasantly situated, and although not pretentious in its architecture, offers the more satisfactory features of a home. The care and expenditure which have been put into the orchard are apparent, and it is a most profitable investment, being quite large, and the various trees of high grade and well selected. The yield, other things being equal, is unusually good, both in point of quality and quantity.

This farm and residence were after a few years sold at a high price, which was commanded by their merits, and a removal was effected to his present home, which was then purchased. The new residence is most pleasantly situated on the Oak Creek Valley road, upon 100 acres of exceptionally fine land, on which he has expended much time and labor, and has been rewarded, as in the previous case, by Dame Nature, who seems to differ from her sister, Fortune, in that she is less capricious, and will reward only the earnest and diligent, whereas Dame Fortune scatters her smiles and favors apparently without method or reason, letting them fall to whoever may happen to please this coquettish dandel at the moment.

Our subject could not do without his fruit trees, which were much missed upon leaving the old farm.

He therefore set to work to supply this lack, and in as short time as possible he had an orchard containing upward of 250 well-bearing and carefully selected apple trees, besides an abundance of other trees and bushes, bearing fruits large and small. Those who have experienced a Nebraska summer will know well how to appreciate the grateful and cooling shade, and will not be surprised that our subject should, in addition to the orchard, be careful to provide this desideratum. He is now provided with a very fine collection of forest trees, numbering several hundred of black walnut, besides other varieties in proportion. At different times and in different places, Mr. Hermance has owned considerable real estate in this county, and has done very much for the improvement of the district. He was the owner also of a large tract of land at Hastings, Neb., which he recently sold at an advance, also property adjoining West Lincoln, which he sold at an advance. Our subject has always been held in the highest repute, and the many laudable qualities of his character and conduct are fully appreciated by his fellow-citizens. He has usually been one of the Election Board of his precinct, also School Director of the district in which he lives.

Miss Esther Hawkins, who became the wife of Mr. Hermance, was born Dec. 22, 1831, in Cattaraugus County, N. Y. She received her early education in the common schools of her native place, and after she had done with the benches, desks and school books as a scholar, she presented herself for examination, and was adjudged worthy to return and take charge as a teacher, in which capacity she continued to give satisfaction to all concerned until she resigned her position to take her place at the hymeneal altar. The father of this lady was born in Oswego County, N. Y., about the beginning of the present century, and when a young man was married to Miss Betsey Morris. Their family comprises some eight children. They resided in Cattaraugus County for over thirty years, Mr. Hawkins following the occupation of farming. His death occurred about the year 1854, and after two or three years his widow entered into a second matrimonial alliance. The record of births in the family bears the names of his children as follows: Harriet, Orson, Euphemia, William, Esther (now Mrs. Her-

mance), Duty, Oscar and Rodna. Orson, William and Oscar are deceased, and with the exception of Esther, the others still reside in their native county.

Ernest Hermance, son of J. L. and Esther (Hawkins) Hermance, was united in marriage, in April, 1872, at Scio, Allegany Co., N. Y., to Miss Electa Black, of New York, and to them were born three children—William Leroy, James and Rodna. They were divorced, and after a time he was again married, and now to Miss Jennie Ward, of Lancaster County, who has presented him with two children. Mr. Hermance is a farmer in the county, and, like his father, enjoys the heartiest confidence and highest esteem of his fellow-citizens.

In politics Mr. Hermance is a staunch Republican, and he and his wife have for many years been members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

THEODORE R. CHITTENDEN, a gentleman in the prime of life and ranking among the leading farmers of Yankee Hill Precinct, has for the last four years been laboring to good advantage, cultivating 160 acres of land on section 18. He is a man held in respect by his neighbors, being a thorough and skillful farmer, meeting his obligations promptly, and acquitting himself in all respects as a useful member of the community.

Mr. Chittenden was born in Hillsdale County, Mich., Oct. 6, 1844. Nelson Chittenden, his father, was born and reared in Onondaga County, N. Y., where, upon reaching manhood, he led to the altar one of the most estimable young ladies of his township, Miss Elizabeth Nelson. They continued residents of the Empire State a short time, and then the father determined to cast his lot among the pioneers of Southern Michigan. He chose his location in Cambria Township, Hillsdale County, and spent his first night there in a hollow log. With his estimable wife he subsequently endured all the privations and hardships incident to life in a new country, and after building up a good homestead departed hence, in 1850. The mother survived her husband a period of thirty-six years, remaining a

widow, and spent her last days in Hillsdale County' Mich., passing away in 1886.

Our subject was a little lad six years of age at the time of his father's death, and began early in life to paddle his own canoe. He lived with his mother on the farm until fourteen years old, working around among the neighbors by the month, and spending a portion of the winter season in school. He realized the advantages of book learning, and, by improving his opportunities, became fairly well posted upon matters of general interest in the world, and still keeps up the course of reading which assisted him to an intelligent manhood. When twenty-six years of age, believing that he would be justified in taking upon himself the responsibilities of a family, he was united in marriage, Dec. 24, 1870, with Miss Catherine Van Ness, a sister of Mrs. John F. Hay, of Yankee Hill Precinct, and of whom a sketch appears elsewhere in this ALBUM. Shortly after marriage Mr. and Mrs. Chittenden took up their residence in Calhoun County, Mich., where they lived until coming to Yankee Hill Precinct, in 1884. To our subject and his wife there have been born six children, two of whom, Charles and Nelson, died at the ages of twelve years and two and one-half months. The four surviving are named respectively: Willie, Cornelia, Clarence and Lena.

The farm of our subject includes 160 acres of good land, which he has redeemed from the indifferent condition in which he found it, making a highly productive tract which is now the source of a comfortable income. He has earned his possessions by the sweat of his brow, and now, sitting under his own vine and fig tree, is enjoying that to which he is amply entitled. He is liberal-minded and public-spirited, a staunch Republican, politically, and has served as Moderator in his school district since becoming a resident here.

JUDSON E. VANDERLIP, President of the Citizens' Bank, of Bennet, and a leading merchant of the town, is widely and favorably known throughout the eastern part of this county as one of its most energetic and capable

men. He represents a fine estate, being the owner of about 400 acres of land on section 3 in Nemaha Precinct, all under a high state of cultivation, and valuable property in the village.

The farm of Mr. Vanderlip is stocked with thoroughbred Short-horn cattle, besides a goodly assortment of the common grades, and he is also considerably interested in the breeding of high-grade horses, having an interest in the celebrated English stallions, Brigadier and Favora, who are owned by the Bennet Horse Company, in which Mr. V. is a stockholder. These animals took the first premium at the Nebraska State Fair in 1887.

The Citizens' Bank, of Bennet, was organized in October, 1886, Mr. Vanderlip being one of the leading men of the enterprise. Its capital stock is \$25,000, and our subject has been President since the start. He is comparatively a young man, having been born Aug. 14, 1844, and first opened his eyes to the light in Upper Canada, where he was reared on a farm and completed his education in the High Schools. His parents, Robert and Caroline (Beebe) Vanderlip, were natives respectively of New York State and Canada. They came to Kent County, this State, about 1852, locating on a tract of land, where the father carried on farming, and was called from his earthly labors in 1888. The mother is still living at the old homestead. The parental household included ten children, of whom nine are living and residents mostly of Michigan and Nebraska. Of these, Judson E. was the second born.

Our subject continued with his parents until twenty-five years of age, then resided in Ionia County, and engaged in farming and teaching until May, 1869, when he changed his residence to Stockton Precinct, this county. Homesteading eighty acres of land, he operated as a tiller of the soil for a period of five years, then coming to Bennet engaged in general merchandising, and thus he still follows in connection with his other interests. He has the largest establishment in the place, and keeps a full stock of everything required in the village or country household. For two years he has been President of the Village Board, and takes a lively interest in every enterprise calculated to advance the interests of his community.

Politically, he is independent, aiming to support the men whom he considers best qualified for office. He became identified with the Masonic fraternity in 1869, and is the Secretary of Bennet Lodge No. 94.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Marietta Robinson was celebrated at the home of the bride, in Ionia County, this State, Feb. 17, 1870. Of this union there is but one child, Edwin A., who was born in April, 1873, in Stockton Precinct. They occupy a handsome and comfortable home, and enjoy the esteem and confidence of hosts of friends. The Citizens' Bank occupies offices in the handsomest block in the village, and has become one of the indispensable institutions of this part of the county. The name of its President carries with it a guarantee which establishes it firmly among the other business interests in this region, and is ample security that its affairs will be conducted upon a safe basis. Mr. Vanderlip has assisted materially in the building up of the town of Bennet, has here invested a large proportion of his capital, and here centered his most valued interests. He esteems no effort too great that shall result in the general good of the people around him in advancing their social and financial welfare, and in giving to the rising generation the advantages which shall make of them a race of honest men and good citizens, prepared to take up the mantle of those who shall have gone before.

It is eminently proper that the portrait of this representative citizen should grace the ALBUM of Lancaster County, and we accordingly place it herein with pleasure.



DAVID E. PREY. Among the old settlers of Lancaster County, and its worthy citizens, must be mentioned the gentleman whose biography is here briefly sketched. He is a native of New York State, where he was born on the 5th of June, 1842. He is the son of John B. and Margaret Prey, of whom further mention is made in the sketch of J. W. Prey, whose biographical sketch will be found upon another page of this volume. Our subject came to Lan-

caster County in 1856, and has since resided here continuously. The educational possibilities of his early surroundings were exceedingly limited, such, however, as were offered he took every advantage of, and has since by general reading greatly improved his education.

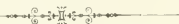
The chosen occupation of our subject has been that of farming, into which he was initiated when he was quite small, receiving, as he grew in strength and intelligence, more complete instruction, and performing more perfectly the duties assigned. At the time of his coming to Nebraska it was practically an unknown territory, and had not had the first roughness of its original condition removed; Indians and wild game of different kinds were far more plentiful than settlers, and the land for mile after mile stretched away without a sign of civilization. From this primitive condition he has watched with pride its phenomenal development.

In 1863 our subject entered a homestead claim for 160 acres of land, which he has brought to a well-nigh perfect state of cultivation. Since that time he has purchased other sixty acres, giving him a total of 220, which includes the farm as at present operated. The chief productions are those which would be included by the phrase general farming, and our subject has always been successful in his harvests, excepting where, as at the time of the grasshopper plague, circumstances beyond his control absolutely prevented.

On the 25th of February, 1872, Mr. Prey was united in marriage with Sarah X. Davis, a native of Ohio, who has presented him with three children, who bear the following names: Nina, Daisy and David. Mrs. Prey was born on the 14th of March, 1852, in Morgan County of the above State, and is a daughter of Reuben and Elizabeth Davis, the former of whom is deceased. Her father was born in New England and later removed to Ohio, where he met and married his wife, a native of that State and of English ancestry. This lady is still living, and resides in Whiteside County, Ill., where her husband died in October, 1887.

Our subject has served the important office of School Director for several terms, and also that of Road Overseer. He has been prosperous in the various business undertakings of his life, and has

been enabled to lay aside a fair competence against the proverbial rainy day. As a man and a citizen he is simple in his habits, industrious and energetic, honorable in every transaction, and consequently much esteemed. In politics he has always been a supporter of the Republican party.



DA. STOCKING. It being generally believed that heredity and environment have much to do with the formation of character, and that our lives are stimulated by the immediate or indirect influence of our ancestors, a short *resumé* of the lives of Mr. Stocking's parents may serve as the index to the liberal impulses which mark his daily life, and which have won for him the esteem of those who know him. He is descended from those Puritan Fathers of our Republic who exerted in so signal a manner their wisdom and energy in planting the seeds of freedom, piety and learning, the fruits of which are so richly enjoyed from the Atlantic to the Pacific. It is a trite remark, because so obvious and just, that no people on earth owe more to their ancestors than the descendants of the early New England families.

The courage and devotion manifested by these zealous and freedom seeking people generally throughout all the American colonies during the opening scenes of the Revolution and the long-continued trials of the war, are entitled to the profound respect and admiration of all. Against pressure of social influence in the large Colonial town where bribes and offers were freely made by the emissaries of the Crown, and where predictions of anarchy and ruin were constantly poured forth by the timid and mercenary; against the temptations held out by the wealthy and ruling classes and threats hurled at them by the most powerful of the Royalists, those New England men and those noble women were proof.

To such noble ancestry do our subject and his wife trace their birth, the forefathers of Mrs. Stocking having been numbered among the crew of the always-to-be-remembered "Mayflower," and those of Mr. Stocking having come to America in Colonial times. The parents of our subject, Abner

and Gratis (Porter) Stocking, were born in Massachusetts, and afterward settled in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, where the husband carried on the occupation of farming. He died in the year 1854, at the age of forty-five, and his wife died in the year 1885, at the age of sixty-five years. They were the parents of four children—William R., David A., Joseph and Mary M.

David, our subject, was born on the 31st of March, 1846, in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, and was eight years old when his father died. He had the advantages to be obtained from attending the public schools, and at the age of fifteen he entered a seminary at Dover, Ohio, and attended there in the winter time. He continued living with his mother until he went to Illinois, where he worked out by the month for the first two years of his residence in that State. In 1869, our subject, in company with E. Hoisington, came to Nebraska and took up a homestead of eighty acres.

In the year 1874 Mr. Stocking was married to Miss Polly Giddings, a daughter of Alfred and Fannie (Van Orden) Giddings. The father of Mrs. Stocking was born in New York, and the mother was born in Greene County of the same State, and after their marriage they resided in their native State for five years, after which they went to Stephenson County, Ill., where they lived a number of years. Then, coming West with their children in 1869, they settled in South Pass Precinct, in Lancaster County. The father died in 1871, aged fifty-eight years, and the mother took up a homestead in 1873, now, however, residing with her daughter, Mrs. Stocking. She is seventy-three years old, and is the mother of ten children, seven of whom are living—Francis, Wallace, William, Nancy, Patti, Polly and Van Orden.

Mrs. Stocking, wife of our subject, was born July 2, 1852, in Kent Township, Stephenson Co., Ill. She received the educational advantages of the common schools, and was eighteen years old when she came to Nebraska. She is the mother of five children—Wallace, Burd, Abner, John W. and Almond Barrell. The latter is deceased. She is a member of the United Brethren Church, and is distinguished for her womanly qualities and zealous industry. Our subject is the owner of 120 acres of land, having made all the improvements by his own

hard labor and careful management. He was formerly a member of the Republican party, but believing that the good of the country would be enhanced by advocating the policy of the Prohibition party, he now takes an active interest in promoting its views, his wife being also strongly in favor of temperance. For two years our subject was Assessor, and for six years he has been School Director, at present filling that honorable position in Panama Precinct. He is a good, honest, upright man, and as such he and his family have the esteem of the entire community in which they live.



MAURICE E. JONES, M. D., a prominent capitalist, of Lincoln, has gained a wide reputation as a successful and skillful physician and surgeon, and to-day occupies a leading position in the medical profession of Nebraska, and he has also shown himself to be a financier of no mean ability. He was born in Montgomeryshire, England, Aug. 3, 1836, a son of John M. and Elizabeth (Edwards) Jones. His parents came to America in 1845, and settled in Great Barrington, Mass. In 1852 his father established himself in the mercantile business in Pittsfield, Mass., and continued to reside there with his family until his death in 1887, when a valued and respected citizen was lost to that community. His amiable wife did not long survive the shock occasioned by his death, as her own occurred a month later. Six of the children born of their marriage grew to maturity, namely: Maurice; Thomas, now in the mercantile business in Taunton, Mass.; Jonathan was a merchant in Providence, R. I., where he died in 1887; Elizabeth C.; Emma A.; A. May married James Hosburg, and they live in Dalton, Mass.

The subject of this sketch was nine years of age when he came to America with his parents, and amid the beautiful scenery of that part of the old Bay State where his parents made their home he grew to vigorous manhood. He received substantial education in the excellent academy at Great Barrington, and in a private school in Lanesboro. He was strongly attracted to the medical profession,

and determined to become a doctor, and he accordingly commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Cady, of Pittsfield, and later was graduated from the Berkshire Medical College in 1860. He commenced to practice his profession in Chesterfield, and thence went to Westford, Mass. In 1862 he was called to Chelsea, Mass., to take the position of Assistant Superintendent of the Chelsea Marine Hospital. He was there but a short time when he resigned to accept the office of Assistant Surgeon in a Rhode Island regiment, and in that capacity he did good service at the battles of Chancellorsville and Fredericksburg. He was in the army for a year, when he resigned, and settled at Meredith Village, and practiced there for a time. From there he went to Mt. Vernon, N. H., remaining there in active practice until 1867. He then established himself in Port Jervis, N. Y., and was there appointed surgeon of the Delaware Division of the Erie Railway. In 1871 he visited his birthplace in England, and after traveling in Europe for three months, returned to America, and settled in his old home in Pittsfield, Mass., where he formed a partnership with Dr. O. S. Roberts. While residing there he invested in real estate in Lincoln without ever having seen it. In 1876 he again visited Europe, and spent six months in traveling over the Old World. On his return to this country he concluded to come to Lincoln to look after his real estate here. At that time Lincoln was a small and quiet place, with but little prospect of ever reaching its present size and importance as a great Western metropolis. The Doctor opened an office here, but after practicing his profession here for two years, he sold out and returned to the East. In 1882 he was selected to take charge of the medical department of the Insane Asylum at Amityville, N. Y. He remained there one year, discharging the duties of his position with satisfaction to those in charge of the institution. He then opened an office in New York City, and was successfully engaged there until 1886. But he had not forgotten Lincoln, and he decided to locate here once again, and he has ever since been an honored resident, and has contributed very materially to its growth. Soon after his return he erected the handsome brick block which he now owns on the corner of

Twelfth and P streets. While a practicing physician in Massachusetts the Doctor was prominently identified with the Pittsfield, Berkshire and Massachusetts State Medical Societies. He joined the Masonic fraternity at Milford, N. H. The Doctor's travels and wide experience have made him a polished and cultured man of the world, and his strong personality, genial manners and entertaining conversation, have drawn to him many warm friends from among the intelligent and educated people whom he has met at home and abroad.



JOHN J. TROMPEN. Among the biographies which grace this volume will be found that of J. J. Trompen, one of Hickman's most popular citizens, influential politicians and prosperous business men. He is one who stands high in the community in stature, as also in the foregoing qualities. He is a man of unusually fine physique, standing six feet six inches, and large in proportion. He is possessed of almost unbounded resources and reserve force, and in spite of a number of reverses has made his way to a very advanced position in life, and if ever pride is a virtue it is so under such circumstances. How much, however, of this prosperity has been the result of his alliance with his talented, cultured and most estimable wife would be hard to say.

The father of our subject was John Trompen, who was born in North Holland, and came to the United States with his father, brothers and sisters while yet a young man, and with them located in Ottawa County, Mich., where also he began farming, continuing his residence at home until 1874, when he came to Nebraska, accompanied by his father, and located in South Pass Precinct. Here he became the owner of 320 acres of farming land, and died upon the homestead at the age of sixty-five years, in 1883. His mother, Mary (Raak) Trompen, was also born in Holland, and still lives upon the homestead, aged sixty-eight years. She has been twice married, her first husband being H. Wiefrich, by whom she became the parent of

one child, Frederick. Her second marriage has been fruitful in the birth of two children—our subject and his sister Martha.

Our subject was born April 8, 1854, at Vriesland, Mich. His early days were spent and his education was received in the schools of the same place. His school life was marked by the same attention to details and perseverance that have made him so successful in later years. His unusually large proportions were early noticeable and rapidly developed. In this regard he took somewhat after his great-grandfather, who was a cavalryman in the favorite regiment of Napoleon I, renowned wherever the history of that military genius is read. He was also a man of large brain power, which seems to have been transmitted by some psychic law of generation to our subject, who also bears the same name.

Mr. Trompen's felicity has been largely enhanced by his union with Miss Jennie Huyser, daughter of Quirinius and Gessie Huyser. This lady was born in Zeeland, Ottawa Co., Mich., June 23, 1853. The education in the common school was supplemented by that of a full course in the Ladies' Seminary, at Holland, of the same State, the curriculum of which included a complete course in music, living languages, artistic work and other accomplishments, and occupied a period of between four and five years. Immediately after her marriage with our subject, which was solemnized at Zeeland, she came to Lincoln, arriving Sept. 22, 1874. The father of our subject had purchased a half-section of land, and upon this occasion presented one-half of it to his son, who began farming at once upon it. For three years they lived in a sod house, as may be surmised of not very extensive proportions. The first three or four years our subject met with trials and adverse circumstances which would have crushed many, and possibly but for the high inspiration that had now come into his life, and lifted him above mere selfish consideration, would have conquered him also, but he labored on and was victor over all.

In the year 1887 our subject began the breeding of hogs and cattle for the market, the former most extensively, and in this new business was remarkably successful. Single-handed he ran his farm of 120 acres, his team consisting of three mules; besides the ordinary draft work they became also the mo-

tive power of his threshing-machine. He began business in Holland in 1882, in farm machinery, implements and general requirements, and in this his prosperity continued with him. In the fall of the same year he came to Hlickman, where, continuing his other business, he went into partnership with Mr. McKimmon in grain and live stock. This, however, was a reverse, for he lost during this partnership about \$1,500. Soon after this he entered into partnership with Mr. Liesveld, and persuaded him to erect a steam grain elevator. The first year the firm ran under the name of Liesveld, Vanburg & Co., but Mr. Vanburg was bought out, and the firm took its present name. Their shipments amount to over 125,000 bushels per year. Besides this business they keep always on hand a large supply of agricultural hardware, and the best makes of buggies and wagons. Mr. Trompen has an especial affinity for mechanism of all kinds, and is entirely in his element in this department of his business, which is the largest of its kind in the county.

The home of our subject has received at different times seven children, who have made it bright with their presence and happy with their mirth. Their names are recorded as below: Nicholas, Sena, Sarah, John, Martha, Fritz and Fredericka, all of whom are at home, the four older ones being in attendance upon the schools of the district.

The history of our subject in connection with all movements and enterprise for the benefit of the community reveals the fact that he is a large-hearted, public-spirited man, intensely interested in the advancement of all classes of the community in which he resides. Politically, his record indorses the same opinion, and moreover has proved the opportunity for advancement of some of the above enterprises. He affiliates with the party of "The Plumed Knight." He has been a candidate nine times in the Republican County Convention, was sent as a delegate to the State Conventions in the years 1880, 1886 and 1887. In the year 1886 he seconded the nomination speech which presented Gov. Thayer to the convention, also Gen. Laws, the present Secretary of State, and Church Howe, now President of the Missouri Pacific Railroad, to the office of Congress. In an exceptionally efficient manner our subject has filled the office of Notary Public for one term, of

Director of Schools for many years, and Justice of the Peace for a period of nine years.

In the Northwest there is a large society of wheat producers and grain buyers, who hold an important position in regard to the business in that commodity in the Northwest, with the object of mutual protection, help and support, known as the Northwest Grain Association. Our subject is one of the prominent members of this association, and one of its most earnest supporters. His high political station and large influence, his popularity and massive intellect, all combine to make him one of its leading members.



WALTER HOGE is Secretary of the News Printing Company, of Lincoln, which publishes the *Weekly and Daily News*, and also does a flourishing business in job printing. The subject of this sketch was born in Greene County, Pa., Oct. 27, 1847, being a son of Abner and Maria (Wise) Hoge. In 1856 his parents removed to LaSalle County, Ill., and the father bought a farm in the southwestern part of the county, and has been prosperously engaged in agricultural pursuits there ever since. He and his wife are benevolent, upright people, whose conduct has always marked them as well worthy of the confidence that they have inspired in their neighbors.

Our subject received his early education in the district school, and by a four-years attendance at that excellent institution of learning, Knox College, Galesburg, Ill., was still further fitted for the literary vocation that he has since adopted. He commenced teaching during his collegiate career, and for several years taught in LaSalle County. He abandoned the profession of teaching for that of a journalist in 1873, buying at that time a third interest in the Streator *Monitor*. In 1875 he sold that paper, and bought an interest in the Streator *Free Press*, then a weekly publication. In 1878 he made it a daily, and continued to publish it with good financial success until 1884, when he sold out, and started West to seek a location. He visited Lincoln, and being pleased with the city, its surroundings, and business prospects, he decided that he would make his home here. He bought an inter-

est in the Lincoln *Daily News*, and has been connected with that paper since that time as managing editor, and he has been Secretary of the company that publishes it since its formation as a stock company. He is a man of good literary ability, has a decided talent for business, and is well thought of in this community.

Mr. Hoge was married, in 1874, to Miss Belle Tullis, and to her sympathy and encouragement he is greatly indebted for his success in life. They have three children—Mabel, Charles and Jessie. While a resident of Streator, Ill., our subject took a prominent part in local and county affairs, was a member of the City Council for several terms, and represented Streator on the County Board of Supervisors for four years, filling the office with great acceptance to his constituents, resigning it in 1884.



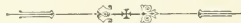
HHOLLMANN is a well-known general farmer and stock-raiser on section 9, Olive Branch Precinct. In this business he has been very successful. He owns 240 acres, nearly all of which is the best improved land. His farm is a fine one, having on it a capital house and substantial out-buildings. Mr. Hollmann developed it from the raw prairie, and its present prosperous condition furnishes abundant proof of its owner's business tact and energy.

Mr. Hollmann came to this State with Henry Kramer, in the year 1865, since which date he has continued to live where he now resides. He formerly resided in Clayton County, Iowa. He and Mr. Kramer were among the first to settle this far west in Nebraska, and endured all the manifold hardships of pioneer life. His account of things as they then were is one of thrilling interest. The subject of our sketch was born in what is now Prussia, Germany, in 1831. When only twenty years old he came to this country alone and unmarried. His father, Frederick Hollmann, was a Hanoverian, and served as a soldier. After spending twelve years in the army as a private, he was pensioned, and spent the latter years of his life in the seclusion of his native village, where he died at the age of eighty-three. He appears to have been a smart,

educated German. Early in life he had married Fredricka Wilka, a most intelligent woman, who died in Hanover at the age of seventy-six.

Our subject was one of the younger of a family of seven stalwart sons and two daughters. He grew to manhood in his native land, and was educated in the German language. On his arrival in the United States he located at Cincinnati, Ohio, for one year, after which he removed to Clayton County, Iowa, where he was married to Eliza Kramer, daughter of the above-mentioned Henry Kramer. This lady was born in Prussia, Germany, in the year 1841. While yet young she came to the United States with her parents, with whom she continued to reside until her marriage to Mr. Hollmann. She is the happy mother of eleven children. Of these the eldest is Magarata, wife of John Fix; they live on a flourishing farm on section 16 of Olive Branch Precinct. Henry, the eldest son, took to wife a Miss Emma Brahnsted, and is a prosperous farmer in this precinct. The second daughter, Amelia, is the wife of George L. Fisher, who lives on and owns a fine farm in the same precinct. The other children are: Fred, Sophia, William, Louisa, Emma, Bernhard, Lany and Edwin, all of whom live at home with their parents.

In religion, Mr. and Mrs. Hollmann are German Methodists. Mr. Hollmann is one of the Church Trustees of the town in which he resides, and also occupies the position of Sabbath-school Superintendent. Mr. Hollmann, who has held most of the offices of his precinct, is a Republican.



HENRY JOHNSON, who resides upon his farm on section 34, Nemaha Precinct, was born in Denmark, Oct. 22, 1845. The news of the broad American prairies, its liberal and liberty-loving institutions, was sounded in the valleys of the land of the Norsemen, and in common with others of his countrymen he determined to visit the New World. Accordingly, in the spring of 1869 he came to this country, and soon after found his way to Nebraska, where he took eighty acres of land on the above section, under the Homestead Law. It is well proved that his confidence in

the country of his adoption and in her resources was not unfounded, for, whereas, when he landed in Nebraska City the total amount in his purse was fifty cents, he is now possessed of 120 acres of well-improved and highly cultivated land, and a most pleasant home. Our subject was married first, in Bennet, Neb., Sept. 4, 1874, to Jennie Ganey. This lady was born in Michigan; her parents were natives of Holland, and possessed their full complement of characteristics incident to the average native of that country. They had brought with them the we-will-not-be-overcome spirit of that sturdy race who dwell beneath the level of the ever-threatening wave, and are perpetually engaged with King Neptune in a war, the cessation of which on their part would mean desolation, defeat and death. This lady bore to our subject six children, who were named as follows: James, Garrett, Charles E., Martha A., Franklin and Willie, the two youngest children being now deceased. The mother of this family, after having spent the years of her wedded life in the noble effort to build up and advance the interests of husband and children, in December, 1886, was called upon to exchange the activities of life, with its shade and sunshine, bright sky and cloud-covered horizon, its labor, pain and tears, interspersed with some smiles, laughter and happiness, for the life beyond, of which we know so little, excepting as we obtain it from Revelation, and may realize from the nature of things some of its outlines, which are beyond our ken, upon the same principle that the sculptor can complete the outline of the mutilated Torso.

The second marriage of our subject occurred in Lancaster County, Neb., May 6, 1887. This lady is also a native of Holland, and is the daughter of Peter and Nellie Clark. Of this marriage there has been born one child, Jacob P.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are members of the Lutheran Presbyterian Church, and enjoy the confidence and high regard of those with whom they are associated. His political connections are with the Republican party, and whenever occasion demands he is found willing to engage in any legitimate enterprise for its support and advancement in the community.

Our subject must be classed among those who

have not had the inestimable advantage of parental assistance in making the grand start in life. Whatever he is, whatever he has done, whatever he possesses, is the result of his own ambition, labor and courage.

WILLIAM H. SUTTON. This gentleman, who represents worthily the peaceable and law-abiding element of Yankee Hill Precinct, has a well-conducted farm of eighty acres, pleasantly located on section 24. He came to Nebraska from Michigan in 1876, through Illinois with a team of horses and a buggy, and after taking ample time to survey the country, finally located in Saunders County, where he lived five years occupied in farming. Then selling out he came to this county in the spring of 1884, locating upon his present farm, where he has since resided.

Our subject is essentially a self-made man, starting out in life without other capital than strong hands and a willing disposition, and has now a comfortable home with a prospect of a competency in his old age. He was born in Livingston County, N. Y., on the 26th of January, 1841, and is the son of Henry C. and Elizabeth Sutton, who were also natives of the Empire State, born in the beautiful tract of country lying along the Hudson River. The Sutton family is of English descent, while on the mother's side our subject has a tincture of French in his veins, as his maternal grandfather, Peter DeGarmo, was a native of France. He crossed the Atlantic in time to do good service with Gen. LaFayette in the Revolutionary War, and spent his last years in New York State. The parents of our subject after their marriage resided for a number of years in the vicinity of the Hudson River, and finally moved into Livingston County, whence later they made their way into Michigan, locating in Washtenaw County. After a few years' residence there they moved to Calhoun County, the father still carrying on farming, and there the death of the mother occurred in 1884. The parental household included eleven children, ten of whom are living, namely: Mary, John, Rowland, Solomon, Peter, Smith, William H., Alfred, Charles and Isabelle. Annie is deceased.

Our subject removed with his parents to Michi-

gan, where he was reared to manhood, and acquired a common-school education. Upon reaching his majority he left the parental roof, and began on his own account, working by the month, receiving \$20 per month and his board. Upon the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted in a Michigan regiment, and was mainly in the Quartermaster's Department, and finally became Assistant Wagonmaster, his duty being to look after the stores, and see that everything was kept in proper shape. After the close of the war he returned to Michigan, where he continued farming until emigrating to Nebraska. While a resident of Saunders County he was united in marriage with Miss Susan A. Hills, the wedding taking place June 10, 1883. Mrs. Sutton was born in Warren County, Ill., Feb. 10, 1847, and of her union with our subject there has been born one child, a son, Clare, March 5, 1884.

Mr. Sutton gives his attention mainly to his farming interests, but at times of general election casts his vote with the Republican party. He is a man of quiet, unobtrusive habits, making very little stir in the world, but pursuing the even tenor of his way honestly and uprightly, performing his duty creditably, and amply filling his niche in the world.



PATRICK BROWN. The fine farm of 160 acres, the property of our subject, and which is eligibly located on section 11, Little Salt Precinct, on the northern line of this county, was homesteaded by him during the early settlement of the latter in 1870. Here he has since labored industriously, lived economically, and built up a homestead which invariably attracts the admiring eye of the traveler through this region. He is a man of whom his neighbors speak in the highest terms, being honest and upright, and possessing all the elements of a good citizen, and one who is of value in his community.

The subject of this sketch, named after the patron saint of his native Ireland, was born on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 1838, in County Limerick, where he lived with his parents until a lad of fourteen years, and, in 1852, set sail for America. After

a brief sojourn in New York City he was employed on a railroad in that State for some time, and then was a resident of Springfield, Ohio, engaged in rail-roading. He came to the State of Nebraska in the year 1870, and purchased the land which constitutes his present farm, but which was then a bare prairie, destitute of trees, and upon which no attempt had been made at cultivation. Among his first labors was the planting of forest trees of various kinds, besides setting out an orchard of apple trees, together with cherry, plum and other choice fruits of the smaller varieties. This feature of his labor at once stamps him as a man of intelligence and forethought, as the planting of trees is everywhere recognized as only the work of an intelligent man of progressive ideas and cultivated tastes.

In addition to general farming Mr. Brown has also given much attention to stock-raising, dealing mostly in Galloway cattle, while he has also some fine horses, brood mares and swine. His homestead in all its appurtenances indicates the labors of a man of energy, prudence, and those better elements which go to make up the first-class citizen. His domestic affairs are presided over by an intelligent wife, who in her girlhood was Miss Margaret Kenyon, and to whom he was married in the city of Lincoln, in May, 1871. Their union resulted in the birth of six children, a bright and interesting group, all of whom are living and at home with their parents. They are named respectively: George, John, Katie, Mary, Maggie and Winnifred M.

Mr. Brown has given his children the advantages of a good education, and by a course of careful home training there is every prospect that they will become amply fitted to represent their worthy parents in an enlightened community of the future. Mrs. Brown was born in the Dominion of Canada, in 1843, and is the daughter of James and Mary (O'Donel) Kenyon, who came to this county, settling in Lincoln; they are now living in Kansas. She acquired a common-school education, and remained with her parents until her marriage.

George Brown, the father of our subject, was born in County Limerick, Ireland, where he married Miss Catherine Griffin, and they became the parents of five children, four of whom lived to mature years and emigrated to America. George



Myron Lower

Brown spent his entire life upon his native soil, occupied as a farmer, and rested from his earthly labors in 1851, when about fifty-three years of age. The mother is also deceased.



MYRON TOWER, a well-known capitalist of Lincoln, is classed among the citizens of Nebraska who have substantially aided its growth and material prosperity, and as a representative pioneer, we are pleased to place a brief record of his life within the pages of this work. From a sturdy New England ancestry he derives those traits of character that have made him a force in the upbuilding of the West. He is a native of Smyrna, Chenango Co., N. Y., born March 20, 1833, to Almon and Mary Tower. Both his paternal and maternal grandfathers were like himself pioneers, they having been early settlers of Chenango County, N. Y.

Shubael Tower, grandfather of our subject, was a native of Connecticut, and when a young man he penetrated to the wilds of Chenango County, N. Y., as an employe of the United States Government, and assisted in cutting a road for a mail route across the Empire State. He subsequently located in Chenango County, being one of its first settlers, and bought a tract of heavily timbered land in the vicinity of Plymouth, the present site. He cleared a farm from the primeval forest, and erected good buildings, making his home there until his death at the advanced age of ninety-six years. He was a man of much influence in the community, where he was revered for his wisdom and true Christian piety. He was one of the original members of the Congregational Church, of which he was Deacon for many years.

Almon Tower, the father of our subject, was born and reared on that old homestead in Plymouth, and in that town he was married to Miss Mary Sexton, also a native of Plymouth, born in December, 1808. Her father, Seth Sexton, was born in Connecticut, and was one of the early pioneers

of Plymouth. He was one of the founders of the Congregational Church, and was a Deacon for many years. He improved a farm, and continued to be one of the substantial citizens of Plymouth until his death, at the age of seventy-two years. He was very prosperous, and acquired quite a large amount of property. After marriage the parents of our subject settled in Smyrna, just over the line from their native town, and lived there until 1843. Then Mr. Tower sold his property there and bought a farm near by in the town of Plymouth, upon which he resided for many years. He accumulated an ample competence by his shrewdness and industry, so that he was enabled to live in retirement during the last years of his life in the pleasant home that he had purchased in the village of Plymouth, his death occurring there in 1883, at the age of seventy-six. He joined the Congregational Church when quite young, and was a Deacon for many years, being an active worker in the cause of religion, temperance, and in everything that would in any way promote the moral advancement of the community in whose interests his own were so bound up. In politics he was originally a Whig, but he early gave his allegiance to the Republican party, actively assisting in its organization. His good wife, who faithfully shared with him the burdens of life, lightening his labors by her cheerful assistance, still resides in the town of Plymouth, being now in her eightieth year, beloved and respected by all who know her. She was the mother of nine children, seven of whom grew to maturity, and the following is their record: Myron; Addison lives in Furnas County, Neb.; Nancy A. married Eugene Phelps, and lives in Wahoo, Neb.; Anasa died in 1885, in Hyde County, Dak.; Warren lives in Lancaster County, Neb.; Nettie married Charles West, and lives in Fremont, Neb.; Flora E. married William Stewart, and lives in Plymouth, N. Y.

The subject of this sketch was reared in his native county, receiving an education in the district school. He early showed a talent for music, which was cultivated, and he became quite a proficient musician. Being a young man of marked decision of character, ambitious and enterprising, he early sought the new States of the Great West, as a broader and more promising field than his native place

wherein to work out the problem of "How to make a success of life," starting out from his old home in 1856, and spending his first winter away from the parental roof in Walworth County, Wis. In the spring of 1857 he started for Minnesota, going by rail as far as the railway was completed, thence by stage to Prairie du Chien, and from there on the river to La Crosse, where he engaged with a commission merchant to travel through Northern Minnesota and Wisconsin. In the fall he returned to Walworth County, whence he again went to Minnesota in the following spring of 1858, and located, being in the employ of a surveying party, and in the winter he taught singing school in different places in Olmsted and Fillmore Counties. In the summer of 1859 he went to La Crosse Valley, Wis., and rented a farm. The next winter he made his home in Walworth County, and then went to Illinois, where he bought a threshing-machine in the fall of 1860, and ran it very profitably that season. We next hear of him as again living on a rented farm in La Crosse Valley, where he staid a year. After that he returned once more to Minnesota, and settled in the town of Saratoga, Winona County.

The life of our subject has an added interest for us in that he was a member of that great and glorious body of soldiery who preserved our Union intact, and the honor of our flag unscathed, during the late civil strife, and at the risk of losing their lives, and at the sacrifice of all that they held dear on earth. It was while a resident of Minnesota, in the winter of 1862-63, that Mr. Tower enlisted in Company K, 9th Minnesota Infantry, and served until after the close of the war. He had a thrilling experience in the army, suffering all the terrible hardships that can befall a soldier, and if he had not inherited a fine physique, and a constitution of iron from a temperate and hardy ancestry, he would scarcely have been alive to-day. He was wounded June 10, 1864, in the battle of Guntown, and lay on the battle-field six days with no medical attendance and nothing to eat or drink. He took his gun to pieces and buried it to save capture. Six days after the battle he was taken by the rebels to Andersonville Prison, suffering severely from a wound in his left leg. In the September following his capture, he and other of his fellow-prisoners dug a tun-

nel, through which he and four of his comrades escaped outside of the stockade, but they were recaptured when five miles away, and were obliged to return to the horrors of prison life. In October our subject made his escape again, by riding out under the provision wagon, making his way to the woods, where he traveled nights, and remained concealed during the day. He was obliged to forage for a living, and the first few days ate nothing but raw sweet potatoes and wild grapes, but he finally ventured to the negro cabins, whose hospitable inmates gave him hoe cake to stay his hunger. He was still suffering severely from the effect of his wounds, from which he has never recovered, his progress was therefore necessarily very slow, and notwithstanding the brave effort that he had made to regain his liberty, he was recaptured near Cape Fear River, and taken to Wilmington, N. C., and thence to Florence, S. C., where he was confined until December, 1864. He was then exchanged and taken to the hospital in Annapolis, where he nearly died from sickness caused by his wounds, and at the time of his discharge from the hospital, June 20, 1865, and for two years after, he walked with two crutches, and occasionally has to resort to them even now.

After his discharge from the army Mr. Tower returned to Minnesota, and resided there until 1868, when he removed to Nebraska, the journey from Minnesota being made with a team in about sixteen days. He made a claim to Government land in Mill Precinct, and getting some lumber at Plattsmouth, about forty-five miles distant, erected the first frame house in the vicinity. Plattsmouth was the nearest market and depot for supplies. The country roundabout was in a very wild and unsettled condition, antelope and elk being plenty, and a few miles west buffaloes were numerous. Our subject improved quite a tract of land, planted fruit and shade trees, and resided there until the fall of 1870. He then sold that place and bought land near there, which is now included in the city, and engaged in the nursery business, being a pioneer in that line. The first year he cleared \$1,000 on his nursery stock and small fruits, and he continued to do well until 1874, when the grasshoppers destroyed his crops, and he lost about \$6,000 thereby, and

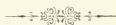
nearly all of his hard earnings was swept away in his honorable desire to fulfill his obligations. Nothing daunted by his ill luck, he removed to Fillmore County and bought a homestead claim, and lived on it in a sod house for nearly two years. He then erected a frame house, and improved a good farm, setting out fruit and shade trees, and otherwise increasing its value. Prosperity smiled on his persistent efforts, and he was enabled to increase the acreage of his land until he owned 320 acres. In 1870 he sold half of his farm, and renting the remaining half, moved to Carleton, Thayer County, that he might obtain better schooling for his children. He built a fine residence there, and lived in that place until 1883, when he again took up his abode in Lincoln. His return to this city was very opportune, as it was just before the rise in real estate, and with great shrewdness and foresight, he made many investments that were exceedingly profitable, and have placed him among the moneyed men of Lancaster County. He has speculated much in real estate, and has built and sold houses. He erected his present beautiful home on Second and Twenty-fourth streets, and here he and his family enjoy all the comforts and luxuries afforded by a well-appointed dwelling and an ample income.

Mr. Tower has been twice married. His first marriage, which took place in Walworth County, Wis., in October, 1860, was to Miss Chloe L. Maynard, a native of that county. Her father, Rufus Maynard, a native of Vermont, was an early pioneer of Walworth County. Mrs. Tower died at St. Charles, Minn., in 1867, leaving two children—Almon and May. Mr. Tower's second marriage, Jan. 17, 1869, was to Miss Mary Evans, a native of Wales, born Nov. 12, 1832. She is a daughter of Daniel M. and Sarah (James) Evans, natives of Wales, who emigrated to America in 1833. They lived in New York City four years, and then moved to Utica, whence they went in 1856 to Minnesota, going by lake to Chicago, thence by rail to Galena, and from there on the river to Winona, Minn. The father was a tailor, and followed his trade there for some years. He then turned his attention to agriculture, and bought a farm near St. Charles, and later settled in Faribault as Superintendent in the tailor department at the asylum for deaf mutes, and

continued his residence there until his death, in 1880, his wife having died several years before. They were thoroughly good people; both members of the Congregational Church, of which he was Deacon for many years, and he was also a great worker in the Sunday-school, being the first Superintendent of the first Sunday-school established in Winona. Mrs. Tower resided with her parents until her marriage, receiving a fine education, which well qualified her for the profession of teacher, which she followed for some years. Of her parents' family the two oldest children were born in Wales, three in New York City, and the rest in Utica, N. Y. The oldest son, David Evans, is a graduate of Williams College, where he was a classmate of Garfield. He served as a Lieutenant Colonel of the 35th New York Infantry, and also Colonel of the 20th New York Cavalry. He was in the United States Mint at Philadelphia a number of years, and now edits a paper at Millbank, Dak. Mrs. Tower's brother John J. was a gallant soldier in the late war, serving in the 1st Minnesota Infantry; Benjamin is dead; George was graduated from Philadelphia Medical College, and established himself in the practice of his profession in that city, where he died; William served in the late war in Company K, 6th Minnesota Infantry; he served as County Treasurer of Grant County, Dak., for a number of years, and also Chairman of the Railroad Commission. Mrs. Tower's sister Sarah resides in Faribault, Minn., where she taught some years; Elizabeth married Carlos Brewer, and they live in Faribault; Margaret was graduated from Lawrence University, Appleton, Wis., and is now preceptress at Carleton College, Northfield, Minn.; Hattie is a teacher in the schools of Faribault. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Tower, all of whom died in infancy.

A man of Mr. Tower's incorruptible integrity and sound business policy wields a good influence in any community, and his councils are valuable to his fellow-citizens, and when he has been persuaded to take part in public affairs he has performed the duties of office with a single eye to the best interests of the municipality. While a resident of Fillmore County he held the office of Justice of the Peace. He was appointed Assessor of Lincoln in 1872, and again in 1888. In politics he has always

been a staunch Republican. Religiously, both Mr. and Mrs. Tower are members of the Presbyterian Church, and they have done much toward building it up. The portrait of Mr. Tower is given on an adjoining page.



REV. EDWIN HARTZELL, a licensed minister of the United Brethren Church, preaches when his services are in request, and being fond of rural life, is also engaged as a farmer on section 24, in Yankee Hill Precinct. A man of intelligence, a close student and an extensive reader, he represents the intelligence of his community in a marked degree, and exercises over it a healthy influence.

The paternal ancestors of our subject came from Switzerland to America during the Colonial days. His grandfather served as a soldier in the Mexican War. On his mother's side he is of English descent. His parents, Peter and Rebecca Hartzell, were natives of Pennsylvania, where they spent their entire lives, the mother passing away Sept. 27, 1856, and the father Jan. 26, 1872. The latter was a farmer by occupation and a man of standing in his community. The household circle included thirteen children, eight of whom survive. Samuel, the eldest living, continues a resident of the Keystone State; Sarah is the wife of J. S. Unangst, of Grant Precinct, this county; William is carrying on farming in his native county; Mary C., Mrs. Fraley, now a widow, is a resident of Logan County, this State; George C. is farming in Otoe County; Benjamin F. is in Logan County, and Amelia, Mrs. Jacob Fisher, resides in Middlesex County, N. J. The subject of this sketch was brought up to manhood in his native State, where he received a liberal education, mostly through his own efforts, being a bright and ambitious youth and realizing the advantage of practical knowledge. He has always been occupied more or less with farm pursuits, and made his way to this State in 1878, locating at once in this county, of which he has since been a resident. He secured his present property in 1880, which embraces a fine farm of eighty acres, which he has subjected to a thorough process of cultiva-

tion, and which is now the source of a handsome income. He has the true and fine appreciation of a country life, and takes pride in his home and its surroundings.

The marriage of Rev. Edwin Hartzell and Miss Adelia Taylor was celebrated at the home of the bride in Nebraska, on the 1st of January, 1887. Mrs. Hartzell was born in Sangamon County, Ill., Dec. 24, 1868, and is the daughter of Valentine and Rosie Taylor, who are natives of Kentucky, and are now residents of Harlem County, this State. Mr. Hartzell, politically, is a Republican, with strong temperance proclivities, being entirely averse to the use of intoxicating drinks, a drop of which has never passed his lips. He became identified with the United Brethren Church in 1886, and holds membership with the society at Jamaica.



BERNARD GRADY, one of the early pioneers of West Oak, is the subject of this sketch, who, however, although still owning his farm in West Oak, makes his residence in Raymond Village. To his son he has given a farm of eighty acres, part of the original West Oak property. The father of our subject, John Grady, was born in Prussia, in the year 1782. He was united in marriage with Catherine Taske, and to this union were born seven children, all of whom it was their privilege to see grow up to manhood and womanhood. The family comprised five boys and two girls, our subject being the youngest child. John Grady was by occupation a farmer, and in this he was as successful as was possible in his time. He died in the year 1845, and was survived by his wife several years.

Our subject was ushered into life in Prussia, Nov. 26, 1825. He spent the years of boyhood in the common schools of his native country, and afterward continued with his father, occupied in agricultural work until he was about sixteen years of age. In 1848, while enjoying the full strength and vigor of life he emigrated to this country and settled in New Jersey. While in Prussia he had taken time to make himself acquainted with the trade of a carpenter, and for twenty years continued to sup-

port himself by working at the same, continuing for that period in the same State. About the year 1865 he removed to Fond du Lac County, Wis., where he took land and began the life of a pioneer. Year after year saw his farm more improved, and brought to a higher state of cultivation, until after the lapse of a few years he realized that the neighbors were getting too thick around, and owing to the high state of efficiency to which he had brought his farm and stock, he was enabled to sell at a good price, then, freed from all impediments, he pushed out into the Far West, settling finally in this State.

Mr. Grady now began for a second time pioneer life, and took up a quarter-section of land on section 25, West Oak Precinct. This was in the year 1874. He went to work with vigor, and now found his New Jersey experience serve him well, for he was enabled to put up a superior residence with less labor than many of his fellows. To this he added as demands were made upon him the various barns, stables and other farm buildings. The land was no longer left in its native untamed condition, but was made subject to his intelligence and labor. In a very short time he had an improved farm, and as the seasons succeeded each other in rapid succession, the land was brought to a high state of cultivation, until it became one of the best in the whole district. Great attention has been given to the production and culture of ornamental and fruit trees. These, however, can only be truly appreciated by those who have made a near acquaintance with them, who have enjoyed their fruit, beautiful, ripe and luscious, or have reclined in the heat of the day under their refreshing shadows, and been kissed by the breezes made by the continual fanning of their leaves. In this delightful home our subject continued to reside until Nov. 27, 1883, when he removed to his present residence at Raymond, which is also the work of his own hands. In Raymond our subject enjoys the quiet ease and rest which he has earned so well through the long years of toil, danger and difficulties of his pioneer life, and it is gratifying, doubtless, to him to realize as he looks around, that the property accumulated, and the beautiful home now enjoyed, are the reward of those years of toil.

Our subject was united in the bonds of wedded

life, in the year 1852, with Ann Kennedy, who was born in Belfast. To them were given two sons and one daughter: Charles, now residing in West Oak Precinct; John, who occupies the old homestead; and Anna, now Mrs. John W. Leckliter, of Lincoln. His wife was removed from his side by death in 1864. Between two and three years after a second alliance was entered into, with Mrs. Harriet Harmer. They were married May 12, 1866. They have one child, Katie Alice, who resides at home with her parents. Mrs. Harriet Grady was born Oct. 9, 1828, in the State of Vermont. She is the daughter of Abial and Dianthia Stiekney. When she was about one year old her parents removed to New York, and she continued to reside with them until she was eighteen. In that city she received her education and training for after life, and about 1846 removed with her parents to Illinois, where she met the gentleman to whom she was first married, which event transpired in the same State. It was her misfortune to lose her first husband, who died in Wisconsin. She afterward met and was united to our subject, as noted above.

The father of Mrs. Grady was an intelligent and prosperous farmer, and after the removal to Illinois continued his residence there until his death in 1854. Mr. and Mrs. Grady are not only united in the bonds of marriage, but are also one in their religious sentiments, and find their religious home in the communion of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Raymond, and are justly the recipients of the highest esteem and regard, which are commanded by their social position and noble Christian characters.

Charles, the eldest son of our subject, was united in marriage with Isabel Elliot, daughter of Charley Elliott, in 1876. Their home has been gladdened by the birth of one child, named Frank Elsworth.

We have only to add one word by way of contrast, of the condition of things in the district at the time our subject first settled, and that upon which he looks to-day. Where are now large cities, filled with busy, bustling people, with elegant homes, extensive business blocks, fine school-houses, and comfortable churches, or where are prosperous, bustling towns, villages and hamlets, farmhouses with their broad acres of fields, and pasture lands,

then was wild, untamed prairie, upon which the eye could see nothing but the wild-cats, wolves, deer and other game, or the wigwam of the then numerous and even more untamed Indian.

Our subject has always given his undivided attention to the working of his land and its cultivation and the improvement of his stock, and has never been prominent in the community in its political affairs. He is, however, a warm supporter of the Republican party. In the community our subject and his family are regarded among its most honored and representative citizens, and are accorded by all, as is justly due, the fullest confidence and highest regard.



WILLIAM D. GULICK, an enterprising business man, is proprietor of one of the oldest established bakeries in Lincoln. His father was an early settler of this city, coming here when it was in its infancy. Our subject, being then a youth of fifteen, has witnessed the wonderful growth of this enterprising metropolis from a small town to a wealthy and populous city of 50,000 inhabitants. He is a native of New Jersey, born in the city of Newark, Feb. 17, 1857, to Peter J. and Mary Ann (Outcalt) Gulick.

The father of our subject was likewise a native of New Jersey, as, it is supposed, was his father, Voorhees Gulick. He married in his native State, his wife being a native of that State too, and they spent the first years of their wedded life there. In 1857 he moved with his family and his father to Illinois, and engaged in agricultural pursuits for some years in that State. The grandfather of our subject settled near Bushnell, Ill., and there carried on farming until his death. In 1865 Mr. Gulick (the father of our subject) moved to Galesburg, Ill., where he established himself in a bakery, which he managed in that city for eight years. In 1872 he came to Lincoln and opened a bakery, thus being one of the pioneers in this line of business in this city, and he conducted it with good financial success until his death, in July, 1881. He was well known in this city, and the honesty and rectitude of his life caused him to be universally respected,

and at his death, a valuable citizen who had always worked for the advancement of the community was taken away. The noble wife, who had faithfully aided him to prosperity, preceded him to the grave, dying in Lincoln in 1879.

Eight children were born of the union of those worthy people, of whom our subject was the second child in order of birth. He was an infant when his parents left the home of his birth and went to reside in Illinois, where most of his boyhood was passed. His education was obtained in the city schools of Galesburg and Lincoln, and as soon as he was old enough he had to assist his father in the bakery, and gained a thorough knowledge of the trade. He continued with his father until 1878, when he started out to see something more of the world. We next hear of him in Texas, where he had established himself at his trade in the town of Terrell. He remained there two years, and then retraced his steps to this city in 1880, and entered into partnership with his father in his present business, and continued the same until his father's death the following year. He has a well-appointed establishment, that is first-class in every particular, and by close attention to business and square dealing he has built up a large trade.

To the wife who makes his home bright and attractive, Mr. Gulick was united in marriage March 4, 1878. She was formerly Miss Ida Alexander, a native of New Castle, Ind., and a daughter of D. B. and Martha Alexander. Of this marriage five children have been born: Ray A., Pearl and Inez (twins), Eula May and Claude. Mr. Gulick is a prominent member of the I. O. O. F., Lincoln Lodge No. 128, and he is also identified with the Modern Woodmen, belonging to Capital City Lodge No. 190. In politics he is a staunch Republican.



SAAC WORRALL is the owner of eighty acres of very fine farming land on section 12, West Oak Precinct, which is devoted to stock-raising and general farming. Our subject is the son of Thomas Worrall, who was born in 1801, in Clark County, Ind. His early education was received in the home, and by that best of all educators, mother.

When of proper age he was sent to gather more learning in the common school. From that until he became of age he was at work upon his father's farm. Upon attaining his majority he purchased a farm in the same county, which he continued to operate with much prosperity until the year 1851, when he removed to Coles County, now Douglas County, Ill. There he entered Government land, which he improved and cultivated with success until the death of his wife.

Mr. Worrall was the husband of Hannah (Cannfield) Worrall, who was born in 1800, and after residing at home until her twentieth year, was married. Five sons and four daughters were born to this union, who lived to attain their majority, and one child who died in childhood. The names of the living children are as follows: Nathan, Rachel, Elizabeth, James, Isaac (our subject), John, Mary, Thomas M. and Hannah Naomi, all of whom went to Illinois when their father removed thither. Mrs. Thomas Worrall died upon the Coles County homestead, as above noted, in April, 1863. The great-grandfather of our subject, James Worrall, was by occupation a farmer, a native of Kentucky, but for many years a resident of Clark County, Ind., where he enjoyed, during the latter years of life, the fruit of his early labor, and at last lay down and quietly closed his eyes in the last sleep.

Our subject was born on the 20th of November, 1832, in Monroe Township, Clark Co., Ind. His education was received in the schools of that district, and by a natural process he passed from school to farm, to labor upon the same until his parents removed to Illinois, and continued to live with them until the day of his marriage to Miss Rebecca Jane Landers, on the 3d of January, 1856. To our subject, by this union, have been born twelve children, of whom nine are still living: Thomas D., Hannah O., Nellie S., Maek Oliver, John C., William L., Viola, Edmund B. and Lulu Mabel. Mary T. died at the age of eight years; Dolly, aged two years and five months, and Maud, aged two years.

After his marriage our subject farmed for nine years in Illinois, near Camargo, where the three eldest children were born. In 1865 he removed to Otoe County, Neb., and after continuing prosperously until 1867, removed to this county. He

took up the northeast quarter of section 2, West Oak Precinct; went to work to make all needed improvements, including the erection of house, barn, granary and farm buildings, setting out the hedges, planted the orchard, and bringing the remainder to a high state of cultivation. This continued to be his home until 1882, and here the residue of his family were born. In March of the above year our subject sold this property with the idea of going West, but finally purchased his present home, which was slightly improved and had the house already erected upon it. What other improvements there are have been made by our subject, including the exceptionally fine orchard, grove and hedges, which go far to make the home surroundings picturesque and pleasant.

Rebecca J. Landers, the wife of our subject, was born Aug. 24, 1836, in Coles County, Ill., and is the daughter of Daniel and Eliza Landers. Her father was born April 12, 1812, in Putnam County, Ind., which was always his home, and where he followed the occupation of a farmer. He became the husband of Eliza Montgomery, and to them were born four children, of whom Mrs. Worrall is the only one living. Her father died Oct. 6, 1830, upon his farm. Her mother, who afterward married again, lived until Dec. 28, 1855. Of the children of our subject, Thomas D. has become the husband of Mary Glassburn, and they are the parents of a son, named Byron K.; Nellie S. is now Mrs. William Clift, and lives with her husband and two children, Jessie J. and Hubert E., in Saunders County. Hannah O. was married to C. H. Hoover; they reside in California, and have four children—William, Nora, Hubert and Mand.

Our subject and wife are members of the United Brethren Church, and in that communion are among the most earnest and faithful members. They have seen this county through all the changes of its evolution. When they first settled its original owners, the Indians, had not yet vacated, and the wild game was all around them. They have not been spared the difficulties and toils of pioneerism, but have always met and bravely battled, side by side, with every difficulty, and now it is their happiness together to enjoy the golden fruit success, which has ripened within their reach. Our subject has

with honor and dignity filled well the office of School Director for over six years, and has also been Supervisor and Justice of the Peace, in which office every transaction was marked by care, intelligence and impartiality. When upon the seat of justice the stern goddess was always strictly blindfolded to anything of favoritism or any other means by which the right and the just might be prostituted. Whether in office or private life his conduct has been marked by those traits and qualities which have earned for him, as they must for all honorable men, the unwavering regard and esteem of all whose friendship and appreciation are worth possessing.



DR. ABRAHAM L. HOOVER, proprietor of the Lindell Hotel, which is located at the intersection of Thirteenth and M streets in the city of Lincoln, is the subject of a most interesting career, during which he has fought with the circumstances common to the lot of man. By a course of economy, frugality, and years of industrious labor, he is now in the enjoyment of a competence; but in the midst of his prosperity he generously gives prominence to the fact that he has been materially assisted by his most excellent wife and her mother, and later on their son. Many wives, mothers and sons have done well, but how few receive the reward of recognition.

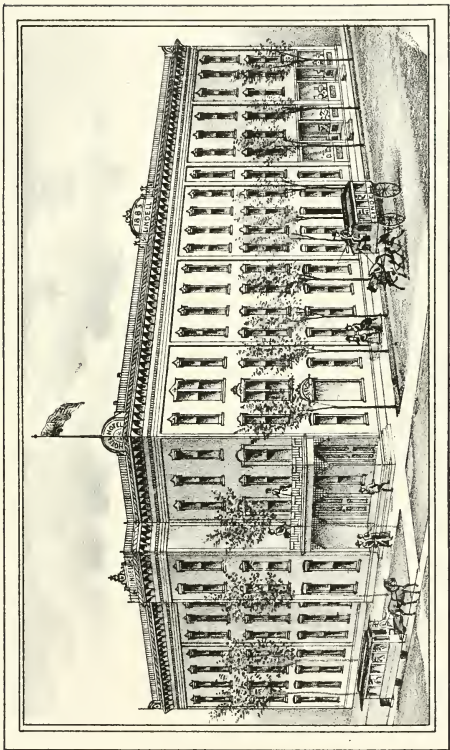
The subject of this sketch, a man still in the prime of life, was born in Wayne County, Ind., forty-seven years ago, Sept. 15, 1841. He is the son of John and Esther (Zook) Hoover, who were born and partially reared in Pennsylvania, their parents moving from there to Indiana at an early day. The grandparents on both sides were born in Germany. Jonas Hoover, the paternal grandfather, entered a quarter-section of land in Wayne County, Ind., near what is now Hagerstown, and there, with his estimable wife, spent the remainder of his days, laboring industriously and opening up a farm from the wilderness of heavy timber. The wife and mother rested from her labors at about the age of

seventy years, while the grandfather lived to be eighty-five.

John Hoover, the father of our subject, grew to manhood amid the wild scenes of Wayne County, Ind., during its early settlement, receiving a very limited education. When reaching manhood he contracted matrimonial ties with Miss Esther Zook, and they settled in the same neighborhood, following agricultural pursuits. Of this marriage four children were born, the first dying in infancy. The second, Dr. Jonas Hoover, is a practicing physician of Bennet, Neb.; Abraham L., our subject, was the third, and Esther, Mrs. West, who is the mother of a large family, is now living on a farm in Greenwood County, Kan. The mother passed away when her son Abraham L. was but two years old. He, with the other children, was then given to the care of Grandmother Zook, where they remained for two or three years, until their father married for his second wife Miss Sarah Kuotts. They settled on his father's farm, taking the two boys and leaving the daughter with her grandmother, who had cared for her from the time of her birth.

Dr. Hoover says this is about the earliest recollection he has of himself or his family. A little later on, about 1846, John Hoover with his family changed his residence to Liberty Township, Delaware Co., Ind., five miles east of Muncie, the county seat. Two children were born of his second marriage: Jerusha, now the wife of Henry Schneider and the mother of a large family, their home being on a farm northwest of Muncie, and James C., who married Miss Clara Whitney, but still resides at the old homestead. To them were born two children, the elder of whom is deceased.

The early life of Dr. Hoover was spent after the manner of most farmers' boys, during which time he attended the district school three months in the winter, and the balance of the year employed himself around the homestead. This comprised only eighty acres of land. In the autumn of 1858, at the age of seventeen, feeling that his assistance was no longer necessary, he gathered together his earthly possessions, and without his father's consent one dark night slid out of his bedroom window and left the paternal roof. He says, however, that he would not recommend this method of procedure.



LINDELL HOTEL, CORNER 13. & M. STREETS LINCOLN, NEB.
A. L. HOOVER & SON, PROPRIETOR

Full of hope and determination young Hoover made his way through the dark and the drizzling rain three miles to the house of John Waldens, with whom he spent the next few days. In the meantime his father found him, but did not insist on his returning home, however admonishing him to be a good boy and keep in good company. Our subject, hearing of a widow lady in the neighborhood who wanted some one to chop her winter's wood, called upon her, and soon contracted to cut twenty cords at fifty cents per cord. He had in his possession a gold dollar, which he had received as a premium from the county fair for being the swiftest runner of his age, he making a run of a quarter of a mile in twenty-six seconds, and distancing thirty competitors. With this money he purchased an ax and went to fulfill his part of the contract.

Our hero was set to work in an old sugar camp. If any of the readers of this sketch know anything of the nature of well-matured hard maple, they can imagine something of the task set before him. Being anxious to complete his contract and get started to school, he would often reach the scene of his labors before it was fairly light. He would then chop until it was too dark to guide his ax, and then split (as this had to be done with maul and wedge), and cord it up after dark, usually reaching home as late as 8 o'clock.

Dr. Hoover in recalling those days says: "I wish that I could sit down now and enjoy a meal as I did then. Those happy boyhood days are gone, and each milestone as I have passed it has been marked, some with cares, some with sorrows, some with joys, but best of all a happy Christian home. No labor unions and strikes for shorter time with me then, my motto was and has been thus far through life, 'more hours and more money.'" After completing his contract, Mrs. Patience Moore, his employer, offered to board him for his help nights and mornings, and allow him to continue his attendance at school. This was just what he wished, so he took a portion of his hard-earned cash, and going to Muncie purchased the needful clothing and books. Though late in the session the teacher, Mr. William Drago, having known him for several years, took especial interest in him, and by his assistance young Hoover was soon placed in the ad-

vanced class. The school-house was on one side of White River, and the farmhouse where he lived on the other. The bridge having been swept away by a freshet, he was obliged to ride the family horse, a venerable old claybank with a bald face, who had arrived at the advanced age of twenty-six years. When the river became too deep for fording, our hero would resort to a boat some distance down the river, which was kept by William Truitt for conveying his children to school. One day old Bob got loose and hid himself away home. The boat above mentioned happened that day to be on the opposite side, and Mr. Hoover was left to wade or swim. As the river was too high for the former and too cold for the latter, he walked up one and one-half miles to Keiger's Mill, where he knew there were several boats. Borrowing one of these he started across, and when a little more than half way on his journey he broke one of the oars. Being a short distance above the dam which roared in a threatening manner, he was very much frightened, but finally succeeded in piloting himself across in safety. He says the reflections of this are not as pleasant as some of the strolls on the banks of the river in company with the widow's daughter.

The following spring our subject engaged to work for Mr. Parker Moore on his farm at \$13 per month and board. He entered upon his duties on the 1st of March, and at the end of three months, after working early and late, found himself broken down in health to such an extent that he has never fully recovered. Notwithstanding his broken constitution, his resolution was still undaunted, and he none the less determined to make of life a success. He spent the year following at home, in the winter occupying himself mostly in study. In the following summer of 1860, hoping that a change of climate might prove beneficial, he bade adieu to his parents, and with \$25 in his pocket started for Appanoose County, Iowa, where he had relatives. The Burlington & Missouri River Railroad had already been built as far west as Ottumwa, and from there he went thirty miles by stage to his destination. He had already entertained serious thoughts of entering the medical profession, and the desire increased upon him as the time passed on. He finally called at the office of Drs. Sawyer & Russell,

of Unionville, and stated to them his circumstances and his ambitions. They at once proffered him the use of their library, and all the instruction he might require for the sum of \$50, he to avail himself of these as long as he desired. Dr. Russell secured him a boarding-place with A. M. Harris, a blacksmith by trade, who was indebted to the Doctor. Mr. Hoover was to pay \$2 per week when the time arrived that he could do so. Four weeks later it occurred to him that he might thus contract a bill which would embarrass him in the future, so taking with him his anatomy and skeleton he went into the country to the home of his uncle, Daniel Zook, where he was received with open arms, and where he pursued his studies, going to and from the village for instruction as necessity required. As time passed on he found it necessary to be more convenient to his preceptors. They very kindly proffered him a room adjacent to their office, which he fitted up for keeping bachelor's hall. In order to do this he engaged to husk corn, for which he received three bushels per day; this he exchanged for furniture and bedding. He was soon engaged in "light housekeeping" and study, occasionally receiving a basket filled with substantial eatables from the larder of his uncle or his grandmother Zook.

The embryo Doctor at this period of his life spent no idle hours. He was up at 4 o'clock in the morning and read until 10 o'clock at night by the light of an improvised lamp, consisting of a medicine mug filled with lard, in which he placed a piece of candlewicking, this being in keeping with his whole system of economy. The time notwithstanding passed very pleasantly and rapidly, and in May, 1862, he returned to his home in Indiana. There he borrowed books of Dr. Black, of Selma, and spent the summer in reading medicine, and assisting his father on the farm, receiving for the latter service \$1 per day, by which he was enabled to replenish his wardrobe.

On the 1st of October following young Hoover received the sum of \$400 from the estate of his maternal grandmother. He now entered the medical department of Michigan University, where he took a course of lectures for six months, and at the expiration of this time swung his single to the

breeze at New Baltimore, Macomb Co., Mich., on the 18th of March, 1863. Ten years later Dr. Hoover was graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Keokuk, Iowa.

Although but twenty-one years of age when entering upon the practice of his profession, Dr. Hoover met with success from the start, and made many warm friends during his year's residence at New Baltimore. During the holidays, while attending lectures, he went to the country to spend his vacation, and there met Miss Knotts, a charming girl of sixteen years, but womanly in all her deportment. The young Doctor set himself to work to win the maiden, and succeeded so well that the marriage of himself and Miss Della J. Knotts was celebrated at the home of the bride in Lenox, Mich., on the 28th of May, 1863. To say this marriage has been a happy one would hardly express it, for the Doctor avers that "death only can break their honeymoon."

Mr. Knotts was in delicate health at the time of his daughter's marriage, and she being the only child, the little family was not separated. The father and mother went with their daughter and son-in-law to New Baltimore, and subsequently made their home with them. Mr. Knotts passed peacefully away on the 15th of November, 1878, at the age of sixty-five, having lived the life of a devoted Christian. He was never known to have an enemy, and in all the years that he made his home with his children, never by word or action gave cause for a ripple of trouble in the family circle.

Stephen C. Hoover, the eldest child of our subject, was born in Granville, Delaware Co., Ind., March 6, 1866, and is now consequently nearing the twenty-third year of his age. He is a young man of promise, and already Steward and general manager of the hotel. He is industrious and energetic, shrewd in business and an admirable financier. Miss Helen F. Hoover, the second child of our subject, is an interesting maiden of sixteen years and a daughter of whom her parents may justly be proud. The third child, Louise Adell, who was two years old Oct. 12, 1888, is a bright little girl and the pet of the household.

After residing at New Baltimore one year and

having caught his bird, Dr. Hoover changed his residence to Granville, Ind., remaining at that point and Eton adjacent, a period of five years. Not being satisfied with the outlook, accompanied by his wife and son Stephen, then four years old, he started, Nov. 8, 1870, for Vermont. Fulton Co., Ill., and after encountering storms of rain and snow, arrived there on the 18th of the same month. A branch of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad had just been completed through that place to Rushville, and the quiet old town had sprung up to new life, the inhabitants being full of enthusiasm in the anticipation of its future. Dr. Hoover opened an office in Gardner's drug-store, and was soon in the enjoyment of a splendid practice. Business of all kinds was lively, and our subject for a time counted himself fully contented. But alas for poor old Vermont; she secured the Chicago, Rock Island & St. Louis Railroad, which built up other trading points, while at the same time business received a quietus and real-estate investments became profitless.

In consideration of this state of affairs Dr. Hoover began looking westward with longing eyes, and accordingly in the latter part of March, 1880, packed his household effects into a car, and accompanied by his son Stephen pulled out of the town. They reached Lincoln, Neb., March 29, stopping at the house of Dr. E. P. Hamer, who had preceded them to this point two years.

Soon afterward our subject and his family moved into a house belonging to Dr. Turner on M street, between Tenth and Eleventh. Dr. Hoover made his office with A. Roberts, an architect on Eleventh street, and with what practice he could get in connection with a few boarders, paid expenses after the first month. His first investment in real estate was forty acres of railroad land on the six years' plan. Later he purchased forty acres adjoining, then eighty acres. Mrs. Hoover and her mother, feeling that they would like more room in which to keep boarders, purchased the furniture and fixtures of the Townley House, and took possession Jan. 1, 1882. The management of this devolved principally upon Mrs. Hoover and her mother, under the firm name of Hoover & Knotts. The Doctor in the meanwhile devoted himself exclusively to his pro-

fession, and in the course of two years purchased the property, agreeing to pay for it the sum of \$10,000. As a part of this he turned over his last purchase, eighty acres of land, and \$400 in money. Subsequently he sold the remainder of his land at a handsome profit.

Soon after purchasing the Townley House Dr. Hoover was seized with inflammatory rheumatism, and was obliged to abandon his practice for nearly a year. Stephen C., then a youth of seventeen, having graduated from the High School, assumed charge of the hotel business, and his father remarks with pardonable pride that during his protracted illness he never had the least anxiety in regard to the management of the finances.

In the spring of 1886 Dr. Hoover erected a fine three-story brick building, 48x88 feet in dimensions, and to which he is now building an addition 48x56 feet. This when completed and equipped will constitute the finest hotel in the city of Lincoln. The rooms are well ventilated and conveniently arranged, the finishing and furnishing being in modern style. It is a house to which, after a man has once been there, he will always return when in the city. We present a view of this admirable hotel in this connection.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoover are devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which our subject has been a Steward for many years, and to which he has given a cheerful and liberal support. In political matters he uniformly votes the Republican ticket. His abilities and his enterprise are duly appreciated by the people of Lincoln, with whose interests he is now so intimately associated.

WALTER G. BOHANAN, proprietor of the Peoria livery stables, at No. 323 North Ninth street, between O and R streets, is a prominent and wealthy business man of Lincoln. He was born in Peoria, Ill., May 25, 1847, being a son of Edward and Mahala T. (Wilber) Bohanan. For further details of parental history see sketch of W. G. Bohanan.

Our subject was reared in his native city, receiving the educational advantages afforded by its ex-

cellent public school system. He grew up to be energetic, strong and able, and early in life learned the trade of a butcher. In March, 1869, he ambitiously determined to try his fortunes beyond the Mississippi in the young and rapidly growing city of Lincoln, and on his arrival here he established himself in his trade, and for eight years drove a thriving business as a butcher. He then turned his attention to the management of a hotel, and opened the Peoria House, on the corner of Ninth and O streets, which building was erected in 1879. In this he was quite successful, but he has now leased the hotel for five years, and is confining his attention mostly to his livery business, which is quite extensive, and is carried on at a great pecuniary profit. In connection with this, he says that when he first commenced to run a livery stable he was but a butcher, and consequently had had little or no experience with horses, or with the business in any way, and when he started in 1881 his whole outfit consisted of a horse and spring wagon, and a small stable, 16x18 feet, in a back alley. From this small beginning his business has grown so rapidly and to such large dimensions that he has constantly had to add to his building, and to his equipment, first erecting an addition 20x30 feet, then another 70x100, a one-story building, and later a two-story building, 55x100 feet, and he now has forty head of horses, among which are four fine, thoroughbred roadsters, which can be driven single or double, and are valued at \$1,000 each. He runs two hacks and a baggage wagon, and employs a force of eight men continuously. Our subject has acquired all his property since becoming a resident of Lincoln by sheer force of energy and fine business talents. When he came here he was \$35 in debt. His property is now valued at \$65,000, comprising his hotel, which occupies one-fourth of a block, two fine farms, his livery stable and stock, and valuable city lots, both here and in California.

Mr. Bohanan was united in marriage to Miss Maggie A. McCord, July 1, 1875. She has been a true helpmate to her husband, and makes their home pleasant and attractive to her family and their friends. She was born in Iowa, Jan. 3, 1859, and is a daughter of Samuel T. and Elizabeth (Down-

ing) McCord. Her father is a prosperous carpenter, and built the hotel and barn of our subject. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Bohanan has been productive of four children, namely: Mahala; Walter, who died in infancy; Elizabeth, deceased; and Willis.

Mrs. Bohanan is a valued member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Bohanan was brought up within the pale of the Baptist Church, but is rather liberal in his views, and does not identify himself with any religious denomination. He is a prominent member of the I. O. O. F., and has taken all the degrees of the order. He is popular with his associates, being of a frank, open-hearted, genial disposition, and this brief record of his life will show that he is a shrewd, far-seeing man, quick to take advantage of the many opportunities offered to a wide-awake, stirring man to make money in this great and glorious Western State.



JEREMIAH J. JONES. In the pretty little city of Wallingford, Conn., which is about twelve miles distant from New Haven, noted for its superior manufacture of britania-ware, and perhaps more because of its charming situation, was born Nov. 8, 1783. Jeremiah Jones, who afterward became, while an Ohio pioneer, the father of Jeremiah J. Jones, a property-holder of this county, whose estate lies on section 6, West Lincoln Precinct, and comprises eighty acres of good farming land. Of this precinct Mr. Jones is one of the most respected citizens.

Jeremiah Jones, Sr., was born Nov. 8, 1783. He was educated in the school institution of his native town, and from that went to farming. As a young man he became enamored of a maiden, Miss Betsey Nattoon, a native of the same State, who possessed all those varied charms, graces and virtues which later made the names of wife and mother eloquent with meaning. Realizing this in part, it was his happiness to unite his life with hers May 12, 1807. This lady was born Dec. 27, 1781. The home which was then established was blessed as face after face was added to the number which gathered around the family board, by the birth of eight children, of



Yours Truly

Dr. J. J. Jones

whom three are still living. We here append their names as they appear in the family record: Eliza, Harmon, Osear and Orville (twins), Sarah, Jeremiah J. (our subject), Bezaleel H. and Susan.

In 1807 the father of our subject moved to Ohio and settled in Portage County. There he purchased a tract of land and set to work to improve it. He removed the timber from the whole of it, put it under the plow, erected his house, and in fact did everything to make it pleasant and profitable as a home and farm. He continued his residence there until his death, which occurred about 1861. His wife, the mother of Jeremiah J., died July 27, 1878.

Our subject was born in a little pioneer log house in Atwater, Ohio, on the 24th of January, 1818. His life began to be a busy one while he was quite small, for pioneers were busy people, and there was work for all except the veritable occupant of the cradle. What education was obtainable was given to him by the teacher of the common school, after which he spent one year in Cuyahoga Institute. After completing his studies in the latter place he began teaching in a brick school-house in Randolph Township, Portage County, and was thus employed four months. The laudable ambition which was his as a young man refused to be satisfied with such a position, and he was careful to make himself ready for something better in this profession. He rose step by step, and when he retired from active duty was the Principal of the Jefferson Seminary at Wellsburg, W. Va., of which institution he had become owner. After about twenty-five years spent in instructing the men and women of the future Mr. Jones retired in 1849 from the profession of the pedagogue, and then became a daguerreotypist, being the third of this craft in the United States. He continued for three years, extending his business and making a good deal of money. At the end of that period he turned his attention to the more toothsome practice of dentistry, which he continued to follow for twenty-two years.

From West Virginia Mr. Jones removed to Wisconsin in the spring of 1845. His residence in that State extended over a period of twenty-five years, during which he was engaged in professional and official life, being Clerk of the Court of Waupaca

County, Deputy Sheriff, Marshal, Constable, and Town Superintendent of Schools, also Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. He also owned and conducted the Exchange Hotel. While connected with the latter he was called to Madison, where he instituted the proceedings that finally unseated Gov. Barstow and gave Gov. Bashford his rightful seat.

In the fall of the year 1868 our subject sold out his business and personal property and came to the city of Lincoln. On the day of his arrival efforts were made to ascertain the exact population of Lincoln, and the total number, including visitors, prospectors and residents of all ages, numbered 720 persons, so that our subject must be reckoned among the early settlers of this city. He set to work to build a store, working at it largely himself, he putting up a frame building, and although the month was January the weather was so remarkably warm, that, in common with others likewise engaged, Mr. Jones was compelled to remove his coat. As soon as the store was finished he put in the first stock of clear groceries ever brought to Lincoln. In this business he continued with much prosperity for ten years, and occupied the ground where the southwest corner of the First National Bank now stands.

Asbland was the next place of residence, and thither our subject removed in 1875, in order to take charge of the County Treasurer's office, with which he was connected thirteen months. He then returned to Lincoln, and engaged in the provision and feed business about twelve months, when he bought his present farm, but found after a residence of one year that the condition of the health of his wife rendered it absolutely necessary that they return to town. Accordingly he repaired to Lincoln, built a house, into which, as soon as it was completed, he removed, and from that time until her death devoted himself to his invalid partner and lived very quietly and retired.

Mrs. Jones was the daughter of James J. Saxton, and a sister of Col. A. M. Saxton, of St. Joseph, Mo. She was born at Elyria, Ohio, Oct. 31, 1826. Her education was acquired in her native town and she afterward removed with her parents to Rochester, Wis., where she lived at the time she became acquainted with our subject. This lady was the true

and faithful companion of her husband in all the changes of his life, a thorough helpmate, and through the weariness of her last illness, which extended over a period of seven years, she bore with Christian fortitude her trials and suffering. She passed to her last rest Sept. 5, 1887, the cause being general disintegration of the nervous system, owing to excessive nervous prostration. Both Mr. and Mrs. Jones were for thirty years devoted members of the Episcopal Church, and largely instrumental in the establishment of the present church at Lincoln. By personal effort and using their influence with others for the advancement of the city in matters religious and Christian, they were marked in the community as among its most efficient members.

The father of Mrs. Jones was by trade a brick-maker, and was prosperous in his business. He also worked his own farm most successfully. He was a prominent member and energetic worker with the Masonic fraternity, in which he held a high office. Mr. Jones makes his residence in Lincoln on the corner of B and Ninth streets, which valuable property he owns. In politics he is a staunch Republican.

As a prominent and useful citizen of Lancaster County, it is eminently proper that the portrait of Mr. Jones should be added to the list of those the originals of which this region delights to honor, and we herewith present it to our readers.



JOSEPH RAWSON WEBSTER, attorney-at-law, and a resident of Lancaster County since October, 1869, was born at Bombay, India, under American passport, May 5, 1839, and is a native of Victor, N. Y. His parents became residents of Indiana in 1848, settling in Lagrange County during its pioneer days and soon after it began to be the resort of the white element. The common schools of the backwoods afforded him all the advantages for education which he received until he was fifteen years old.

A short time previously to this there had been established the Lagrange Collegiate Institute, of which young Webster now became a student, and in 1858 entered Wabash College, at Crawfordsville, Ind., from which he was graduated at the head of his

class in June, 1862. Clearing the forest, general farm work and labor in the sawmill of his father, were the employments of his youth, relieved with the frontier sports of the ride and fishing rod or rowing the canoe in the streams and lakes. Reading by the generous fireplace in the log cabin supplemented the education of the common school.

On the evening of President Lincoln's first call for three-months volunteers by which it was hoped to quell the Rebellion, young Webster enlisted in Company 1, 11th Indiana Infantry, under the command of Gen. Lew Wallace, and spent his time as a volunteer soldier in the valley of Virginia. At the expiration of that service he returned to college, and in July, 1862, re-enlisted, and was elected Captain of Company G, 88th Indiana Infantry, in which he subsequently was commissioned Major. In 1864 he was made a Lieutenant Colonel of the 44th United States Colored Infantry, which he had raised, and served with that regiment until January, 1866.

Col. Webster now resigned his commission, and taking up his residence in Bolivar County, Miss., engaged in cotton planting until the spring of 1869. That year he returned to the North, intending to locate at Council Bluffs, Iowa, but in the fall took up his abode in Lincoln instead, where he embarked in the practice of law. A few months previously, as the result of close application to his law books between the campaigns of his army life, he had been admitted to the bar at Glenwood, Iowa, and now entered upon the professional course which brought him subsequently both reputation and gain.

After becoming fully established in business with a fair prospect of a competency, Mr. Webster contracted a matrimonial alliance, June 12, 1873, with Miss Sarah Cooper Thompson, who was born in Lagrange County, Ind., Oct. 14, 1837, and was the daughter of Col. Aaron Thompson, of Lima at that time, but formerly of Newark, N. J. The only child of this union is Miss Joy Louisa, who was born March 14, 1874.

In his military service, besides many minor engagements, Col. Webster participated in the general actions of Chaplin Hill, Ky., Oct. 8, 1862; Stone River, Tenn., December 31 to Jan. 3, 1863; Chickamauga, Sept. 25, 1863; the siege of Chattanooga, advance on Atlanta, and the siege and battle of Nash-

ville. During the years 1873-74 Col. Webster was Attorney General of Nebraska, and County Judge* in 1878-79, retiring from the latter office in January, 1880. Since that time he has been engaged in a general law practice with successful results, acquiring a fair competence. Although mixing very little with politics, he supports the Republican party. He identified himself with the G. A. R. during the early days of its organization, being now a member of the Farragut Post, at Lincoln.

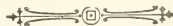
Elijah Ashley Webster, the father of our subject, was of the seventh generation in descent from John Webster, who emigrated from Warwickshire, England, in 1630, settling first near Boston, Mass. Subsequently he removed to Hartford, Conn., and was Governor of the colony during 1656 and until 1659. He was born at Whitesboro, N. Y., Feb. 20, 1813, and was the son of Uri and Mercy (Ashley) Webster, who removed to the vicinity of Homoeoye, that State, and in early life began his apprenticeship at the printer's trade. He was married, April 12, 1835, to Mariette, daughter of Joseph Rawson and wife, the latter having been a Miss Arnold.

Mrs. Mariette Webster was born in West Stockbridge, Mass., in 1811, and with her family subsequently removed to Victor, N. Y. Immediately after their marriage our subject and his bride sailed for Bombay, India, where Mr. Webster took charge of the publishing house of the American Board of Foreign Missions, and himself cut the matrices for casting the type for the Mahratta translation of the Bible. This he did so excellently that he produced a font of type more clear, neat and legible than that then in use at the Mission Press, and so reduced from the former clumsy character in use that the Scriptures were reduced in bulk to one-fourth the size of the former volume. He was a man of great personal courage, and at the peril of his life, being taken entirely exhausted from the water, assisted in the rescue of troops from two transports wrecked at the entrance of the harbor during the monsoon. He was highly mentioned for that service in the Bombay *Gazette*, the official organ of the East India Government.

A man of prominence and influence wherever his lot was cast, the father of our subject was active mentally and physically, with remarkable powers of

memory, a poetic imagination, decided literary tastes and progressive ideas. He was a close observer, a clear reasoner, fluent and versatile in language, an instructive companion, a welcome ally, and a respected opponent in debate. He was always active in educational, religious, Sunday-school and social work, both from inclination and as a matter of patriotic duty, believing this to be for the safety of the Republic of social order and of progress, in all of which he was ably seconded and aided by his estimable wife.

From Bombay, in 1842, the parents of our subject returned to Victor, N. Y., and four years later emigrated to Indiana, where the father opened up a farm. He also instituted and operated a sawmill, served as County Surveyor, and was engaged in civil engineering upon roads to develop the northern portion of the State. In 1848 he was elected to the Indiana Legislature, being the first successful Whig candidate from his district. In 1850 he took the census for the county, and was proposed for nomination as a Member of Congress, but died suddenly of pneumonia, Feb. 19, 1855, at the age of forty-two years. His wife, Marietta R., survived until Feb. 8, 1879, when her death took place at Galesburg, Ill., to which place the remains of her husband were afterward removed, and they repose together. Their children are Eunice M., who was born March 4, 1837, and is now the wife of George Fisherdiek, of Palmer, Mass.; Joseph R., of Lincoln, this State, and Charles Arnold, President of the Frost Manufacturing Company, at Galesburg, Ill.



ZACHARIAH WELLS. The gentleman whose history is herein sketched has the honor of being the oldest actual settler now living in Olive Branch Precinct, and has watched with pleasurable pride the vast waste of prairie land transformed to a veritable garden. His residence is upon the homestead originally taken by him upon sections 11 and 12, and consists of 280 acres, less what was given to the Nebraska & Pacific Railroad, which has recently laid its bands of steel through that section of the country. At the time of settlement upon this farm the town of Beatrice

was hardly worthy the dignified name of a hamlet, and there he had quarters for marketing, and in order to reach the same must perform a journey of thirty miles or more. The chief trading point was Nebraska City, distant seventy miles. Omaha was in its early infancy, and Lincoln was not thought of. Upon taking his land he had everything to do; if he had a home, he must be the architect and builder; breaking, sowing, cultivating, harvesting and threshing, he must perform them all.

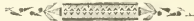
Mr. Wells is a native of Tennessee, and was born near the city of Knoxville, in that State, on the 16th of March, 1808. When he was quite a small child his parents removed to Knox County, Ky., and there he was reared and received such education as was obtainable, and began to work upon the farm. The grandfather of our subject, after whom he was named, served as a private in the Revolutionary War, and obtained therein a very honorable record. His son William, the father of our subject, followed the occupation of farming, and in his chosen occupation was more than usually successful. He was married in the State of Georgia, in 1806, to Miss Juda Murray, a lady of Southern parentage. Upon his marriage Mr. William Wells purchased a farm in Tennessee, upon which he continued until he removed to Kentucky, and this was his home until his death, in the year 1881, at the advanced age of sixty years, having survived his wife about eight years. Their family comprised nine children.

Mr. Wells was married in Mercer County, Mo., in 1848, to Miss Mary Wilson, a native of Kentucky, a lady whom it is only possible to remember with most perfect esteem and affection for her many virtues. She died in the year 1861, leaving two children, Mary and William, both of whom are living.

Our subject was married a second time, in Mercer County, Mo., to Elva Hobbs, a native of Indiana, who came to Missouri when a young woman. Their family was increased by the birth of four children—James B., Jane, Mary and George. Mary, Mrs. Edward Parson, is deceased. Mrs. Wells died at the age of forty years, in July, 1863. Mr. Wells was married a third time, and again in Mercer County, Mo., to Miss Sarah Hobbs, a sister of his former wife, both daughters of Job and Amanda

(Clue) Hobbs. Mr. and Mrs. Hobbs lived for many years in Missouri, afterward came to Nebraska, and died in this State at a very advanced age. Mr. and Mrs. Wells are the parents of eight children, whose names are here subjoined. The eldest child of our subject is Nancy, now the wife of John S. Burtwell, and their home is in Gage County; Matilda is the wife of H. P. Poland; they make their residence upon the homestead of Mr. Wells; Ann married Samuel Anguer, a prosperous farmer near Princeton, this county; Rachel is happily married to Mr. Stephen George, a carpenter and builder at Spriggs Station; Margaret is united to Andrew Polston, a successful farmer at the same place; General is the husband of Delia Rader, and is resident upon the home farm; John and Norman, the youngest, are still at home.

Our subject and family, by reason of their long experience in Nebraska and many years of settlement, are accorded most heartily that peculiar veneration and respect which are universally voted due to those who have helped to bring the new country to its present state of development; who have assisted in the framing of its farms, the building of its houses, the improvement of its stock, and the establishment of its enterprises. Mr. Wells has for many years been a solid Republican, and is looked up to as one of the old veterans of the party. Everything that he is or has, is, humanly speaking, due to his own energies, thrift, ambition and labor.



CARL BERGMANN, who resides upon his beautiful farm on section 12, in Stockton Precinct, is another of those thrifty, diligent, hard-working natives of the Fatherland, who may be found in the fertile valleys and on the broad prairies all over this continent. These have gathered of this world's goods slowly but surely, year by year, until they have at last arrived at that time when there is no longer need to fear either the proverbial "rainy day" or that other time, when the weight of years prevents the usual activities of younger days. Our subject was born in Germany, on the 11th of May, 1835, which was his home until he was about thirty-three years of age. His





Casper Hornung.

early memories cluster around the school days of that country, and in after years his work was husbandry and other pursuits.

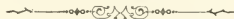
It was in the year 1868 when Mr. Bergmann determined to leave his native country, and the protection of its flag for the experiment of life amid new scenes and surroundings on this continent. He landed in the month of April, that year, accompanied by his wife and three children, also by his father. His mother was left at rest in the graveyard near the old home, having been removed from mortal scenes some years before. The vessel landed the family at the city of New York, and presently they proceeded to Nebraska, where the richness of Lancaster County prompted them to settle. They accordingly made their home in Stockton Precinct, where our subject took up a farm under the Homestead Law. As soon as the family were settled in their new quarters, they set to work to improve their land by cultivation and building, adding to the original quarter-section from time to time, until to-day Mr. Bergmann possesses 240 acres of fine land. He has taken great interest in tree culture, and his farm exhibits his success in this direction.

In November, 1862, while yet in Germany, Mr. Bergmann was married to Minnie Sangbush, who was born Dec. 10, 1836, and is the daughter of John and Dora Sangbush. The home circle comprises a family of six children—William, Otto, Anna, Minnie, Amanda and August.

We are continually reminded that some of the smallest events in life become in their turn, causes, the effects whereof attract the attention, and oftentimes the amazement and admiration of the world. Little did the despised, solitary and frail child, Martin Luther, who sang in the streets of a great city for the pittance required in order to keep him at the school of the monks, think that we to-day, in free America, would be conversant with his history and feel the effects of his life. Little did he dream as in after days he toiled painfully up the stairs of St. Peter's at Rome, that the thought that fired his brain while thus engaged, and which caused him to rush madly from the scene, would to-day affect countless thousands of the citizens of this Republic. Nevertheless the mental training which he acquired in that school, and the key to Christian liberty ob-

tained in that one thought at Rome, have been forceful and yet more forceful as the days have passed by. This great reformer, Luther, the hero of his times, left such an impression upon the religious thought of his countrymen as has never been eradicated. It still lives in spirit in the whole of Christendom, in name, and in part spirit, in the German Lutheran Church, of which our subject and his wife are members. Although not prominent in political circles Mr. Bergmann lends his sympathies and gives his vote to the Republican party.

The homestead of Carl Bergmann, as will be observed by a glance at the view appearing on another page, is the silent but forcible witness of the achievements of the determined and self-made man, and compares favorably with those of the thrifty element about him. In time to come his descendants will point with pride to his record and his labors, as those of an honest man and a good citizen.



MRS. LOUISA HORNING, the owner of a fine farm of highly productive land, embracing eighty acres on section 4 in Little Salt Precinct, is the widow of the late Casper Horning, who departed this life June 6, 1877. The family residence is a neat and substantial structure, flanked by a good barn and all the other necessary buildings, while a fine orchard and a choice assortment of fruit trees forms not only a protection from the suns of summer and the cold winds of winter, but adds alike to the value and beauty of the property. On all sides is indicated the hand of thrift and industry, together with cultivated tastes and ample means.

Casper Horning was born in the Prussian Province of Saxony, May 26, 1821. He was carefully educated at a private school and reared to agricultural pursuits, his father being the owner of a fine and large estate. When twenty-seven years of age he was united in marriage with Miss Louisa Burekart, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride in Saxony, July 21, 1846. The young people settled on one of the little farms belonging to the father, and lived there for a period of ten years.

In 1866 Casper Horning, believing that there

were better opportunities for an ambitious and enterprising man on the other side of the Atlantic, embarked with his wife and six children (paying \$60 apiece for their tickets) for a voyage across the Atlantic. The little family included two sons and four daughters, who were named respectively: Ernest H., Eliza, Frederick, Rosa, Christiana and Bertha.

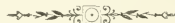
The Hornung family arrived in New York City with funds nearly exhausted, but the father soon secured work on a farm in Niagara County, where they lived for a period of five years. Then, in the spring of 1871, learning of the advantages proffered to the homesteader of Nebraska, they migrated hither and settled upon the land which has since been transformed into a valuable farm. Many were the trials and hardships they encountered with the elements of a new soil and country, also a strange people, and for a period of five years they lived in a dug-out. This finally caved in, and the father put up a sod house. Under the roof of this humble dwelling Mr. Hornung died of consumption, June 6, 1877.

After the death of the husband the sod house also caved in, and Mrs. Hornung and her children for three months lived in the open air without a shelter. During these days of trial the innate nobleness of this excellent woman asserted itself, and without giving way to discouragement she taught her children to be of assistance, so that in time their circumstances altered for the better, and they were enabled, in 1887, to put up a substantial frame dwelling. To the right of this stands a beautiful little grove of box elders and walnut trees, the seed of which Mrs. Hornung planted with her own hands. She also has an orchard of 100 apple trees, besides pears, cherries, grapes, and all kinds of the smaller fruits. She is justly proud of her annual vegetable garden, which she plants and cares for with her own hands. She keeps a fine herd of cattle and swine. The land is all enclosed with good fences, the barn is one of the most conveniently arranged and substantial in this part of the precinct, and near the house is one of the finest wells in the country, very deep, and walled up with stone.

Mrs. Hornung was born, like her husband, in the Province of Saxony, July 22, 1825. She was also

tutored in a private school, being under the instruction of one teacher for a period of eight years. Her father, Christopher Burckart, was a miller by occupation, and the owner of a large gristmill, besides a fine estate in Saxony. He was for many years Treasurer of the village, and a man of prominence and influence. To Mr. and Mrs. Hornung there were born six children, the eldest of whom, Ernest by name, married Miss Ida South, of Niagara County, N. Y., and is now farming in Little Salt Precinct, where he has a fine family of four children; Eliza was married, and died leaving one child; Frederick was married, and died leaving three children; his widow afterward became the wife of his brother Ernest. Rose, Mrs. James Davey, is living in Malcolm Precinct, where her husband owns a fine farm; he also has two houses in the city of Lincoln; they are the parents of five children. Christiana became the wife of George Neff, of Little Salt Precinct, and they have four children; Bertha, Mrs. Charles Lindholm, of Little Salt Precinct, is the mother of four children.

Mrs. Hornung is therefore the proud grandmother of twenty-one grandchildren. She lives alone on her farm with one granddaughter, her daughter's child. She is a lady held in the highest esteem by her neighbors, who with one accord acknowledge her extraordinary qualities as a business woman, and also as the mother of a fine family of children, who have lived to grow up around her respected by all who know them. She is kindly and genial in her manner, and a lady whose equal is seldom met.



L EONIDAS K. HOLMES is one of the prominent citizens of Lincoln, proprietor of the Lincoln City Brick Works, and the Mohawk Valley Dairy, and owner of an exceptionally fine dairy farm, situated on section 22, Garfield Precinct, and also considerable city property. He has grown up with the city and district, and from the first has lent his best endeavors to the progress of his adopted city and State.

Our subject is the son and fifth child of Alva and Sophronia (Ellis) Holmes. His father was born at Litchfield, Conn., about the year 1790. He re-

ceived his education in the institutions of his native town, and, having passed through the classes of the same, settled in Bridgewater, N. Y., in the year 1800. His early home was with his parents, which was continued until he arrived at manhood. He then became the owner of a very fine farm, which he operated successfully for several years. While resident here he was elected Supervisor of his township, and Justice of the Peace, continuing in the same for many years. His correct judgment and impartial decisions and courteous bearing received the full approbation of the community. The partner of his life was Miss Saphronia Ellis, a lady of culture and charming manner, of Vernon, N. Y. Their family circle consisted of five sons and two daughters, whose names are recorded as follows: Olive, Albert, Clinton, Lavantia, L. K. (our subject), Asahel B. and Augustus S., all of whom are still living.

Mrs. Holmes was the daughter of A. G. Ellis, and was ushered into life about the year 1802, at Vernon, N. Y. She continued her residence at home through the years of childhood, her school days and early womanhood, until her marriage with Mr. Holmes, when about eighteen years of age. She departed this life about 1842; her husband, died at West Winfield, N. Y., about 1879, at the age of seventy-four years.

Our subject began his life at Babcock Hill, Oneida Co., N. Y. His education was liberal, and after passing through the common school of his native town he entered the class of '56, of Hamilton College, at Clinton. Here he found opportunity to lay broad and deep the foundation of his life work, and received the mental discipline which has been, perhaps, the cause of his success in business life. After leaving school he went to Kansas, formed the acquaintance of Albert D. Richardson, and became his private secretary; this was during the excitement and trouble between the slave States and Kansas and Nebraska, regarding slavery.

The first vote of our subject was cast in favor of S. A. Douglas, in the year 1860, upon returning to his New York home from Kansas. Early in the following year Mr. Holmes entered the army, and served in the Quartermaster's department during the entire war, was stationed at Washington until

1864, and then with Gen. Butler at Bermuda Hundred until the cessation of hostilities, going to Richmond on the day of its evacuation. In that city he continued in Government service until 1868, when he resigned and returned home.

A new era in the life of Mr. Holmes is now entered upon. We find him working upon a farm which he purchased upon return, and was enabled to stock efficiently. But only a short time elapsed before he grew discontented with the outlook, sold his property, and turned his face toward the land of the setting sun. It was June, 1869, when he first came to Lincoln. He was, therefore, among the very earliest settlers, and found in the infant city abundant scope for all his efforts and ambitions. He gave himself heartily to the work of the extension and upbuilding of the city, and also of the surrounding district, realizing the importance, more especially at such an early stage, of having a large and prosperous environment of agriculturists around the city, as by this means a large market was created, not simply for their products, but to supply their many requirements for the home and farm, including stock, feed, miscellaneous farm implements and machinery, in addition to household goods of all kinds.

In the spring of 1870, recognizing the necessity of this infant city being supplied with some substantial building material, he commenced work in a small brick yard, and hired as assistants six men. From this limited and circumscribed beginning the works have grown to be the largest and most important in the city, and now between sixty and seventy men are constantly employed. In 1880 an addition was made to his business interests by the establishment of his dairy farm, beginning with fifteen cows, under the name of the Mohawk Dairy. Through his constant and superior management this business has constantly increased, until to-day his herd numbers 150 head of magnificent cows, and he is the largest dairyman in the city. In addition to the above interests Mr. Holmes has been very active in the improvement of city property, and is the owner of ten houses, some of which are among the nicest in the city.

The partner of the success which came to our subject in his earlier days was Miss Anna B. Havi-

land, of Chicago, whom, however, it was his sorrow to lose by death in 1879, after a happy union of six years. To them were born two children—Albert G. E. and Ruly L. On April 23, 1882, Mr. Holmes was a second time married, the lady of his choice being Miss Anna Baker, a native of Wolf Island, Canada. The wedding was celebrated in Chicago. The fruits of this union have been two children, by name Virginia A. and Anna M., respectively. Mrs. Holmes is a member of the Catholic Church, while Mr. H. is strong in the orthodox belief, and politically, he is a staunch Republican.



JACOB ROCKE, County Treasurer of Lancaster County, a respected citizen of Lincoln, is a man whose high personal character and fine business talents well fit him for the responsible office, the onerous duties of which he is discharging with ability and a conscientious regard for the trust imposed upon him by his fellow-citizens. He is a German by birth, being a native of the village of Eisenberg, in the Rhine Province, where he was born Sept. 23, 1843, to Joseph and Philippine (Imhoff) Rocke, being the eldest in a family of six, and the only child of his father's first marriage.

Joseph Rocke was born March 17, 1811, in the Kingdom of Bavaria, where he was reared, and was engaged as a farmer until he came to America. In 1844 he had the misfortune to lose his faithful wife, the mother of our subject, who was born in the Rhine Province. She was a devoted companion and a tender mother, and a consistent Christian, being a member of the Mennonite Church. Mr. Rocke married a second time, Miss Mary Nafziger becoming his wife. In 1850 he left the Fatherland to make a home in the United States, taking passage at Havre, France, on the sailing-vessel "Venus," and landed in New York in the month of October, with his family, consisting of his wife, our subject, and his son Christian, who was born on the ocean. He went from New York City to Illinois, and located in Tazewell County on a farm. He remained there and in McLean County for several years, actively engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1869

Mr. Rocke settled up his affairs in Illinois and came to Nebraska, and took up a homestead claim, comprising the north one-half of section 12, town 7, range 6, Buda Precinct, in the southern part of Lancaster County. He built a small house to shelter his family, and immediately entered upon the work of improving his tract of wild land, and at the time of his death, Jan. 28, 1883, he had one of the finest farms in the vicinity. He left a wife and two children on the homestead. He was a worthy member of the Mennonite Church, and his honest, upright, blameless life won for him the highest esteem and respect of his fellow-citizens. In politics he was a firm Republican. His estimable wife survived him only a few years, dying at Cortland, Gage Co., Neb., in June, 1886. She was a devoted member of the same church to which her husband belonged, and was honored and respected by all who knew her. Of her marriage five children were born, of whom the following is recorded: Christian, Lena, Joseph, Lizzie and Mary. Lena married Henry Wiedeman, of Gage County, Neb.; Joseph married Miss Mary Rocke; Lizzie married John Fiser; Mary married Richard Stockfeldt.

Jacob Rocke was seven years of age when he accompanied his parents to this country, therefore the most of his life has been passed here. He received a substantial education in the public schools of Illinois, and continued an inmate of the parental household until he was nineteen years old. At that age he went forth to fight the battles of his adopted country, enlisting Aug. 12, 1862, in Company H, 94th Illinois Infantry, under Col. W. W. Orme and Capt. Joseph Orme. He was mustered into service at Bloomington, Ill., August 17, and then went to St. Louis to Benton Barracks, where he remained about two weeks. The next four weeks his regiment was stationed at Springfield, Mo., and from there was sent to Fayetteville, Ark., where he took an active part in the hard-fought battle of Prairie Grove, Dec. 7, 1862. The following is a list of other important battles in which our subject was engaged: Van Buren, Ark., Dec. 27, 1862; Vicksburg, Miss., June, 1863; Yazoo City, Miss., July 14, 1863; Atefalaya, La., Sept. 7, 1863; Brownsville, Tex., November, 1863; Ft. Morgan,

Ala., August, 1864; New East Pascagoula, Miss., Dec. 22, 1864; Spanish Fort, Ala., April, 1865. Mr. Roche was honorably discharged, and mustered out of service at Galveston, Tex., July 17, 1865, having won a good record for efficiency and bravery on many a hotly contested battle-field in the times that tried men's souls. After the war he returned to Illinois, and in Livingston County began to fight the battle of life on his own account as a farmer, and remained thus engaged there until 1869. In that year he came to Lancaster County, thinking that on the rich virgin soil of Nebraska the prospects of success in agricultural pursuits were even better than in the Prairie State. Under the provisions of the Homestead Act, he entered the southern half of the northwest quarter of section 12, township 7, range 6, and the five succeeding years was busily engaged in improving his land, which he then sold to his father, and then bought another farm in this county. He was very successfully engaged in farming until 1879, when he became a resident of Lincoln, where he established himself in business, being proprietor of the Washington House, on the corner of Ninth and N streets.

Mr. Roche is one of the most substantial and highly respected citizens of Lincoln, and is a fine representative of the German element in our population. Leaving the Fatherland in childhood, he has been reared under the institutions of our country, educated in her schools, and is as truly an American citizen as if he had been born here, and his whole course, from the time when, a mere youth, he enlisted to do battle in her behalf, has proved his loyalty and devotion to the interests of his adopted country. He has been closely identified with the growth and development of Lancaster County, and may with justice be classed among its pioneers. Coming here in the prime of early manhood, by his own exertions he has risen to a position of eminence in public life. In 1885 he was elected County Treasurer of Lancaster County, and with such efficiency and fidelity did he discharge the responsible duties devolving upon him as an incumbent of this important office, that his gratified fellow-citizens re-elected him to this office in 1887. Mr. Roche belongs to Farragut Post No. 25, G. A. R., at Lincoln, and he is also a prominent member

of the I. O. O. F., in which he has held all the offices, and is now N. G. of Germania Lodge No. 67. In politics he is a stalwart Republican, and is one of the leaders of the party in Lancaster County.

Mr. Roche was married, March 14, 1883, to Miss Kate Wittman. She presides with grace and true hospitality over their charming home, and renders it very pleasant and attractive to their numerous friends.



LUTHER BATTEN. Every new country must be provided with men of force, push and enterprise, coupled with intelligence, in order to its development. No one can realize this more than those who have resided in some Territory which is passing through the period of evolution. The subject of this sketch, whose farm is situated on section 8, Oak Precinct, owns some 262 acres of land, which is exceedingly well located, and fertile.

The grandfather of our subject, John Batten, Sr., was born in Massachusetts, and was descended from New England stock, to which this country owes much of its present greatness, and largely its original independence. He was a resident of his native State until late in life, when he removed to Vermont, in which State he closed the record of his days, at an age which numbered three years above the allotted threescore years and ten. His education was obtained in the school of his native district, and after completing its discipline and studies he was apprenticed to a carpenter, and learned the trade, and afterward went upon the farm, following the latter occupation for the greater part of his life. The partner of his life was Hannah Banfield, a most estimable lady from Vermont. Their family numbered in all eight children, their second son, John, being the father of our subject. The family record gives the names of the above children as follows: George, John, James, Mary, Clarissa, Abigail, Anna and William. Mrs. Batten died at their Vermont home at the advanced age of sixty years, leaving her husband and family to mourn their loss, realizing

that in her there had gone from them one who had ever been their truest, noblest and best friend and companion.

The father of our subject, John Batten, was born Sept. 8, 1809, in Orange County, Vt. Having passed through the days of childhood with its round of ups and downs, he entered school, and was afterward apprenticed to Ebenezer Crane, of Springfield, to learn the trade of carriage-maker and wheelwright, continuing after the close of apprenticeship for three years in the same establishment, for several years after this following the same trade in various parts, extending down to Maryland and Virginia. The first railroad to go through Maryland was the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. Our subject entered into contract with the company for work in his line, remaining with them for a considerable time, and afterward worked for the canal company along the Potomac River, until the canal was finished up to Hagerstown. Thence he returned to Pennsylvania, and engaged in carrying coal from Mauch Chunk to Philadelphia, by canal boat. From there he went to New York and Buffalo, and on into Canada, picking up any work or odd jobs that happened to be around, until he arrived at London, where he went into the lumber business near Port Kent, and continued in the same for two years. At the expiration of that period he went still further west, to Michigan, still engaged in the lumber trade, locating not far from the Monroe of to-day.

In the year 1836, the time of settlement at Monroe, the condition of things was entirely different from that of to-day. We mention the name Toledo, and immediately there passes before the mind the bright panorama of a beautiful and extensive city, with its busy, bustling streets, its haunts of fashion, and its mansions of elegance. At that time there was not a house worthy of the name standing in Michigan; outside a limited circle of lumbermen, pioneers, State officials and relatives of such as were engaged in the State, Michigan was practically an unknown quantity, so that he is truly worthy of the name of pioneer of that State. Monroe was his home for about three years, and it was there that he found the lady whose heart and life beat in unison with his. He was united to Sophia Allen in 1836, and they have been the joyful recipients of a family

of seven children, six of whom it was their privilege to bring to maturity. Their names are as follows: Mary, William, Clarissa, Luther, John and Adeline. Mary, the eldest child, was born in Monroe, whence the family removed to Galena, Ill., in 1839. During the two years of residence in this place, their daughter Harriet, since deceased, was born. From Galena Mr. Batten went to the pioneer regions of Wisconsin, and engaged extensively in lumbering upon the Wisconsin River, making his home near Stevens Point until the year 1870. It was in this place that the remainder of the family were born.

With our subject, his son Luther, Mr. Batten now left the lumber district and trade, and came to this State, living on Gar Creek, about eight miles east of his present home, and concluded to take a homestead of eighty acres each. The family now joined them, and this was their residence until 1879. In that time the wild prairie had been tamed and brought under control, and was ready to yield a rich harvest to those who would ask for it in the language of diligence and labor. A favorable opportunity presenting, this property was sold, and the beautiful farm whereon they now reside was purchased, although at that time it was still in its virgin state. All the improvements that have been made, the tilling and cultivation that have been engaged in, which have yielded such magnificent results, have been the work of our subject and his father. The home is a large and elegant two-story frame house, admirably adapted to all uses of the family; in addition there is a very fine, commodious barn, also other farm buildings upon the same scale. The entire farm is either under the plow or in tame grass, and every acre is well cultivated and improved. We shall have occasion presently to notice some special features of the enterprise of our subject in connection with this farm, but before doing so would notice some points of his history.

Luther Batten, as noted above, was born at Stevens Point, Aug. 28, 1848, and lived with his parents until the time of removal to this State. From that time his father has lived with him. He received his education in the Wisconsin common schools, and in it were embraced such studies as were of more practical value. After he came to this place he became

acquainted with Miss Helen HERNANCE, the daughter of J. L. and Esther (Hawkins) HERNANCE, a lady of education and refinement, capable of occupying a high social position, and fitted to take her place as the head of the domestic relations of her family. Their union was celebrated April 19, 1874. Their family comprises four children, besides two who died in early years. The names of the children living are: Ernest L., Carrie A., Winnie E. and Elmer E.

Helen HERNANCE BATTEN, the wife of our subject, was born at Scio, Allegany Co., N. Y., and was the third child born to her parents. Her natal day was June 27, 1857, and her early life was spent in the same town, and at its schools she received her education. She continued her residence with her parents until their removal to Nebraska in 1872, and remained in the new home until her marriage with our subject. We would refer the reader desirous for more complete information of this family to the biography of J. L. HERNANCE.

Our subject since the year 1871 has introduced and run a large and powerful threshing-machine, the first in this entire vicinity. His first machine was bought at Plattsburgh, and was brought in from that place by horses. At different times four important improvements were made in the machine, and his enterprise led him to introduce another innovation to the farm methods of the district. This time he purchased a larger and stronger machine, to be run by steam. The first was run by what is called ground power, and was considered a splendid thrasher, but since his introduction in the year 1884 of the new machine, which so far surpasses its predecessor, it is not so much spoken of. Our subject has carried on quite an extensive business with his steam thrasher in addition to his farm work, and in which he is exceedingly prosperous. He is the owner of about 100 head of cattle, a large number of blooded horses, and has given considerable attention to stock farming, with even more success than has attended his labor in the department of agriculture. He is the owner of Henry Clay, a magnificent Short-horn Durham bull, registered; also Nellie, who is registered likewise.

Mr. John Batten and his son are both lifelong Republicans, and are earnest supporters of that

party. They are recognized as representative citizens and farmers by the community at large. Their efforts for the development of the country, and the advancement of the best interests of the county, their manly, outspoken, honorable character, and eminent respectability, have won for them the confidence and esteem of all who know them.



DENNIS H. GRAY. In a period of seven years the subject of this sketch has built up a homestead in Little Salt Precinct which will do credit to any farmer in this section of country. His land when he took possession of it consisted of wild prairie, and there stood upon it no buildings. He has now a neat and comfortable dwelling with a good barn and all the other necessary outhouses, has put out about 2,000 forest trees, besides an orchard of 100 apple trees, and is well supplied with the smaller fruits, including cherries, plums, etc., besides 100 rods of hedge fence, which forms a beautiful dividing line for his cultivated fields. He carries on general farming and stock-raising, keeping usually a herd of fifty head of graded Short-horn and Durham cattle, besides good horses and swine. He usually puts in about 100 acres of corn, besides wheat and the other products which flourish upon the soil of Southern Nebraska.

Our subject comes of an Eastern family, his father, Henry Gray, having been born in New Jersey, in 1810. After reaching manhood he moved to Pennsylvania and from there to Lee County, Ill., about 1855. There he secured a tract of land upon which he lived and labored until his death, in 1859. The mother, Mrs. Catherine (Johnson) Gray, was born in Pennsylvania in 1828, and the parental household included nine children, five of whom are living, and all residents of this State.

Caleb Johnson, the maternal grandfather of our subject, and a native of Ireland, was a blacksmith by trade, but died when a young man. Grandmother Gray is still living, being now well advanced in years, and makes her home with her son-in-law, Mr. Van Campen, in Little Salt Precinct. Both she

and her husband identified themselves with the Methodist Episcopal Church early in life.

Dennis H. Gray was born in Luzerne County, Pa., Dec. 28, 1844, and was a lad of eleven years when his parents emigrated to Lee County, Ill. He remained there until September, 1881, then crossing the Mississippi established himself upon the land which he now occupies, and which he had purchased some time before. He had been married, April 6, 1876, to Miss Celia Van Campen, who was born Feb. 17, 1858, in Viola Township, Lee Co., Ill., and is the daughter of Moses B. and Eliza A. (Winters) Van Campen, the former of whom was a native of Susquehanna County, Pa., born Oct. 24, 1816. He developed into manhood in his native county and removed to Illinois before his marriage. His family included seven children, four of whom are still living. Eliza, the mother of Mrs. Gray, was born Sept. 21, 1821, in New Jersey, where she was reared and remained with her parents until her marriage. She removed with her husband to Lee County, Ill., in 1854, and to Nebraska in 1887. They are now residents of Little Salt Precinct, and members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church.

Our subject and his wife commenced life together in a manner suitable to their means, laboring industriously and living economically until they could obtain a foothold. Mrs. Gray has been the efficient helpmate of her husband in all his worthy undertakings and they are now the parents of two children: Ira M., born Jan. 6, 1878, and Rosa E., Sept. 25, 1880.



ELVIN O. WAIT, of Stevens Creek Township, settled on the eastern line of this county in 1875, and owns 160 acres of good land on section 9. He has one of the most costly dwellings in this part of the county and all the out-buildings required for the shelter of stock, the storing of grain, the machinery requisite for carrying on agriculture after modern methods, and all the other appliances of the modern country estate. Not the least among these is a fine assortment of fruit trees, including the most valuable cherry orchard in the State of Nebraska, which embraces 125

trees of the finest variety of this luscious fruit. The homestead is noticeable as one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of this region, and needs but a glance to indicate the character of its proprietor. The better to bring this before the reader, we present on another page a faithful though necessarily limited view of this splendid property.

Essex County, N. Y., cradled our subject fifty-three years ago, he having been born Oct. 12, 1835. His parents, Jared C. and Laura (Martin) Wait, were natives respectively of New York and Vermont. They were married in the former State, after which they returned to the Green Mountain State, where they spent the greater part of their lives. Finally coming westward they lived for a time in Troy, N. Y., and the father subsequently took up his abode in Stephenson County, Ill., where his death took place in 1866. The mother is still living, and resides among her children in Chicago. The parental household included six children, three sons and three daughters, but the daughters all died young. The eldest boy, Edgar Fisk, is a dealer in military clothing at Chicago, Ill.; Miner F. is a locomotive engineer running on the Nebraska railroads.

The subject of this biography was a child when his parents removed from New York State to Vermont where he lived until a youth of eighteen years, acquiring a practical education in the common schools and learning telegraphy, which he followed two years. He then set out for the Pacific Slope, taking the ocean route via the Isthmus, and occupied himself as a telegraph operator in the cities of San Francisco and Sacramento for a period of six years, then returning to the Empire State, he located in the city of Troy, establishing himself in the grocery trade, which he carried on until the outbreak of the Civil War. He then joined the military telegraph corps under Gen. Fremont, at St. Louis, and was busy sending dispatches until after the battle of Shiloh, April 7, 1862.

Mr. Wait now returned to St. Louis, but on account of ill-health changed his location and occupation, settling at Freeport, Ill., and occupied himself as an operator there until 1867. Later he became Train Dispatcher, and Superintendent of the Western Union Telegraph Company, holding this



RESIDENCE OF L. G. LEAVITT, SEC. 27. LANCASTER PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF E. O. WAIT, SEC. 9. STEVENS CREEK PRECINCT.

position three years, abandoning it to assume the Superintendency of the Atlantic & Pacific Telegraph Lines at Chicago, where he continued until 1872. In the spring of 1873 he visited California for his health, and upon his return located in Clinton, Iowa, coming to this county in 1875.

Here Mr. Wait resolved to experiment with agriculture, a move which has resulted very successfully, both in point of health and finances. His farm comprises 160 acres of land, which is the source of a liberal income. He was first married, in 1860, to Miss Carrie Barker, of New York, and there were born to them two children: Annie Laurie, now the wife of William H. Malick, City Marshal of Plattsmouth, and Edgar B. who is occupied at farming in this county.

Mr. Wait, Nov. 4, 1875, contracted a second marriage, with Miss Lomira Simonds, who was born in Essex County, N. Y., Nov. 5, 1839, and who by her union with our subject has become the mother of three children—Florella, Leland and Harry. Mr. Wait is a Republican, politically, and has held the various local offices, including that of Justice of the Peace, in which he is still serving. Socially, he belongs to Belle City Lodge No. 92, A. F. & A. M., at Racine, Wis.



L G. LEAVITT, a farmer and stock-raiser on section 27, Lancaster Precinct, is also a fine representative of the fruit growing interests of this part of Nebraska, as he makes a specialty of that profitable branch of agriculture, having a fine assortment of strawberries, blackberries, grapes, apples, etc., with which he supplies the markets of Lincoln. He was born in Trumbull County, Ohio, Aug. 8, 1838, and is a son of L. L. and Maria A. (Hall) Leavitt. His father, born in the same county as himself, in 1810, was a farmer and mill-owner. In 1862 he went to Minnesota and engaged in farming there until 1874, when he came to Nebraska. He and his wife, who was a native of Pennsylvania, was married in 1836, and eleven children were born of their union, five sons and six daughters, of whom five are living, as follows: Luzern G., the subject of this sketch; Lorenzo, of Lancaster; Helen, wife

of W. J. Featherston, of Red Wing, Minn.; Mazzini, of Dakota; and Lucius, also of Dakota. The parents of our subject are both deceased. The mother died in Minnesota, and the father in this county.

Our subject remained at home with his parents until twenty-two years of age, receiving a sound education in the public schools, and assisting his father on the farm, whereby he gained a thorough, practical knowledge of agriculture. At the age just mentioned he started out in the world to seek his fortunes, and we next hear of him at Grand Rapids, Mich., where he was employed on a farm one summer. He then went to Minnesota to invest in land, and at Red Wing bought a farm, on which he lived until 1862. In that year he returned to his native State, and resided there the two succeeding years, and at the end of that time he again went to Minnesota, where he was prosperously engaged in farming until 1873, when he was tempted to come to Nebraska by the many favorable reports that he had heard concerning its fine climate and many and varied resources, making it especially the paradise of the farmer. Accordingly he took up a claim in Hall County, under the provisions of the Homestead Act, and was busily engaged in agricultural pursuits there for six years. He then came to Lancaster County, and bought a farm of eighty acres, finely located five miles from Lincoln, and two years later sold his Hall County farm. His present farm comprises seventy-five acres of land, whose rich, loamy soil is especially adapted to the cultivation of fruit, of which, we have before mentioned, he makes a specialty, and in which he has met with marked success. He does not, however, neglect other branches of agriculture, but has his farm well supplied with stock of good grades, and he also raises considerable grain. He has a beautiful home, and the fine lawn surrounding it is adorned with trees planted by his own hand, as will be seen on reference to the view the lithographic artist enables us to supply, and which so clearly brings to the mental retina the scene as it is. Merely verbal description is helplessly faulty.

Our subject was married, in 1868, to Miss Clara J. Watson, daughter of John Watson, Jr., and his wife, Fanny Pettinger, both natives of England.

He was born in 1821, and his wife in 1823. They were married in their native country and started for America on their wedding day. They reared a family of eleven children, six sons and five daughters, nine of whom are now living, as follows: Elijah P. is a harness-maker, of Morris, Minn.; Charles Herbert lives at Northville, Minn.; Clara J., the wife of our subject; Amy, wife of Charles Featherston, of Red Wing, Minn.; David W., a harness-maker of Red Wing; Phoebe, wife of Frank Sherpy, of Northfield, Minn.; Fred J., of Marshall, Minn., is a liveryman; From T. is a book-keeper for a lumberman in River Falls, Wis.; Clemmie, wife of David Richardson, of Northfield, Minn., who is a furniture dealer. Mr. Watson was a second time married, and has reared a family by his last wife. Mrs. Leavitt was born Nov. 27, 1847, in Sarnia, Canada, near Lake St. Clair, and was married in Red Wing, Nov. 26, 1868. She and her husband, having no children of their own, have taken to their home and hearts two children, whom they are providing for as if they were their very own; the girl, Emmeline A., born Nov. 30, 1872, has been under their loving care for twelve years. The boy, Albert, they took in infancy; he was born Dec. 10, 1885.

Our subject and his wife are noble-minded, whole-souled people, whose generosity and kindness are unexcelled, and they are powers for much good in this community. They are both active, working members of the Christian Church at Lincoln, of which he has been a Deacon for some time, and, both while living in Hall County and here, Sunday-school Superintendent. Mr. Leavitt is a staunch temperance man, and is prominently identified with the Prohibition party of Lancaster County.



IN. LEONARD, who is prominently identified with the farming and stock-growing interests of Lancaster County, is proprietor of one of the finest estates in the county, which is pleasantly located on section 20, Oak Precinct. A native of Delaware County, Ohio, he was born Nov. 15, 1838, to Joseph and Nancy (Longwell) Leonard, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Kentucky. The

paternal ancestors were from Holland, but the mother was of Scotch descent. Both branches of the family settled in America prior to the Revolutionary War.

The father of our subject was extensively engaged in agricultural pursuits, being one of the prominent stock-growers of Delaware County, Ohio. He was a man of solid worth, possessing the true Christian character, and a member of the Presbyterian Church. He died in September, 1867, aged sixty years, lamented in the community where for so many years he had been an honored citizen. His wife, the mother of our subject, had died in October, 1848.

The early life of I. N. Leonard was passed in the manner usual to farmers' sons, attending school as opportunity afforded, and assisting his father in the farm work and cattle business. He had scarcely attained manhood when the war broke out. He had been watching with intense and intelligent interest the course of public events, that culminated in that terrible struggle, and soon enrolled his name with the other brave defenders of his country. In the tragic years which followed he engaged in many a hard-fought battle and gained an honorable record for heroism and valor. Enlisting in Company B, 9th Indiana Infantry, as a private, Aug. 14, 1861, he served faithfully until after the close of the war, receiving his discharge from the army Sept. 28, 1865. His efficiency in field and camp soon brought him to the notice of his superior officers, and he received deserved promotion to the rank of First Lieutenant. On the 4th of July, 1864, he was severely wounded by a musket ball, while taking an active part in the engagement near Marietta, in Georgia.

Mr. Leonard was mustered into service at Camp Colfax, August 27, and was rushed to the front in West Virginia, where he took part in the battle of Greenbrier, October 3. On January 13 following he was at Buffalo Mountain; later he was transferred with his regiment to the Army of the Ohio, under Buell. At Nashville they marched across Tennessee, and on the second day took part in the battle of Shiloh. Mr. Leonard was at Corinth and in the famous retreat to Louisville, Ky., taking part in the battles of Perryville and Danville. He fought

valiantly at Stone River and Chickamauga, and at the battle of Chattanooga was in command of a company at the storming of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, also at Ringgold, Ga. He was an officer in the Atlanta campaign until July 4, 1864, when he was disabled by a gunshot wound and was sent home for a furlough of 100 days. At the end of his leave of absence he was scarcely able to return, but his indomitable spirit would not brook the thought of being away from his duty, and he returned to the army on crutches. He was then assigned aid-de-camp on the staff of Brevet Major General Charles Cruft, which position he held until the close of the war.

Upon his final discharge from the service, Sept. 28, 1865, at Camp Stanley, Tex., Lieut. Leonard proceeded to Indianapolis, where the regiment was disbanded. He reached home in the early part of October, at 2 A. M., slept until 6 A. M., then resumed citizens' clothes and went vigorously to work. He has done a good day's work each day since, and by industry, self-denial and economy has attained success. He came to Nebraska in 1870 with \$1,500 in his pocket, which by judicious investments and wise management of his business affairs, he has increased to a property worth \$25,000, being now numbered among the wealthy and substantial citizens of the county, which has been developed by his aid.

Mr. Leonard upon coming to this section of country, first took up a homestead claim and erected a tiny shelter, ten feet six inches square, in which he lived eight months. Then selling his land he bought another tract within six miles of Lincoln. Here he improved a farm from the wild prairie, having it now under fine culture. He has erected a comfortable and commodious residence at a cost of \$2,500, and two fine barns, one for cattle and the other for horses, each worth \$600. He has a large corn-crib with a capacity of 3,000 bushels, and his small grain is stored in a structure which will contain 1,000. The premises are not only among the finest in the precinct, but also in the county. Half of the farm is enclosed with a honey-locust fence and the balance with wire fencing. There is a fine grove of ash, box-elder, walnut, cottonwood, etc., planted by the hand of the proprietor, and so rapid

has been the growth of these trees that they would make logs from which might be chopped wood by the hundred cord.

Mr. Leonard commenced to raise high-grade stock in 1876, and has so greatly extended his business, that of horses he owns some of the finest trotters in this region. His thoroughbred stallion, H. Z. Leonard, is famous throughout the county, and has a trotting record of 2:35½. This animal is a beautiful dark bay with dark points, is sixteen and one-half hands high, and weighs at his best 1,260 lbs. He is of the Duboise Hambletonian Prince strain, by Administrator, son of Ryslyek's Hambletonian, that great sire of trotters, son of Abdallah, who was in turn grandson of the famous Messenger, an English thoroughbred, imported into this country about 1790. The dam of H. Z. Leonard was Leonard Maid, bred in this county, sired by New York Boy, the latter bred near Greenwich, Washington Co., N. Y. The cattle of Mr. Leonard embraces a herd of high-bred Jerseys and Short-horns, about forty head in all. Notable among these is Leonard's Duke of Ashbrook and the Jersey Romeo, No. 2.

To the amiable and cultured woman who makes his home pleasant and attractive to her family and their host of friends, our subject was united in marriage April 3, 1873. Her maiden name was Angeline James. She is the daughter of John W. and Sarah J. (Sutton) James, who were both natives of Indiana. Thence they removed with their parents to Poweshiek County, Iowa, at the ages of thirteen and nine respectively. There they were reared, educated, and married in 1855, afterward settling upon a farm. In 1870 they sold their possessions in Iowa, came to Nebraska, and finally settled near Syracuse, Otoe County. Mr. James purchased a farm and there they still reside.

The James family from whom Mrs. Leonard is descended is included in a long line of English ancestry. The progenitor of the American branch was a son of wealthy and prominent parents. When about sixteen years old he became a student at Oxford, that celebrated seat of English learning, and while taking a morning walk on the banks of the River Thames, he was surprised by seamen, a cloak thrown over his head, and he was carried to a ship

in waiting. He was thus impressed as a sailor, an occurrence frequent in those times. He subsequently made his escape at an early period in the settlement of this country from the sailing-vessel at Philadelphia, Pa. He finally settled in Pennsylvania, and some of his descendants were pioneers of Kentucky. One Barney James, the great-uncle of Mrs. Leonard, was killed by an Indian who wanted his long black hair, he wearing it then in the fashion of a "queene." The Indian fortunately did not scalp him, as he became frightened by the approach of the whites. Thomas James, the paternal grandfather of Mrs. Leonard, is still living, a resident of Poweshiek County, Iowa, and a minister of the United Brethren Church. Although having arrived at the advanced age of eighty-three years, yet his hair is plentiful and black as a raven. In early manhood he married Melvina Moore, and they had a family of eight children. Grandmother James died in 1868.

Mrs. Leonard was born near Montezuma, Iowa, Dec. 21, 1857. Of her marriage with our subject four children have been born—Ella, Eva, Sherman and John. Mr. Leonard intends giving his children the benefits of a thorough classical education. There are few men more widely known and respected in business and social circles throughout Lancaster County than I. N. Leonard. He is the soul of honor, just and kindly in his relations with all. A man of vigorous thought and action, his broad and liberal mind keeps pace with the progressive spirit animating the nineteenth century. In politics he is a Prohibitionist, and he is also a strong Woman Suffragist. The Masonic fraternity holds him as one of its leading members, and he has officiated as Secretary of his lodge for some years.

WILLIAM C. OLNEY. The name Washington is borne by between 300 and 400 townships, counties, cities, villages, etc., in the United States, but far from the least worthy of mention of this large number is Washington County, Ohio, which is situated in the southeastern part of the State, on the Virginian border, and which has for its county seat Marietta, the beautiful

city of Marietta, of national renown as a seat of learning. The landscape of this county is hardly to be equaled and never surpassed by any other in the same State. Its hills, covered with verdure of deepest green, its deep, shady glens, broad, fertile valleys, and noble forests, where the ash, hickory, oak and maple flourish in all their strength and beauty.

In the above county was born the subject of this sketch, Nov. 9, 1821, and is the son of Washington and Apphia (Cable) Olney, and the position to which our subject has attained by his persistency and perseverance in answer to the inspiring voice of his ambition, while it could not have been foreseen, is, nevertheless, verified and worthy the owner of so honored a patronymic. Our subject is now a prominent farmer and stock-raiser of Denton Precinct, where he has raised in the appreciation and esteem of his fellow-citizens a monument in his character and life more lasting than iron, more glittering than polished marble.

Mrs. Olney, the mother of our subject, is a near relative of President Cable, of the Rock Island Railroad system, and was born on July 20, 1797, at North Adams, Mass. Her husband, Washington Olney, was a native of Washington County, Ohio. His paternal ancestry were members of the English aristocratic family of the same name, one which is inscribed indelibly on the page of her national history. The branch of the family to which he belonged emigrated to America about the close of the seventeenth century, probably about the year 1635, and settled in Rhode Island. The grandfather of our subject was Maj. Coggeshall Olney, a soldier in the Revolutionary War, where he made his mark as a military man. He was one of the early members of the Society of Cincinnati, his certificate of membership being in the hands of our subject. One of the principal points of interest of this document is that it has the signature of Gen. Washington, then President of the society, also that of the renowned John Knox, Secretary of the society at the same time, besides several other contemporary officers of Revolutionary fame. Washington Olney, the father of our subject, was a soldier in the War of 1812, where, by his gallantry, he added fresh laurels to the family name. Our subject is the possessor of

three commissions granted him, the first creating him Sergeant, the second promoting him First Lieutenant, the third advancing him to the rank of Captain, with charge of his company.

The grandfather of our subject was one of the primitive settlers of Ohio, where he was deeply interested as a pioneer and citizen in its development. He was one of the chief members of the Renown Ohio Company, a corporation which held large sums of continental money for the purpose of purchasing and improving land in that State. Our subject was reared in his native county and received his education in its common schools, then in the earliest day of their formation and establishment. The dark shadow of death beclouded the life of our subject at a very early age. When he was four years old his father was removed from him by death; his mother's death occurred in the year 1852. His brother, George W., older than he, a student at Lane Seminary, where he had gone to prepare for ministerial labor, died before completing his course. The mother took up the burdens of the family with womanly spirit and heroism, and, nothing daunted by her loneliness and widowhood, proceeded to carry out the plans which with her husband she had formed in the interest of their sons. Our subject learned the trade of carpenter and joiner, and followed the same until about the time of his mother's death, and had then for a considerable period been foreman of the shop of Putnam, Sons & Co., of Marietta, Ohio, manufacturers of woodenware. From the year 1852 until his entrance into Nebraska he was engaged in mechanical pursuits in different parts, being unusually skilled as a mechanic and exceedingly facile in the use of tools of every description.

It is not always those who are in the front of the line in the various engagements and undertakings of life, and whose names are the best known, who are the real operators and deserving of honorable mention. The wives and mothers are rarely noticed, and, until recent years, were never thought of as important factors in the history building of the nation, although this is now an accepted fact, and indisputable. The never-to-be-forgotten utterance of the great Napoleon is true in its every letter, and we doubt if the American Republic would stand with its crown of glory to-day, the desire of the na-

tions of the earth, but for the wise mothers and sisters of the brave New Englanders of 1776. We say, therefore, with the most wise king, "He that desireth a wife, desireth a good thing." Our subject proved himself to be of similar mind to Solomon, when, on the 22d of September, 1852, he became the husband of Hattie Morris, a union most happy. This lady is a native of Washington County, Ohio, where she was born Dec. 3, 1828. Her parents were Joseph and Mary Morris, natives of New Jersey and New York respectively. Her parents in both instances were of Scotch-English origin, and among the earliest pioneers of Washington County, having settled there in the seventh year of this century. He lived to the advanced age of ninety-two, and the mother sixty-six years. He was born March 9, 1771, and died May 3, 1861; his wife, born Feb. 17, 1792, died March 29, 1858.

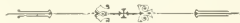
Mr. and Mrs. Olney has the parents of one son, Joseph W., who has already shown himself worthy the family cognomen. He received a good education, and upon graduation began to read law, and was admitted to the bar in Washington County, April 17, 1879, and was appointed Notary Public by Gov. R. B. Hayes, of Ohio, in February, 1877.

The father of Mrs. Olney has been twice married, and had a family of seven children, only three of whom are living—Mrs. Olney and her two brothers, Joseph and William P. The mother of Mrs. Olney was born in Utica, N. Y., and was the daughter of John and Betsy Sweet. There are many physicians who object to surgical work, chiefly because they have no inclination for it, and in spite of their training are not experts, even in the matter of resetting a fractured limb or reducing a dislocation. There are on the other hand many outside the medical profession who seem to possess a special faculty or knack for such work without any professional training, although we would not say without being somewhat proficient in their knowledge of superficial anatomy. The Sweet family have been for several generations noted as members of this class of surgeons, although many have supplemented their natural aptitude by college education, and graduated as physicians and surgeons.

In the summer of 1885 our subject removed from Ohio with his family to this county and took up his

residence for a time at Lincoln, working at his trade, and in the spring of the following year he settled upon his farm, which is supplemented by 240 acres of land owned by Mrs. Olney. Both our subject and his wife are identified with the Congregational Church, and are among its liberal supporters. During the war our subject was in a branch of the service which is little thought of and usually undervalued. Very often the movements of the armed men would be gigantic blunders and disastrous mistakes but for the information received over the telegraph wire. We claim then for the telegraphic department, in which our subject served, as honorable mention as that given to the actual fighting men. While serving in this department, under Capt. Fuller, our subject was taken prisoner by John Morgan, and was one of the first taken from the men of Washington County. He was lodged in Nashville jail, and there remained until the Union forces took the city, when he returned to his old duty.

Mr. Olney is loyally interested as a citizen in questions concerning the Republic and its Government, although not an office-holder. He is a recognized friend of the "grand old party" and an enthusiastic supporter of the same. In every relation of life he has proved himself honorable, conscientious, and true to the dictates of highest manhood, and both in Ohio and at his present home enjoys that confidence and regard which are accorded to good and true citizens throughout our land.



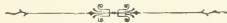
WILLIAM STOCKING, a very enterprising farmer, has one of the most valuable 80-acre farms in Nemaha, located on section 28, one of the most beautiful sites in Lancaster County. He comes of fine old Massachusetts stock, his parents, Abner and Gratia (Porter) Stocking, being of an ancestry that settled in the town of Ashfield, among the beautiful hills of Franklin County, that State. They each removed from that pretty New England town in their youth, and were married in Ohio, where Mr. Stocking engaged in farming until his death at the age of forty-five, in the midst of a prosperous career. He was an active, wide-awake man, of sound principles,

and his death was considered a public calamity, as thereby a good and useful citizen was lost to the community where he had made his home. His wife, a most estimable and very capable lady, came to Nebraska in 1874, and died in her new home in Panama in 1885, at the age of sixty-three years, leaving four children—William R., David A., Joseph Wilson and Mariam A.

William Stocking was born in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, Sept. 4, 1814, on his father's homestead, and he was there reared to the life of a farmer. He was but nine years of age when his father died, and he continued in the old home with his mother until he was twenty or twenty-one years old, in the meantime obtaining a good education at a select school. He then removed to Illinois with his family, and settled in Ogle County, where he rented a farm for fourteen or fifteen years, and engaged in agriculture with much success. March 28, 1872, he was married there to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Albinus and Mehitable (Vincent) Lilly, of English and Welsh ancestry, respectively, but both natives of Franklin County, Mass. Her father owned and managed a farm there, while at the same time actively engaged at his trade of carpenter. In 1828 he and his wife migrated from their pleasant New England home with their family to Ohio. Mr. Lilly purchased a farm in Cuyahoga County, and was prospering very well when his premature death was occasioned by drowning in 1839. His widow was thus left to care for nine children, and nobly did she perform her part, carefully educating them and training them to become useful members of society. The names of her children are as follows: Acsah, Albinus, Hilkiab, Jessie, Lewis, Matilda, David, Rosina and Elizabeth. The latter, the wife of our subject, was born in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, Jan. 18, 1838, and was fourteen months old when her father died, therefore she has no recollection of him. At seventeen she entered Baldwin University, remaining a student there for some time, and gaining a superior education by her studiousness and love of books. In 1870 she went to Illinois, and in Ogle County obtained a situation to work, having bravely resolved to become self-supporting, and there she was married to our subject, with whom she had attended the same school and

church in her native State. Two children have been born to their union—Vera Z. and Layton R.

Mr. Stocking remained in Illinois seven years after marriage, and then in 1879 came with his family to Nebraska, allured hither by the almost certain prospect of becoming more than successful in his chosen calling on this rich and fertile soil. He purchased his present farm on section 28, Nemaha, and in the few years that he has been here he has already put everything into good shape, and has one of the best managed farms in the neighborhood. He has built and tastily fitted up a two-story frame house of modern design, has built a fine barn and fences, a commodious corn crib, and has a fine orchard of sixty-four trees. In all the relations of life our subject has proved himself to be an upright, noble-minded man. As a son, he was dutiful and affectionate; as a husband, he is thoughtful and devoted, and as a father, he is firm, but kind. He is exceedingly temperate, and his habits are above reproach. He is an earnest supporter of the Prohibition movement in politics.



JOHAN GILLESPIE, Secretary of the Nebraska Stockyards Company, has had a liberal experience in this Western country, becoming a resident of this State as early as 1859, during its Territorial days. A native of Jefferson County, Ohio, he was born near what was then the embryo town of Springfield, on the 23d of July, 1832. While he was still an infant his parents removed from Jefferson to Carroll County. There the boyhood and youth of John were spent, and there he developed into manhood.

William Gillespie, the father of our subject, was born and reared in Washington County, Pa., his childhood home being near that of the Hon. James G. Blaine. The Gillespie family is of Scotch-Irish descent. The mother of our subject was in her girlhood Miss Mary Engle, whose birthplace and early home was near that of her husband. After their marriage they settled in Noble County, Ohio, whence they removed, in 1853, to Van Buren County, Iowa, and subsequently went to Scotland County, Mo., where the death of the father occurred

in 1866. The mother died at Grafton, Neb., in 1884, at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Maggie Burt.

To William and Mary Gillespie there were born eight children, the eldest of whom was John, the subject of this sketch. He pursued his early studies in the country school, near his home in Carroll County, Ohio, and afterward attended school in Noble County. He was studiously inclined, and for a time was engaged in teaching; subsequently he learned the trade of a carpenter, which he followed until 1859. That year he came to Nebraska, and settled in Peru, Nemaha County. Mr. Gillespie then abandoned carpentering and engaged in general merchandising until the outbreak of the Civil War.

Upon the 15th of June, after the first call for troops, Mr. Gillespie enlisted in Company C, of the 1st Nebraska Infantry, at Omaha. The regiment was commanded by Col. (now Governor), John M. Thayer, and was shortly after sent to St. Louis, Mo., and assigned to the command of Gen. John C. Fremont, who was operating against the rebel Generals Price, Marmaduke and others. Later the 1st Nebraska was transferred to the command of Gen. Grant, and our subject was present at the capture of Ft's. Henry and Donelson, and also at Shiloh. He was also at the siege of Corinth, and crossed with Gen. Lew Wallace the State of Tennessee, and was afterward transferred to the department of Gen. Curtis, under whom the troops moved to Cape Girardeau, Mo. Here the 1st Nebraska went into camp, and did picket duty until April 26, when the enemy, under Gen. Marmaduke, made an attack that but for the activity and heroic bravery of the "boys in blue" would have been successful. The 1st Nebraska Regiment was actively engaged throughout the entire battle, and after many brilliant deeds of daring repulsed the enemy. After this they were detailed to St. Louis and assigned provost duty for several months. Next they were ordered to the department of Arkansas, under the command of Gen. Steele, and took part in a number of important battles and skirmishes.

Mr. Gillespie, on account of his bravery and fidelity to duty, was now considered worthy of promotion, and received the position of Regimental

Commissary, and was commissioned First Lieutenant, having charge of the infantry and cavalry. At the expiration of his term of enlistment he returned to Omaha on a veteran's furlough of forty days. In the meantime occurred the Indian outbreak and murder of the people on the Republican River and Upper Platte. Lient. Gillespie was among the first to report and proffer his assistance in repelling the Indians. He was at once given the post of Quartermaster and Commissary at Pum Creek, a point some thirty-five miles west of Ft. Kearney, on the old stage line. Here he was busily employed in piloting stages and fighting the Indians for some eighteen months.

On the 10th of August, 1865, Lieut. Gillespie was relieved and mustered out at Ft. Kearney, whence he returned to Brownsville, and shortly after was elected Territorial Auditor, a position which he held most creditably for a term of two years, and was then re-elected for four years. He was appointed by the Legislature one of three Commissioners to lay out the town of Lincoln, where it was determined to locate the State capitol, and under their immediate supervision were erected the first Capitol buildings, the State University, the Agricultural College and the Insane Asylum. In order the better to attend to the duties connected with this, he removed his office from Omaha to Lincoln, on the 1st of January, 1869.

Retiring from office in 1873, Mr. Gillespie was principally instrumental in the organization of the Nebraska stockyards, in 1884, of which he was made Secretary, and which office he still holds. There have been few important enterprises in which he has not been interested, while his wide experience and mature judgment have constituted him an important factor in developing the best interests of the city and county. He cast his first Presidential ballot in favor of James G. Birney, and now gives his entire support to the Republican party.

The subject of our sketch was married, in November, 1854, at the home of the bride, in Noble County, Ohio, to Miss Julia Byers, who was a native of that State, and who died in Iowa in 1857. By this marriage Mr. Gillespie became the parent of two children, the elder, Miss M. M. Gillespie, and Willie C., who died in Iowa when an infant.

His present wife, to whom he was married in September, 1860, was Mrs. Sarah D. Proctor, a native of Worcester County, Mass. She was born on the 5th of April, 1834, and is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wright Rugg. By this second alliance there have been five children added to the family circle, viz: Emma B., Harry T., Edward E., Lily M. and Grace L., all of whom are at present unmarried. The home of the Gillespies is well known in the society circles of Lincoln, and forms for the cultured and refined people of the city one of its attractive features.

CHARLES O. STRICKLAND was born in Piatt County, Ill., at Centerville, Jan. 1, 1865, and is the son of John W. and Anna M. (Hevel) Strickland, the former born in Logan County, Ohio, and his father, George Strickland, grandfather of our subject, was a native of Pennsylvania, who, early in life removed to Logan County, Ohio, where he was one of the first settlers, and continued to make his home there until his death in 1887. That homestead was the scene of the early days of his son, and until he had finished the ordinary round of school studies, upon which he went to Washington, D. C., matriculated as a student of medicine, and in due time was initiated into the mysteries of sutures and their osseous connections; the origin, rise and progress of disease, and the methods of combating the same. He finally was graduated at the medical college at Washington.

Immediately after his graduation Dr. Strickland was united in marriage with Miss Anna M. Hevel, and settled in Centerville, Piatt Co., Ill., which continued to be his home until 1869, when the family removed to Lincoln, which was in its infancy and more country than town, surrounded by the billowy prairie, upon which the elk, deer, antelope, wolf and other animals roamed at will. The Doctor opened an office immediately and continued practicing until the year 1877, when he purchased a flouring-mill at Raymond, and gave all his attention to the same, in which he continued prosperously until his death, the result of a deplorable accident, and occasioned by his being overcome by the



N. E. Melick

strength of the current of the mill stream and drowned, in the spring of 1884. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, honored and beloved, and an earnest advocate of the Republican party. His wife was a native of Illinois, being born in Coles County, and still resides in Lincoln with her children.

Our subject was four years old when the family removed from Centerville, Ill., to Lincoln. In due time his attention was directed to the study of those subjects which lie at the foundation of progress and advancement in every department of life. Having completed the course of study prescribed in the common school he entered the classes of the State University. At the age of twenty years, upon his graduation, he took charge of his father's business, which included the mill and the large wholesale business. In these engagements he has been continuously successful.

Our subject began to realize, as the cares of business and general life gathered around him, demanding attention, that in something his life was incomplete, and that a brightness, cheer and inspiration to meet and overcome the opposing forces of life and ambition to reach out after the large attainments was necessary. Accordingly, believing he had solved this problem, he in April, 1886, became the husband of Artha M. Klock. Subsequent events have proved that his judgment in this matter was correct. His wife is a native of Iowa, the daughter of G. S. Klock. Our subject has not yet made his mark with any special prominence in political circles, but undoubtedly if he so desires will do so. He is earnest in his principles of the advocacy of prohibition, and an energetic worker, the recipient of the highest esteem of his fellow-citizens.



NICHOLAS E. MELICK. America has rapidly become the pork-raising country of the world, and Nebraska, with her rolling prairies and unexceptional climate, offering as she does unusual facilities for the production of this important article of consumption, is rapidly taking the lead of

the States in this industry. The subject of the present sketch is making a specialty of the same at his farm on section 22, Rock Creek Precinct, where he owns 120 acres of choice land.

The grandparents of Mr. Melick, upon both the paternal and maternal sides of the house, were born in New Jersey. Nicholas E. Melick, Sr., after whom our subject is named, was married April 1, 1812. His family comprised six children—Peter, Christopher B., James William, Catherine, Edwin and Elizabeth, four of whom are now living. The date of the death of the grandparents is unfortunately lost. The eldest son, Peter, was the father of our subject, and was born near the close of the year 1812, and lived to be fifty years of age. In the year 1862 he removed from Hunterdon, N. J., to Marshall County, Ill., making of farming his life occupation. His wife was Maria Miller, to whom he was married on the 1st of April, 1837. This lady was the daughter of Samuel and Mary (Field) Miller, also natives of New Jersey. Her father was born in 1815, and followed the trade of saddler, although he spent some years upon a farm. His daughter, the wife of Mr. Peter Melick, was born in the year 1815, and continued to make her home with her parents in New Jersey until her marriage, as above recorded.

To Peter and Maria Melick there were born seven children at the homestead in Hunterdon County, N. J., prior to the removal to Illinois, in 1861. Mary E. is the relict of Mr. Adam Harriman, of Rock Creek; Emma J., who is the wife of Warren Hallett; Nicholas E., our subject; Catherine, who died in childhood; Samuel M., who is now Sheriff of this county, and owner of a farm in Rock Creek Precinct.

The gentleman whose biography is herein presented was born Aug. 25, 1847. His early life was spent with his father upon the farm, and largely occupied in such duties as could be safely assigned to him. His early educational advantages were exceedingly limited, although he attended the public school for a time. At the age of eighteen years he went to Chicago and attended a private school taught by W. G. Hathaway, at No. 172 Clark street. He then returned home for one year, and at that period his father removed to Henry County, Ill.,

where he lived for about two years. In 1867 our subject entered the Northern Illinois University, and began his studies in the freshman class, but his previous studies enabled him to take an advanced standing, and complete the course in six months.

In the year 1869 Mr. Melick came to this county and located a claim of eighty acres. He then went to Washington County, Iowa, and taught school during the winter. The following spring he and his brother commenced working the claim, and our subject was enabled finally to establish his ownership. He continued to teach in the public schools in Lancaster County for six years. In several cases the school-house was simply a dug-out that had been deserted by its former occupants for a larger and more substantial dwelling. The fuel was usually corn. The experience of the "Hoosier Schoolmaster" was his, so far as the "boarding around" was concerned.

Our subject was married on the 28th of March, 1872. The lady of his choice, Miss Priscilla Scott, is the daughter of Rev. James M. and Eliza A. (Gardner) Scott, who were natives of Canada. Mr. Scott is a minister of the Free Methodist Church. He removed to Illinois in 1864, and in 1885 went to Saunders County, this State, where he and his family still continue to reside. The home circle included twelve children, in the beautiful proportion of six sons and six daughters, nine of whom are living; Eliza died at the age of seventeen years; Priscilla, the wife of our subject, was the second born; Lucille, the wife of M. McBride, of Ft. Elgin, Canada; John is a resident of London, Ontario; Sarah died in infancy; Caroline, the wife of Rev. C. E. Harroun, resides in Fairfield, Iowa; Robert is a minister in Ridott, Ill.; James is laboring in the Master's vineyard at Seattle, W. T., and Samuel C. is a minister in Rock Creek; Mary A. is married to the Rev. Alexander Norrington, of Sunderland, Ontario; William N. is deceased; Charles A. is a student at Orleans, Neb.

The wife of our subject was born on the 13th of December, 1845, at Canada, and was married at Ashton, Ill.; from that time she has lived with her husband upon their farm. Their family numbers eight children, three of whom are sons: William E., born March 23, 1873, and died September 16 of the

same year; Katy May, born June 9, 1874; Carrie, Nov. 12, 1875; Charles W., May 20, 1877; Frank E., Dec. 2, 1878; Emma P., Nov. 8, 1880; Bertha L., June 24, 1882; Marion M., Nov. 5, 1883.

Upon beginning life upon his farm in 1870, our subject built a sod house, in which he lived about a year, his brother living in a similar house upon the adjoining claim, which made it possible for them to spend much time together. He began breaking sod on his land the same year, and pushed the work rapidly. The first crop was put in in the season of 1870-71, and yielded bounteously. Mr. Melick continued to link with his farming the profession of the pedagogue. The brothers usually worked together with a common interest. In the unfortunate experience of the grasshopper plague, our subject did not suffer as much as many of his neighbors, for his wheat was in the shock when they came, and was safely gathered in; but the corn crop was entirely devastated, which calamity meant to the farmers around far more than the mere loss of the grain, because they had no food wherewith to fatten their hogs, and were therefore compelled to sell out at two cents a pound, and ship to Iowa. This experience was repeated, although to somewhat less extent, the following year. The chief reverses which have come to our subject have been those arising from loss in connection with his hogs. All the grain that is raised upon the farm is required for their feed, and he raises upon an average 150 bushels per annum.

Mr. Melick is a decided Prohibitionist, and vigorously upholds the cause. For six years he has held the office of Justice of the Peace, with honor and impartiality. He has for several years been Treasurer of the District School Board, and Clerk of Elections.

Our subject and family are members of the Free Methodist Church, and have done as much for its advancement as any family in the district. They are among the most earnest and faithful of its adherents in this region, and receive the unqualified respect, not simply of the church members, but the entire community, because of the high Christian character with which their profession is adorned.

The portrait of Mr. Melick, given in connection with this sketch, occupies a fitting place among the

well-to-do and prominent men of the county, who have been instrumental in elevating it to its present enviable position in one of the most prosperous commonwealths west of the Mississippi.



ORTHA C. BELL, County Clerk of Lancaster County, is a young man whose sterling integrity and fine business qualifications have gained for him the high position which he so well fills, wherein he has won the full confidence of his fellow-citizens by his faithful discharge of the duties pertaining to his office. He is a native of Indiana, born in Cass County, Jan. 9, 1847, and is a son of George W. and Marrietta (Thomas) Bell, natives respectively of Indiana and Pennsylvania. His father was born April 30, 1824, and was in early life a farmer. In 1852 he became interested in mercantile business in Galveston, Ind., and later went to California, where he was engaged in mining. He also worked in the mines of Nevada and Idaho.

In 1887 the elder Bell came to Lincoln and established himself in the real-estate business, which he is still prosecuting with success, so that he is now numbered among the substantial men of this city. His estimable wife died in Illinois in 1869. She was an exemplary woman of high character, and was much beloved by all who knew her, and a devoted member of the Christian Church, which at her death was deprived of one of its truest followers. Of the eight children born to her and her husband, our subject was the eldest; following is the record of the others: Gertrude P. married J. H. Davis, a merchant; Mollie B. became the wife of David T. Cook, a carpenter; George T. is also married, and engaged in farming; Melinda is deceased; Lizzie married David Farnsworth, a carriage blacksmith; Harvey S., a fire and life insurance agent, married Kitty Rairdon; another child died in infancy.

Ortha C. Bell was educated in the common schools, and as soon as large enough assisted in the labors of the farm. At the age of twelve years he entered the office of the Princeton (Ind.) *Republican*, and when seventeen, although but a youth, imbued with

the fire and patriotism of one who loves his country, he resolved to enlist in her service and do all that lay in his power to assist in suppressing the Rebellion. He was mustered in as a private in Company B, 10th Indiana Cavalry, and from December, 1863, served as bugler until he was honorably discharged from the army in August, 1865. He was present at the battle of Mobile Bay, and was on the courier line from Blakely to Spanish Fort and Pulaski; thence the march to Franklin and Nashville was almost one continuous fight, strongly contested by the Confederate General, Hood. From the latter city his regiment proceeded to the river, and Hood was left behind at Florence. Our subject came very near being wounded in one battle, a bullet being shot off his coat. For a time he was sick in a hospital at Jackson, Miss., and when he was discharged was suffering from the army scurvy.

After retiring from the service, Mr. Bell returned to his home in Indiana, whence he went the following year to Havana, Mason Co., Ill., where he worked in a printing-office four months. Then he was employed in an express office for some time, and later, in a telegraph office, being the first telegrapher in Havana. He subsequently had a trial of life in Texas, being engaged in book-keeping there for one year. He then returned to Havana, and in February, 1872, turned his face westward again, and arrived in Lincoln on the 29th of that month. His first employment in this city was as a clerk in a boot and shoe store, and two years later he occupied the same position in the china store of S. C. Elliott, remaining in the employ of that gentleman for six years to a day.

In 1880 our subject was appointed Deputy County Clerk, serving in that capacity for six years, the first two years being under L. E. Cropsy, and the remaining four years under J. H. McClay. Our subject showed such zeal and ability in the discharge of his duties that, on the expiration of the term of his predecessor, he was chosen County Clerk in his stead, being elected to that office by the Republican party in November, 1885, and entering upon its duties in January, 1886. In 1887 he was re-elected for the same position, being nominated by acclamation. Mr. Bell is a prominent member of the G. A. R., Farragut Post No. 25, of

which he is now Commander; and also of the I. O. O. F., Lancaster Lodge No. 39, in which he has held the highest rank. In politics he has always been true to the principles of the Republican party.

December 10, 1874, Ortha C. Bell and Miss Minnie D. Polley were united in marriage by the Rev. A. Burns, pastor of the Christian Church. Mrs. Bell is a lady whose amiable qualities and high character have gained her many friends. She was born in the State of New York in 1855, and at an early age united with the Christian Church, and has ever since been a devoted and consistent member. Mr. Bell belongs to the same church, is influential in its affairs, and a member of the building committee which has in charge the erection of a new church edifice. The family circle of our subject and his wife includes two children: Jennie G., born March 10, 1877; and Hazel P., Aug. 26, 1888. One little daughter, Lena, died at the age of eleven months; and Ray H., a son, died when not quite three years of age.



DAVID A. CLINE, Grand Secretary of the I. O. O. F., of Nebraska, and a man prominent among the affairs of the city of Lincoln, began life near the town of New Lexington, Highland Co., Ohio, on the 28th of March, 1831. His parents, Daniel and Mary (Miller) Cline, numbered nine children in their family, of whom David A. was the eldest. Daniel Cline was born in Hampshire County, Va., about 1795, and was a machinist by trade, which occupation he followed the earlier part of his life, but later engaged in farming. He emigrated to the Buckeye State in 1818, and settled among the early pioneers of Muskingum County, taking up a tract of Government land in the Muskingum Valley. After a residence in that region of ten years he removed to Highland, where he remained some time, and from there to Clarke County, and there spent his last days, passing away in 1867.

The father of our subject was first a Whig, politically, and later a Republican, and a member in good standing of the Lutheran Church. He did good service as a soldier in the War of 1812, when near its close, as previous to that time he had been too

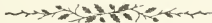
young to enter the ranks. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Adam Cline by name, was also a native of the Old Dominion, and carried a musket in the Revolutionary War. Mrs. Mary Cline was born in Pennsylvania, Jan. 21, 1809, and emigrated with her parents to Ohio, settling among the pioneers of Highland County. There the descendants of the Miller family may be found quite numerously to this day. The mother of our subject is most tenderly remembered by him as a modest and unassuming lady, possessing all the Christian virtues, and after living a most praiseworthy life, passed quietly away at her home in Clarke County, Ohio, in 1883, when well advanced in years.

The subject of this sketch spent his youth and opening manhood under the parental roof, attending the common school, and assisting his father on the farm. In 1857, when twenty-six years of age, desirous of advancing his store of knowledge, he entered Wittenberg College, at Springfield, Ohio, where he pursued a thorough course of study for two years, and although not yet satisfied with his requirements, was compelled to abandon his books on account of ill-health. Subsequently he taught school for a time, in order to obtain means for the further prosecution of his studies, but for three or four years thereafter suffered greatly physically, and it was believed by his friends that he might die at any time. About 1862, however, he began recovering his old vitality, and two years later we find him joining in the tide of immigration to Nebraska, which was then a Territory. He took up his residence in Nebraska City, and for about six years thereafter was variously engaged, teaching a part of the time, and also occupied as a jeweler.

In 1870 Mr. Cline came to Lincoln, and opened an art gallery, having learned photography several years before. He conducted this successfully until 1880, then engaged in general merchandising four years. In the meantime he had been elected to his present position, with the I. O. O. F., when there were only about sixty lodges in the State. In 1885 he disposed of his mercantile interests, and aside from his duties as Secretary, gives his attention mainly to his private affairs. Under his supervision the I. O. O. F. in Nebraska has expanded from sixty-five to 162 lodges. He is a devoted

admirer of the principles of Odd Fellowship, and warmly interested in the success of the order. He became identified with it when a young man twenty-one years old, becoming a member and Chairman of Chosen Friends Lodge No. 45, in New Lexington, Ohio, and joined Shawnee Encampment in 1852, at Xenia, Ohio, and held all the offices subsequently in both the Subordinate and Grand Lodges. He has been prominent in the order for over thirty years. In 1872 he connected himself with the A. F. & A. M., as a member of Lincoln Lodge No. 19, and was at various times proffered a prominent post, which he declined to fill on account of the pressure of other business. Politically, he was first a Whig until the abandonment of that party, since which time he has cordially supported Republican principles.

Mr. Cline has never been married, being really too much interested in Masonry and Odd Fellowship to be able to give his serious thoughts and attention to the formation of domestic ties of his own. He religiously believes that the principles of Masonry and Odd Fellowship properly lived up to would have the effect to ameliorate the condition of humanity at large, and further the highest precepts laid down in the Scripture. In his own life he has obeyed as far as was possible the sublime injunction, "We command you to visit the sick, relieve the distressed, educate the orphan and bury the dead."



OSCAR A. CECIL is another of those who are prominent in West Oak Precinct in the line of stock farming. He is the owner of the whole of section 10, 640 acres of first-class farming land. His father, Henry Cecil, was born in Miami County, Ohio, in the year 1820, passed through the common school of his native town, and afterward became a farmer. After awhile he added to this the occupation of distiller, and continued until that business came under the ban of public opinion, when he substituted stock-raising. He entered largely into that occupation, breeding both horses and cattle, afterward adding sheep to the list, and with it the trade of wool-growing, which he continued until 1869, when he sold out and came

to this State. He had then been for some years carrying as many as 6,000 sheep on his farm.

Henry Cecil's first home in Nebraska was in Richardson County, where he bought 320 acres of land, which he has continued to occupy, although he has for some time retired from active farm work. He was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Mann, in Miami County, in about the year 1844. There have been born to them four children—Caroline, Elizabeth, Oscar, our subject, and Lillie. His wife was born in Miami County, Ohio, in 1821, and was a daughter of Jacob Mann, one of the early settlers of Ohio, but a native of Virginia, where he was born in 1777 and lived until 1855. He was only a boy at the removal to Ohio, but as quite a young man he took land in a heavily timbered section, and cut out his farm from these surroundings as he needed. He was a man of much physical power and dexterity, and has done more perhaps than any other man toward the location of the county seat. The strife had gone on between Troy and Piqua for a long time as to which should be the county seat of Miami County, and arrangements were made for the settlement by physical encounter, rather than arbitration. At one discussion of the subject it was agreed that both sides should select a man who should represent them. On the side of Troy Mr. Mann was selected, and accordingly he entered the ring against his antagonist. It is not necessary that the particulars of this encounter should be given; it is rather the result with which we are concerned, and that was shown in that Troy has the county seat; so that the father of the mother of our subject was he without whom Troy would have lost.

Jacob Mann became the husband of Miss Shell, who died about 1859, leaving seven children, three sons and four daughters, all of whom are living. The grandfather of our subject, Thomas Cecil, was a native of Virginia, and died many years ago.

Oscar A. Cecil, the subject of this sketch, was born in Tippecanoe, Miami Co., Ohio, on the 6th of August, 1852. Until he was fourteen years of age his education was that of the common school. From there he went to Oberlin College, and after that to Hillsdale College, Mich., where he remained two years. Schooling and college being over our

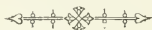
subject came to Nebraska, afterward returning to attend the business college at Poughkeepsie, finishing his course of instruction in the latter institution. From there he went into Ohio and became book-keeper for one of the leading firms of his native town, continuing the same for two years; from thence again to Nebraska, where he went into the office of the District Court, and was Clerk for four years in Nemaha County. During this time he was devoting himself to the study of law with much energy and was admitted to the bar, and went in with Judge Broady, of Beatrice. They continued to do business together in Brownsville for seven years, by which time they had quite a large clientele. Mr. Broady was elected Judge, and the county seat moved from Brownsville to Auburn, which inclined our subject to come here to his farm, and he settled in his present home in 1886.

Among the work that has occupied our subject since that time is the putting up of a very fine two-story residence, farm buildings in keeping therewith, and the taming of a large part of his property. He has large herds of very fine stock; many are full-blood, and so registered, including horses, cattle and other and smaller stock. The marriage of our subject was celebrated May 19, 1886, and has been most felicitous in its results to all concerned therein. The lady of his choice was Anna McComas, the daughter of Judge E. M. McComas. She was born in 1858, in Nemaha, where she has always lived. She is a lady of education and refinement, and has abundantly proved her ability to make the life of Mr. Cecil complete.

Judge McComas is a native of Miami County, Ohio, where he was born in 1829, until as a young man he started West. Immediately previous to his departure he was married to Miss Alumina Waggoner, a native of Troy, Ohio. Together they came and located upon the site of the present Kansas City, and continued residents there until 1858, when they removed to Nemaha, of this State. Here for some time he practiced medicine, which he understood somewhat, having been for some years in the drug business in the East. He was very active and prominent in political circles, and was elected County Judge, besides other lesser offices. The large majority of his neighbors are Republican, but

that fact does not in any way deter him from following the dictates of his own opinions, and he is almost the only Democrat in the precinct; nevertheless, his high character and efficiency cause him to be the recipient of the best appreciation and esteem of the community.

Mrs. Cecil is a very ardent supporter and devout member of the local Presbyterian Church. Our subject has for two years held the office of Police Judge at Brownsville, and has been the City Treasurer for some years. The integrity and conscientiousness of his life in the community have led the people generally to accord him entire respect and confidence.



HARVEY WESLEY HARDY is one of the descendants of the Eastern heroes of the thrilling days of the Americo-Britannic Wars, and was born in Perry, Wyoming Co., N. Y., on the 29th of October, 1825. His father, Samuel Hardy, was a native of Hardwick, Mass. His father, Francis Hardy, grandfather of our subject, was by trade a tanner and carrier, a native of the same State, and went through a greater part of the War of Independence, taking part in the memorable battle of Bunker Hill.

Samuel Hardy was reared to manhood in Massachusetts, and from there removed to Vermont, and settled at Rutland, which was his residence for about ten years. In 1805 he started with his wife and two children for what was then called the Far West. All their movable property was put into a two-wheeled cart, and a yoke of oxen sufficed to draw the same. For forty-two days they traveled on in primitive style, camping and traveling alternately as day and night succeeded each other, in their course, until they arrived in what is now Wyoming County, and took a tract of timber land in what has since become the town of Perry. Here he built a log house, which was to be their home, and where afterward our subject was born.

After clearing quite a large tract, and being successful in husbandry until the year 1830, Mr. Hardy removed to Gainesville Township in the same county, and bought 180 acres of land. For several

years after this settlement, Albany, nearly 200 miles distant, was the nearest market. It was so far removed from the farm that it did not pay to take grain there, although he used to take large quantities of pork. After the Erie Canal was opened, Rochester and Buffalo became the markets.

The wife of Mr. Hardy was a native of Massachusetts, and a daughter of Stephen Parker; the bonds were severed by his death while residing upon the Gainesville farm, in February, 1855. The father of our subject went through the War of 1812, and among other battles participated in those of Lundy's Lane, Chippewa and Black Rock.

Our subject was reared upon the farm at Gainesville, and continued to make it his home until the year 1868, at which time he moved westward with the star of empire. His education was somewhat more extensive than that provided by the common school, being supplemented by a course at the Wesleyan Seminary at Lima, and later at Genesee College. From his graduation he devoted himself until marriage to teaching, in which he was very successful. In 1868 he left his home at Gainesville, having found a good purchaser, and removed to Aurora, Ill., and engaged in the furniture business for two years; then, in 1871, he came to Lincoln and put in a large stock of goods, and commenced business. The city at that time was estimated to contain 1,000 persons, although it was probably less, and it stood surrounded by prairie land in all its native wildness, but he has lived to see the city grow until its population is numbered at 40,000 to 50,000.

Our subject was married, June 6, 1855, to Charlotte Abbott. This lady was born in Churchhill, Monroe Co., N. Y. Her father, Calvin Abbott, removed from Vermont to New York in 1815, the removal being made in the usual manner of the time. It was not long before he was busily at work upon his new property. He located at Ogden, Monroe County, bought a tract of timber land, and put up his log cabin. He brought a year's stock of provisions with him, at the end of that time expecting that his crops would be sufficient to go on with. As soon as his farm was cleared he erected a stone house according to the most perfect plans to which he had access, and upon its completion

resided there until his death. The maiden name of Mrs. Abbott was Charlotte Clement, who was born at Danville, Caledonia Co., Vt. She died in their home in Monroe County, in December, 1854.

Our subject is a man of public spirit and enterprise, with all the business energy, clear-sightedness and wise, thrifty push. He is also a man whose life is guided by the Golden Rule, and because of this he is, with his family, the recipient of the cordial support and highest regard of those by whom he is surrounded. He has been twice elected Mayor of the city of Lincoln, first in 1877, and again the year following. It was during the first year of his administration that the famous high license liquor law became an ordinance. The provisions of the ordinance were afterward copied by the Legislature, and became the law of the State, known as the high license liquor law of Nebraska.

EDWARD B. HYDE. The power of the press is recognized all over the civilized world, and perhaps it exerts greater efforts to shape the thoughts and opinions of the masses than any other influence now extant. In politics, religion, educational and all social movements, it comes to the front and takes the lead in advancing and supporting new theories. It has caused a wonderful revolution in regard to the general intelligence of the people, thousands of whom owe all the learning they have ever acquired to the perusal of the daily and weekly papers. In politics, particularly, and in all questions of National reform do the opinions of the press assert themselves strongly, and they have become responsible, in a large degree, for the opinions entertained by their readers. The men associated with the press should be made to feel the responsibility of their position, and should endeavor to direct the thought of the people to the proper channel. In such honorable labor is the subject of our sketch now engaged.

Mr. Hyde was born in Chicago, Ill., on the 8th of December, 1857, being the only son of Thomas H. and Rachel L. Hyde, of whom a sketch appears in this work. He received his early education in Sterling, Ill., and after coming to Lincoln he attended the city schools until the age of sixteen years, when he began to work in the *Journal* office.

In that office he continued until the year 1878, when, having a thorough understanding of the business, and a knowledge of editorial requirements, he started a job printing office, and has been ardently engaged in that business ever since.

In the year 1884 our subject formed a partnership in the *Journal* business, the name of the firm being Hyde, Hays & Hyde, and in 1887 the Lincoln News Company was formed, of which our subject was appointed Treasurer. Since that time he has occupied that honorable office, with much credit to himself and with the approval of the company. On the 10th of May, 1878, he was united in marriage with Miss Ida Cooper, a daughter of P. A. and Sarah Cooper, of Platteville, Wis. They are the parents of three children—Fred C., Neta and Robert.

As the profession in which he is engaged requires, our subject is well informed on all the important topics of the day, taking an active interest in the advancement and improvement of the public in general and of his own community in particular. He possesses fine social qualifications and is an esteemed member of society. He is a member of the Lincoln Lodge No. 108, I. O. O. F., Salme Encampment No. 4, Canton No. 2, and is also a member of Lodge No. 9, A. O. U. W. He is a member of the Republican political organization, and has firm faith in the policy of its administration.

LOUIS DITTMER, one of the most enterprising young citizens of Buda Precinct, is a son of Henry and Louisa Dittmer, both of whom were natives of Germany. He was born on the 9th of April, 1862, in the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg, and with his parents emigrated at an early age to America, taking passage on a steamer at Hamburg which landed them in New York City after an ocean voyage of about two weeks. They came directly to Lancaster County, and the father of our subject homesteaded eighty acres of land in Buda Precinct, on which they made their home until the death of the father, which occurred on the 15th of July, 1883. The mother, only surviving her husband the brief period of less than four years, died on the 28th of May, 1887. They were the parents of four children who grew to manhood and

womanhood, namely: Elizabeth, who became the wife of Bernhard Steffen, of Buda Precinct; Henry; Louis, our subject, and Louisa, who became the wife of Henry Mink, of Lincoln.

The father of our subject was one of the representative German pioneers of this precinct, and enjoyed the confidence and esteem of his friends and neighbors in a marked degree. He was a member of the Lutheran Church, in which he served in an official capacity, having been among the first in organizing the society and building the church edifice in his locality. He was a public-spirited man, and in his death the county lost one of her best German citizens. His word was considered as good as his bond, and having been industrious and managed well he was able to leave his family a fine property, including 360 acres of land, the result of a life of industry and economy. Politically, he was a staunch defender of the principles of the Republican party.

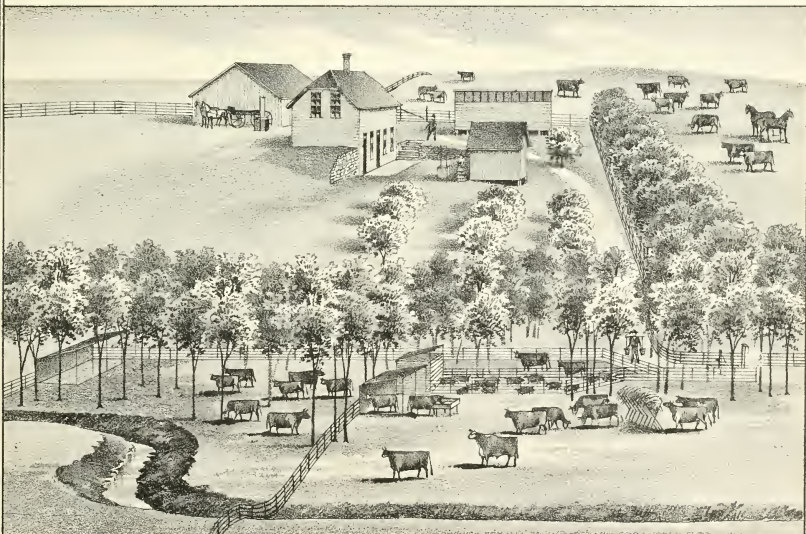
Louis Dittmer received a good education, both in the English and German languages, and has had considerable experience of pioneer life, having been reared amid its toils and hardships. This, however, has simply contributed to the manliness of his character, and incited within him the desire for a home of his own and the position of a substantial citizen. With this end in view, on the 29th of February, 1888, he was married to Miss Ellen, a daughter of Carl and Mary Krause. The father is now deceased, and the mother resides in this county.

While our subject inherited a share of the land which his father owned he has been active and industrious, and has added to that amount until he is now the possessor of 240 acres of well-improved land on section 2. He did not join the political organization of which his father was a member, but chooses rather to vote independently and support the man whom he considers best qualified to serve the interests of the people. He is a member of the Lutheran Church, in the establishment of which his father played an important part, and is regarded as one of the promising young men of the community, one who will with credit assist in perpetuating the name and estate of his honored sire.

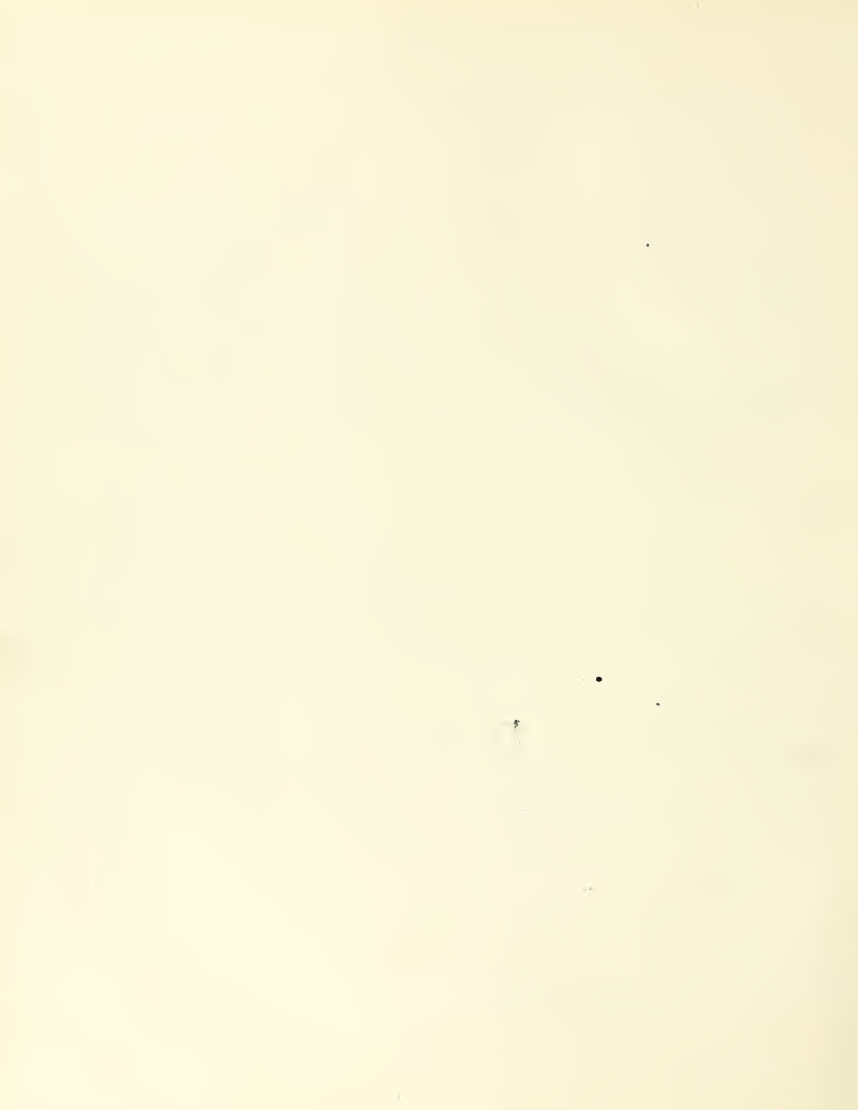
Henry Dittmer, Sr., the only brother of our subject, is half owner of the farm. He has traveled



RESIDENCE OF JOS. L. PAYNE, SEC. 4. DENTON PRECINCT.

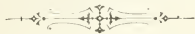


RESIDENCE OF DITTMER BROS, SEC. 2. BUDA PRECINCT.



extensively over the Western country and spent two years in Utah and Colorado. Like his brother Louis, he is highly respected by all who know him, is social, genial, and is still single. He has a good education in both German and English, and a man who may be called one of the foremost of his precinct.

A view of the homestead owned by Dittmer Bros. is given on the adjoining page, and from its appearance may be gathered even more fully than from a written sketch the character of the proprietors.



JOSEPH L. PAYNE. The old Norse kings were rulers of a hardy race, if their legend history be true, for we are informed that "the survival of the fittest" was a primary and terrible fact in every maternal creed and practice: that the children were taken and caused to suffer exposure in their rigorous northern climate, with the result that the weakly and imperfect succumbed, and only the most robust constitutions survived the ordeal. Thus every warrior (and every man was a warrior) had learned to endure hardness from infancy. Many of the strongest men and women of this country have become what they have simply because of the trying ordeal of earlier days. We do not hear of those who succumb, but we cannot refrain from learning the story of the "fittest survival." Among the men of Nebraska who have passed the ordeal and are now upon the tidal wave of success is he whose biography is herein sketched.

Joseph L. Payne, the provident and flourishing farmer and stock-raiser whose farm is situated on section 4, Denton Precinct, was born on the 15th of August, 1858, in Delaware County, Pa., and is a son of Edwin W. and Alice P. Payne, natives of the same State. At the age of fifteen years it was his misfortune to be left an orphan by the death of his father, his mother having died when he was two years of age. After his mother's death he made his home from time to time with his aunt, Mrs. Lydia A. Arment, and continued to do this until he was about sixteen years of age, remaining with

her entirely after the death of his father. From the above age until he was twenty he was working upon the farm by the month, but when within a year of his majority he decided to go to Perry County, Ill., and for eighteen months worked as a farm hand.

Lancaster County was visited by our subject in the fall of 1879, and a farm of 120 acres was leased for twenty-one years, and he has since then continued upon it. His lease provided that the ground might be purchased from the School Commissioners at any time prior to the expiration thereof. This he accordingly did a few years since, adding at different times until his property to-day comprises 205 acres of land, all of this being in an excellent state of cultivation. The accompanying view of the property will assist to a correct understanding of its beauty, extent, character and consequent value.

Our subject was married, Nov. 13, 1883, and became the husband of Harriet E. Giles, a daughter of James and Harriet Giles, of this precinct. Three children have been given to them, and are growing up amid surroundings and under influences incomparably in advance of anything in the early surroundings of our subject. Adjoined are the names of this interesting family: The eldest child, Alice H., was born Sept. 3, 1884; in October, two years subsequently, their second child, Edwin J., opened his eyes to the light; the baby, Walter, was born on the 1st of March of the present year, 1888.

Our subject has come up to his present position from a very unpromising beginning; when it is considered how early in life first his mother and then his father were removed from him, the exceedingly small opportunity he had to procure an education, that he was compelled by force of circumstances to begin work at an age when most boys are still poring over their lessons, and that he had to make his own start as well as progress, it is an acknowledged fact that the advancement seen to-day is most honorable to him and the result of his continued persevering labor.

Mr. and Mrs. Payne find their religious home in the fellowship of the Baptist Church, and he is Clerk of the church. He is also Treasurer for his school district. He uniformly and conscientiously de-

posits his ballot in favor of the "grand old party," which was born amid the throes of the country by its civil war. He is a gentleman of enterprise and industry, strongly in favor of every movement calculated to benefit the people, a friend of good morals, and in every way a highly respected citizen.



WILLIAM P. NORCROSS, President of the Firth Bank, is widely known throughout this and adjoining States as an able financier, a prominent and enterprising business man, and a large land-owner. He is a man of unbounded ambition, remarkable judgment and rare business tact. Beginning life as a farmer's boy, he has met with more than ordinary success in the various vocations that he has pursued, of farmer, stock-raiser, prospector, merchant and banker, and he is now numbered among the moneyed men of Nebraska.

Mr. Norcross comes of good old Pennsylvania families, on both his father and mother's side, who were descendants of English people who were among the early settlers of that State in Colonial times. His grandfather Norcross was a citizen of Pennsylvania, and served as a private during the Revolutionary War. The parents of our subject, William F. and Maria L. (Dickson) Norcross, were natives respectively of Erie County, Pa., and of Westfield, N. Y. They were married in the latter State, and subsequently settled in Erie County, Pa., where Mr. Norcross was quite prosperously engaged in farming from 1826 to 1840. He then removed with his family to Warren County, Ill., and he there became an extensive farmer and land-owner. He now lives a retired life at Monmouth, at the age of seventy-six years, having gained by his own exertions and shrewd business policy an ample income. He has been a very energetic, capable man in his day, and the esteem and confidence in which he is held by his fellow-citizens show that his life has been honorable as well as useful. The amiable wife, who was to him a true helper and wise counselor, was early taken from him, her death occurring in 1857, when she was but forty years old. The following are the names of the five children born to

them: John (deceased), Marietta, William P., Hobart and Henry.

William Norcross, of this sketch, was born Nov. 12, 1843, at Monmouth, Ill., where he grew to manhood, having a common experience with other boys reared on Illinois farms. He was early put to work at the plow, and performed other farm labors on his father's homestead until he was twenty-one, receiving his education in the meantime in the common school. After attaining his majority, in 1865, he was seized with the gold fever and went to Pike's Peak and prospected in the gold mines. He made quite a little sum of money, enough to give him a fair start in life, and at the end of a year returned home, and again resumed agricultural pursuits. At the age of twenty-six, in 1870, our subject was married to Miss Susan E., the accomplished daughter of George and Sarah S. (Gettie) Sickmon, natives of Buffalo, N. Y. Her father was a prosperous farmer of Monmouth, Ill., where she was born in 1840, being the second child and second daughter of the five children, two boys and three girls, born to her parents. Her education, begun in the public schools of her native town, was there completed in Monmouth College, where she displayed superior scholarship, and ranked high in her classes.

After marriage Mr. Norcross continued farming for six years, and he then moved into the town of Monmouth, and engaged in the mercantile business for two years. He afterward went back to farming for the next four years. He bought a 240-acre stock farm, and was extensively engaged in breeding, raising, feeding and shipping stock until 1882, when he came with his family to Nebraska, and settled in Firth, where he has since resided. He engaged in the stock business here for one year, and then, in 1883, became a partner in the bank, and has ever since been connected with it, becoming the sole owner and proprietor of the institution in 1886. In the fall of that year he sold a part interest in the bank to E. R. Spencer, and they are now conducting the business together. The present bank building, of a modern style of architecture well adapted to its purpose, was erected in 1885. Besides attending to his banking business, Mr. Norcross deals largely in real estate in Lancaster and Gage Coun-

ties, where he owns 1,500 acres of land. He also owns valuable landed property in the States of Missouri and Iowa. He and his wife are very comfortably located in their beautiful home in Firth. Their only son and child, Frank, is soon to enter the University of Nebraska as a member of the class of '92.

Mr. Norcross is very public spirited, and generously contributes to all schemes for promoting the material interests of the village. He has always interested himself greatly in the education of the youth of Firth, and as a member of the Board of Education has done incalculable service by the assistance that he has rendered in perfecting the present school system, procuring suitable teachers, proper accommodations for the pupils, and in many other ways. Politically, our subject is a Republican, fully believing in the policy of that party, and giving it his cordial support whenever occasion offers.



HENRY SCHMUTTE is one of those gentlemen who have come to the broad prairies of our country with the experience, education and ability obtained elsewhere, who are attracted by the institutions of the free Republic, and realize that upon its shores are found opportunities surpassing anything to be found under any other Government, and an outlook more promising than in any other land. Our subject, at present one of Centerville's successful farmers, whose property is situated on section 36, was born Jan. 9, 1854, in the city of Hanover, Prussia. He is the son of Henry and Christina Schmutte, both natives of the same country. It was his misfortune to lose his mother by death about the year 1866.

Our subject emigrated to America in 1871, when about seventeen years of age. His early life was without special incident, and was simply marked by the usual phases of the process of education, and subsequent introduction to the sterner duties, tasks and lessons of life. His first introduction to the business world occurred about the year 1868, when he learned the occupation of farming. The voyage from Bremen occupied sixteen days of strange and various new experiences, not always of the most

gentle nature. He landed at Baltimore, proceeded immediately to Lancaster County, and began to work by the month on different farms, among the number being those of H. Housen and David E. Prey.

In the year 1876 our subject took up 160 acres of land and began the improvement of the same, turning to good account the experience obtained in his native land, and also since coming to this country, and putting into it all the strength of his manhood, indefatigable and exhaustive labor. Having now a farm and a home built, he must needs have someone to share the same with him, and in Anne Mayer, a native of his own country, he found one in every way fitted for that station. They were accordingly married in the month of May, 1877, and for about eight years lived a life of unalloyed brightness and happiness. Their marriage was consummated by the birth of four children: William, who was born Aug. 3, 1879; Henry, Feb. 6, 1881; Eddie, Aug. 15, 1882, and Herman, May 5, 1885. After the death of his first wife, which occurred in October, 1885, he was a second time married, May 17, 1887, to Minnie Meyer, who was born on the 23d of June, 1860. She is every day proving herself to be a true and faithful wife, and bestows a wealth of affection upon the children of her husband.

Our subject and family are members of the German Lutheran Church, and are among its most hearty supporters and devout members. For some time past he has been holding the office of School Trustee in connection therewith. He is one of the large class of citizens who, appreciating the institutions and privileges of America and its citizenship, endeavor to understand them and govern themselves accordingly. In political matters he is unobtrusive, simply seeking to do his duty as a true and loyal citizen, governing his suffrage by what he believes to be for the best interest of all, although, being associated with the Republican party, he usually votes its ticket.

Mr. Schmutte, Sr., became the parent of three children by his first wife: August, who is residing in Colorado; Dora, now Mrs. C. Hanson, of Lincoln, and our subject. The mother died when our subject was about twelve years of age, leaving him at

a tender age minus the dearest friend and perhaps the most important relation of his life, for however true and conscientious may be the father, under such circumstances it is impossible in the nature of things that he or anyone else can fill the mother's place. The loss of his mother was perhaps the greatest trial that came into his young life. He was further handicapped in the genesis of his experience by a very limited opportunity for obtaining an education, and also a not over-abundant supply of funds, for upon his arrival at Omaha he found himself compelled to borrow \$5, with which to make his way to Lincoln, so that he is in every sense a self-made man, his prosperity, public spirit and exceptionally high character reflecting the highest honor upon the efforts of his life.



WILLIAM ROWERDINK. In contrasting the lives and surroundings of some persons with the circumstances in which, at a similar age, their parents were placed, we cannot refrain from the exclamation: "What a vast difference! What forces have brought it about?" Here is one enjoying every advantage of business and society and culture, while his parents had to endure privations and discomforts, their situations altogether dissimilar, and although they exerted the most strenuous efforts, their attainments fell far short of what, under other circumstances, they might have been. We can only offer in explanation of this obvious state, beyond that for which reason may account, that the ways of Providence are inscrutable and past finding out. By toilsome step and with slow and weary feet are some destined to pass through the world, never enjoying to the fullest extent the things which they anticipate, while others mount by rapid and springing step to the very zenith of their ambitions.

It is an undeniable fact that circumstances have much to do with the formation of character, and it is just as evident a truth that self-development and will have a great bearing on the condition of circumstances; but that either can become absolutely independent and uninfluenced by the other cannot be proved. Perhaps by the experience of others

some are to profit, and the sacrifices that the former make, in some respects, will be atoned for by due compensation in other respects. We have spoken of the difference in the position of the father and son at the same period of their respective lives, and just such a contrast will be noticed in the perusal of this sketch.

Mr. Rowerdink is a young man possessing all the qualifications of a good, live business man, and is senior partner in the firm of Rowerdink & Wisner, dealers in clothing, dry-goods, boots and shoes, hats and caps, groceries and general merchandise, in the city of Hickman. His father, Gerret J., and mother, Teressa (Boalkens) Rowerdink, were natives of Holland, the father of Winterswyk, and the mother of Oosterdyke. Being for awhile engaged in farming, he decided to come to America, and with his wife and two children he started across the great water, little thinking that on this adventure he should lose what was so very dear to him during the passage. The dread disease, cholera, broke out on board the ship, and, attacking his wife and children, proved fatal to them, all three sinking to a watery grave. This sad bereavement left him homeless and alone in a new land. His destination being Sheboygan, Wis., to that place he repaired, engaging in general work. After two years he was married again.

This lady, the mother of our subject, had come from Holland the wife of Mr. Poort, who soon died leaving her with five children to care for the first, and one of the only two Hollandish families in Sheboygan. For one or two years she battled alone most nobly with the world, keeping the wolf from the door by the labor and industry of her own hands. Making the acquaintance of the father of our subject, they were married and engaged in farming, at which they prospered fairly well. They continued near Sheboygan until the spring of 1874, when they came to Lancaster County, and bought 160 acres of land in South Pass. It was their misfortune to encounter several reverses, one of which was the loss encountered during the grasshopper era, but they have been mainly successful, and are comfortably located on their homestead, the father aged sixty-eight, and the mother sixty-six years. They have had four children by the last union:

William, Ellen, Jane and Cornelius, all married. Cornelius resides in Adams, and Jane and Ellen are wives of prosperous farmers in South Pass Precinct.

William, our subject, was born in Sheboygan County, Wis., June 17, 1857, at which place he grew up on the farm, attending the common school when opportunity was afforded. He was a boy of fifteen when he came to Nebraska, having persuaded his parents to make the change, and afterward having abundant opportunity to regret his venture. His ambition and pride would not allow him to acknowledge having made a mistake, and he strove to rectify it by earnest labor, passing through the plague of the grasshoppers, and having an experience in common with the rest of the pioneers. He followed the breaking-plow for many and many a day, the first five or six years being a struggle for existence. Then the tide turned, success came smiling toward him, and in the midst of it he was married, on the 29th of February, 1880, to Miss Anna Gringhuis, a daughter of Harm and Anna (Bymolt) Gringhuis. Mrs. Rowerdink is the fourth of a family of two boys and three girls, the date of her birth being Feb. 25, 1863. Her father was a gardener at Grand Haven, Mich., at which place she was born, and was one of the first settlers in that country. Her parents came to Nebraska in the fall of 1878, and are now residing in Hickman, both having come to America from the old country, and having attained to prosperity and honor. The father is sixty-seven and the mother sixty-two years old.

Mrs. Rowerdink came to Nebraska a girl of fourteen, in 1878, with her parents. She had enjoyed very good educational advantages in Michigan, and continued attending the public schools after her arrival in Nebraska. Our subject soon made her acquaintance, which ended in a happy marriage, after which the young couple continued for one year on the farm, and then the husband entered into partnership with his brother-in-law, Mr. Emmett Gringhuis. The new firm was engaged in general merchandise at Roca for two and a half years, when they sold out, and came to Hickman in 1883. Our subject built his present store, forming a partnership with Mr. Wismer. He has been very successful, his trade has steadily increased, and the

people of Hickman have learned to know and respect him as a business man of strict integrity, who is always ready to wait upon the public in a gentlemanly way. His business is second to that of no mercantile establishment in Hickman, an appropriate testimonial to his worth and integrity.

Our subject and his wife have been the happy parents of three children: Teresa and Jennie, who are living at home, and Minnie, whose death when she was four years old was a sad bereavement to them. They are members of the German Reformed Church, of Holland, Neb., and are members of the Hickman Library Association. Our subject votes with the Republican party, having been a delegate to the Republican County Convention of Lancaster County in 1886. He has built a commodious frame dwelling, and also owns property in Hickman and Lincoln, besides a farm of 160 acres in Colorado. His sterling qualities have won for him a host of friends, and the surroundings of his happy home, so forcibly in contrast with those of his father at about the same age, are a testimonial to his unusual ability and success in life.



JOEL W. TILMAN. Among the young men of Nebraska who are laying a foundation which will yield results incalculable in days to come, results fraught with interest and importance to his family, and possibly to the State, should be mentioned the name of Joel W. Tilman, who is destined to be as representative a stock farmer and raiser as he is already respected. He is the owner of 120 acres of very choice farming land, situated on sections 5 and 6, West Oak Precinct, his residence being situated upon the latter section.

Silas W. Tilman (see sketch) was born in 1846, in Marion County, Ohio, and is the father of our subject. Schooling having become a thing of the past in his experience, he gave his attention to farm work, continuing therein until he had mastered its details, when he bought a farm and went to work for himself. His struggles in life began at an early age, for he was left an orphan when he was five years old; nevertheless, he worked and strug-

gled and labored. In due time he took to himself a partner and life companion, Miss Susan Barnett, and to them were given three children.

Mr. Tilman continued his residence in Indiana until 1872, when he came to Nebraska, and in order that his children might receive the advantages of a good education, took up his residence upon the outskirts of the city of Lincoln, where he purchased a small farm, and continued to make it his home for seven years. At the close of that period he purchased his present property, and took up his residence thereon.

Our subject was born upon the farm in Marion County, Ind., on the 9th of October, 1860, and was in his twelfth year when his parents removed to Lincoln, where he finished his education, passing, after he had finished with the common school, through the various classes which comprised the full course in the High School, from which institution he was graduated, after passing rigid examination, in the year 1879. Then our subject came with his father to the farm now owned by him, continuing with him for two years, when he married. His wife was Miss Melita Dawson, a most admirable lady in every regard, whether in her home or in society, but after a brief married life of two years she died, leaving one child, Leola, since deceased.

After three years our subject was again married. The alliance was entered into April 15, 1886, and he became the husband of Mrs. Rosa McLean, a native of Pennsylvania. This lady was born in Washington County, in that State, March 1, 1861, and continued to live there until she was three years old, when her parents came west to Nebraska City, at which place her father homesteaded a tract of Government land. She continued to reside with her parents until she was twenty years of age, when she was married to her first husband, Alexander McLean, with whom she continued to live in Otoe County, in the same State; this marriage was dissolved by the death of her husband in 1883. To our subject by this second marriage have been born two children, named Howard and Flora May; the latter died Aug. 16, 1888.

In 1883 our subject homesteaded his present farm, and all the improvements that have been made are his own work, including the house and

other buildings, which are most excellent in construction and arrangement, more especially the residence, which is handsomely and artistically fitted up. His pleasant home is made even more pleasant by the improvement without, which include, besides 1,000 forest trees and 300 maples, over 3,000 black walnut trees, all in excellent condition. Not far off is the orchard, which is found to be stocked with a large number of apple, cherry, plum and other trees, besides small fruits, all carefully selected by our subject; and last, but not least, the vineyard, where is found an abundance of choice grapes of different varieties.

Our subject and wife are among the strongest members of the Baptist Church at Valparaiso, where they are highly esteemed for their "work's sake," and because they believe Christianity to be something more than a profession. Our subject is not prominent in political or civic affairs, although loyally studying and clearly grasping the issues and governmental questions which are before the country, and has probably yet to be heard from along this line of activity. He affiliates with the Prohibition party, and sympathizes strongly with the sentiments and principles of the same.



CHANDLER E. BLANCHARD, a most worthy representative of his upright and substantial New England ancestry, pitched his tent among the people of Southeastern Nebraska in the latter part of 1882, settling on section 21, Grant Precinct, where he has since been a resident. His property represents 200 acres of prime land, where he has erected a substantial dwelling, and brought about the other improvements essential to the comfort and contentment of the progressive farmer. He takes a lively interest in the matters pertaining to the welfare of his community, being the friend and encourager of education, and all the other enterprises which tend to elevate society and result in general good to the people. In politics he is a solid Republican, although never caring to take upon himself the responsibilities of office, and keeps himself well posted in regard to State and National affairs. A man of genial disposition, and one with

whom it is a pleasure to converse, he is popular among his neighbors, and regarded as a valuable member of his community.

Hazen Blanchard, the father of our subject, was born in Caledonia County, Vt., and in early manhood married Miss Sarah Burbank, a native of Massachusetts. They first settled in Peacham, that county, where they spent the remainder of their lives, the father passing away about 1870, and the mother ten years later. The elder Blanchard was a farmer by occupation, and the parental household consisted of seven children, namely: Eliza, Mercy, Mark, Harriet, Sarah, Chandler E. and Isabella. Six of these are living and residents mostly of Iowa, Minnesota and Vermont.

The subject of this sketch was born in Peacham, Caledonia Co., Vt., Nov. 2, 1829, and was the next to the youngest child of the family. He spent his life upon the farm until reaching his majority, and a year later being seized with the gold fever, sought the Pacific Slope, making his way to California, via the Isthmus. He engaged in farming and mining, being moderately successful, and remained in that region for a period of four years. Then returning to his native place, he lingered among the scenes of his childhood and youth for a period of seven years, in the meantime taking to himself a wife and helpmate, Miss Hannah J. Stevens, with whom he was united in marriage at the home of the bride in Hardwick, Caledonia County, Feb. 6, 1856. Thence he removed to Osceola, Stark Co., Ill., where he purchased a farm, and carried on agriculture twelve or fifteen years, then changing his location to Neponset, Bureau Co., Ill., sojourning there until coming to this State.

Mrs. Blanchard was the daughter of Joshua and Abigail (Walker) Stevens, who were natives of Bath, N. H., where their daughter, Hannah J., was also born, April 11, 1835. After marriage they removed to Hardwick, Vt., where the father spent his last days with his family, his death taking place in 1864. The mother died about 1886, at the home of her daughter in Lisbon, N. H.

To Mr. and Mrs. Blanchard there were born ten children, namely: Joshua S.; Mary, who died in early childhood; Carrie, Charles H.; Chandler, who died in infancy; Willie C., Frank E., May, Hannah J.

and Herbert H. The eldest son, Joshua, a gentleman of fine abilities, acquired an excellent education, and is now a professor in Michigan State University at Ann Arbor; Carrie married George H. Stevenson, a banker of Platte County, this State; Charles is connected with the *Nebraska State Journal* in the city of Lincoln. The other children are at home with their father. The mother departed this life at Neponset, Ill., April 27, 1879. She was a very estimable lady, and a member in good standing of the Congregational Church, in which our subject also holds membership, at Neponset.

The Blanchard homestead is one of the most noticeable examples of the thrift and industry which have characterized the farming community of Lancaster County. Recognizing this, we are greatly pleased in having secured a view of it, which will assist in the embellishment of this work. As the abiding-place of the typical country gentleman, it is one which meets the requirements of any reasonable man, and will be to the proprietor the source of a comfortable income when he shall see fit to retire from active labor.

J E. SHOTWELL. William Shotwell, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born Jan. 18, 1811, in Clermont County, Ohio, where he spent his life. He was a farmer and blacksmith, and died Oct. 10, 1872. His wife was Julia Ann Moyrn, who was born in Pennsylvania, Sept. 29, 1816. They were married May 3, 1833, in Ohio, and Mr. Shotwell died Dec. 23, 1854. They had a family of thirteen children, seven of whom were sons and six daughters. Only four of these are now living.

The second son, John, who resides in Brown County, Ohio, is a carpenter; Ruth, the eldest daughter, is the wife of R. Chatterton, a prosperous farmer residing in the same county; Conner, of Frontier County, Neb., was formerly a school teacher, but is now engaged in farming; Jesse E. Shotwell was born Sept. 19, 1834, in Clermont County, Ohio. He lived there until he was five years of age, when with his father he removed to Brown County, Ohio. Here he resided until he

was twenty-three years old. At the age of sixteen he took up the blacksmith's trade, and worked at it for twelve years at different points in Brown County. In 1858 he went to Des Moines County, Iowa, where he worked a short time at blacksmithing, but eventually purchased some twenty acres of land and commenced farming. Here he lived until 1869, when he removed to Lancaster County, Neb. His brother had made a selection of land for him before he came. Soon after he arrived he homesteaded eighty acres of land and built a dug-out, in which he lived for five years. He brought a horse team with him from Iowa, and commenced breaking his land the same year. He was at this time poor, and used to secure what meat he required with his shotgun, shooting wild game, which was very abundant at that time. The first pigs he owned after he came here he bought for \$5 apiece and brought them home in a flour sack. Four years after he came to this place Mr. Shotwell brought 160 acres more of land from the railway company. After five years in the homely shelter of the dug-out he built a frame house, the first dwelling of the kind on Garr Creek.

Mr. Shotwell has been a heavy dealer in cattle. He continued his farm operations until 1886, when he sold his stock, and with his wife took a trip West, into Colorado and the western part of Nebraska. He returned in the spring of 1888, and is now located on his farm again.

In December, 1860, Mr. Shotwell married Eliza Mintling, daughter of William L. and Lizzie (Wely) Mintling. Mr. Mintling was born in Pennsylvania, March 29, 1812. In his boyhood he went to Carroll County, Ohio, where he lived about eighteen years. While there he married, in 1839, and died Oct. 16, 1887, in Hayes County, Neb. During his life he followed the vocation of farming. Mrs. Mintling was born March 20, 1820, in Carroll County, Ohio, where she lived until she was married. They had a family of eleven children, four sons and seven daughters, eight of whom are now living. These are: Eliza, wife of Mr. Shotwell, of Rock Creek, Neb.; Mary, wife of Samuel Cocayne, of Yarmouth County, Iowa, a section foreman on the railway; Rebecca, wife of William Roe, of Hayes Center, Hayes Co., Neb., farmer; Sarah, wife of Alonzo Cocayne, of Minneapolis, Des Moines Co., Iowa;

Emma, wife of Sylvester Franklin, a farmer of Hayes County, Neb.; James, who is farming in Layton, Lancaster Co., Neb.; Jesse, who is a farmer of Hayes County, Neb., and Rufus of the same county, also a farmer.

Mrs. Shotwell was born in Carroll County, Ohio, July 3, 1840, where she lived until her third year. She then moved with her father to Burlington, Iowa, where she lived until 1869. Her mother, Mrs. Mintling, now lives in Hayes County with her children. Mr. and Mrs. Shotwell have two children, a son and a daughter. Of these the elder is Kate, born at Burlington, Iowa, Sept. 13, 1861, and married, April 23, 1881, to J. H. Wilcox, of Rock Creek. The son, William M., was born Dec. 23, 1863, at Burlington, Iowa; he lives at home with his parents. Mr. Shotwell, who has a farm of eighty acres in Lancaster County, and another of 320 acres in Hayes County, Neb., makes grain a specialty in farming. His son William also has 320 acres in Hayes County, Neb.

Mr. Shotwell, who is now a Republican, has been Assessor for three years, and a member of the School and Elective Boards for about eight years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Shotwell are members of the Baptist Church. Mr. Shotwell is a prominent member of the Rock Creek Church and an active Sabbath-school worker. He ranks as one of the pioneers of the county. He has now retired from active life, and his only son, who is unmarried, works the farm. On settling in Lancaster County, Mr. Shotwell found no church of his denomination with which to unite, and so helped the Congregational body to build and support a church, although still maintaining his connection with the Baptist denomination. During his whole life his pride has been in his church and in Sunday-school work.

JOSEPH C. McBRIDE. The Board of Trade of Lincoln has in the person of our subject a President who is no ordinary man, one, in fact, who has come to his present position in life by the force of unusual application and ability. He is prominently identified with the various business interests of this progressive city, and holds a



Wm. H. Foster

very high place in the esteem of his fellow-citizens. He is an Ohio man, and was born in Champaign County on the 2d of May, 1854. He spent his boyhood and youth among the healthful hills of the Buckeye State, then about 1859 removed with his parents to South Bend, Ind., where he became a student of Notre Dame University, from which institution he was graduated in time to enter the army when seventeen years old as fifer of Company B, 48th Indiana Infantry.

Young McBride continued in the service, and owing to his force of character and general efficiency he received the commission of First Lieutenant, and the year following was promoted Captain for gallantry in the field. In the meantime his parents had removed across the Mississippi into Iowa, and in August, 1865, he joined them there upon receiving a furlough of eighteen months. Later he was commissioned a First Lieutenant in the regular army, and was presented with a Captain's commission by President Johnson "for gallant and meritorious service during the war." In 1870, by Act of Congress reducing the army, those officers who were willing to surrender their commission received one year's pay in advance. Among those who accepted these terms was Capt. McBride.

Upon retiring from the service our subject came to Nebraska, locating in Schuyler, the county seat of Colfax County, where he founded the *Schuyler Register*, which soon became a leading weekly. The paper is still published, but under the new name of the *Schuyler Sun*, and lightens the path of its readers in things political, besides shining clearly in all matters of general interest.

Capt. McBride, in 1873, was elected Clerk of Colfax County, and about the same time was appointed by Gov. Furnas, Adjutant General of the State of Nebraska, with the rank of Brigadier General, and a year later was elected State Treasurer, serving the two years for which he was then chosen in an eminently satisfactory manner. He was re-elected in 1876, filling this responsible and important office in all four years. In 1881 he was appointed Postmaster at Lincoln by President Garfield, and re-appointed by President Arthur after the death of the martyred Garfield. This office he continued to hold until 1885, retiring upon the in-

coming of the Democratic administration, after which he became interested in real estate, in which he has since operated with most gratifying and profitable results.

While a resident of Iowa the subject of this writing was united in marriage with Miss Dorcas M., daughter of Judge Miller, of Marengo. To them there have been born two children, who bear the names of Alberta and John A., respectively. The former is at home, and the latter a student of the military school at Fairbault, Minn. Capt. McBride has always been a staunch Republican, and received the nomination for Representative to the Legislature from the Republican Convention which assembled in August, 1888.



WILLIAM H. FOSTER. The name of Foster is not unknown in the East in connection with the first settlement of the States and the earlier wars of American history. It is that of an old family of Scotch-Irish extraction, who in the early records uniformly appear upon the side of right, liberty and justice. Our subject is a lineal descendant of the Vermont branch of the Foster family, and the son of Wilder and Mary Foster, the father a native of the Green Mountain State, and the mother of New York State. The paternal ancestry is traced to Ireland, the maternal to Scotland. Thomas Foster, an uncle of the subject of this sketch, served through the War of 1812, and was somewhat distinguished. His parents were among the pioneer settlers of Erie County, Ohio.

The representative of the Foster family whose farm property is situated upon section 2, in Centerville Precinct, was the eldest living son and fifth child of his parents, his natal day being Dec. 12, 1834, and the place of his birth Erie County, Ohio. There were thirteen children in the family of Mr. Wilder Foster, his father, of whom five are living: Harriet, now Mrs. Ball, of Jamaica Station, Neb.; William H.; Frederick L., of Roca, Neb.; Eunice, the wife of Van Buren Mills, of Muscatine County, Iowa, and George, of the same place.

At the age of twelve years our subject was left motherless, and five years later went to Johnson

County, Iowa, and made his home. His opportunity of education, beyond what could be picked up in the intercourse of daily life, was exceedingly meager, and after the death of his mother he began to work for his living. In the Hawkeye State our subject for twelve years followed the trade of carpenter and joiner, and was fairly fortunate in this business. During the progress of the Rebellion he enlisted, in August, 1862, in Company B, 22d Iowa Infantry, and after the usual preparatory drills his regiment was ordered to the front, and there took part in the siege of Vicksburg, the battles of Ft. Gibson, Champion Hills and Black River, besides several other engagements of less importance. On account of disability he was compelled to accept his honorable discharge on the 1st of February, 1864, at New Orleans.

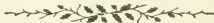
Returning from the war our subject resumed his residence in Johnson County, Iowa, for a period of two years. Then he removed to Washington County, continuing there until 1878. He then came to Nebraska, and for five years thereafter farmed as a renter in Centerville Precinct, this county. He was not long in saving sufficient to become the owner of 160 acres in his own right, and this he continued to cultivate, in spite of some reverses, with steadily growing success.

The wedded life of William H. Foster and Isabella D. Cambridge began in September, 1854. With the exception of an adopted son, who has been named Willie, they have no family. The position held by our subject and his estimable wife in the community at large is eminently indicative of their sterling qualities, which have secured them the most cordial and hearty esteem.

In political matters our subject is not prominent, although fulfilling his duty fully as a citizen. He is an old and tried supporter of the Republican party, and uniformly votes its ticket. He has served as School Moderator and Road Overseer with satisfaction, and is one who has the welfare of the community ever in mind. His military experience makes him a very warm and enthusiastic member of Farragut Post No. 25, G. A. R., of Lincoln.

The intelligent individual usually regards with interest the pictured features of the self-made man, who, from the foot of the ladder in life, has climbed

up to a good position socially and financially among men, and the portrait of William H. Foster, which is given in connection with this sketch, will thus be looked upon with interest, not only by his host of friends, but by others perusing this volume, both at the present time and in years to come.



GEORGE KING, one of Nebraska's pioneer farmers, is at present occupying a snug homestead on section 1, in Panana Precinct. He traces his ancestry to the illustrious Hollanders who settled in Southeastern Pennsylvania in Colonial times, both his paternal and maternal grandfathers having served in the Revolutionary War. He is a son of John and Nancy (Brown) King. Lieut. John King, one of his ancestors, served under Gen. Wayne on the frontier at Ft. Meigs.

The father of our subject was a farmer, who emigrated from Pennsylvania to Ohio as early as 1813, and lived in the Buckeye State until 1865. During that year he moved to Illinois, settling near Lincoln, where he died at the age of eighty-eight years and eleven months. The mother was born in Holland, Grandfather Brown, her father, came alone to America, previous to the birth of his daughter Nancy, and after fighting through the Revolutionary War, his family joined him.

In the family of our subject's parents there were eleven children, seven boys and four girls, George being the seventh child. He was born on the 29th of December, 1829, at Bucyrus, Crawford Co., Ohio, and was brought up on the farm. At an early age he was taught to swing an ax, handle the reaping cradle, and engage in all kinds of farm work. His first harvesting was done with a sickle, and unfortunately, not having handled it in a dexterous manner, he still carries to this day a scar on his left leg made by one of those old sickles. Having to assist in the labors of the farm, and the educational advantages of those days being limited, his schooling aside from what he gained in experience with the world was limited to three months. In 1850, at the age of twenty-one years, Mr. King was married to Miss Samantha Wine, also of Crawford County, Ohio. He remained in Ohio, and was be-

reaved of his wife after the space of three years, her death occurring on the 7th of January, 1853, at the age of twenty-two years. By that union Mr. King became the father of one child, a daughter Nancy, who is now the wife of Henry King, residing in Lincoln; the latter is a railroad man, and they have two children—John and Florence. Our subject was a second time married, to Miss Elizabeth Wine, a daughter of John and Sarah (Chambers) Wine. The parents of this lady settled in Guernsey County, Ohio, after their marriage. There were seven children in their family, four boys and three girls.

Mrs. King, the second child of her parents, was born on the 21st of May, 1834, and enjoyed the advantages of the common schools in the place of her birth. After his second marriage our subject remained in the State of Ohio, working at carpentering, threshing, etc. In the spring of the year 1865 he started with his family and worldly effects for the West, by emigrant wagons. They were one mile east of Indianapolis when the sad news of the assassination of President Lincoln was announced. Pursuing their course westward, they finally reached Lincoln, Ill., where they stopped for one summer, and in the fall they started for the "Thirty-Mile Strip." But the Southerners would not sell them any corn or food for their cattle, so in order to keep from starving they came to Nebraska, settling in Otoe County on the 1st of October.

In Otoe County Mr. King bought a farm, but he met with many discouragements during the first few years. They had settled among the "Jay-hawkers" and it was necessary to carry weapons every day for five or six years in order to protect themselves from the incursions of the enemy. From 1870 to 1875 they fared better and prospered. They, however, encountered the grasshoppers in 1875, and becoming somewhat dissatisfied with the location, Mr. King sold his claim in Otoe County, and came to his present place. He now owns 160 acres, on which he has a good house, barns, etc., together with fine groves and orchards set out by his own hands.

In the family of our subject there were eleven children, four of whom were born in Ohio, and one in Illinois. Mary E. died at the age of six months;

Jacob and Joseph W. are also deceased; John N. resides in Lancaster County; he married Lyle Charlton for his first wife, and after her death married Annie Axe, having two children, Rosa and Elizabeth A.; for his third wife he married Minnie Coyne, by whom he has four children—Henry, William, Edward and Viola Belle. Martha C. resides in Seward County, and is the wife of Elias Brewer, having one child, Evalina; Andrew W. is a railroad contractor residing in Kansas; George E. married Miss Maria J. Hall, and resides in Otoe County; Charles, Joe H., Cora and Christina are at home.

In Otoe County our subject was Constable for five or six years, and a very good one; he was also Deputy Sheriff in that county for the space of three years. He has been elected School Director, and is an active member of the Knights of Pythias of Benet, having served as Master of Exchequer, Treasurer, Keeper of the Inner Door, and in nearly all of the offices of the Masonic Lodge. He is a member of the Democratic party, a well-to-do, enterprising man, and may well be proud to have his family history preserved.

The homestead of Mr. King will stand long after he has departed hence as the monument of his thrift and industry, and one to which his posterity may point with pride. It is not at all impossible they may, years hence, exhibit to their children its pictured semblance herein contained, while they recall with pride the record of George King as one worthy of imitation.



ALFRED R. EXLEY. This is a name familiar to the citizens of Yankee Hill, and is borne by one of its representative citizens, whose farm on section 29 reveals evidences of thrift, industry and prosperity. The ancestry of Mr. Exley is traced to Yorkshire, where he also was born, Aug 22, 1855. He is the second son of the Rev. Henry and Mary Exley. His father, now a venerable veteran in Christian service, was reared in Yorkshire, and early caught the fire of those somewhat rugged but whole-souled Englishmen, and soon after his fifteenth birthday began to

speak and teach in religious meetings. He received a fairly liberal education, and at the age of thirty years gave himself to the work of the Christian ministry, in which he has continued ever since. His ministrations, which have been most acceptable and successful, have extended through his native shire, different parts of the United States, and for some years past in New Zealand, where he is still laboring under the Foreign Missionary Society of the Christian Church, of which denomination he is a most worthy member. The Rev. Dr. Exley, who is now sixty-four years of age, contemplates retiring from active service and returning to this country during the course of the present year, realizing the need of rest after the arduous labors which have been demanded by the necessities of and his unflagging zeal in his life work.

When the subject of this writing was about eleven years of age, he accompanied his parents to this country. Their first home was in Grant County, Wis., where they continued to reside some two years, when a removal was made to Scott County, Iowa. For eight years they continued their residence in that State, years perhaps the most important in the whole of the life of any young man; years wherein he has arrived at sufficient discretion and mental strength to grasp to some extent, at least, the problem of life. It was the good fortune of Mr. Exley to be brought up in a home which was so decidedly dominated by the principles of justice, truth and right, and ruled in the spirit of Christian liberality and affection. The position and profession of his father were such as to put within his grasp the means of education and mental growth, and we may justly believe that the success which has hitherto crowned his life is attributable to the influences and teachings of this period. The home circle of Rev. Henry Exley included George H., the eldest son; Alfred R., our subject, and Emma, wife of William Battson.

Ohio has produced many noble women whose names are written in the histories of the country, or who are known most favorably within somewhat narrower limits, and yet we are safe in saying that there are many whose names will never be known outside the circle of home and its immediate connections, who are no less worthy of similar honors.

Feb. 27, 1878, Ella J., daughter of Albert and Mary Small, originally from Ohio, was united to our subject in matrimony, and has since been the guiding star of his home. They own a very fine farm of 160 acres, with substantial residence and farm buildings, presenting a picture more eloquently expressive than any mere words could be, of the success which has attended their efforts, and of the peace and harmony of their lives. They are both members of the Christian Church, and find delight in all that pertains to the welfare of that communion. They are at all times anxious to engage in well-balanced undertakings, which promise, either directly or indirectly, to promote the best and highest interests of the community and their church. Although strictly conscientious in their desire for the right, as they can apprehend it, they are found with liberality sufficient to embrace the friendships, the thoughts and projects of those who differ from them in opinion; only when such projects and plans are positively wrong, are they unyielding and unflinchingly opposed to them.

An instance which will illustrate the above is given in the political position occupied by our subject. Being convinced that the position is demanded by the condition of society, he is an unflinching opponent of the whisky traffic, and a staunch Prohibitionist.

CHARLES ELFELDT, whose farm and residence are on section 9 of Buda Precinct, is one of the pioneers of the county. He was born in Germany on the 1st of October, 1832, and is the son of Frederick and Sophia Elfeldt. He was educated and reared to man's estate in his native place, remaining with his parents until 1857, in which year he took passage in a sailing-vessel at Hamburg and came to this country, landing in New York City after an ocean voyage of four weeks. Almost immediately upon arrival he started West, and made his home in Clayton County, Iowa, where he remained for six years; the subsequent four years were spent in Steele County, Minn.

Our subject came to Lancaster County in 1868, and settled upon his present property, which was then entirely devoid of any improvements. He has

been very careful, hard working and thrifty, and has, thereby, been enabled to add to his original farm, until to-day he is the owner of 560 acres, all well improved. Prior to leaving his native country, our subject became the husband of Sophia Schultz, who has presented him with eight children, seven of whom are living, and whose names are as follows: William, Herman, Louisa (wife of Edward Lauterboch), Otto, August, Matilda and Emile.

The religious connection of our subject and family is with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which they are prominent and consistent members. Our subject has been an adherent of the Republican party ever since he came to the country, and is a great admirer of its principles. He has served with much satisfaction to all in the office of School Director for several years, in business he has been successful, and it is his pleasure to enjoy a reputation for strength of character and honor that is irreplaceable.



SMITH W. WHILOCK. The name of this gentleman has been familiar in the northwestern part of this county for the last seventeen years or thereabouts, he having in 1871 crossed over to this country from his native England, and after a two-years sojourn in Nebraska City, made his way to this county and purchased the land which he now occupies. It was then a tract of wild prairie, without improvements, and he saw at once that there lay before him an arduous task. He, however, had sprung from a race of hardy people who never allowed themselves to be dismayed over small difficulties, and he at once set to work to cultivate the soil and build up a homestead. His first business was to provide a shelter for his family, and the next to put in the crops which would yield the quickest and surest returns.

Mr. Whilock labored after the manner of the pioneer farmer a number of years, and in due time began to reap the reward of his toils. He now has one of the best regulated farms on the western line of Lancaster County, the land of which he has brought to a good state of cultivation, and upon which he has made those improvements in the way

of buildings and fences, and the planting of fruit trees, which are indispensable to the comfort of a rural home. As a citizen, he has lived honestly and uprightly, and is well spoken of by his neighbors.

A native of the city of Birmingham in Warwickshire, England, our subject was born Feb. 11, 1845, and is the son of Smith Whilock, a native of Staffordshire. His paternal grandfather and his great-grandfather were also natives of Staffordshire, the latter spending most of his life in the town of Cheadle, where his death took place. He owned a good property there, which was inherited by his eldest son, Thomas, and where the latter spent his entire life. His son Smith, the father of our subject, was reared and educated in Cheadle, but upon reaching manhood, took up his abode in the city of Birmingham, where he engaged in general merchandising, and there spent the remainder of his life.

Mr. Whilock was educated at the famous public schools at Rugby, and is a man of fine culture. The mother of our subject was in her girlhood Miss Sarah Walters. She was born in Leek, a town in Staffordshire, and died at the parental home in Birmingham, about 1846. The family included originally five children, three of whom grew to mature years. Thomas S. emigrated to America and died in the city of Lincoln, this county, about 1878; Lucy Mary still resides there; Smith W., our subject, acquired a very good practical education, attending school quite steadily until a youth of eighteen years. He then went to sea as a midshipman in the Government transport service, spending in the meantime two years or thereabouts in the Argentine Republic and other portions of South America.

Our subject, returning to England in 1871, occupied himself for a few months, and in December following started for the New World. One of his brothers had preceded him to Nebraska City, and our subject joined him, remaining an inmate of his home about one year. He then came to this county and purchased the land where he now resides.

Mr. Whilock, on the 3d of August, 1874, was united in marriage with Miss Emily Maria Hoff, at the home of the bride in Nebraska City. Mrs. Whilock is the daughter of Benjamin and Charlotte (Mabb) Hoff, and was born July 14, 1847, in Lon-

don, England. Her parents were natives of England, and are now deceased. Of this union there are two children, a son and daughter, Thomas J. and Edith Emily. Mr. and Mrs. W. were reared in the faith of the Episcopal Church, to which they still loyally adhere, belonging to the society at Lincoln. Politically, Mr. Whilock has voted the straight Republican ticket hitherto, but proposes to vote the Democratic ticket.



THOMAS MARTIN. Freedom is a precious jewel, which, having been once possessed, is appreciated so that if it be lost or wrested, there is no rest or contentment until it has been recovered. It is the lawful and proud boast of the descendants of brave Wallace, and Robert Bruce, that they have never been conquered, and although their neighbors of Erin cannot say the same thing, they can point back to a National history when they were recognized as a free people, generous, brave and noble. The jewel of liberty has been lost to them, and their country has become a part of the British Empire, but the old fire still burns, the race characteristics are still prominent before the world, and more especially so when the environment is such as to assist the development of the people. The restlessness which characterizes the people must continue until freedom, the lost jewel, is again possessed. In the meantime many of her sons have left their native land, and in the New World enjoy those institutions and that liberty which are so ardently desired for the whole race. Among this number is George Martin, who was born in Ireland in 1828.

The surroundings of Mr. Martin in early life were not among the most favorable. He made his acquaintance with the proverbial three "R's" at the parish school, and having completed the round of learning afforded by this institution, began the life of a farmer, which he continued in his native country until he was about forty years of age. In the year 1858 he led to the hymeneal altar Miss Sarah Hill, and their union has been consummated by the birth of nine children, all of whom are living. Their names are recorded in the family genealogy as fol-

lows: William J., Thomas (our subject), Maria, Elizabeth, Jennie, Sannel, Anna, Joseph and Herbert. The eldest son is on a farm near our subject; Maria is now Mrs. J. Culbertson, and resides in Wisconsin; her sister Elizabeth makes her home in Illinois, and is the wife of Jesse Bailey; Jennie is united to Mr. Theodore Beal, of Colby, Kan.; Anna is now Mrs. Frank Gosling, and is residing in Illinois; Samuel is unmarried, and the two youngest are still at home.

In 1868 George Martin left his native country and settled in Livingston County, Ill., near Fairbury. There he entered land and still followed his life occupation, farming, continuing to make that his home until 1884, when he came to Jefferson County, Neb., bought 160 acres of land, and set about the task of making such a home as would be most congenial to him at the time when the weight of years weigh upon him, and the snows of winter have left their hoary mark upon his head. In this he has been more than successful, and has made for himself an excellent name in the community, and also a sufficient competency for his latter days. Both he and Mrs. Martin still live, and enjoy the recompense of previous years of labor and toil.

The grandfather of our subject, Hugh Martin, was likewise a native of Ireland, where he was born in County Antrim. His life was spent in the pursuit of husbandry, and at his death, in 1861, he had numbered ten years beyond the allotted time of man. His family included three children—William J., Samuel and George.

Thomas Martin, subject of this sketch, was born in County Antrim, Ireland, on the 17th of March, 1853, and received a practical education, although possibly somewhat limited, in the extent of its subjects, in the parish school, and when his parents came to America accompanied them to the Illinois home, and completed his education in the common school. After that he began to learn the mysteries of farming and agriculture, assisting his father upon the home farm. How far he was successful in this is plainly told by the fact that, upon the removal to Lincoln, in 1877, he was almost immediately appointed foreman of the Agricultural College Farm. At the time of his appointment he was twenty-five years of age, and he continued to hold it until he

was in his thirty-first year. Comment upon this is hardly necessary, and yet we would remind the reader that this position meant not simply the physical effort required in farming, but that much mental effort was required also, with the addition of an aptitude to communicate instruction.

Upon leaving the Agricultural College in 1882, our subject purchased his present farm of 160 acres, and began to lay the foundation for his future. The property was but slightly improved when he took possession. His first work was the erection of his present home, a substantially built two-story frame house, making a very comfortable and pleasant farm dwelling. At the same time he was at work upon his orchard, of which two full acres are devoted to carefully selected apple trees of various assortment, besides quite an extensive cherry orchard, and in addition to plum and other fruit trees there is also found a very richly productive vineyard and abundance of small fruits. In the vicinity of the house our subject has well-placed shade trees, forming a splendid grove, while close by is a collection of forest trees, covering between two and three acres. Not solely for his own benefit is this attention given to tree culture, but also for that of the State, it being a recognized fact that our subject and those like him in this regard are making the climate of Nebraska more desirable as an agricultural belt.

Mr. Martin has devoted much study to the improvement of stock, and is well posted on the subject of Durhams, Herefords and other varieties; Percheron, Normandy or Flemish, in the line of horseflesh, their adaptability or otherwise to the uses of the Nebraska farmer, with the multitudinous technical intricacies, which sound to the uninitiated as intelligible as ancient Sanscrit. He is the owner of a super-excellent herd of Short-horns, and also a splendid registered animal of full blood, besides other stock, large and small, too numerous to particularize.

In the year 1883, our subject having come to the conclusion that "It is not well for man to be alone," undertook to remedy that matter, and having made the acquaintance of a most womanly woman, in every way fitted to make his life the complete and bright existence his most happy thoughts had pict-

ured, they proceeded after the necessary preliminaries had been arranged, to plight their faith and seal their vows in the usual form, on January 1 of that year, 1883. The lady of his choice was Miss Emma Dishong, of Lincoln, Neb., daughter of Jacob Dishong, and was born on the 6th of April, 1862, in Cass County, Pa., where she was reared and received her education in rudimentary branches, completing the same in Cass County, Neb., upon the removal of her father to that place in 1869, when he took a homestead and continued to reside thereon until 1879, when he removed to Lincoln. He is now the owner of a farm at Valparaiso, but resides about five miles northeast of Lincoln, and is operating the farm at Christian University. His wife was Miss Nancy Crawford, a native of Pennsylvania, whom he married in 1860. The marriage of our subject has been blessed, and its bonds more firmly united, by the birth of a son, whom they have named Edgar.

Thomas Martin has been for several terms School Director of his district, and is also Supervisor. His political sentiments accord with those of the Republican party, and the weight of his influence, with his more active efforts, is at all times at the command of his political friends. Although a young man he occupies a prominent place in the community, and, all things being equal, has doubtless a future before him brighter than anything here recorded, excepting only that of the establishment of his home in the early dawn of 1883. His character and manliness command and receive the regard of his fellow-citizens, his intelligence and success enjoin their sincerest respect.



FREDERICK HAASE, as his name would indicate, is a native of Germany, and was born upon the 2d of January, 1828, to Frederick and Louisa Haase, of whom the latter is deceased. He received his early education in his native place and language, and continued to make his home in his native place until the year 1854, when he emigrated to this country, taking passage at Hamburg. After seven weeks upon the Atlantic he landed in New York, and went at once to Carbon

County, Pa. and there resided until the fall of 1877, when he came to this county, taking up land upon section 7 of Yankee Hill Precinct, where he has continued to reside since that time.

Our subject was married while in Pennsylvania, the lady of his choice being Dora Leist; nine children have come to brighten their home, who bear the following names, viz.: John, Henry, Frederick, Aaron, Frank, William, Louisa, Minnie and Dora, all of whom it is their pleasure to see growing up, and one by one taking their places in honorable positions in life.

Mr. Haase is owner of 160 acres of fine farming land, well improved and very fertile. He has always continued his membership in the church of his youth, the Lutheran. From his first settlement in the country he has been a warm friend and supporter of the "grand old party."

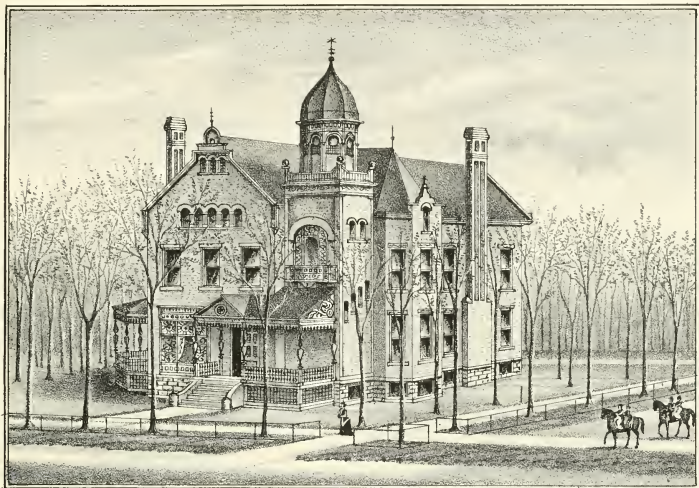
JOSEPH J. IMHOFF, Vice President of the State National Bank at Lincoln, first looked upon Nebraska Territory in 1856, but at that time was not ready to locate here. Two years later he took up his residence in Nebraska City, where he engaged in general merchandising, which he carried on successfully until 1872. Selling out in May of that year he came to Lincoln and established himself as "mine host" of the Commercial Hotel, which he conducted thirteen years successfully. In 1873 he purchased the Douglas House, changed the name to Commercial, and in due time added to its proportions until it assumed a frontage of 108x150 feet, and was three stories in height. It is now called the Capitol. As the city grew in size this house attained a corresponding popularity, and was acknowledged as the principal hotel. With this property Mr. Imhoff parted after a period of thirteen years for the snug sum of \$80,000, and since then has been variously engaged among the enterprises in which the leading men of Southern Nebraska have been interested.

The Keystone State owns the subject of this sketch as one of her sons, he having been born in Somerset County, May 8, 1835. In this section of country also his parents, Joseph and Catherine

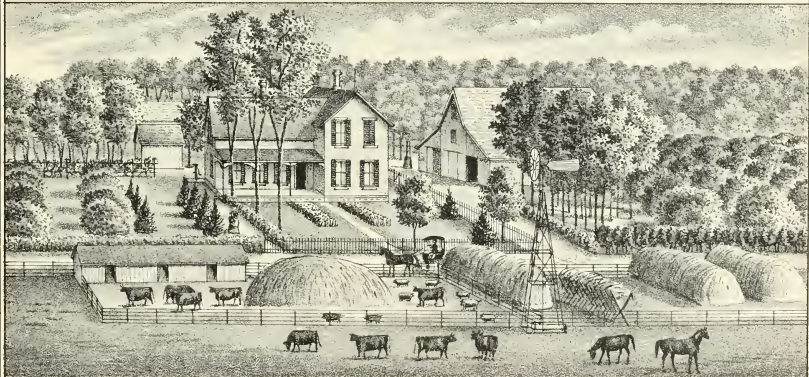
(Hefley) Imhoff, were born and spent their entire lives. The former was also a hotel-keeper, with which he combined agriculture, and was a solid, upright and reliable citizen, who stood well in his community. The family is of German ancestry, possessing all the enterprising and industrious characteristics of that nationality.

The subject of this sketch was the sixth in a family of eight children born to his parents, and passed his boyhood and youth among the hills of his native county, becoming familiar with agriculture and acquiring a common-school education. When a youth of seventeen he began his mercantile experience as clerk in a store of general merchandise, but two years later took up the carpenter trade, which he followed five years. At the expiration of this time, desirous of seeing something of the world, he set out from his native county, and a few days later found himself in Urbana, Ill., where he sojourned two years and engaged as a carpenter and builder. Thence he migrated to Nebraska, and entered upon the career which we have already indicated.

Mr. Imhoff was one of the originators and movers in the organization of the Union Savings Bank of Lincoln, and a principal stockholder and Director. The Nebraska Stockyards also owe largely their existence to his enterprise and encouragement. Of this company he was at once made Vice President, which position he still holds. Later, in the organization of the Lincoln Driving Park Association, he was a moving spirit, acting as President until disposing of his interests in it. He then purchased the park, and fitting it up at a cost of \$7,500, sold it less than three years later for the sum of \$75,000. He was one of the incorporators of the Lincoln Street Railway Company, being also made President of this, and remained its executive officer until the time of its sale to the city corporation. In the organization of the Lincoln Rapid Transit Street Railway Company, he also held a like prominent post. He was one of the organizers of the Electric Light Company, with a capital of \$100,000, and has always been its President. He has been called to innumerable positions of trust and responsibility among the various interests inseparable from the growth and development of one of the most rapidly



RESIDENCE OF J. J. IMHOFF, COR. J & 12TH. STS. LINCOLN, NEB.



RESIDENCE AND PROPERTY OF GEO. GARLAND, SEC. 4, STEVENS CREEK PRECINCT.

growing cities of the West. His energy and industry and his unimpeachable integrity have constituted him one of the most useful citizens of Lincoln, and one whose name will go down to posterity when his labors shall have ended.

The marriage of Joseph J. Imhoff and Miss Mary E., daughter of Sanford S. Rector, of Nebraska City, was celebrated at the home of the bride Nov. 5, 1862. Mrs. Imhoff was born in Pickaway County, Ohio; her parents now live in Nebraska City. Of her union with our subject there are four children living, namely: Charles H., Cashier of the Union Savings Bank; Joseph B., Superintendent of the Lincoln Electric Light Company; Ono May and Hattie J., at home with their parents. The palatial residence of the Imhoff family, erected in 1886, is a fine brick structure situated at the intersection of J and Twelfth streets, finely finished and furnished, and with its surroundings forms one of the most attractive homes in the city. In the view of this, which appears on the adjoining page, it will be seen that it forms not only a monument to the taste and means of its projector, but an ornament to the city. Mr. Imhoff began in life without other resources than his own indomitable energy, and his career has been one of phenomenal success.



GEORGE GARLAND, of Stevens Creek Precinct, is very pleasantly located on section 4, where he has a beautiful set of farm buildings, as will be acknowledged by a glance at the copy of them in miniature observable on another page in this volume. Here he settled in 1869, homesteading eighty acres of land, and here has put forth the crowning efforts of a well-spent life, building up not only one of the most valuable homesteads in Lancaster County, but also the record of an honest man and a good citizen. The subject of this narrative was born on the other side of the Atlantic in Dorchestershire, England, Jan. 24, 1838, and is the son of Thomas and Jane (Marsh) Gar-

land, who were also of English birth and parentage. Thomas Garland followed dairying, having charge of a large number of cows until 1846, when the family emigrated to the United States and settled in Kenosha County, Wis. George was a little lad eight years of age when his parents emigrated to America. The father only lived two years afterward, his death taking place in Kenosha County, Wis., in 1848. By his decease eight children were left fatherless, namely: Charles, Mary, Ann, George, William, Thomas, Harriet and Frank. They are all living, three of them being residents of this county. The mother contracted a second marriage, with James Cronk, of Wisconsin, and resided there until her death, which occurred at her home Sept. 1, 1880.

Young Garland acquired a district-school education, very limited, his school days being over upon the death of his father, which left the family in straightened circumstances. He became familiar with farming pursuits and remained unmarried until a man of twenty-six years. He then, Feb. 22, 1864, took unto himself a wife and helpmate, Miss Kate Healey, the wedding being celebrated at the home of the bride, in Kenosha County, Wis. Mrs. Garland was born there July 4, 1847, and is the daughter of John and Jane (Bishop) Healey, who were natives of Canada; the mother spent her last days in Kenosha County, Wis.; the father died in California.

Mr. and Mrs. Garland, after their marriage, settled on a farm in Kenosha County, where they lived until coming to Nebraska. Here our subject has been very successful, owning now 400 acres of good land, where he carries on mixed agriculture, and has surrounded himself and his family with all the comforts of life. The latter included two children until a few months since, when Charles E., the elder son, a bright and promising young man and the idol of the family, was seized with fatal illness, and died at the age of twenty-three years and twenty-three days. Ralph W., who was born April 21, 1875, continues with his parents. Mr. Garland is a Republican, politically, although mixing very little with public affairs, preferring to give his time and attention to his farming interests.

The parents of Mrs. Garland had a family of five

children—Edward, Thomas, Mary, Harriet and Kate—the wife of our subject being the youngest. Her brothers and sisters are residents mostly of Nebraska.



ALEXANDER G. WILSON, who is prominent among the well-to-do residents of Middle Creek Precinct, is comfortably located on section 9, and carrying on agriculture after the most modern and approved methods. He is the offspring of a good family, and was born in that part of Green which is now Taylor County, Ky., July 14, 1831.

James Wilson, the father of our subject, was a native of Virginia, in which State his paternal grandfather, William Wilson, was also born. The latter was there reared to manhood, where he lived until 1820, then removed to Kentucky, making the journey with teams across the mountains. He settled in what is now Taylor County, purchasing a tract of timber land, from which he improved a farm, and there spent the remainder of his days. James Wilson was a youth of eighteen years when his parents left the Old Dominion, and he grew to manhood in Taylor County, Ky., where he married one of its most estimable young women, Miss Betsy, daughter of John and Polly Spears. The father of our subject after his marriage purchased a tract of land seven miles from the parental homestead, a few acres of which had been cleared and where stood a log cabin. This rude structure served as a shelter for the young people until they were able to build a more commodious residence, and under this lowly roof our subject was born. It had been constructed after the fashion of that time, when nails were almost a thing unknown in that region. The chimney was built outside of earth and sticks, and the mother carried on her cooking by the fireplace. She also in the meantime spun and wove both wool and flax, manufacturing the cloth for her family for many years and also some to sell. The father industriously tilled the soil, and after the lapse of years gathered around himself and his family the more modern comforts essential to their well-being and happiness. His death took place at the old farm on the 14th of February, 1865, when he was sixty-three

years old, the mother having died when our subject was quite small.

Our subject continued under the parental roof until twenty-two years of age, then leaving the farm started out for himself, engaging as a teamster from Taylor County to Louisville, 100 miles distant. He had served a complete apprenticeship at this employment, driving a team for his father from the time he was a youth of fifteen years. Now he purchased an outfit of his own, and was occupied in this manner until a man of twenty-eight years. He then rented a tract of land in Taylor County, where he followed farming until 1865 upon the soil of the Blue Grass regions. In the spring of that year he made his way to Logan County, Ill., and carried on agriculture there and in Mason County for the following sixteen years.

Mr. Wilson, in January, 1881, crossed the Mississippi, and making his way to this county secured the property which he now occupies and where he has since resided. This comprises 160 acres of good land, which yields bountifully the richest products of Southern Nebraska. He repaired the old buildings and added the new ones necessary for his comfort and convenience, and has now a good assortment of live stock and the machinery essential for the operations of the modern and successful agriculturist.

Our subject chose for his wife one of the most estimable young women of Green County, Ky., being married, in November, 1857, to Miss Eliza Kirtly, who was born in that county, and is the daughter of Jefferson and Frances Kirtly, who were natives of Virginia, and who spent their last days in Kentucky. Of this union there were born nine children—William R., James T., Robert F., Henry, Charles, Nannie, Daisy, Rufus and Arthur. Mrs. Eliza Wilson departed this life at her home in Middle Creek Precinct, Feb. 29, 1884. Mr. Wilson contracted a second marriage, Nov. 11, 1885, with Miss Johanna Wright, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride in Lincoln Precinct.

The present wife of our subject was born in Henry County, Ind., Nov. 18, 1836, and is the daughter of James Wright, who was a native of Virginia, and the son of Rev. Reuben Wright, who was also born and reared to manhood in the Old

Dominion. The latter emigrated to Henry County, Ind., during its pioneer days, where he purchased a tract of land and engaged in farming, spending there the remainder of his days. His son James, the father of Mrs. Wilson, although reared to farming pursuits, entered the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church when a young man, and preached in the State of Illinois many years. He took up his residence in Jasper County, Ill., in 1840, and labored in various places in that section of the State, traveling his circuit on horseback after the manner of the pioneer preachers. He rested from his labors in 1859. The mother was formerly Miss Lucinda McCormis, a native of Virginia, and who is still living in Missouri. Their family consisted of nine children.



ELLIOTT F. JACKSON, a resident of Elk Precinct, was born in Benton Township, Des Moines Co., Iowa, Jan. 14, 1849, and is the son of Nehemiah Jackson, a native of Vermont. The latter was reared to manhood among the hills of the Green Mountain State, and after his marriage migrated westward to Greene County, Ill., where he settled among its early pioneers. This was prior to the Black Hawk War, Indians still roamed over the country, and the great chief of this name was a frequent visitor to the cabin of Nehemiah Jackson.

About 1835 the father of our subject removed to that part of the Territory of Wisconsin which is now included in the Hawkeye State. The journey was made overland with teams, and Mr. Jackson entered a tract of Government land in what is now Benton Township, Des Moines County. There also he was one of the earliest settlers, and put up a log house after the fashion of those times, with a chimney built of earth and sticks outside, and the huge fireplace occupying ample space within. The structure was chinked with chips and plastered with mud, and the mother performed her cooking operations by the fireplace. She also spun and wove wool and flax, and manufactured the cloth used by the family. The father performed his farming opera-

tions, his marketing and his milling, with the aid of oxen, not having horses for a number of years.

The parents of our subject labored industriously for a number of years, and succeeded in building up a comfortable home, where they spent the remainder of their lives, the father passing away in 1854, the mother some years later, May 16, 1878, at the age of sixty-nine. The latter in her girlhood was Miss Lucy Pond, and was born in Vermont.

Mr. Jackson was a little lad six years of age at the time of his father's death, but continued with his mother and elder brothers on the homestead, becoming familiar with farm pursuits and acquiring a common-school education. Upon the outbreak of the late war he was still a mere boy, and by the enlistment of his brothers in the Union army was left in charge of the farm. He resided under the parental roof until his marriage, and then settled on that part of the homestead which fell to him by inheritance. In 1881 he decided upon a change of location, desiring more land, and concluded that the great West furnished better facilities for carrying out his projects. He accordingly wended his way to Nebraska, making Lincoln his objective point, and in the meantime began looking around for a spot of ground which would be within reach of his means and suitable for the carrying on of agriculture. The following year, not having yet found what he sought, he rented a farm in Elk Precinct, upon which he lived a year, and then purchased the land of his present homestead. This comprises eighty acres of land, and is pleasantly located on section 11. Mr. Jackson has effected a remarkable change in its condition, building it up almost from first principles, putting up a good house, barn, and all the other out-buildings necessary, and supplying himself gradually with improved machinery and a goodly assortment of live stock.

Mr. Jackson seventeen years ago was married in the fall of 1871, to Miss Mary Allen, one of the most estimable young ladies of Franklin Township, Des Moines Co., Iowa. Her parents, Robert and Nancy (Wassom) Allen, were natives of Tennessee; the father is living, and the mother died in 1861. Mrs. Jackson was born May 22, 1849, in Des Moines County, Iowa, and remained with her

parents during her childhood and youth, acquiring a common-school education and a knowledge of all useful household duties. She is now the mother of seven children—Nettie, Jesse, Mattie, Robert, Katie, Hubert and Arpine. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson about the year 1872 became identified with the Baptist Church, in Des Moines County, Iowa, of which they remained members until their removal from the Hawkeye State. Mr. J. is a staunch Republican politically, and a man thoroughly respected by his fellow-citizens.

HENRY A. BRAINERD, editor and publisher of the *Lancaster Union*, a man of practical good sense and an efficient journalist, was born in Boston, Mass., Nov. 4, 1857. He received a primary education in the schools of his native city, living there until a lad of fourteen years, then going to Providence, R. I., entered the Bryant & Stratton Business College there, from which he emerged to become a student of Kent's Hill Seminary at Readfield, Me. In this latter institution he remained something less than two years, and this completed his schooling.

Young Brainerd now returned to Providence, R. I., where for a period of three years he was employed by the American Screw Company. In the meantime he had imbibed a longing for the Western country, and in 1881 turned his steps toward the Mississippi, locating finally in Seward County, this State. In August, 1887, coming to Bennet, he purchased the paper of which he is now owner, and which he has since conducted in a manner which has commended it to the people of the county as their standard news journal. He is a modest, unassuming gentleman, correct and methodical in his business affairs, prompt to meet his obligations, and in all respects a valued member of society. Mr. Brainerd has fulfilled in a worthy manner all the duties of a good citizen with the exception that he still remains a bachelor. He is a member of the Associated Press and the Nebraska State Press, and is identified with the Knights of Pythias, being a member of Midland Lodge No. 12, of Bennet. Politically, he affiliates with the Republican party.

The parents of our subject were Henry H. and Maria L. (Stetson) Brainerd, the father a native of Connecticut and the mother of Maine. The latter died at their home in the city of Boston in 1862, when her son, Henry A., was a little lad five years of age. He was reared by his aunt, Angelina Bates. His sister, Marion H., is a music teacher in Providence, R. I.

In the conduct of his paper Mr. Brainerd exercises that cool and temperate judgment which, politically, aims at truth without giving offense. As an exponent of current news the *Union* has become indispensable to the people of this section, as is evinced in its steadily increasing patronage. The portrait of him who stands at the helm and guides the craft so wisely, will be viewed with interest not only by the readers of the *Union*, but by the many who receive the ALBUM of Lancaster County into their homes as something to be preserved to posterity.

JOHN C. KETTELHUT. In the view found elsewhere of the homestead built up by the subject of the following notice, and which is eligibly situated in Stockton Precinct, is most nearly illustrated the perseverance and industry which have been the distinguishing traits of his character through life. It is a favorite remark of the pseudo philosopher, and the man who, at every turn of life, flings at you some such threadbare proverb or saying of old and forgotten sage, that "Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery." This may or may not be true, but the fact is before the whole world, viz: that thousands in other lands turn with hopeful hearts toward our beloved America. She not only receives countless emigrants from older countries, but under her banner the manly and energetic worker may speedily become, if not rich, at least comfortably settled in life, and this we must proudly accept as the highest compliment and flattery, using this word in its purest sense.

The subject of this writing is one of the many who have paid this tribute to the great Republic, and has not been disappointed. He is a native of Germany, and was born Dec. 18, 1836. Having ob-



Yours truly
H. A. Primmer

tained some education in the schools of the Fatherland, he began the herding of sheep, in which occupation he continued until his thirty-second year. Often when away from the busy haunts of men, in some quiet pasture, with no companionship save that of his flock, had he meditated and planned regarding the country beyond the great sea, of which he had heard so much, but knew so little. He finally concluded that there was more room for him in that New World, more opportunity, more scope for the effort he knew he was capable of making. Therefore, in 1868, he left his herds, home and country, and, after weeks upon the ocean wave, landed upon American soil in New York City.

By the counsel of friends, Mr. Kettelhut proceeded westward to Lancaster County, Neb., and homesteaded eighty acres of Government land on section 12, Stockton Precinct. Since that time he has been a resident here, and has received the highest respect of the community. He owns 320 acres of some of the finest land in the county, the quality of which has been largely improved by his assiduous labor. His residence is situated on section 11; his farm buildings, although not elegant, are substantial, extensive, and arranged with a view to the various requirements of the progressive agriculturist. Mr. Kettelhut has been careful to accumulate the diverse implements and machines needed upon his farm, and which enable him to achieve success from his labors. In addition to general agriculture he takes great pride in stock-raising, and devotes much care and attention to this industry.

While yet in his native land our subject was married to Miss Johanna Hapke. This lady was the daughter of John and Charlotte Hapke, and was born Aug. 6, 1844, in Pommern, Germany. She was united to our subject in marriage on the 10th of February, 1865, and their home has been brightened by the advent of eight children, who are named respectively: Augusta, Robert, Bertha, Christopher, Amelia, Otto, Eda and Otto (2d). Of these we have to record the decease of the two boys, Otto (1st) and Otto (2d). The eldest daughter is married to Gotlieb Ruckenbach, and is a resident in Cass County, this State. The remaining children live at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Kettelhut are consistent members of the German Luth-

eran Church; their family have been reared in the same communion. Our subject is not a man prominent in politics, but has made himself master of the main questions of the political situation and affiliates with the Republican party.

MICHAEL KILROY. The present sketch presents briefly the salient points of the biography of one of the representative farmers and stock-raisers of West Oak Precinct, where, on section 16, lies a beautiful farm comprising 320 acres, in as fine condition and as fully supplied with the multitudinous details indispensable to efficiency in farming and stock-raising as any of its neighbors. This property is owned by our subject.

The father of Michael Kilroy, whose given name was Peter, was born in County Sligo, Ireland, upon Easter Sunday of 1814. In the schools of that county he received his education, and afterward gave his time to the mastery of the mysteries of milling, as restricted in that county to the manufacture of flour. In the year 1836 he left his home and the green Isle of Erin, emigrated to America, and settled in Oswego, N. Y., where he followed his old occupation of miller. He was a resident of that place at the time of the great fire, shortly after which he entered into the wholesale grocery business in the same city, and continued until 1857. In that year, accompanied by his family, he went to St. Paul, Minn., purchasing an extensive farm, which he continued to work with much prosperity until 1872, when he retired and took up his residence in the city, and left his youngest son and daughter to carry on the farm.

Peter Kilroy, while a resident at Oswego, and at the age of twenty-three years, was united with Bridget McGinty, who was born in County Mayo. Their family included nine children, seven of whom it was their privilege to bring to maturity. Both the father and mother of our subject are still living, and considering their age are enjoying good health. They have always been earnest, consistent members of the Catholic Church. Miss Bridget McGinty came to this country from Ireland in 1816, when she was eighteen years of age, took up her residence

at Oswego, and it was during this period that she met and was united to her husband. Her father, John McGinty, followed the occupation of farming in his native country.

Our subject was born March 28, 1847, at Oswego, N. Y., and the third child born to Mr. and Mrs. Kilroy. His education was received in the Oswego schools, where he was enabled to lay a firm foundation on which to rear the various undertakings of his future life. After passing through the classes of these institutions he spent some time at Council Bluffs, where he attended and was graduated from the Business College. The next eighteen years were spent upon the road as salesman for the firm of the Chicago Company. His duties in this relation took him all through, and made him perfectly familiar with Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri and Kansas. Seeing so much of the conditions of life in these States, he was enabled to more intelligently select his farm when he determined to follow that occupation. The result was his location upon the property where he now resides, which he purchased in the year 1880.

It was not until the year 1886 that our subject entirely severed his connection with the firm for which he had been traveling, and left the road for the more quiet and restful life at the farm. Our subject has devoted himself with enthusiasm and energy to the work of improving his property, and the various works and buildings thereon are the result of his own efforts, and in the main the work of his own hands. He is devoting much attention to the raising and culture of all kinds of trees, both useful and ornamental. He has already over 1,000 apple trees of excellent grade and variety, and about 500 others, including plum and cherry trees. This year he has added to the already extensive and finely selected collection of forest trees over 2,000 new ones, all of them thrifty and in excellent condition. From the time of his purchasing this property our subject has been unremitting in his efforts for the improvement of his farm, and not only his orchard and grove, but the fields, testify to the care and labor bestowed. Amid the various duties and responsibilities devolving upon him in connection with the above he still finds abundant time to devote to the interests of stock-raising, in

which he is extensively engaged and takes much pleasure, bringing to bear upon this department as upon the others the full vigor of his thought and benefit of his experience.

When sixteen years of age our subject enlisted, but his father entered strong objections to his continuing in the service, and after seven months he was withdrawn. During this time he was connected with Company H of Hatches' Battalion, under Gen. Sibley, and the greater part of it was on duty at Ft. Snelling, but saw considerable of active service in other districts. The political sympathies of Mr. Kilroy are with the Democratic party, and although he has not been hitherto prominent before the State in the political arena, his well-known character, ability and intellectual force would seem to indicate that he has yet to be heard from in this regard. He continues his allegiance to the faith in which he was reared, and is a member of the Catholic Church and in good standing. Whether we consider Mr. Kilroy as a business man, farmer or stock-raiser, whether we view him in his domestic relations or as a man and citizen, it is only just to him and to his fellow-citizens to say that he is the recipient of the highest possible regard of the entire community.



LEONARD B. KING is a practical, sagacious farmer of Nemaha Precinct, who, discouraged by ill success in his old home, brought about by his sickness, came to this State with his family in 1876, and here began life anew with but \$40 in his pocket. Soon, under the revivifying influence of the splendid climate of Nebraska, he began to regain his lost health, and with it his old courage, confidence and animation. With much of his old energy he set about repairing his shattered fortunes, with what success may be judged by the appearance of his farm on section 27, with its well-tilled acres, and its many improvements in the shape of a comfortable house, barns, sheds, etc. Thus in the space of the twelve years that he has been a resident

of this place his industry has accomplished much, and he has raised himself from poverty to prosperity.

Mr. King comes from an ancestry that dates back to Colonial times, and of which he has reason to be proud, some of his forefathers being of pioneer fame in the early days of the settlement of Kentucky. His grandfather, Armstead King, a citizen of Kentucky, bore an honorable part in the War of 1812. The parents of our subject, Isaac and Amanda (Seigester) King, were born in Kentucky, the father on the banks of the Licking River, being children of early settlers of that State. They were married in Rush County, Ind., where the father engaged in farming for a short time, and then removed to Cass County, in the same State, where they are still living on their farm in the enjoyment of a competency gained by their united labors. The father is seventy-one years old, and the mother sixty-eight, and they are both justly esteemed for the many good qualities of mind and heart that have made them valued members of the community where they have so long made their home. They are the parents of six children, namely: Mary, Leonard B., Armstead, Edward, Richard and Isaac M., Jr.

Leonard B. King, the subject of this biographical sketch, was born May 21, 1841, in Rush County, Ind., near the town of Milroy. He was six years of age when his parents removed to Cass County, and there the remainder of his boyhood and youth was passed in the performance of the duties that early devolved on the farmer's boys. When scarcely more than a child he learned to swing an ax with skill and precision. He continued an inmate of his father's home, assisting him in the management of the farm until his marriage, in 1862, to Miss Hannah, daughter of G. W. and Elizabeth (Birch) Hendy, natives respectively of New York and Canada. Her parents were married in the latter country, and came to Indiana in 1849, where her father engaged in his trade of millwright, and also managed a farm that he owned. He prospered well, and is now, at the age of seventy-one years, living a life of retirement at Royal Center.

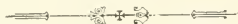
Mrs. Elizabeth Hendy died at the age of sixty-three years. Twelve children, seven sons and five

daughters, completed this household, of whom Mrs. King was the eldest. She was born Dec. 19, 1844, near Niagara Falls, in Canada. She was four or five years old when her parents went to live in Indiana, and there she was educated in the common schools. Of the twelve children born to her and her husband, eight were natives of Indiana, and four of Nebraska, and all are living and enjoy fine health. They were named Mary E., George E., Manson L., Melissa E., Thomas H., Amanda H., Martha J., Alice A., Isaac M., Alfred R., Grover C. and Armstead C. Mary is the wife of W. B. McClun, a prosperous farmer of Colorado, and they are the parents of three children—Jessie L., George LeRoy and Hannah E. George E. lives in Nemaha Precinct; Manson is a farmer in Colorado; Melissa married Daniel J. Grim, and they have one child, Anna Pearl. Mr. and Mrs. King's other children reside with them.

Mr. King carried on farming in Indiana for several years, but met with many losses and discouragements through sickness in his family, etc. At last he decided to settle up his affairs in that State, and try his fortunes in Nebraska, hoping not only to better his pecuniary condition on its remarkably rich and fertile soil, but at the same time, with his family, derive benefit from its pure and health-giving air. Accordingly he came hither in 1876, with a team and wagon, accompanied by his wife and children, and soon purchased eighty acres of railroad land on time, which, with the eighty acres presented to him and his wife by her father, now constitutes his farm. We have already spoken of the success that has followed his efforts, and the able assistance afforded him by the best of wives. Since coming here he has enjoyed good health, and is contented and happy in the companionship of his wife and children in the cosiest of homes, whose bountiful hospitality, extended by the noble-hearted and generous host and hostess, often makes glad the hearts of the friend or stranger who happens within their gates. Mr. King is public spirited, and heartily seconds any scheme to advance the welfare of the township or county. He has served as Road Supervisor, and gave good satisfaction to his fellow-townsmen while holding that office. In his political views he is a solid Democrat, earnestly

believing that the principles of that party are the best suited for the government of the country.

The success with which Mr. King has labored is indicated in the building of one of the most comfortable homes in Nemaha Precinct, a fine lithographic view of which appears on another page in this work.



VOLNEY A. MARKLE. The greatest debt this country of magnificent distances, marvelous natural wonders, and home of freedom, can ever contract will not be so much with the millionaire monopolist or its gazetted elite as it will with the noble, self-denying men and women who have launched out into the trackless wilds beyond the frontier. Men may speak of Columbus, and sneer at his discovery, call him a restless, shiftless rover, without resource and executive ability, and cynically speak of the "accidental stumble" against the West India Islands by that world-renowned navigator, but such tongues should be silent before the grand army of pioneers who went out from their Eastern homes, and pushed beyond the confines of civilization in order to develop and open up to the world the boundless resources of this glorious country, which but a few decades ago was the home of the Indian and the wild beast.

One of the most prominent as well as earliest pioneers of the Far West is Volney A. Markle, the subject of this sketch, who resides on section 29, West Oak Precinct. This gentleman is the son of Elijah Cody Markle, born near Cleveland, Ohio. He was educated in the common schools, and as a young man proceeded to Canada, where he was employed working on ship timber. In January, 1846, during his residence in Canada, he met Deborah M. Rightmyer, a lady capable of making life complete for him, and to whom he could give the strongest affection and highest regard of his manhood, and they were accordingly married in the same year. The family continued to live in Canada after their marriage for a period of two years, when a removal was effected; they settled in Hancock County, Ohio, and the father of our subject followed the business of pump maker, and although he has

given considerable attention to farming, and is the owner of a very nice farm of sixty acres in Findlay, Ohio, upon which he lives, he has always continued to follow his trade. Physically, he is still hale and hearty, but has discontinued doing any heavy work.

Mr. Markle, Sr., was born Jan. 6, 1820, and although he has almost completed the allotted term of human life, he journeyed, accompanied by his wife, from his home at Findlay to Nebraska on a visit to his son. When the Ohio National Guard was organized, one of the first men to offer himself for enlistment was the father of our subject, and afterward, although he was rapidly approaching the time of life when he might be truly called old, with a spirit patriotic and heroic, he was again one of the first to offer himself in defense of his country and its flag. When from the capitol at Washington the bugle note, the call to arms, was sounded, he was mustered in the 15th Corps, 47th Ohio Volunteers. His wife was born in Canada, about Nov. 10, 1820.

The subject of this sketch was born in Canada, Nov. 10, 1846, where he remained with his parents until he was five years of age, when he accompanied them to the home near Cleveland, Ohio, and afterward to Findlay. In the common schools of that city our subject received his education, which was afterward completed in the High School, and in these institutions he made the preparation which has enabled him successfully to fight the battle of life. When the thin lines of gray, and the solid columns of brigades of armed men, gathered around the stars and bars, and began to march northward, our subject promptly answered the call for men to oppose themselves to these forces, and in defense of the Union and the only flag of the Republic, he enlisted in the 21st Ohio Volunteers. This occurred in the year 1863, from which time until the close of the war he continued in the service. He was one of the men who, although unmentioned by name, are always thought of as the companions of the great Sherman in that famous march which has become a household word, and has furnished the theme for the song of the patriot. Besides a number of minor engagements, our subject was an active participant in the battles of Atlanta, Buzzard's Roost, Resaca, Peachtree Creek, Altoona Pass, Kennesaw



fraternally
Yours
J. V. Wolfe

Mountain, Chattahoochee River, Jonesboro, Lovejoy Station and Bentonville, and continued to fill his place in the ranks until discharged by general order. Returning from the bivouac, the trench and the battle-field, he returned once more to his school books, and studies in the High School. Having completed the course he removed to Amherst, Ohio, where he began his business career as clerk in a grocery store until 1867, when he returned home and worked with his father until 1868.

Twenty years ago, when our subject first came to Lincoln, it was far from being a city, and hardly worthy the name of a village. It was the 17th of November, 1868, when for the first time he sighted the town; it consisted of twenty-eight houses, one of which stood upon the site of the present *Journal* Building, and was used as a hotel, and also carried the town clock. He now began to work for different persons, and took up a homestead on section 32, West Oak Precinct, which he speedily improved and built on, and where he continued to reside until 1880, when he sold it and purchased property where he now resides. In this second acquisition the old process had to be repeated, and he set to work to till and cultivate his land. He has with his own hands built and supplied all the buildings and improvements to be seen upon his farm. Thus in two instances has he taken the wild prairie, tamed and subdued it, brought it to a high state of cultivation, and made it obedient to his labor. Our subject is justly proud of the splendid result which has crowned his efforts in tree culture. The beautiful grove near the house can only be truly appreciated by those who have enjoyed its secluded retreat and cooling shade. Mention must also be made, although but incidentally, of the remarkably fine orchard, which is not one of the least attractions and beauties of his farm.

Our subject has been called upon at various times to fill different school offices, for which his earlier work and education have rendered him eminently fitted. The office also of Assessor has been filled by him to the general satisfaction of those concerned. Our subject and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal communion, are among its most earnest workers, supporters and advocates, and are held in deservedly high esteem.

May 14, 1871, our subject was united in marriage with Phebe Ann Sutton, who was born in Appanoose County, Iowa, Aug. 21, 1852, and is the daughter of Schnyler Sutton. There have been born to them eight children, and it has been their joy and privilege to rear all but one of them. Until the year 1870 the father of Mrs. Markle continued to reside in Iowa, when he came to Nebraska, stopping for a time near Lincoln. He afterward made his home near Swan City, where he continued for several years engaged in the occupation of farming. He then went to Kansas, but returned to this vicinity, where he continued to reside until his death, in 1882. While in the army he by some means contracted a bone trouble, which continued to work upon his system and ultimately caused his death. His widow, who still enjoys good health, makes her home with her daughters, Mrs. Carr and Mrs. Markle.



HON. JACOB V. WOLFE. After some years spent in a professional life, when he was also a prominent factor of the Democratic party of his State, our subject retired to the quiet pursuits of agriculture in the fall of 1872, having purchased a tract of land in Grant Precinct, this county. He has since been one of the moving spirits in this locality, especially in matters closely allied to the elevation of the people, morally, socially and intellectually. He is a liberal-minded and progressive man, warmly interested in educational matters, always earnestly advocating the establishment and maintenance of such institutions as shall give to the rising generation those advantages which will constitute them intelligent and praiseworthy citizens of a great Republic.

To such men as the subject of this sketch is the great West indebted for its phenomenal growth and development. He is the offspring of a hardy and energetic race of people, noted for their culture and intelligence, his father having been Hon. Benjamin Wolfe, a native of the Old Dominion, and belonging essentially to the F. F. V's. His mother, formerly Miss Isabella Shepherd, was a native of

Kentucky, and of French ancestry. The Wolfe family trace their descent to Germany.

The parents of our subject after marriage located in Sullivan County, Ind., where the father carried on agriculture, and interested himself in the development of the new State, taking an active part in its political affairs. He represented the people of his county six or seven terms in the State Legislature, and in 1850 was a member of the convention called to revise the Constitution. For a period of fourteen years he was the Clerk of Sullivan County, being among the first to serve in that office.

After the children of the family had become old enough to leave the primary school the parents of our subject removed to Monroe County, Ind., the seat of the State University, for the purpose of giving their children better educational advantages. They lived there ten years, when they returned to the farm in Sullivan County, where they spent their last days, the father dying about 1868, and the mother in 1884. Their daughter Juliette, the eldest of their nine children, is now the widow of William Hastings, who was killed by the Indians in Kansas, about 1855; Thomas J., a practicing attorney in Sullivan, Ind., and William B., a stockman, also of Sullivan County; Jacob V., our subject, was the second son; Ann is the wife of Dr. S. A. Tilford, of Martinsville, Ind.; Benjamin S. is carrying on an extensive real-estate business in Sullivan; Clater C. died there in the winter of 1885; Albert P. is a practicing physician, of Russellville, Ill.; Solomon T. is engaged as an abstract clerk in Sullivan, Ind.

Jacob V. Wolfe was born at Merom, Sullivan Co., Ind., Oct. 7, 1833, where he lived until a lad nine years of age, then removed with his parents to their farm in the southwestern part of that county. At the age of seventeen and when leaving the common school, he entered the State University at Bloomington, from which he was graduated in 1857, receiving the degree of A. B. Thereafter he engaged as teacher of a school for boys in connection with the Glendale Female College, Ohio, and was subsequently made President of the Major Female College at Bloomington, Ill. A year later he returned to Bloomington in his native State, for the purpose of entering upon the study of law. While there he was waited upon by a

committee from Gosport, and invited to take charge of the High School in that town. After due deliberation he was prevailed upon to accept, and officiated as Principal of said school for a period of three years, greatly to his credit as an instructor, and with satisfaction to all concerned.

At the expiration of this contract Mr. Wolfe returned to Bloomington, Ind., and entered the law department of the Indiana State University, where he studied until the spring of 1862. He began the practice of his profession at Gosport, and six months later was elected to the State Legislature, and served his term acceptably, and after another course at the university, returned to Gosport, whence, after a brief sojourn, he removed to the town of Spencer, the county seat of Owen County.

At this place Mr. Wolfe entered upon the practice of law, but was interrupted as before by his election to office, being this time made Treasurer of Owen County, the duties of which office he discharged for a period of four years. This terminated his public life in Indiana, as he had determined upon a removal across the Mississippi. The fall of 1871 found him in this county, and, with the exception of three years spent in Lincoln for the purpose of educating his children, he has since been a resident of Grant Precinct. During his sojourn in Lincoln he resumed his law practice, in which he has been uniformly successful. The Democrats of this county chose him as their candidate for the Legislature, but the party being in the minority he was defeated, although running ahead of his ticket.

The farm of Mr. Wolfe, which is finely located on sections 6 and 7, comprises 160 acres of improved land, in the care and cultivation of which he takes a creditable pride, while never losing sight of those mental acquirements, both for himself and his children, which seem to be the leading idea of his life. The lady who has been the sharer of his home and fortune for the last thirty years was in her girlhood Miss Eliza E. Batterton, and their marriage took place in Glendale, Ohio, Dec. 18, 1857. Mrs. Wolfe was born in Bloomington, Ind., Sept. 20, 1836, and is the daughter of David and Amanda (Tilford) Batterton, natives respectively of Kentucky and Indiana. Both are now deceased,

the death of each occurring in Bloomington, Ind. Their family included seven children, of whom Mrs. Wolfe was the eldest. Of the others two are surviving, and residents of Missouri and Kansas.

To our subject and his estimable wife there have been born nine children—Harry K., Nellie B., Frank S., Miriam, Jessie B., J. Vance, Mary T., William W. and Paul C. Two of these died in Spencer, Ind. Nellie B. is the wife of Prof. Charles D. Griffin, of the Reform School, in Kearney, Neb. From one to three of the children have been students in the State University at Lincoln for the last fifteen years. Harry K. was graduated therefrom in the class of '80, and subsequently spent three years in Germany, being one year a student at Berlin University, and two years at Leipsic, from which he was graduated in philology in March, 1886, with the degree of Ph. D. He is now a teacher at San Luis Obispo, Cal.

Mr. Wolfe, in 1878, was the candidate of his party for the State Senate, and later for Prosecuting Attorney, being defeated as before with the balance of his ticket, the Democracy being in the minority in this section. He identified himself with the Masonic fraternity in 1868, and is still a member of Blue Lodge No. 95, at Spencer, Ind. He also belongs to the Chapter there, and, with his estimable wife, is a member in good standing of the Christian Church at Lincoln.

The many friends of this widely known and respected gentleman will without doubt be gratified to have before them, in this volume, the excellent portrait which the artist enables us to present.



CAPT. WILLIAM C. HEDDLESON, who is identified with the mercantile interests of Lincoln, where he is engaged in the grocery business, is a fine representative of the citizen soldiers of the United States who saved the Union from destruction during the late Rebellion, and have since been actively engaged in developing the wonderful resources of the great West, building up large and opulent cities, towns and villages, and establishing agricultural, commercial, and other interests where scarcely more than a quarter of a century ago

was a wild, desolate and uninhabited region. The Captain has a noble military record, extending from the days of the first Bull Run, the first real engagement of the war, until the last battle was fought and the war was brought to a close. He was a brave, unflinching soldier, discharging his duties with such promptness and efficiency as to draw upon himself deserved commendations from his superiors and promotion from the ranks. As an officer, he won the hearty respect of those under him, and was always found to be true to the trust and responsibilities imposed upon him.

Our subject was born in the town of Winchester, Adams Co., Ohio, March 3, 1835. His father, William Heddleson, was born in the city of Dublin, Ireland, and coming to America when a mere boy, soon entered the Colonial army and took part in the Revolution. He did gallant service, and on account of wounds that he received in battle he was a pensioner at the time of his death. He also took part in the War of 1812. Capt. Heddleson now has in his possession a portion of the Continental money that his father secured for his services in the Revolution. Some years after the war his father located at Ft. Washington, near Cincinnati, and bought Government land that is now included in the heart of that city. It was then heavily timbered, and after clearing a part of it, Mr. Heddleson sold it and moved to Fleming County, Ky., where he engaged in the mercantile business. He was a very enterprising man, and opened and successfully managed four stores there. He used to buy his goods in Philadelphia and New York, and packed them across the mountains, and thence down the Ohio River. After carrying on his business in Fleming County for some years, he disposed of his property there and moved to Adams County, Ohio, where he lived retired until his death, having accumulated a comfortable fortune. He was a man of more than ordinary force of character, which, united with his decided talent for business, made his life a success, and his geniality and good habits won for him the esteem and respect of his fellow-citizens. He was fortunate in securing for his lifelong companion a woman who was in every respect a model wife and mother. Her maiden name was Elizabeth Hayes, and her death occurred in Lincoln, where she had

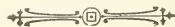
come to make her home, in 1868, on the 1st of September. Their only daughter, Mrs. A. E. Townley, is now dead.

Capt. Heddeson passed his boyhood in his native county, and at the age of fifteen he commenced to make his own way in the world as second clerk on a steamboat on the Ohio River, and continued thus employed until 1861. But the war breaking out, all personal aims and ambitions were laid aside, and he was among the first to respond to the call of his country to her citizens to rise in defense of her principles and dearest rights. He enlisted April 19, 1861, in Company I, 2d Ohio Infantry, and took part in the first battle of the war at Bull Run. He served his term of enlistment, ninety days, and was then discharged with his regiment. He re-enlisted in July, 1861, in Company I, 24th Ohio Infantry, and was mustered in as Second Lieutenant. On the 20th of August, 1863, he was honorably discharged, and returned home only to raise a company for the 12th Ohio Cavalry, designated as Company E, of which he was commissioned Captain, and he then hastened back to the scene of action, and served until November, 1865. He was present at the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Stone River, Chickamauga, and joining Sherman's forces at Chattanooga, he was under that great commander from Atlanta to the sea, and thence through the Carolinas, taking an active part in all the important battles throughout the entire campaign. At Hillsboro, N. C., he was detailed to report to Gen. Stoneman, and was made paroling officer, attending to the duties of that position at Charlotte, N. C., and at Athens and other points in Georgia, and he was with the troops that followed and captured Jeff Davis. After the close of the war he marched with his command from Atlanta to Sweet Water Spring, Tenn., and from there to Nashville, Tenn., where he was mustered out in November.

After his retirement from the army, Capt. Heddeson returned to Cincinnati, and engaged as messenger with the Adams Express Company, remaining with them until 1868. In July of that year he came to Lincoln, coming via the Ohio, Mississippi and Missouri Rivers to Nebraska City, and thence by stage to Lincoln, which was then but a village. The surrounding country was wild prairie, and deer and

antelope were plentiful in the vicinity. He bought a lot and erected a frame building on the southwest corner of Thirteenth and M streets, and opened the building as a hotel in company with J. N. Townley. He continued in the hotel business here until 1883, when he went to Las Vegas Hot Springs, N. M., to take charge of a hotel in the interests of the Santa Fe Railroad. He remained there three years, and then returned to Lincoln, and took a position in the Capital Hotel until October, 1887, when he opened a grocery store in company with his old partner, J. N. Townley. They have established this business on a firm basis, and are doing well financially, notwithstanding the competition that they have to encounter.

During his long residence in Lincoln the Captain has been an important factor in promoting the business interests of this city, whose marvelous growth he has witnessed with great pride. He is widely known, his experience as a hotel-keeper having brought him into contact with many people, and his ready tact, frank, hearty and unassuming manners, have won him hosts of friends. He is prominently identified with the G. A. R., being a charter member of Appomattox Post No. 214. He also belongs to Capital City Lodge No. 68, K. of P. Politically, he upholds the principles of the Republican party, being one of its staunchest adherents.



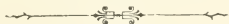
AUGUST HEIDECKER. Among the emigrants from Germany to this country back in the fifties were Christian and Barbara Heidecker, who settled in Clayton County, Iowa, where, upon the 15th of May, 1860, there was born to them a son, the subject of this sketch, whose name is found upon the roll of Buda Precinct's early inhabitants. There he continues to reside, on section 27, and is engaged successfully in general farming.

In 1869 the parents of our subject removed from Clayton County, Iowa, and settled in this State, taking up eighty acres of land on section 22 of the above-named precinct. As may be supposed, the land was in all the beauty and ruggedness of its primitive condition, and by his labors he has

brought it to a higher state of cultivation, and has made the original farm one of 160 acres. This was one of the first families to settle in the precinct. Besides our subject there were five other children in the family, of whom, including August, there are four living, namely: Louisa, the wife of J. J. Meyer, of the same precinct; our subject, Adolph and Pauline.

The father of the subject of our sketch is one of the representative German-American citizens of the district, and enjoys the confidence and esteem of all who know him. He is a man of fine character, sterling worth and business honor, in his domestic relations worthy of imitation. Both he and his wife are members of the German Lutheran Church, and are among its firmest friends. In political matters he is a Republican.

As above noted, our subject was but nine years of age when his parents came hither. In this county, therefore, he has been brought up, and the memories of his boyhood and youth are those of this district. On the 1st of November, 1887, he was married to Mary Krapp, the estimable daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Krapp, also of this county; he is the owner of eighty acres of well-improved land. He is a staunch adherent of the Republican party, and although quite a young man has given evidence of powers that will bring him to the front before many years pass by.



JERRY D. WOODS, a very intelligent man, having one of the most finely located farms in Grant Precinct, comprising 240 acres on section 21, came to Lancaster County in August, 1882, and the following spring took possession of his present property, where he has since resided and given his attention to general farming and stock-raising. He has about him all the comforts of a pleasant rural home, including an amiable wife and one little daughter, Florence Mary, who was born at their present homestead, July 23, 1886.

Our subject was born in Hancock County, Ind., twelve miles from the city of Indianapolis, April 5, 1840, and until a youth of fifteen years spent his time mostly at his father's farm. Later the latter

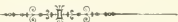
established a store at Cumberland, Marion County, where Jerry D. became a clerk and remained until his removal to Stark County, Ill., where he was a resident until the fall of 1862. He then returned to his native State, and resumed clerking for his brother in Hancock County until the winter of 1863, which he spent in Indianapolis similarly occupied. In May following, the Civil War being in progress, he enlisted in Company B, 132d Indiana Infantry, served five months, and upon his retirement from the service was a resident of his native county another year. In the fall of 1865 he returned to Stark County, Ill., and resided there on his father's farm until April, 1869.

Our subject now repaired to Northern Indiana, and engaged as a lumber dealer on his own account until February, 1870, when he returned to Stark County, Ill., and at Castleton carried on mercantile business for a period of seven years. From there he removed to Wyoming, in the same county, and was similarly occupied two years. Going to Stockton, Cal., in March, 1879, he was employed alternately as a clerk and farmer until August, 1882, which month found him in the city of Lincoln, this State. His subsequent movements we have already indicated.

James Woods, the father of our subject, was born near Ripley, Brown Co., Ohio, and upon reaching manhood married Miss Permelia Estes, a native of Liberty, Ind.; they lived for a number of years in the city of Indianapolis, but the father spent his last days at Wyoming, Stark County, where his decease occurred Dec. 3, 1878. The mother is still living, and a resident of Wyoming. The parental household included five sons and three daughters, and Jerry D. was the fourth child of the family. Of his brothers and sisters all survive, and are residents of Illinois, Indian Territory and California.

The marriage of Jerry D. Woods and Miss Rebecca G. Butler was celebrated at the home of a friend, in Kewanee, Ill., March 22, 1879. Mrs. Woods is the daughter of William H. and Mary (Fuller) Butler, natives of Connecticut and Pennsylvania respectively, and who settled in Stark County, Ill., during its pioneer days. There the father carried on farming and was also editor of a paper until

the death of the mother, Aug. 7, 1878. Mr. Butler subsequently came to this county, and died at his home in Grant Precinct, March 29, 1885. They were the parents of four sons and two daughters, of whom Mrs. Woods was the fourth child. She was born in Saxon, Henry Co., Ill., Dec. 3, 1849, was carefully reared by an excellent mother, and remained a member of the parental household until her marriage. She is a very pleasant and intelligent lady, and is a member in good standing of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Woods, politically, is a solid Republican, and socially, a member of the Masonic fraternity. He takes genuine interest in the enterprises calculated for the progress and welfare of his community, keeps himself well posted upon current events by the perusal of the leading journals of the day, and illustrates the career of a worthy and upright citizen, who is contributing his full quota in elevating the public morals and encouraging the march of civilization.



GEORGE H. POEHLER, who is so well known in Lincoln in connection with his popular and ever-increasing business as baker and confectioner, was born at Beardstown, Cass Co., Ill., in the year 1850. His father, Jacob Pochler, was a native of Germany, and was born in that country about the year 1821. His education was not extensive, but such as served him frequently in after years. The exercises of the institution of learning being completed, he was apprenticed to learn the trade of a tailor, which he continued to follow even after coming to the United States. He was married in his native country to Earnestine Trellieb, and they became the parents of six children, whose names are recorded as here appended: George H., the subject of this sketch; Ernest J., Emelia E., Caroline, Charles A. and Edward.

It was not long after marriage when the father of our subject determined to emigrate to America. This he did in the year 1848, and located at St. Louis, working at his trade for a time, and then removing to Beardstown, Ill., he opened a shop and carried on business for himself until the year 1858, when he removed to the Territory of Kansas, and

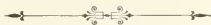
located in the town of Sumner, near Atchison. Here he opened a general store and continued until 1864, by which time he had quite a large business, but in that year he removed his business to Atchison, gradually working into the dry-goods business exclusively. The last two or three years of his life he lived quiet and retired at his home in that city, where he died in the year 1884.

When his father removed to Kansas our subject was just eight years old. He had attended the Beardstown schools for about a year and a half, and his education was recommenced in their new home. He attended the Kansas schools until he was twelve years of age, when he left in order to become his father's clerk, where he learned to do business. In this occupation our subject engaged until the year 1870, when he became a partner with his father, which continued until 1875, when the latter sold his share of the business to a Mr. Eberhard, and our subject remained about three years, then sold out, and engaged with his father and brother in the bakery and confectionery business.

After one year in the above occupation the brothers bought out their father's interest in the business, and continued it upon their own account until the year 1885. In that year our subject sold out to his brother, and came to Lincoln and opened an establishment upon the same line, upon O street, between Eleventh and Twelfth streets. This business has grown rapidly from the beginning, and is too well known to the citizens and inhabitants of Lincoln and surrounding country to call for any remark. Suffice it to say that he has continued to extend his trade because of the quality of his goods, and the fact that whatever he promised or stated a thing to be, the promise was fulfilled, and the increase has simply followed as a natural result.

Mr. Poehler was united in the year 1879 to Annie L. Peters, of Waterville, Kan., on the 15th of September. To them have been born four children—Louisa E., Julius A., Carrie E., and Martha, who died at the age of six months. Mrs. Poehler is the daughter of Jacob and Frederica Peters, both natives of Germany. Her father came to the United States at the age of eighteen, her mother at the age of twelve. They became acquainted, and were subsequently married at Sumner, Kan., where they

were among the first settlers. It was here that their daughter, the wife of our subject, was born, Aug. 4, 1860. Her parents afterward removed to Waverly, and at present reside near Greenleaf, Washington Co., Kan.



HANS J. BUHMANN. Among the many admirable qualities of manhood, one of the most noticeable and distinguishing is that of self-reliance. It manifests its presence in the happy possessor in so many and in such various ways that it is impossible for him to try to conceal it, as it will display itself in his most unguarded conduct and speech, and will not be concealed in his most guarded moments. But such a quality does not need to be concealed, for wherever it is to be found it stands as a harbinger of conquests and victory. We do not mean that a man possessing the quality above named should start out in life with the one formula "Given self, to find God," for that would be rash indeed, but that he should consider himself more interested in his own affairs than any other man, and more likely to succeed in the shaping of his own fortune if he depends upon himself than if he waits for any other man to direct his affairs.

As an illustration of the quality of self-reliance we call attention to the achievements of the gentleman whose name appears in the beginning of this sketch. Mr. Buhmann is a farmer of Buda Precinct, residing on section 1. He is a son of John J. and Catherine Buhmann, and was born on the 5th of October, 1846, in Sleswick-Holstein. He is the third son in his father's family, and was reared to manhood in his native country, having there received a fair education in the German tongue. In the year 1869, when he was about twenty-three years old, he emigrated to America, for that purpose taking passage on a steamer at Hamburg, which reached New York City after a voyage of fourteen days.

After his arrival in America our subject acquired a fair knowledge of the English language, and was thus prepared to transact business in the languages of two countries. For about five years he made his home in Chicago, Ill., and having learned the

trade of bricklaying, he followed that occupation during his stay in that city. After having visited several places, and made a short stay in each one, in the year 1876 he came to Lancaster County, and bought eighty acres of land from the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad. The land at that time was in an uncultivated condition, and our subject immediately began to fit it for use, succeeding so well in his endeavors that now he has a splendid farm in excellent condition, with all the buildings necessary for comfort and convenience, some idea of which may be obtained from the view of the same which the artist's skill enables us faithfully to portray.

On the 6th of May, 1888, Mr. Buhmann was married to Anne Beckmann, who was also a former resident of Germany. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran Church, and are well known in society. The husband takes an active interest in public affairs, his education qualifying him to serve as Director of Schools of his district, in which position he is now serving his third year, also having occupied the office of Assessor for one year. He is joined with the Republican party in politics. He is meeting with good success in his business, and among active, self-reliant men he is entitled to a prominent rank, having accumulated all his possessions by the genius of industry, and the habit of depending upon himself for whatever was to be done.



JAMES GILES. This well-known and respected farmer, whose property is situated on section 12 of Denton Precinct, was born in the city of London, England, on the 19th of February, 1835, and is the eldest son of William and Elizabeth Giles, natives of the same country. Until he reached man's estate he continued to make his home in his native city, where he received as fair an English education as could be obtained by attendance at school until he became twelve years of age, when he began clerking in a large wholesale bazar in that city, and continued thus employed for twelve years.

Our subject emigrated to this country in the spring of 1868, taking passage at Liverpool, and

landing after a voyage of fifteen days in the city of New York. He came on at once to Nebraska City, where he remained about a month, then removed to Otoe County, and there continued to reside for several years, removing to this county in 1875, and settling upon his present farm in 1880. He is the owner of 160 acres of fine farming land, which he has improved almost solely by his own industry and toil.

Our subject found in Harriet Claridge one whom he believed most desirable in the near relationship of wifehood, and to her he was married before leaving his native country. They have become the parents of six children, viz: Harriet, now Mrs. Joseph Payne, of Denton Precinct; Emily, who is at home; Frederick, a resident of Lincoln; Herbert, William and Nellie. For several years our subject has been School Moderator, serving with much credit to himself and satisfaction to the people. The religious home of Mr. and Mrs. Giles is in the Congregational Church, of which they are earnest members. Our subject thinks strongly upon the question of temperance, and is a stout defender and supporter of prohibition.

HENRY F. MITCHELL is a well-known farmer and stock-raiser, residing on section 34 of Centerville Precinct. The result of his industry, and the general character of the man, are, perhaps, more forcibly illustrated in the view of his homestead, which will be found in this connection, than any words of which we might make use. That he has employed his time profitably there is no doubt, and he deserves credit for the example of perseverance, which is one of the prominent points of his character.

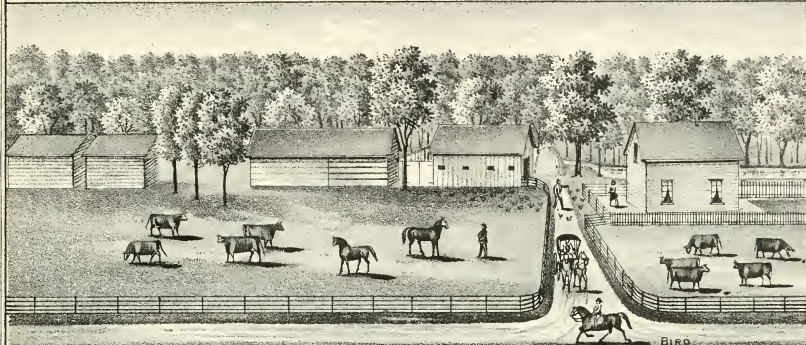
John and Maria Mitchell, the parents of our subject, reside in Licking County, Ohio, where they located during its early settlement. The father's native State is Ohio, and the mother, it is believed, is a native of Virginia. William Mitchell, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was a soldier in the War of 1812. To the parents of the gentleman in whose honor this sketch is written there was born a family of eight children, seven of whom are

living, namely: Henry F.; Newton, in Ohio; Jerome, in Lancaster County, Neb.; Isaac H., in Cheyenne County, Kan.; Ezra, in Ohio; Eber S., in Hitchcock County, Neb.; Sarah E., at home in Ohio. The deceased was a son named William.

Henry F. Mitchell, the second child of his parents, was born on the 25th of October, 1845, in Licking County, Ohio, where he resided until he reached years of manhood, and then received an academic education. On Jan. 1, 1868, he was married to Miss Alice C. Buel, a daughter of Edwin and Lavina Buel; the mother is now deceased. Mrs. Mitchell is also a native of Licking County, Ohio, and after her marriage with our subject they removed to Cherokee County, Kan., where they resided until 1873. In the fall of that year they came to this county, and in 1876 settled on their present farm. This comprises 240 acres of well-improved land, which is mostly devoted to stock-raising. Our subject has at present (1888) sixty head of Short-horn cattle, of which he makes a specialty, and a fine breed of hogs.

Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell became the parents of four children, one of whom, Sailey B., died Sept. 14, 1868; Clyde E. was born Sept. 5, 1873; Clinton J., Feb. 16, 1875. There is also an infant unnamed. Our subject is one of the number of men who have largely assisted in developing the resources of a new country, and have gained for themselves and their families a competence. Coming as he did to Nebraska without resources, except those innate qualities of manhood which are a host in themselves, he has labored diligently, and with much perseverance, so that now he can enjoy without anxiety concerning the future the conveniences and luxuries with which he is surrounded.

The academic education which Mr. Mitchell received has been of as much moment to him in his present vocation as it would have been had he chosen a profession in the heart of the city. "Knowledge is power," and if rightly used there is scarcely a limit to its achievements. Thus our subject has been eminently qualified to serve as a member of the School Board for some ten years, and to take an active part in all the leading movements of the day, whereby the future welfare of the children now growing up can be assured. He is a



RESIDENCE OF H. F. MITCHELL, SEC. 34. CENTERVILLE PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF FREDRICK LUCKE, SEC. 26. BUDA PRECINCT.

member of the Republican party, and looks forward to the continuation of the National prosperity; as a Mason he belongs to the Knights of Pythias, and has a large circle of warm friends and acquaintances. As an enterprising and honest man, he merits the highest esteem of his fellowmen, and deserves to continue for many years the gratified observer of the advancement of the precinct for which he has done so much.

FREDERICK LUCKE. It is ever a pleasure to note in history the successive steps by which some men have risen from a lowly condition to one of comfort and wealth, and perhaps there is no more excellent illustration of the achievements of industry than that afforded by a glimpse into the lives of the German residents and land-owners in this county. Many of them, either with or without their parents, took leave of their friends and relatives in the Fatherland, endured a long voyage across the water, and arrived in this country perhaps the only representatives of their respective families, with perhaps sufficient means to enable them to reach the part of this country which they had previously chosen to inhabit, but compelled sooner or later to engage in some occupation by which they might be enabled to meet the coming wants, and provide for themselves and their families a home.

Among those who are entitled to respect because of their strength of character and sterling qualities of manhood, is the gentleman who furnishes the subject of this sketch. He is a successful and enterprising farmer of Buda Precinct, residing on section 26. He was born in Prussia, in the year 1851, and is a son of Louis and Charlotte Lucke, who were also of German birth, and the former of whom is deceased. Frederick remained in his native country until he was sixteen years old, then with his parents crossed the water to America and settled with his family in Cook County, Ill., where they lived for one year; thence they moved to Benton County, Iowa, where they resided for a number of years, and in about the year 1879 they came to this county.

After spending a few years with his family in

their new home, the father of our subject was taken from them, his death occurring on the 5th of June, 1883. The mother is living, and still resides in Buda Precinct, her years numbering more than seventy. There were born to them nine children, two of whom are deceased. Those living are: August, Henry; Harmon, who is engaged in a merchant tailoring and clothing house, at Harlan, Iowa; Frederick; Charles, who is farming in Oregon; Christopher, who is farming in the Far West; and Louis. Both of the parents were members of the Lutheran Church, and exemplary Christian people. The mother is enjoying in her latter days the homage due to a life well spent.

Our subject went to Iowa with his parents, and remained there about three years. Then leaving them he started out alone to seek his fortune in another region. He came to this county in 1871 and homesteaded eighty acres of land, which he at once set about improving, and at which he has been so successful that he now has a splendid farm, with all needful buildings and machinery. He has been a careful manager, and added to his first possessions until he has now a tract consisting of 480 acres of land, the result of his own perseverance and industry.

When Mr. Lucke came to this county he was but a young man, and the world was before him. He made good use of his knowledge of farming, no doubt meeting with the hardships and discouragements incident to that time, and obliged to forego modern comforts and luxuries, and in the time that he has lived on his own land he has made here and there an improvement as he was able, and has the satisfaction of seeing it in almost as perfect a condition as the labor of man could secure. He has followed agriculture all his life, with the exception of a short time spent in carpentering.

On the 13th of March, 1873, our subject was joined in matrimony with Miss Mary Severin, a daughter of John C. and Elizabeth Severin, of whom further mention is made in another sketch. Mrs. Lucke has been a faithful helpmate to her husband, sharing his labors and encouraging him by her womanly smile and presence, and to them have been given four children, all with but one exception permitted to remain with them: Amanda, the eldest, was born Feb. 28, 1875; Clara, Dec. 23,

1877; and Emil, March 10, 1880. Richard, the little one who was taken from them, was born Nov. 29, 1876, and died December 15 of the same year.

Mr. Lucke has taken a lively interest in the affairs of his community, having served as Treasurer of the School Board for several years, and as Road Supervisor for two terms. He is an active member of the German Family Club, at Cortland, and prominent among the members of the Agricultural Society of Buda Precinct. In political matters he is Democratic in his views, although generally voting for the men whom he considers qualified to fill their respective offices without regard to the party to which they may belong. He is an esteemed member of the Lutheran Church, and honorably mentioned in society and among business men.

Probably no more correct idea can be gained of the character of Mr. Lucke than a glance at the view of his home and surroundings which is given on another page, and which indicates in a forcible manner to what good advantage he has labored. It forms a monument to his industry which his children in future years may look upon with pride and satisfaction, and a landmark to his credit in the county of his adoption.

ALPHONSUS J. COLE is one of the prominent general farmers and raisers of improved stock in West Oak Precinct, where, upon section 6, he is the owner of a fine farm of 160 acres. He is the son of Sannel C. and Maria (Hass) Cole. His father was born in Bucks County, Pa., Feb. 2, 1829; having procured from the usual institution a practical education, he was apprenticed for three years to learn the trade of carpenter and builder, after which he worked at his trade in Doylestown and Philadelphia, making his headquarters at Bucksville, continuing there until the year 1884.

Mr. Cole, Sr., was united in marriage with Miss Hass, of Philadelphia. Their family numbered six children, four boys and two girls. His wife was born on Christmas Day, 1828, upon board ship in mid-Atlantic, while en route from Germany. She is the daughter of Jacob Hass, and until her mar-

riage lived at home in Philadelphia. Her father continued to live in that city from his first entrance to the country until his death in 1860. In 1884 Mr. Cole sold his property in Bucksville and came to Lincoln, where he lived with his family for three months, when they took up residence upon their present farm, but as age began to tell upon them they left their son, our subject, in charge of the farm, and again made their home in Lincoln. Both they and their family are devout members of the Catholic Church. The political sympathies of Mr. Cole are, and always have been, with the Democratic party. The grandfather of our subject, Joseph Cole, was born in 1789, and continued to live in Pennsylvania until 1873, when he died at the age of eighty-four years.

Alphonsus J. Cole, the subject of this sketch, was born in Bucksville, Pa., April 15, 1859. He received a good common-school education, which was followed by a full course at Notre Dame, Ind. From the school he graduated to the farm, the intricacies and details of which it was his purpose to master. He continued at this occupation until the removal West in 1884, when the family came direct to this place and took the property at present occupied, and also the eighty acres situated directly across the line in Saunders County. Immediately he began to improve the property and redeem the wildness of the rolling prairie. His work began with the erection of a residence, which was made to consist of a two and a half story frame building with no pretension to architectural fashions, and yet substantial and comfortable, and presenting when finished, painted and decorated, a very pretty and pleasant home. There followed afterward the building of the barn, granaries and other out-buildings; a select and extensive orchard was set out, and numerous forest and shade trees were planted. The whole farm is surrounded by beautiful trees of this description, and every acre brought to the highest state of cultivation.

November 25, 1887, our subject and Miss Josephine Hoffman celebrated Thanksgiving Day with a new interest, and were united in the golden bands of wedlock. This lady is the daughter of John Hoffman, of Bauer, Iowa. She was born Aug. 10, 1859, at Bucksville, Pa. Her mother died when

she was small, and she made her home with Mr. Abner McCarty, of Haycock, Pa. Her father came to America and settled in Bucksville, which was his residence until 1873, when he came West to Bauersville, where he still resides. He was called upon to suffer affliction in the death of his wife in the year 1860.

Our subject and wife are both consistent members of the Catholic Church at Lincoln. Mr. Cole is at present Justice of the Peace for West Oak, and his many merits as a man and citizen, and his high sense of honor, are recognized by the community, so that for a number of years he has been Clerk of Elections. He is a friend of good order and morality, and is a warm supporter of the Democratic party.



GEORGE W. CARR. This honored pioneer of West Oak Precinct came to this part of the county during its early settlement, and is now the owner of 240 acres of fine farming land on section 28. Thomas G. Carr, the father of our subject, is a native of the Buckeye State. He was born April 22, 1823, and spent his childhood and youth after the manner of most farmers' sons, acquiring a limited education in the common school and passing the greater part of the year in the various employments of farm life. His father dying when he was but a lad, he went with his mother, later, into the western part of Ohio, and remained with her until after his marriage. He married Miss Julia Heller, and they became the parents of nine children. In 1882 he changed his residence to Kalamazoo County, Mich., where he, together with his wife, is still living, and engaged in farming.

George W. Carr, our subject, was born in Hancock County, Ohio, Sept. 19, 1844. He obtained a common-school education, and occupied himself at farm labor until a youth of eighteen years, when, the Civil War being in progress, he enlisted as a Union soldier in Company F, 21st Ohio Infantry, and participated in many of the important battles of the war. At Stone River he was wounded and captured, but held only until the end of the engagement. After the expiration of his first term

of enlistment he veteranized and marched with the troops of Gen. Sherman to the sea. He saw much of hardship and privation, and endured bravely with his comrades the vicissitudes of war, receiving at the close his honorable discharge. Returning home he employed himself at the peaceful pursuit of carpentering.

In 1868, however, our subject turned his steps toward the farther West, and in April, 1868, located in West Oak Precinct, this county. The country was thinly settled and the houses were few and far between. The principal marketing for farm produce was to emigrants passing through the country, who were glad to be able to thus replenish their stores. Mr. Carr selected his land and put up a building 12x16 feet in dimensions, which was considered a fine structure for those days, especially as, preparing it for an expected bride, he had added to it many little finishing touches, which an older man with a family would probably have omitted. His land embraced eighty acres. In the fall of the year he went back to Ohio to marry the lady of his choice, Miss Margaret E. Strickler, and they were made one on the 4th of February, 1869.

Our subject and his young wife sought their Western home early in the spring of the above year, and here for a period of ten years they lived contentedly, until the death of this most estimable lady, which occurred March 21, 1879. They had in the meantime become the parents of one child only, a son, Clyde, who is still at home with his father. Our subject in 1881 contracted a second marriage, with Miss Axie Sutton, and they are the parents of three children—Elma, Jennie and Iva. The eldest is six years of age and the youngest fifteen months.

Mr. Carr in the summer of 1877 put up a modern frame dwelling, and has from time to time added the other structures necessary for the successful prosecution of his calling. He also planted an orchard and a fine assortment of forest trees, and has a homestead that would be a credit to any county in any Eastern State. Considering the manner in which he labored and managed, it is not surprising that his fellow-citizens recognized in him an individual eminently fitted for the various local offices, which he has held with credit, particularly in his

school district. He belongs to the United Brethren Church, and uniformly votes the Republican ticket.

The wife of our subject is a sister of Mrs. V. A. Markel, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this ALBUM. She was born in Poweshiek County, Iowa, May 12, 1864, and is the daughter of Schuyler and Sarah (Warehine) Sutton, who were natives of New York and Ohio, and came to Nebraska in 1870. The father was a farmer by occupation, and departed this life at his home in West Oak Precinct, in 1882. Mr. Carr, in addition to general farming, keeps a herd usually comprising about forty head of good breeds of cattle, and also raises general purpose horses, and the swine requisite for home consumption.



JOHN F. EGGER, a farmer on section 31, Saltillo Precinct, belongs to that class of energetic young men whose business capacities have expanded and blossomed into success under the mellowing influences of life in America, while the blood of Swiss patriotism and romance courses warmly through their veins. Our subject distinguished himself as a pupil in the schools of Switzerland, and would, no doubt, have become a great scholar had his father's means permitted him to pursue his loved studies further. As it is, he is a broad and liberal-minded man, well informed on all topics of interest to intelligent and studious people, and fully appreciates the value of an education. He is a man whose personal habits are irreproachable; he is honest, upright and industrious, and is a thoroughly practical and successful man, in good circumstances, and enjoys a comfortable and happy home.

Mr. Egger is the son of John and Mollie (Gygly) Egger, natives of the Canton of Berne, Switzerland, now residing in Buda Precinct, Lancaster County, where the former is a prosperous and well-to-do farmer. The father was one of the peasant patriots of his native land during the time of the Swiss Revolution, when he served as one of the supply men. He continued to reside in the place of his birth until 1866, when he came with his family to

America, sailing from Havre, France, on board the ship "Mercury," arriving in port at New York City, Dec. 12, 1866, having been tossed about on the ocean twenty-nine days. Cholera breaking out on board the vessel, it was quarantined, and the passengers were not allowed to land for thirty-one days. Our subject and his family arrived in Pekin, Ill., their destination, about Christmas time, and were kindly received under the roof of their uncle, Albert Egger. The father at once went to farming, and managed a large farm at Pekin for some time, cutting cordwood in the winter, and prospered from the start. He remained in Illinois two years, and then, accompanied by his wife and children, started still further west, having decided to make his home in Nebraska. He came to Cass County and rented a farm, which, with the assistance of his sons, he managed for two years, making a fair thing out of it. In 1870 he went with our subject to Lincoln County, and after exploring the Platte River Valley quite extensively, he bought 160 acres of land in Buda Precinct, Lancaster County, and took a homestead claim, and moved there the following spring of 1871. Our subject rented a farm there, and, with two teams, they put in forty acres of corn, a little wheat, and oats enough to supply their own wants, besides breaking seventy acres of land. The father still resides on the old homestead with his good wife, he being now sixty-six years old, and she sixty-four. Nine children have been born to them, eight in Switzerland and one, the youngest, a daughter, in Cass County, this State.

Our subject, the eldest son and third child of these worthy people, was born Oct. 18, 1850, in the Canton of Berne, Switzerland. His educational advantages were excellent in the fine public schools of his native land. He was sixteen years old when he came with his parents to America, and he remained an inmate of the parental household until his marriage, in 1880, to Miss Matilda Grossman, when he set up a separate establishment of his own. Mrs. Egger was born in Pomerania, Germany, in 1861, to Henry and Amelia (Rickert) Grossman. When she was six years old her parents came to America and settled in Woodford County, Ill., whence they removed to Saline County, Neb., in 1876. They afterward came to Lancaster County,

where they are now living in prosperous circumstances on their fine farm in Stevens Creek Precinct, he at the age of fifty-two and she at the age of fifty-three. They are the parents of five girls and three boys, Mrs. Egger being the eldest of the family. She is the mother of four children—Frederic A., Emma, Anna and John Rudolph.

Mr. Egger bought his present farm in 1878. It comprises 160 acres of rich, remarkably productive soil, fifty acres of which, lying in Centerville Precinct, are pasture land. It is admirably adapted to raising cattle and horses, and is well stocked. It is amply supplied with running water and good wells. The buildings are first-class, comprising a commodious frame house, good horse and cattle barns, corn crib with a capacity of 3,500 bushels, granary, etc. Mr. Egger has a promising orchard of 120 choice fruit trees, and various other improvements on his farm too numerous to mention.

Mr. and Mrs. Egger are highly esteemed as neighbors and friends in this community, and no one looks to them in vain for succor and assistance in times of trouble or sorrow. They are church members, attending worship at Hickman. Mr. Egger, coming from our sister Republic across the sea, early imbibed a love and respect for Republican institutions in the free, pure air that blew from the glorious mountains of his native land, and, now a citizen of this country, is firm in his support of the Republican party, believing that its principles are the safest by which to conduct National affairs.



LEWIS GRIFFIN. The young men of the West hold the key to the future; they form the larger part of the communities, and are shaping the history of the developing countries. Among those worthy of mention in a production of this nature is Lewis Griffin, a prosperous and rising farmer of Centerville Precinct, whose farm includes eighty acres of excellent agricultural land, and is situated upon section 16.

The subject of this sketch is a native of Delaware County, Iowa, and was born at or near Colesburg, Dec. 29, 1855. He is the son of Edward and Harriet Griffin, who were natives of New York and

Vermont. His father was born about the year 1828, and was a farmer by occupation. The maiden name of his wife, the mother of our subject, was Harriet Lewis, and after her marriage she experienced the happiness of the wedded state for a period of eight years, and departed this life about 1857, leaving a memory of affection, faithfulness and true womanhood seldom, if ever, surpassed.

In the year 1865 our subject's parents removed to Nodaway County, Mo., he of course accompanying them. In that county our subject received his education, began to work at the calling he had chosen, and was subsequently married. This important and happy event took place in Worth County, Mo., upon the 30th of January, 1876. The maiden of his choice was Laura E. Crenshaw, a daughter of W. T. and Sarah E. Crenshaw, who were natives of Ohio and Tennessee. Their daughter was born at Terre Haute, Ill., Jan. 8, 1861. They are the happy parents of four children, whose names are recorded as follows: Cora B., who was born on the 6th of January, 1877; William T., May 6, 1878; Samuel F., Jan. 4, 1880; and Laura A., July 7, 1884.

In the spring of 1884 Mr. Griffin, with his family, removed to this county, and after prospecting, purchased the farm upon which he now resides, which was at the time of purchase in its original untamed condition, at the same time possessed of all the rich, undeveloped wealth of fertility and productiveness, only waiting for the same to be turned into proper channels, under direction of that mysterious unseen and indefinable principle, power or element, that is the difference between the living and the dead, which we call the soul, or mind, of man. When this intelligence was brought to bear in its clear, forceful power, supplemented by well-directed effort, then the earth yielded of her increase in rich harvests.

Our subject is a man who enjoys the confidence and respect of his neighbors, friends, and the community at large. He has the heartiest regard for the elevation of society, and the predominating influence of higher morals, and is public-spirited enough to heartily join in any enterprise which promises to aid in effecting this much desired end, or the improvement of the natural surroundings

in the county. He is one of whom it may be truly said, that his word is of equal value with his bond, and he is proportionately held in regard in the community, and this respect is shared in by his family.



HENRY STEIN. In the district of Cassel, part of the Western Province of Hesse-Nassau, one of the incorporated Provinces of the German Empire, was born Nov. 12, 1840, the subject of this sketch. His father owned a farm in this land-gravitate, which is one of the most fertile and richly productive of the German Provinces, a very garden, watered by the Wesser and Rhine, a richly agricultural and wine district. The town of Cassel is noted chiefly as being the center of manufacturing and commercial interests, and possessing a polytechnic or military school of National renown.

Mr. Stein, whose farm is situated on section 5, of Oak Precinct, and includes 160 acres of elegant farming land, is most favorably known, and highly respected by his friends and neighbors as a farmer and raiser of select stock. His father was Conrad Stein, who was born near Cassel, in 1811, and afterward owned the property upon which he first opened his eyes. The farm was one of the best and most fertile of the district, and our subject also received his earlier lessons in husbandry upon the same broad acres. Mr. Stein, Sr., became the husband of Elizabeth Seiber, and their union was fruitful in a family which included ten children. Five of these are in America, and two in the Fatherland; the remainder of the family are deceased: Nicholas is a resident of Peoria County, Ill.; Frank, in Champaign County, of the same State; Richard is a resident near his brother Nicholas; Sophia, now Mrs. Nabor, is a resident of Fillmore County, Neb.

As noted above, our subject is a native of Germany, and received his education in the private schools of Cassel, and from the time of completing his studies he worked with his father for a period of four years, after which he came to America. His first home was in the beautiful town of Hamilton, situated in that most charming section of Southern Ohio, the Miami Valley, and in Butler County.

After a period of about four years he removed to Illinois, making his home in Peoria County for sixteen years, during which time he had been growing prosperous. His next removal was in the year 1880, to his present property, which he had purchased two years previously. At the time of settlement the farm was only in the mind of the owner, and upon the map of the land agent. It was for our subject to mark out its boundaries, and redeem from the wild, virgin prairie the acres he had purchased, and create the farm. A never-failing stream of water meanders through the farm. This work he immediately set about and speedily accomplished. The house which was put up is the same now occupied, and was by far the finest in the district at the time of its erection, and is still for all practical purposes most comfortable, convenient and pleasant. The other out-buildings were added in time, and the work of breaking and harrowing, sowing and cultivating, was proceeded with until the whole was brought to a high standing of efficiency for agricultural purposes. He has one of the finest bars in the precinct. Though four and a half miles from Lincoln, the city is in plain view. We may not dismiss this section of our sketch without mention of the tree culture upon the farm, but especially in the vicinity of the house, where during the hot season the most delicious, cooling shade is provided by the tall forest and shade trees planted in the earlier days of settlement. An equal pleasure awaits us if we proceed to the orchard, where over 160 apple trees of the choicest varieties extend invitations innumerable to a more intimate acquaintance, besides plum and other trees, and a bewildering array of small fruits. In the stock department our subject is the possessor of a large herd of Short-horns, besides also a number of most excellent horses, which he keeps for breeding purposes.

Upon the 2d of March, 1870, while a resident of Illinois, perhaps the most important step in the life of Mr. Stein was taken, when he became the husband of Catherine Kuefner, who is the daughter of George A. Kuefner. If, as some malcontents would have us believe, "marriage is a lottery," then the fickle goddess Fortune, usually worshipped under the sign of the horseshoe, was most propitious. The felicity of this union has been augmented

by the birth of three sons and three daughters, whose names are here appended: William H., George C., Tillie, Emma Elizabeth, Carrie Sophia and Henry Elmer, all of whom are still living. The wife of our subject, who has proved to him a true help-mate, was born in Butler County, Ohio, Jan. 5, 1849, was educated in the public schools, and continued to live with her parents until her marriage. Her father is a native of Germany, who emigrated to this country, and is now working his farm in Peoria County, Ill., and is in the enjoyment of excellent health, considering his advanced age.

Mr. Stein has not put himself forward as an office-seeker, but has rather refrained himself and restrained his friends in that particular. He has, however, been School Director for a period of six years, and Supervisor for two. Among his fellow-citizens he holds a place of highest appreciation and respect on account of his social position and high moral character, also by reason of his well-known efforts for the advancement of the community and the county. In political affairs he is prominent in Democratic circles, and is quite a loyal student of the questions which are before the country, and ready, not only to give a reason for his position, but stands firmly in defense of the principles of his party.



ANDREW SIPP. Baden-Baden is by far the most beautiful of German watering-places, and is situated in the surpassingly grand and romantic valley of Schwarzwald, about six miles from the Rhine. During the months of July and August, which constitute the season, it is at its best. Besides possessing the medicinal waters so far famed, there are to be seen the ruins of its ancient castle dating from the tenth century, which are most magnificent and vast, the extensive tombs of its margraves, and the modern library and art gallery, to say nothing of its beautiful groves and gardens, and the bewitching music which entrancingly captivates every lover of harmony.

The subject of this writing, who is one of the old and most respected of the residents of Oak Precinct, and is the owner of a farm and residence on sections 5 and 6, is a native of Germany and was born in

the above town, as was also his father before him. His paternal parent was born the latter part of the last century, and resided in Baden-Baden until 1846. He was by trade a weaver, by which he supported his family, which besides his wife included ten children, of whom seven are living. In the year 1846, accompanied by his seven children, William Henry Sipp left the Fatherland and came to this country, settling in Butler County, Ohio, where, with his sons, he farmed until his death, in 1860, at the age of seventy-six years. Our subject, Andrew, was born on the 2d of October, 1834, and was twelve years of age, therefore, when the family removed to Ohio. There he finished his education in the common school and afterward did his full share of the farm work. When about eighteen years of age he went to Marshall County, Ill., and still continued farming until the year 1879, when he sold his property and removed to Lancaster County, and after prospecting for some time purchased his present exceptionally fine property, which, however, at that time was in all the glory of the untamed wildness of its virgin state. All the improvements to be seen are due to him.

In a new country-as this then was, a good, commodious and convenient house was a first essential. This, therefore, he proceeded to construct, which was followed soon by barn and stables, granary and corn crib, and such buildings. The next thing was the ground, and he set to work with a right hearty good will and with the smile of hope bright upon him, so that the work undertaken was speedily and well performed, and it is difficult to find a better farm today than his.

The marriage of our subject occurred in the city of Peoria, in May, 1860, the lady of his choice being Miss Nancy Essex, of Peoria County, Ill., who is the daughter of Thomas and Ellen Essex, born in the year 1830, in Virginia, and continued to make her home with her parents until her marriage. Her father was by occupation a farmer, and removed from Virginia to Illinois, and five years ago went to Kansas, and took up a farm, upon which he lived until his death, which occurred March 20, 1887.

Our subject has been privileged in being able to give his children, of whom there are six, a good education. William, the eldest son, is a resident of

Seward County, Neb.; the daughter, Nancy Jane, has become the wife of Herman Switzer, and lives upon a farm in the northern part of the county in West Oak Precinct; the remaining children, George, Charles, John and Norman, are still at home.

The high character which our subject has always sustained, coupled with his excellent qualities as a citizen, patriot, business man, husband and father—have caused him to receive the high appreciation and regard of his fellows, and they have expressed the same by electing Mr. Sipp to, and retaining him in the office of Supervisor, now serving his fifth term. He has also been for several terms School Director of his district. Socially, he is a member in good standing of the local lodge of the A. F. & A. M. Just how far the trinity of illumination has affected his life it is impossible to say, but the results are sufficiently plain to lead us to believe that the precepts of the one and the circumscribing of another, have shaped and molded his life to its present approximation to that of the Grand Master. He has evidently learned to use his working tools with the hand of a master workman. In politics he is a Democrat.



SILAS W. TILMAN. It is our pleasure to present in this sketch some of the more salient features in the life of one of the prominent farmers of West Oak Precinct, and the owner of about 200 acres of exceptionally fine first-bottom farming land—Silas W. Tilman, who was born Feb. 22, 1839, in Orange County, Ind. In due time he took his place in the institution which is one of the great blessings provided for the youth of our beloved country, one which marks her as most wise and careful of her best interests, viz: the common school. When our subject left his studies he was in some measure prepared by them for the business of life.

The parents of our subject were Kentuckians. His father, Silas Tilman, was born in the year 1828, and when he was quite young his parents removed to Indiana, where he was reared and educated. By his father he was then taught farm work, and continued at the same until he came of age, when he

learned the trade of blacksmith, which became his chosen occupation for the remainder of life. Having mastered his calling he started in business for himself in Crawford County, Ind. His wife was Priscilla Redden, a lady beloved by husband, family and friends, because of the many virtues and excellencies which constituted her life and character. To this family there came three children, who lived to mature years. Mr. Tilman died in 1854, having survived his wife about five years.

Our subject was fortunate in becoming acquainted with Miss Susan Barnett, one who could bring into his life that zest, and place before him that healthful stimulus, which come from the affectionate unselfishness of bringing brightness into the lives of those who are bound to us by the tender ties of affection. This union was celebrated on the 11th of August, 1859, and has been still further cemented, and its joys augmented, by the birth of three children—Laura E., Joel W. and Oscar W., all of whom are living. The daughter has become the wife of William Martin, and resides on section 9 of this precinct, where they own a farm, and our subject rejoices in the visits of five grandchildren; Joel is on his farm, which is situated on section 6, and Oscar continues at home with his father.

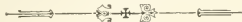
The removal to Lincoln by our subject was made in 1874. He purchased forty acres of land, which he worked successfully for seven years. This he did that his children might have the advantage of a more complete education there to be obtained. In the year 1881 that farm was sold, and by this transaction our subject realized a handsome profit for his labor. He then purchased his present farm, which was partially improved. All the farm buildings, however, have been erected by our subject, and also his handsome residence, while the ground itself has been brought to a highly improved condition. Over 100 acres are planted in corn, and considerable ground is devoted to the production of small fruits. Our subject is at present devoting much time and care to the setting out of an orchard comprised of specially selected fruit trees.

The wife of Mr. Tilman was born in Marion County, Ind., in the year 1841, and made her home with her parents until her marriage. Her father was James V. Barnett, a prosperous farmer of that



Edmund Barnes

county. He was called to join the silent majority in about 1865, having lived a little over sixty-two years. Mr. and Mrs. Tilman find in the communion of the Baptist Church, of which they are members, that which is in accord with their religious sentiments, and endeavor to make their lives eloquent with their consistent devotion. This fact, coupled with that of their deep interest in the affairs of their neighborhood and county, and their readiness at all times to sustain any well-directed effort for the well-being of the community, has given them a warm place in the hearts of the community at large, by which they are most highly esteemed.



EDWARD WARNES. The county of Norfolk, England, was the birthplace of the subject of this sketch, who has the distinguished honor of being the first settler of Lincoln. He located, in the latter part of March, 1862, on the present site of the city, and has continued his residence within its limits since that time. A Mr. Leveuder and Jacob Dawson had previously selected land in that vicinity, but did not settle upon it until the following year, residing in the meantime in Nebraska City. Each was assisted by Mr. Warnes in the building of his house.

Our subject began life April 20, 1822, and is the son of William and Mary (Dawlman) Warnes, being the third of their nine children and the only one emigrating to the United States. Of this comparatively large family there are only three living; A brother, John, resides in London, and the sister, Miss Mary Ann Warnes, at Kings Lynn, Norfolk County.

Mr. Warnes was reared and educated in his native county, and afterward was employed in teaming there. Not infrequently while thus engaged he drove four, six, eight, ten, and sometimes even thirty-six horses, as his load demanded, frequently transporting railway engines from one point to another. These journeyings often encompassed long distances, the trips frequently involving several days and nights upon the road. The largest number of horses driven by Mr. Warnes at one time was probably when he assisted in the transportation of

the first locomotive which ran from the city of Lynn to London at the head of a construction train. This was conveyed from Peterboro to Downham, a distance of fifty miles, with thirty-six horses, and the engine placed upon the track; the tender was drawn by eight horses.

Always wide-awake and ambitious, young Warnes at an early stage in his life had set his mark high, but it was not until he was a man of forty-four years that it appeared desirable for him to change his residence from the Eastern to the Western Hemisphere. In the spring of 1866 he set sail from Liverpool, and after a voyage of six weeks' duration landed at Castle Garden. Thence he made his way to Chicago by way of the lakes, there expecting to meet an old friend. Failing, however, to find him, he proceeded to Peoria, and there worked in a brick yard for a Mr. Peacock. Later, crossing the Mississippi, he spent two years in Wyoming, Neb., employed as a farm laborer, and upon his next change of residence located in Nebraska City. From there he came to the present site of Lincoln and homesteaded 160 acres of land on section 35, all of which now lies within the city limits.

Our sturdy pioneer immediately erected a log cabin upon his new property and otherwise set himself to work to open up a farm. Not being the possessor of a horse or plow, he spaded up one acre for a garden and truck patch, and at the end of that summer rejoiced in the products of a good garden, from which he sold, among other things, \$70 worth of onions, destined for Ft. Kearney. When the capital was located at Lincoln, Mr. Dawson, referred to above, gave a tract of land to the city, and Mr. Warnes replaced this by giving eighty acres of his land to Mr. Dawson, thus giving, though indirectly, that amount to the State. Our subject had followed agricultural pursuits until the capital was located; then he platted nearly all his land and sold the same for town lots, reserving for his own use one of those most pleasantly situated. Upon this he erected a very handsome dwelling, commanding an excellent view of a large portion of the city and surroundings.

The matrimonial experiences of Mr. Warnes are necessarily a recital in three chapters, for he has had the sorrowful trial of bereavement twice repeated in his history. He was first married to Miss Anna

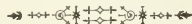
Crockett, who died before he left his native England. Subsequently he became the husband of Charlotte Jeckell, of Norfolk, and after a happy union of twenty-five years she too was removed by death at her home in Lincoln, in 1876. The year following Mr. Warnes led to the altar Miss Hannah Hubbard, a native of England, and the daughter of James and Lydia Hubbard.

Mrs. Hannah Warnes came to the United States in May, 1876, and resided with her brother, John Hubbard, at his farm, just south of the city limits of Lincoln. Mr. Hubbard is now a resident of Germantown. Mr. and Mrs. Warnes are the parents of one beautiful daughter, who bears the name of Mary Ann, and was born Aug. 16, 1880. She is the light of the household in one of the most beautiful homes of the city, whose hospitable doors open for the entertainment of hosts of friends whom our subject and his excellent wife have gathered around them.

The Christian religion found in Lincoln's first settler one of its bravest defenders. The first prayer meeting, the first regular service and the first Sunday-school which marked an epoch in its career, was at the instance of and in the house of Mr. Warnes. He was never more pleased than when opportunity offered to serve the cause which lay very near his heart. He has for many years been a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, contributing freely of his time, means and influence for its advancement in the hearts of the people. At an early period he set aside one of his lots for church purposes, and erected at his own expense, about seventeen years ago, a neat frame edifice, in which services are now held by the Episcopalians. He has perhaps derived more genuine comfort from his benefactions to religious and educational institutions than all his efforts in other directions. Considering his whole career, it is hardly necessary to say that he is respected alike by young and old, by rich and poor. He has filled many positions of trust and responsibility and those where great principles were at stake. He has never swerved from what he believed to be right, and has been brave in the expression of his opinions, while careful of giving offense.

The ALBUM of Lancaster County would by no means be esteemed complete were the pictured feat-

ures of this pioneer settler, and now venerated citizen, excluded from its pages; we therefore take pleasure in giving his portrait, which will be looked upon with unfeigned interest by those who have been in any way identified with the early history of Lancaster County.



HERMAN MAY. The subject of this writing is a native of the Fatherland, where he was born May 27, 1830. He continued to do battle most manfully in his native country, but the conditions were such that while his heart remained closely knit to the old associations, he finally determined to launch out to where the possibilities of success to well-directed energies were greater than they could ever be in his native land. Hence, in the year 1870 he came to America, landing in New York, and went at once to Minonk, Woodford Co., Ill., engaging at different times in various occupations for some five years in the endeavor to make a start. At this time he was enabled to rent a farm in Woodford County, and so continued for four years. In January, 1879, he gave up his farm and went west to Lancaster County, Neb., where he rented a farm in Nemaha Precinct, and continued to reside there until the year 1885.

Our subject now began to realize that "nothing succeeds like success." He had purchased some four years previous 160 acres in the neighborhood, but now he was enabled to cease renting and purchase the same farm he had been working under rental, and has since continued to make it his home. He to-day owns over 880 acres of good land, and is engaged in stock-raising. In this he is very successful and takes great pride. He seldom has less than 100 head of cattle, besides teams and from 200 to 300 hogs.

Mr. May was married while in Germany to Minnie Ricketts, who was born Oct. 20, 1834. Their family comprises six children, living: Frank, Henry, Gustave, Lena, Otto and Emma. They have buried in all five children, three boys and two girls. Both Mr. and Mrs. May are members of the Presbyterian Church. In politics our subject affiliates with the Republican party. Although not prominently be-

fore the public in this connection, or an officeholder, he is staunchly adherent to the principles of and votes the Republican ticket.

Our subject has found that the struggles of the first thirty-five or forty years of life were not without their use in giving him the ambition and the experience for the advancement which has been his under the new condition of things. Until his emigration he was not his own master, and probably never could have been. To-day, as he looks over his broad acres, fine stock, home and farm buildings, he may be justly proud of his efforts and work, as he is eminently grateful to the country and the institutions which made it possible for him to attain them.



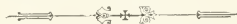
JOHAN H. BIERSTEDT. Perhaps a greater amount of happiness is obtained from the pursuit of success than from any other object, but there must be a goal in view, a summit toward which to rise, or labor is unfruitful. It is necessary in order to insure success to concentrate every purpose and effort in a single direction, toward one end to be accomplished, or else the forces being scattered will fly hither and yon and fail to hit any mark. It is evident that the residents of countries aside from our own have some settled purpose, some well-defined course of action which they mean to follow, or they would not be persuaded to leave the homes of their birth and embark in the fortunes of this country. That there are inducements offered for their coming, and that they are aware of no hindrance (except such as may arise from their own inability) to prevent them from accepting the offers of a generous Government, may in part account for the uniform success of those who have emigrated to these United States.

Our subject is one of those self-reliant, intelligent men who has given ample illustration of what may be accomplished by having a settled purpose in life, and makes all his efforts tend to that one purpose. He is a farmer of Buda Precinct, in which he was one of the early settlers, and is the owner of 160 acres of good land on section 12. He was born on the 1st of May, 1838, in Germany, and is a son of

John H. and Anna Bierstedt, who are residents of the country in which he was born. He remained with his parents until he reached an age when he felt that he must assume greater responsibilities than he had ever before done, and take into his own hands the shaping of his future course through life.

While in his native country our subject received a good education as a necessary foundation for success, and then decided to come to America, for which purpose he embarked on a steamer at Hamburg, and was brought safely to his destination in the harbor of New York after ten days. He at once came to Nebraska, and located a homestead consisting of eighty acres of land in Lancaster County, having to begin working on prairie land on which there had not been a single furrow turned. With the determined purpose of making a valuable farm of what appeared somewhat uninviting, he labored with much perseverance and patience, and he has not only brought that piece of land to a good state of cultivation but has been enabled to purchase another tract of eighty acres, which he devotes to the uses of general farm produce, and it is with pleasure that we call attention to the view of this valuable and fertile property which will be found upon another page.

Mr. Bierstedt is well known in his community, and is now serving as School Treasurer of District No. 36, having been connected with the School Board for a number of years. He is a member of the Lutheran Church, and fully merits the esteem accorded to him, having done much to aid in the building up of his precinct.



GENIO MADISON LAMBERTSON, a prominent attorney of Lincoln, is one of the most able and brilliant members of the legal profession in Nebraska. He is a son of Samuel and Elizabeth Jane (Morgan) Lambertson. His father was born in the year 1815, in the State of Pennsylvania, where his early years were passed. He now resides at Southport, Ind. He received but little schooling, but being naturally very bright and intelligent he gained from observation and careful reading, as he grew older, much valua-

ble information, such as many a more learned man has acquired only after years of hard and patient study. He was early apprenticed to a merchant tailor and served several years, and subsequently established himself in Franklin, Ind., as a merchant tailor, which has been his principal business for fifty years, and by his industry and wise management he has secured a comfortable fortune, so that now, when the shadows of life are darkening around him, he can spend his remaining years in the well-deserved enjoyment of every comfort and luxury that his heart can desire. Mr. Lambertson has never held any public office, and has had no connection with any organization except the Masonic fraternity, of which he was at one time Knight Templar. He was also a member and a Deacon of the First Baptist Church for thirty years. He will, however, be best remembered by his fellow-citizens for his noble and patriotic course during the late Civil War, when he was among the most active in raising and equipping troops for service, and laying aside all considerations of the demands of his business and other personal claims, went forth himself to fight his country's battles. At the commencement of the war he raised a company known as Company F. of the 7th Indiana Infantry, of which he was appointed Captain. He took part in some eighteen important battles, including the battles of Antietam and second Bull Run. At the expiration of two years he resigned his commission in order to return home and drum up more recruits. He organized a regiment of thirteen companies, known as the "Home Guards," which he uniformed and armed, and of which he was elected Colonel. His regiment was immediately dispatched by Gov. Morton in pursuit of the guerrilla John Morgan, when he made his famous raid through Indiana. The brief limits of this sketch forbid us to make further mention of his fine war record.

Samuel Lambertson was first a Whig, then an Abolitionist, and finally joined the ranks of the grand old Republican party, of which he is to this day an ardent member. He is now a beloved inmate of the pleasant household of his daughter, Mrs. G. H. Elgin, at Southport, Ind., and is calmly awaiting life's great end, strengthened and upheld by his strong religious faith. His wife died in 1877, in the

sixtieth year of her age. She was born in the State of Kentucky, in the year 1818, and was a daughter of Lewis Morgan, a noted Baptist preacher in the early days of Kentucky and Indiana. Mrs. Lambertson was a woman of strong character, who exercised a marked influence on those around her, and her public work in the church and in all charitable enterprises was potent and lasting. The following is a record of the five children born to her and her husband: The eldest is the subject of this sketch; Mrs. G. H. Elgin, aged thirty-six, lives in Southport, Ind.; Mrs. U. M. Chaille, aged thirty-four, lives in Indianapolis, Ind.; Mrs. I. B. Lavielle, aged thirty-two, lives in Louisville, Ky.; Dr. O. F. Lambertson, aged thirty, is a dentist in Lincoln, Neb.

Genio Madison Lambertson was born at Franklin, Ind., May 19, 1850. His father, being in good circumstances, was enabled to give him a substantial collegiate education, the preliminaries of which were obtained in the common schools of his native town. He then attended the Baptist College, located at Franklin, Ind., and then for six months he was a student of Wabash University, located at Crawfordsville, Ind., and thus well prepared he entered the Chicago University, whence he was graduated with honors in 1872. After leaving college he became a law student in the office of Messrs Overstreet & Hunter, the leading attorneys in his native town, and under their instruction pursued a thorough course of reading in Blackstone and other learned commentators of the law, and being thus well grounded in legal lore he went forth to make his own way in the professional world with promises of a brilliant future that have been more than realized. He selected the young and growing city of Lincoln, Neb., as a most desirable place wherein to commence the practice of his profession, and since the 1st of June, 1874, he has been identified with its interests. The first six months of his residence here he was a clerk in the law firm of Lamb & Billingsley, and Mr. Lambertson subsequently became a member of the same firm.

In December, 1878, Mr. Lambertson was appointed by President Hayes United States District Attorney for the State of Nebraska, which position he held with distinguished ability for eight years

and two months, having been re-appointed by President Arthur. At the expiration of his second term of office, in February, 1887, President Cleveland tendered him a temporary re-appointment, which was declined. Since that date he has been engaged in the practice of law, and has a large and lucrative business. He gained deserved prominence within the last year by his success in procuring the release of the Mayor and eleven Councilmen of the city of Lincoln, who were imprisoned in the jail at Omaha, by Judge Brewer, of the United States Circuit Court, for contempt of court, by a writ of habeas corpus issued out of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Mr. Lambertson was married, June 10, 1880, to Jane Gundry, daughter of Joseph Gundry, a prominent capitalist of Mineral Point, Wis. Jane Gundry was born at Mineral Point, Aug. 29, 1855, and received her education at "Kemper Hall," Kenosha, Wis. She is a lady of superior refinement, and graciously presides over their attractive home, which is the center of true culture. Mr. and Mrs. Lambertson have two children, namely: Margery Elizabeth, born Aug. 23, 1881, and Nancy Perry, Aug. 26, 1883.

Mr. Lambertson is a prominent member of the Baptist Church, of Lincoln, and contributes liberally to its support. In politics he is an enthusiastic Republican, is one of the leaders of the party in this State, and his eloquent voice is heard very effectively on the stump in every campaign. He is a man of rare energy of character, of large heart and large mind, and is using his influence to promote the best interests of this community, of which he has so long been an honored member.

They are people held in the highest respect in their community, having lived in that manner which, without making any very great ado in the world, has yet secured for them the esteem and confidence of all around them.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith came to this section of country when much of the land around them was untilled, and besides the carrying on of agriculture Mr. Smith became prominent in public affairs, and always gave his encouragement to those enterprises calculated to advance the interests of the people. He served as School Director and Road Overseer, and was prominent in the establishment of the Dunkard Church, of which he is Deacon and one of its most active members. He has been an extensive Bible reader, and in the fall of 1884 was elected by his church as a minister, and officiates in the pulpit whenever occasion demands. He is thoroughly in harmony with religious work, and of late years especially has given much of his time to the building up of the Master's cause in this section.

The branch of the Smith family of which our subject is a member, settled in Blair County, Pa., a little south of the central portion of the Keystone State, where our subject was born, Dec. 27, 1833. His parents, Eli and Eve Smith, were also natives of that section of country, and traced their respective ancestry back to England and Germany. John Smith, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was born in Lancashire, England, and crossed the Atlantic prior to the War of 1812, settling and spending his last days in Pennsylvania. There also Eli Smith carried on agriculture and remained during his life. He passed away in 1887, and the mother about 1878.

Adam R. Smith, our subject, commenced working in a woolen-mill at an early age, and was thus employed until reaching his majority. He can with proper tools and machinery take the wool from a sheep's back and manipulate it through all the processes into material ready for the tailor's shears. He became an expert workman and commanded the best wages those days afforded. His education, somewhat limited, was acquired in the common school, but he has all his life been a close reader, and in this manner amply fitted himself for general

ADAM R. SMITH. This worthy and intelligent citizen of Yankee Hill Precinct, is, with his amiable and excellent partner, comfortably located at a good home on section 26, they having around them the conveniences of modern rural life, and calling as their own 100 acres of prime land, which they accumulated by their united efforts, begun eleven years ago.

business, while at the same time he became familiar with subjects of common interest to intelligent men.

The mother of our subject was three times married, and out of a large family of children eight survive. Martha, the eldest daughter living, is the wife of Levi Dell, of Chicago, Ill.; Adam R., our subject, is the next eldest; John is a resident of Pennsylvania; Benjamin F. is carrying on farming in Yankee Hill Precinct, this county; Catherine is the wife of David Ditch, of Stark County, Ohio; Elizabeth, Mrs. James States, continues a resident of Blair County, Pa., where also reside Zachariah T. and Wesley, the two younger sons.

Our subject before reaching his majority was married, Oct. 25, 1854, in his native county, to Miss Mary A. Shinefelt, and they are now the parents of four children: Jacob E., their eldest son, is carrying on farming in Colorado; Catherine is the wife of W. H. Craig, of Kearney County, this State; Flora C., Mrs. John Shaner, is a resident of Lincoln; Bertha M. died when about three months old. The mother passed away at her home in Pennsylvania in 1876.

Mr. Smith, on the 4th of January, 1877, contracted a second marriage, with Miss Sarah Bateman, who was born in York County, Pa., and is the daughter of John and Christina (Hollar) Bateman, also natives of the Keystone State. Her paternal grandfather was of English birth and parentage, and on her mother's side her ancestors were from Germany. Her maternal grandfather was Phillip Hollar, and spent his last years in Pennsylvania. The mother, Mrs. Bateman, was twice married, and her family included eight children, namely: Samuel, deceased; John, a resident of York County, Pa.; Sarah and George, deceased; William, living in Blair County, Pa.; Daniel, who yielded up his life as a Union soldier in Libby Prison during the Civil War; Susan, Mrs. Henry Miller, of York County, Pa., and Eliza, the wife of Alexander McGalligher, of that State.

Mr. Adam Smith in 1879 crossed the Mississippi River and purchased 100 acres of land in Yankee Hill Precinct, this county. Then returning to Pennsylvania he spent the winter there, and in February, 1880, prepared to locate in his new home,

coming hither by himself, his wife following about two months later. The land which he had secured was practically in its primitive condition, and on it there were some small buildings. Mr. and Mrs. Smith for a number of years labored industriously and lived economically until they began to realize a solid foothold. They gradually gathered around them those comforts and conveniences which are the pleasing features of their home, and where are made welcome both friend and stranger, after the old-time Pennsylvania hospitality.



JOHN H. SEVERIN, whose farm is situated upon section 26, Buda Precinct, is a native of Prussia. He was born Dec. 22, 1844, to John C. and Elizabeth Severin. While he was still but a boy, his parents determined to emigrate to this country, and when they did so he of course accompanied them. They settled in Clayton County, Iowa, where he was brought up, and made his home until he was twenty years of age, when he went to Colorado, and followed teaming and mining for a time; while thus engaged he drove across the plains from Council Bluffs with four yoke of oxen, taking a load of machinery for the use of the people in Colorado.

After leaving the above employment our subject resided for some time in Council Bluffs, following various occupations, and in the spring of 1867 went to work on the Union Pacific Railroad in Wyoming, where he was engaged for about six months, grading for that company. Then he went to Black Hawk, Col., where he engaged in teaming; thence he came to Lancaster County in the summer of 1869, and took up eighty acres of land under the Homestead Law, and subsequently a similar tract under the Pre-emption Act; this he has brought to a high state of cultivation.

The maiden name of the wife of our subject was Margaret Clasen, a lady of German parentage, by whom he has become the parent of ten children, seven of whom survive; these are: Lora, Rosa, Henry, Emile, Alfreda, Lydia and Pauline. Mr. Severin enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens, and has several times been called

upon to fill different offices, some of which he has accepted, among them that of School Moderator, Justice of the Peace, and School Treasurer, which latter he still holds. He is also Treasurer of the Olive Branch Aid Society; he is a prominent member of the Buda Agricultural Society. In politics he is independent.



CALVIN STERNS, prominent among the general farmers and stock-raisers of West Oak Precinct, is successfully operating 160 acres of highly productive land on section 32. He is also owner of a half-section near Stratton, in Dundee County, and is thus a man in good circumstances, enjoying with his family all the comforts of life. As a citizen, he is held in due respect by his community, of whose agricultural interests he is a thrifty representative, holding his own among its intelligent men.

The father of our subject, John Sterns by name, was born in the Dominion of Canada, in 1803, and died well advanced in years, although retaining the vigor and activity of many a younger man. He carved his way to a good position by his own efforts, having no one to depend upon but himself when starting in life, and thus there were developed in his character the best principles of manhood. He acquired simply a common-school education, and became familiar with agricultural pursuits in his boyhood.

John Sterns was married in his native Province, in 1835, to Miss Lucinda Banning, and their union was blessed by the birth of eleven children, ten of whom lived to mature years. In 1843 Mr. Sterns disposed of his property interests in the Dominion, and making his way to Ogle County, Ill., invested a part of his capital in land in Monroe Township, of which he remained a resident for a period of eight years. His next removal was across the Mississippi into Black Hawk County, Iowa, but two or three years later he moved into Butler County, this State, where he carried on agriculture until his death, which took place on the 18th of January, 1886. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which he united at an early day.

The mother is still living, making her home with her son Clark, in Butler County. She was born in Canada, in 1806, and is the daughter of Benjamin Banning, also a native of the Green Mountain State, but who removed to Canada before his daughter Lucinda was born. There he spent his last days, passing away many years ago.

The subject of this sketch was born in the Dominion of Canada, Jan. 18, 1848, and was a lad eight years of age when his parents came to the States, and settled in Illinois. He remained a member of the parental household until twenty years of age, then started out for himself. In the fall of 1868 we find him in Black Hawk County, Iowa, and in that year he met his fate in the person of Miss Frances Harner, to whom he was married on the 26th of January, 1869. Of this union there have been born eight children, five of whom are living, namely: Eva, Albert, Winnie, Pearl and Earl.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Sterns settled on a farm, of which they remained residents a period of six years. Our subject then believing that he could do better upon the soil of Nebraska, came to this county, arriving in West Oak Precinct on the 10th of November, 1875. For five years thereafter he occupied himself at farming, and in 1880 purchased the farm upon which he has since lived, and where he has made all the improvements which now attract the admiring gaze of the passing traveler. He has a neat and substantial dwelling, a good barn, with fences and out-buildings in perfect order, the machinery of improved pattern, and excellent grades of live stock.

Our subject, in common with the intelligent men about him, has made a specialty of tree-planting, having put out in addition to a good orchard and the various smaller fruits, a fine lot of forest trees, which add not only to the comfort of his animals, but to the value and beauty of his property. Not only has he improved his own farm, but he has brought to a good state of cultivation acre upon acre of other land before becoming the owner of real estate here himself. He makes a specialty of Short-horn cattle, and takes pride in his fine horses.

The wife of our subject was born in Fond du Lac County, Wis., Oct. 23, 1852, where she acquired her education, and was reared to woman-

hood. Her parents, Joseph and Harriet (Stickney) Harmer, were natives respectively of England and New York. The father was born Feb. 26, 1825, and came to America when a youth of eighteen years, locating in Ogle County, Ill., where he became acquainted with and married his wife. Their family originally included nine children, five of whom are living, and residents mostly of Wisconsin. In 1845 they removed from Illinois to Wisconsin, where the father lived and labored until the last illness, which resulted in his death Oct. 31, 1865. Mrs. Harmer was subsequently married to Mr. Grady, reference to whom is made in the sketch of B. Grady in another part of this work. They are now residents of Raymond, this county.

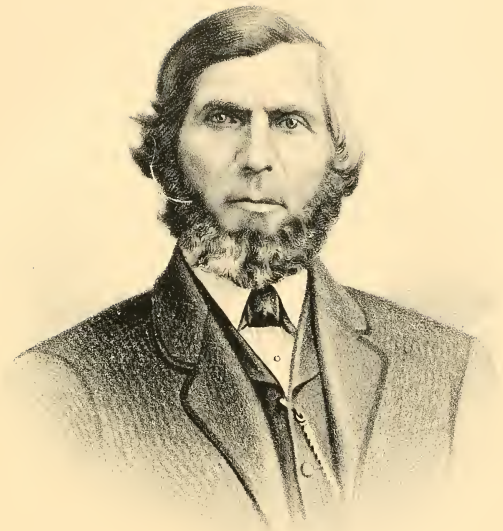


RICHARD WALLINGFORD, a resident of Lincoln, is distinguished as one of the original settlers of Lancaster County, and it has been his privilege to watch its growth from the very earliest days of its settlement, and to aid in its development from a wild condition to one populous and wealthy. When he arrived here, which was on the 29th of May, 1859, the wide-rolling prairie lay before him with scarce a sod turned, fresh as from the hands of nature in ages gone. There were but few families throughout the length and breadth of the county, and the land now occupied by the city of Lincoln was then owned by the Government, and for sale at \$1.25 an acre, the nearest settlement at the time being two miles from the capital, and Nebraska City was the nearest depot of supplies. Deer, prairie wolves and other wild animals were abundant, and Indians used to frequently pass his dwelling on their way to and from their hunting-grounds.

Our subject was born in Clarke County, Ohio, Jan. 20, 1819. His father, Benjamin Wallingford, was a native of Kentucky, but the birthplace of his father, likewise named Benjamin, is unknown. Benjamin Wallingford, Sr., moved from Kentucky to Ohio and became an early settler of Clarke County, where he cleared a farm from the wilderness, on which he resided until his death. The father of our subject was a young man when he moved to

Ohio with his parents, and there he married. His first wife was a Miss Hancock, by whom he had three children, who grew to maturity; after her death he was united in marriage with Margaret Miller, like himself a native of Kentucky. He bought a tract of land in Clarke County, Ohio, and assiduously devoted his time to clearing the trees from it and tilling the soil, until about 1830, when he moved to Shelby County, Ohio, and bought a tract of land, where he lived until about 1856. He then sold all his property in Ohio and went to Decatur County, Iowa, to make his home with his children, and there closed a useful and honorable life. His estimable wife survived him about three years, her death occurring at the home of her son, A. J. Wallingford (whose farm adjoined that of our subject), in Lancaster County, in 1861.

Richard Wallingford was reared on his father's farm in Ohio, and assisted his father in the pioneer labors of felling trees and clearing the land for culture. He married in his native State, Jan. 11, 1844, Miss Eliza Allen, who was born in Medina County, Ohio, Jan. 17, 1824. Her father, John Allen, was born in the State of New York, and his father was, it is thought, a native of Vermont, and was a cousin of the famous Revolutionary hero Ethan Allen. He spent his last years in New York State. Mrs. Wallingford's father was left an orphan at an early age, and when a young man he went to Ohio and there married, and settled in Medina County, becoming a pioneer of that county. He bought a tract of timber land and built a log house. His thrifty wife used to cook the meals of the family over a fireplace, and she used to spin, weave and make all the clothes worn by the family. Mr. Allen cleared quite a farm and lived in Medina County several years, but he subsequently disposed of his farm and other property and moved to Champaign County, where he spent his last years. The maiden name of his wife, mother of Mrs. Wallingford, was Alaney Smith, a daughter of Elijah and Lydia (Rose) Smith, and a native of Vermont. Mrs. Wallingford resided with her parents until her marriage, and under the careful directions of her mother she became an admirable housekeeper, learning to spin and weave, and to do many other household duties then considered the necessary ac-



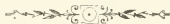
Richard Wallingford.

complishments of a thorough housewife. To Mr. and Mrs. Wallingford have been born six children, four of whom are living, namely: Jane, wife of Jerome Schamp; John A. married Selia Miller; Mary, wife of G. B. P. Reynolds; and James R., who married a Miss Mattie Williams.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallingford spent the first years of their wedded life in their native State. In 1856 they started for Iowa, going with teams, the journey consuming about three weeks, there being no railways in Iowa at that time. They settled in Decatur County, where Mr. Wallingford bought land from the Government. Keokuk, Iowa, was the nearest market, and all the grain that was sold had to be drawn to that town, but the greater part of the wheat was needed for home consumption by the emigrants who were settling up the country. In 1859 our subject sold out in Iowa and once more took up the journey westward, the Territory of Nebraska being his objective point. After his arrival here he entered a tract of Government land in what is now Yankee Hill Precinct. Then commenced for him the task that befell all the early settlers of this country, of reclaiming his land from its wild state, and his experience in pioneering was like that of many others, fraught with much that would be interesting to our readers did the limits of this brief sketch allow us to transcribe it on these pages. There was a log house on his claim that the man who had previously settled on the land had built, and in that our subject and his family lived for some years, until he erected a more substantial frame dwelling. At different times the Indians caused much trouble among the settlers, who would occasionally take refuge in Nebraska City, Plattsmouth and other convenient points. Once in the winter season a horse in the neighborhood was robbed by the Indians and some shooting was indulged in; the whites thought it best to leave their settlements and go to Weeping Water for shelter, taking most of their stock along with them. While there three families lived for two weeks in a small log cabin. They then returned to their homes, and after that never left them again on account of the Indians, although they continued troublesome for some years, stealing their stock, and in fact everything they could lay their hands on. Mr.

Wallingford improved a fine farm, which under his able management greatly increased in value, and has proved the source of an ample income. He continued to reside in Yankee Hill Precinct until 1886, when he rented his farm and came to Lincoln to make his home, and soon after erected his present commodious residence. Our subject and his wife are now enjoying the fruits of their early labors, and the respect and consideration due to them for the rectitude and integrity of their conduct are not withheld, and in the many years that they have resided in Nebraska they have made many warm friends. In politics Mr. Wallingford is a Republican. His first vote for President was cast for Gen. William Henry Harrison.

We may be permitted to draw the attention of those of our readers who know our subject and those who, though not so favored, are interested to become better acquainted with him than the above sketch can make them, to the portrait which is herewith presented, where the well-known features are skillfully delineated by the artist.



JOHN C. THOMPSON. Among the younger men of West Oak Precinct, the subject of this biography occupies a good position, and is successfully operating on 160 acres of good land on section 28. In addition to the raising of cereals and the products of home consumption, both for man and beast, he gives considerable attention to stock-breeding, keeping good grades of cattle, horses and swine. He acquired his present property in 1885, and has effected many improvements upon land which had previously been indifferently cultivated, and the buildings now present the air of thrift and comfort.

A native of the Dominion of Canada, our subject was born Aug. 19, 1865, where he lived until a lad of seven years. His father then coming over into the States, traced his steps across the Mississippi to this county, locating with his family in West Oak Precinct, where our subject acquired a common-school education, and developed into manhood. After studying for a year in the school at Lincoln, he began farming on his own account, and

after becoming assured that he could support a family comfortably, he was united in marriage with Miss Lucinda Sterns, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride, in Seward County, Nov. 23, 1887.

John Thompson, the father of our subject, and a native of Yorkshire, England, was born about 1830, and continued upon his native soil until thirty years of age. In early manhood he served an apprenticeship at the blacksmith trade, and in 1863 was united in marriage with Miss Jane Hammond, a maiden of his own county, and who became the mother of three children, all of whom are living, and all in America. With his little family, John Thompson crossed the Atlantic, locating in Canada, where he carried on blacksmithing until coming to Nebraska. He is now Postmaster of Crouse; a further sketch of him will be found elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Jane (Hammond) Thompson, the mother of our subject, was born about 1840, and was the daughter of Thomas Hammond, who was of pure English ancestry, and who died when his daughter Jane was a young girl of twelve years. She afterward, until her marriage, made her home with her maternal grandfather. She died at the home of the family in West Oak Precinct, July 20, 1881.

Mrs. Lucinda (Sterns) Thompson, the wife of our subject, was born Sept. 12, 1865, in Ogle County, Ill., and is the daughter of William Sterns, who emigrated across the Mississippi into Black Hawk County, Iowa, a few years later. She acquired her education in the common schools of Iowa, living there with her parents until 1884, when they changed their residence to this county. A year later, however, they removed to Butler County, where they now reside. Mr. Sterns was born in Canada, in 1840, where he spent his younger years, and where he was married. To him and his estimable wife Elizabeth (Yonker) Sterns, there were born six children, one of whom died when an infant. Lucinda, the wife of our subject, was next to the youngest. The Sterns family made the journey from Illinois to Black Hawk County, Iowa, in a wagon, and in common with the pioneers around them, endured many hardships and privations. The father became owner of a tract of land which he brought to a good state of cultivation. The parents are both living, and with

their daughter Lucinda, and most of their family, are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Sterns is an intelligent and public-spirited man, and while a resident of this county was considerably interested in school matters, and acted as Moderator in his district.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Crouse, in which our subject has been Secretary and Treasurer of the Sunday-school, and is warmly interested in the welfare of the society. He also represents the history of "Protective Tariff" by R. W. Thompson, in West Oak Precinct, and politically, is identified with the Republican party.



AUGUSTUS C. RUDOLF is one of the pioneers and early settlers of Lincoln. His father, Michael Rudolf, was born in Lunenburg, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia. The grandfather of our subject was a native of Austria, and was at one time Secretary to Queen Katherine of Russia, and later was a Commander in the Austrian army. He came to Nova Scotia, where he founded a colony under the Austrian auspices, and named it Lunenburg, in which place he spent his last years. The father of our subject was engaged in mercantile business in Lunenburg, and then removed from there to New York City, where he spent a few years, afterward going to Illinois, and residing in Jacksonville and Chicago until the year 1867. At that time he came to Lincoln, where he spent his last days, his death occurring in March, 1886. His wife, with whom he had spent over fifty years of happy married life, died on the same hour of the same day, and both were buried in the same grave.

It seems a fitting close that they who had spent half a century or more in congenial associations, should together depart from the world, the husband at the advanced age of eighty-eight years, and the wife aged seventy-eight. Her maiden name was Isabella Jacobs, and she was a native of Halifax. There were five children given to this family: Emma Pope (now deceased); Louisa Morrison, Helen Geiger, and James, who died at fifteen years

of age. Our subject, Augustus, was the third child born at Lunenburg, where he attended the public and select schools until the age of thirteen years and six months, at which time he left home and went to the West Indies on one of his father's vessels.

On his return trip from the West Indies our subject stopped at New York City, and there a friend secured him a position as clerk in a retail store, where he remained for one year. Then he engaged with a ship-chandler, and clerked for six months with him, afterward going to Augusta, Ga., where his brother-in-law, Thomas Pope, was Professor of Languages in the University of Georgia. For a short time he secured employment in a grocery store, and then engaged as an accountant in the office of the Georgia & South Carolina Railroad Company, and was in their employ for nine years. He went to Jacksonville, Ill., and engaged in the grocery business until the year 1865, when he returned South to spend the winter, after which, going to Louisville, Ky., he bought a woolen-mill.

Our subject remained in Louisville for one year, and then sold his mill at an advanced price, and then came to Omaha via the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, arriving at that place in August, 1867. He stopped there for a short time, then went to Nebraska City, and from there to Lincoln, making the last journey in a wagon, and following the Pike's Peak trail. The first sale of lots in the newly located city had just taken place, and he bought a lot on the corner of Tenth and O streets, and made a contract to build the Union Block. The block is still standing, being built of stone gathered on the prairies.

After spending the winter in Chicago, in the following April, 1868, our subject returned to Lincoln with a stock of groceries, and engaged in that business, which he has continued to the present time. He has seen the city grow from a small village to a flourishing city of nearly 50,000 people, and has been prominently identified with its many enterprises. When he first came here the greater part of the surrounding country consisted of wild prairie land, which the Government offered for sale at \$1.25 per acre. In 1868 Mr. Rudolph built a residence on the corner of J and Twelfth streets, it

being the third house built south of O street. He paid \$200 for the lot, and then sold the place at two prices a little later, and bought lots on the corner of G and Twelfth streets, for which he paid \$100, erecting a house there. He has dealt quite extensively in real estate, and has been successful in his business transactions.

Our subject attended the first religious services held by the Episcopalians in Lincoln, in the summer of 1868, the services being held in a small frame school-house on the corner of P and Thirtieth streets. He was the only one in attendance who possessed a prayer-book and responded to the services. In the same year he attended the first court ever held in Lincoln, Judge Cadmen presiding, and the defendant in the case a man who was accused of horse-stealing. Our subject has always been a Republican, having cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln.

On the 1st of January, 1869, our subject, in company with J. L. McConnell, H. J. Walsh and Mr. Putnam, inaugurated in Lincoln the custom of making New Year's calls. They had cards for the occasion with their photographs engraved on them, and they found the people ready to receive them, extending a hearty welcome. They had no carriages, and had to walk from 11 o'clock in the morning until 8 o'clock in the evening, in order to call on all the prominent families in the village. Our subject has raised himself to a position of influence, and he receives, as he justly merits, the entire confidence and the highest respect of his fellow-citizens.



LEWIS KREUGER. Among the German settlers of Nebraska, there are few if any more deserving mention under conditions similar to the present, than Lewis Krueger, one of Centerville's prosperous farmers, whose home and property is situated on section 15. He was born Feb. 2, 1823, in Prussia, to Frederick and Elizabeth Krueger. He received his education in his native town, which was complete so far as an educa-

tion in his own language would be considered for a boy, but the difficulty of applying his knowledge in another language was for a time almost impassable.

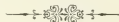
In the year 1849 our subject emigrated to this country and took his passage upon a sailing-vessel. The voyage occupied almost fully three-months, and was marked by all the pleasure, discomfort, amusement, sickness and buoyant health usually incident to such a trip, in spite of their seeming paradox. Our subject landed in New Orleans, and proceeded to St. Louis, and there made his home for two years, during that time being fairly prosperous. At the end of that period he removed to Clayton County, Iowa, took a tract of land and engaged in farming.

During his residence in Iowa Mr. Krueger became attached to a lady of most excellent and appreciable character, and was united in marriage with her. The name of the lady of his choice was Elizabeth Winch. Their marriage was fruitful in the birth of several children, of whom seven are living, whose names are here appended: William, August, Margaret, Paul, Elizabeth, Hannah and Lena. The eldest son is now a resident upon section 24, and was born Feb. 3, 1858, at the Clayton County homestead, and has made husbandry his chosen profession; he accompanied his parents when they came to this State in 1869, and continued with them until he took up his farm. On the 1st of February, 1883, he was married to Helena Meyer, and they have become the parents of three children—Lewis (deceased), John and William. As a farmer he is very successful, and in political matters affiliates with the Republican party.

The second son, August, is one of the most successful young farmers of the precinct, and owns property situated on section 13. He was born upon the Clayton County homestead, and was about six years of age when his parents came to this county. He went to school in the local institution, and has been reared to manhood in this precinct. He has given considerable attention to farm work, under the direction of his father, and later became the owner of 100 acres of land. He is one of the staunch members of the Lutheran Church, and exhibits qualities and characteristics most praiseworthy.

In political matters he has associated himself with the Democratic party, and it is not too much to say that Nebraska will yet hear from him.

In 1869 our subject came to Lancaster County and took up his present property, comprising 240 acres of land, which is all well improved, as he is an indefatigable worker and very energetic and enthusiastic in all that pertains to his farm and stock. In political matters he gives his allegiance to the Republican party, and is a strong partisan of that cause. In things religious, with his family, he is a member of the Lutheran Church, and is held in the highest respect as a true and faithful member of the same.



JAMES B. ABBOTT is a representative farmer and stock-raiser of Denton Precinct, residing on section 1. He is a native of Norfolk County, England, the date of his birth being Feb. 13, 1829. To his parents, Edward and Jane Abbott, both natives of England, were born the following children: Gertrude M., wife of Rev. Charles Turner, of near Norwich, England; James B., our subject; Charles E. and Robert J., both being lawyers in London; Alice J., in England; and Elizabeth C., deceased, who had been the wife of Edward Alston, formerly Register General of Victoria, Vancouver's Island; he now also is deceased.

Our subject attained his majority in his native country, where he received a good classical education. Engaging in the pursuit of agriculture, for twenty years he rented some 2,200 acres of land, and being successful, at different times he gave instruction to seventy-three pupils in the elements of English farming.

On the 20th of September, 1853, Mr. Abbott married Ann Gates, also a native of Norfolk County, the date of her birth being May 6, 1835. Mrs. Abbott is a daughter of Francis and Charlotte Gates, the father being deceased, and the mother now in her eighty-sixth year, and still residing in Norwich, England. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Abbott has been blessed with thirteen children, nine of whom are living, as follows: Frank E., of the adjoining precinct of Yankee Hill; Harry, of Den-



RESIDENCE OF MRS. ELNORAH FREYE, SEC. 22. CENTERVILLE PRECINCT.



LAKE IN PARK.



AVENUE TO PARK.



RESIDENCE OF JAS. B. ABBOTT, SEC. 1. DENTON PRECINCT.

ton Precinct; Ann, residing in Lincoln, Neb.; Edward, in Montana; Gertrude N., in Idaho; Ruth, wife of John Wigg; John, Lotta M. and James B. the last four named being in Denton Precinct.

On the 17th of June, 1871, our subject with his family took passage at Liverpool for America, and after an ocean voyage of eleven days landed at Quebec, and came directly to Nebraska. He resided for one year in Lincoln, at that time a place of 3,000 inhabitants, and removed in the following year to his present place of residence. On his arrival in Nebraska, in 1871, Mr. Abbott purchased from the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company 160 acres of land, at \$15 an acre. Not a furrow had been turned, and he set about immediately to improve and cultivate his land, which achievement he accomplished by dint of industry and much hard labor. Thus he and his family duly appreciate and enjoy their present possession.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Abbott are members of the Episcopal Church, and while in England Mr. Abbott was Church Warden some twenty years. He has the confidence and esteem of the general public, one evidence of which lies in the fact that he has creditably served as School Treasurer of District No. 69 for sixteen years, and is now serving his seventh year as Assessor of Denton Precinct. In political matters he bestows the honor of his influence on the Republican side, and approves of every measure which tends to the advancement and elevation of society in general and the public good.

When Mr. Abbott first came here there were but six settlers in Denton Precinct. He engaged rather heavily in speculation with Texas cattle, but finding the business to be not remunerative he discontinued it. He now has one of the best farms in Lancaster County. With an artist's eye he combines the beautiful with the useful, and on his grounds surrounding the residence and through the fields he has nicely arranged rows of various kinds of shade trees, a source of blessing and comfort to the tired pedestrian during the sultry summer months. A fine fish-pond, now becoming well stocked with German carp, is likewise one of the many useful as well as ornamental improvements which the proprietor has constructed. In taking a birds-eye view of this excellent farm, the observer realizes that the pio-

neer, who converted what was once virgin prairie soil into this cultivated and valuable estate, is a true type of the cultured scientific English agriculturist.

Socially, Mr. Abbott is affable, of pleasing address, and possesses a high degree of culture, education and society in his youth having done much for him. None are more worthy of a place in the pages of this ALBUM than the enterprising subject of this sketch. His splendid farm is a standing monument to his energy, perseverance and good management, and his honesty, steadfastness of purpose and high moral principles, stand out in bold relief, and are a true index to his character. As he is at all times strictly conscientious in his dealings with his fellowmen, his reputation among them is unsullied.

Mrs. Abbott, a well-educated and truly refined woman, has given much attention to the cultivation of her musical talent, and for the last five years she has been engaged in teaching that delightful accomplishment. Among the many views presented in this volume may be found that of the Abbott homestead.

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HENRY FREYE. In Hanover, Germany, upon the 8th of April, 1828, there was born to Ernest H Freye and wife a son, who was christened by the name Henry, and a sketch of the more salient features of his life is herein offered. Our subject was reared in his native country until he reached his eighteenth year, receiving his education in its schools, and afterward being employed as a farmer, and continued in the same until he reached his eighteenth year, when he came to this country and located for a time in Jackson and Scioto Counties, Ohio, and followed the pursuits of agriculture upon land which he took up from the Government.

Our subject was married, in March, 1844, to Elnorah Shaffer, who, like himself, was a native of Hanover, and was born in that country in the month of March, 1832, and was the daughter of Adam and Gertrude Shaffer; she came to this country with her parents in the year 1843, and settled in Ohio, remaining in the home of her parents until

her marriage. She was the fifth child of six children born to her parents, of whom two are living: Mrs. Freye and her brother, Joseph H.

To our subject and wife there were born ten children, who are recorded as follows: Catherine, the wife of Lewis Willman; Mary, the wife of Frederick Steinmyer, of Gage County; Eliza, wife of William Wessel; Henry, William, Frank, Matilda, Lena, Emma and Ida, all at home.

In the spring of 1868 our subject emigrated to Lancaster County with his family, and settled upon the farm which is situated upon section 22, in Centerville Precinct, and which since his death has been operated by his wife. Our subject departed this life Dec. 31, 1873, after a long illness, from typhoid and lung fever, and left behind him many friends to mourn his death; for his life and character had been such that he was everywhere held in the highest estimation, and greatly respected. He did not leave much of worldly goods beyond his actual property, by which is meant the farm buildings, residence and farm, which was well cultivated, tillable land, well stocked and provided with the necessary implements and much of the machinery, required for the proper working of a property of that size.

Our subject was a large-hearted, public-spirited man, inclined to lend his influence and energies in any and every enterprise calculated to help forward the community of which he was a resident. He was as a citizen true and loyal to the responsibilities incident thereto, patriotic and loyal; his home was the scene of true domesticity, and in the relations of husband and father he was most faithful, affectionate and true. He was a member for many years of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which communion his family continue. For many years prior to his demise our subject was Steward of the church, and was devoted to the interests of the society. In political questions he usually gave his support to the Republican party, although he was swayed in his decisions rather by principle than policy, as became his general character.

Mrs. Freye, despite the trials incident to life under the most favorable circumstances, and the great affliction that is hers in the loss of her husband, has always met these difficulties and troubles

with womanly spirit and Christian heroism and resignation. Throughout the years of wedded life she was linked with her husband so truly that she was a sharer in more than name in all the happenings and events of his life, rejoicing in his successes, cheering and sustaining him in the time of threatened defeat and actual trial, and throughout his sickness her presence was a necessity to him, a source of support and renewed strength, by which he was the better enabled to bear the pain and weakness of this last trial. A view of the Freye homestead is given in connection with this brief personal sketch.



JOHN THOMPSON. Thirty years ago this entire district and State was just beginning to feel the first influences of the scintillating rays of Eastern life, and receive to its broad bosom the men from east and south who should build the noble superstructure of its history. Had the prophet of thirty years ago told of Nebraska as it is to-day with its populous cities, its lightning express trains, its vestibule trains, its immense commercial importance, its weight of political influence, there would not have been found wanting multitudes of incredulous, so little do we know of the future.

Among those who have assisted in some measure in the development of this beautiful State is our subject, one of the old settlers in the northwestern part of this county, prominent as a citizen, good and true, whose home and farm is situated on section 29, West Oak Precinct, and comprises eighty acres of ground, and also the proprietor of 160 acres of exceptionally good land on section 28.

John Thompson, Sr., the father of our subject, is of English birth and parentage, and was born in England about the year 1809. Our subject continued to live in England until 1865, when in August of that year he came to Canada. In the mother country he had followed with prosperity the occupation of farming, and when he came to this country he continued in the same calling, and is still living, being resident with our subject.

The father of our subject took for his partner in

life Miss Anna Gregg, a lady who proved herself in every way deserving of the highest tribute that can be paid to wife and mother. To Mr. and Mrs. Thompson were given five children, of whom four still live—our subject, John Jr., James and Annie. One son, Christopher, lived to take part in the War of the Rebellion, and fell in battle. The mother of our subject died in 1849.

Our subject was born in York, England, June 10, 1826, receiving his education in the church schools of his native town. From school he became a student of Vulcan, and began to work at the forge, and hade fair to rival in a very short time the "village blacksmith." This apprenticeship began when he was thirteen years of age, and very shortly after the death of his mother. He served the regulation seven years, and continued in the same shop as a master workman for four years more. After that he worked for some time in machine-shops of the London & Northeastern Railway, at the city of York.

In 1861 our subject left his native land and came to Iowa, and staid ten months, but was all the time sick with malaria, and he determined to go to Canada, where he worked at his trade for a short time, then returned to England, where he remained seventeen months, and while there was united in matrimonial bonds to Miss Jane Hammond, on the 11th of April, 1864. Almost immediately after this happy event he returned to America, accompanied by his father. He landed in Canada, and continued to follow his trade for six years, and then in the year 1871 came to the wilds of Nebraska's boundless prairies, and homesteaded eighty acres of land.

By careful and strict attention to business, by well-directed energy and continued activity, the original eighty acres of Mr. Thompson have grown to be 240, all in a most excellent state of fertility. His house is built for comfort and convenience, and is in every way a home. Its interior decoration and arrangements, and the pleasant surroundings of the exterior, vie with each other to this end. In the vicinity of his house he planted four beautiful groves, and has set out an extensive orchard comprising a large variety of excellent fruit trees, besides finding time to provide for the production of small fruits of

many kinds. The greater part of the farm is given to the raising of cereals, mostly wheat and corn. His stock farm has in it the foundation of an extensive business in that line. He has already some very fine cattle, including an excellent Galloway full-blood, and also several horses of good record and other stock, and requires the greater part of the corn produced by 140 acres for feed purposes.

Mrs. Jane Thompson died on July 20, 1881, leaving three children—John C., James and Clara. The eldest son has become the husband of Miss Lucinda Sterns, and they make their home upon the other farm of our subject. On the 15th of September, 1882, our subject entered into a second marriage, with Mrs. Mary Payne, and to them also have been born three children—Rosa M., Bertha and Harry.

Our subject has frequently been called upon to assist in the various offices of his district. For seventeen years he has been School Treasurer, for five years he continued to hold the office of Assessor, has been Supervisor several times, Deputy Collector for two terms, and he drew and paid the first money of the district. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and one of the Trustees of the new church at Crouse, which is the first that has been built in this vicinity. He has also been appointed Postmaster of the same town.

Our subject sustains a very high character in the district as a man and a citizen in all the relations which he sustains, is much respected on account of his manliness and success, admired because of the intelligent and conscientious way in which he discharges any official duties committed to him, and in every circle is held in highest esteem.

FRANK N. HOFFSTRADT. Among the intelligent and able members of the farming community of Lancaster County, our subject occupies an honorable position. He brings not only hands well trained in the work of a farmer, but also a cultivated mind to bear upon the scientific side of the problems that are testing all the skill and learning of the leading agriculturists of the day. His farm on section 30, Panama Pre-

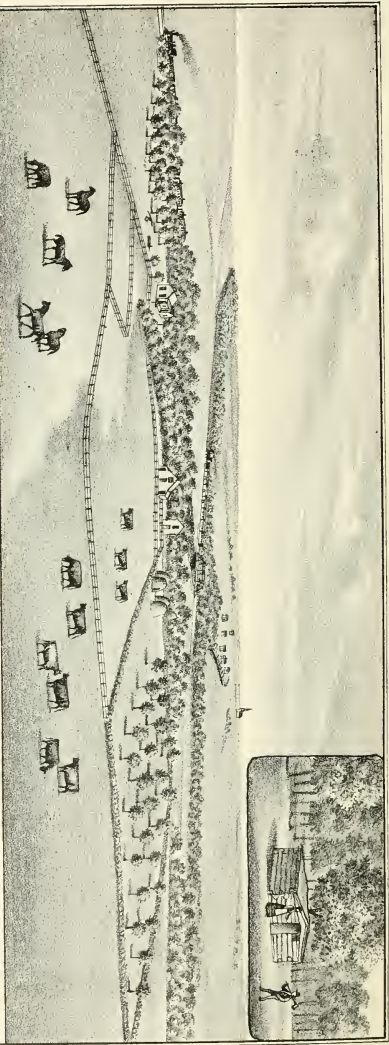
cinct, is under admirable cultivation, and with the improvements that he is continually making bids fair to rank among the finest farms in the precinct.

Our subject is a son of Frederick and Gertrude (Houser) Hoffstradt, respected citizens of South Pass, where they reside in a comfortable, commodious home, spending their declining years in the enjoyment of an income amply sufficient to procure them all the comforts and luxuries that they desire. The father is a well-to-do farmer, and owns a large farm comprising a half-section of land. He and his wife are both natives of Germany, born respectively in Prussia and Hesse-Darmstadt, he being now sixty-eight years old, and she fifty. They came to America after they had grown to man and womanhood, and were married in Rockford, Ill., and then settled upon her father's farm. They were among the pioneers of Winnebago County, were hard-working people, and took a very active part in advancing the religious, educational and social interests of their community, being prominently identified with the German Evangelical Church, of Davis. As years wore on, fortune smiled upon them, and they became prosperous and well-to-do. They finally sold their handsome farm in Winnebago County, Ill., and came to Lancaster County, Neb., to make their home in South Pass, of whose community they are still honored members. Mr. Hoffstradt has been in his day a man of remarkable strength and physique, and still retains much of his old-time vigor. He and his wife are the parents of seven children, all of whom are living, namely: Frank N., George E., Theresa L., Fred J., Addie L., Annie and David G.

Frank N. Hoffstradt, the subject of this sketch, was born Aug. 2, 1856, in Durand Township, Winnebago Co., Ill. His early education was obtained by private instruction, and he was not sent to the public schools until he was twelve years old. He was put to work when quite young, as his father, a man of uncommon energy and strength, was a hard worker, and expected much of his boys, at the same time giving them all the educational advantages possible. Thus our subject belongs to that class of farm boys who grew up in the same State as Abraham Lincoln, and many a day he passed behind the plow speculating upon the future, and what it might

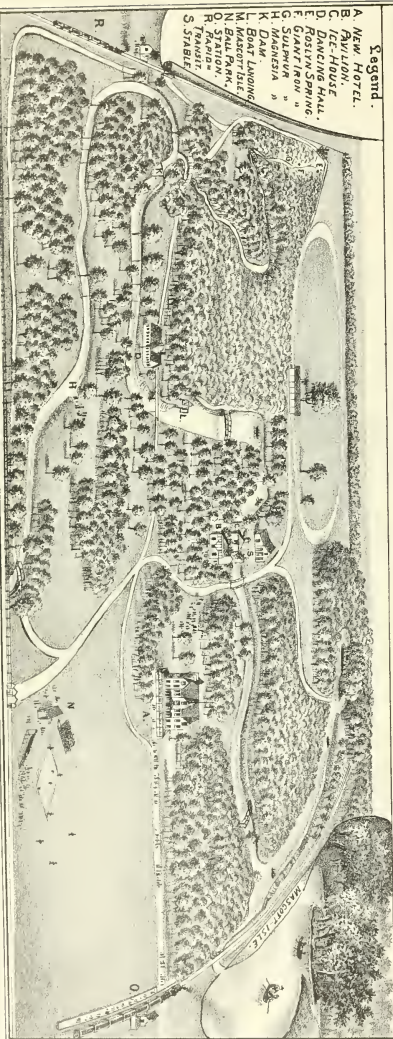
have in store for him. As he grew to manhood, he became possessed with the desire to gain a thorough education, of which he had already gained a solid foundation. Consequently he entered the Northwestern College at Naperville, Ill., in the fall of 1876, and remained there a close student for three years. Being very ambitious to retain the high standing that he had attained in his classes, he studied too hard, his health gave way, and he was obliged to leave college a short time before finishing his course, to recuperate. He then resolved to try life in the Far West, and selecting Lancaster County, Neb., as his destination on account of its fine climate and other advantages, he arrived in Lincoln, April 16, 1879, a young man of twenty-three, alone and in a State new to him, without personal friends, and sought to establish for himself a new home where he might enjoy life, and regain his health. He soon entered upon the profession of teacher, and was identified with the educational interests of Lancaster County for three years. During that time his health improved greatly, and the next year after coming to Nebraska in 1880, he was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Dowd, of Durand, Ill., an estimable young lady of refined tastes. For two years they shared life's joys and sorrows, and then she was taken sick, and died in October, 1884, leaving a little daughter, Ina Pearl, now a blooming child of four years.

In the spring of 1880 Mr. Hoffstradt bought a farm of eighty acres in Panama, and made that his home, but still continued to teach while managing his farm until 1885, but he now confines his attention more exclusively to agricultural pursuits. His fine education, versatile talents, and prompt business habits, have given our subject a place among the leading citizens of the precinct, where he is popular and influential. He is a strong temperance man, and both in public and in private, his life is irreproachable. He is true to the principles of the Republican party, believing in American government for American citizens, and he has the educational, social, religious and financial interests of the community at heart. He has held some important offices, and discharged their duties with characteristic fidelity, much to the satisfaction of his constituents. He was appointed Census Enumerator



RESIDENCE AND FARM, JAS. B. HALE, SEC. 30. SANTILO PRECINCT.

- Legend.
- A. New Hotel.
 - B. Avilion.
 - C. Ice-House.
 - D. DANCING HALL.
 - E. FOSLUM SPRING.
 - F. SAWYER POND.
 - G. MANDACIA.
 - H. DAM.
 - I. Boat Landing.
 - M. Maceort Dale.
 - N. Bull Farm.
 - O. Pavilion.
 - R. TRAMWAY.
 - S. STABLE.



"CUSHMAN PARK," LINCOLN, NEB. E. H. ANDRUS & SON, OWNERS.

for Panama in 1885; in 1886 he was elected Assessor of Panama, and was re-elected to that office in 1887. He is at present Clerk of the elections of Panama, and is also School Director of his district. Religiously, he is identified with the Presbyterians, was a charter member of the First Presbyterian Church of Firth, and is at present Ruling Elder. He is also an active Sunday-school worker, and has been Superintendent of the Sunday-school for several years.

Mr. Hoffstradt was married to his present wife Aug. 2, 1887. She was formerly of Wilber, Neb., although she was born and reared in Germany. Her maiden name was Diana Smith, and the date of her birth was Feb. 14, 1861. She received an excellent education in the far-famed schools of her native land. She came to America when she was twenty years old, coming to Nebraska in 1881. She is a good housewife, and makes home cozy, attractive, and a pleasant abiding-place.



EUGENE H. ANDRUS, an extensive dealer in real estate in the city of Lincoln, is looked upon as one of the most enterprising and prominent business men of Nebraska. A native of New York State, he was born near the town of Castile, in Wyoming County, Sept. 10, 1846, and was the elder of the two children of Martin and Clarissa (Huntington) Andrus. His father was a native of Vermont, and at one time extensively engaged as a railway contractor, and dealer in grain and produce in Baltimore, Md. The mother, a native also of the Green Mountain State, was the only daughter of Daniel Huntington. She died when her son Eugene H. was a lad ten years of age. Martin Andrus is still living, retired from active business, and makes his home in Perry, N. Y.

The subject of this sketch acquired his rudimentary education in the common schools, and at the early age of twelve years began his business career as clerk in a store, where he remained three years. Being ambitious to complete his education, he went to Rochester, N. Y., and became a student in the college there, diligently pursuing the prescribed course of study until the outbreak of the

Civil War. Although then but fifteen years old his patriotism overcame every other consideration, and throwing aside his books he enlisted in the defense of his country, becoming a member of the 24th New York Battery. His services, however, were required only a short time when his regiment was mustered out, and young Andrus received his honorable discharge and returned home.

Our subject now assumed charge of his father's business in Baltimore, and was thus occupied for two years. Thence he went to Perry, N. Y., and engaged in merchandising on his own account, carrying on business at that point three years. Then taking up his residence in Warsaw he became proprietor of the Andrus Regulator, and in connection with this carried on a very extensive business, selling on an average \$150,000 worth annually. Finally, owing to unavoidable business complications, he was compelled to close out, and after settling honorably with his creditors, had but \$50 left. Undismayed, however, by his ill fortune, he set to work with characteristic energy to retrieve his position in the business world, and devoted that small sum of money to the purchase of thirteen acres of land adjoining the town of Warsaw, and laid it out in town lots, from the sale of which he realized over \$3,000.

In 1872 Mr. Andrus entered into a contract to go to Corning, Iowa, and take charge of the landed interests of A. & G. W. Frank, whose property lay mostly in Iowa and Missouri. In the performance of his duties he found it necessary to make surveys, and operated under the experienced eye of A. B. Smith, the well-known Burlington & Missouri River Railroad surveyor. Later Mr. Andrus assisted in the platting of Creston, and other important towns along the line of this railroad. This accomplished, he entered the employ of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company, as land agent, taking charge of its land in Southwestern Iowa, which extended over several counties. After the grasshopper scourge he was sent to Nebraska to make things satisfactory with the settlers, and to arrange other contracts. He at this time had his headquarters at Harvard, Neb.

Two years later, in 1878, Mr. Andrus was appointed general land agent of the Burlington &

Missouri River Railroad Company, having his headquarters at Kearney, and while there he established offices at different points in the Republican Valley, one being at Loup City, which was then forty-seven miles from any railway. From the year 1878 to 1880 he sold 1,400,000 acres of land for this company. In 1882 Mr. Andrus moved to Lincoln and opened an office for the purpose of engaging in a general land business, handling State and school land, and also Lincoln city property. The town then included about 8,000 inhabitants; the attention of Eastern capitalists had already been attracted to it, and their efforts were being put forth to promote its growth. Mr. A., with that keen foresight and business sagacity for which he is noted, discovering in the little city the great metropolis of the future, invested largely in city property, which he held for a time, then sold, disposing of the most of it during the year 1887. Upon this he realized handsome profits, thus placing himself among the substantial men of this locality.

One of the most important purchases of Mr. Andrus was 800 acres of land near the city, and a part of which is now designated as Cushman Park. This he fitted up as a pleasure resort for the people of Lincoln, and it has become the most important institution of its kind in the West, having been visited by over 60,000 people during the short season of 1888. A railroad runs from the city into the grounds. It has a mile and a quarter of boating, with an average depth of thirteen feet of water, and a beautiful spot of ground known as Mascott Island, covered with a dense growth of trees. The park contains ninety acres of solid timber, comprising elm, hackberry, ash, black-walnut and maple.

The principal features, however, of Cushman Park are its springs, which include the Giant Iron, and the White Sulphur, the wonderful Magnesia Springs, and the thirteen fresh water springs. These are yet to be developed, and a beautiful and commodious hotel will be erected in the near future. The Traveling Men's Association of Nebraska and Colorado will hold their grand camp-meeting of the Knights of the Grip the last week in June of the season following. Probably not less than \$15,000 will be expended in improvements. People visiting the West should not fail to take in

this great resort. Cushman Park lies three miles west of the city of Lincoln, and has an altitude of fifty-six feet above the city. It is the monopoly of all the resorts in this section of the West, and is one of the fairest monuments to the zeal and enterprise of its founder that could be named.

Mr. Andrus was married, in the twenty-first year of his age, to Miss Florence E. Buxton, of Warsaw, N. Y., a daughter of Otis Buxton. She presides over their commodious and well-appointed home with a genial hospitality. Two children, Clinton B. and Lottie H., have been born of this marriage. The son is in business with his father, and the daughter is a student in the State University. Mr. Andrus, politically, is one of the leading Democrats of this State. He was nominated in 1880 by his party for the office of State Land Commissioner, but Nebraska being largely Republican, he was defeated. His great popularity, however, carried him considerably ahead of his ticket, and indicated in a marked manner his standing in the State.

The view of Cushman Park given in connection with this sketch not only adds to the embellishment of this work, but reflects due credit upon its projector, who has left nothing undone to render it an attractive and restful resort for the people who here seek recreation.

JAMES B. HALE. The subject of this biography is owner of one of the finest farms in Saltillo Precinct, on section 30, which embraces 560 acres of land, and which has been brought to a high state of cultivation. Upon it have been erected neat and substantial buildings, a comfortable and convenient residence, good barns and outhouses, everything adapted to the comfort of the proprietor and his family, the storing of grain and the shelter of stock. Adjaent to the dwelling is an apple orchard of 600 trees in good bearing condition, and contiguous to this are the smaller fruit trees in abundance. The household comprises the parents and a blooming family of eight children, namely: Robert M., John C., Emma Josephine, Amos, Erie Edgar, Edith S., Bessie and Stewart Grant. They all continue to abide under the home

roof, are attending school, and are being carefully trained in the manner becoming their station as the offspring of one of the leading families of the county.

Our subject traces his ancestry to Sir Robert Hale, brother of Sir Matthew Hale, Chief Justice of England. The first representatives of the family in this country crossed the Atlantic during the reign of Charles II. Amos H. Hale, the father of our subject, was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and his wife, Mrs. Mary J. Hale, was born in Davis County, Ind. After marriage they settled in Lawrence, the latter State, where the father occupied himself as a civil engineer and master mechanic, and in due time became Superintendent of the Indiana & Madison Railroad. He was a man of fine capabilities and master of his profession. Desirous of a change of occupation, however, he severed his connection with the railroad company, and in 1866 came to Nebraska and purchased a section of land, upon which he began to make improvements. His career, however, was cut short five years later, his death taking place in 1871, at the age of fifty-one years.

The mother of our subject is still living, being sixty-eight years old, and makes her home at Roca, Neb. The paternal family included nine children, three sons and six daughters. Of these James B. was the second child, his birth taking place Oct. 25, 1847, in Springville, Lawrence Co., Ind. His early education was quite limited, being in a new country with good schools few and far between. He, however, was trained to those habits of industry and principles of honor which have attended him all through his career. He became familiar at an early age with the various employments of farm life, and when ready to establish a home of his own was married to Miss Lucy A., daughter of John C. Sanford. The latter was a direct descendant of Gen. John Clark, of Virginia, and the parents of Mrs. Hale settled in Indiana, where the father carried on farming until his death. The mother, Mrs. Hannah (Eads) Sanford, an own sister to the famous civil engineer, Capt. Eads, of St. Louis, is still living there.

Mrs. Hale was the eldest of a family of thirteen children, four girls and nine boys, and was born in 1849, in Davis County, Ind.; she acquired a common-

school education, while receiving careful home training. Mr. Hale, since the time of his voting days, has upheld the principles of Republicanism, and when a boy burrahed for John C. Fremont. Later he imbibed the deepest admiration for Abraham Lincoln, and had his innate love of liberty strengthened by the perusal of Uncle Tom's Cabin, which made him one of the strongest anti-slavery men of his time. The patronymic was in former times spelled "Haile," but changed to the shorter method of Hale by the father of our subject.

The view of the Hale homestead, which appears on another page in this volume, will be recognized as that of one of the most energetic and successful men of Saltillo Precinct, one who through the exercise of his own industry and perseverance has enlarged the talent conferred upon him by a kindly Providence. In the development of one of the finest tracts of land in this county he has contributed thus far toward its wealth and prosperity, enhancing not only the value of his own possessions, but adding to the importance of the real estate around him. A man public-spirited and interested in whatever is calculated to benefit this county and community, he has thus erected for himself a monument which will be looked upon in later years by his descendants who may revert to his career as one of which they have reason to be proud.



DAVID R. LILLIBRIDGE. One feature of the progress of the present era is the drifting of every department of trade and profession into speciality. Any trade or calling in life, or subject of investigation, is too vast, its details too multitudinous, to be grasped by one mind. We have, therefore, the whole broken up into lesser parts that they may be the more quickly and perfectly handled. Not many years ago it was supposed that one or two masters taking charge of our youth in a school could so train and instruct them that upon leaving the institution they would be thoroughly equipped for any and every calling, excepting, perhaps, a very limited number of special professions. But this is no longer true, and to-day there are found institu-

tions which take the young man or woman fresh from the Commencement platform, the proud owner of High School or academic diploma, and provide such instruction as is absolutely necessary to success in the line of their chosen occupation. It may be stenography or book-keeping or languages or music, but whatever may be the specialty desired, some such course is recognized as being more than advisable.

In the present sketch is offered a brief outline of the life of one who has risen to the "chief seat" in his special profession, which is that of preparing young men and women for business life, and whose success in his specialty has been the occasion of much remark in the city of his residence. The subject of this writing comes of a family known in the East chiefly in connection with the remarkably successful ministrations of the eloquent Baptist clergyman and learned author, Rev. David Lillibridge, of Willington, Conn., whose son Amos was the father of our subject, Mr. D. R. Lillibridge, who was born in Willington, Tolland Co., Conn., on the 9th of February, 1839. As soon as his age would warrant he entered the public schools of his native town and began his education, which was thorough and complete so far as it was possible. In 1858 our subject taught a school for a term of six months at Imlaystown, N. J.

Citizenship has always been reckoned as of great value. The Roman citizen would often plead his citizenship as the reason why certain punishments for legal offenses should not be assigned to him; favors and positions were often pressed for and obtained under the power of the same plea. The American citizen, if he be worthy the name, values the treasure highly and cares for it with affectionate solicitude. But there is another side to the question: for every privilege conferred there is a responsibility incurred, and when that responsibility has been accepted and borne, the citizenship is doubly dear. This is the reason why some of the veterans of 1861-65 feel impelled upon all National occasions to tell how battles have been fought and won. Our subject is one who accepted the responsibility, and when the flag was in danger of being rent asunder enlisted in its defense. He served in the 11th Rhode Island Infantry. He saw much active

service, and followed the fortunes of the regiment until it was mustered out of the service at Providence, R. I., in August, 1864, when he was discharged. Our subject entered college at New York City, and took the entire course, graduating with honors in December, 1864. Shortly afterward he entered into a partnership with Bryant and Stratton, under the firm name of Bryant, Stratton & Lillibridge, and from that time has been increasingly prominently identified with this department or specialty of education. Mr. L. came to the city of Lincoln, and became the partner of F. F. Roope in the Lincoln Business College and Institute of Penmanship, Shorthand and Typewriting, which is now the largest in the West. This institution has become a recognized factor in the educational world of the State, and our subject is very popular with his students, who recognize in him a thorough business man, perfectly competent, possessing an aptitude for imparting instruction, and one who is a true friend to the diligent and persevering student.

The above institution is quite largely patronized, but by no means exclusively by the people of Lincoln. The students come from all parts of the State, and the surrounding States. Our subject is also the author of one of the most popular practical and widely used works on book-keeping that has ever been published. It is issued under the title of "Modern Book-keeping," and is used by the National Union of Business Colleges, of which association Mr. Lillibridge is the honored President. The above work is also in use by a very large number of public and private schools throughout the land.

Our subject is a resident of the city of Lincoln, and is the possessor of an elegant and beautifully situated home, his family circle comprising himself and wife with their three daughters, who have doubtless done much to make it the abode of culture, refinement and true aesthetic beauty. Mr. Lillibridge was fortunate in being an admitted acquaintance of Marie D. Walters, the youngest daughter of the Hon. William Walters, for many years proprietor of the *State Register*, at Springfield, Ill. Their union was consummated upon the 24th of December, 1867, at Springfield, Ill.

The Trinity Episcopal Church, of Lincoln, is fortunate in being able to command the services of Mr. Lillibridge as one of its vestrymen, and clerk of the vestry, which office he has continued to hold for the past three years. Our subject and family are members of this church, and among its most ardent supporters, and receive the highest respect and esteem of those associated with them in this community. Without overstepping in the slightest degree the limits of exactitude, we would add that this is true also to an unusual extent outside the church society, extending to the entire community.

Mr. Lillibridge's military experience and patriotic loyalty make him an enthusiastic member of the Appomattox Post No. 214, G. A. R., of which he is the Junior Vice Commander. He has also passed by a series of regular steps from the Masonic Altar and the right hand of the Worshipful Master, through the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Commandery and Consistory, and in each body is held in the highest fraternal regard. He is very active in the various bodies of which he is a member, although, perhaps, giving special attention to the work of the Asylum and Consistory. From the latter he has received the high Masonic distinction of S. P. R. S. of the 32d degree of A. A. S. R. He is attached in fraternal bonds to the Mt. Moriah Commandery of Knights Templar.



ORMAN J. KING was born in Otisco, Onondaga Co., N. Y., on the 5th of March, 1851.

His father, Chauncey J. King, was a native of the same place, and his grandfather, Thomas King, was born in Chester, Hampden Co., Mass., in which place it is supposed his great-grandfather, Apollies King, was also born. Our subject was commissioned Captain in the State Militia by John Hancock, and later as Major by Samuel Adams. The latter commission is now in the hands of our subject. Tradition says "the first ancestor was Philip King, who came to America in 1620, and settled at Taunton, Mass."

The great-grandfather of our subject went to Onondaga County, N. Y., to spend his last days with his

children. The grandfather of our subject was reared in Massachusetts, and moved from there to Onondaga County, N. Y., about the year 1812, and was one of the early pioneers of that county. His removal took place before the day of railroads and canals, and the journey must have been made with teams and wagons. He bought a tract of timber land on a hill in Otisco, built a log house, and at once commenced to clear land for a farm. Albany was the nearest market for several years, and there he used to draw his wheat for sale. He remained on his farm until the time of his death. The maiden name of his wife was Submit James, who was born in Northampton, Mass. Her ancestors were early settlers of that section, and suffered much from the incursions of the Indians. She also died on the farm in Otisco.

The father of our subject was reared in his native town, and having been brought up to follow agricultural pursuits, he has always continued in that occupation. He bought a farm in Otisco a few miles from the old homestead, where he now resides. He was married to Laura Miller, the mother of our subject, who had been born in Otselic, Chenango Co., N. Y., and was a daughter of Eber and Esther (Pease) Miller. To the parents of our subject there were given seven children, six of whom lived to become men and women: Orman J.; Sophronia, wife of N. D. Rice; Hattie, wife of C. D. Bailey; Carrie, wife of E. C. Collins; Jennie, who is living at home, and Charles H., who died on the 3d of January, 1888, aged eighteen years. For many years the parents have been members of the Congregational Church.

Our subject was the oldest child of the family, and he received his early education in the district schools, afterward attending the High School at Syracuse. At the age of twenty he began clerking in a general store in Otisco, and nine months later he bought a half-interest in the store, continuing in business there for seven years. Then he went to Syracuse and opened a grocery store, thence to Lincoln in 1881, where he began in business for himself. He first commenced with a small stock of goods in a small frame building on the corner of Thirteenth and L streets. He was successful in his transactions from the start, and in 1885 he erected

the handsome and commodious brick block which he now occupies on N street, between Twelfth and Thirteenth streets. Here he has one of the finest grocery stores in the city in its appointments, and the amount and quality of stock.

On the 30th of April, 1873, Mr. King married Emma Outt, who was born in Tully, Onondaga Co., N. Y., a daughter of William H. and Catura (Fellows) Outt. They have two sons—Dewitt C. and William H. Mr. and Mrs. King are members of the Congregational Church.



HERBERT S. BOWERS was born in Fishkill, Dutchess Co., N. Y. His father, Joseph Bowers, was born in Billerica, Middlesex Co., Mass., where his father, the grandfather of our subject, had spent his entire life, and had been engaged in farming. The father of our subject grew up to manhood, and was married in that place. He commenced working in a cotton factory when he was quite young, and by close attention to the details of the work, he was advanced in position until he became the foreman in the factory. He moved from Massachusetts to New York, thence to Virginia, about the year 1856, and located a tract of land in Prince William County. There he engaged in agricultural pursuits until the year 1860, when, on account of the possibilities of a war, he sold his land and moved to Indiana, where he bought a farm near Seymour. In that city he lived until 1874, when he came to Nebraska, and settled in Yankee Hill Precinct, Lancaster County. He bought some uncultivated land, but his health being very poor, he was unable to do the hard work required, and his sons attended to the management and improvement of the farm for him.

The father of our subject was married to Maria Stevens, a native of Chelmsford, Mass. By a former marriage Mr. B. had three children, and there were in all eleven children, ten of whom grew up to the years of manhood and womanhood. The father died on the homestead in 1881, and the mother died in February, 1887, at the same place.

When his parents moved to Virginia our subject was quite young, and the first school which he at-

tended was in Brownstown, Ind., afterward at Seymour. He received college instruction from the Wesleyan College at Bloomington, Ill., and in 1874 he commenced teaching in Lancaster County, where he taught several country and village schools. In 1879 he was elected County Superintendent of Schools, re-elected in 1881, and again in 1883. In 1885 he went to Pawnee City, and served two years as Superintendent of Schools, then in 1887 he returned to Lincoln to act as Superintendent of the city schools during the leave of absence which was granted the Superintendent. In 1888 he was elected Assistant Superintendent of the Lincoln schools.

In December, 1881, our subject was united in marriage with Nannie Lehmen, who was a daughter of Derrick and Isabella Lehmen, living in Somerset, Ind. They have one child, named Jessie L. Mr. and Mrs. Bowers are members of the Methodist Church, taking an active interest in the religious welfare of their city, as well as the educational improvements. There is certainly no more useful or noble profession than that in which our subject is engaged, "teaching the young idea," and there is no profession which requires a more upright and honest walk than that which brings one in close relation with the young, who are so eager to criticize and to imitate.



JOHN MARTIN is a very energetic man and a skillful farmer, who has established for his wife and children a good home, and is the owner of a valuable farm on section 21, Saltillo Precinct. His life is that of an honest, industrious man, whose geniality and friendliness make him popular in this community, and his family is entitled to be classed among the best families of the precinct. He is a son of Lewis and Anna Elizabeth (Warner) Martin. (For parental history see sketch of Casper Martin, brother of our subject.)

John Martin was born Feb. 4, 1842, in Prussia, the fifth child in a family of seven. He was but four years old when his parents came to America, yet he has a slight recollection of his native land and the voyage across the ocean. They landed in Baltimore, his parents intending to make their home

in Maryland. He had never attended school before coming to America, and his chances of obtaining an education were very poor in the Alleghany Mountain region, where he grew to manhood on a farm, but being an intelligent, wide-awake lad, with good powers of observation, he scarcely needed the aid of books to give him knowledge, and he has become a very well-informed man. He started out in life to make his own way in the world when a mere boy of ten summers, being then put out among strangers, and working for his board and clothes for a year; then he began to receive wages, and continued to earn his living as a farm laborer until he was twenty-four years old.

Our subject was married, in October, 1863, to Miss Catherine Deahl, daughter of Andrew Deahl. (For parental history see sketch of her brother, George Deahl, on another page of this work.) She was born in Alleghany County, Md., July 23, 1842, and was reared amid the pleasant mountain scenery of her native place; her education was conducted in the common schools, and in the home where she grew to womanhood she was trained to habits of usefulness and industry, and under the instruction of her mother she became a good housewife, and was fully equal to the duties that devolved upon her when she married. The happy wedded life of herself and husband has been blessed to them by the birth of eleven children, namely: Laura (deceased), Matilda E., Sarah A., Rose Ella (deceased), John E., Clara M., George E. (deceased), Mary E., Charles E., Nellie V. and Katie M. Matilda is the wife of George Emerick, a farmer of Saltillo. The remaining children are at home with their parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin spent the first year or two of their married life in their native State, but in the spring of 1865 they removed to Macoupin County, Ill., where her parents, with their family, also went to live at the same time. At first Mr. Martin began farming in that State on rented land, but in the following year (1866) he bought a farm in that county with his brother Casper, and they were soon comfortably located in their new home, although at times they had scant living. Our subject and his brother by much hard labor succeeded in bringing their farm in good shape, and were quite successful in their venture; however, in

1880 they decided to give up their Illinois farm and try the pursuit of agriculture on the rich alluvial soil of Nebraska. Our subject on coming here purchased 120 acres of land, which is now included in his farm, and built a comfortable house the first summer. He has since bought more land, and now owns a very fine farm of 180 acres, on which is a beautiful grove, a good house and comfortable barns; these, even as seen in the artist's picture as presented on another page, are most appreciable, and bespeak the prosperity, enterprise and position of the owner.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin and their two eldest daughters are among the leading members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Martin belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and also to the Knights of Honor, being a member of a lodge at Shipman, Ill. In his political opinions he is a sound Democrat.

LEONARD BEESON, one of the honored pioneers of Lancaster County, began his career in Elk Precinct upon a tract of wild land, his farm stock comprising two horses, a cow and a pig. He has now a valuable farm eighty acres in extent, the land in a highly productive condition and stocked with a choice assortment of cattle, horses and swine. He made his way overland from Indiana to this county, starting on the 16th of September, 1867, with a team of horses and a wagon, bringing with him his wife and all his personal effects. They crossed the Missouri River at Omaha, on the 16th of October, and located upon a tract of rented land in Sarpy County. He met with the misfortune of losing one of his horses the following June, and was obliged to trade his wagon for another horse, and was thus left without a wheeled vehicle.

The pioneers, however, were fertile and expedient, and in lieu of a wagon Mr. Beeson found other means of transportation until he could obtain one. In the spring of 1869 he settled in Elk Township, building a dug-out, in which he and his family were obliged to live until they could do better. In order to raise a crop that year he was obliged to rent a tract of cultivated land three and

one-half miles distant. He labored with unflagging industry for the betterment of his condition, and each year found him making some headway, his land assuming a fertile condition, and the family exchanging their first primitive dwelling for a more modern residence. The farm of eighty acres is now under a fine state of cultivation, and the farm buildings will compare favorably with anything of the kind in this part of the county. Mr. Beeson deserves great credit for the planting of a variety of shade and fruit trees about his homestead, which add greatly to its comfort and beauty, and the many other features of the attractive rural home which he has from time to time gathered about him.

The birth of our subject took place about forty-seven years ago, Oct. 12, 1841, in Wayne County, Ind., to which his parents removed from North Carolina. His father, Zachariah Beeson, was born in Guilford County, the latter State, near the town of Greensboro, and was the son of Isaac Beeson, a native of the same locality. Both father and grandfather were farmers by occupation, and the latter left his native State about 1820, to settle in the woods of Dalton Township, Wayne Co., Ind., where he purchased a tract of timber land, and where he lived and labored until his death. Isaac Beeson left North Carolina in 1825, and entered a tract of Government land in Wayne County, Ind. His first dwelling was the primitive log cabin, and he and his young wife commenced housekeeping in a region where bear and wolves were plenty, where Indians still lingered, and where deer and other wild game furnished them many a choice repast. He cleared a farm and erected good frame buildings, which he sold out in 1854 in order to take possession of an improved farm in Jasper County, where he spent the remainder of his life, his death taking place in 1858.

Mrs. Hannah (Thornburg) Beeson, the mother of our subject, was also a native of North Carolina, and spent her last years at the homestead in Jasper County, Ind. The parental household included fourteen children, ten of whom grew to mature years and of whom Leonard, our subject, was the youngest. He attended the district school until large enough to be of service on the farm, and was a youth of sixteen years at the time of his father's

death. He continued on the farm until his marriage, and in 1867 came with his family to Nebraska, spending the first year in Sarpy County. In the spring of 1869 he homesteaded the land which he now occupies and where he has since resided. He was reared in the doctrines of the Quaker faith, of which his honored parents were warm adherents. His father was a strong Abolitionist, and his house was one of the depots of the "underground railroad," by means of which many a fugitive was assisted to liberty. In his journey from North Carolina to Indiana Zachariah Beeson was accompanied by his cousin, Isaac Beeson, who owned a cart and a horse; they hitched the horse to the cart, and put their effects in the latter, and came through in good shape. Mr. Leonard Beeson cast his first vote for Schuyler Colfax as Member of Congress, and the first President for whom he voted was Abraham Lincoln.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Mary A. Lefler was celebrated at the home of the bride in Jasper County, Ind., Dec. 15, 1861. Mrs. Beeson is the daughter of Michael Lefler, and was born in Jasper County, Ind., Jan. 4, 1841. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania, and her paternal grandfather, John Lefler, also a native of the Keystone State, emigrated thence to Indiana during the pioneer days of Rush County, where he lived for a number of years, then sold out and removed to Jasper County. In 1863 he left the Hoosier State and, accompanied by his family, made his way overland with a team to the Territory of Nebraska. Settling in Sarpy County, he purchased a tract of land, where he spent the remainder of his days, dying at the advanced age of eighty-eight years.

The father of Mrs. Beeson grew to manhood in Indiana, and going into Jasper County, entered a tract of Government land, where he settled with his wife, their first dwelling being a temporary pole shanty, in which Mrs. Beeson was born Jan. 4, 1841. He soon erected a double log house and later put up a good set of frame buildings. He improved a farm from the wilderness and there spent his last days, passing away in 1875. The mother of Mrs. Beeson was in her girlhood Miss Jane Ann Overton, of Kentucky. She stood bravely by the side of her husband during the vicissitudes of

pioneer life, and is now living with her youngest daughter on the old homestead. Their experiences in those early times were similar to that of the Beeson family, they having for many years Indians for neighbors and wild beasts all around them.

Mr. and Mrs. Beeson are the parents of three children: William, born Sept. 22, 1862; Gertrude, Feb. 21, 1867, and Jennie, July 20, 1873. The two eldest are married and have homes of their own with one child each, while the youngest is living with her parents. The family is among the most highly respected in this section of the county.



HENRY ALBERS, Jr., of Buda Precinct, was one of the first of its early settlers, and has a good property situated upon section 32. He was born in the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg, Germany, July 17, 1855, to Henry and Martha Albers. In the year 1856 his parents emigrated to the United States and proceeded direct to Clayton County, Iowa. This continued to be their home until 1865, and during that time the father had established quite a large and prosperous business at blacksmithing. Thence the family removed to this county, and Henry Albers, Sr., homesteaded 160 acres of land on section 32 of what is now known as Centerville Precinct. It was not long before this land was brought to a good state of cultivation, and undergoing constant improvement. At this home the mother of our subject died, in May, 1870.

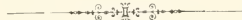
Henry and Martha Albers became the parents of six children, of whom three survive, namely: John; Lizzie, the wife of Martin Mattison, and Henry, our subject. The father, who is now about seventy years of age, recently removed to Lincoln, leaving to younger hands the activities of life. He is one of the representative German pioneers of the county, an ardent member of the Lutheran Church, and in political matters a staunch Republican. He is by all accorded sincere and hearty esteem.

Our subject, having been a resident of this county since 1865, has witnessed the grand transformation scene of a Territory to a state of advanced civilization. Not only has he been an interested witness,

but having wrought through the years of his young manhood as intelligently and diligently as any of his fellows, has erected a homestead that will stand as the monument of his industry and thrift for years to come. His education was such as to give him many advantages, for although there were no schools until about five years after the family settled in the district, upon their establishment he attended them through the full course, and afterward was admitted to the State University. The present site of the city of Lincoln was at the time of his settlement in the county marked by a single log cabin, occupied by a pioneer family. Nebraska City was the nearest trading-point, and hither the farmers transported their marketable commodities, and purchased all their supplies.

In political matters Mr. Albers has always been a staunch adherent of the Republican party, and is uniformly found in the front rank of its friends and supporters. He is the constant and consistent advocate of good morals, and always ready to exert his influence in every enterprise that promises to advance the best interests of the community. Recognizing this and the manliness of his character, his fellow-citizens accord him a large measure of esteem.

The view of the Albers home and surroundings, carefully penciled by our lithographic artist, presents a pleasing picture of rural life, where plenty abounds and the hand of thrift and industry is on all sides apparent. It should prove a source of encouragement to others who may be entering upon a struggle similar to that experienced by Mr. Albers, and illustrates the results of persistent labor and a resolute will.



JN. MAIN is the owner of a most excellent farm of 160 acres on section 30, West Oak Precinct, where he settled in the early history of Lancaster County, when there were only three or four families within a radius of five miles from his dwelling. He is the son of Delos Main, who was a native of Burlington, Otsego Co., N. Y. In that county he received his education in the usual institutions, and afterward was put to the work of the farm, which he made his life avocation.

He became the husband of Miss Jane Hollenbeck, and to them were born three children, of whom two are living; the other sacrificed his life in defense of the Union, at the age of seventeen.

In 1846 Mr. Main removed to Brown County, Ill., took up a tract of land and improved a farm, upon which he lived about five years. Iowa became the next place of residence for about the same length of time, which was spent in bringing from a state of nature to that of high agricultural perfection another farm. From Iowa the family removed to this State about twenty-five years ago, and settled on Stevens Creek, about ten miles west of the present city of Lincoln, where he was one of the earliest settlers. From there he removed to Seward County, where he died in 1874, aged sixty-two years, having been born in the year 1822. He survived his wife about twenty-six years.

Our subject was born in Burlington, N. Y., Dec. 12, 1844, and was only a little boy when his parents removed to Illinois, and later to Iowa. His education was received while residing in the two latter States, and was continued until the death of his mother, in Iowa, which was the immediate occasion of the family being broken up, and of our subject being removed from school and sent upon the farm to work. In this he remained until he was seventeen years of age, when he enlisted in defense of the stars and stripes. After being sent to the front he was present at and participated in the battle of Vicksburg, and a large number of minor engagements. The total length of his military service was five years and four and a half months. He was mustered out at Ft. Benton, Mont.

The army experiences of our subject being over, he returned to Iowa, where he was united in marriage with Dimerous L. Scott, in March, 1868; they have one child, Maud A. Not long after his marriage he removed to this State, and early in the following year entered a tract of land.

Our subject has given considerable attention to stock-raising in addition to his general farming, but is rapidly working toward making a specialty of breeding high-grade and blooded horses. He has quite a number of superior animals, and is the owner of an exceptionally fine, large and vigorous Percheron horse. To these he is adding

from time to time such as will best serve his interests and advance the reputation of his farm in this department. Mr. Main has not figured largely in civic affairs, although he has for some time held the office of Supervisor of Roads, but he has no special inclination to office, although a good, earnest and energetic Republican, and the recipient, by his party in the community generally, of the highest esteem and regard, not so much on account of what he possesses as what he is.

TIMOTHY J. CHARLES. In Erie County, N. Y., was born, on Feb. 5, 1841, in the home of David J. and Ann Charles, one who has since become worthy of a place in this ALBUM as being one of the early pioneers of Yankee Hill Precinct. He is the owner of an elegant farm, situated on section 16. The family of which our subject is a member are of Welsh extraction, and seemed to have in their characters an indomitability partaking somewhat of the characteristics of their native mountain ranges, which through the centuries have resisted every element and force, and would not remove, but still stand with heads towering to the clouds in calm but stern defiance, as proudly as the day when they first sheltered the fleeing hordes of Briton's Aborigines and Druids, in the days of Roman assault.

Our subject was reared to manhood in his native State, and received in its schools the foundation for his future work and experience. Early in life he began to work upon the farm, and from his father received his introduction to that department of labor, and learned the many diverse and confusing details connected with that occupation. He went to Illinois in 1865, and between five and six years followed with a fair measure of good fortune his chosen calling. In 1871 he left his Illinois home, came to this county, and took up 160 acres of land. The ground was having its own way, and following the bent of its own sweet will; if it wanted to produce wild grass it grew; if flowers or thistles, they found root and sustenance, but now they are under the domination of a master intellect, a will overpowering, an industry determined

to succeed. The result was soon apparent to the most casual observer; acre after acre was brought into subjection, and was taught to produce what was required, and not what chanced or happened to be there, and our subject was not long in bringing his whole farm into a high state of perfection in husbandry.

In the year 1873 Mr. Charles led to the altar of matrimony Mary M. Horn, the daughter of Rev. W. S. Horn, late of Lancaster County. This lady has ever since the day of her nuptials stood by her husband in the most noble and disinterested manner, through cloud and sunshine, prosperity and adversity, storm and calm, and his success is perhaps largely due to the elevating influences and inspiration she has brought into his life. She has presented him with four children—Artimo J., Herbert H., Ernest H. and Edward.

Our subject is now in the third term of office as Road Supervisor, and has for many years been School Treasurer of his district. He is by no means an office-seeker, however, and what distinction has come to him along that line has been thrust upon him than otherwise. He is a conscientious worker in any office filled by him, and even at some self-sacrifice will worthily attend to the due performance of such duties as fall to him. He is a Republican of many years standing, an acknowledged friend and supporter of the party, and at all times to be depended upon to do all in his power to advance the interests of his party by any legitimate measure.



EARL B. SLAWSON. The easiest thing in the world to do is to float with the tide; the difficulty begins when the effort is made to breast the waves and to combat the strength of the tide, overcome its force and make progress against it. This is true, metaphorically, as applied to a country, as well as, literally, to the individual. This metaphor is well illustrated in the history of our own beloved land, and also in the life of the subject of this sketch, who has from a comparatively humble beginning labored on until he occupies a position such as is not only worthy

of but demands mention in any history which treats of Denton Precinct or Lancaster County.

Earl B. Slawson, whose farm is situated on section 3 of the above precinct, was born Oct. 26, 1841, in Whiteside County, Ill., and is a son of Jesse and Rachel M. Slawson, both of whom were natives of New York State, and the latter of whom is now deceased. His family is of English extraction, and his ancestors were among the number who made their way to America in Colonial days, and after participating in the struggles of the Revolutionary War had the satisfaction of seeing the ship of State progress upon its voyage with her sails all set to the fair breeze, and the new-formed flag, which has grown so dear to every American heart, nailed to the mast never to be struck down.

The grandfather of our subject was a soldier in the War of 1812, and received his death wound in the battle of Sackett's Harbor, from which he died shortly after in the hospital at Utica, N. Y. His father, David Slawson, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and took part in nearly every campaign. The family have for several generations been residents of New York State, but about fifty years since the father of our subject removed to Whiteside County, Ill., where he was among the earliest settlers. Seven children of the eight born to them are still living, our subject being the fourth. Their names are here subjoined according to their birth: Andrew E. H. and Jesse D., both of Sherman County, this State; Charles H., a farmer of Crawford County, Kan.; Earl, our subject; Howard, a prosperous farmer in Utica, N. Y.; Albert R., deceased; Seth H., of Sherman County, and Mary L., the beloved wife of Merritt Clifton, of Cook County, Ill.

In 1856 the parents of our subject came to Nebraska, and the family settled in Otoe County at a time when their nearest neighbors were five miles distant. Mrs. Slawson, Sr., died April 12, 1884, and the father shortly after removed to Kansas, where he still resides with his son Charles, whom, we might here take occasion to remark, had an extensive military experience during the recent struggle, and served as Captain of Company D, 8th Kansas Infantry. His education was very meager, but has been supplemented by a course of reading

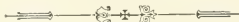
that has left him well posted upon all general topics. Our subject returned to Illinois for the express purpose of enlisting, which he did in Company B. 34th Illinois Infantry, in March, 1863. This company became part of the army of Gen. Sherman in the 2d Brigade, 2d Division, 14th Army Corps. His company was engaged at the battle of Lookout Mountain, the siege of Atlanta, Buzard's Roost and Crab Orchard, and he was in his place with them in that march to the sea, which has become a household word, and lastly, at the grand review at Washington, on the 24th of May, 1865, after which he received an honorable discharge on the 16th of July following. He then returned to Otoe County, Neb., and took up a homestead claim and made it his residence about fifteen years, then went to Palmyra, Neb., and engaged in the grocery business for about twelve months, subsequently engaging in mercantile pursuits at Utica, Neb., for three years. After this he returned to Palmyra, and for two years renewed his old life and occupation. At the close of that period he sold out and returned to his Otoe farm, and in 1884 came to Lancaster County and settled on his present farm, which contains some of the best land in the county, and includes eighty acres, all in an excellent state of cultivation.

August 24, 1862, was a red letter day in the history of our subject, for he was then united in wedlock with Cordelia M. Brown, who was the daughter of Vivalda and Aura T. Brown, and was born Dec. 27, 1842. The felicity of their married life has been more closely secured and enhanced by the birth of five children, whose names are recorded as follows: Viletta L., Loretta L., Carrie B., Earl R. and Rosella.

The following brothers of our subject served in the War of the Rebellion: Jesse, who was in the 8th Kansas Volunteers; Charles, in the same regiment; Howard, who served in the 75th Illinois, and two half-brothers, Hiram and Ira G. W. Chase, the former of whom served in the 55th New York, and the latter in the 55th Illinois Infantry. These were sons of Mrs. Slawson by her first husband, Mr. Chase.

Mr. Slawson is a warm supporter and enthusiastic member of the G. A. R., Farragut Post No.

25, at Lincoln. In politics he is a strong Republican. He has not been very prominent as an office-holder, but has served three years as a constable. Our subject and wife hold a very high place in local society, and are the recipients of the sincerest respect and esteem of their neighbors and friends. Our subject is among that number of our citizens who had to struggle in the early days without much assistance in getting a start. He was opposed by a tide of adverse circumstances, but his position in the community and the record of his service in behalf of his country speak more than mere words could do of the success of his efforts.



EDWARD T. HUDSON. Receiver for the United States Land Office at Lincoln, a gentleman of fine abilities and a highly esteemed citizen, was born in Yorkshire, England, in January, 1832. His parents were William and Mary Hudson, the descendants of excellent families, and who spent their entire lives in their native land.

The subject of this sketch passed his boyhood near the place of his birth, acquiring a practical education in the common schools. About the time of reaching his majority he decided to emigrate to the United States, and in 1853 first set foot upon American soil in the city of New York. From there he proceeded soon afterward to Des Moines County, Iowa, and secured employment on a farm in the vicinity of Burlington. He was thus occupied for a number of years, and acquired a good knowledge of agriculture and stock-raising as conducted in America.

Mr. Hudson came to this State in 1868, locating upon a farm in Lancaster County, and industriously applied himself to the tilling of the soil. He followed farming continuously until his appointment to his present position. He took up his residence at Lincoln in October, 1886, and on the 1st of December following entered upon the discharge of his duties. He has since held his position, acquitting himself in a most praiseworthy manner and with satisfaction to all concerned.

The wife of our subject was in her girlhood Miss Hannah Holgate, also a native of England. Of this

union there have been born two children: Edward S., who is on the farm, and Walter W., a student in the Commercial College at Lincoln. Mr. Hudson while a resident of Denton Precinct was elected Justice of the Peace, which position he held for a period of fifteen years. He also officiated as School Director seventeen years and still holds the position. His farm embraces 160 acres, which he has brought to a good state of cultivation and upon which he has erected all necessary buildings. It is well stocked with cattle, hogs and horses.

Mr. Hudson, politically, is an active Democrat, and thoroughly in accord with the present administration. As a boy, he was thoughtful and studious and piously inclined. When a youth of eighteen years he began preaching in the Wesleyan Methodist Church, and filled the pulpit in his native shire from that time until emigrating to America. For a period of two years he partially abandoned his pious labors, then resumed them and preached almost continuously until his appointment to his present office. He was President of the Nebraska Methodist Protestant Conference for eleven years, and President of the Board of Church Extension and the Board of Trustees. He was Chaplain of the State Senate at one time, and is President of the Lancaster County Old Settlers' Association. For a period of two years he was Vice President of Lancaster County Grange. It will thus be seen that his has been an active and useful career, in which he has distinguished himself as a liberal and public-spirited citizen, ever willing to contribute of his time and means to the advancement, socially and morally, of his fellowmen. He counts his friends by the score among the people where he has lived and labored and built up the record of an honest man and a good citizen.

HILLIER, an intelligent and industrious member of the farming community of Lancaster County, is managing his farm in Saltillo Precinct with good success, has a neat and cozy home, and is in comfortable circumstances. Our subject began life at a disadvantage, being early left an orphan, and thrown on the charities of a great

city. Born in St. Louis, his parents dying when he was a small child, he has no recollections of his father, and can scarcely remember his mother, who died when he was six or seven years old, leaving him and his little sister Mary (now Mrs. Bartow, of Piasa, Ill.) alone and friendless in the world, and they fell into the hands of the city authorities. Fortunately they were adopted by kind people, Mr. and Mrs. E. Hillier, of Shipman, Ill., taking our subject, and his sister going to live with Mr. and Mrs. H. Kendall, of Piasa, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Hillier not only took our subject to their home, but to their hearts, as he proved to be a child of a sunny, tractable disposition, and after he went to them he never lacked a parent's care, they bringing him up as one of their own, although they had ten children in their household. He was educated in the common schools, and carefully reared to industrious and good habits. He remained with his foster-parents until he was twenty-five years old, and by his ready and active assistance partly repaid them for the care that they had bestowed upon him in his childhood. He only left their roof to enter a home of his own, being married at that time to Miss Mary Deahl, daughter of the late Andrew Deahl (for parental history see sketch of her brother, George Deahl).

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hillier continued to reside in Shipman, Ill., for two years. Although he worked very hard while farming in Illinois, yet Mr. Hillier was unfortunate, and at one time, through bad crops, etc., he lost \$700 to \$800, but he coped with his ill-luck, and manfully paid dollar for dollar of his indebtedness. On the 5th of November, 1878, he came with his family to Nebraska, hoping to do better in this rich agricultural region than he could do in his old home. He bought 160 acres of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad land, and began again at the foot of the ladder to make his way to the desired competence. His land was all wild prairie, of which a sod had never been turned. He has already brought it under good tillage, and has erected necessary farm buildings, putting up a comfortable dwelling the following February after his arrival. Notwithstanding the fact that he has met with some serious reverses, having lost three valuable horses, some cattle and other stock, yet he

is in a fair way to become prosperous. He has disposed of a part of his land at a good profit, and thus reduced the acreage of his farm to eighty acres, on which he carries on general or mixed farming and dairying.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hillier have been born five children, namely: Nellie, Bertha, Earl, Walter and George. Nellie and Bertha were born in Illinois. The three oldest are in attendance at school, as their father is anxious to give his children good educations, and other advantages of which he was deprived in his youth. Mr. H. is a valued member of the Lutheran Church, of Roca, and as a man and a citizen, he commands the respect and esteem of all who know him. In his political beliefs he is a staunch Democrat.



SAMUEL R. JACOBY. The name of this gentleman is familiar throughout Stevens Creek Precinct and the country adjacent as being one of the most careful, prosperous and thrifty farmers in this region. He has a fine estate on section 4, eighty acres of which he homesteaded in 1869. Later he added to his real estate, until he is now the owner of 400 acres, in the cultivation of which he has been very successful, producing some of the richest crops of Southern Nebraska, and realizing a handsome income. Liberal-minded and public-spirited, he has been no unimportant factor in the development of Lancaster County, and has given his encouragement to every worthy enterprise. It has been the rule the world over, that a city or section of country owes its development principally to a few enterprising and courageous men who have risked their capital and labor in the hope of future good, not only to themselves but to the people around them. Among this class Mr. Jacoby has been a leading spirit of this county, and his name will be held in remembrance by generations to come.

A modest home in White County, Ill., sheltered the infant head of our subject, and there his birth took place Nov. 8, 1823. He is of substantial stock, his great-grandfather, John Jacoby, having emigrated from Germany during the early settle-

ment of this country, taking up his location in Northampton County, Pa., fifty miles from the then unimportant city of Philadelphia. He spent the remainder of his life in that vicinity, passing away after rearing a family of sons and daughters, who lived to do honor to his name.

Among the above mentioned was Peter Jacoby, the grandfather of our subject, who was born, reared and married in Northampton County, Pa. He reared a family of fifteen sons and four daughters, spent his entire life in agricultural pursuits, and passed away amid years and honors. His son Henry, the father of our subject, was also born and reared to manhood in Northampton County. In common with his brothers, with the exception of Peter, who became a carpenter, he chose farming for his vocation, and when twenty-two years of age left the parental roof and emigrated to Pickaway County, Ohio. There he made the acquaintance of Miss Julia Ann, the daughter of John and Nellie (Green) Clark, and in due time they were made husband and wife. This branch of the Green family was of excellent stock, and lineal descendants of Gen. Green, of Revolutionary fame.

After their marriage Henry Jacoby and his young wife settled on a farm in Pickaway County, Ohio, but in 1819 emigrated to White County, Ill. They were among the earliest pioneers of that region, but five years later removed to Morgan County, and about 1830 to McLean County. There the father died in 1831. The mother subsequently crossed the Mississippi, and, surviving her husband a period of thirty years, passed from earth at the home of her daughter, in Lyon County, Kan. Nine children of the parental family grew to mature years: Rebecca became the wife of William Creel, and died in McLean County, Ill.; Margaret, twin sister of our subject, and the wife of J. M. Gates, died in Livingston County, Ill., about 1866; Mary, Mrs. D. A. Dryer, died in Bloomington, Ill., in 1879; William C. died in Lyon County, Kan.; John died in Springfield, Mo., where he had been engaged in the Union army.

Samuel R. Jacoby, our subject, developed into manhood on the farm in Illinois, and when ready to establish a home and domestic ties of his own, was united in marriage with Miss Julia A. Ball, the

wedding taking place Nov. 26, 1846. Mrs. Jacoby is the daughter of Benjamin and Clarissa (Dimmick) Ball, and was born in Henry County, Ind., Oct. 14, 1828. Her father was a native of Garrard County, Ky., and her mother was born in Connecticut. Her paternal grandfather first saw light in Culpeper County, Va. He emigrated to Kentucky with Daniel Boone, on horseback, and there spent his last days. The grandmother of Mrs. Jacoby was a native of Scotland.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacoby, in 1857, moved across the Mississippi into Ringgold County, Iowa, where our subject purchased a tract of land and carried on farming until after the outbreak of the Rebellion. Soon after the first call for troops he enlisted as a Union soldier, July 4, 1861, in Company G, 4th Iowa Infantry, and with his regiment proceeded to the front. He first encountered the fire of the enemy at Pea Ridge, and subsequently was in the battles of Jackson, Miss., Champion Hills, and the siege of Vicksburg, battles of Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, and all the engagements in which his regiment participated, until the expiration of his term of enlistment in 1864.

After a brief rest Mr. Jacoby, determined to see the end, veteranized in his old company, and thereafter went with it through the Atlanta campaign, and with Gen. Sherman to the sea. After the surrender of Lee at Appomattox, he passed with the troops up through the Carolinas to Washington, being present at the grand review. He received his honorable discharge in August, 1865, being mustered out with the rank of Sergeant. He had been with his company in the smoke of twenty-two battles, besides the minor engagements always occurring, and the march to the sea. Like thousands of other soldiers whose history has been unwritten, he endured uncomplainingly his share of hardship and privation, and his greatest reward is in the knowledge that he did his duty as a man, without fear or favor, and in no expectation of reward.

Upon laying down the accoutrements of war, Mr. Jacoby returned to the peaceful pursuits of farm life, and continued a resident of Ringgold County, Iowa, until 1869, when we find him looking around for a location in Southern Nebraska.

He has had little reason to regret the removal from the Hawkeye State to one of the most fertile tracts of country on the face of the globe, and to the people of Lancaster County he has been a valued addition.

To our subject and his estimable wife there have been born five sons, namely: Henry F., A. Lincoln, Peter C., Orin B. and Iretus W. The eldest of these is thirty-eight years old, the youngest twenty, and they are now all living. Having no daughter of their own, Mr. and Mrs. Jacoby took into their home a little motherless girl by the name of Mary M. Sherrow, whom they reared from the age of five years to womanhood, and who is now the wife of Frank Spencer, of McLean County, Ill. Mr. Jacoby cast his first Presidential vote for Clay, and remained a member of the old Whig party until the organization of the Republicans, whose principles he has from that time supported. In religion he is a Baptist, and his excellent wife has been a member of that denomination nearly half a century. On the 26th of November, 1886, they celebrated the fortieth anniversary of their wedding, upon which occasion there were present a large company of friends and relatives, who testified to their appreciation of the excellent pair by presenting them with many tokens of affection and esteem, among them two finely upholstered rocking-chairs, given by the members of the G. A. R., of Mitchell Post No. 38, Waverly. Mirth and jollity prevailed amid the many recollections of olden times, and the contrast between the past and present was often referred to. The company upon retiring left behind them hosts of good wishes and sentiments of friendship and affection for those whose faces and forms had been among them so many years, with the hope that they might be spared for years to come.

In addition to general agriculture our subject has made a speciality of stock-raising, and has been able to exhibit some of the finest animals in this part of the country. He commenced in Nebraska with a capital of about \$2,000, and is now comparatively independent. While having a reasonable and creditable solicitude for the welfare of himself and his family, he has always taken a lively interest in the development of Lancaster County, and was one of

the men instrumental in securing the right of way of the Atchison & Nebraska Railroad and the Missouri Pacific Railroad through Lancaster County and the city of Lincoln. These roads gave an impetus to the business and agricultural interests of this section, and proved at once a public blessing. No man has watched with warmer interest the development of his adopted county, and in having built up one of its finest estates, he has added largely to its prestige, socially, as well as financially.

Henry F. Jacoby, the eldest son of our subject, and a man of more than ordinary intelligence and business capacity, was born April 9, 1850, in McLean County, Ill. Upon the outbreak of the Rebellion he was but a lad not twelve years of age, and though wide-awake and earnest, a boy having his own ideas upon matters and things, he was obliged to curb his incipient patriotism and wait until he was thirteen years old before he could become a soldier as he wished. In July, 1863, he enlisted with the 100-days men, and was sent to Tennessee with his comrades. The year following he enlisted for three years, or during the war, and served until the close. Not yet satisfied with his experience of army life, he again enlisted in the United States service, and was stationed in the South, mostly in the State of Tennessee.

The soldiers now had little to do besides occasional drill, and young Jacoby employed his leisure time at his books, and, by the aid of some of the officers, who took a kindly interest in the ambitious lad, acquired a good education. After receiving his honorable discharge he was engaged as a clerk in the custom house at Savannah, Ga., two years, then was with Gen. Hancock as Clerk of the Engineer Corps for four years. Upon the recommendation of the late lamented Gen. Hancock he was subsequently made a member of the police force of New York City, and after six months' service in that capacity, embarked on an ocean voyage with Gens. Smith and Baldy, officiating as Steward of the vessel, and was in Constantinople during the Turkish War. This was a fine experience which he greatly enjoyed, and which was of much benefit to him. Upon returning to New York City he resumed his old position in the Police Department, where he still remains. He makes a brave and

efficient officer, possessing courage and cool judgment, traits which are absolutely essential in such a position. The other boys are all farmers. Peter, when seventeen years old, enlisted with Gen. Custer for three years, and during that time he was engaged on the frontier fighting the Indians.



JOHAN S. TEMPLE. The subject of this biography occupies a leading position among the representative men of Lancaster County, he being progressive, enterprising and public-spirited, and has built up one of the pleasantest homes within its borders. He is of excellent New England ancestry, his father having been William H. C. Temple, who was born in Claremont, N. H., and his mother, in her girlhood Miss Elmira Tenney, a native of the same place. There they settled after their marriage, remaining in the Old Granite State until about 1835, when they emigrated to Ohio and located among the pioneers of Hamilton County. After a residence there of ten years they removed to Cincinnati, where the death of the father took place in 1857. The mother later became a resident of Delhi, and passed away at the home of her niece, on the 9th of January, 1887. The parental household of our subject included nine children, of whom two by the name of William, and one, a daughter, Frances, died in childhood. The survivors were named respectively: Charles W., Henry C., Amelia, John S. (our subject), Sarah L. and Albert G. Five of these now survive. One lives in Dakota, two in Ohio, and one in Iowa.

Our subject was born while his parents were residents of Oxford, Ohio, Oct. 17, 1837, and was six years of age when the family removed to Cincinnati. He was there reared and educated, and remained a resident of that city until a youth of nineteen years. He commenced his business career at the age of sixteen, being employed as a clerk in a wholesale paper store, and upon leaving the Buckeye State made his way to Mercer County, Ill., where he was in the employ of his uncle on a farm about four years. Thence he migrated eastward to Vincennes, Ind., and for two years was a

clerk in the employ of the O. & M. R. R. Later he purchased an eating-house at the depot in that city, and in connection with it operated a public house and restaurant (the latter known as the Depot Hotel) three years.

While a resident of Vincennes, Ind., Mr. Temple formed the acquaintance of one of the most estimable young ladies of that city, Miss Cassandra, daughter of Thomas and Catherine (Heizer) Goudy, to whom he was married Nov. 27, 1866. The father of Mrs. Temple was born in Ashland County, Ohio, and the mother was a native of Pennsylvania. After marriage they settled in Jeromeville, in Ashland County, where they lived until their removal to Vincennes, Ind. The father was a miller by occupation, and died in the latter place about 1857. The mother is still living, being now well advanced in years, and makes her home with her daughter in Vincennes, Ind.

The parents of Mrs. Temple had a family of eight children, three of whom—Thomas, William and Mary E.—died in childhood. Those surviving are Susannah, Martha J., John F., Elijah, and Cassandra, Mrs. Temple. The latter, the youngest of the family, was, like her father, born in Ashland County, Ohio, May 4, 1848. She received careful home training from an excellent mother, and a fair education in the common school, and remained a member of the parental household until her marriage.

Mr. Temple in 1868, with his wife and one child, left Vincennes for Knox County, Ill., locating on a farm in Knox Township, where he carried on agriculture until the spring of 1883. Then setting his face still further westward, he crossed the Mississippi, and coming to this county located at once in Grant Precinct, purchasing 160 acres of good land on section 13. He has now a neat and substantial residence, and good improvements generally, the farm buildings and machinery being fully in keeping with the requirements of the modern and progressive agriculturist. He is a man who takes pride in his farm and his family, and has an equal interest in the growth and prosperity of his community, giving liberally to worthy enterprises, and contributing his quota to those projects having for their object the general welfare of the people. The home is a model one in all its appointments, and its

inmates are surrounded by all the comforts of life and many of its luxuries, enjoying also the friendship and esteem of the people about them.

To Mr. and Mrs. Temple there have been born three children—William J., Catherine N. and Frank. The latter died in Knox County, Ill., when an interesting child of seven years. Mr. Temple is a strong temperance man, and in 1887 identified himself with the Prohibition party. Both he and his excellent wife are members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church. An idea of their home surroundings may be obtained by a glance at the view of the well-ordered homestead which will be found on another page.

ON. GEORGE BYRON LANE, Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of Nebraska, a distinguished citizen of Lincoln, is one of the leading educators of the day in the West. A graduate of one of the colleges in the East, where he attained high rank in scholarship, his rare talents, profound learning and great executive ability, amply qualify him for the important office that he is filling with credit to himself and satisfaction to the public, and he has made a marked improvement in the educational system of this State since he entered upon the discharge of the duties of this position.

Mr. Lane is a native of New Hampshire, born April 2, 1843, in the town of Epping, Rockingham County, to Wintthrop M. and Frances (Morrison) Lane, being the third child in order of birth of a family of ten children. He is a lineal descendant of Ralph Lane, one of three brothers who came to America from England in early Colonial times, and were among the prominent men of the day, taking an active part in political and public matters. The father of our subject was a native of New Hampshire, and the mother of Maine, both being of English ancestry.

The boyhood and early youth of our subject were passed amid the pleasant scenes of his birth-place, where he obtained the foundation of his education in the district school. He learned the carpenter's trade of his father, and worked at it until

the breaking out of the Rebellion. At that time he had scarcely attained manhood, and, with the ardor and patriotism of youth, he was among the first to respond to the call of his country for aid in sustaining the honor of the old flag. In the spring of 1861, in company with two younger brothers, Joshua and Marcena, he enlisted in Company E, 11th New Hampshire Infantry, but was afterward transferred to the 5th New Hampshire Regiment, and was assigned to the Department of the Gulf under Gen. Banks. His brother Joshua was killed in the battle of Fredericksburg. His youngest brother, Marcena, was rejected on account of his youthfulness, but he managed to enlist, however, and was mustered into the same regiment with our subject, becoming a member of Company I, and did valiant service in many a hardly contested field, having part of his hand shot off in the second battle of the Wilderness. The rendezvous of the regiment was at Long Island, where it remained for about four weeks. The men were then placed on board of a transport and sailed for New Orleans, but encountering rough and stormy weather, the fleet was driven out to sea for many days; finally it touched at Key West, Fla., and later landed at New Orleans late in the fall. The regiment subsequently spent the winter in camp at Carrollton, La. It was then ordered up the Mississippi River to Port Hudson, and took an active part in that siege until the fall of the fort, July 5, 1863. After that the command was dispatched to Vicksburg, and thence to Cairo, Ill., where they were honorably discharged, their term of service having expired. While bravely fighting the battles of his country Mr. Lane was twice wounded; once in the neck when his regiment was gallantly leading the charge on Ft. Hudson, another time in the foot by a spent cannon ball.

After returning to his old home from his exciting experiences on Southern battle-fields Mr. Lane entered Dartmouth College to complete his education, and was graduated from that institution in the class of '67, receiving the degree of B. A. After graduation he went to Wisconsin, and entered upon his career as an educator by accepting the principalship of the schools at Burlington. A year and a half later he went to Van Wert, Ohio, to assume

the duties of Superintendent of Schools in that place, and retained that position until 1872. In that year he was invited to St. Louis, Mo., to become Principal of the city schools. There, as elsewhere, his services were very highly appreciated, and he left the lasting impress of his work and genius on the public school system of that city, by his introduction of superior methods of instruction. His fame as an educator had spread throughout the West, and in 1880 he was called to Omaha, Neb., as Superintendent of the city schools, which position he filled with marked ability until 1882. In 1885 he was appointed Superintendent of the State Census. He finished the duties devolving upon him while in that office in about a year, and in the fall of 1886 he was elected to his present position as State Superintendent of Public Instruction. He has proved a faithful and efficient public officer, devoting all the energies of the best years of his life to the accomplishment of the work that lies before him, and bringing a wide experience and careful and thoughtful study to bear upon the important educational problems of the day.

Mr. Lane was married, Aug. 24, 1882, to Miss Nellie P. Wood, of Omaha, Neb., the daughter of E. B. and Nellie (Parmenter) Wood. She was educated in the public schools of her native city, and her culture and rare intelligence enable her to sympathize with her husband in his work. She is a member of the Congregational Church, and is highly esteemed by a large circle of friends. To this union have been born two children—Frances and Gene. Religiously, our subject is a member of the Congregational Church; politically, he is a sound Republican.

CAPT. THOMAS SEWELL, formerly engaged in the mercantile business in Lincoln, where he still resides, is a man universally respected, not only for his fine military record, but as an honest man and a faithful citizen. He is of English origin, his grandfather, Thomas Sewell, having emigrated from England with his family to America, and settled at Niagara-on-the-Lake, where his last years were spent. He had served many

years as an officer in the English army. His son Thomas, the father of our subject, was a young man when he came to America from his birthplace in Lancaster, England. He had learned the "art preservative" in England, and after he came to this country he published the *Niagara Reporter*, a weekly paper, and in addition published numerous books and did general job printing, and continued that business until his death. At the time of the Mackenzie's rebellion, he volunteered his services and received an officer's commission, and while crossing Queenston Heights he received severe injuries, and erysipelas setting in, he died soon afterward, and his remains lie buried in the village churchyard at Niagara-on-the-Lake. The maiden name of his wife, the mother of our subject, was Caroline Mastin, a native of Lincolnshire, England. She died at her home in Canada, and her remains now repose by the side of her husband's. To them had been born four children, three of whom grew to maturity, namely: Charles H., Thomas and Jane Bishop.

The subject of our sketch was the second child born to his parents. He was six years old when the death of his father occurred, and three years later he went to Utica, N. Y., where he served an apprenticeship to learn the trade of printer. He remained there until 1854, when he removed to Cincinnati, and worked at his trade on the *Enquirer* until the following year. He then proceeded westward as far as Chicago, where he procured work on the *Democrat*, which was then owned by the Hon. John Wentworth, and he continued to work on that paper most of the time until the breaking out of the Rebellion. Being filled with the same patriotic zeal that inspired all loyal hearts, he enlisted in 1861, in Company A, 19th Illinois Infantry, for a term of three months, and went with his regiment to Springfield. Returning to Chicago he re-enlisted for the three-years service, but was taken sick, and the regiment was mustered in during the time of his illness and left for the seat of war. The patriotic ardor of our subject was not lessened, however, and in 1862 he again re-enlisted, in Company G, 127th Illinois Infantry, and was commissioned Second Lieutenant. He went South with his regiment, and took an active part in the battles in and near

Vicksburg and Arkansas Post, until May 19, 1863, when he was severely wounded. As soon as he was able to travel he was sent home on a furlough, but again joined his regiment near Vicksburg, August 15 of the same year, and accompanied his comrades to Chattanooga, going via Memphis, and taking part in various engagements and skirmishes, and then proceeding to Knoxville to raise the siege. Going from the latter place to Larkinsville, Ala., his regiment went into winter quarters, remaining there until the spring of 1864. In the month of May they started on the Atlanta campaign, forming a part of the 15th Army Corps, and participated in the battle of Resaca and all the other battles from there to Atlanta, and in the siege and capture of that city. Meantime he had been acting as Captain of his company for some time; he received his promotion to that rank, and proved a wise and judicious officer. From Atlanta he marched to the sea, and then went by way of the Carolinas to Richmond and on to Washington, reaching there the night before the grand review, in which he was a participant. Capt. Sewell was discharged with his regiment at Washington, and returned to Chicago, where he resumed his former employment, remaining there until 1870. At that time much was being said of the unusual advantages offered to energetic men of good business ability in the rapidly growing towns of the far Western prairies, and Capt. Sewell decided to avail himself of the opportunity to increase his finances. He fixed upon Lincoln as a desirable place for location, and started for this city, coming by rail to within eight miles of the place and the remaining distance by stage. He entered into the mercantile business, opening a grocery store on the south side of O street, between Ninth and Tenth streets. Subsequently he removed to the southeast corner of O and Eleventh streets, where he remained until his retirement from business in April, 1887. At that time he had been in the grocery trade seventeen consecutive years, and was one of the four or five merchants who went into business when he did, or were already established when he settled here. During his residence here Capt. Sewell has taken pride as well as pleasure in seeing the city develop from a village containing about 2,500 people to a populous city of

50,000 inhabitants, with handsome buildings, fine churches and schools, and one whose literary, social and religious advantages compare most favorably with any other city of like size in the Union. The surrounding country, where deer and antelope then sported, and only occasionally was a solitary dwelling to be found, is now converted into a beautiful farming region, whose well-tilled fields and commodious farmhouses please the eye and are a source of enjoyment to the owners.

Capt. Sewell was married, in 1865, to Florence A. Brewster, a native of Pittsburgh, Pa., and they are the parents of one child, Agnes C. Mrs. Sewell is a valuable member of St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject is prominently identified with the following social organizations: He belongs to Appomattox Post No. 214, G. A. R.; is a member of the Loyal Legion; he is Past Grand Commander of K. T.; a member of Delta Lodge of Perfection No. 4, A. & A. Scottish Rite, and is Venerable Master of the same, and Knight of the Court of Honor. In politics the Republican party has always found in him one of its most earnest champions.

CHARLES D. JEWETT is the son of Thomas J. Jewett, who was born in December, 1807, in Utica, Oneida Co., N. Y., in which State he always made his home until his death, which occurred in June, 1880. His wife was Caroline Russell, who entered into that relation in the year 1832, and became the mother of eight children, four of whom were sons. Only three children of this family are now living: Our subject; his sister Paulina, the wife of John Putnam, a farmer in Jefferson County, N. Y., and William M., a farmer at Sanford's Corner, Jefferson Co., N. Y.

Our subject was born Oct. 20, 1840, in Jefferson County, N. Y., and continued with his parents until he was about twenty-six years of age, largely owing to the fact that his father, a Captain in the State Militia, was compelled to make frequent and long absences from home, and at such times our subject took his place upon the farm and in the family as far as he was able. Capt. Jewett was engaged in

the late war, and took a prominent part in many of the engagements and battles. His services as an organizer of companies and raiser of troops led to special mention. He raised and drilled the first company of infantry of Jefferson County, which was afterward attached to the 35th New York Regiment. When he first enlisted he proceeded as far as Washington, and was compelled to return home on account of trouble with his eyes. He again enlisted and proceeded as far as Albany, and was sent back again for the same reason. He afterward enlisted in the 10th Heavy Artillery, and with his company went to Washington and remained one year, when he was taken with a severe attack of pneumonia and on that account discharged from the service.

Upon recovery from his sickness the father of our subject was offered a commission but refused, preferring to do active service, for which, however, he was never strong enough after this sickness. During this time our subject was busy with the cares of the home and farm, and in the fall of 1865 he went through Iowa and Missouri prospecting for a desirable situation to locate and make a home, as he had decided to unite his life's interest with that of Jane C. Wiley, the maiden of his choice, a lady of education, culture and careful home training, calculated to fit her most admirably to be a true companion and helpmate. This lady was the daughter of Ezra C. and Clarissa J. (Gordonier) Wiley; their daughter Jane was born in Watertown, N. Y., in 1840. She made her home with her parents until her marriage, and their careful restraint and intelligent tuition, supplemented by the discipline of her school days and the polish received in her experience in society, all combined to produce the innumerable graces and womanly traits which made her so attractive to our subject, and which made her life such as he would always remember her with loving respect and devotion.

In 1865 our subject went into partnership with his brother, in the flour and milling trade, and continued in the same for about six years with much success. He then proceeded to Iowa, but after looking over the country did not feel satisfied and came on to this county, and before thirty days had passed, in which he had prospected in several counties, he de-

cided to locate in Lancaster County, and bought a quarter-section of land at a cost of \$12 per acre. At the time there was only a small dwelling, 12x14 feet, upon it, and a very few acres under cultivation. He therefore had everything to do in the line of improvement. In the year 1875 he had a very promising outlook for a large harvest, when the pest so much dreaded made its appearance, and he, like his neighbors, lost every particle there was above ground. Every stalk in the field was stripped clean, and even the flower-beds and trees did not escape. Upon the second visitation of the grasshopper, by an ingenious arrangement he was enabled to prevent their incursion and to sustain but slight damage. In order to do this he drew a wind-row between his wheat fields and where they had laid their eggs in the prairie grass, and by the aid of fire placed a barrier between himself and them, and by this means saved his crops. In the year 1878 he sustained another heavy loss; in sixty days over 350 of his hogs died of cholera. But he has not allowed either grasshopper or cholera to come between him and success, and has battled bravely against every adversity until he has achieved the magnificent results patent to the most casual observer. Our subject was called upon in October of 1886 to sustain the heaviest calamity and to bear the hardest blow that can possibly come to a man of his character and disposition. On the 12th of the above month, his wife, who through all the years of their union had stood by him so nobly and encouraged and helped him in every trial and time of darkness and difficulty, was taken from him by death, leaving a family of four children, all of them, however, having attained to years of youth or manhood. The eldest son, Erwin R., was born at Black River, N. Y., June 28, 1869; Dexter T., Nov. 21, 1875; Pearl C., Sept. 1, 1877, and Perry W., Nov. 25, 1878.

Mr. Jewett is well known in political circles and affiliates with the Republican party. We have already referred in this sketch to the eminently satisfactory and honorable career of Capt. Jewett, the father of our subject, in the War of the Rebellion, and before we close must advert to the service of his brother in the same war. This gentleman was born on the 17th of January, 1842, and enlisted in

Company A, 94th New York Infantry, at Sackett's Harbor, N. Y., and in March of the same year was ordered to Washington. From there he was sent with his company to join the Army of the Potomac, and took part in many engagements until the second battle of Bull Run, when he was taken prisoner, and for the space of a little over one month "lay in durance vile." He was then paroled and liberated until he could be exchanged.

On being exchanged Mr. Jewett re-enlisted, in Company M, 5th Regular United States Cavalry, and in that regiment served out his time, acting as Second Sergeant in both instances. He participated in thirty-three battles, part of the time under Gen. Sheridan, and saw many exciting scenes in different skirmishes. He was wounded near the left ear by a ball which penetrated nearly half way through the head, destroying the hearing and seriously injuring the sight. Owing to this accident he was compelled to go to the hospital and necessarily kept from active service. At the close of the war he was discharged, broken down in health, which he never recovered, and survived his return home only four years.

CARLOS C. BURR was born Aug. 15, 1846, in Kane County, Ill. His parents, Benjamin F. and Adelia S. (Barber) Burr, were natives of New York State, and of English extraction. The father was born Dec. 4, 1821. The curriculum of his education was that of a common school, which, however, he used to the best advantage. He went to Kane County, Ill., in June, 1836, with his parents, who made their home near St. Charles, upon what he afterward made a fine farm comprising 320 acres.

The grandfather of our subject was Atwell Burr, and the grandmother, Betsey A. (Wheeler) Burr, likewise of New York State. By occupation he was a farmer, and in theology a Universalist. He was born Aug. 26, 1791, and died in Illinois, in March of the year 1852. His wife, who was five years his junior, departed this life Dec. 13, 1881, at the good old age of eighty-five years. They were the parents of nine children—Lucianda B., Mary L., James

O., Martha B., Benjamin F., Elsie A., Olivia, Betsey and Gendensie. Mary L., wife of George P. Harvey, resides in Elgin; Olivia has become Mrs. John Warren; Elsie A. died in the year 1858 or 1859, and Betsy, who became the wife of Dr. John Morse, was laid in her last sleep in 1886. The father of our subject, Benjamin F. Burr, was married Jan. 1, 1844. The home circle contained seven children—Amanzel D., Carlos C., Lionel C., Atwell L., Clara, Lizzie and Marshall.

At Dixon, Ill., June 28, 1868, Mary E. Smith united her life and interests with those of the subject of this sketch. A simple but impressive service was conducted by the Rev. George Strowbridge, of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The lady was of German extraction and was born in Pennsylvania, July 16, 1851. Her father was a farmer, and in 1856, while driving, met with a deplorable accident which resulted in his death, he receiving fatal injuries, following the running away of his team.

Our subject came here in 1868, for the purpose of practicing law, but the first eight months was occupied sawing wood and doing farm and carpenter work. Upon arrival he was the possessor of about \$270, and soon after made arrangements with a carpenter for a house, 16x20 feet, to be built, which was to cost \$320; \$260 of this was to be cash payment, leaving \$60 to be worked out. The furniture, including bedstead, table and stools, was shaped by his own hand. His house being finished he assisted in the erection of a one and a half story frame building where the Lindell Hotel now stands. This building was known as the Towley House. The first Catholic Church erected in Lincoln was another of the buildings upon which he worked while following his trade. For three years he read law in the office of Hon. James K. Edsall, who has served for two terms as Attorney General of Illinois. By the time he had thus far progressed in his studies, the country was in the midst of the turmoil of civil war. He entered the army as a 100-days man, enlisting in Company E, 140th Illinois Regiment. His term expired, and he was honorably discharged Oct. 29, 1864. He had endeavored to enlist several times before, but being too small to pass muster was not received. In May, 1865, in answer to another call for defenders of the old flag, he re-enlisted, and

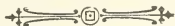
served in Company D, 15th Illinois Regiment, from which he was discharged at the close of the war.

The war being over our subject turned to more peaceful occupations. He was admitted to the bar in September, 1867. Early in the following year he was married as stated, moved to Lincoln, and was called to attend his first lawsuit. The difficulties of starting in a new profession common to all were not omitted in his case, accordingly we find him during the winter supporting himself by chopping wood by the cord as a means of support. At one time he was called upon to prepare the wood for the land-office; this was the means of an introduction, as soon as the spring opened, to a position in that office, which remunerated him some \$6 per week. In this he continued about twelve months. From that time until the present his skies have brightened, and in his professional life, official and social career, he has made an exceptionally splendid record. He has always been a man of activity. He was elected Councilman of the First Ward of Lincoln, being the first to occupy that seat under city government. In August, 1874, he was elected to the Senate from the Eleventh District, and returned to the Chamber a second time in the year 1884. Largely through his influence what is known as the Saline Land Bill was passed. This measure provided for the development of certain salt springs of the city. Again, when the question relative to the removal of the capital was under discussion, the weight of his influence materially aided in its being retained as at present. Also, at various times, by weight of argument and appeal, he has been the means of obtaining needed appropriations for the erection and maintenance of the State buildings in Lincoln.

In the year 1885 our subject was elected Mayor of the city of Lincoln. In addition to the block which bears his name, situated on the corner of O and Twelfth streets, erected at a cost of over \$125,000, he has built and still owns twelve other business blocks. His own residence is one of the ornaments of the city. He, with others, induced the proprietors to extend the Missouri Pacific Railroad to this city.

There are in the family of our subject four children—Frank S., Bertie O., Grace and Helen I. Frank is now a promising student at the military

school at Faribault, Minn. His sister Bertie is also at school in Minnesota. Mr. Burr affiliates with the Republican party. He believes firmly in the principles of protection.



HIRAM DULING. It is a pleasure at all times to present a biographical compendium of one who has been a success morally as well as financially, and whose influence, both at home and abroad, is for the highest good. Such is our subject, Hiram Duling, whose standing in the community is above question, whose fine stock farm is situated on section 29, West Oak Precinct, and comprises 160 acres of first-class land.

Edmund H. Duling, father of our subject, was born Dec. 17, 1825, in Ohio, and in due time was promoted to take his place on the benches of the common school of his native place, there to lay the foundation of his more advanced years. When a young man he went to Indiana, during the summer was active upon his farm, and during the winter engaged in teaching school. He became the husband of Miss Sabina Cole, and they became the parents of eleven children, of whom nine attained their majority. Mr. and Mrs. Duling, Sr., are still living in Owen County, Ind., where they settled on removal from Ohio. Both are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Duling is a daughter of Hiram Cole, and was born in the year 1831, in Ohio, and lived upon her father's farm until her marriage.

Hiram Duling, the subject of this sketch, was born Oct. 11, 1854, in Owen County, Ind., and received such practical education as was obtainable in that which might well be called a peculiarly national institution, a common school. From that he took his place upon the farm, and under his father's instruction began to understand and discriminate the multifarious details of farm work, and continued to work for his father until he was about twenty-one years of age, with the exception of the years from nine to sixteen, when he herded cattle. In the month of February, 1880, our subject landed in Nebraska.

In beginning his life in this county Mr. Duling

was assisted somewhat by his uncle, who provided him with stabling room for his cattle, and storage for his other belongings, until the following summer, when the buildings upon his farm were ready for their reception. All the improvements, trees, orchard, grove, stock barn, extensive stabling, granaries and dwelling are the execution of his own thought and labor, and it is difficult to know where to begin in speaking of points more especially worthy of mention. If we turn to the house, which is most pleasant and comfortable, pervaded by an atmosphere of cheery brightness, which of itself makes life worth living; if we pass out among the shade trees and forest giants, or visit our friends in the orchard, we are equally assured of prosperity and thrift. The same is true of the stock in the stables and pastures, while every field speaks of thought and labor bestowed upon it, the whole comprising one of the best situated and most pleasant farms in the entire district. Our subject has given special attention to the raising of stock, and is the owner of some super-excellent animals.

The year 1876 saw in its latter months the beginning of a new era of things as regards the life of our subject. Largely the old things have passed away and life is seen with rosier tints and in more glowing colors, and the future is all perfumed with the sweetness of affection and thrilled with the harmonies of childish voices. On the 5th of November, that year, the marriage of our subject with Miss Laura A. Bush, of Owen County, Ind., was celebrated. This union was made more completely happy by the birth of five children, who are all living. Miss Bush is a daughter of Thomas Bush, and was born Nov. 4, 1857, and continued to reside at home until her marriage. Her father was by occupation a farmer, but died when his daughter was three years old. After some time her mother married again. Mr. and Mrs. Duling are prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are held in high Christian regard by their fellow-members, because of their works of faith and labors of love.

Our subject is one of the members of the School Board, and has held the position for a long time, performing all the duties of his office in a most conscientious manner. His political principles are

those which form the basis of the Republican party, and his influence and suffrage are given in their support. Whether we shall consider our subject as a youthful student or citizen, or inspect his career in the domestic relations, it would only be with pleasure that we should arise from the inspection, and with the testimony that in every relation and department he has been successful, and will leave the world better because he has lived in it.



MILTON McKINNON, overseer of the Rock Stone Quarry, owned by Messrs. Keys & Bullock, has occupied this position for several years, has become a well-to-do citizen, and is greatly respected wherever known for the true manliness and unquestioned integrity of his character. Mr. McKinnon is also engaged in the stone business on his own account, having opened a quarry on his own premises. Amid the pressure of business he finds time to look after his agricultural interests, and his fine farm, which he purchased in 1887, amply rewards his care and attention. Our subject has risen from the depths of poverty by his own hard struggles, and through years of unceasing toil and noble perseverance, when "Excelsior" seems to have been his motto, he at last conquered the difficulties and disadvantages that beset his youth and early manhood, and has come out on the heights of influence and comparative wealth.

Cornelius and Elizabeth (Hance) McKinnon, the parents of our subject, were natives respectively of Argyleshire, Scotland, and Morris County, N. J., his mother's people being of Scandinavian origin, she being descended from the Swedes and Finns who first settled Delaware. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. McKinnon settled in Morris County, where he was engaged in the iron mines, acting as foreman for ex-Gov. Dickerson for thirty years. In 1847 he removed with his family to Sheboygan County, Wis., where he interested himself in agricultural pursuits. In 1870 he and his wife came to Nebraska to spend their declining years with their children, and he died in the home of his son Angus in 1873, at the age of seventy-four. The mother lived to be seventy-nine years old, dying in 1886. They were

upright, good and true people in every sense of the words, and richly deserved the respect in which they were held. Following are the names of the nine children born to them: Mary A., Isaac, Angus, Margaret, Milton, Marning, Alexander, Cornelius and George W.

The subject of this sketch was the fifth child born to these good people, and his birth occurred Dec. 7, 1836, in Randolph Township, Morris Co., N. J. He was eleven years old when his parents removed to Wisconsin, and his education after that was limited, as he lived three and one-half miles from a school, and his services were needed at home. Wisconsin was at the time of his father's settlement there a Territory, and was in a very wild condition, excepting where towns and villages had been planted, and our subject doubtless had to assist his father in clearing away the trees of the primeval forest from his land before it could be cultivated. As he grew toward manhood he became employed as a sawyer in the winter, and worked in the lumber camps in the Green Bay country from the time he was twenty until he was twenty-five. During that time, in 1859, Mr. McKinnon was married to Miss Rachel J. Jones, daughter of William and Martha (Copland) Jones, both of whom were natives of Michigan, who had removed to Wisconsin at an early date. Mr. Jones was a carpenter and a mechanic, and was very successful in both capacities. Mrs. McKinnon was born in Michigan, Sept. 7, 1840, and was a young girl when her parents took up their abode in Wisconsin, where her chances for a good education were limited in those pioneer days. Mr. and Mrs. McKinnon made their home in Kewaunee County after marriage, and were living there when the war broke out, he being engaged as a lumberman. He offered his services to assist in defending his country's flag, five of his brothers having already enlisted, and his brother Isaac and himself, on the same day, became members of the same regiment, joining Company A, 27th Wisconsin Infantry, were mustered into service at Milwaukee, and then left for Columbus, Ky. Our subject distinguished himself in camp and battle for efficiency and bravery, and received deserved promotion to the rank of Orderly Sergeant. His first encounter with the rebels was at Cape Girard;

afterward he took part in the siege of Vicksburg; was at Helena, Ark.; Little Rock, Pine Bluff, back to Little Rock, and was finally sent back to Wisconsin on detached duty. There, with characteristic energy, he set about recruiting a regiment, the 27th Wisconsin, and as soon as possible departed for the seat of war in the South. His regiment was placed under Gen. Steele, and dispatched to Shreveport to intercept Banks on the Red River, and under that leader they engaged in skirmishing and lost heavily. Our subject continued in the southwestern division of the army until 1865, when it had crossed into Alabama, and had succeeded in taking Mobile. About this time there was danger of foreign intervention, so that the regiment in which our subject was an officer was sent to Point Isabel, Tex., where many of the Federal forces were concentrated. From thence they marched to Rio Grande, and thence to Brownsville, where Mr. McKinnon was honorably discharged in 1865, having faithfully served his country for more than three years. He was mustered out at Camp Randall, and, returning to Wisconsin, resumed his work as a lumberman. He continued to reside in that State until 1867, when he came with his wife and children to Nebraska City, Neb., and took up a homestead of eighty acres, one mile from Hickman, thus becoming a pioneer of Lancaster. He had to experience all the trials that the early settlers passed through, fighting poverty, prairie fires, grasshoppers, and the elements. But roughing it in the lumber camps of Wisconsin, and on the battle-fields of the South, experiencing all the privations and hardships of a soldier's life, had toughened his fibre and strengthened his powers of endurance, morally as well as physically, and he was not the man to yield the battle without a hard fight, although the odds were against him. What he has accomplished needs no further comment than what we have already given. In 1870 Mr. McKinnon sold his farm, and went to contracting on the Burlington & Missouri River Railway. He next contracted with Mr. Keys to excavate a bank for the opening of a quarry. That gentleman was pleased with his work, and he offered him the position of overseer of the quarry, which position he has held since 1887, and by his efficiency and honesty he has rendered

his employer invaluable service. This quarry is widely known to contain some of the finest stone for building purposes to be found in the State, and has furnished material for many of the important public institutions, among which are the State University, asylum for the insane, penitentiary, all at Lincoln, and many other buildings. About 200 carloads a month are taken out of the quarry. The stone is a variety of limestone, which will stand more pressure to the square inch than any other stone in the State.

Mr. and Mrs. McKinnon are the parents of seven children—Anna, Emmett, Zora, Ethel, Gertrude, Viva and Lora. Anna is the wife of John Howard, of Lincoln, and they have two children—Jeanette and Harry. Emmett helps to operate the quarry, and the remaining children are at home with their parents.

Our subject has taken an active part in advancing the educational facilities of the community, and is now serving as School Moderator. He has been Justice of the Peace for eight years, and has also served as Constable. He has been a firm Republican since the formation of the party, when he cast his vote for John C. Fremont. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and as true Christians are always laboring for the good of others.

MICHAEL A. DE PEEL, an extensive farmer and stock-breeder of Lancaster County, owning one of the largest farms in Nemaha Precinct, on section 21, has met with more than ordinary success in his career as an agriculturist. Our subject is quite proud of his ancestry, which dates back in this country to the time of the old French and Indian War, and to the days of Gen. Montcalm. Farther back than that it is shrouded in mystery, as his great-grandfather, who was a soldier in the French army, under the heroic Gen. Montcalm, and was present at the battle of Quebec, fell on the Plains of Abraham while bravely fighting the English. The shock of his death when revealed to his devoted wife was so intense as to cause her immediate death after giving birth to a

child, which afterward became the grandfather of our subject. The little stranger, who was thus so sadly ushered into this world and left without father or mother, was given to Monsieur De Peel, a brave and noble French officer, who adopted and reared him as one of his own, and from whom he took his name. Nothing definite was ever learned concerning the child's parents, but it was thought that the father was a man of rank in the French army and in his native France, as the clothing for the child was of more than ordinary value. Thus the name and history of that gallant soldier who yielded up his life on the Plains of Abraham, so far from his beloved France, on that cool September morning, in 1759, have been lost, and his posterity to this very day bear the honored name of De Peel.

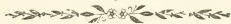
The grandfather of our subject on his mother's side was a resident of Canada, and when the War of 1812 broke out, he entered the British army. He was in the battle of Lundy's Lane, and was detailed to guard some cattle. For his loyalty to the British Crown he received a grant of 200 acres of land near Queenston, and resided there until his death. The parents of our subject, Alexander and Keziah De Peel, after marriage settled in Bayham, about three-quarters of a mile from Corinth, in the Province of Ontario. They subsequently removed to Yarmouth, where Mr. De Peel rented a farm for several years. In 1850 he left Canada with his family, and crossed over the border into Michigan, where he embarked in the hotel business at Jackson, in which venture he met with great success. When the Civil War broke out, he offered his services to his adopted country with all the patriotism and fervor of a native-born citizen. As he had passed beyond the age which was the prescribed limitation for enlistment, his services were not available in the army, but he was gladly accepted as an assistant in the hospitals, where he did great good, and was an invaluable aid in caring for the sick and wounded. When his services were no longer required he returned to his home in Jackson, Mich., and there remained an honored and respected citizen until his death in 1882, at the age of eighty years. He was twice married. His first wife, mother of our subject, died in 1853, at the age of forty-five years, while on a visit to Canada, leaving a large circle of

friends to mourn her untimely death. His second marriage was to Mary Brothers, and by their union four children were born. Mr. De Peel had the following children by his first marriage: Maria (deceased), Edward, Alexander, Martha, Michael A., Elizabeth, Althea, Melissa, and an infant who died.

Michael A. De Peel, of this sketch, was born in Bayham Township, Middlesex County, Ontario, Canada, Nov. 8, 1840, and he still has a faint recollection of his early home in that town, although he was but five years old when his parents took him to Yarmouth to live. He received a common-school education in the latter town, and when not attending school, assisted his father in the labors of the farm as he grew to manhood. He began to make his own way in the world by working out by the month, Mr. Isaac Mills, by whom he was employed seven years, being his last employer. During that time he met and became acquainted with Miss Catherine Pound, to whom he was afterward united in marriage, the date of their wedding being the 26th of October, 1868. She is the daughter of James and Rebecca (Zavitz) Pound, natives of Canada, her father born in Humberstone, Welland County, and her mother in Bertie. Her father was a farmer in comfortable circumstances. Mrs. De Peel traces her ancestry back to Germany on her mother's side, and to England on her father's side. The ancestry of Mrs. De Peel on the paternal side were named Haycock, and were of pure English stock. Her forefathers were Presbyterians, and her grandfather was an officer in the War of 1812. Subsequently he joined the Quakers and came to believe war to be wrong. For this reason, when he and likewise each of his children would have been given a large donation from the English Government, he would not accept it or allow them to do so. Mrs. De Peel was born at Yarmouth, Canada, March 1, 1846, being the second in a family of seven children, all of whom were brought up together and attended the same school a part of the time. She was twenty-two at the time of her marriage. To her and her husband have been born six children, namely: Rebecca, James (died in infancy), James A., Irena M., Belva A. and Mabel E., all living at home with their parents. The first four children were born in Canada.

After marriage Mr. De Peel rented a farm in Canada, and also had charge of a cheese factory for one year. He continued to reside in his native country until the fall of 1881, when, in the month of November, he came with his family to the States to make his home here in the future. He now owns a valuable farm of 320 acres in Nemaha Precinct, and has been more than successful in his undertakings since becoming a resident of this State. He has paid much attention to stock-raising with good results, as he has thirty-three cattle, of good breed, 100 hogs, and some fine horses, among which is a fine stallion. It is three-quarter Norman-Percheron, and took the first premium at the Nebraska State Fair, and also at the Lancaster County Fair in 1887.

Mr. and Mrs. De Peel occupy a warm place in the hearts of the people in this community, to whom they have endeared themselves by their never-failing kindness and geniality, and their carefulness and consideration where others are concerned. The quiet beauty and peacefulness of their daily lives seem to be a true exemplification of the doctrines of the Quaker sect, to which they belong. Mr. De Peel is a man of large, clear thought, and is always prompt in coming to the support of any good work; he is especially interested in the temperance movement, and is a radical Prohibitionist.



JOHAN HARLEY. Among the farmers of Denton Precinct who are entirely worthy of remark, as a pioneer and representative American citizen, is the subject of this sketch, one most favorably known as a man and farmer, whose beautiful farm is situated on section 3. He is a native of England, and was there born Oct. 10, 1841, in the county of Leicester.

Mr. Harley is a son of Christopher and Epsibbey Harley, both of English parentage. He was the second son born to his parents. His father is deceased; his mother still survives. The education of our subject was received in the parish schools of his native county, and fairly complete in the more common branches of knowledge. From school, with its books and lessons, he went to the

farm and became his father's helper. Always deeply interested in stock of all kinds he would get away to the stables, stalls and pastures where they were, and get thoroughly acquainted with them, studying their ailments and difficulties until he became quite proficient as a veterinary surgeon, although he had no opportunity of becoming so excepting the above.

In the year 1869 our subject determined to leave Leicester, and to launch out in the great world of opportunity on this side of the Atlantic. Accordingly, he proceeded to Liverpool and made arrangements for a passage in a sailing-vessel, which was preparing to leave for the United States. Those who have traveled across the Atlantic in one of the floating palaces of the Cunard or White Star Line would hardly care, unless passionately fond of the liquid Empire of King Neptune, for the voyage undertaken by our subject. When sung by a chorus of well-trained voices, there is a fascination about the song, "Sailing away, o'er the deep blue sea," but the actual experience is quite another tune, especially when the storm clouds lash the billows in their fury; rolling, pitching, tumbling, tossing; never ceasing for a single instant, waking or sleeping, to say nothing of the horrors of the mal-de-mer. It is an experience which, lengthened as was this voyage to a period extending over three months, is sufficient to last a lifetime. But all things have an end, and this moving experience of our subject had its end when he landed in New York City. He remained for several weeks in the city, and then proceeded to Lake County, Ill., where he resided until 1877, and followed his old occupation of farming, each year growing more and more prosperous.

In the fall of 1877 our subject came to this county and purchased his present farm, then in all the beauty of its original condition; but he has always been an inveterate worker and careful to labor intelligently, being attentive to understand the why and the wherefore of the task undertaken. His eighty acres of land, therefore, speedily began to take on a different appearance, and were brought rapidly under the plow. The house which he has erected has been designed rather to give the greatest comfort and pleasure to the occupants than to make a show for outsiders, although the ex-

terior is not without its attractions. Naturally Mr. Harley is giving much attention to the raising of stock, for, as we have noticed, he has made many friendships with the four-footed companions of his toil and farm life, and would consider his property incomplete without their presence, a fact that they seem to know and appreciate as well as he.

Previous to coming to the States our subject had met with a lady whose many womanly virtues and charms compelled his admiration and respect, which were not long in ripening into an ardent affection. Apropos to this condition of things, her consent was obtained, and they were united in marriage, and their union, which has proved an unalloyed happiness, has been strengthened and consummated by the birth of five children—Elizabeth, Louisa, Eliza, Abbie A. and Robert. When coming to this country our subject was compelled, and thought it wise, to take the journey alone, and afterward to make arrangements for the reunion of the family at such time as he had provided a home. It was about one year after his departure that this happy event occurred, and his wife rejoined him in this country.

In political matters our subject finds in the Republican party that which is most congenial to him, and gives his support and suffrage to its ticket. In these advanced days of the nineteenth century civilization it is a pleasure to be able to speak of citizens as representatives, as it is possible to do of our subject. He is this because he is in every regard a self-made man, and has worked his way perseveringly and undauntedly from the lowest step of the ladder; and again, because among those who know him in the social and business world, his word is as good as his bond, and he is the recipient, therefore, of their heartiest confidence and respect.



FRANKLIN F. ROOSE. Next, perhaps, to the profession of the minister of the Gospel in its importance as bearing upon the interests of the world and civilization, is that of the educator. Accepting the statement of Moses, Prince of Egypt, that man has been made in the Divine image, those who devote themselves to the strength-

ening, development and manifestation of that higher and spiritual part of man, by which he is distinguished from the animal world, and is most probably that wherein the likeness above referred to is found, are shaping the history of the future and molding the characters, and therefore largely the destinies of man, and through them the future of the world at large.

In the present sketch we shall aim to present a few of the most salient features in the life of one of Nebraska's best-known and popular educators. The sketch must necessarily be brief and therefore incomplete, and as a result more or less unsatisfactory. To make it otherwise would require a volume in itself. The father of our subject, Samuel Roose, was born at Mt. Union, Ohio, Feb. 17, 1829, and was reared to manhood in his native place, and upon arriving at years of maturity married and commenced life in that relation in the same county. He left Ohio and settled in Rock Island County, Ill., in 1854, and engaged in the lumber business, continuing his residence there most of the time until 1882, when he removed to Victor, Iowa, where he purchased a farm, which he has since operated. Samuel Roose was happily united in marriage to Amanda Berger, a native of Pennsylvania. Our subject's grandfather was also born at Mt. Union, Ohio.

Our subject was ushered into terrestrial scenes at Moline, Ill., on the 3d of July, 1855. The experiences of his early years have, perhaps, nothing to distinguish them from some others. His earlier education was received in the Rock Island common school. At the early age of nine years he left the classes of that institution and began to work in a sawmill in Rock Island, and there remained for six years, when his parents removed to a farm a few miles distant. It was here he was first impressed with the need of a better education. He then began to save sufficient money to carry him through a course of study at the Wesleyan University, at Bloomington, Ill., where he remained two years. He then engaged as a teacher in Chaddock College, at Quincy of the same State, where, as one of the faculty, he became a member of the Board of Trustees, and Secretary of the Executive Board. Shortly after this he graduated from the Gem City Business

College, and upon leaving the same took charge of the commercial department of the McKendree University, where he pursued privately the regular scientific course, and in due time was honored with the usual degree. He taught two years in this institution with perfect satisfaction to himself and pupils.

Upon the 7th of September, 1881, our subject became the husband of Miss Elizabeth Morrison, a lady of education, culture, refinement and womanly grace, thereby effecting a union most happy and beyond regret. Their home has from that time proved the fact that their marriage was a union of kindred and congenial spirits, and is one of those instances where there is left nothing of purest unalloyed happiness to be desired, a manifestation of that complete and perfection of union which this relation was originally designed to embrace. Mrs. Roose is the daughter of H. B. and Margaret Morrison, of Quincy, and was born Oct. 21, 1859.

In 1882 our subject removed with his wife to Brazil, South America, to fill a twofold engagement for six months as a teacher in the Collegio Americano, at Pernambuco, and the following six months as Secretary to the United States Consul, in the same city. At the conclusion of this engagement he accepted the position of Auditor of the Recife a Caxanga Railway Company, and occupied the position for nearly one year, when he was compelled to resign and return North, owing to the inroads being made upon his health by the continued heat of the tropical climate. Upon leaving Brazil he received from the Railway Executive Board the following letter, which speaks more than any complimentary eulogium: "Mr. F. F. Roose filled the vacancy of accountant for this railway, and I have much pleasure in stating that he has acquitted himself satisfactorily, displaying marked ability in mastering the details of the accountant's duties, and in matters requiring careful auditing has proved himself thoroughly reliable.

W. W. OSTLER,

"President of Trilhos Urbanos de Recife a Caxanga Railway, Pernambuco, Brazil, South America."

Upon arrival at home Mr. Roose decided to make his abode in Nebraska, whither he made his way, and located in 1884 at Lincoln, where he founded the Lincoln Business College, one of the most suc-

cessful institutions of its kind in the Northwest. Its popularity was such that after a period of ten months our subject found it necessary to have assistance, and received as a partner Prof. D. R. Lillibridge, an experienced and practical educator. Our subject is the author of a well-known and valued book on "Modern Book-keeping," which has from the date of issue been recognized with increasing popularity as a standard text-book in this most important department of commercial education.

In the year 1886 Mr. Roose was honored by the Iowa Wesleyan University conferring upon him the degree of A. M. In the same year he was selected by the Camp, of which he was a member, as a delegate to the Head Camp of the Modern Woodmen of America, where he was elected assistant clerk, and before the session was over, Head Adviser, which is the second highest office in the fraternity. He is also connected with the Northern Relief Association, as Secretary and Treasurer. He is the editor and publisher of a monthly paper, the *Western Workman*, the official organ for the well-known fraternity, Ancient Order of United Workmen. Subjoined is a list of offices held by our subject in different societies and business interests, which will convey some idea of the popularity, recognized talent, large business capacity, manhood, rectitude and high character of Mr. Roose: Principal of the Commercial Department of the Nebraska Wesleyan University; member of the Lincoln Press Club; publisher of the *Western Workman*, A. O. U. W., and *Lincoln Monthly*; Secretary and Treasurer of the Western Railway Company; Head Adviser of the Modern Woodmen of America; Secretary and Treasurer of the National Union of Business Colleges; Secretary and Treasurer of the Northern Relief Association, A. O. U. W.; Lieutenant Commander of Legion No. 8, S. K.; Chancellor Commander of Capital City Lodge No. 68, K. of P.; Past Master Workman of Upehureh Lodge No. 15, A. O. U. W.; Trustee of Capital City Camp No. 190, M. W. A.; Vice President of the A. O. U. W. Improvement Association; Corresponding Member of the Phi Delta Theta.

From the above it will be seen that Mr. Roose is an active, enterprising, liberal and patriotic gentleman, of the highest type of manhood, and in every

regard worthy the name of a representative American citizen. His intelligent and careful study of the questions before the country has led him to associate himself with the Republican party, but in every case his suffrage is dictated by principle and not party.



WILLIAM W. JONES. This gentleman is a resident of Lincoln, although a native of Illinois, having been born in Jacksonville, Morgan County, of that State. His father, John G. Jones, was a native of Pennsylvania, where he was born in the year 1795, and Joshua Jones, his father, and grandfather of our subject, was born in 1760, also in the Keystone State, and for the greater part of his life followed the occupation of farming about ten miles from the city of Philadelphia. On this homestead the father of our subject was reared, and learned to operate the farm.

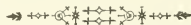
As a young man Mr. Jones, Sr., joined the Baptist Church, and followed closely the teachings thereof, but after a few years he transferred his membership to the Christian or Disciple Church, and became a preacher of his denomination. He labored in the duties of the sacred office in his native State, at Cincinnati, and Jacksonville, Ill., and then for some years was engaged as Cashier in Ayers' Bank in that city. Returning to the pulpit, he served at Eureka of that State. The maiden name of his wife, the mother of our subject, was Emma Woodward, who was born in Philadelphia, and died in Jacksonville, leaving behind her the memory of a life literally crowded with words and deeds of kindness, and purest Christian living.

The subject of our sketch received his education in the halls of Eureka College, graduating from that institution with the class of '66. He engaged in teaching at Tremont, Tazewell Co., Ill., continuing for two years. He then emigrated to Nebraska City, where he arrived on the 4th of August, 1868. It was not long before he obtained a position as teacher, and by his marked ability soon became Superintendent of City Schools, which position he retained for six years. In 1874 he came to Lincoln, and filled a similar position, continuing until 1880, when he was elected Superintendent of Public

Instruction for the State of Nebraska, and served six years, that is, for three consecutive terms, a fact that speaks eloquently, both in regard to his ability and the esteem in which he is held.

In the year 1871 our subject was united with Anna Cinnamond in marriage, the event being celebrated on the 28th of December. They have become the parents of two children, to whom have been given the names Woodward and Edith L., respectively. The wife of our subject was born in St. Louis; her father, however, David Cinnamond, who was a native of Ireland, was born near Dublin, accompanied his parents to this country in his boyhood, and lived with them upon the farm in Allegheny County, Pa. He was apprenticed to a machinist, and afterward went to St. Louis, where he became acquainted with the lady who afterward became his life companion. In 1859 he settled in Nebraska City, and engaged in the lumber business, where he resided until his death in 1877, at the age of sixty-nine years.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones are very devout and consistent members of the Christian Church. Socially, our subject is connected with the G. A. R. and the Masonic fraternity, being a member of Lincoln Lodge, and also of the Delta Lodge of Perfection, 14th degree.

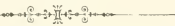


JOHN B. STEFFENS. Buda Precinct has many true and worthy citizens within its borders, among whom should be mentioned the subject of this writing, residing on section 6. He is a native of Germany, and was born in that country on the 27th of December, 1842. He is the only child born to Bernard and Helen Steffens, who are also natives of the Fatherland, where they have always lived.

The subject of our sketch emigrated to America in 1870, landing in Baltimore fifteen days after leaving the port of Bremen. He came on direct to Nebraska, and spent two years in farming in Otoe County; he removed to this county and homesteaded eighty acres of land, upon which he settled and devoted his energies to its improvement. That he has been successful is established beyond dispute,

by the fact that he now owns 280 acres of highly cultivated agricultural and pastoral land.

Mr. Steffens joined the "benedicts" March 5, 1875, when he was united in marriage with Eliza Dittmer, a compatriot. There have been given to them eight children, six of whom are living, namely: John H., Herman L., William F., Louisa M., Helen and Bernard. Mr. and Mrs. Steffens are members of the Lutheran Church, in which they were brought up from the time of their baptism and confirmation, and have never left. In political matters our subject, ever since becoming a citizen, has been an affiliate of the Republican party.



JOHAN W. CASTOR. Among the few who came to this section of country in its early days and at once recognized the possibilities which would spring from a proper cultivation of the soil, and the encouragement of those elements tending to elevate society, the subject of this sketch stands prominent, and his career has been such that he is held in universal respect and esteem. For years he has been recognized as one of the most extensive farmers and stock-raisers in Lancaster County, operating on its western line, in Middle Creek Precinct. He came to Nebraska in 1873, and since that time has been closely identified with the interests of this section of country.

The Castor family is of an old and honorable line of descent of Irish ancestry, the first representative of which crossed the Atlantic prior to the Revolutionary War. In this conflict the great-grandfather of our subject actively engaged, and after the independence of the Colonists had been established, he settled in Virginia, where Indians were more plentiful than white men. Many were the shifts and turns he made to evade the treacherous foe, and secrete from them his wife and children, at times when their lives and property were threatened. He had twenty-six sons, and each of these sons had a sister. As far as known he spent his last days in the Old Dominion.

John Castor, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was born in Virginia, whence he removed to Pennsylvania, and from there to Ohio, being one of

the earliest pioneers of Wayne County, in the latter State. The removal was made before there were either canals or railroads, they going across the country with ox-teams. The wife and mother died in what was then Wayne, but is now Holmes County, in 1819. John Castor subsequently removed to Richland County, where he sojourned until 1834, then changed his residence to Hardin County, where he was one of the early settlers of Pleasant Township. At the time of his arrival there were but three or four log cabins on the present site of Kenton, now the county seat, and the last four miles of the way he had to cut a path with his ax through the heavy timber. He entered three quarter-sections of land from the Government, and put up first a temporary log cabin, building later a substantial log house.

The grandfather of our subject was a man of brave and courageous spirit, and labored undaunted by the terrors of the wilderness, which abounded in savage beasts, panthers, wolves and bears, while with his trusty rifle he brought down numbers of deer and wild turkeys, so that whatever else the family larder lacked, it was always supplied with choice wild meats. He lived to see the country settled up about him by a prosperous class of people, who developed the wilderness into productive farms and prosperous villages. After reaching the advanced age of ninety-four years he passed quietly away at his home in Ohio, in December, 1881.

Paul Castor, the father of our subject, was quite young when his parents removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio, and upon reaching manhood purchased a tract of timber land on section 14 of Pleasant Township, Hardin County, where he put up a log house without nails, the roof being kept in place with weight poles. In that humble dwelling the subject of this sketch was born, Oct. 19, 1837. He grew up amid the wild scenes of pioneer life, when the embryo cities of Columbus and Cleveland were the nearest markets to which the produce of the farmer was laboriously transported, more often by ox-teams than by horses. Flour was a luxury in those days, and the nearest mill was at Kenton, four miles away.

After improving eighty acres of his land Paul

Castor sold out and moved to his other eighty acres, which, after improving, he also sold, then retired from active labor, taking up his residence in Kenton, where he passed to his final rest in July, 1886. The parents of our subject were married in Ohio, Dec. 27, 1836, the mother being Miss Eleanor, daughter of Reading and Nancy (Bergen) Hinline. Her father's family consisted of ten children.

To Paul and Eleanor Castor there were born ten children, four of whom are living, namely: John W., our subject; George B., William P., and Mary J., the wife of H. L. Holmes. The father was a good man in the broadest sense of the term, a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a Democrat in politics. He was a Director of the County Infirmary three years, and held various other offices of trust and responsibility. The mother was in all respects the suitable companion and helpmate of such a man, and is still living at the advanced age of seventy-two years, in Kenton, Ohio.

The early education of our subject was carried on in the primitive log school-house, with the slab benches and puncheon floor, its huge old-fashioned fireplace, and its chimney built outside of earth and sticks. He assisted in the development of the new farm, and upon reaching his majority purchased forty acres of land from his father, and which was a part of the grandfather's old homestead. He did not settle there then, but worked his father's farm two years after his marriage. He then purchased a farm in Montgomery Township, Marion County, where he took up his abode with his family, residing there until 1868. In the spring of that year he sold out his possessions in the Buckeye State, and removing to Dodge County, Minn., settled upon a tract of prairie land near the little town of Mantorville. Fifty acres of his purchase had been cleared, and he continued there, making some improvements, until 1873. In the spring of that year he came to Southern Nebraska and purchased 160 acres of land on section 16, in Middle Creek Precinct, this county, and which is included in his present farm. Forty acres of this were in a productive condition, and after bringing the balance to the same state, he purchased eighty acres additional, and in the summer of 1886 erected the present dwelling. In addition to general agricult-

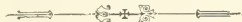
ure he makes a specialty of fine stock, breeding Short-horn cattle, Percheron horses and Poland-China swine.

Mr. Castor was united in marriage with Miss Sophronia E. Potter over twenty-seven years ago, April 4, 1861. Mrs. C. was born in Manlius, Onondaga Co., N. Y., in May, 1842. Her father, Josiah Potter, a native of Montgomery County, that State, was born near the town of Johnstown, where he was reared to manhood, and whence he removed to Onondaga County, and from there to Ohio, during its pioneer days. The journey was made via canal and lake to Sandusky, and thence overland by teams to Wyandotte County, where he lived a few years, then purchased 160 acres of land in Hardin County, fifty of which were improved. There he built up a good homestead and still resides. The mother, formerly Miss Mary A. Mills, was born in the State of New York, and was the daughter of William and Anna (Powell) Mills, who spent their last years in New York State. She departed this life in Hardin County, Ohio, about 1870. Mr. and Mrs. Castor are the parents of two children—Rosetta N. and Curtis H.

Mr. Castor identified himself with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1858, in which he has served as Class-Leader, Steward, Trustee and Superintendent of the Sunday-school. He assisted in organizing the society and building the church at Pleasant Dale, also the church at Emerald, and has been foremost in the various enterprises calculated for the general advancement of the people. The County Agricultural Society has found in him one of its chief supporters, he having been a member of the Board of Directors six years, and standing by it through storm and sunshine. In 1882 he was the candidate of the Anti-Monopoly Society for the State Legislature, and, although expecting defeat, made a fine showing, coming within 100 votes of being elected. Upon the two occasions when the county voted on the question of township organization, he was elected to represent Middle Creek Precinct in the County Board of Supervisors, and in 1887 was elected Justice of the Peace, the duties of which office he is discharging in a creditable and satisfactory manner. He also filled the same office for one term some ten years ago.

The parents of our subject had a family of ten children, six of whom grew to mature years. Of these John W. was the eldest; George B. is a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, connected with the Northern Ohio Conference; Jacob during the late war was a member of the 64th Ohio Infantry, being under command of Gen. Sherman, with whom he marched to the sea. Just before the close of the war he was detailed to take a company of prisoners to Rock Island, Ill., and while guarding them at Governor's Island, was seized with fatal illness and died at his post of duty. His was the first tombstone erected to a soldier in the Rock Island Cemetery. Mary E. became the wife of H. L. Holmes, and lives in Hardin County, Ohio; Alice is deceased, and W. P. resides on the old homestead in Hardin County, Ohio, which was made from the wilderness by the paternal grandfather, and is a man prominent in the affairs of his county, having filled the various local offices.

Mr. Castor, in all the relations of life, has acquitted himself in a manner which has gained him the esteem and confidence of all who know him, being of irreproachable character, and possessing those instincts which have ever led him to scorn a mean action, and to adjust his line of conduct by the high-minded principles inherent in his nature, and which have shed their influence upon all around him.



EVERT M. UPHOFF. This thrifty and industrious young farmer of Highland Precinct, is cultivating successfully 160 acres of land on section 21, which comprises the homestead, and eighty acres on section 28, the whole of which yields him a handsome income. His land is mostly in productive condition, and his experience in agricultural pursuits dates from his boyhood. He takes delight in noting the development of the seed to the harvest time, and has the true conception of what agricultural life should be, taking pride in putting forth his best efforts and with the results which do him great credit.

Woodford County, Ill., was the early tramping ground of our subject, and where his birth took place under the modest roof of the parental dwell-

ing on the 9th of October, 1866. It will thus be observed that our subject is young in years, especially so considering the large interests which he has in charge. His father, Frank Uphoff, was a native of what was formerly Hanover in Germany, and was of pure German ancestry, belonging to the better class of his nationality. He was reared to farm life until reaching his majority, and then enlisted in the service of the Government, as a private soldier in the regular army, for a period of seven years.

The father of our subject after receiving his honorable discharge from the military service, emigrated at once to the United States, and located first in Peoria County, Ill. There also he was first married, but his wife died four years later, leaving no children. He then returned to his native land, and was married the second time, to a maiden of his own country, Miss Kazena Miners, and they at once crossed the water and settled in Woodford County, Ill., where Mr. Uphoff resumed farming and where their five children were born.

The subject of this sketch was the second son and third child of his parents. While residents of Woodford County the second child died, and the parents, in 1870, with their four remaining children came to Nebraska, and settled in Highland Precinct, this county, upon a tract of land now included in the homestead of our subject. The country at that time was practically undeveloped, but the father of our subject, with the industry and enterprise characteristic of his German ancestry, labored perseveringly until there began to grow up around them all the comforts of a modern home. Here the two younger children of the family were born, but with the exception of our subject and his sister Maggie, all were taken from the home circle by death. The latter is now the wife of J. R. Reuken, and they live on their own farm of 160 acres in Highland Precinct; they have an interesting family of four children—William, Herman, Martin W. and Anton.

Mr. Uphoff, our subject, completed his education in the district schools of Highland Precinct, and when a lad of fifteen years started for California. He reached the Pacific Slope in safety, and was there a short time. Later he migrated to Linn County, Ore., where for a period of four years he

worked on a farm the greater part of the time. This experience had the effect of restoring his somewhat impaired health, and developed in him a strong and robust constitution, so that in returning to his home in 1886 he was amply prepared for the work which lay before him.

Our subject after making suitable arrangements for the establishment of a home of his own, took unto himself a wife and helpmate, Miss Ida Hayem, their marriage being celebrated at the home of the bride in Highland Precinct, Nov. 6, 1887. Mrs. Uphoff was born in Woodford County, Ill., June 7, 1868, and came with her parents to Nebraska when about eleven years of age. She completed her education in the schools of Highland Precinct, and under a course of careful training by an excellent mother, was well fitted to assume her future position in life as the wife of a good man. Of this union there has been born one child—Reskey.

The father of our subject departed this life at his home in Highland Precinct, on the 1st of June, 1881, after a short illness. He was fifty-one years of age. The mother died March 7 of the following year, of inflammation of the brain, at her home in Highland Precinct, at the age of forty-three. They were good people in the broadest sense of the term, and worthy members of the Evangelical Church. With this church our subject and his estimable wife are also connected. Politically, Mr. Uphoff, like his father before him, is a staunch supporter of the principles of the Democratic party.



JOHAN W. IVERS. In the subject of this sketch we find a worthy citizen. Mr. Ivers was born in the neighborhood of LaFayette, Ind., Nov. 8, 1829, and was the second child of eight born to Samuel and Sarah (McJimpsey) Ivers. The former was born July 15, 1802, at Columbus, Ohio, and was the third in the family of nine which comprised the home circle of Richard and Deborah (Leslie) Ivers. The family record inscribes their names in the order of birth as follows: Lottie, William, Richard, Samuel, Maria, Mahala, Elizabeth, Elzy and Sarah. Samuel Ivers spent the days of his boyhood and youth in

Miami County, Ohio, dividing his attention between his school duties and the occupations of the farm, which, as the years went by, succeeded those of the school. This continued until after he had attained his majority. Shortly after his marriage he removed to the neighborhood of LaFayette, Ind., and settled on a farm, where he remained for about two years, when he returned to Ohio, which State became his residence for the next three years, when the attractions of the Hoosier State again determined him to return. Accordingly he took up his residence in Elkhart, Ind., for a period of three years. The next four years were spent in Montgomery County, Ind. At the end of that period another removal was effected, this time to Thornstown, Boone County. From there he went to Clintown County, and after one year in that district made his home in Jasper County, near Rensselaer. This was in the year 1844, and was his home for eight years.

The broad prairies of the Hawkeye State pressed their claims in a manner not to be resisted; accordingly, in the year 1852, Mr. Ivers removed from Indiana to Jones County, near Rome, in that State, but after a residence of one year another removal took the family to Princeton, Mo. After a period of about twelve months this home was vacated in favor of one in Nebraska City. At that time (1855) there was only one brick house in that city. At the close of his first year's residence he bought some Government land in Otoe County, and for the subsequent nine or ten years continued with success the occupation of farming. This was followed by a return to Iowa and residence, first in Bartlett and latterly in Glenwood. From there the family passed to Baxter Springs, Kan., where he purchased a farm and met with considerable success. Thence, in December, 1881, he removed to Nebraska, and died on December 11, a few days after his arrival. His remains were laid away by his family and friends in Lincoln Cemetery.

The many removals and constant change of home are accounted for by the fact that Mr. Ivers was a trader and, as rapidly as possible, after purchasing a property he would improve it, place it upon the market, and, as soon as it was profitably disposed of, would move on to a new home. In this way

he accumulated a large competency, by which he was enabled to assist his children to make a good start in life. He was a true pioneer of the Far West, and took part in many stirring scenes incident to border and new country life. He was a most exemplary man and honorable citizen. During his residence in Nebraska he assisted materially in the settlement of the troubles originating in the passage of the Kansas and Nebraska Bill. At the time of the Indian outbreak, when Nebraska City was threatened with annihilation, Mr. Ivers, then Lieutenant in a militia regiment, by prompt measures, bold and decisive action, assisted in averting the danger.

The mother of our subject was born in Miami County, Ohio, near the city of Troy, on the 8th of July, 1805, and was the youngest child of Robert and Mary (Waugh) McJinsey. Her parents were originally from Philadelphia, went West when Ohio was a Territory, and settled in the above county, upon a section of Government land, which was rapidly improved. Upon this farm was born the child who grew up, also amid these surroundings, until she reached the years of womanhood, then, Aug. 13, 1824, was married to Mr. Ivers, the father of our subject.

Among the great needs of a newly opened and undeveloped country, perhaps the chiefest would be men and women capable, mentally, physically and financially, to take things as they found them, in all their crudeness, and so shape events that the wilderness may become a garden, its hidden resources brought into the light and developed, and institutions worthy of our great Republic, homes, schools and churches, might be set up and established. The father and mother of Mrs. Ivers were in this sense pioneers. After the death of his wife at Troy, which occurred the same day as was fought the battle of Tippecanoe, the father went on a visit to Pleasant Hill, Ind., where he, too, lay down to his last rest.

Bearing in mind the family from which Mrs. Ivers came, the environment of her youth and young womanhood, the influence of those parents, such as hers were, must have upon a developing life and character, we are fully prepared to expect to see reproduced in her a like nobility of purpose and

completeness of life, throughout the long years of journeying hither and thither, wandering from State to State, passing from home to home, in all of which she accompanied her husband, excepting the time when he discharged the duties of Indian trader in Kansas City.

Until the year 1853 our subject resided with his parents in different locations in the Hoosier State, but at that time he was married and commenced life in his own home. In 1860, from Jasper County, Ind., he removed to Otoc County, Neb., purchasing 350 acres of wild land; for some of this he paid \$10 per acre, for others \$25, and others so much as \$37. Here he remained some eight years, when he removed to Glenwood, Iowa, purchased 420 acres of land, and was very successful for eight years, when he again sold out and removed to Lancaster County, Neb., purchased 416 acres in Waverly Precinct, and after a residence of three years was enabled to sell to advantage. He did so, and bought 100 acres near University Place. Here he continued to reside for a period of three years, and again sold his property, repaired to Lincoln, and erected the houses still owned by him in that city, upon V street. He has always been a devoted admirer and strong adherent of the Republican party, and an energetic worker for his party when occasion demanded. In the Christian Church, of which both himself and wife are members, he is held in the highest esteem. He has frequently been called upon to fill local offices, and in every instance where he has done so has received the commendation and approval of his fellow-citizens. In 1861 he was enrolled in the Home Guards at Nebraska City, and in the social organization of Odd Fellows has for many years been a member.

On the 3d of February, 1853, our subject was joined in matrimony to Sophronia H. Grant, daughter of Smith and Ivy (Dillon) Grant; she was the fifth child of the family, which included ten children. The father was a native of Virginia, and resided in Fleming County until his parents removed to Lexington, Fayette Co., Ky., which event transpired while he was yet in his teens. Here he was married in after years, and continued to reside until after the birth of his two eldest children, when he proceeded to make his home in Wabash County,

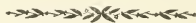
Ind., upon a homestead farm of 120 acres. In this occupation he was very successful, and before many years owned several other farms in the vicinity. This continued to be his residence until his family had grown up.

Jasper County, Ind., was the place decided upon for the new home. Mr. Grant effected a profitable sale of his farm property, and purchased 460 acres in the above county, and engaged in stock-raising until his death, in the year 1855. In this occupation, as in that of agriculture, previously followed, his vigilance, large outlook and efficiency, made him successful. He was for many years a member in good standing and Elder in the Christian Church, an organization which aims to restore the original simplicity and purity of the Church of Christ, as in the age of the Apostles. He was a true and ardent supporter of the Whig party, although thinking most strongly on the temperance question, and absolutely opposed to the liquor traffic.

Mrs. Grant, mother of Mrs. Ivers, was born in Lexington, Ky., where also she was reared, and continued to reside until she arrived at womanhood and was married. She was a devoted Christian woman, always interested in the work of the church, actively engaged in efforts for the alleviation of distress, and meeting the needs of the destitute; her pleasure seemed to be to live for others, and in making others happy she herself drank at the same stream. She was for many years a member of the Christian Church.

Until her marriage with our subject Mrs. Ivers made her home with her parents. Although unaccustomed, to any great extent, to work at household duties, she bravely began the battle of life, entering with spirit into his plans and projects, and has since, with him, been enabled to rejoice in what has been accomplished, for to-day they are surrounded with all that is needed for their comfort and happiness in life. Like her mother and father, she is a consistent and active member of the Christian Church, in which communion her children have been brought up. To this highly respected family have been given eleven children, who were born as follows: Leslie, July 25, 1855; Willis, Aug. 10, 1858; Ella M., Dec. 28, 1860; Amelia and Delia (twins), Jan. 11, 1862; Aurelius, Dec. 31, 1864;

Arabella B., born Dec. 10, 1866, died July 27, 1888; Ivy M., born Aug. 18, 1869; Sadie M., Oct. 10, 1870; Lottie A., Oct. 11, 1873, and Samuel, Aug. 13, 1876. With the exception of the twins and Arabella B., all are living. Amelia died Feb. 15, 1862, and Delia Sept. 27, 1863. Ella has become the wife of Cramer Beyette; Belle is now the wife of George Keefer, and Ivy M. is now Mrs. Frank Kauffman.



N W. GRISWOLD. The grandfather of our subject, Daniel Griswold, was born about the year 1740 in England, and came to America, where he settled and lived in Herkimer County, N. Y., until the time of his death, about the year 1835. He was a farmer and came to America before he was married, his wife being a native of New York, who died about the year 1820. The father of our subject was John Griswold, who was born in Herkimer County, N. Y., about the year 1794, where he lived until he was twenty-five years old, when he went to Jefferson County, and thence to St. Lawrence County of the same State, remaining there until the time of his death in 1827. The mother of our subject was Lucy (Watson) Griswold, a daughter of William Watson, formerly of Scotland, and she died in the year 1885. There was a family of six children, five sons and one daughter, three of whom are now living. They are: N. W. Griswold, the subject of this sketch; William, a carpenter living at Lincoln, and Rosaloo, of North Bluff, Lancaster County.

Our subject was born on the 17th of September, 1817, in Fairfield, Herkimer Co., N. Y. At the age of three years he was taken to Jefferson County, thence to St. Lawrence County, where he remained five years with his parents, and at the end of that time he returned to Jefferson County, where he staid until 1855 in the town of Black River. In that place he learned the trade of wool-carding and cloth-dressing, and in 1855 he went to Angola, Steuben Co., Ind., where he worked for a time at his trade and also at carpenter work. In the fall of 1868 he removed from Indiana to Ashland, Saunders Co., Neb., at which place he remained

from October until the following May. He drove all the distance from Indiana with a double team and a horse and buggy, being thirty-one days on the road, and taking the first buggy that had ever been seen in Ashland. In the year 1868 he removed to Lancaster County, where he remained but a few days until he built a dug-out, in which his family lived for five or six years, when he built a sod house in which he lived for six years, and in 1881 he built the residence in which he now lives.

On the 8th of December, 1839, our subject married Hester Ann Whaley, of Jefferson County, N. Y. Mrs. Griswold is a daughter of James and Sarah (Gordonier) Whaley, the former of English, and the latter of Holland descent. Mr. Whaley died in Oneida County, N. Y., in 1827, and Mrs. Whaley made her home with her daughter in Angola, Steuben Co., Ind., until the time of her death in 1867. They had a family of eleven children, five of whom were sons and six daughters; but five of the children are now living. Mrs. Griswold was the eighth child, and was born on the 11th of August, 1819, in Oneida County, N. Y.

Our subject and his wife are the parents of seven children, five of whom are sons and two are daughters, as follows: Martha A., wife of J. C. Wolfe, of Red Cloud, Neb.; Grace A., wife of James M. Myers, a farmer of Rock Creek Precinct, of whom a sketch appears in this ALBUM; James W., a farmer of Rock Creek; Charles M., a fireman on the railroad, living at Hudson, Col.; Eri H. and Cascius M., both living at home; George Clinton, a grocer of Wallace, Neb. While living near Ashland, Mr. Griswold had to go to that place for supplies, and on one occasion on his return home he had to cross Salt Creek on a low water bridge of logs over which the water was running at that time to the depth of two feet, and in the morning it had risen to the depth of twenty feet.

Our subject has suffered, in common with all the early settlers of this country, from the devastation of grasshoppers, hailstorms and prairie fires, and in common with the early settlers of this country he has had to apply himself diligently in order to recover from the effects of such losses, and gain for himself a competence for his older age. Mr. Griswold has long been a member of the Republican

party, and he voted for Gen. Harrison on the second election. He is a member of no society, either secret or social, but he has been Justice of the Peace since the year 1872 with the exception of one year. For eleven years he has been Assessor, and for seven years he has been a member of the School Board. In 1869 he was thrown from a horse, receiving an injury from which he has never recovered and which has been a great detriment to his success. He is the only original settler on his section in the precinct. As a man well advanced in years who has traveled over much of the country and seen many changes, who has striven to keep up with the times and to aid in the advancement of education and government, he is entitled to the respect and esteem of the community and an honorable mention in this ALBUM.



FRANKLIN H. BOHANAN is one of the firm of Bohanan Bros., who have very large business interests in the city of Lincoln. Among these enterprises are a meat-market, which is supplied with nearly every known variety of animal food; a livery and sale stable, and a packing and provision department. They also represent a large amount of real estate. Like his brother he is a native of Peoria, Ill. He is in the prime of life, having been born Oct. 14, 1844, and is the son of Edward and Mahala (Wilber) Bohanan, who were natives respectively of Schenectady County, N. Y., and Taunton, Mass. His father was reared on a farm in the Empire State, and emigrated to Illinois in 1834, where he carried on agriculture and butchering successfully, and finally took up his residence in the city of Peoria, abandoning farming, and giving his attention exclusively to butchering and the ice business for many years. In 1866 he retired from active life, and is now living at his ease. He owns valuable real estate in Peoria, and is looked upon as one of its solid and reliable citizens.

The parents of our subject were married about 1840, and the mother, born in 1816, died at her home in Peoria in 1865. The seven children of the household were: Major G., Franklin H., Walter G., Edward G., Lavina M., and two who died in infancy. The two elder brothers, our subject and

his partner, after leaving the primary school were given a course in the Commercial College at Peoria, and embarked together in the butchering business in 1866, in Peoria, Ill. Two years later they sold out, and started for Nebraska overland with a team, arriving in the embryo city of Lincoln on the 21st of April, 1868.


Bohanan Bros., upon their arrival in Lincoln, began at once to make arrangements for the establishment of their present business, and in building their first shop were obliged to have the lumber hauled from Plattsmouth and Nebraska City. On the 9th of June, that year, they spread their counters with a choice assortment of meats, and began to take in money, which business they have continued uniformly until the present time. Their methods of transacting business obtained high favor among the people of this section of country, and ere long they found themselves on the highway to prosperity. They have been wise in their investments, securing the property from time to time, which naturally increased in value, and have occupied no unimportant position in the progress and growth of the city of Lincoln.

The subject of this sketch was united in marriage with Miss Brudencia A. Mosher, Aug. 27, 1867, at the home of the bride in Peoria. Mrs. Bohanan, like her husband, is a native of Illinois. She was born in Peoria on the 14th of July, 1848. Her father, Phillip J. Mosher, was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., Oct. 18, 1814, and when a young man became a blacksmith by trade. He spent the most of the years of his life in Peoria, Ill., but now resides in Lincoln. Her mother, Mrs. Sarah L. (Bristol) Mosher, after long happy years of married life, died March 1, 1885. To our subject and his estimable wife there have been born two sons, William F. and Phillip E., who are now promising young men, twenty and eighteen years of age.

The largest livery stable in the State of Nebraska was established by Bohanan Bros., at Lincoln, in 1876; they have the largest assortment of handsome vehicles and fine horses of any institution of the kind in the city, and obtain a corresponding patronage from the people of this part of the county. They have put up several fine buildings in the city, including the business blocks which are occupied

in the carrying on of their various business interests, besides dwelling-houses and other valuable real estate. Connected with their livery outfit are several very fine carriage teams and all the paraphernalia required either at a first-class wedding or funeral. Their stables shelter seventy horses, including some of the best roadsters and trotting stock in Lancaster County. The two hearses which they now employ are costly vehicles, while they contemplate in the near future the purchase of another which cannot be built under \$2,000. In addition to their city property they own quite an extent of farming land in the county. Their career has really been phenomenal in its success, everything which they touch seeming to become at once a source of profit and an established success.

The residence of Franklin H. Bohanan is finely located at No. 1029 M street, and in its surroundings indicates in a marked manner the cultivated tastes and ample means of the proprietor. Mr. B., politically, uniformly casts his vote with the Democratic party, and socially, belongs to the I. O. O. F. and the K. of P., being a member of the Grand Lodges of the same. Mrs. Bohanan is a member of the Williard Woman's Christian Association; the Woman's Relief Corps, and a Daughter of Rebekah, and, as would naturally be supposed, in connection therewith, is one who finds greatest delight in all works of mercy and deeds of kindness, especially toward the sick and helpless.



ROBERT H. MOFFETT, a representative farmer and stock-raiser of Denton Precinct, was born in Pocahontas County, W. Va., April 27, 1849. His parents were George B. and Margaret E. Moffett, the father a physician and surgeon in the Confederate army for a period of nearly four years. His paternal ancestors were of Scotch-Irish descent.

Our subject was reared to manhood in his native State, where he engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was given a good education, and during the absence of his father in the army assumed the management of the homestead. In 1879 he came to Nebraska, settling upon the land which he now

owns and occupies, and to which he has added until his real estate now includes 480 acres, which he has brought to a good state of cultivation. In addition to general agriculture, he is largely occupied in the breeding of fine horses and mules, which is the source of a handsome income. He began life largely dependent upon his own resources, and may properly be numbered among the self-made men who by their own efforts have achieved success.

Mr. Moffett, politically, is one of the most reliable members of the Democratic party. In the fall of 1884 he was the nominee of his party for Sheriff of Lancaster County.



JAMES A. WALLINGFORD is well known throughout Lincoln and surrounding country in connection with his business in farming and other implements and machinery. He is the senior member of the firm of Messrs. Wallingford & Shamp, of Lincoln, and an introduction to those at all acquainted with that section of the country would be superfluous. Mr. Wallingford was born in Shelby County, Ohio. His parents came West and located in Decatur County, Iowa, while he was yet a child. After remaining about a year and a half, they migrated to the new State of Nebraska, and made their home in Lancaster County, and were numbered among its early pioneers, for there were only five or six families in the county, and these were scattered along the Salt Creek. For several years Nebraska City was their nearest market, and for ten years continued to be the nearest post-office.

The father of our subject bought a claim, and homesteaded 160 acres of land on section 25 in what is now Yankee Hill Precinct. This he improved and continued to make his home until 1836. Our subject was reared upon the farm, and attended the first schools that were started. These were maintained by private subscription, and continued to be well attended until the public schools were established. Our subject continued his attendance until this important advance was made, and was then transferred to the latter institution. Having completed his studies there, he attended the

classes at Tabor College, Iowa. After this he returned to Lincoln, and took a partial course in the State University, and prepared himself for teaching.

For seven years our subject was engaged during the winters in the above noble profession, and during the summer spent his efforts upon the farm in the endeavor to teach something of a more material form than "ideas" how to shoot. In 1873 he went to Washington Territory, and was engaged in teaching school for about ten years. By 1879 Lincoln had become quite a business center, and Mr. Wallingford was convinced that a great future was before it. In company with Messrs. Davidson, Shamp & Co., he formed a partnership, and put in quite a large stock of implements. From that time our subject has devoted his constant attention and bent every energy to make the firm the best business house in its line in the city, and has been abundantly successful. The reputation of the house is a credit to the city as well as the gentleman at its head, for it is one of undeviating honor and "square dealing," and doubtless has much to do with the constantly increasing sales.

Mr. Wallingford was united in marriage with Miss Celia Miller in 1875. Mrs. Wallingford is the daughter of H. B. Miller, for many years a resident of Ohio. He located in Nebraska in 1873, first in Hamilton and afterward in Boone County, and there spent his last days. To our subject and wife have been born five children, who are named: Vere O., Mabel R., Eunice E., Richard J. and Grace I.

Our subject has naturally always taken the greatest interest in educational matters, and is a member of the Board of Education. He is by no means an office-seeker, rather avoiding than courting such distinction, but is ever mindful of the duty which is his as a citizen of the Republic.



WILLIAM E. HARDY, senior member of the firm of Hardy & Pitcher, furniture dealers in Lincoln, and prominent among the business interests of the city, was born in Wyoming County, N. Y., Aug. 5, 1863. His father, Harvey W. Hardy, also a native of the Empire State,

was reared to manhood in his native county, and there married to Miss Charlotte Abbott, a lady of excellent family. They began life together upon a farm in Wyoming County, where they lived until 1867, and during that year Mr. Hardy disposed of his interests in New York State, and removing westward to Illinois, engaged in the furniture business at Aurora until 1870.

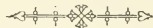
In the spring of the year above mentioned the father of our subject crossed the Mississippi, and coming to Lincoln, purchased a half-interest in a furniture firm, which was the only institution of the kind then in the place. Two years later he purchased the interest of his partner, and operated alone until 1878. That year he sold a half-interest in the business to A. A. Hartley, and the firm of Hardy & Hartley continued two years, when he purchased the whole business, which, in 1886, he disposed of to the present firm.

The subject of this sketch was a little lad seven years of age when his father came to the city, which was then a mere village, with perhaps a population of 1,500. Most of the surrounding country was a tract of wild prairie, where deer, antelope and other wild animals roamed in freedom. Mr. Hardy has been the privileged witness of the remarkable growth of this city to its population of 40,000 people, and has contributed his quota toward its advancement and prosperity. He received a practical education, attending first the city schools, and later the Nebraska State University at Lincoln.

The career of our subject as a merchant commenced in his father's store in 1880. After an experience of seven years, during which he improved his opportunities to become acquainted with the proper methods of doing business, he, in 1887, associated himself with Charles D. Pitcher, and they are fast becoming one of the popular firms of the city. Both are wide-awake and energetic business men. They carry a full stock of furniture, and everything pertaining to this line of merchandise, and enjoy a patronage which is steadily increasing. Mr. Hardy, mainly engrossed in his business affairs, has little time to give to political matters, but is warmly interested in the success of the temperance movement, and has arrayed himself

on the side of the Prohibitionists. He still retains an interest in the university, and is a member of the Society Sigma Chi.

The parental family of our subject included four children—Clement A., Cora B., William E. and Emery C. William E. makes his home with his parents in Lincoln.



HENRY H. FAULKNER, a representative farmer and stock-raiser of Yankee Hill Precinct, has been operating in a profitable manner on a good farm on section 32 since the spring of 1883. During his five years' residence here he has effected great improvements, increasing the value of his property, repairing the old buildings, and adding the appliances necessary for the successful prosecution of his calling, in which he has had a lifelong experience.

Our subject is a Western New Yorker by birth, having begun life in Allegany County, Jan. 7, 1844. His parents, Russell and Nancy Faulkner, were also natives of that State, where his paternal grandfather settled after doing good service as a soldier in the War of 1812. The latter spent his last days at Sackett's Harbor, dying at a ripe old age.

Russell Faulkner, by his two marriages, was the father of four children: Charles F., now a resident of Indiana; Nancy Z., the wife of C. G. Johnson, of Independence, Iowa; Daniel W., of Burlington, Iowa, and Henry, our subject. The mother departed this life at her home, in May, 1861. The father subsequently removed to Michigan, and is now a resident of Newwaygo County.

Our subject was a lad of fourteen years when his parents left the Empire State and settled in Michigan. For four years they were residents of Eaton County, and then removed to Calhoun County, where, at the age of twenty-two, young Faulkner was married, Dec. 20, 1866, to Miss Mary F. Van Ness, a sister of Mrs. John F. Hay, of Yankee Hill Precinct, this county, and a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this work.

Our subject, after his marriage, was employed at farm work in Michigan for several years, and

being strong of muscle and faithful in the performance of his duties, received, during his last summer's work, the unusually high wages of \$29 per month and board. In the spring of 1870 he crossed the Father of Waters and located in Webster County, Iowa, where he employed himself for one year. At the expiration of this time he changed his residence to Buena Vista, where he resided until 1883, then determined to cast his lot among the people of Southern Nebraska. Coming to this county he purchased 160 acres of land, which constitutes his present farm. He has been successful in his operations here and fully established himself in the esteem and confidence of his community. He is a man of decided ideas and votes with the Prohibition party. No man can point to a dishonest deed of which he has been guilty, and he is one of the few whose word is considered as good as his bond.



JOHAN E. HAAS. The subject of this biography occupies a leading position in the community of Grant Precinct, to which he came in 1871, and is the owner of 480 acres of land on section 12, nearly all of which is in a productive condition and affords to the proprietor a handsome income.

The principle that intelligence in every calling is requisite to carrying it on in a proper and profitable manner, is illustrated in the career of Mr. Haas in agricultural pursuits, who in his earlier life was occupied for a period of ten years as a teacher and writer. He has been for several years an occasional correspondent of the *Nebraska State Journal*, and also takes an active part in political affairs. This experience led him to a fuller appreciation of the genuine comfort to be derived from rural life, where nature had provided the many facilities for man's comfort and happiness. Accordingly, after many years otherwise employed, he finds much satisfaction in rural occupations, of which he is making a fine success, and is numbered among the leading representatives of the farming interests of Lancaster County.

Our subject was born in Millinburg, Pa., Feb.

27, 1835, and is the son of John and Margaret (Roush) Haas, natives of the same State as their son. They spent their entire lives in the Keystone State, with the exception that the father passed the two last years of his life in Stephenson County, Ill., where he died in 1869. Their household consisted of eight children, two sons and six daughters, three of whom are living.

Mr. Haas continued a resident of his native State until over thirty years of age. At the call of Gov. Curtin to repel the rebel invasion in 1863, he entered the temporary Union service. In 1867 he changed his residence to Freeport, Ill., of which he was a resident until the spring of 1870. Then coming to this county he sojourned for a brief period in the city of Lincoln until having time to look about him for a permanent settlement, and finally chose his present location and changed his employment from that of a teacher to a farmer.

No man has taken a warmer interest in the growth and development of Southeastern Nebraska than the subject of this sketch, and he has responded liberally whenever help was needed for furtherance of those enterprises calculated to build up his community, and add to its attractions as a place of residence for an intelligent and enterprising class of people. To such men as Mr. Haas is due the present prosperity of Lancaster County, to which many many more such as he be added, and long may they flourish.



REV. CYRUS CARTER was one of the first settlers of Lincoln, of which he is still an honored resident. When it is stated that in 1865 our subject came here and took up land from the Government, which he improved into a farm that is now included within the city limits, and is the site of many costly buildings, it gives one something of an idea of the rapid growth of this enterprising and wealthy metropolis, with its population of nearly 50,000 souls. Our subject is in the best sense of the term a "self-made man," as he began life without other capital than willing hands and a stout heart, and is now a man of wealth and consideration.

Our subject was born near Mechanicsburg,

Champaign Co., Ohio, June 2, 1824. His father, Benjamin Carter, was a native of Tennessee, and his grandfather, Caleb Carter, was, it is thought, a native of Connecticut. He was there reared and married, and moved from his New England home to Tennessee soon after the Revolutionary War, in the very early days of the settlement of that State. He took up a tract of land there, but never secured a title to it, as he lived there only a short time when he removed to Kentucky, and was an early settler there. He subsequently took up his abode in Ohio in the latter part of the eighteenth century, in Territorial days, and was numbered among its pioneers. He located near Mechanicsburg, taking up a tract of Government land there, and residing thereon until his death.

The father of our subject was young when his parents removed to Ohio, and he there grew to maturity. He was reared amid pioneer scenes to a vigorous and self-reliant manhood, and early took upon himself the hard work of a pioneer by buying a tract of timber land, on which he erected a log house which became the birthplace of our subject. His wife was a stirring, active woman, and a notable housewife, and having no stove she used to cook all their meals before the open fireplace, and she spun and wove and made the most of the clothes worn by the family. Mr. Carter finally sold the place in which he and his wife had started on the journey of life together, and in 1828 moved to Union County, where he bought a tract of timber land, and began anew the weary task of clearing away the forest trees, that he might prepare the soil for culture, having first erected a log cabin to shelter his family. His death occurred in that place, and the community in which he settled was thus deprived of a useful and industrious citizen. His wife, a native of Virginia, whose maiden name was Mary Owen, also died on the homestead in Ohio. There were nine children born to this most worthy couple, and eight of them grew to maturity.

The subject of this sketch was the fourth child of that family, and was quite young when his parents went to Union County to reside. He was reared in that county, and received his education in the typical log school-house of those times, with home-made furniture, the benches being made of punch-

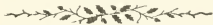
con. He resided with his parents until nineteen years of age, working on the farm and attending school. At the age of twenty he commenced teaching, and taught several terms of winter school. He was converted when eighteen years of age, and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church on probation, but he found himself more in sympathy with the Methodist Protestants, and united himself with their church. At twenty-one years of age he commenced to preach for that denomination as a local preacher, and at twenty-three years of age he became a member of the Ohio Conference. He traveled on eirenit for nearly ten years, and by his earnestness and enthusiasm did much good work for his church, and he was considered a bright and shining light by those in authority. In 1862 he gave up his beloved calling, as it seemed to him his sacred duty to take up arms in the defense of his country. He enlisted in Company I, 99th Ohio Infantry, and bravely and faithfully served in the ranks until 1863, when he was taken sick, and in the month of July was honorably discharged on account of ill-health. He then returned to his old home in Ohio, and remained a resident of that State until 1865, when he started for the Territory of Nebraska with his family, traveling via rail to St. Joseph, and thence on the Missouri River to Nebraska City, where he was met by Elder Young, an old friend. They then started for their destination in the vehicles that the Elder had provided, Mr. Carter accompanying Mr. Young in a wagon drawn by a yoke of oxen, and Mrs. Carter driving with Mrs. Young in the buggy, drawn by a pair of horses. A little adventure befell the occupants of the buggy, which very fortunately did not prove to be very serious. Mrs. Young was not as well acquainted with the road as she thought, and lost the way. To make matters worse, the ponies became unmanageable, ran away, and left both ladies on the prairie seven miles from any house. Fortunately a man who was seeking work came along and captured the ponies, and then drove them to their destination. Mr. Carter took up a claim of Government land, now included within the city limits, Lincoln not having then been laid out, and thus it has been his privilege to watch its growth, and to aid other pioneers in its upbuilding. He built a

log house covered with dirt to shelter his family, and then actively set to work to improve a farm from the virgin prairie. He had three yokes of oxen, but no horses, with which to do all his marketing and farm work. Lancaster County was then very sparsely settled, and the nearest market and depot for supplies for some time was Nebraska City, and Ashland, twenty-five miles distant, was the nearest milling point. Deer, antelope and other wild animals were plentiful, and roamed over the site of Lincoln, and Indians used to pass by the cabin of our subject to and from their hunting-grounds. At the present day, looking over the grand city that has arisen on these broad Nebraska prairies, with its magnificent buildings and other evidences of a high civilization on every hand, one can scarcely realize that little more than a quarter of a century ago the very land on which it stands was in an almost complete state of nature, with no indications that a great metropolis was to be built up thereon by the persistent energy and enterprise of man. Mr. Carter, with characteristic foresight and sound judgment, took advantage of the great changes that have been going on, and sold all the land that once comprised his farm, and then made judicious investments of his money in other city property, so that he is now a wealthy man.

Mr. Carter was married, in January, 1845, to Miss Elizabeth Chapman, who was born in West Virginia, twelve miles from the city of Clarksburg, in 1826. Her father, Thomas Chapman, moved to Ohio in 1833, the removal being made with horses and wagons. He settled in Sandusky County, and became identified with its pioneers. Three years later he moved to Champaign County, Ohio, and lived there two or three years. After that he went to Union County, in the same State, and spent the remainder of his life there, buying a tract of timber land near the town of Essex. The maiden name of his wife, mother of Mrs. Carter, was Hannah White. She was a native of Virginia, and spent her last years in Union County, Ohio. Mrs. Carter is an admirable housewife, as she resided with her parents until her marriage, and was carefully instructed by her mother in all household duties, including a knowledge of spinning, weaving and knitting. Her happy wedded life with our subject has been blessed

by the birth of ten children, as follows: Alice James, Thomas, Jane, John, Jesse, Mary, Nora, Lulu and Rosa. Thomas and Mary died young. James bravely sacrificed his life for his country, being a soldier in an Ohio regiment in the late war, and dying while in the service. John met his death by a railway accident.

Mr. and Mrs. Carter are true Christians, none are before them in good works and charitable deeds, and they devote much of their time to enhance the good of others. Thus they have inspired true respect in the hearts of those about them. Mr. Carter has always taken a strong interest in politics; was a Democrat in his early years, then became a Free-Soiler, but he was afterward one of the first to join the Republican party when it was organized, and he was identified with that party for years, but is now identified with the Prohibition party, of which he has been a member since the day of his conversion.



MRS. ESTHER L. WARNER came to Nebraska in 1864, while it was still a Territory and an unbroken prairie. There are few phases of pioneer life with which she is not entirely familiar, having endured hardship, privation, and the toils and sacrifices which those must undergo who take upon themselves the task of building up a homestead from the wilderness. After the lapse of twenty-four years she sees around her a well-developed country, the once wild prairie being now transformed into valuable homesteads, and the possessors in the enjoyment of those comforts and pleasures which are the attendants of modern life. The changes which have been effected were brought about by those who came here armed simply with their strong hands and brave hearts, most of them without other resources, and to whose perseverance and industry are due the happiness and ease of the later generation. Too much credit cannot be given to those who thus labored for themselves and their children, and whose industry benefits not alone their immediate households, but the community around them.

In noting the history of those who have become

prominent as pioneers and citizens, one of the first questions which naturally occurs to the mind is their early history, and those from whom they drew their origin. The parents of our subject were Ira and Charry (Brock) Carter. The mother traced her ancestry back to England, from which her father emigrated in time to serve as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, entering the ranks at the early age of sixteen years. He served as a private until the struggle was ended.

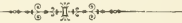
Ira Carter after his marriage, which took place in Connecticut, emigrated soon afterward with his young wife, first to Genesee County, N. Y., and thence to Summit County, Ohio, reaching the latter place about 1812. There he became the owner of a large farm, and a man of property. He only lived to be middle-aged, his death taking place on the 9th of November, 1832, at the age of forty-nine years. The mother survived her husband until 1875, dying at the advanced age of eighty-three years. Their household included six children, two sons and four daughters.

Mrs. Warner was the fifth child of her parents, and was born in Tallmadge Township, Summit Co., Ohio, June 16, 1820. She received a very good education in common with her brothers and sisters, and taught school two terms before her first marriage. This event took place at her home in 1844, her first husband being William Griswold, who only survived four years afterward, his death taking place in 1848. Mrs. Griswold then became the wife of Amos Warner, M. D. They removed to Iowa, where Dr. Warner practiced his profession for a period of seven years. Dr. Warner's death was occasioned by his being thrown from his buggy, from the effects of which he died immediately, on the 16th of September, 1861.

Of this latter marriage of our subject there were born three children: Haskell F., who operates the home farm; Emma E., the wife of Dr. Demaree, of Roch, and a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this work; Amos G. is a resident of Baltimore. An adopted daughter named Estella is deceased.

Among the people with whom Mrs. Warner has lived so many years, she is a lady held in the highest esteem by both young and old, possessing those

traits of character and excellent business capacities by which she has been enabled to be of value in her community, and encouraging the projects calculated for the advancement of its common interests.



ALBERT EGGER is a successful farmer and stock-raiser, and is the owner of 120 acres of land on section 3, Buda Precinct, fifty acres lying in Centerville Precinct, on section 34, and also 160 acres in Rawlins County, Kan. Like all other men he possessed a hope and desire to succeed in the world, and like all other men he learned that success in life does not so much depend upon mere brilliancy as upon the willingness to wait. Success comes slowly to the majority of people, and he who would attain to it must not expect to make haste; but that it finally comes we have an apt illustration in the life of our subject.

Mr. Egger is a native of Switzerland, the land of snowy-topped mountains, and he was born on the 14th of January, 1856. He is a son of John and Mary Egger, both natives of the same country, who came to America when our subject was ten years old. They started on a sailing-vessel from Havre, and spent a long and tiresome period of sixty days on the water, after which they landed in New York City. The family came to Tazewell County, Ill., where they remained for two years, thence in the fall of 1868 to Cass County, Neb., making their home in that place until the spring of 1871. In that year the family came to Lancaster County, and the father took advantage of the generous offer of the Government to give him eighty acres of land which he located in Centerville Precinct on section 34.

When the father of our subject came into possession of his land there had been no care spent on its cultivation, and he took it just as it was offered from the hand of Nature, and prepared to make on it a pleasant home for his family. He has not only succeeded in that desire, but has been enabled to purchase other tracts of land, so that he is now the owner of 260 acres of splendid farming land, a compliment to his industry and excellent management. He has erected good and convenient buildings,

and in other ways has adorned his farm and added to its utility. He is now almost seventy years old, and is leading a quiet and happy life in the enjoyment of the entire confidence of his neighbors. His wife is now in her sixty-fourth year, and together they are reaping the reward of a life well spent in usefulness, surrounded by their children and their friends.

To the parents of our subject there came a family of eleven children, nine of whom are living, and in close proximity to the home of their parents, and we name them as follows: Frederick, Arnold; Anne, wife of Frederick Boesiger; Elizabeth, wife of Peter Gensemer, of Gage County; Rosetta, wife of George Pillard; Albert; Mary, wife of Jacob Shaffer, of Cass County; Louisa, wife of Frederick Broecker, of Cass County; and Emily. Both the father and mother of this estimable family are well-known members of the Lutheran Church, the former allied to the Republican party in politics.

Albert Egger came to this county in the year 1871, and here he has been reared to manhood amid the scenes of pioneer life, having seen the development of the country from its primitive state to the finely cultivated and well-arranged farms with their buildings, and all modern conveniences in use at the present day. He was reared in the school of agricultural life, and having become well acquainted with that occupation he has successfully followed it. He received a good common-school education in the English language, and also was well equipped with a knowledge of his native language.

On the 25th of October, 1885, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Mary Lesoing, daughter of Frank Lesoing, of South Pass Precinct. They are the parents of two children: a little son, Leon J. F., who was born on the 15th of April, 1886, and a little daughter, Maggie, who was born on the 30th of November, 1887. As a tribute to the sterling qualities possessed by our subject, he can point with pride to his splendid farm consisting of 170 acres of land, and he has not only been successful in his chosen occupation, but has spent an active life in the endeavor to secure advantages and improvements in the community of which he is a resident. While he resided with his father in Center-ville Precinct he served as Treasurer of the school

district, and in politics he has earnestly advocated the policy of the Republican party. He is yet a young man, and notwithstanding the success that has come to him thus early he has very fair prospects of rising to a position of wealth and eminence, being on the sure road to prosperity. A view of Mr. Egger's homestead and surroundings may be seen elsewhere in this volume.

REV. JOHN F. KUHLMAN, pastor of the English Lutheran Church at Roan, Neb., is one of the leading ministers of his denomination in the West. He is widely known and honored throughout the State for the good work that he has done in elevating its moral, social and religious status. He was born in 1829, in the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg. His parents, Henry and Elizabeth (Kruger) Kuhlman, were natives of the Kingdom of Hanover. They belonged to the lower classes, and the father supported his family by working as a day laborer. Anxious to improve his condition and to give his children better chances than he had had, he emigrated with his family to America, sailing on board the ship "Neptune," in the early part of May, 1837. On the evening of the 4th of July they were near enough to the shores of Maryland to see the fireworks displayed at Baltimore in honor of our National holiday. On the 8th of July they for the first time set foot on American soil; Somerset County, Pa., was their destination.

The father and mother of our subject spent the remainder of their lives in this country, becoming useful and highly respected members of the community where they settled, rounding out their periods of existence far beyond the Scriptural limitations of human life, the father dying in 1871, in the eightieth year of his age, and the mother in her ninety-first year, Jan. 12, 1888, being the date of her death. The father had served in the German army, and took part in the battle of Waterloo. Our subject had three brothers, who died in infancy, and two who grew to maturity, namely: Henry and Arnold.

At the age of six our subject commenced to attend a public school in his native country, but his

education was interrupted there at the age of seven by the emigration of his parents to the United States of America. Shortly after his parents had settled in Pennsylvania, he resumed his education by becoming a pupil in the common schools of that commonwealth during three months of the winter terms until he was sixteen years old, when his father sent him to learn the carpenter's trade. He worked at that until he was twenty-one, and then, ambitious to fit himself for a higher calling, he commenced to teach and to study, continuing so engaged until he was twenty-nine, when in 1858 he entered Pennsylvania College, having attended several terms at preparatory schools, and he also studied privately under the Rev. M. F. Pfaliler.

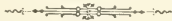
In 1851 Rev. Mr. Kuhlman was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Smith. Their wedded life was brief indeed, as the happy and beloved wife died in 1852, leaving two children, Winfield Scott and Luther. The former is a graduate of the Medical School of Baltimore, and is now enjoying an extensive practice in his profession in Pennsylvania; he married Miss Martha Walter, and they have four children. Luther is a graduate of the Pennsylvania College and Theological School at Gettysburg, and is at present pastor of a Lutheran Church, of Frederick City, Md.; he was married to Miss Alice Warren.

Our subject was a second time married in 1859, to Miss Rachel, daughter of Jacob and Ruth (Ogg) Rush. She was born Sept. 24, 1834, in Somerset County, Pa., the fourth of a family of twelve children. She was well educated and taught school two terms prior to her marriage. In 1881 our subject and his children were bereaved by the death of the noble wife and mother. She had ever been an influence for good to those about her, had cheerfully assisted her husband and sympathized with him in his great work, had been a tender and wise parent, and to her neighbors had always been a true friend.

Our subject entered upon his ministerial work in Wilmore, Pa., occupying the pulpit of the Lutheran Church in that place from the spring of 1859 until the fall of 1864. At that time the Allegheny Synod was looking about for a missionary, as it had been decided to send one to the Territory of Nebraska, as soon as a suitable man could be found

possessing all the qualifications necessary for carrying out the work in that new field. Our subject was finally selected as one singularly fitted for the position by the purity and uprightness of his character, his learning, strong religious faith, and great tact and ability as an organizer. He went to work with zeal as soon as he arrived in Nebraska, and following the trail of the first settlers along the Missouri River, he soon had several churches and societies organized. His first charge consisted of societies at Fontanelle, Logan Creek, West Point, Tekamah, and Columbus, with which he was connected until 1870. He visited a great many points throughout the State, established churches in Dakota County, Ponca, Dixon County, Waverly, Lancaster County, at Roca, Lancaster County, two churches in York County, a church in Red Cloud, and one in North Platte. In 1870 Mr. Kuhlman was called to the pulpit of the church at Dakota City, left vacant by the resignation of Prof. Angley, who had been offered the Chair of Natural Sciences in the University of Nebraska, and our subject was the pastor of that people until 1872. Half of the time when he has been doing pastoral work our subject has also been engaged as a missionary. He has been very successful in both departments of the church, as is testified by the strong hold that the Lutheran denomination has obtained in Nebraska. He has put the whole strength of his mind and body into his work, and his labors have been abundantly blessed by the many churches that have sprung up on these Nebraska prairies under his watchful care, and by the love and confidence of the people who have sat under his teachings. During some of these years the State was struggling for its very existence, having to contend with monetary depressions, grasshopper raids, and many other troubles too numerous to mention. But when the times were hardest and the people were almost too poor to support themselves, much less church societies and pastors, our subject nobly resumed his old calling, that of a carpenter, which he had learned in his youth, and thus kept want from his door, though at the same time he devoted his leisure to his pastoral work. The following is a list of the remaining places where he has had charge of churches, and the length of his pastorate in each:

Ponca, 1872-78; Nebraska City, 1878-82; Lavansville, 1882-85; then Roca, his present charge. He was Secretary of the first meeting of the Lutheran ministers ever held west of the Missouri River, the synod meeting at Monrovia, Atchison Co., Kan., and he preserves the documents of that meeting. Our reverend subject was also President of the Nebraska District Evangelical Lutheran Synod, convoked at Omaha in 1871. It is his distinction also to have been the first delegate from Nebraska to the General Synod convened at Baltimore in 1873, and he served as a delegate to the General Synod at Altoona, Pa. We can do but scant justice to his elevated character and to the noble work to which he has devoted the best years of his life. We can but say, as these pages have shown, that he wields a powerful influence for good not only in his church, but in society at large. In his political views he is a strong Prohibitionist.



FREDERICK BERRYMAN. In this country, abounding as it does in vast and seemingly unlimited quantities of minerals, is there one among us who has not heard the expression, "down in a coal mine?" In the literal sense of the term, the riches of the earth come not to us without some effort on our part to obtain them, so there must be men, women and children, too, perhaps, who are to know no other life than that spent deep down within the bowels of the earth, digging and delving to bring these riches to light. Not alone in this country but in other countries do people spend their lives among the mining fields. England, with her abundance of coal, iron, lead and tin, affords employment to thousands in this one industry.

In the extreme southwest of England, where the waves of the Bristol and English Channels dash against its shores, lies the county of Cornwall, the chief center of valuable tin mines. So inexhaustible does this supply of tin seem that, although the mines have been worked since the ancient Phœnicians came to trade, and the Romans to conquer on these shores, they are still a source of wealth to the inhabitants. In this part of England lived Frederick Berryman, the subject of this sketch. He was

born May 7, 1836, a son of Job and Wilmot (Reynolds) Berryman. He had ten brothers and sisters, but one of whom, his sister Mary, survives with him.

In his native country Mr. Berryman received a fair common-school education, and when a mere lad some thirteen years of age, he began working in the tin mines of Cornwall, at which employment he continued until a youth of about eighteen. In the spring of 1854 he decided to emigrate to America, for which purpose he took passage at Liverpool on a steamer, and after an ocean voyage of eleven days he landed in New York City. On his arrival he went to Cambria County, Pa., where he followed the pursuit that he had learned in his old home, for a time; thence he went to the Lake Superior copper mines, where he worked for two years. Subsequently he returned to Pennsylvania, where he again worked in the mines for several years. After this he went to Massachusetts, where he was appointed foreman over some forty workmen in the west end of the Hoosac Tunnel, his previous experience in mining fitting him to conduct with great credit his share of the work necessary to complete this wonderful excavation.

Leaving Massachusetts Mr. Berryman went to Bedford County, Pa., and took charge of a fossil ore mine, remaining there some two years, after which he went to Pulaski County, Va., and the first year he was there he entered into a contract to supply the furnace in that place for one year with ore. After this he superintended the mines for some three years for the same company.

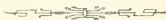
In Pennsylvania Mr. Berryman married Eliza Hocking, also a native of England. The result of this union was twelve children, nine of whom are living, viz: Frederick, Anne, Richard, Minnie, Bertha, John, Joseph, Howard and Eddie; the three deceased being Job, Anne and John. In the spring of 1876 our subject came to this county and settled on the farm which he now owns, on section 10 of Denton Precinct. There were then but ten acres under cultivation, but by dint of energy and perseverance Mr. Berryman so improved his land that now it is a splendid farm of great value, consisting of 160 acres.

By his labors as a tiller of the soil our subject

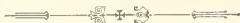
has surrounded himself and family with the comforts of rural life. Let us give credit where credit is due. Starting out a boy of thirteen, making his own way in the world year after year, providing for his family, and establishing for himself and his wife a home, in which their declining years may be spent in peace and happiness, free from anxious cares—is this a little work? May he not well be proud of his achievements?

Mr. Berryman votes with the Republican party, and is a public-spirited man, doing all in his power to improve and elevate the society and country of which he is a resident. He has been a member of the School Board of his precinct for a number of years, in fact since its organization, and is now serving as Moderator.

A lithographic view of Mr. Berryman's property may be seen on another page of this ALBUM.



FREDERICK A. KORSMEYER, steam fitter and plumber, has one of the best conducted establishments of its kind in the city of Lincoln, and holds a leading position among its business men. He has a thorough understanding of the details of his calling, is prompt and reliable, thoroughly upright and honorable in his business transactions, and a man who is deservedly prosperous. He is a native of Prussia, Germany. He is doing a prosperous business.

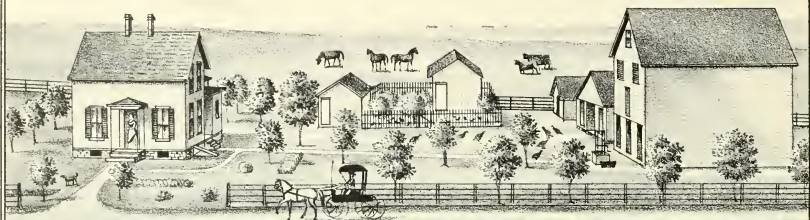


JUDSON HAGGERTY is a native of the Buckeye State, where he was born in Warren County, March 28, 1854. His father, George Haggerty, was born in the county of Sussex, N. J., Oct. 14, 1814, and was the son of Chris Haggerty, who, it is believed, spent his entire life in New Jersey. The father of our subject was reared to manhood in that State, spending his days as was common to the sons of farmers, and upon reaching manhood he was married, and removing to Ohio, settled in Warren County. His means were limited, and he operated on rented land until at length he was enabled to buy a small place, to

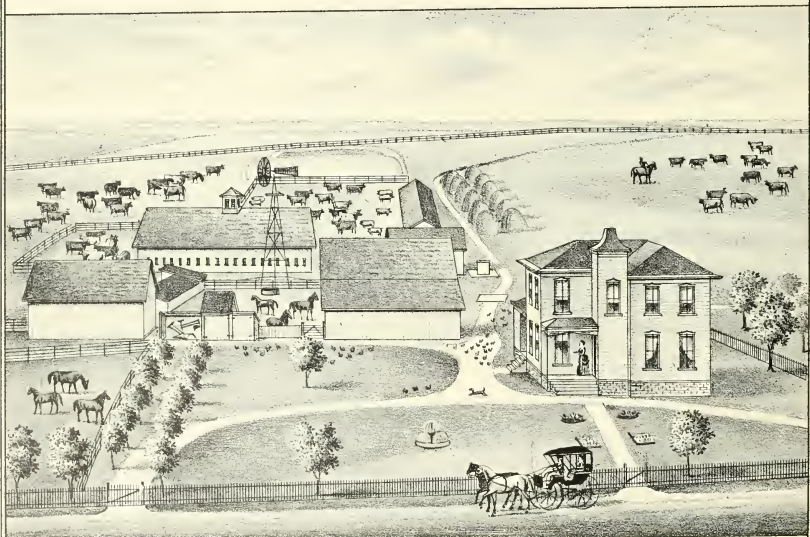
which he subsequently added until he had a nice farm, which he finally sold, and purchased 130 acres of land in Franklin Township. He now resides in an adjoining township in that county. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Huldah Myers, was born in New Jersey, Feb. 14, 1825, and was the daughter of Robert Myers, who, it is believed, spent his entire life in New Jersey.

Judson Haggerty is one of a family of seven children, and was reared in his native county, alternating between the district school and his father's farm until he attained his majority, and starting out in life for himself he directed his course to Tennessee, and spent the first year in farming. After a second year in that State, spent in broom-making, he returned to his native State, and was soon afterward married. After his marriage he rented a farm in Warren County, Ohio, and there labored diligently until 1881, when he turned his face toward the setting sun, and reaching Lancaster County bought a quarter-section of land in Elk Precinct, in company with his brother. At the end of two years he sold his interest in this property, and bought that on which he now resides on section 27, Middle Creek Precinct.

Our subject was united in marriage, March 7, 1878, with Lizzie J. Kemp, and their union has been blessed by the birth of two children—Pearly and Mabel. Pearly was born in Warren County, Ohio, Feb. 4, 1880, and Mabel at the homestead in Middle Creek Precinct, March 31, 1886. Mrs. Haggerty was born three miles from Franklin, Warren Co., Ohio, May 2, 1854, while her father, Peter Kemp, was born either in Maryland or Pennsylvania, and her grandfather, Rev. John Kemp, removed from Pennsylvania to Butler County, Ohio, in its earliest settlement, and lived there several years. He then removed to Montgomery County, in this State, and there spent the remainder of his days. The father of Mrs. Haggerty was but a boy when his parents settled in Ohio, and he received the benefits of a good education, and was graduated from the schools of Middletown. He never adopted a profession, but upon the completion of his studies he engaged in farming, and after his marriage he settled in Warren County, where he purchased a farm of 173 acres. After a few years he sold this property and



RES. OF PETER HOMER, SEC. 35, YANKEE HILL PRECINCT.



VALLEY-VIEW STOCK FARM, RESIDENCE OF G. W. MARSDEN, SEC. 1. OAK PRECINCT, LANCASTER CO.

purchased a farm three miles from Dayton Court House, upon which he still resides. The mother of Mrs. Haggerty, whose maiden name was Eliza M. Kemp, was born in Warren County, Ohio, in 1827. Her parents were natives of Maryland, and of German ancestry. She died Aug. 23, 1882. She was a member of the United Brethren Church.

In politics Mr. Haggerty affiliates with the Republican party, and is an honest citizen and a man of influence among his acquaintances.



PETER HOMER. The farming community of Yankee Hill Precinct acknowledges no more honest or industrious man than the subject of this sketch, who carries on agriculture in a profitable manner on section 35. He began life on the southern line of the State of Pennsylvania, in Adams County, not very many miles from the battle-field of Gettysburg, on the 20th of December, 1829, and is the offspring of a family of excellent German ancestry. His parents, John and Eliza (Linard) Homer, were also natives of the Keystone State, where also his paternal grandfather spent his entire life.

The paternal great-grandfather of our subject crossed the Atlantic from Germany in the Colonial days, in time to do good service as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. The family, without making any very great stir in the world, has been noted for its sterling honesty, industry and enterprise, and from father to son, each generation, as far back as the records go, has produced a line of sturdy men and virtuous women. The parents of our subject, when the latter was a little lad eight years old, left the Keystone State for Ohio, and took up their abode amid the pioneers of Holmes County. There they lived and labored until well advanced in years, building up a good homestead, and both departed from the scenes of earth in 1884.

John and Eliza Homer had a family of fourteen children, eight of whom are living, and all with the exception of our subject are residents of Ohio. Barnard lives in Richland County; Peter, Ephraim, John, Jacob, Benjamin, Margaret E., Mrs. Jane Herring and Elizabeth, in Holmes County. Peter was

reared to maturity on the farm which his father built up from the wilderness, and received an education afforded by the best country schools of that day. He assisted in the development of the primitive soil, remaining under the home roof until over thirty years of age. He was first married in the summer of 1860, to Miss Mary Emerick, who bore him one daughter, Sarah E., and who passed away in 1862. His second marriage occurred in 1865, with Miss Melinda Pierpont, a native of Pennsylvania, who still survives.

Mr. Homer left the Buckeye State in 1873, and settled in LaPorte County, Ind., on a farm, where he continued a resident for a period of seven years. The spring of 1881 found him in Nebraska looking around for a location, and he was not long in deciding to settle in this county. He purchased eighty acres of land in Yankee Hill Precinct, where he has since operated to good advantage, and will pass muster as a self-made man of the first water. The illustration which accompanies this sketch will give the reader a good idea of the extensive farm and the very commodious and pleasant home he has provided for his family. He is a Republican, politically, and in favor of everything to improve the county and elevate society. In religious matters he is identified with the First Baptist Church at Jamaica Station, of which he is a Deacon, and one of its most liberal supporters. Our subject and his wife have no children. His daughter Sarah, by his first wife, is now deceased. Mr. Homer enlisted in Company K, 16th Ohio Infantry, and served until Sept. 10, 1864.



GEORGE W. MARSDEN. Among the most beautiful landscapes, tinged with the wildness of mountain scenery, which is the fortune of man to gaze upon, is that found in the neighborhood of the Peak of Derbyshire, England; winding through the valley is the beautiful, blue, limpid Derwent, which, after passing through the rich pastoral district above, washes the foot of Hulme Cliff, and finds time to pass through the grounds of the Duke of Devonshire, that most magnificent estate, Chatsworth Park, where the

beautiful deer and graceful antelope come down, gratefully to drink of its cooling waters, after which it escapes though the quiet and sedate town of Bakewell, and passes on its way.

The father of the subject of this sketch was born in the beautiful district above referred to, on the 27th of January, 1808. In the schools of his native district he received his education. That most important work completed he went to work on a farm and also engaged in mining, until he reached the age of twenty-two, when he came to the United States. He first settled in Pottsville, Pa. In this place both he and his father went to work at the mines, and shortly became overseers, and continued for three years. Then they removed to Galena, Ill. The journey was undertaken with some knowledge of the difficulties to be encountered. A wagon and two horses were procured, and into this their belongings were placed and the journey commenced. Day after day they continued with their faces toward the setting sun, meeting trials, bearing hardships, and yet withal bearing a light heart and brave spirit; at night they had their choice of shelter, and could take their rest in the basement of their traveling house, or sleep under the wagon; or they could retire to the upper story and repose in the wagon bed itself, or, lastly, slumber under the canopy of the starry heavens. After several weeks spent in this way they reached their destination.

When it is remembered that the events above described occurred in the year 1833, it will plainly be seen that the family had entered upon the life of advanced pioneers. After prospecting, a tract of land was taken up but one mile from Galena, and this continued to be their home until the year 1877, when the removal was made to Nebraska. While at Galena, Mr. Marsden was engaged in supplying the city with milk. He was the owner of over 100 very fine cows, which enabled him to carry on successfully quite an extensive dairy, as the population of the city increased. He was also the owner of a one-third interest in the lead mines, situated about four miles from the city. After managing that property for about twenty years, he bought an interest in seven lead mines, in what was at that time called New California, of which he was Superintendent. He was one of the few who were unques-

tionably successful in operating mines, and did more, perhaps, than any one man for the development of the mines in his district.

In the year 1887 Mr. Marsden put his city property, farm, mines, and 800 acres of land in Iowa in the market, and having sold them to advantage, came to Nebraska, purchased 800 acres of land in Red Cloud, and the section of land owned by his son in this township. Mr. Marsden makes his home in Red Cloud, where he has a very pleasantly situated home. He is one of the most prominent stock-raisers, and although well advanced in years still enjoys remarkably good health, and is receiving the benefit of his fortune, every dollar of which has come to him as the result of his own efforts, enterprise and intelligence. He was married in England, about the year 1829, to Miss Sarah Gregory, and to them were born nine children, of whom three are still living: Mary Ann, who is the wife of John Beresford, and resides at Red Cloud; Priscilla Marsden, who is still unmarried; and George W., our subject. His wife was removed by death about 1870.

George W. Marsden was born at Galena, Jo Daviess Co., Ill., Jan. 11, 1853, and is a graduate of the Galena High School. After school days were over, he, with his brother, worked the father's farm, after which they removed to their present home. The house on section I is the property of our subject; it is by far the finest residence for many miles around, and might stand beside some of the city houses without a blush. It is an ideal country residence, 32x40 feet, and if wanting in some modern tricks of architecture, it is not without its excellencies, even from a professional standpoint. It is elegant and commodious, and is built with the idea of its being a home. In addition to the residence, the farm is supplied with an extensive and commodious barn and other farm buildings, the lumber for all these buildings being shipped from Burlington, Iowa. The farm possesses another important property which we may not overlook, viz: It contains some of the best water that can be found in the whole district, both spring and well water. Great attention has been given to procuring the finest grade and varieties of fruit and shade trees, which have been set out by the hundreds, and these, besides being valuable property, go far to make the

residence so exceedingly pleasant. Words are inadequate to do justice to the matter, but the artist in the accompanying illustration does much to bring before the mind some of the beauties of this elegant home, and it will, we are assured, be welcomed in proportion as it does so. Our subject is still unmarried; his sister Priscilla has the care of their home, which lies within a half mile of the city limits. Mr. Marsden, Sr., is the only member of the family who has filled civic office. When a resident in Galena, he was Assessor for a considerable period. The family is worthily placed in the front rank of citizens of this county, and commands the highest respect and esteem. Mr. Marsden has a herd of thoroughbred Short-horns, and high-grades. The farm is most elegantly situated in the county. Twelve years ago it was purchased for \$12 per acre, and now the entire tract could be sold for \$100 per acre, or \$64,000. This illustrates the rapid improvement of the county. In politics Mr. Marsden is a staunch Republican.



JOSHUA PERRIN. Among those who came at an early day to the southern part of this county, the subject of this biography has occupied no unimportant position. He has carried on farming and milling combined, and by his industry and prudence has accumulated a good property, which he is now permitted to enjoy, sitting under his own vine and fig tree, and having about him all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. He ranks among the honored pioneers of Southern Nebraska, and has built up one of its most desirable homesteads, working up from first principles and struggling with the soil in its earliest stages of cultivation.

As President of the Roca Roller Milling Company, the name of Mr. Perrin is widely and favorably known throughout Saltillo Precinct and the vicinity, these mills gathering in the bulk of the patronage from the people in the southern part of the county. The farm property of our subject is located on section 9, with good buildings, improved farm machinery, and all the appurtenances for the prosecution of agriculture after the most approved

methods. As a homestead it is all that could be desired in point of health, comfort and convenience, with its pure air, and fertile fields yielding for the sustenance of man those products which conduce to health of body and of mind alike.

The history of Mr. Perrin is one of more than ordinary interest, he being the offspring of an excellent old family who have been represented in the Keystone State for three generations, and who trace their ancestry to Germany. Amos and Elizabeth (Bennett) Perrin, the parents of our subject, were natives respectively of Alleghany County, Md., and Bedford County, Pa. The paternal great-grandfather was Thomas Perrin, who, upon emigrating from the Fatherland, settled near Oldtown, Md., and subsequently served in the French and Indian Wars, being in the Federal service under Gen. Washington and witnessing Braddock's defeat. Later, his son Thomas, the grandfather of our subject, carried a musket in the Revolutionary War.

After their marriage the parents of our subject located on a farm in Bedford County, Pa., where the father carried on agriculture successfully, and accumulated a fine property, which, however, he lost, being the victim of misplaced confidence in becoming a bondsman for some of his friends. In 1847, hoping to mend his broken fortune, he left Pennsylvania, with his wife and three children, our subject being the youngest, and crossed the Alleghenies into West Virginia, settling about twelve miles from the city of Wheeling. There he remained about one year, then removed to Wood County, and commenced farming near Parkersburg. On the 15th of July, 1850, he was seized with cholera, and in the space of nine hours had breathed his last, at the age of fifty-three years. The mother succeeded in keeping her children together, and our subject remained with her until his marriage.

Joshua Perrin was born June 4, 1835, in Southampton Township, Bedford Co., Pa. At the time of his father's greatest prosperity he was a mere child, too young to commence his education in school, and when he might have done this the family was in straightened circumstances, and he consequently was required to make himself useful about the home. In addition to this, upon the removal of the family to West Virginia the schools

were few and far between, our subject attending one of these institutions only about six months during his entire life. At the time of his father's death he was a boy of fifteen years, and was obliged to exert himself in assisting to keep the wolf from the door. He rented a farm which he operated for a period of eight years, and then, in 1858, went into the woods of West Virginia, and began the establishment of a home of his own. He put up a log house into which he moved his mother and sisters, and they kept house for him until the time of his marriage.

On Christmas Day, 1856, Mr. Perrin celebrated the occasion by taking unto himself a wife and helpmate, Miss Lucinda Deem, who was born in that region, and whose parents spent their last years there. The young people commenced life together under the roof which our subject had provided, but after the birth of two children Mrs. Perrin died, in 1861, at the age of twenty-two years. Their eldest daughter, Clarissa, died at the age of seven years; Clarinda grew up and continued with her father until her marriage, being now the wife of Ira P. Mells, of Custer County, this State; she is also the mother of two children—William J. and Bernard.

Our subject was married the second time in West Virginia, Dec. 29, 1863, to Miss Sarah M., the daughter of Edward R. and Rebecca Leach. Mrs. Perrin was the seventh of a family of nine children, and was born March 3, 1839, in Marshall County, W. Va., where she received a common-school education, and continued with her parents until her marriage. In 1865 Mr. Perrin, with his mother, his wife and his children, removed to Jackson County, Ohio, where he purchased 112 acres of land, and carried on farming for a period of ten years. In 1875 he disposed of his property, and gathering together his family and his personal effects, started for the farther West. He determined to visit Southern Nebraska, and if he did not like the place, to move on to Oregon. He contemplated, if everything was favorable, settling in Lincoln, and being pleased with the looks of the country upon arriving in this county, he purchased 320 acres of land on section 9, in Saltillo Precinct, from the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company. There being no buildings upon it, he bought a little house and

moved it to his premises. This sheltered the family, they making themselves as comfortable as possible until they could do better.

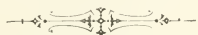
Our subject now commenced in earnest his struggle with the uncultivated soil, and his experience was that of many of the other pioneers whose early career in Nebraska has received ample recognition in this work. While carrying on the cultivation of his land, he planted an orchard of 100 trees, besides the smaller fruits, and added those other embellishments to the homestead upon which the comfort and happiness of their family to such a great extent depended. He put up a barn and other out-buildings, as his means justified, enclosed his fields with good fences, and in 1876 erected a very fine frame dwelling with a stone basement, and two stories in height. Gradually he gathered a goodly assortment of live stock on his place, cattle, horses and swine, and keeps of the first mentioned usually a herd of about forty head.

Mr. Perrin became interested in milling in 1887. In 1887 the mill at Roca was destroyed by fire, and he then purchased a half-interest in the ground upon which it stood, where he erected a fine flouring-mill, 36x40 feet, and four stories in height, supplying it with a full set of the Short roller system, with a capacity of fifty barrels per day. This machinery was calculated to manufacture the best flour in the world, and approaches very nearly to what is claimed. The mill when fully completed will prove a valuable addition to the business interests of Saltillo Precinct, and due credit is given Mr. Perrin for his enterprise.

To our subject and his estimable wife there have been born five children, namely: William, Amos, Frank, Winfield and Charles. The eldest son is a young man of more than ordinary capacities, studious and fond of literature, and is now the editor of the *Alliance Argus*, in Box Butte County. He acquired an excellent education, being graduated from the University of Nebraska with honors in the class of '87. Amos and Frank are also attending this institution, the former being in the class of '92, and the latter in the class of '93t; he younger sons are at home with their parents.

Mr. Perrin is a staunch Republican, with leanings toward Prohibition, and both he and his wife are

members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Roca. He has been quite prominent in local affairs, liberal and public-spirited, and while on the building committee of the Methodist Episcopal Church, also donated \$500 for the erection of the building.



JAMES B. HALE. The property of this well-to-do farmer of Saltillo Precinct is finely located on section 30, and embraces 280 acres of land which was homesteaded by his father, in 1866, while Nebraska was a Territory. The latter, Amos Hale, was a native of St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and the scion of an excellent old family who traced their origin back to Sir Robert, a brother of Sir Matthew Hale, who in years gone by was the Chief Justice of England. The latter was noted for his erudition, gentleness of disposition, and his high sense of justice, which enabled him to render his decisions in a manner which reflected honor upon a long and prosperous career. The first representatives of the family in this country crossed the Atlantic about the year 1650. Some of them returned to England in the reign of Charles II.

Amos Hale in early manhood was united in marriage with a very estimable lady, Miss Mary J. Major, a native of Davis County, Ind., and they settled in Lawrence County, where the father followed his profession of civil engineer and also operated as master mechanic. He was a man of more than ordinary capabilities, and arose to the position of Superintendent of the Indianapolis & Madison Railroad, which he held until resolving to seek his fortunes west of the Mississippi.

The father of our subject upon securing the land which we have already spoken of commenced at once to make improvements, and at the time of his death five years later, had laid the foundation of a valuable homestead. He rested from his earthly labors June 6, 1871, at the age of fifty-one years. The mother is still living, and now a resident of Roca, being sixty-eight years old. Their household

included nine children, three sons and six daughters, of whom James B., our subject, was the second born. He first opened his eyes to the light Oct. 25, 1847, in the town of Springville, Lawrence Co., Ind. The educational facilities of that time and place were extremely limited, and the boy chiefly learned to plow and sow and gather in the harvest. He was a young man twenty-four years of age at the time of his father's death, but had already for a year or more been manager of the homestead. On the 25th of January, 1870, he brought a bride beneath its roof, having been married to Miss Lucy A. Sanford, the daughter of an excellent family, whose parents moved from Virginia to Indiana at an early day, and whose father, John C. Sanford, traced his ancestry directly to Gen. George R. Clark, of Virginia.

John C. Sanford, the father of Mrs. Hale, was a farmer by occupation, and was married to Miss Hannah Eads, an own cousin of the celebrated civil engineer, Capt. James B. Eads, of St. Louis, Mo. Mr. Sanford spent his last years in Indiana, dying at the homestead in Davis County, Dec. 1, 1877, at the age of fifty years. The mother is still living there. Mrs. Hale was the eldest of a family of five sons and four daughters, and was born Dec. 19, 1849, in Davis County, Ind. Of her union with our subject there are eight interesting children, namely: Robert M., John C., Emma Josephine, Amos Hix, Eric Edgar, Edith S., Bessie and Stuart Grant. They all continue under the home roof, and will be educated in accordance with the means and position of their parents.

The property of Mr. Hale includes 560 acres of land, with handsome and substantial farm buildings, a tasteful dwelling, good barns, sheds and other outhouses, an orchard of 600 apple trees, the smaller fruits, and all the other appurtenances which go to make up the complete rural home. He is a man liberal and public-spirited, and while a boy became very much interested in political matters. By the reading of Uncle Tom's Cabin he became thoroughly imbued with anti-slavery doctrines, and from the first was a Lincoln man. At an earlier period he had hurred for Gen. John C. Fremont, and since the organization of the Republican party, in 1856, has remained one of its staunchest ad-

herents. Although it is true, having something to begin upon at the outset of his career, it has required good judgment and forethought to look after his property and increase his talents, like the wise man of Scripture. This he has done in a tenfold degree and is worthy of much credit that he has perpetuated the estate which his father inaugurated, and is adding to its value as the years pass, building up for both father and son a memorial which will descend in honor to their children. The patronymic was formerly and correctly spelled Haile, but changed to the shorter method of spelling by Amos Hale, the father of our subject, on account of his known habit of always taking the shortest and most direct cut to everything.

The following very interesting family record of the Haile family was prepared by Andrew J. Haile, the uncle of James B., and we print as furnished:

Nathaniel, Richard and Nathan Haile came from England to America about the year 1650. Richard, your great-great-great-grandfather, settled in Swansea, Mass. Walter Haile, your great-great-grandfather, was born in Swansea, Nov. 16, 1707, educated for a physician, removed to Warren, R. I., where he practiced his profession. Mary Luther, wife of Walter Haile, was born June 2, 1706.

Children of Walter Haile: Richard, born May 29, 1729; Nathaniel, Dec. 1, 1731; Anna, Dec. 23, 1734; Nathan, Oct. 23, 1736; John, April 23, 1739; Joseph, May 16, 1741; Amos, Aug. 27, 1743; James, Oct. 30, 1745; Lydia, Feb. 15, 1748; Mary, April 8, 1750; Eliza, Dec. 18, 1752. Eleven in all.

Nathan remained on the homestead in Warren. James Haile, your great-grandfather, was born at Warren, R. I., Oct. 30, 1745, died May 8, 1808. Hannah, his wife, was born in Rehoboth, R. I., May 17, 1740, died May 15, 1812. They removed to Putney, Vt., 1772.

Children of James Haile: Richard, born Aug. 14, 1769, died Nov. 5, 1847; Heseekiah, born Aug. 7, 1770; Mary, born Jan. 15, 1772, died in March, 1843; Nathan, born March 17, 1774; Desire, Jan. 21, 1775, died in August, 1777; Hannah, born April 20, 1776; Anna, April 18, 1779; John, Feb. 11, 1781; James, March 16, 1782. Nine in all; James, the youngest of this family, was your grandfather.

James Haile, your grandfather, was born March 16, 1782. Tabitha Johnson, your grandmother, was born Jan. 12, 1784. They were married June 3, 1802.

Children: Diantha Aldridge, born Jan. 28, 1804; James Bradley, Ashbel Bradford (twins), May 29, 1806; Mason Ward, March 3, 1811; Jane Porter, Aug. 5, 1814; Laura Bigelow, Feb. 22, 1816; Amos Hix (your father), March 30, 1818; Andrew Jackson, July 5, 1819; Louis Johnson, Nov. 3, 1823; Cornelia A. Wellington, Feb. 25, 1827. Ten in all.

Diantha married Heseekiah H. Smith, Dec. 20, 1820; Laura died when thirteen months of age; Jane died in Brookville, Ind., in 1860; James B. died in Louisiana, Sept. 9, 1836. This is the uncle after whom you are named.

James Bradley Haile, your uncle, was born May 29, 1806. Studied law in Rochester, N. Y., went to Brookville, Ind., in 1830; commenced the practice of law, and in a few years was elected Chancellor of the State. Married Catherine Jacobs, Aug. 25, 1833. James B., only child of your uncle, was born Aug. 6, 1834, died Jan. 21, 1835. Ashbel Bradford (twin brother of the above), graduated at Yale College; studied medicine. Married Mary H. May, Oct. 31, 1843. His wife was born in Savannah, Ga., June 10, 1816. Gertrude, daughter of Ashbel B. and Mary H. Haile, was born Sept. 29, 1850. Your uncle, Ashbel B., is a practicing physician in Norwich, Conn.

Ashbel Johnson, your great-grandfather on your grandmother's side, was born May 22, 1750. Jane Porter, his wife, was born April 6, 1755, married Jan. 4, 1772.

Children: William, born April 16, 1773; David, Feb. 6, 1775; Ebenezer, Feb. 14, 1777; Lucy, Dec. 6, 1778; Pattie, March 29, 1780; Ashbel, June 30, 1782; Tabitha (your grandmother), Jan. 12, 1784; Ezekiel, Nov. 20, 1785; Nabby, Nov. 2, 1788; Samuel, Dec. 29, 1789; Polly, March 14, 1792; Ward, Nov. 20, 1793; Stephen, Feb. 3, 1796. Thirteen in all.

This family lived in Dummerston, Vt. Your grandmother when young was a great beauty. She was noted far and wide for her beauty and splendid teeth. She was regarded as the most daring and

graceful horseback rider in all New England. She was a very intellectual woman; retained her beauty to old age; was large and fleshy.

Andrew Jackson Haile, your uncle, was born in Gouverneur, N. Y., July 5, 1819. Married to present wife, Annie Deborah Harlan, July 29, 1848.

Children: Willie James, born May 30, 1851, in Kentucky; Charles Horatis, Jan. 30, 1854, in Missouri; Walter Frank, June 9, 1856, in Tennessee; Andrew Johnson, Nov. 12, 1868, in Tennessee.

Your aunt Annie was born in Philadelphia, Pa., March 30, 1832. She is of a distinguished Maryland family. Her grandfather on her father's side was at one time Governor of New Jersey; and her grandfather on her mother's side was Governor of Maryland.

Remarks: Heseekiah Hix married Desie Carpenter, who were your great-great-grandparents on your grandfather's side in the female line. That is, your grandfather's mother's maiden name was Hix, hence your father's middle name (Hix). The correct spelling of our name is Haile. It is an English name and ought not to be corrupted. The English Hailes were always loyal to the Crown. The emigration took place during the civils and during Cromwell's usurpation.

Charles the First, King of England, was beheaded by Cromwell's friends Jan. 30, 1649. Fearing a like fate many of his adherents left England. Upon the restoration of Charles the Second in 1660, after Cromwell's death, many of them returned to England and were received with great favor by the King. Some had patents of nobility issued to them. Among those were some of the Hailes, our ancestors. Sir Matthew Haile, the distinguished Chief Justice of the court of King's Bench, was one of our ancestors. In English works his name is spelled Haile.

David Haile was another who was created a noble, and the title of Lord Dalrymple conferred upon him. Haile is still a distinguished name in England. The Hailes are eminently an agricultural or a literary people. Very few ever engaged in trade or the mechanical arts. The Hailes are also a moral and religious people. There is not known an instance of a Haile ever being a drunkard or convicted of an infamous crime.

The Hailes are an entirely different stock of people. John P. Hale, of New Hampshire, Eugene Hale, of Maine, noted politicians, are no relatives of ours. I do not know why your excellent father dropped the "i" out of his name, unless it was in accordance with his known habit of taking the shortest and most direct cut to everything.

We, the Hailes, are proud of our names and our ancestry. Let us do nothing to detract from our high position, not even so much as the dropping of a letter from our name. The compiling of these records has cost a great deal of time, trouble, correspondence, searching old records, etc. I got a part of them from your uncle, Ashbel B., of Norwich, Conn., and hunted up the balance myself. All, every name and date, are absolutely correct.

I could write a book full of interesting matter from these records, partly from personal knowledge of persons named and from history and tradition.

Amos Hix Haile, father of James B. Haile, was born at Gouverneur, N. Y., March 30, 1813. Mary J. Major, his wife, was born at Washington, Ind., July 10, 1820. Married Sept. 19, 1844. Children: Eliza Ann, born April 17, 1846; James Bradley, Oct. 25, 1847; Laura Etta, March 30, 1851; Robert Major, Oct. 19, 1852; a son, born and died April 14, 1855; Susan Jane, born Dec. 11, 1856; Mary Amelia, Sept. 6, 1859; Lincona Bellmont, Nov. 8, 1860; Emma L., Feb. 3, 1863. Nine in all. Eliza married to William L. Dunton, in November, 1884; at the present time on a homestead in Elbert County, Col. Laura E., married Oct. 24, 1875, to Friend Buel, one of Lancaster County's thrifty farmers and stock-growers. Susan J., married to William H. Seaverns, Oct. 13, 1881; now on a thriving homestead in Wallace County, Kan. Mary A., married to Charles E. Borg, Oct. 11, 1881. Emma L., married to James W. Rouse, Feb. 3, 1882, now living at Hiawatha, Brown Co., Kan. James W. Rouse is an excellent railroad conductor now in the employ of the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company. Amos Hix Haile died June 6, 1871. He came to Nebraska and settled on Salt Creek, Nov. 3, 1866, while the present State was yet a Territory.

James B. Haile was born at Springville, Ind., Oct. 25, 1847. Lucy A. Sanford, his wife, was born

at Washington, Ind., Dec. 19, 1849. Married Jan. 25, 1870. Children: Robert Major, born Dec. 26, 1870; John Clark, Aug. 23, 1873; Emma Josephine, Nov. 22, 1874; Amos Hlix, May 1, 1877; Eric Edgar, July 16, 1879; Edith Susan, Dec. 11, 1881; Bessie B., July 30, 1883; Stuart Grant, Oct. 22, 1885.



AMOS GREENAMYRE, proprietor of the well-known South Side Fruit and Stock Farm on section 34, in Grant Precinet, has distinguished himself as one of the stirring and energetic men of this region, who started out in life dependent upon his own resources, and who, by the exercise of industry and perseverance, has accumulated a fine property and secured for himself an enviable position among his fellow-citizens. He owns 320 acres of some of the choicest land in Lancaster County, where he has erected a fine set of farm buildings and effected the other improvements in keeping with the means and tastes of one of its leading citizens. In his operations as a stock-grower he has been especially successful, dealing mostly in Short-horn cattle, Poland-China swine and Norman horses. In horticulture he handles mostly the smaller fruits. The artist enables us to offer a clear and helpful picture, and presents a faithfully executed view of the elegant residence and fine out-buildings of this property, and also some of its immediate and picturesque surroundings.

Our subject is the offspring of an excellent family of German extraction, his father being Solomon Greenamyre, a native of Mahoning County, Ohio. The mother, who in her girlhood was Miss Mary Best, was a native of the same county as her husband, where she spent her entire life, and died about 1847. The father later removed to Princeton, Bureau Co., Ill., where he was a resident for a period of thirty years. In March, 1887, he came to Lincoln, this State, where his death took place about six months afterward, on the 6th of August.

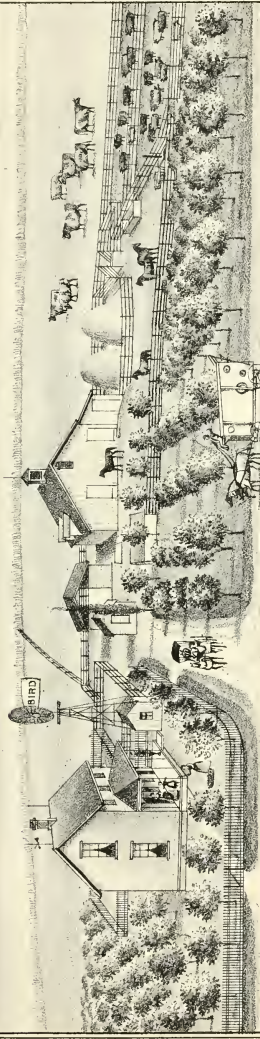
The parents of our subject had a family of two sons and six daughters, of whom Amos was the eldest. He was born in Milton, Mahoning Co., Ohio, March 17, 1840, received a good practical education in the common schools, and became familiar with farm

pursuits. He lived at home with his parents until twenty-four years old, in the meantime removing with them to Bureau County, Ill., and from there, in 1880, made his way to this county and rented a tract of land on section 34 in Grant Precinet, a part of which he subsequently became owner of. While in Illinois he formed the acquaintance of Miss Margaret Sisler, and they were married in Princeton, Aug. 25, 1864.

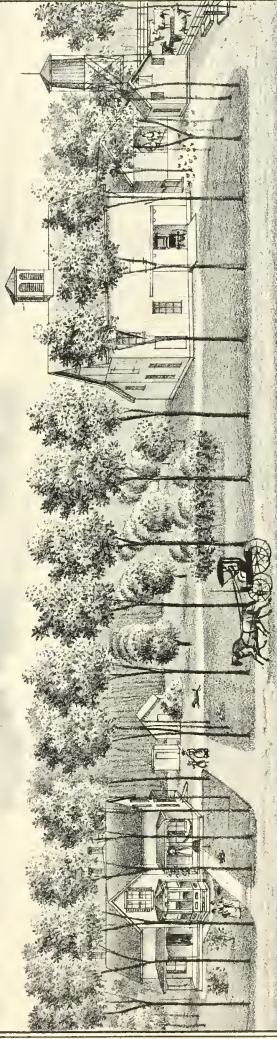
The wife of our subject is the daughter of George and Nancy (Perkius) Sisler, the former a native of Pennsylvania, and the latter born near Saratoga Springs, N. Y. After marriage they settled in Bureau County, Ill., among its earliest pioneers, and there the mother died in 1853. The father is still living in Bureau County, residing near Princeton. Their family consisted of four daughters and one son, and Margaret was the second child. She was born near Princeton, June 11, 1845, and continued a member of the parental household until her marriage, acquiring a fair education in the common schools, and becoming familiar with all useful domestic employments. After the model mother of Scripture, she looks well to the ways of her household and the comfort of her family, and thus fills the admirable position of a faithful and praiseworthy wife and mother.

To Mr. and Mrs. Greenamyre there have been born twelve children, one of whom, Mary, died when three months old, in August, 1869. The eleven surviving are George W., Maggie, Myrtle, Howard, Daisy, Lilly, Solomon, Kittie, Rose, Susie and Harold. The eldest of these is twenty-three years of age and the youngest one. On the twentieth anniversary of their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Greenamyre received at their beautiful home numbers of their friends and relatives, and the occasion was made one of general rejoicing, during which they received many substantial testimonials of the estimation in which they are held by the community.

The extensive business and farming interests of our subject prevent him from mixing very much in political affairs, but he keeps himself posted upon matters of general interest and is a strong supporter of Republican principles. Both he and his estimable wife are regular attendants of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and take much interest in



RESIDENCE AND FARM OF J. J. STEIN, SEC. 21. SALTILLO PRECINCT.



"SOUTH SIDE" FRUIT AND STOCK FARM. PROPERTY OF AMOS GREENAMYRE, SEC. 34. GRANT PRECINCT.

educational matters. Their children are being well reared and given the advantages suitable to their position as the offspring of one of the first families of Lancaster County. No man has been better pleased than Mr. G. in noting the progress and development of this section of the State. He has held the office of Precinct Assessor, and officiated several years as a member of the School Board in his district.



JOHN J. STEIN. In far-off Egypt, in Heliopolis, the "City of the Sun," stands the magnificent temple which was thousands of years ago consecrated to that luminary, and reputed the home of the fabulous Phœnix. This noble bird, the only one of its kind, with its shining and beautiful crest, its feathers of purple and gold, its eyes sparkling like stars, after living for several hundred years, finds its end approaching, and building a nest of aromatic woods and spices, places itself therein to die. From its remains a new Phœnix is formed, which not only partakes of the characteristics of the one preceding it, but, if possible, exceeds it in beauty and grandeur.

Not alone to amuse children, and while away the idle moments, do men give ear and repeat this pleasing tale, but because, when rightly unfolded, it evolves a principle which forms the basis of many of the grandest achievements of the hand of man. From the ashes of its parent springs the new wonder, and often from the ashes of a lost hope springs a new and determined purpose, which, put into execution, far exceeds any that has heretofore been conceived. The man who will listlessly sit down and repine because of a misfortune, instead of beginning with renewed vigor to build a more excellent structure than the first, will know nothing of the pride and gratification of him who conquers fate and molds circumstances to his will.

As an illustration of what may be accomplished by manfully battling against reverses, winning his way bit by bit until he reaches the goal of success at which he aims, and at the same time fulfilling the duties of the position in which he is placed, we give this sketch of Mr. Stein, a very prosperous farmer of Saltillo Precinct, residing on section 21. He is

a son of John and Catherine (Diehl) Stein, who both have their nativity in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany. The father was a cutler, a manufacturer of edged tools, and he came to America with his wife and two children in the year 1840, when our subject was eight years old. Bidding farewell to friends and the home that had sheltered them, they left their Fatherland in August, and after a journey of seven weeks on board the sailing-vessel "Neptune," they arrived at Baltimore. So impressed was our subject with the incidents which occurred during this long journey, that he remembers them all quite distinctly, though at the time but a child, and they present a vivid mental picture when the journey is recalled.

The father of our subject, with his family, went to Somerset County, Pa., where he engaged for thirteen years in farming. Thence he went to Alleghany County, Md., in 1853, where he farmed in company with our subject, who had taken charge of the homestead, continuing there until the year 1870. Together they removed to Illinois, and in 1879 they once more removed to Nebraska, settling in Saltillo Precinct, Lancaster County. John J. Stein rented a house and began operations on his own land, which he had purchased in 1878.

The gentleman in whose honor this sketch is written was born on the 9th of May, 1834, in the town of Oberahmen, Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany. He began attending school at the age of six years, and coming to America shortly afterward he continued the pursuit of his education, distinguishing himself as a student of more than ordinary brilliancy, in Pennsylvania, and although a foreigner, he soon mastered the English language, and gained the title of "Banner Scholar." By devoting himself assiduously to his studies, he succeeded in obtaining a good education, being twenty-one years old when his parents moved to Maryland. He had taught school in Pennsylvania at the age of nineteen, and the winter following his removal from that State, he was engaged in drawing and sawing lumber in the pineries, after which he again resumed the occupation of teaching, which he continued successfully for four consecutive winters.

Mr. Stein was married, in December of 1854, to Miss Matilda Royer, a daughter of John and Eliza

(Schultz) Royer, living on a farm in Maryland, the father having been born in Germany, and the mother in Pennsylvania. The birthplace of Mrs. Stein was near Grantsville, Alleghany Co., Md., and the date thereof the 27th of November, 1837. For twelve years our subject and his wife prospered in business, surrounding themselves with the comforts of a luxurious home, having about them a family of six children. Then came that ruthless destroyer, fire, and with scorching tongues madly devoured their entire possessions, not ceasing until there remained nothing but the glowing embers to mark the spot where had been the happy home. House, barn, granary, hay barns, horses, cattle, hogs, all the accumulated wealth of the preceding years, swept away in one short hour, completely ruining our subject financially, as he had carried no insurance on his property.

Then it was the strength of Mr. Stein's character was so forcibly and strikingly manifested. Instead of resigning himself to the misfortune which fate had thrust upon him, and losing all hope, actuated by a noble motive in behalf of his family, he suffered not his ambition to diminish, but, summoning up a new energy, he at once began the arrangements for building a new home and repairing his lost fortune. Such indomitable perseverance and will are worthy of the highest encomium. Always keeping hard at work, caring for his family with a father's devotion, he toiled steadily upward toward the goal he had in view, when some friends of his, who had moved to Illinois, hearing of his misfortunes, wrote to him with the request that he should come out and join them. Influenced by their request, he went out West and settled in Shipman, Macoupin Co., Ill., where he rented a farm, on which he labored for six years, being only partially successful.

Then our subject was induced to try his fortunes in the "Garden Spot" of the West, the State of Nebraska. He purchased 160 acres of land of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company, paying one-fifth of the cost in cash, the remainder to be paid in five years, and having left but \$34.15 after making his first payment. He at once set about to improve and cultivate his land, breaking one-half of it the first year, from the proceeds of which he received ten per cent premium. All the

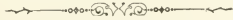
land is now free from incumbrance, and the owner has erected on it a good one and a half story frame house and cattle barns. There is also a splendid young orchard containing 200 apple trees, sixty cherry, and about the same number of plum trees, etc. There is also a windmill and wind-pump on the place, and a creamery with a capacity of sixty pounds per week. The illustration on an adjoining page affords a very clear representation of the commodious residence, farm buildings, etc., besides giving a birds-eye view of the property generally, which, we believe, cannot fail to be appreciated by the reader.

Mr. and Mrs. Stein have six children, their names as follows: Kate, Marshall, Albert, John, Emma and Nettie. The daughter Kate was married to Morris Kates, who had two children, Charles and Walter. George Marshall Marsh Stein, second child of our subject, resides on section 29 in Saltillo Precinct, and is the owner of 160 acres of land on sections 28 and 29. He was first married to Miss Emma Trabue, from Illinois, and has one daughter by that marriage, named Alphoretta. When this child was six weeks old her mother died, leaving a request that Alphoretta should be left to the care of her grandfather, our subject. Marshall then married Miss Emma Ruth Kuhlman, in 1887, by whom he has one daughter, Winnifred. Albert Stein married in 1888 Miss Vesta Alexander, of Saltillo, and resides on section 16. John and Emma are at home, and Nettie was married to Henry E. Grimm, residing at Council Bluffs, formerly Principal of the Roeca village school. At present he is the Iowa correspondent for the *Omaha World*. They have one child, Edith Annetta.

Our subject is very much occupied with farm work, for besides his own 160 acres, he rents thirty acres on section 20, but with all this to engage his attention, he still finds time to take an active part in society, being much concerned in the welfare of the community, politically, educationally and religiously. He and his wife are active members of the Lutheran Church, at Roeca, which church our subject played an important part in establishing. He was one of the building committee, and spent three months' time in superintending its erection, besides donating the sum of \$250. He was instru-

mental in obtaining the location of the church at Roca, the first services having been held in a hall over a blacksmith-shop, the Rev. M. S. Melick officiating by request of our subject and a few other early settlers. Mr. Stein is at present the Superintendent of a Sunday-school of fifty pupils, and is one of the Church Trustees.

Besides his interest in religious works our subject ranks high in political standing, belonging to the Democratic party, and having been the Judge of Elections in Saltillo Precinct ever since his arrival in Nebraska. Having successfully combated misfortune, and raised himself to a position of influence among his fellowmen by his own energy and unfailing courage, he is entitled by right to the universal esteem in which he is held.



ELGIN E. MOTT, of Middle Creek Precinct, is a descendant of an old and representative family of the Empire State. He was born in Oxford County, in the Province of Ontario, Canada, on the 30th of June, 1849. His father, Aden Mott, was born in the same place, and Moses Mott, the father of Aden, was a native of Dutchess County, N. Y., while his father, Sears Mott, the great-grandfather of our subject, was also a native of the Empire State, from which he removed in 1811 with his wife and six children to the Dominion.

The journey of Sears Mott on his way to Canada was made throughout the entire distance by means of a wagon and teams, which provided them with a means of locomotion by day, and served the purpose of hotel and chamber at night. They took with them one of their cows, and it was noted that while en route the cream that had been preserved, was, by the motion of the wagon as it rolled and jolted on its way, fully churned into the usual oleaginous compound. Upon arrival in Oxford County he found the common wild animals, and game of every variety in almost limitless profusion. He proceeded at once to enter a tract of timber land, and from it to hew for himself a farm and establish a homestead. He was a veritable pioneer, and his farm was 100 miles from Little York, the nearest market, where all business must needs be transacted.

Journeying to and from this point was possible only by teams, and a week was consumed in every round trip made. Upon this property he continued to reside until his death.

The maiden name of Mrs. Sears Mott was Mariam Tompkins. This brave lady, who so nobly shared the pioneer life of her husband in the above-mentioned locality, was a native of New York. The son, Moses Mott, the grandfather of our subject, was twelve years of age when his parents removed to Oxford County. He remained upon the farm with them, and as he grew in years, strength and experience, entered with zest into all the varied engagements of their daily life. Upon the death of his father he inherited the property, and so attached was he to the old home that he continued to reside there until his death, which occurred on the 21st of December, 1885, when he was seventy-two years of age. Elizabeth Emigh, who was a native of New York State, became his wife, and presented him with a son, to whom was given the name of Aden.

The father of our subject, Aden Mott, was reared in his native county. In its schools he received his education, and became fully conversant with all the various details and minutia of farm work. At twenty-one years of age he commenced to teach school, and continued so to do for a period of about seven years. In the year 1849 he was united in wedlock with Paulina Lossing, a native of Oxford County, who was born upon the 5th of April, 1830. The young couple settled upon a farm given them by Mr. Mott, father of the groom, and there they continued to make their home. The fate of Aden Mott is shrouded in mystery; about the year 1861 he came to the States and went South; it is supposed he enlisted, and met with the fate of war, but he has never been heard from, nor could any news regarding him be obtained.

The father of Mrs. Aden Mott, Mr. Edmund Lossing, was a native of Dutchess County, N. Y., and was the son of Peter Lossing, who was born in the same county and State, while the father of this gentleman, John Lossing, who stands in the relation of great-great-grandfather to our subject, was born in Holland, Europe. He came to America, and settled in Dutchess County, N. Y., where the family remained until the emigration of Peter Lossing to

Canada in the year 1810; there he took a tract of Government land, made his clearing, built a log cabin, and went on with his agricultural pursuits, continuing till his death. He was a thoroughly well-educated man, and was frequently called upon by his neighbors in council upon knotty points, religious, socially and legally; papers such as contracts, deeds and wills, were usually drawn up by him on their behalf. He was a member of the Society of Friends, and a preacher of acknowledged power in that church, and enjoyed the respect and affection of all his neighbors.

The grandfather of our subject, Edmund Lossing, was sixteen years of age when his parents moved to Oxford County. He settled upon a piece of timber land, and followed the usual course of clearing a farm, making it his home till his death. Like his parents he was a member of the Quaker community, and one of its most devout members. He was married to Sarah English, a native of Ireland, and daughter of Thomas and Abigail (Watts) English. This lady died on the homestead in 1837. The mother of our subject knew no home but her parents' residence until her marriage. At present she lives with our subject in Middle Creek Precinct; she has been a lifelong member of the Society of Friends.

Our subject early gave evidence of the large mental and moral power he possessed, which in the Christian atmosphere of his home and the discipline and study of the public school were carefully developed in him. In 1872 he opened a cheese factory, and in this business continued very successfully for about eight seasons. He then embarked in the manufacture of crackers, starting a factory, which he operated for one year, and at the end of that period entered into the general mercantile business in Norwich. He came to Lancaster County in 1880, and purchased 330 acres of land in Middle Creek Precinct. In 1883 he settled on his present property, to which he has since devoted his time and attention.

Mr. Elgin Mott has been twice married, first in 1871 while living in Canada, when he was united with Maria Harris, daughter of Alvin and Margaret Harris, all natives of the Dominion. This lady died in March, 1878, leaving a daughter Jessie. The

second alliance was entered into in January, 1884, the lady of his choice being Jane Murdy, who was born in Welland County, Ontario. This union has been blessed by the birth of one child, to whom has been given the name of Florence.

For many years Mr. and Mrs. Mott have been members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which communion their conscientious living has gained for them a large circle of friends. Until recently our subject has been a devoted admirer of the principles of the Republican party, and has always been active and outspoken in its support. Feeling the weight, however, of the arguments of the Prohibition party, and realizing the innumerable evils caused by the use of intoxicants, he has withdrawn from the former, and is now actively engaged with the Prohibitionists.

THOMAS JENKINS. The Buckeye State has produced many remarkable men who have helped to make the history of their country, and in some instances possibly change the course of the "stream of time," in regard to some points of local, and even National history. Among these will doubtless come to mind the name of Chief Justice Waite, in the judiciary world, Hancock, of military fame, and the beloved James A. Garfield, the dutiful son, earnest scholar, enthusiastic teacher, eloquent preacher, intrepid soldier, able lawyer and martyred President.

It were an honor, indeed, to any man to be born in a State where such men have been reared. The subject of this biography is a native of Ohio, and has done his part to the retaining of an honorable name for his State by his life, character and success. Thomas Jenkins, whose life is here sketched, was born in Miami County, Ohio, Oct. 14, 1829, and is one of the very early settlers of West Oak Precinct, where he owns upon section 21 a beautiful and well-cultivated farm, comprising 160 acres. Our subject is the son of Eli Jenkins, likewise a native of Ohio, where he was born in 1785. The usual institution provided the material for his early instruction, and after he had finished school he was sent to learn the trade of millwright, which, with

milling, became his principal occupation. Among the work done by him that may be noted is the mill at Vermilion River, Ill., which was the first mill in that district; another one built by him is that situated between Danville and Eugene. The last mill that he owned and operated, also the work of his own hand, is that between Georgetown, Ill., and Perrysville, Ind., which continued to be his home until his death, at the age of fifty-six, in the year 1841. He was married to Ruth Mendenhall, and their happiness was greatly enhanced by ten children, all of whom it was their privilege to see grow up to years of man and womanhood, and of whom three are still living. The wife, mother of our subject, died in the year 1859, at the home of our subject.

Thomas Jenkins, the subject of this writing, while still an infant in his mother's arms, accompanied his parents upon their removal to Vermilion County, Ill., where they were among the first settlers. Their method of locomotion was somewhat primitive, but at that time quite usual. All their goods were put into two wagons, which the team pulled as best they were able over road and prairie, now smooth and now rough, and thus the journey proceeded, and with its difficulties and dangers, sunshine and shower, brightness and shadow, somewhat suggestive of the longer journey, in which we are all participants, across the level prairie of time, toward that undiscovered country, the other side the River, where, as Dante suggests, there waits a boatman to carry us o'er.

In education our subject was somewhat more fortunate than many of his contemporaries, for he received a practical and somewhat liberal academic education at Georgetown, after he had completed the curriculum in the little log school-house, with its large open fireplace, oiled paper window, slab seats and mud floor. Schooling finished, our subject took up the profession of teaching, and from his recent experience was abundantly capable of teaching the young ideas the true method of vegetating. From this he turned his attention to the trade of wagon-maker, in company with his brother, and continued at the same until his marriage, in 1855.

Our subject was united in marriage on the 12th

of July, 1855. Their family circle comprised three children, of whom two grew to years of discretion, Charles and John C.; neither of them is married. The maiden name of the wife of our subject was Martha Caraway, who was born Nov. 17, 1824, in Greenbrier County, W. Va., and was the daughter of Joshua and Elizabeth Caraway. The family removed to Illinois in 1833, their daughter residing with them until her marriage. Mrs. Jenkins was called to leave her husband and family by death on the 6th of August, 1885.

For about two years after marriage our subject continued the manufacture of wagons with his brother, then removed to Mattoon, Ill., and for a time went on with the same business, but in 1862 gave his attention to the manufacture of wooden goods at Mattoon, and also at Palestine. In this business he was very successful for a time, but the War of the Rebellion proved quite a blow to his business, and shortly before its close he had to sell out at a loss.

In the year 1874 our subject moved West, and came to this farm, which he had purchased two years previously at \$6 per acre. This was an entirely new departure from the never-ceasing clatter of machinery, and the rush of commercial life; out amid the eternal silence of the wild, unbroken prairie he began his labor; first, in the erection of a sod house, which must suffice the bold pioneer until a more substantial building can be erected. In after days, when the farm had been somewhat improved, when he had reaped the golden reward of the harvest home, he erected the substantial and withal pretty frame building which is now his home, adding from time to time the other out-buildings of the farm. Our subject is giving considerable attention to the department of stock-raising, and is the owner of a very fine herd of Short-horns, and other stock in keeping.

Recognizing the worth of our subject as a man and citizen, the people elected him Alderman while a resident of Mattoon. He has also for nine years been School Director in this place. Mr. Jenkins was recently a candidate for the Legislature upon the Prohibition ticket, and the high regard in which he is held by the community is most eloquently told in the recorded fact that at the time of the

election he received every vote in his precinct, excepting five. He has been the leader of the Prohibition party in his district for a long time, and is very energetic in behalf of what he believes to be the right. He and his wife are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Jenkins has for several years been the Sunday-school Superintendent.

JAMES PENNOCK WALTON was born in Chester, Meigs Co., Ohio, Dec. 3, 1847, and is the eldest child of five born to James S. and Clarissa Warner (Cutter) Walton. His brother, Ephraim Cutter, was born March 8, 1851, but died in September of the following year. William Cutter, the next child, was born April 24, 1854. Another son, Edward Payson, was born Oct. 14, 1855, and died April 18, 1864. The last child, Lucy Margaret, was born April 21, 1857, and died June 18, 1861.

James Shoemaker Walton, the father of our subject, was born at Kennett Square, near Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 13, 1817, and was the third of a family of nine children. Phoebe, the eldest, was born Nov. 15, 1812, and has been twice married. Her first husband was a Mr. Valentine; after his decease she was married to a Mr. Clarke, whom she still survives. Lydia, the second child, was born Oct. 2, 1814, and died May 25, 1849. The fourth child, Esther C., was born Jan. 24, 1819. On the 1st of January, 1850, she was married to David C. Perry, whom she still survives. The fifth child, Joshua P., was born Aug. 3, 1822, and was married to Elizabeth Swain Jan. 1, 1847. The sixth child, Sarah, was born Aug. 24, 1824, and died April 7, 1843; Elias H., the seventh child, was born Dec. 26, 1826; he was married, Nov. 29, 1859, to Sarah E. Gibbs, and after her decease to Elizabeth Craddock, on May 14, 1868. The eighth child, Albert G., was born June 30, 1829. The youngest, William, was born Dec. 6, 1832, and died Aug. 2, 1833.

James S. Walton, the father of our subject, spent his boyhood days at home. About 1825-30 he removed with his father to Ohio and took up his residence in the city of Cincinnati. After learning the carpenter's trade, in which he served an apprentice-

ship of seven years in Cincinnati, his desire to complete his education and prepare himself to preach the Gospel led him to enter Marietta College, at Marietta, Ohio. Here it was necessary for him to support himself and provide for the expenses of his education, by working at his trade during vacations, and at such times as he could spare from his studies. After completing the classical course in this college he was graduated in the class of '43, receiving the degree of A. M. In order to thoroughly prepare himself for his chosen profession, he entered Lane Theological Seminary at Cincinnati, Ohio, from which he was graduated about the year 1845.

Having completed the preparation for his life work, Mr. Walton immediately entered the ministry of the Gospel, and devoted his entire energies to the service of the Master whom he loved, and whose injunction to "preach the Gospel to every creature" he accepted as the guiding motive of his life. He was ordained the pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Chester, Meigs Co., Ohio, where he remained several years. From here he removed to Barlow, Washington Co., Ohio, and was the pastor of the Presbyterian Church at that place for some years. From there he moved to Warren, Washington Co., Ohio, and after a pastorate of about five years with the Presbyterian Church there, he removed to Pana, Christian Co., Ill., in the fall of 1858. As pastor of the Presbyterian Church at that place he continued in the ministry until about 1865, when failing health and a partial failure of his hearing made it necessary for him to retire from the active service as a minister, in which he had been constantly engaged for about twenty years. He then moved onto a farm about two miles from Pana, where he resided until his death. Here he devoted himself to farming and fruit culture, but still gave as much time as his health would permit to the service of churches in the vicinity that were too weak to support a pastor, or to preaching in neighborhoods where there were no churches.

While in charge of the church at Pana Rev. Walton found many young men and women anxious to secure a better education than could be obtained in the public schools at that time. To meet this demand he opened a private academy, which was conducted most successfully until the failure of

health which caused his retirement from the ministry made it necessary to relinquish this work also. In this enterprise he was greatly assisted by his wife, who was a highly educated lady, and had been a very successful teacher previous to her marriage. His political associations and sympathies were with the Republican party. He admired the keen arguments of Abraham Lincoln in favor of equal rights and equal justice for all men, North and South, white and black, and during the Presidential campaign of 1860 he drove fifty miles to hear Lincoln speak. He was a consistent advocate of anti-slavery principles, and his views and utterances on this question were based on a deep-rooted conviction that human slavery was wrong and ought to be abolished. Although of Quaker parentage and brought up under Quaker influences, he favored the vigorous prosecution of the war, and his sympathies and his prayers were always with the armies of the Union, and with the men who were striving to save the Nation's life. He was a devoted Christian, a faithful pastor and a sympathetic friend. In his social and domestic relations he exhibited the spirit of the Great Master whom he served. His death occurred Oct. 1, 1874, at Pana, and his remains were laid to rest in the cemetery near his home, among the friends whom he had served so faithfully and well, and who had learned to love him through the years of his ministrations in the Gospel in their midst.

The wife of Rev. J. S. Walton was Miss Clarissa Warner Cutter, to whom he was married Sept. 8, 1846. She was the youngest child in a family of eleven children. The eldest, Polly, was born in Killingly, Windham Co., Conn., May 11, 1788, and died while on the journey to the State of Ohio, on the 12th of September, 1795. The second child, Nancy, was born at Killingly, Feb. 25, 1790; Charles was also born at Killingly, March 30, 1792, and died of cholera, May 24, 1849, while en route to California; the fourth child, Heskiah, was born at Killingly, March 13, 1794, and died while on the journey to Ohio, Aug. 20, 1795. The next two children were born at Waterford, Mary, July 30, 1796, and Daniel Converse, Feb. 20, 1799. The remaining children were born at Warren, Ohio. Sarah, April 17, 1809, and was married, Jan. 20, 1829, to Henry Dawes, whom she still survives;

Manasseh was born July 25, 1810, and died Oct. 2, 1822; William Barker was born July 12, 1812; Julia Perkins, the tenth child, June 24, 1815. The two last are still living. The youngest child, Clarissa Warner, the mother of our subject, was born Oct. 28, 1816, was married, Sept. 8, 1846, to Rev. James S. Walton, and died at Pana, Ill., July 8, 1874, followed by her husband within three months. Her father, Judge Ephriam Cutter, was born in Massachusetts, April 13, 1767. He married Leah Atwood, who was the mother of the first six children in his family. After her decease he married Sally Parker. In September, 1795, he removed to the new settlement at Marietta, Ohio, where he was prominently connected with public affairs until his death, July 8, 1853. His father, the great-grandfather of our subject, was the Rev. Manasseh Cutter, LL. D., a native of Connecticut, born May 13, 1742, at Thompson, near Killingly. This gentleman was a lineal descendant of James Cutter, a native of Norfolkshire, England, who came to the Colony of Massachusetts Bay about 1634.

Dr. Manasseh Cutter was a Chaplain in the Federal army during the Revolutionary War. After the close of the war, as agent for the Ohio Company, he negotiated the purchase from Congress of the lands northwest of the Ohio River, known as "The Ohio Company's Purchase," and "The Scioto Company's Purchase," comprising the eastern half of what is now the State of Ohio. In the interest of his associates and their descendants he prepared the sections in the celebrated ordinances of 1787, which forever prohibited slavery in the Northwest Territory. It provided that no person in said Territory should ever be molested on account of his mode of worship or religious sentiments, and also for the setting aside of land in each township for the support of public schools, and for a grant of lands for the establishment of a university, and secured their insertion in the ordinance before its passage. From the provision mentioned above has grown our magnificent public school system, and our flourishing State universities.

The mother of our subject was educated at the Young Ladies' Seminary, at Marietta, Ohio. After graduating from this institution she spent some years prior to her marriage in teaching, a portion of

the time in a Young Ladies' Seminary, at Bowling Green, Ky. After her marriage she entered heartily into the chosen life work of her husband. She aided him greatly in his duties as a pastor, and by her devoted Christian character and example added much to the efficiency of his work as a minister of the Gospel. She was untiring in her efforts to do good through the agency of the various benevolent societies connected with her church. During the War of the Rebellion her enthusiasm in the work of the Soldiers' Aid Society, at Pana, Ill., of which she was the President, caused her to give to it all the time and energy she could possibly spare from her many other duties, often at a great sacrifice of her own health and strength. But she felt amply repaid for the sacrifice by the reports that came back from hospital and field, of the suffering alleviated, the comfort given to the sick and wounded by the supplies and delicacies collected and forwarded through her efforts. She was a woman who made many and strong friends, and her death was mourned by a large circle of friends outside her own family, who felt that they had suffered a personal loss. Her body was laid away in the cemetery near her home at Pana, where two of her children were already buried, and where her husband was soon after laid beside her.

From such a family, where noble, Christian principles and purposes controlled both thought and action, our subject came. His early life was spent under the influences and in the presence of an example calculated to inspire in his mind the love of knowledge, the appreciation of a practical Christian life inspired by the spirit of the Great Master, and a patriotic devotion to the principles of freedom and equality that lie at the foundation of our Government. His early education and preparation for college were under the teaching of his parents. At sixteen years of age he entered college at Marietta, Ohio, and took up the classical course, but owing to poor health and a difficulty with his eyes, which developed rapidly toward the close of his junior year, he was compelled to abandon the remainder of his course.

Having spent several of his vacations with engineer corps on railroad work, our subject now secured a position as a roadman in the engineering

department of the Marietta & Cincinnati Railroad, when he was shortly after promoted to the position of transitman. He remained with this company about one year, when he became connected with the Springfield & Illinois Southeastern Railroad as a division engineer. After serving in this capacity for about one year in Southern Illinois, he was appointed Chief Engineer of the Northern Division, and in the next year completed the location and most of the construction of that division. He then resigned this position and entered the employ of a construction company, and for several years was engaged in the location, construction and operation of railroads for this company.

In January, 1875, Mr. Walton came to Lincoln, Neb., on business, and was so well pleased with the country that he decided to give up railroading and locate here, which he did early in the following spring. Shortly after he was appointed Deputy County Surveyor, and in the fall of 1875 he was elected to the office of County Surveyor, to which position he has been re-elected continuously for fourteen years. This fact speaks more plainly than words could do his fitness for the position, and the high place he has won in the esteem of his fellow-citizens. In 1876 he was elected City Engineer of the city of Lincoln, Neb., and filled this position until 1881, and again from 1882 to 1885. In addition to these duties he has done considerable engineering work in different parts of the State.

Mr. Walton's political associations and sympathies have always been with the Republican party. He firmly believes that the principles advocated by this party are those that have given our country the best government and the greatest prosperity in times past, and that these principles will be the basis for better government and a magnificent development and prosperity in the future. As a member of the Congregational Church he has received the esteem and high regard of those with whom he is associated.

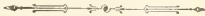
Mr. Walton was married, June 30, 1870, to Mary Annette Bailey, daughter of William D. and Mary A. (Ward) Bailey. Miss Bailey was born near Marietta, Ohio, April 17, 1849. One daughter, Mary Emerson Walton, was born to them March 25, 1872. She is at present attending the Nebraska State University, at Lincoln, and is a consistent and



G. Skinner

worthy member of the Congregational Church. Her mother was removed by death on the 11th of June, 1875. A second alliance was entered into Aug. 7, 1877, when he was united in marriage to Miss Eliza A. Dobson, daughter of Isaac and Rachel Amelia (Bates) Dobson. The father of Mrs. Walton was a native of Yorkshire, England, where he was born Oct. 1, 1808. When about fifteen years of age he removed to Canada, where he continued to reside until 1845, when he entered Wisconsin Territory, and there remained some twenty years. He then returned to Canada, where he resided for six years, when he again entered the United States and settled at Lincoln, Neb., in the year 1871, continuing his residence there until June 13, 1882, at which time he crossed the river of death to his long home, at the age of seventy-four years. He was a member of the Christian Church, in which church his wife also found her religious home. He was a staunch adherent and strong advocate of the principles of the Republican party. The mother was born at Coburg, Ontario, Canada, March 14, 1818, where she continued to reside until her marriage, Jan. 28, 1836.

Mrs. Eliza A. (Dobson) Walton was born at Hazel Green, Wis., Feb. 27, 1849. She was educated at Monroe, Wis., and after some years, residence with her parents in Canada removed with them to Lincoln, Neb. Here she met the subject of this sketch, and was afterward married to him. Three children have been born to them: The first, Clara Rachel, Oct. 15, 1878; her brother, Edwin Roger, Jan. 25, 1881; and the youngest, Ida Esther, June 10, 1885, and died July 23, 1888. Mrs. Walton is a member of the Congregational Church, where she is highly esteemed by her fellow-members, and is always ready and heartily willing to co-operate in the various departments of church work and enterprise. She is an earnest Christian woman, who is known among her best friends as a model wife and mother.



COL. GEORGE B. SKINNER. The citizens of Lincoln need no introduction to the gentleman whose history is herein briefly outlined, who is at present in business as a liveryman,

but chiefly known perhaps in connection with the temperance work, which he has carried on so enthusiastically. Our subject was born in Vernon, near the city of Hartford, Conn., on the 3d of January, 1833, and is the second son of Zenus B. and Anna (Palmer) Skinner. This lady was the daughter of Elliott Palmer, Esq., also of Connecticut.

Zenus B. Skinner, the grandfather of our subject, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and served throughout the entire seven years. A portion of the time he was associated with Israel Putnam, of historic fame. He was at the battle of Bunker Hill, and took part also in the capture of Burgoyne.

In his boyhood our subject continued to live in his native town, and attended its public schools. Later he received instruction in the Ellington Academy, also at Wilbert, Mass., where he continued to pursue his studies for two years. At the age of seventeen he began dealing in horses on his own account, and at twenty removed to Missouri, and located at St. Joseph, where for a time he was engaged in pork packing. Afterward he ran a store in Platte County, in the same State, continuing there until 1858. The subsequent two years found him once more engaged in pork packing, at St. Joseph. In the spring of 1860 he took a train across the plains to the Rocky Mountains, freighted with pork, groceries, etc.

In 1861-62 Mr. Skinner took the beef contract for supplying the army, and managed so wisely and so well that the officers of the Government expressed their entire satisfaction of the manner in which he filled the same. Not long after this he was appointed inspector of horses for the army, and bought and sold large numbers of horses for army purposes. Some time after this he equipped a train consisting of fifteen wagons, at an outlay of \$40,000, and again crossed the plains to the Rockies. Selling out he returned once more to the States, realizing a very handsome result from his speculation. In the winter of 1862-63 he took a trip to the mountains owing to failing health; this time he took a large supply of hams and other stores, which he sold at Barnock City, realizing some \$30,000 by the sale. He remained in the Territory of Idaho for some five months, during which time his health was completely restored.

At the end of that period Mr. Skinner turned his face eastward and traveled by way of Salt Lake City to St. Joseph, Mo., and thence to New York, where he sold his gold dust. Returning to St. Joseph in 1864, he dealt largely in cattle, and equipped and sent several trains through to Denver, Col. Mr. Skinner continued this business up to 1869, when he was appointed Street Commissioner at St. Joseph, and performed every duty in connection therewith in a manner that was most complimentary to his ability and efficiency. During the time he was in the Far West he made the acquaintance of the Hon. David Butler, at that time extensively engaged as a cattle shipper, and afterward elected the first Governor of this State. While holding this office Mr. Butler appointed the subject of this sketch to sell the State land in the city of Lincoln. At that time the capital was at Omaha, and the Legislature having decided to remove it to Lincoln, then without inhabitants, such sale was necessary to the raising of funds for the erection of State buildings, and for the founding of the capital city.

The above appointment the subject of our sketch accepted, and was enabled in connection therewith to give more than satisfaction. He succeeded in persuading a number of Missouri capitalists to accompany him to the proposed city, and by a business-like manipulation was enabled so to direct their investments, which were quite extensive, as to give to the movement a great impetus. In 1870, influenced by Gov. Butler, Mr. Skinner removed to Lincoln, and there has made his home ever since.

The first office ever held by Mr. Skinner was that of Street Commissioner, to which he was appointed in the year 1873. From that time until 1877 he was variously engaged. During the latter he built a fine livery stable on Twelfth street, putting in a complete line of hacks, buggies, carriages, etc. This he has continued to run with unqualified success ever since, enjoying the reputation of perfect business honor and integrity, owing to which the confidence of the citizens in him is large and their patronage assured.

In 1862 Mr. Skinner was united in marriage with Elizabeth Cameron, of Van Buren County, Iowa, and daughter of James Cameron, Esq. There have

been no children born of this union. In addition to the many business and other matters demanding the attention of our subject, those of his farms may not be ignored. He owns two—one near Cushman Park, comprising 160 acres, and another smaller farm near the city limits. Both are excellently cultivated and in the highest degree productive, supplied with all necessary improvements and well arranged. In addition to these he is the owner of a number of dwelling-houses in the city, a good business house on O street, which is three stories in height. In his stable he has never less than fifty buggies, and keeps between sixty and seventy excellent horses.

In his political principles Mr. Skinner at one time was a liberal Democrat and believed in the greatest liberty being allowed to the greatest possible number—a principle that secured to him the favor of the liquor interest in Lincoln, as it seemed to advocate or at least support their position. In 1877, however, after hearing a number of lectures delivered by John B. Finch, he was convinced that his position was untenable, and logically worked out would lead to disaster as applied to the above department of trade, if such it can be called; thus was lost to the saloon element one of its most effective advocates.

Not long after the above event, in company with fifteen or twenty other gentlemen, Mr. Skinner organized the Lincoln Red Ribbon Club, and was elected President of the same in the year 1877, a position he has continued to hold from that time. The club has over 16,000 members, and is the largest of its kind in this country. He was President of the State Temperance Society for several years, and is necessarily prominent in all State conventions. The first of these was held in May, 1878, by the special request of our subject, and the call was responded to by above 400 delegates. This was the place and time of the birth of the State Temperance Society, and Mr. Skinner is, perhaps, in one regard, the source of enthusiasm that has enabled both the society and club to do such remarkably efficient work. The effectiveness of the agents he has employed for furtherance of temperance by the societies were such as to attract considerable atten-

tion to the dismay of the opposition and the intense gratification of the temperance party.

Col. Skinner began life without the usual aids; he found his own way to the foot of the ladder and managed to get a start; round by round he has climbed to his present position of influence and affluence, at once an inspiration and example to those who may be similarly circumstanced, equally ambitious and as determinedly persevering.



ALMERON ALLEN, of Waverly Precinct, owns and occupies a fine homestead on section 20, the land which he secured from the Government as early as 1866. He will thus be recognized as one of the pioneer settlers of this region, arriving here when there had been but a mere commencement toward developing the land which has since been transformed into fertile farms, and which represents now a vast amount of property.

A native of Boone County, Ill., our subject was born May 1, 1849, and is the son of Albert Ephraim and Mary (Dan) Allen, both of New England birth and parentage. The father died in middle life, when his son Almeron was a little lad seven years of age, and by his demise three children were left fatherless, there being besides our subject Helen and Willie, who are both deceased. Mrs. Allen, the mother of our subject, in due time after the death of her first husband became the wife of Jonathan Bates, and is now a resident of Waverly Precinct, this county.

At the age of ten years Almeron began the struggle of life on his own account, hiring out as a farm hand, and thus his educational advantages were exceedingly limited. In February, 1865, although but fifteen years of age, desiring to assist in the subjugation of the rebels, he enlisted in Company A, 153d Illinois Infantry, entering the ranks with the old soldiers, although being the youngest among them. This regiment was mostly assigned to the duty of guarding railroads in Tennessee, and young Allen therefore did not participate in any active fighting. The war closing soon thereafter by the surrender of the Confederate troops, he received

his honorable discharge, and was mustered out in September, 1865. Had he been brought into active contact with the enemy, there is but little question that he would have acquitted himself as bravely as any "man" in the field.

Upon leaving the army young Allen returned to Illinois, whence the following spring he came to this county. Soon afterward he located his present homestead, and taking possession, has since resided upon it. The necessity for a wife and helpmate soon appearing, he was married in 1868, when a youth of nineteen years, to Miss Martha, daughter of James E. and Olivia Scroggins, and a native of Wisconsin. To our subject and his estimable lady there have been born nine children, namely: Frederick, Almeron, Jr., Maggie, Florence, Frank, Jesse, Edwin, Eva and Dola.

The homestead of our subject comprises 240 acres of land, all of which he has brought to a productive condition. Upon the farm he has erected the buildings necessary for the comfort of himself and family, and sufficient for the shelter of stock and storing of grain. His thrift and prudence are especially commendable. He came to this section poor in pocket, but with strong hands and a resolute will, and the result has fully justified his expectations, while he has been amply rewarded for his toils. Although no politician or office-seeker, he maintains the interest that every intelligent man feels in the progress of the people generally, and uniformly casts his vote with the Republican party. Socially, he is a member of the G. A. R., belonging to Mitchell Post No. 38.



SIMEON SNYDER. True rest in all its sweetness can only be fully enjoyed by the tired and weary worker, who, "from early morn till dewy eve," has borne the burden and toil of the day; and happy is he who, after a busy life of constant labor, is enabled in the evening of that life to enjoy the bush of rest after "the rush of life." Our subject was born in Pittstown, Rensselaer Co., N. Y., July 10, 1813. His father, Jacob Snyder, was born in the same county, and his paternal parent, the grandfather of our sub-

ject, Christopher Snyder, was a native of Germany, who emigrated to America in his early manhood and became one of the pioneers of the above county, where he cleared a farm from the heavily timbered land, reared a family of seven children, and after a quiet but honorable life, passed to his last rest.

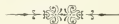
The father of our subject spent his whole life in the place of his nativity, and in his manhood married Hester Vandercook, a native of the same county. Their life was spent upon the farm, which was kindly disposed to yield them large harvest rewards for their toil.

Our subject remained at home until he was twenty years of age, and then removed to Ohio and settled at Sandusky, which was his home for about three years. While a resident in that city he married Martha Vandercook, a lady who possessed a large share of feminine grace and true womanhood, and has since made the life of her husband "a living, bright reality." She is the daughter of George Vandercook, of New York, who had become one of the pioneers of Ohio.

In the year 1836 Mr. Snyder, accompanied by his wife, took his way westward and located in Boone County, near the city of Indianapolis, where a farm was cleared, brought to a high state of cultivation, and sold. Then a second tract of land was taken and another farm partly cleared. In 1850 they removed to Sauk County, Wis., and opened a hotel in the city of that name, and continued thus engaged until he came to Lancaster County, twelve years later. Mr. Snyder located upon a homestead claim, about twelve miles from the present city of Lincoln, and now bent every energy to the improvement of the same, and it became his home for about thirteen years. It was the habit of Mr. Snyder whenever he saw a "prairie schooner" with its band of emigrants crossing the plain, to go out to meet them, extend a cordial invitation to them to stop with him over night, and made it his business to see that they were made fully acquainted with the advantages there offered to persons in their position. By this practice he has done much to help settle up the country.

At the time of Mr. Snyder's locating there were numerous Indians in this section of the country,

but beyond a few thefts and an occasional fight, caused by an over-indulgence in fire-water, they gave no trouble. The plains still abounded in game of all kinds incidental to the country, excepting the buffalo, which had been driven much farther west. Our subject was a settler when the county was organized, and voted at the first election after that event, and likewise after the organization of the precinct. Soon after the capital was located at Lincoln, our subject was appointed one of three to survey and appraise the school land in the county, and Mr. Snyder has a vivid recollection of the exciting times had while thus engaged. The law required the appraisement to be not less than \$7 per acre, and the first section surveyed was not worth over \$2. They could not agree upon what price should be put upon it, and after a long discussion concluded to return for instructions. This they did, and were informed to put the price of the land at its value. Nevertheless, it could not be sold for less than the above legal amount.



C. SMITH, of Lancaster Precinct, established himself in the city of Lincoln in 1870, and engaged in the stove and tinware trade for a period of eight years. He then secured a tract of land and began the breeding of Short-horn cattle, in which he has since been engaged. He is the owner of a fine farm of 480 acres in the precinct where he now resides. His home is one of the most attractive in this county, finely located, and the dwelling handsomely constructed, furnished in accordance with the cultivated tastes and ample means of its inmates. The wife of our subject is a very popular and agreeable lady, prominent in the social circles of her community, and well fitted to preside over her beautiful home.

The subject of this sketch was born Jan. 22, 1832, in Lancaster, Ohio, where he spent his early life. His parents, George H. and Amelia (Matloek) Smith, were married in 1827, and to them there was born a family of eight children. The father, a native of Virginia, was born Feb. 22, 1800, and continued a resident of his native State until a young man of twenty years, when he removed to Lancaster, Ohio,

where he commenced the business of a tailor, in which he was successful, and accumulated a large amount of property. In 1857 he purchased a farm upon which he lived a period of fifteen years. His decease occurred on the 12th of April, 1881, and he left a family of eight children, six of whom were sons, and seven of these are now living.

In 1865 the subject of this sketch made his way to Atchison, Kan., and in a short time was operating at a trading-post 100 miles west, where he transacted a successful business for a period of five years. There he came to this county, and his subsequent career we have already indicated.

On the 12th of May, 1858, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Mary Jane, daughter of Warren and Martha Reese, the former of whom was a native of Ohio, and the latter of Lancaster County, Pa. The parental family included nine children, four of whom are now living, and these latter all daughters. Mrs. Smith was the second child of her parents, and was born in Lancaster, Ohio, March 4, 1839, where she lived until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have no children. Our subject, politically, is a staunch supporter of the Republican party, and socially, is a K. T., belonging to Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 4.



JOSEPH H. SWISHER, of Middle Creek Precinct, was born in the Shenandoah Valley, Va., in the county of that name, April 29, 1841. His father, Joseph Swisher, Sr., was born in 1799, in Strasburg, Va., and his paternal grandfather, Henry Swisher, was a native of Hampshire County, W. Va. His great-grandfather, Valentine Swisher, is believed to have been a native of Switzerland, who crossed the Atlantic early in the eighteenth century and settled in Hampshire County, W. Va.; he there spent the remainder of his life engaged in farming pursuits.

Henry Swisher, the grandfather of our subject, settled in Strasburg, Va., after his marriage, where he followed his trade of carpenter, and where he continued to reside until his death. He died while on a visit to relatives in Pennsylvania, in 1808. His wife, Margaret Baker, was a daughter of Phillip P. Baker, who, it is believed, came from Germany

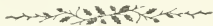
and settled in Shenandoah County, where both he and his daughter Margaret died. His son Joseph, the father of our subject, learned the trade of a tanner, and when embarking in business for himself erected a tannery in Shenandoah County, which he operated many years, and there spent his entire life, passing away in 1876.

Joseph Swisher, Sr., married Miss Anna Funkhouser, who was a native of the same county as her husband, and the daughter of Daniel and Anna Funkhouser, who also spent their entire lives upon the soil of the Old Dominion. Anna Funkhouser, the grandmother of our subject, was the daughter of Mr. Supinger. She died in 1806, in Shenandoah County, and her father died there about 1810. Joseph's grandfather Funkhouser was of German birth, but his mother was born in Ireland. Mrs. Anna Swisher departed this life about 1869. The parental household included ten children, of whom seven are now living: William, Maurice, Noah, Mary, Joseph H. (our subject), Martha and Rebecca. Joseph H. was reared in his native county, and at an early age was taught to make himself useful on the farm. Soon after the outbreak of the Rebellion he enlisted as a soldier in the Confederate Army, being a member of Company E, 11th Virginia Cavalry, and served until the close of the war, his regiment being under the immediate command of Gens. Stonewall Jackson and Wade Hampton. He participated in the battle of Gettysburg and in the battles around Richmond and Petersburg, and was captured in the Shenandoah Valley in October, 1864, and confined at Point Lookout four months. Then being paroled he returned home, and after the war was over resumed farming upon the soil of his native State, where he resided until 1880.

In the spring of that year Mr. Swisher came to Nebraska and purchased a tract of land in Otoe County, where he resided three years; he then sold out and secured his present farm in Middle Creek Precinct, Lancaster County. This lies on section 2, and includes eighty acres of land under good improvement, with commodious and substantial buildings. As a soldier he was faithful to the principles in which he had been reared, and fought bravely with the "boys in gray," who suffered heroic

cally and conscientiously, and to whom due honor is rendered that they laid down their lives for the sake of a principle. As a citizen, Mr. Swisher is a man entirely respected by his community, as being incapable of a mean action, and who is contributing his quota to the moral and financial welfare of his adopted precinct.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Sarah Funkhouser was celebrated at the home of the bride, in April, 1877, in Rockingham County, Va. Mrs. S. was a native of the same county as her husband, and the daughter of Joseph and Christina Funkhouser, who were also natives of the Old Dominion and of German ancestry. She is a most estimable lady, and a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, while our subject finds religious consolation in the doctrines of the Lutherans. Her grandfather, Abraham Neff, married Barbara Keagey, both of German ancestry, and natives of Shenandoah County, where they died; he was a physician.



JAMES KILBURN, a retired farmer and now a resident of the city of Lincoln, has one of the pleasantest homes within its limits, occupying No. 616 Sixteenth street. Not being able at once to break off from his lifelong habit of industry, he employs a portion of his time as a dealer in real estate. A New Englander by birth, he began life in the town of Princeton, Mass., Jan. 8, 1819, and is consequently nearing his three score and ten years. He is a lineal descendent of George Kilburn, a renowned personage of the Bay State, who flourished about 1640.

Our subject was reared a farmer's boy and received his education in the common schools. He made good use of his opportunity for learning, and began teaching at the early age of seventeen years. Later, wishing to add to his store of knowledge, he became a student of Phillips' Academy, at Andover, from which he was graduated in 1841. Two years later he engaged as a traveling salesman for spectacle lenses and in the pursuance of his duties journeyed over a great part of the United States, establishing agencies. In the meantime he kept himself

well posted upon current events, and possessing considerable literary talent, became correspondent of the Boston *Emancipator*, an Abolition paper, with the sentiments of which he was in sympathy.

In 1847 young Kilburn left the road and established himself in business as a manufacturer of all kinds of woodenware, including chairs, balls, etc. The plant and machinery was destroyed by fire in 1852, involving the total loss of his capital and necessitating his beginning in life again at the foot of the ladder. He now emigrated first to Western Pennsylvania, and then to New York State in the interests of a lumber company, with which he was connected four years. The next five years were spent in farming. He finally crossed the Mississippi as agent for the "Life of Horace Greely," and canvassed in the interests of this publication four years.

Mr. Kilburn, in 1867, came to this State as agent for a Wisconsin nursery, and the year following took up a homestead claim in the northern part of Saunders County, besides purchasing land adjoining. In this manner he became the owner of 320 acres, upon which he lived and labored until 1885, then selling it at the snug sum of \$9,500. Soon afterward he took up his residence in Lincoln, where he embarked in real estate business, purchasing first an entire block, and in less than three months made the handsome profit of \$4,000. He subsequently added to his property, having now 320 acres between the fair ground and O street, in addition to an interest in the Riverside addition of a like amount. Besides this he has some inside lots and one of the finest residences in the city.

In 1871 the friends of Mr. Kilburn in the senatorial district, comprising the counties of Dodge, Saunders, Washington and Sarpy, elected him to the Constitutional Convention held at Lincoln. In his public life he has steadily kept in view the rights of the common people, and at every opportunity cast the weight of his influence in favor of having these rights recognized by law.

One of the most important events in the life of our subject was his marriage, in 1880, with Mrs. Harriet (Burr) Martin, who was born in Norfolk, Conn., in 1838, and was educated in Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Mr. K. is a prominent member of the Con-

gregational Church, and popular in the social and business circles of the city. He has accumulated a fine property and lives in a manner befitting his means and station. He is a Director of the Nebraska Savings Bank, which was established in 1886, and in his political preferences an earnest supporter of the Prohibition party.



JOHN FITZGERALD, who is regarded as one of the best financiers of the State of Nebraska, and in fact of the West, became a resident of the city of Lincoln in 1878, and there is no question that to him is this part of the State greatly indebted for its rapid growth and prosperity. A self-made man in the closest sense of the word, he early in life became practically acquainted with railroad and canal building, having been at an early period in his career engaged in the construction of the Erie Canal in New York State. In this important field of labor which is always connected with the growth of any State or Nation, he appears to have been especially adapted. He was naturally Civil Engineer enough to know when a bridge or a culvert was properly constructed, and while yet a young man migrated to the West and put into practical application his valuable knowledge, which was so easily and thoroughly acquired as to have been almost phenomenal.

Mr. Fitzgerald from the first brought his admirable qualities as a financier into requisition, and this formed one of the secrets of his success. Upon crossing the Mississippi the project of the Far Western railroad found in him a most vigorous and useful exponent. He commenced laying his plans upon an extended and progressive scale, and almost invariably conducted them to successful fulfillment. He at once, as rapidly as he was able, formed contracts and began his operations. The Lincoln & Northwestern, Brownville & Ft. Kearney, Atchison & Nebraska and parts of the Burlington & Missouri were projected and carried out by Mr. Fitzgerald, and later he projected and built the line from Nemaha City to Tecumseh, and another in Iowa from Humeston to Shenandoah, in the southwestern part of the State, jointly for the Chicago, Burlington &

Quincy, and the Wabash Companies. He built the Burlington & Missouri into Plattsmouth, and also carried on the western extension of that road. It is impossible within the brief details of a biography to mention half the labor involved and half the details connected with the successful completion of these lines, which now afford a thoroughfare for vast quantities of the produce of Southern Nebraska, and transportation for hundreds of thousands of the traveling public.

As a public benefactor the name of John Fitzgerald had attained a fame that is little short of National. His temperate judgment and his wise foresight have guided him successfully where other men would have declared the scheme impossible of execution. It is scarcely necessary to say that upon crossing the Mississippi he was welcomed by the people of the Great West, as a most valued accession to this portion of the continent. In Lincoln he succeeded Anasa Cobb as President of the First National Bank, and was also given this honored and responsible position in connection with the same institution at Plattsmouth. A man of his genius and large ideas could not otherwise than become interested in agriculture, and he is identified in both Lancaster and Cass Counties largely with farming operation, is an extensive dealer in cattle, and interested in stock-raising generally. Considering the labors which he has undergone and the results which he has effected, one would naturally suppose them the fruits of a long lifetime, but John Fitzgerald is still an individual in his prime. It is hoped that he may long continue a resident of the great State of Nebraska, both to witness her continued prosperity and add still further to her importance.



GEORGE E. BIGELOW. The real-estate interests of Lancaster County find a lively representative in the subject of this sketch, who was quick to discern the opportunities opening up for the man of energy and means. If the air which one first breathes has any influence in determining his course in life, Mr. Bigelow was fortunate from the beginning, as he was born in the

northeastern part of Ohio, in Portage County, June 26, 1851. The offspring of an excellent family, his parents were James H. and Sarah A. (Webb) Bigelow, the former a native of Connecticut, and born Feb. 28, 1820.

The father of our subject came to Nebraska in March, 1873, and located first in Geneva, Fillmore County, when there was not a house upon the present site of that now flourishing town. He invested his capital in railroad lands, carried on farming and general merchandising, and also officiated as Postmaster. He is still living, hale and hearty, and takes a deep interest in all things of public interest. His wife, the mother of our subject, was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, in 1834, and was a fitting companion for her husband in all his labors and undertakings, and to-day her hair shows scarcely a silver thread, and her energy is as unabated as when more than forty years ago she took up her share of the burdens and responsibilities of a then new country. Her mother, the grandmother of our subject, was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, and is still living, having now arrived at the advanced age of nearly ninety-two years. She is still a smart and intelligent old lady, with hearing and memory very good. Her people were what was called Pennsylvania Dutch, and she was reared in the Quaker faith, to which she still loyally adheres. Mr. Bigelow's parental family consisted of two children only, our subject and his sister Arlie, who died at the age of two and one-half years.

Mr. Bigelow, after leaving the primary school, entered the higher schools at Alliance and Mt. Union, Ohio, attending the college at the latter place. When little past eighteen years of age he was united in marriage with Miss Belle G. Greene, the wedding taking place in Gilead, Mich., Sept. 22, 1869. Mrs. Bigelow was born in Branch County, Mich., Feb. 16, 1851, and is the daughter of E. C. S. and Maria (Kees) Greene, who were natives of New York State; the father was born near the city of Dunkirk, Sept. 16, 1825, and is still living, making his home on a farm in Gilead Township, Branch County, where he carries on agriculture extensively and takes a lively interest in political affairs, being a staunch Republican. The mother, who was born Feb. 15, 1831, died when a young woman, at the

age of twenty-nine years, leaving two children—Belle and her sister Anna; the latter died in Gilead at the age of twelve years. Mr. Greene contracted a second marriage, with Miss Lydia Thurston, some three years after the decease of his first wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Bigelow began the journey of life together in Ohio. They became the parents of six children, two of whom, Garfield and Blanche, died in infancy. Three years ago they were called to mourn the loss of their eldest child, Maude, a beautiful girl just entering her fourteenth year, she having died of typhoid fever. She possessed artistic talent to a wonderful degree in one so young and was an advanced student and thinker. Venice, a bright miss of thirteen years, seems to have been rarely gifted as an electionist, her power of oration being really wonderful in one so young. The others living are Errett and George C. Mr. Bigelow has been quite prominent in politics, and in 1884 was made the candidate of the Prohibition party for Secretary of State. In 1886 he was again placed upon the ticket of this party as candidate for Congress from the First District, and although defeated as he expected, made a lively canvass and secured many additional adherents to his party. Both he and his estimable wife are members in good standing of the Christian Church, with which they have been identified for many years.

The property of Mr. Bigelow includes 480 acres of land, three and one-half miles southwest of the city, and a half-section on what is called Lincoln Heights besides his residence and property within the corporate limits. It is hardly necessary to say that in politics he is a Prohibitionist. Mrs. B. is in sympathy with her husband on the question of temperance, and in October, 1887, was elected Superintendent of the State Department of Foreign Missions for the W. C. T. U., of which she is also Corresponding Secretary. She has canvassed the State in the interest of Woman Suffrage and Prohibition combined. She attended the National Prohibition Convention at Indianapolis, Ind., in May, 1888, and for some time has been State Superintendent of the Sunday-school of the Christian Church. Mr. Bigelow proposes to build a fine residence on Lincoln Heights in the near future, and being a man with ample means at command, it is

probable that the proposed structure will be fully in keeping with the reputation of that part of the city which is destined to form one of its finest residence portions. In the fall of 1888 (the present year) he has received the nomination for Governor on the Prohibition ticket, and is making an active canvass of the State in the interests of his party.

DANIEL DERIEG, a well-known farmer of Mills Precinct, is comfortably located on section 17. He came to this county in 1877, purchased 160 acres of land at 88 per acre, and moved upon it the following year. There was great room for improvement, and Mr. D. has taken full advantage of the situation to build up a comfortable homestead, having now a substantial roof-tree over his head, and adjacent the structures required for the storing of grain and the shelter of stock. Of the latter he makes a specialty, raising each year numbers of cattle and swine, which mostly consume the grain raised upon the farm.

In noting the successful career of the well-to-do citizen the mind naturally reverts to his antecedents. Our subject was born May 1, 1836, and is the son of James Derieg, a native of County Sligo, Ireland, who was born in 1808. The latter emigrated first to New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and thence in 1865, to Kane County, Ill.; he followed farming all his life. In early manhood he married Miss Hannah McDow, the wedding taking place in New Brunswick. The mother was born in 1824, and died June 20, 1884, at the age of sixty years. James Derieg survived his wife four years, his death taking place May 18, 1888. The parental household included fourteen children, ten sons and four daughters, thirteen of whom are living, and all in the United States. Michael is farming in the vicinity of Kearney, this State; Daniel, our subject, is next to the eldest living; James is in the lumber business in Wisconsin, as are also John and Dennis; Bernard and Timothy are in the lumber business in Washington Territory; William is farming in Holt County, this State; Owen is in Wisconsin; Eunice, Mrs. Bent, a widow, is a resident of Kane County, Ill.; Hannah lives in California; Catherine is the

wife of John Dillon, who is farming near Kearney; Mary Jane is in Kane County, Ill.

Our subject lived at home until a lad of fourteen years, and was then employed as a farm laborer for six years thereafter. Subsequently he was engaged in the lumber business until 1870. When twenty-four years old he was married to Miss Bridget Monahan, who was the daughter of William and Rose (Carriden) Monahan, natives of Ireland. This lady was born in 1840. They moved to Illinois in 1870, and our subject continued in the lumber business four years, thence he came to Nebraska.

To Mr. and Mrs. Derieg there have been born ten children, seven sons and three daughters. Margaret became the wife of Fred Schunanan, a farmer by occupation; James is farming in Dakota; Eunice, Daniel, William, John, Michael, George, Carrie and Frank are at home with their parents. The eldest of the family is about thirty years old and the youngest eleven. The mother died at her home in Mills Precinct on the 29th of March, 1880. Mr. Derieg and the remaining members of his family belong to the Catholic Church at Rock Creek.

FRITZ MUNDT, general farmer and stock-raiser, residing on section 5 in Olive Branch Precinct, owns a fine body of land 160 acres in extent. It has been brought to a good state of cultivation and is generously supplied with all the appliances of the modern country estate, including first-class buildings, machinery and live stock. Mr. Mundt has been a resident of this precinct since 1868, and secured the land which he still owns from the railroad company at a time when there had been no efforts at improvement upon it.

Our subject was born in the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg, Germany, Jan. 11, 1858, and is the son of Frederick Mundt, Sr., a native of the same, and born June 29, 1823. The family is of pure German ancestry. The paternal grandfather was a tailor by trade and also farmed in a small way. He spent his entire life upon his native soil, as did also the grandmother, Mrs. Mary Mundt.

Frederick Mundt lived at home with his parents

until attaining manhood, and was married in his native Province to Miss Mary Basdan, who was born and reared in the same locality. After the birth of five children, four sons and one daughter, of whom Fritz, our subject, was the second child, the parents left Germany and emigrated to the United States. Coming directly west to this county, the father homesteaded eighty acres of land in Olive Branch Precinct, where with the assistance of his family he built up a good home. The mother only lived to be middle-aged, her death occurring when she was forty-seven years old. The father is still living at the old homestead, and is now sixty-five years of age. He is a Lutheran in religion, and in politics a staunch supporter of the Republican party.

Our subject remained a member of his father's household until his marriage, which was celebrated Feb. 27, 1879, at the home of the bride, Miss Dora Reuck, in Olive Branch Precinct. Mrs. Mundt was also born in Mecklenburg, Germany, Oct. 12, 1860, and came to the United States with her father after the death of her mother. They also after landing upon American soil made their way directly westward to this county, locating in Olive Branch Precinct in 1870. The father occupied himself as a farmer until his death, which took place in October, 1887, when he was sixty-six years old. After the death of his first wife he was married a second time, and his daughter Dora lived with her father and stepmother until her marriage.

To our subject and his wife there have been born five children, namely: Ferdinand H. C. F., Wilhelmina D. T. M., Henry C., Carl F. and Alvena L. Mr. Mundt, politically, is a Republican, and in religious matters he and his wife attend the Lutheran Church.



THOMAS F. GRIGSBY, a prominent general farmer and stock-raiser of West Oak Precinct, owns a fine tract of land on section 18, which he has brought to a very productive condition. A native of Fulton County, Ill., was born near Lewistown, Oct. 24, 1848, and is the son of John Grigsby, who was born in Kentucky in 1828. The latter lived in the Blue Grass regions until 1846, emigrated from there to Sangamon County,

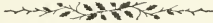
Ill., and thence later to Fulton County. In the latter he took up a tract of Government land, from which he eliminated one of the finest farms in that region, putting up a handsome brick residence with large and commodious barns, graneries and other outbuildings. He became one of the most extensive farmers and stock-raisers of Central Illinois, and lived there until 1882, when he sold out and moved to Seward County, this State. Here he purchased a farm of 240 acres where he is still prosperously occupied in agricultural pursuits. Mrs. Margaret (Clark) Grigsby, the mother of our subject, was born in Ohio in 1832, and was the daughter of John Clark, a farmer and miller. She received a good education and lived with her parents until her marriage. Of her union with John Grigsby there were born twelve children, eight of whom lived to mature years. Mr. and Mrs. G. are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the father of our subject, politically, is a staunch Republican.

Thomas F. Grigsby acquired a practical education in his native town, and after leaving school worked with his father on the farm until reaching his majority. He then began farming for himself in Piatt County, Ill. On the 21st of October, 1867, he was united in marriage with Miss Didamie Shaw, and of this union there have been born eight children, six of whom are living: Ettie, Charles, Margaret, Orvil, Pearl and Arthur. Our subject continued a resident of Illinois for ten years thereafter, then selling out he came to this county, and on the 2d of March, 1882, purchased the land he now owns and occupies.

There had been but a slight attempt at improvement on the land which Mr. Grigsby had purchased, but he set himself industriously to work upon it and now has a fine residence with a good barn and other outbuildings, shade and fruit trees, a flourishing apple orchard, cherries, grapes and all of these luscious productions in their season. Mr. G. and his excellent wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and our subject has been quite prominent in local affairs, serving as Road Commissioner and occupying various positions of trust and responsibility. He has always had great faith in the future of Nebraska. He has

given his children the best opportunities for education consistent with his means and standing, is public-spirited and liberal, and the uniform encourager of the enterprises calculated to benefit his community.

Mrs. Grigsby was born in Fulton County, Ill., June 6, 1847, and lived there with her parents until her marriage, forming the acquaintance of her husband during her youthful days and being one of his playmates at school. Her father, Charles Shaw, was born in Ohio in 1803, and it still living, making his home in Missouri. The maiden name of the mother was Miss Maria Wheeler. Miss Ettie, the daughter of our subject, is the wife of James Wilson, a well-to-do farmer; they have one boy and are living in Colorado. Charles Grigsby makes his home with them, but the other children of our subject continue under the parental roof.



THOMAS H. HYDE, one of the earliest settlers of the city of Lincoln, was born in Bradford County, Vt., and is the son of Zebediah Hyde, a native of Connecticut. It is believed that his paternal grandfather, James Hyde, was a native of England, and emigrating to America at an early day, settled in Connecticut, where he accumulated a large property and spent the remainder of his life. Zebediah Hyde became a resident of the Green Mountain State when a boy, and learned the trade of paper maker in Bradford. Later in life he became interested in the mills there. In 1861, leaving New England, he emigrated to Illinois, and, settling in Sterling, engaged in general merchandising in company with his youngest son. There he spent the last years of his life.

The mother of our subject was in her girlhood Miss Amanda Heath, a native of Vermont and the daughter of Thomas and Eunice Heath, natives of Scotland. The mother accompanied her family to Illinois and died in Sterling. Thomas H., our subject, was reared in his native State, and when a youth of eighteen years went to Boston and entered the office of the *Olive Branch*, a weekly paper with which he was connected three years. Subsequently he was with the Boston *Transcript* and *Traveler*

until 1854, then returned to Vermont and entered the employ of the Vermont Central Railroad Company, having charge of the English freight in transit from Boston to Montreal.

In 1856 Mr. Hyde resigned his position, and, coming West, established himself in Chicago as a groceryman at the corner of Madison and Halsted streets. He formed a partnership with his brother and they continued in business together until 1861, then sold out. In the meantime Mr. Hyde was connected editorially with the Chicago *Democrat*, then the leading paper of the city and owned at the time by the late Hon. John Wentworth.

The Civil War then being in progress, Mr. Hyde organized a company of militia, which was designated as Company I, 13th Illinois Infantry, and which was given a benefit at McVicker's Theatre. The proceeds furnished the men with uniforms and they were mustered into service at Dixon, Ill. On account of a maimed right hand which Mr. Hyde has carried from his youth, he did not offer his services as a soldier, although accompanying the army South and remaining with it until the close of the war, in the meantime occupying various positions of trust and responsibility. He was also sent on important expeditions in the interest of the Government, going frequently from one military post to another conveying dispatches, the import of which he was ignorant, and which could only be transported by the most trusty messenger.

At the close of the war Mr. Hyde located on a farm which he had purchased in the vicinity of Sterling, Ill., and where he remained until 1867. He then came to the State of Nebraska in the interests of Chicago capitalists to locate lands with college script issued by the Government. He thus secured large tracts in Butler County and other sections of the State, and then, his errand completed, returned to the Prairie State, where he remained until in February of the following year.

The only railroad in Nebraska at that time was the Union Pacific. Mr. Hyde, crossing the Mississippi again, first visited Nebraska City, but in the month of March following came to Lincoln, making the journey overland with a wagon. The embryo town had at that time only a tri-weekly mail, although the Capital had already been located there.

Mr. Hyde opened a real estate office, and in June, when the sale of lots took place, he had charge of it. The land was owned by the State and the settlers who had taken homesteads or made claims donated a part of their possessions and exchanged for other land's close by, as an inducement to the Commissioners to locate there. The sale was a great success, the lots going at what seemed a very high price. Some of those residence lots have since sold at \$3,000. This sale was attended by representative men from different States in the East.

Building at once commenced, and emigrants pouring in settled on the Government land in the surrounding country. In 1873, however, appeared the Rocky Mountain Locust, or grasshopper, and during that year and the next almost totally destroyed every evidence of vegetation. Even wormwood, tansy and onions were devoured by them, and cornstalks were stripped as clean as a contribution box. Their stay, however, was short, although the devastation was complete, and the city of Lincoln suffered in common with the country around, the farmers having nothing to sell. Emigration stopped for a time and real-estate business was suspended.

Mr. Hyde, in the meantime, had spent the greater part of his time at Sterling, Ill., but in 1878 he again took up his residence in Lincoln. He first started the *Daily Evening News*, and soon after the *Lancaster News*, a weekly paper. In 1887 a stock company was formed and given the name of the News Printing Company, of which Mr. Hyde was chosen President. He also, in 1878, established the *Real Estate Journal*, which was devoted to the interests of State and railroad lands, as well as land owned by private individuals.

The marriage of Thomas H. Hyde and Miss Rachel L. Bullard was celebrated Oct. 24, 1850. Mrs. Hyde was born in Bethel, Vt., and is the daughter of Rev. A. T. and Lydia Bullard. Of her union with our subject there are three children living—Edward, Jennie and Nellie. Mr. Hyde in early life belonged to the old Whig party, and cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Winfield Scott. Upon the abandonment of the old party he allied himself with the Republicans, with whom he has since labored and voted.

NELSON WESTOVER, well known to many of the residents of the city of Lincoln, established himself within its limits when it was but a village, in 1870. He was born in the Province of Ontario, Canada, July 22, 1853, and is the son of Amasa H. and Ann Westover, who came to the States and settled in Dubuque, Iowa, when their son Nelson was but three years old. From Dubuque two months later they removed to Delaware, where the education of our subject began in the district school. At the same time he assisted his mother in her housework, learning to do all kinds of this, including spinning and weaving. He later attended the High School at Monticello.

Young Westover later in life learned the trade of brickmaking in Monticello, and soon after his arrival in Lincoln was employed in the first brickyard established within its limits. He had always been desirous of knowledge, and later attended school again while spending his vacations at farm work. In the spring of 1874 he went to Rawlins County, Kan., where he was the second man to establish a claim to land there. He put up a dwelling, one-half dugout and one-half logs, and staid there until the fall of the year, when, on account of Indian depredations, he abandoned that part of the country and never returned to it. The town of Atwood occupies a part of this land.

In the fall of 1874 Mr. Westover resumed his residence in Nebraska, and during the winter following attended and taught school in Lancaster County, and for a year thereafter had the management of his father's farm. He then purchased a lot on N street, between Ninth and Tenth streets, upon which stood a small frame building with a forge in it. Mr. W. formed a partnership with a Mr. Fisher, a practical blacksmith, and under his instruction commenced to learn the trade. The business of the firm increased rapidly, and in order to accommodate their steadily growing patronage, they erected a commodious brick building, wherein they have since operated to excellent advantage.

Mr. Westover, in April, 1884, purchased a beautiful home three and one-half miles west of the city, where he now resides. He was married, Jan. 23, 1878, to Miss Jennie Vanderpool, who was born in Delavan, Walworth Co., Wis., and is the daughter of Henry Vanderpool. Of this union there were born the following children: John, May, Ollie, Frank, Fanny, Fred and baby, the latter three triplets. Frank and Fanny died of whooping-cough when four months old. Mr. Westover, socially, belongs to Germania Lodge No. 67, I. O. O. F., Lincoln Lodge No. 16, K. of P., Uniformed Division No. 1, Galesburg Lodge Covenant and the Mutual Benefit Association.