

CHAPTER XXXVII.

WINDSOR TOWNSHIP.

Though this township was not formally organized until 1854, entries of land were made there about as early as in any of the northern townships. David Downs entered the northeast quarter of section 5 on the 8th of September, 1849, and J. R. Eddy entered land in the same locality on the 21st of November, 1849. The township was surveyed by Guy H. Carlton in August, 1848, and subdivided by William H. Merritt in October of the same year. But the development of the western and southern portions was tardy, owing to the prevalence of wet land and distance to timber. The territory was mostly rolling prairie land, with some level tracts of considerable extent, and many granite boulders of large dimensions. Some of the early settlers lost their lives by being crushed in an effort to bury these obstructions below the reach of the plow. But these boulders were a characteristic of the prairie townships generally, and have been utilized, to a considerable extent, by blasting them and using the broken pieces in under-pinning houses and building basement walls. They possess two crowning virtues for such use, viz: durability and beauty.

Much sloughy land in this township (as in others) was subdued by the cultivation of flax, which for a number of years was employed for this purpose, the seed being marketable at good prices. No effort was ever made, in this locality, to utilize the fiber, except as roofing for sheds, for which purpose it is said to have excelled prairie grass.

With but few exceptions, the first settlers in this township located in the northern part, being thus near the Auburn timber, and at the same time on the most rolling land. For the same reasons the eastern part was the next choice, and the settlement of the southern and western sections was delayed until the last. But there were a few very early settlers who located west of the center of the township, and some near the western border. A post-office was established at Hawkeye in 1869, with the late D. D. T. Hull as postmaster. Mr. Hull had four sons, George, Alphonzo, Frank P. and Thomas, who were early land-owners in the vicinity of the Hawkeye post-office of early days. Thomas Cumming was the successor of D. D. T. Hull

as postmaster, and held the office for several years before the town of Hawkeye was founded. James Burrell, Peter Burger, J. A. Hull and Thomas Cumming had farm homes near the site chosen for the town, but not on the original location.

The Windsor postoffice was established in 1853, first on section 5, but subject to removal to other farm homes, as the postmasters were changed. It was discontinued with the introduction of the rural free delivery system. This office was discontinued in 1868 and re-established in 1869. The names of the first postmasters are also a quite complete record of the early settlers in that part of the township, and for the double information conveyed, they are given here: David Downs was the first postmaster, appointed in December, 1853; he was succeeded by Horace C. Wood, in March, 1855; Wood was followed by James Johnson, Brinson W. Slocum, Byram Craft, Charles A. Sawyer, Ovrarn Pratt, W. M. Elmer and Charles S. Waite.

Brinson W. Slocum laid out the "town of Windsor" on section 9, and had the plat recorded in 1856, but the hopes of the founders were never realized. It was only a "paper" town.

The first election in Windsor township was held at the Austin school house, April 3, 1854. James Austin, George W. Campbell and David H. Downs were elected judges of the election, and Isaac Howe and David Downs were the clerks. Oliver A. Brown and David H. Downs were elected justices of the peace; Thomas Turner, Andrew Woodson and Robert Dutcher, trustees; Rhodolphus Eddy and George W. Thomas, constables; Washington Cory, township clerk, and Isaac Howe, township assessor.

The first action of the trustees was to divide the township into two road districts, Jerome Millard being the supervisor in the east half and Orrison Wickham had official control of the west half.

Since there are no streams of importance in this township, the building of the pioneer mill within its borders was not among the early features of material development. But the mills at West Union, "Bloomertown," Auburn and Gouldsburg were within easy reach from the eastern and northern boundaries, and not at "impossible" distances from any part of the township.

For a great many years after the settlement began, West Union and Auburn were the only trading places for a large area of the county, including Banks, Bethel, Eden and Windsor townships, unless the people preferred to go outside of the county to Lawler or Sumner, each in a different county. A trip to the market town, to mill, or to the timber, meant for most of them a long and tedious day's work; and though the road was a comparatively level one, it was fraught with dangers, both in summer and winter. In the former,

by reason of many impassable sloughs which were a menace to public travel, especially with loaded teams; and in winter, the land being largely unfenced, there was danger of being driven out of the course by blinding snow storms, since the travel seldom followed any regular track, for the reason previously mentioned.

But these pioneer hardships and dangers have been largely superseded by the better conditions which have been ushered in by the wheels of progress. It is doubtful if there is today an unfenced forty of land in Windsor township, or one without some improvement on it. The formerly wet land has dried out under cultivation, which causes more rapid evaporation, while the decrease in the annual amount of rain fall has done the rest. Windsor township compares favorably today with the best in the county. Its farm homes, splendid barns, fine cultivated fields and herds of fine stock, all indicate the thrift and industry which are essential to such development.

EARLY SETTLERS.

The early settlers of this township represented nearly every European country, as well as many American states. But the Germans now predominate, and many of that nationality were among the first settlers. John G. Belschner came in 1855; Michael Bopp located on the Bopp homestead, north of Hawkeye, in 1854; William Bravener, a native of England, came in 1861; Oliver A. Brown settled in Windsor township in 1849; William Burling came to Windsor township in 1856; James Burrell, a Scotchman, settled here in 1856; A. B. Carpenter came to the county in 1860, and to his late residence in Windsor a year later; William Colby settled on his Windsor township farm in 1862; Arthur Crawford was there in 1867; Hance Cumming located on the old Cumming homestead in 1854; Thomas Cumming was here in 1865, settling in Windsor at the close of the Civil war; John Deitel came to the township in 1855, and John N. Deitel came the same year (both were natives of Germany); Andrew Doty came to Windsor in 1859, and was one of the few who enlisted from that township during the Civil war; Robert Dutcher was a resident of Windsor in 1851; Ira and Eugene Goodspeed located in Windsor township in 1857; James Graham came at the close of the war, as did D. W. Wilbur, brother-in-law; each served his country in organizations from another state; Oliver P. Henderson came in 1857; Robert C. Hughes, a native of Ireland, came to Windsor in 1853; P. R. Ketchum, another Windsor township soldier, came in 1858, and his father, E. R. Ketchum, came a year later; George W. Kibbe located in this township in 1858; Nicholas

Koehler came in 1855, and Joseph Mitchell, a native of Switzerland, came the same year; David Minich and his son, Sterling C., came to Windsor township in 1852; John Martin, a Bavarian, came in 1854; George Reissner located in the township in 1855; Absalom Rosier, whose father located in Dover township in 1849, is a native of Fayette county, born in 1855. He has long been a prominent farmer in Windsor township. Adkins J. Morton, a Vermont soldier, located in Windsor at the close of the war; Ransom S. Niles was a Windsor soldier and early settler; George Schrack located in this township in 1859; Jacob Schlatter came in 1856, and Nathan Shaw came ten years later; John Spitzbart came to the township in 1855; Henry Stewart came in 1855, and Thomas Swale was here a year previously; A. Y. Whitmore came to Windsor township in 1854.

RAILROADS.

The building of the two railroads, which cross each other a half mile south of the Windsor township line, and radiate to the northeast and northwest, across the southern half of the township, undoubtedly stimulated development and hastened the improvement of that section of the township. They also were the means of establishing two trading places within easy reach of the residents of the township, one of which is the handsome and prosperous town of Hawkeye. The other is Donnan, at the junction of the Davenport and St. Paul and the Decorah branch of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific. The first mentioned has three and twenty-nine-hundredths miles of track in Windsor township, while the latter has two and sixty-five-hundredths miles. These are assessed for taxation purposes at four thousand dollars and four thousand two hundred dollars per mile, respectively.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Windsor township always manifested great interest in the schools, and usually pays as much in teachers' salaries as any other district township in the county. As a result of this liberality, good teachers were generally secured, and when one was found, his (or her) services were retained from term to term. There are eight sub-districts in the township, each having eight months school during the year. During the school year closing in July, 1909, female teachers were employed in these schools at an average salary of thirty-six dollars and fifty-six cents per month. Of two hundred and forty-three persons in the township entitled to school privileges, one hundred and ninety-one

were enrolled in the schools and made a total average daily attendance of one hundred twelve. The average cost of tuition per month for each pupil enrolled was two dollars and sixty-one cents. The eight school houses are valued at three thousand five hundred and fifty dollars, supplied with apparatus valued at two hundred and forty dollars, with five hundred and eleven volumes in the district libraries.

For many years a parochial school has been taught at the Lutheran church, near the center of the township, by the pastors in charge. This detracts somewhat from the average daily attendance in the public schools, as the enrollment is drawn almost entirely from Windsor township. It has been the purpose in years past to open the parochial school at a time when the public schools were closed; but this has not always been possible.

PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY.

In 1873, when the Grange movement was at its height, Hawkeye Grange No. 1083 was instituted at the Center school house. Thirty charter members were enrolled, and constant additions were made to the membership until it became a very strong organization; but membership among the Windsor farmers was not universal. The German Lutherans, of whom there are many, stood aloof, on religious grounds. A co-operative store was established at Eden, a point near enough centrally located to accommodate the four north-west townships. It labored under some disadvantages, in that the village was remote from any railroad, and produce and merchandise had to be hauled with teams to and from the railroad points. Yet, with all these disadvantages, it was a strong competitor and generally successful in holding the farmers' trade. This enterprise was under the management of George L. Noble, a well known pioneer in the county. He is now retired in the fullness of years, and living in West Union. The Grange movement gradually died out, but not until it had stimulated county, state and national politics to the recognition of some much needed reforms and prompted legislation thereon.

A very generous distribution of telephone accommodations are found in Windsor township, there being forty-five and a quarter miles distributed over the territory. This exceeds the average mileage for the entire county (twenty-two townships) by about seven miles, and at the same time is an indication of the progress and "fore-handedness" of the people. If times were hard, and money scarce, about the first "luxury" that would be discarded would be the telephone. And yet it is a present-day convenience unknown to the pioneers, and thought to be a visionary experiment up to the seventies. It brings the

people in touch with each other, with the news of the community, with the market reports, the gossip of the neighborhood, and the news of the outside world, with but little effort and trifling expense. Three companies absorb the business of Windsor, the Iowa Telephone Company, the Hurmence Company and the Hawkeye Telephone Company, the two last mentioned having over thirty-six miles of the system.

TOWN OF HAWKEYE.

It is difficult to follow the development of this now prominent and prosperous town. It had its inception at the building of the Davenport & St. Paul branch of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad through the southwest corner of Windsor township, in 1878. The land upon which the principal part of the town is now located was then a piece of wet meadow land, considered unsafe for mowing purposes, except under the most favorable weather conditions. The eighty-acre tract was inclosed with a tumbled-down smooth wire fence. To the north of this, in a field and distant from the road, was the pioneer home of Peter Burger; to the northeast, and on a road running north and south, was the home of Thomas Cumming, and the Hawkeye post-office; south of Cumming, and on a road running east, was the farm home of J. A. Hull, and west of the eighty-acre tract previously mentioned was the pioneer home of James Burrell. These residences, separated by from forty rods to half a mile, constituted all there was of Hawkeye in 1878, and none of these, except Burger, was on the site selected for the town. D. W. Wilbur's land came up to the southern edge of the eighty, but was separated by a road; and his house was a mile farther south. That the place was considered of little importance is emphasized by the fact that the only meeting place for the community was at the Hull school house, a mile and a quarter north, or at the Graham school house, about the same distance south. These conditions prevailed until Hawkeye had become quite a village, and even then its first school house was located in the town by legal process, the township board of directors assuming that its school interests were well provided for at the old Hull school house.

But energy and push predominated from the first, and when it was known that a station would be located at this point, a trading place and grain market sprang into existence, almost in a night. Soon a hotel followed, with other stores, mechanical shops, livery stable, lumber yard, a creamery, more stores, a bank, and finally two banks, churches, a fine school building of four rooms. And during these years of business progression, the people were kept busy

in building homes, laying out and improving streets, making side-walks, attending to drainage and sewerage, and the multitudinous duties involved in building up a new town, at the latter end of the nineteenth century. Finally they needed a newspaper to tell of the public achievements. For a time Hawkeye and Waucoma used the same paper, with the publication end at the last named place; but this was not an altogether satisfactory arrangement and the *Hawkeye Beacon* was brought into existence, and this is the news oracle of the town at present. Will N. Rogers, a native of the adjoining township of Eden, is the editor and publisher, and under his able management the paper has kept pace with the town in the matter of development and influence.

EARLY AND PRESENT BUSINESS MEN.

The business men who came to Hawkeye in its early history, and who have become identified with its progress are, as now remembered: S. H. and O. N. Beyans, grain, stock and banking; Thomas Cumming, justice of the peace and merchant; H. R. Palmer and his brother, J. E., general merchandise, and in early days, extensively engaged in the butter business, buying the unsalted product, working and shipping, in connection with the mercantile business. During six years that H. R. Palmer was county clerk, his brother J. E. managed his store, after which he went into business on his own account, was postmaster several years, and sold out his business and resigned the office, to go into business elsewhere. He is now at Campbell, California. H. R. still continues the mercantile business so early established. Another very early and extensive general merchandise business was carried on for years by A. J. Sible, now deceased. N. Jacobs was an early merchant, the business still continuing. Charles Munson was the first and only harness dealer while he remained in business. A. S. Hathaway started a blacksmith shop and general repair business in an early day, establishing a wind-mill for propelling power. His brother, U. M., is in the insurance and general agency business; and is also the only jeweler in the town. C. M. Lockwood and G. E. Hennig were early grain buyers, long since gone from the community, and Mr. Hennig is dead. A. A. Pooler was one of the first hotel keepers, and he operated a small jewelry business in connection. M. V. Henderson, Sr., was Pooler's successor in the hotel business, he having enlarged and modernized the original building, and has conducted the only hotel in the town almost continuously for thirty years. M. V. Henderson, Jr., the only son of the above mentioned, was born, reared and educated in Fayette county, and grew to young manhood around his father's hotel. At the organization of the Bank of Hawkeye, by

the Bevans Brothers, he was made the first cashier, and has continued in that position ever since. This is now the First State Bank of Hawkeye, with S. H. Bevans as president. The Bopp Brothers opened a banking institution which has recently been merged into the First National Bank of Hawkeye, with C. W. Bopp, president. The reader is referred to the personal biographies of the presidents of these institutions for further details; also for the history of the Free Public Library established in the town by C. W. Bopp. The organization of the three churches in the place, the building of the houses of worship, and general information regarding them, will be found in the special articles on the denominations represented. W. G. Hurd, a near-by farmer, was early on the ground as a hardware and furniture dealer and still continues. George W. Ward, now deceased, was in the livery business in Hawkeye in early days, and his son, George Ward, also deceased, was among the first to engage in the transfer business and general teaming. Charles Freiberg succeeded to the Ward livery business and still continues. Graham & Shank, of West Union, established a lumber business in the town, and this has been conducted, either by a member of the firm or a local representative, since the founding of the town. Mr. Parsons, of Maynard, conducted a lumber business in Hawkeye for a short time; otherwise Graham & Shank have been alone in the occupancy of the field. A stock company, with a local representative or two, opened a general stock of merchandise in the brick store building, which was erected, we understand, for this purpose. It was the first brick building erected for mercantile purposes, though the Bopp Brothers Company, a corporation formed for the promotion of building interests and material development, own several other brick buildings at present, one of which is the modern home of the First National Bank. Mr. Ossman was the first shoemaker—still in business; and the Burkharths were early in the mercantile business. John Belschner was an early resident and business man in the place. Byron Mabon and Ed. R. Clark were early stock dealers, and D. W. Wilbur has been engaged, more or less, in the grain and stock business since Hawkeye was founded. Some of his land, at the southwestern extremity of the town, has been platted and sold for building purposes. Mr. Wilbur is one of the most extensive land-owners in the township, and is a man who has to be well known to be appreciated. He is a generous, warm-hearted friend, but an uncompromising enemy. T. N. Carnall has been the station agent at Hawkeye for many years, and has become thoroughly identified with the social, fraternal and literary functions of the place, as well as an active business man whose interests are varied and extensive. John Schlagel has long been identified with the lumber business of Graham & Shank, and is an

active and useful citizen of the community. John Shales and A. B. Peters have been interested in the development of the place from early days—the former as a carpenter and builder, and the latter as a merchant and postmaster. John B. Palmer is an extensive contractor and builder—a son of Caleb M. Palmer, an early resident of the county, who spent his last years on a Windsor township farm. I. G. Chamberlain was one of the first hardware merchants in the place, and J. C. Foot was among the first in the restaurant business. Later Mr. Foot was identified with other lines of business. Michael Riley, a student of the writer's forty years ago, has been the section foreman almost from the building of the road, and is an old settler in Hawkeye. His wife, who was Mary Cassaday, and a student in the same school with her husband, is conducting a restaurant in the town. Chris. Keegan was early in the saloon business in Hawkeye, but removed to Westgate where he now lives, a law-abiding and respected citizen. V. S. Webb was the first druggist in the place, and his wife, Minnie (Eastman) Webb, was the first music teacher. Other druggists have been Walker, Foote, Fisher, Brooks, all continuing the first and only store.

Hawkeye is the home of quite a number of retired farmers who have built comfortable homes and added to the general growth and prosperity of the town. Among the first of these were the McGoon brothers, R. F. and Albert, who soon became interested in various lines of business, but principally in stock and grain. G. W. Chamberlain, a very early pioneer in Bethel township, where he owns a large and valuable farm, is living in Hawkeye enjoying a well-earned respite from the active labors which characterized his earlier life. Gurnsey Smith is another retired farmer whose productive years were fraught with success, and who is now enjoying the comforts of his fine home in the western edge of town. C. A. Weed and William H. Barnett retired from their farms and located in Hawkeye, but were not permitted to long enjoy the fruits of earlier labors and self denials, both being deceased. John D. Dooley, a retired farmer from Center township, and a representative of the first company organized in Fayette county for the Civil war, is justice of the peace in Hawkeye. Frank van Bogart is another veteran soldier retired from the farm and living in Hawkeye. James H. Blunt may be classed as a retired farmer, though his activity in the superintendence of his farms and stock business rather contradicts the imputation. No doubt there are several others whose names should appear in the list of business men or retired farmers whose investments and business interests have done as much for the town and community as any that are mentioned, and we must apologize to them for the unintentional omission.

The town of Hawkeye was incorporated on the 15th of April, 1895, since which time most of the systematic work in grading and street improvement has been done. The main street of the town, which runs east and west, is handsomely built up on both sides for nearly a mile, and is macadamized for the greater part of this distance. Upon this street the principal business houses, banks and the hotel are located. There are also some handsome residences located to the east and west of the business center. But the principal residence district is on the cross streets, or on a parallel street to the north. The school house and Methodist Episcopal church are located on the latter. The Catholic church on the main street, and the German Lutheran at the southwest corner of town.

A handsome little park adorns the south side of the street, for a block or more, at the business center, this being established, for the most part, on railroad lands. It is a cozy resort, in hot weather, for the women and children, and most of the out-door gatherings of the people are held there.

The ladies of Hawkeye are mostly of a literary turn of mind, and have given much appreciated entertainments, especially in connection with the Ladies' Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal church. They have recently organized a History and Travel Club which promises to be an important acquisition to the literary annals of the town.

FRATERNAL SOCIETIES.

Hawkeye has three principal lodges, besides the usual complement of fraternal insurance organizations, some of which maintain a regular local organization, while others operate only through local officials who attend to the financial business of collecting assessments, etc.

Hawkeye Post, Grand Army of the Republic, was the first fraternal organization in the town. It mustered a good membership, having a large area from which to collect them, and had a prosperous existence for many years. In 1891 the annual reunion of the Fayette County Veterans' Association was held at Hawkeye, under the auspices of the Grand Army of the Republic post. But deaths, removals and the decrepitude of old soldiers, generally have committed sad havoc with the organization, and the few continuing members have united with the post at West Union, from which the charter members for the Hawkeye organization were originally transferred.

Relief Lodge No. 138, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was organized under favorable auspices, by G. W. Fitch, district deputy grand master, assisted by a large delegation of visiting brethren from Round Grove, Ran-

dalia and Auburn lodges. Thirty-five candidates were initiated, the lodge officers elected and installed, and a fine banquet fully discussed. This organization grew strong and prosperous, having the field of fraternalism entirely to itself for ten years or more. It was a live, working lodge during its years of activity, and still maintains its organization with a fair membership.

But the organization of Windsor Lodge No. 542, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, wrought havoc with the Odd Fellows, in that there was not a sufficient population of eligible and willing subjects within the jurisdiction of the two lodges, to properly sustain both organizations. Many of the leading members joined the Masons, and apparently lost their interest in the Odd Fellows fraternity. But we will let Grand Master Clements tell the story of Windsor Lodge No. 542.

Hawkeye has had a number of prominent physicians, but we will leave the discussion of this matter to the chapter on the Medical Profession in Fayette County, as appears elsewhere in this volume.

Barring only the town of Westgate, Hawkeye is the youngest town in Fayette county, though Wadena was incorporated a few months after Hawkeye, but that town had a nominal existence for forty-five years before the first building was erected on the site of Hawkeye. Westgate was incorporated in May, 1896, and this village, like Hawkeye, came into existence as the outgrowth of railroad building through the place. Both have had a phenomenal growth, and each is located in the center of splendid contributory territory. Hawkeye has cut off, mostly from West Union, a vast area of country trade, and many people in Banks, Bethel and Windsor townships, who formerly did nearly all of their trading at the county seat, now seldom go there except at tax-paying time. And the interception of this trade has been the life of Hawkeye, to the detriment of her older and formidable rival.

EDUCATIONAL.

As previously intimated in this chapter, the first school accommodations of the village were at the Hull school house, a barren and unsightly location a mile and a quarter to the north of the embryo city. For a time the children traversed the prairie road, in winter obstructed with snow, and in summer waded the tall, wet, grass, for there was but little travel over the road, and it was only a blind track, almost obliterated by the luxuriant growth of wild grass. Finally the patrons of the school petitioned the township board to be set off into another district, or to have a second school provided at township expense. The second of these propositions was the only one upon which the board took action, and really was the only one over which they had jurisdiction. This they peremptorily denied, and the aggrieved patrons took appeal

to the county superintendent of schools. He heard the case on the ground, being well informed as to the needs of the town, and the inconvenience of school attendance of small children at the Hull school house. After a patient hearing, continuing two days, he reversed the action of the township school board, and ordered them to sustain a school in Hawkeye. Politically speaking, the county superintendent got more than one "black eye" because of his interference in this matter, as the writer can fully verify!

But the Hawkeye school was established and housed in a little frame building, inadequate to the needs of the district, even from the first. Eventually, however, the independent district of Hawkeye was separated from the district township, and a school house was built by the corporation consistent with the needs of the growing town. This is a handsome brick building with four rooms now occupied for school purposes. Its estimated value is eight thousand dollars. During the school year ending in July, 1909—the latest official report—there were nine months school, taught by one male and four female teachers, the former receiving a salary of sixty-five dollars per month and the latter an average of forty-three dollars and seventy-five cents each per month. There are two hundred and seventy persons within the bounds of the district between the ages of five and twenty-one years, of whom one hundred and forty-eight were enrolled in the school. There were twenty non-resident students enrolled above the ninth grade. The average daily attendance in all departments was one hundred and twelve. The tuition fees contributed by the non-resident students was one hundred and eighty-nine dollars and seventy-one cents, and the total average cost of tuition for each pupil in the school was two dollars and fourteen cents. The disparity between the school enumeration and the number actually enrolled is accounted for, in a measure, by the absence of some of the older students in attendance at higher institutions of learning. Then the radius is a wide one—five to twenty-one—and few students attend even the high schools as late as their twenty-first year. Many of the girls are married (and some of the boys) and other cares than the matter of elementary education absorb their thoughts.

The school apparatus in the Hawkeye schools is valued at one thousand dollars. The city having a free public library of fifteen hundred volumes, and available to all, no special effort has been made to accumulate a school library, except reference books. Of these there are a hundred volumes.

Some excellent instructors have been employed in the schools of Hawkeye, whose efforts have always been sustained by the intelligent people of the community. This is one of the accredited high schools whose graduates are eligible to matriculation in the higher institutions of learning under state jurisdiction.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS OF INTEREST.

It is the purpose to include under the above title anything of historical value or interest which cannot well be classified in other departments of the work; and at the same time to hold the chapter open to record any important events which may occur subsequent to the closing of the department in which they properly belong.

In this connection, with apologies to the reader for introducing irrelevant things, we wish to call attention to the fact that no effort has been made in this work to record names of officials, or church and lodge officers of the present day; for we regard such as too transitory to have value in an historical publication. Names of officials of the towns, lodges, churches and schools of today would be of no historic value in six months from now! Completed history, which is unchanging, and, if ever reliable, remains so, is what the student most desires. If in the mention of pioneer business men or industries, this rule has been disregarded, it is because the individual, or industry with which he was connected has continued from pioneer days in the locality down to the present time. County and state officers are also made an exception, for the reason that the chapter on "Official Honors" would seem very incomplete without mentioning the present incumbent.

This volume is the culmination of nearly two years of continuous labor, assisted by a corps of from three to six men, schooled in the work. Besides the author's connection with this department, in the collation, arrangement and writing of this volume, and much of the other, he has spent forty years in close observation of Fayette county affairs; and has had a well-defined ambition to sometime record the results of his study and observations, in the form of a county history. The work is now in the hands of the people in whose interest it was prepared. We realize it is imperfect, and may be lacking in some important features, but of that we are not assured. It is to be hoped that the reader and critic will take into account some of the hindering causes which had to be met, and could not always be surmounted. The pioneer period in the history of Fayette county is well-nigh a thing of the past, and lingers

only in the memory of the few survivors of that far-away time. These have generously contributed of the wealth of their experiences, and materially assisted in making the work a fairly complete representation of early days. To all such we tender our most sincere thanks, and hope that none will be disappointed with the results of the united efforts, conscientiously rendered, in the preparation of the work.

We feel that we are under lasting obligations to the general public for the generous financial support accorded to the enterprise, and the encouragement given at its inception, which had much to do with attempting such an herculean task. It is not enough to say that the editor and publishers are thankful to all those who have contributed special articles to the work, for we feel that every reader and patron is under like obligations to them for their generous contributions. The value of the work as an historical memoir is greatly enhanced by these special articles, and we take pleasure in making grateful acknowledgment of these services. The ladies and gentlemen who have contributed to this department, from the wealth of the knowledge which they possessed, have spent much time and effort in preparing their material, and have rendered the services without thought of recompense. This generosity only emphasizes their interest in the success of the publication.

The names of persons contributing special articles, and the subjects upon which they have written, appear below: Mrs. Anna Holton and Almon Davis, "Alpha and Vicinity"; Mr. and Mrs. John Owens, "The Catholic Church in Fayette County"; Rev. J. L. Paine, three articles, "Churches" and "Schools of Fayette," and the "Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad in Fayette County"; Rev. G. Blessin, two exhaustive and comprehensive articles, "German-American Citizenship," and "History of the Lutheran Church in the County"; Dr. O. B. Dodd, J. P. Webster and J. M. Burnside, reminiscent history of Waucoma and Eden township; Hon. James Cooney, "Recollections of Arlington"; Hon. D. W. Clements, "History of Freemasonry in Fayette County"; Hon. W. E. Fuller, "Fayette County Lawyers—the Bench and Bar", also a valued counsellor on any matters pertaining to pioneer history or events; Hon. A. N. Hobson, a wise adviser on early historical events, and contributor of special biographies of deceased men; Hon. William Larrabee, Sr., "Monuments, Statuary, etc., of Clermont," and a history of personal experiences when "Lost in a Snow Storm," in 1856; Hon. G. D. Darnall, M. D., extracts from his "Early History of West Union"; Dr. J. W. McLean, supervision of the article on "The Medical Profession"; Mr. F. Y. Whitmore, history of the Baptist church; Hon. C. B. Hughes, history of the Methodist Episcopal church; Hon. Carl Evans, history of the Presbyterian church; Col. J. W.

Bopp, "The Development of Agriculture, Horticulture and Stock-raising"; the "Development of Out-Door Art," and general assistance all along the line of progress; Hon. Christian Miller, "Early History of Pleasant Valley," and the development of various modern industries at Clermont; Rev. J. W. Dickman, D. D., "History of the Upper Iowa University"; Joseph L. Scallan, county auditor, assistance in examining county records, and the use of his official reports in the collation and arrangement of historical data; D. H. Talmadge, the "History of the Fayette County Press"; Hon. John D. Shaffer, general assistance and hearty co-operation; the *Fayette Reporter*, "A Story of Pioneer Life"; Mrs. Sarah Maynard, "A Pioneer's Sketch of Fayette County."

The press of the county has been uniformly interested and courteous. The columns of the newspapers were always open and unrestricted in the presentation of explanations, and public notices, pertaining to the work. For these courtesies, and the generous support accorded, we are truly thankful, and believe that the newspaper fraternity in the county will find the "Past and Present of Fayette County, Iowa," a valuable acquisition to their reference libraries.

In closing this article introducing the "Miscellaneous Chapter," we wish to make acknowledgment of the fact that this is the only "Preface" or "Foreword" with which the author will burden the reader; and while such an arrangement is not in accord with the usual custom in such matters, it is in accord with his ideas as to where such announcements should be made. We desire that this record of unselfish co-operation and kindly assistance shall go down to posterity as a part of the history of Fayette county.

A PIONEER'S SKETCH OF FAYETTE COUNTY.

"A Pioneer's Sketch of Fayette County," by Mrs. Sarah Maynard, though in part a repetition of what appears in other chapters, is reproduced here because of its general historical value and the noble sentiments expressed by the author.

The first schools taught in the county were private or subscription schools. The first superintendent of schools was S. W. Cole, who held the office for several years. The first school taught in West Union was in the winter of 1851-52 by James Boale, who taught six months for one hundred dollars. [This was the second school in West Union, the first being taught in the winter of 1850 and '51—EDITOR.] Mr. Boale was examined for the position by J. W. Rogers, in his field, with hoe in hand, standing beside a crooked rail fence with "all out doors" for a room. Mr. Boale stood on the other side of

the fence, passed a short and satisfactory examination and gave good satisfaction. In Fremont township N. W. Spears taught during the winter of 1856-7 in his own house at a salary of ten dollars per month. When a heavy storm came he kept his pupils all night. Seventeen were enrolled, some of them going a distance of three miles. In Putnam township the first school was taught by Mrs. Rowley, who received one dollar per week. In 1876 the average compensation per month to male teachers was thirty-nine dollars and seventy-five cents, to females twenty dollars and eighty-six cents.

In 1854 the project of founding a college was under discussion by the few settlers in Westfield and Fayette. The contributions of the Robertsons and Alexanders constituted almost entirely the resources of the first subscription paper. The following year the foundation and walls of the first story were laid. At this time the entire population of the county did not exceed five thousand souls. In 1855 the projectors agreed among themselves to place the intended school under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal church. When conference met in September the tender was made and accepted on behalf of the church. It seems to be a fact that the initiation of the project of founding a college at Fayette grew out of a conversation between Rev. H. S. Brunson and Mrs. Alexander, the gentleman suggesting to her that her youngest daughter should go to Mount Vernon to school. This led to family discussions between Mr. and Mrs. Alexander, and the Robertsons, and it was thought among them that a school could be founded in Fayette. When the idea budded into form Mr. Alexander subscribed the magnificent sum of ten thousand dollars, to which he added seven thousand dollars more and finally, to complete the building, when money could not be had, he deeded four thousand acres of land to the college. J. A. Griffith made a proposition to erect the building for fifteen thousand dollars, which was accepted. The name "Collegiate Institute" was adopted, which later was changed to Upper Iowa University.

In 1858 considerable excitement was caused by the discovery of gold near West Union. It was also found in Moine creek, near Arlington, and small nuggets were found on the farm of Mr. Brooks. Gold has been found in various localities in Fayette county. Doctor Parker also discovered traces near Fayette.

The people of Fayette county began to agitate the question of building railroads prior to 1855, but nothing tangible resulted from such agitation until after 1870. In 1871 a route was surveyed for the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Minnesota from Cedar Rapids to Postville; also a line of narrow gauge from Waterloo to West Union. The people were divided, some favoring one route

and others the other. July 7, 1871, a deputation of officers of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Minnesota visited points in the county and soon convinced the leading citizens that the company was in earnest and ready to commence operations if proper local encouragement be given. One hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars was the amount asked for. The people proposed to try to raise ninety thousand dollars if the company would agree to build the road for that sum. July 14th a contract was closed between a committee representing the people of the county and the railroad company. Center was the only township that refused to vote the aid required. The first iron rail was laid in the county August 14, 1872, at ten o'clock A. M. The first through train on the Milwaukee division was September 7, 1873. Three years after the completion of the road, which was built by a construction company, there was a foreclosure and sale, when it passed into the possession of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern. In June, 1870, contracts were made for grading, bridging, and tying a road from Davenport to Fayette. Work on the line in Fayette county was commenced in the spring of 1871. The first car load of freight was received at Brush Creek in July, 1873, and the rails were laid to Fayette September 16th of that year. There are several deep cuts north from Fayette, one near that town being seven hundred feet long and fifty-seven feet deep, through solid rock, and cost over thirty thousand dollars. Several other roads now traverse different parts of the county.

June 1, 1878, occurred one of the heaviest rain storms ever experienced in this county. For several days rain had fallen in large quantities and about eight o'clock in the evening of June 1st it fell in torrents. The Volga rose at least four feet higher than ever known before. Maynard was flooded, the water being five feet above high water mark. At Oelwein the entire town seemed to be in the midst of a raging sea. At least thirty bridges were swept away in the county.

It is impossible to render full justice to the patriotism and spirit of the people of this county in the early days of our country's struggle against rebellion, and the liberal contributions to maintain the integrity of this glorious union. It is a proud record, for from their midst went out gallant officers and brave soldiers to aid in the grand struggle for the maintenance and perpetuity of a republican form of government. The first meeting for enlisting volunteers was held in the University chapel at Fayette Wednesday evening, April 24th. The first to enroll his name at this meeting was Jacob Abernathy, immediately followed by seventeen others.

The first fair was held October 2 and 3, 1855. The stock, agricultural

implements, etc., were exhibited on the public square, and the Methodist church was utilized for an exhibition hall.

Although several murders have been committed in the county, in but one instance has capital punishment been administered, and that to a mere boy of eighteen for the murder of an aged couple near West Union.

The county poor, previous to 1864, were provided for by temporary expedients. The young were bound out whenever possible, and the aged were boarded at various places, in their respective townships, at the expense of the county. Since that time a large farm has been purchased and suitable buildings erected for a home for the county's poor.

One of the chief industries is dairying, many thousand dollars being paid monthly for milk, which is manufactured into butter at the different creameries throughout the county. J. N. Harris was the pioneer creamery man of the county, the first creameries being owned by him. The Long Grove Dairyman's Association was incorporated under the general laws of Iowa December 31, 1875. To insure its citizens against loss by fire and lightning, a mutual insurance company was organized May 2, 1874, and its business has steadily grown till the present time.

In collecting material for this sketch much has been recalled of many almost forgotten incidents, and while it has taken time and labor, the task has been a pleasant one and we have been forcibly reminded that among the pioneer settlers of a new country, sincere, warm and enduring friendships are formed, friendships that grow stronger and brighter with the passing years. The trials and hardships, privations and inconveniences peculiar to life in a new country, rigidly test not only the physical powers of endurance, but all the kindly, generous impulses of manhood and womanhood. Those were times that tried men and brought out all there was in them, either good or bad. As a rule the men and women who first occupy a new country are bold, industrious and self-reliant. Seasons come and go and changes without number have taken place, but amid all, the memory of the friendships and associations of those early years never dims. Raven locks may whiten beneath the snows of many winters; bright eyes become dim; the fair brow furrowed with age and care and the erect form bow beneath the burdens of accumulated years, but the true friend of "Auld Lang Syne" will never be forgotten.

HARVEST-HOME PICNIC.

The Fayette County Historical and Pioneer Association was organized and held its first meeting at Fayette, on the first of January, 1868. For a number of years this was a feature of considerable interest, and meetings were

held in different towns throughout the county. The object of such an organization is apparent to all, and it is to be regretted that the association did not have the support of all the people for whose benefit and enlightenment it was brought into existence. But as the early pioneers dropped off, here and there, and the ranks were thinned by deaths and removals, the early interest which inspired the formation of the society was suffered to wane, and the later meetings were attended indifferently, and finally the organization was suffered to lapse. The prime movers and organizers of this association were Rev. H. S. Brunson, Rev. John Webb, Col. Aaron Brown, P. F. Newton, Hon. Jacob W. Rogers, M. C. Sperry, Curtis R. Bent, Thomas Kincaid, Samuel Holton, Thomas R. Talbott, Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzo Dutton, Mrs. James E. Robertson, Horatio Warner—all people who came to the county as early as 1852, and some much earlier. It seemed to be one purpose of the organization to keep an enrollment register, giving the names, date and place of birth, occupation, and date of their coming to Fayette county. This register contains about three hundred names, which, for the most part, include the names of early pioneers as they will be found in the township histories.

But an association of somewhat similar import, though under a different name, came into existence about the time the formal meetings of the other organizations were abandoned, and has had a prosperous existence for many years. Reference is here made to the "Harvest Home Picnic" which is held annually at Klock's Grove, near Fayette. This is an event of great interest among the elderly people, who improve the opportunity thus afforded of renewing old acquaintances and forming new ones. The occasion is enlivened by speeches relating to early history, reminiscent discourses, athletic sports, etc. The best talent procurable is usually secured for at least one address, while the other literary features of the occasion are supplied by "home talent" conversant with the wishes of their auditors. But probably the crowning event of the whole occasion is the very elaborate picnic dinner, always a necessary and much enjoyed adjunct. A commendable rivalry has been engendered among the young people in the preparation of "goodies" for the table at the "Harvest-Home Picnic." The farmer boys also vie with each other in the production of early melons and fruits for this occasion, which, in some instances at least, is about their most enjoyable outing during the summer.

This annual festival has partaken, largely, of the more formal proceedings of the County Historical Society, and, to some extent, fills its place. Another feature intended to perpetuate the remembrance of pioneer days, and impress the younger generations with an idea of the crude and unwieldy implements used by their ancestors, is exemplified in the "Pioneer Log Cabin,"

which has become a permanent fixture on the grounds of the agricultural society at West Union. The "scheme," as well as the building of the cabin, and the care of its contents, are due to the personal interest of George W. Gilbert, through whose energy and self-sacrifice this "place of rest and recreation" became a fixture at the annual fairs. The structure is a typical log cabin of large dimensions, built of round logs, chinked and daubed with sticks and clay, having the shake roof held on by weight poles, earth floor, big fireplace with crane, hooks and andirons, a stick-and-mud chimney, joists of round poles flattened on the upper side, and rough boards laid down for a "chamber floor." The building is filled with all manner of pioneer relics, tools, spinning wheels, grain cradles, and also a baby cradle and rocking chair, which have the honor of being the lullaby-home of two families, the youngest of whom are now well beyond the meridian of life. But it would be impossible to enumerate all the unique and curious things to be found there, and it is all as free as air to the interested observer, and well worth an examination at any time. An old cord bedstead, and all its environments, is not the least among early-time attractions. Mr. Gilbert is entitled to the thanks of the agricultural society for his zeal in adding this interesting novelty, and for his untiring energy and unpaid labors in connection therewith.

MARKETING HOGS AND THE CONSEQUENCES.

The fall and winter of 1842-43 were unusually severe. Snow fell early in November, and remained until late in April, and the hardships and sufferings of the settlers during that terrible winter are almost incredible. One or two incidents of that time will serve to illustrate the severity of the winter and the sufferings it induced, as well as to give some idea of frontier customs at that time.

In the fall of 1842, Rev. David Lowry, in charge of the Winnebago mission school, in the southern part of Winneshiek county, near the north line of Fayette county, advertised for proposals to furnish the mission with fifteen thousand pounds of pork. Joel Bailey and John Keeler, at Bailey's Ford, Delaware county, had hogs enough to supply that amount, and they were anxious to sell them. Keeler went to the mission to bid for the contract. He found several other competitors, who had hogs to sell, already on the ground. Keeler put in a bid of two dollars and twenty-five cents per hundredweight; the others gave the same figures. Keeler reduced his bid to two dollars, and started for home, discouraged. That night he stopped at Joe Hewitt's trading post, five or six miles northwest of Strawberry Point. He told Hewitt his

business, and that he did not expect to get the contract. Hewitt, who had some grudge against the other bidders, after hearing his story, told him that of course he would not get it, unless he put in a lower bid, and proposed that if he would make another bid at one dollar and seventy-five cents, he (Hewitt) would carry it to Lowry himself, and he felt almost sure that Keeler could secure the contract at that price. Keeler was in a quandary. One dollar and seventy-five cents per hundredweight was ruinously low, but he and Bailey had the hogs, and hardly knew how they were to winter them. At last, he concluded to adopt Hewitt's suggestion, sent in his bid and went home.

About a week afterward, Mr. Babbitt, who lived on the Wapsipinicon near Marion, went to Bailey and Keeler, bearing a notice from Lowry that Keeler's bid had been accepted, and that the pork must be delivered on or before Christmas day. They hesitated about filling the contract, but while discussing the question, Babbitt, who also had a lot of hogs he didn't know what to do with, offered to give them five dollars and fill the contract himself, and they concluded if he could afford to do that, they had better keep their contract themselves.

Accordingly, on the 17th day of December, 1842, Joel Bailey, John Keeler, James Kibbe, William R. Padelford and Lucius Vandever, with three ox teams (seven yokes), loaded with corn and supplies, started with their drove of hogs for the mission. It was a slow, toilsome journey, the weather was cold, the snow knee-deep, and they were eight days on the road, camping every night, save one, when they stopped with Beatty and Orrear, and reached the mission on the 25th of December. The party was joyfully welcomed by the mission people, who began to fear that, owing to the inclement weather, their expected supplies might not reach them, and they might be forced to live without meat during the winter.

Immediately after their arrival, preparations were made for slaughtering the hogs, which was done on the open prairie. The weather was bitterly cold, and it was neither an easy nor comfortable task for five men, even with such assistance as the lazy Indians were disposed to render, to kill twenty-five hogs a day. Before they completed their work, however, the weather began to moderate, and about noon on the 1st day of January, 1843, having settled with Mr. Lowry, with only provisions enough to last one day, Bailey and his party started on their return to Delaware, encamped on the south bank of the Little Turkey river, five miles from the mission, on section 29, township 95, range 9, that night, and intended to make Beatty's cabin, south of the Volga, the next day. During the night, a furious southeast snow storm commenced. The next morning, nothing daunted, they started on their journey across the tree-

less prairie, but the storm was so severe and the snow became so deep that about noon they lost the track, became bewildered, and were compelled to turn back, arriving at the camping ground they left in the morning, about dark, cold, wet, weary and dispirited.

The storm continued during the night with unabated fury, and the next morning it was still snowing as hard as ever; but our little band did not like the idea of going back to the mission, concluding that the storm could not last much longer, and believing that they could reach the Volga timber before dark, again broke camp and started. The snow was now from two and one-half to four feet deep. The men were forced to wallow ahead to break tracks for the oxen, and their progress was slow and wearisome, especially as both men and animals had been without food for more than twelve hours. The weather was moderate, and their clothes were wet, until about ten o'clock, when the storm ceased, the wind, shifting suddenly into the northwest, blew a heavy, biting, freezing gale, and the little party were forced to face the new danger of freezing to death.

A little after noon, the Volga timber was discovered. The party were then probably three or four miles south of west from Round Grove, where West Union now stands. When the sun went down, however, they were still far away from the timber they hoped to reach. They kept on traveling as long as they could see the timber, but at last the increasing darkness completely hid it from view; and there, on the open prairie, exposed to the full fury of the biting January blast, with the icy air filled with fine frozen snow driven by the wind, without food, exhausted and freezing, the little party was forced to stop, in the northeast part of township 93, range 9, west of and within about half a mile of the present site of Donnan. Their largest sled was about ten feet long. On it was a box, two boards high, the length of the sled. Turning the sled broadside to the wind, as it sat well up to the top of the snow, by shoveling the snow from a little spot beside it to the frozen ground beneath, the top of the sled box was about as high as their heads, they were partially sheltered from the piercing wind, and had a hard surface on which to stamp their feet.

They whittled up the box on another sled and endeavored to kindle a fire, but every lucifer match they had was used without success; their ammunition had become damp; their fingers were too much benumbed with cold to use the flint and steel—they could have no fire. It was a critical situation; without fire, without food, and exhausted by a long day's march through the deep snow. It was wonderful that they were not discouraged. Death not only stared them in the face, but was feeling with icy fingers for their hearts. Their

lives depended upon keeping awake and moving. To remain still was to sleep, and sleep was death. The poor fellows wrapped their blankets about their heads and here they stood stamping, talking, yelling, to keep each other awake. "The fearful horrors of that terrible night," says Judge Bailey, from whose lips this narrative was taken, "are as vividly impressed upon my memory as if they occurred but yesterday. We had to watch for each others' voices. If we failed to hear one, we hunted about in the dark until we found him leaning against the sled, and started him to going again. It was the longest night I ever experienced; it seemed as if daylight would never come."

Day dawned at last, and they resumed their wearisome way; but it was noon when they reached the Volga, and obtained some water for themselves and their teams. It was still three miles to the hospitable cabin of Beatty and Orrear. Would the exhausted party ever reach it? They would try. On they staggered, famishing, freezing, and hardly caring whether they lived or died. Near night-fall they struck a track about half a mile from the cabin, which gave them new courage, and they struggled on, and at last, about dark, badly frozen, famished and utterly exhausted, they reached Beatty and Orrear's cabin, having been since daylight in the morning traveling three miles.

Here they found Gilbert D. Dillon, Franklin Culver and Johnson, of Rockville, snow-bound on their way to the fort, with two loads of butter, eggs and poultry; Beatty, Orrear, and their guests, at once provided for the wants of Mr. Bailey and his party. One of them, making a requisition upon Dillon's load, prepared supper, and the others prepared tubs and buckets, filled with cold water, into which the frozen feet and limbs of the sufferers were plunged. While thus drawing the frost from their frozen feet, a good warm supper was served them, and they broke their protracted fast of forty-eight hours; "but," remarks Judge Bailey, "we didn't eat much—we were not much hungry."

Bailey, Keeler and Vandever were so badly frost-bitten that they were compelled to remain at the cabin of Beatty and Orrear for several days. As soon as they were able to be moved, beds were arranged for them on the sleds, and they started for home, accompanied by Mr. Johnson. The noble-hearted Beatty went with them to Major Mumford's, on Brush creek. It was only seven or eight miles, but they were all day making the journey. Beatty helped to break the track. The next day they reached Joe Hewitt's cabin, and in the evening of the third day arrived at Eads' Grove. Here they found William Bennett, who was on his way to Hewitt's to keep out of the way of the Linn county sheriff, who was anxious to find him, as he was charged with being a party to flogging one Johnson, a settler in Buchanan county.

Mr. Bailey was unable to walk for three months after this terrible ex-

posure. Both his feet ulcerated, the flesh sloughed off of one of his toes, and the dead and naked bone was cut off by Keeler with a "dog-knife." Keeler was also laid up for several weeks, but Vandever fared the worst. The flesh fell off of all his toes on one foot, and of three on the other, exposing the bones to their articulation with the bones of the feet. There was no surgeon nearer than Dubuque, and Mr. Kibbe removed the naked bones, using an old bullet mould for forceps. After this novel surgical operation was performed, his mutilated feet finally healed, but poor Vandever was a cripple for life.

During this severe winter, comparatively many persons were lost and frozen to death, on these then almost trackless prairies. One might as well be in mid ocean in a storm, without compass or rudder, as to be out of sight of timber on these prairies in one of those fearful winter storms. All through the month of March, 1843, says Judge Bailey, of Delaware, the cold was as intense as it had been during the entire winter.

KINDNESS TO THE INDIANS.

During this severe winter, George Culver, on the Volga, cared for a large number of Winnebago Indians, who were prevented from hunting on account of the extreme cold. Joseph Hewitt, who was just across the line, in Clayton county, did the same, and, doubtless, saved many of the "nation's wards" from starvation. Failing to obtain remuneration for their outlay from the agent of the Winnebagoes, at the mission, Culver and Hewitt went to Washington in 1846, as many an Indian trader had done before and since, and established and collected their claims. Other Indian traders didn't fare so well.

In January, 1843, very soon after Bailey and his party were so hospitably received and cared for by Beatty and Orrear, William Bennett, mentioned above, found it convenient to not only spend a few days with his friend Hewitt, but to be concealed by him in a cavern near by, from the officers of the law, who were on his track. He arrived at Hewitt's about January 10th. The sheriff of Linn county, with a posse of several men, having traced him to this point, arrived soon after; but the party had divided before reaching the trading post. In his search for Bennett, the sheriff entered one of the Winnebago tepees, or wigwams, and, while here, accidentally shot an Indian. It seems that previous to this time the Linn county sheriff, with a small party, had been caught by some Indians and robbed while hunting buffalo calves in the territory now covered by Chickasaw county. One insolent Indian had compelled him to take off his coat, and he had suffered severely from cold. He then and

there "spotted" that Indian and resolved to shoot him on sight wherever he should find him. On entering the tepee, as above stated, the sheriff saw and recognized the individual who had taken his coat. He sat down and pretended to be fixing his gun, which he had across his knees, pointed at the Indian; it exploded, and the savage tumbled over, dead. Hewitt was anxious, on Bennett's account, to get rid of the Sheriff and his posse, and urged them to get away as soon as possible, declaring that the Indians would kill them if they remained. The Sheriff, however, was not to be frightened off, declaring the shooting to have been accidental, and that there were not Winnebagoes enough on the reserve to compel him to leave until he was ready to go. He called his men together, and after continuing his fruitless search for Bennett, leisurely took his departure. Mr. Hensley says that when he arrived at Eads' Grove, he declared that the Indian was not shot accidentally, but that he had sent him to the happy hunting ground for the reason above stated.

Hewitt's cabin was about four miles east of Brush creek, and although he was not a resident of Fayette county, he was familiarly known to the early settlers. After the removal of the Indians, he went West, in 1851, leasing his place, to a Mr. Morley, who had an accomplished niece. Hewitt returned and, although then nearly sixty years old, and *considerably* married, he induced the Morley girl to elope with him. This was probably about 1857, for the records of Fayette county show that a marriage license was issued to Joseph Hewitt and Harriet K. Morley, by County Judge Rogers, in 1857.

A STORY OF PIONEER LIFE.

The following unique story of pioneer life is appropriated, bodily (with permission of Rev. J. L. Paine) from the *Fayette Reporter*. Some corrections have been made in the spelling of proper names, though we are not entirely sure that we should have done even that much, since the very imperfections in language used by the pioneers in describing their experiences seem to add "lustre" and interest to their recitals. With the further explanation that much of the history embraced in these articles has been presented in connection with the township history of the locality where the events occurred, but not in a "Peter and Polly" story, we submit it to the reader without further apology.

A gentleman who has, perhaps, been quoted more often than any other by writers upon early history of Fayette county, has prepared the following unique articles, in which, with more or less fanciful language and fanciful names in the earlier part, he deals with historical facts, some of which have

never before been published. The articles contain a partial biography of the first white couple that settled in this county together with that of the immediate families from which they descended. The date of settlement is placed somewhat earlier than that usually accepted, but the author states that in case these dates are questioned he stands ready to reveal his identity and show the correctness of his conclusions.

In an early time in one of the eastern states, probably in western New York, there lived two families near together. Each had a boy near the same age, fifteen years. It was usual in those times for boys to hire out to some tradesman to learn a trade. The fathers of these boys made contracts with two tradesmen, one a carpenter and one a blacksmith. The contracts were generally until the boy was twenty-one years of age. The tradesmen were to teach them the trade, send them to school a certain length of time and give them a certain amount when they were twenty-one. Sometimes it was a horse, sometimes a yoke of oxen and often a stipulated amount of money.

These boys worked at their trades until their time was out. One day as they were talking the matter over one said to the other:

"John, have you any plans for the future? You know our time will be up in the spring and we should be thinking what we are going to do."

"I have not been thinking much about it; have you?" John replied.

"Yes, I have, some lately."

"What is it, Jim?"

"I have been thinking of going west and I want you to go with me."

"All right, Jim, I would like such a trip, as I do not see any chance for a young man to get a start here."

So they talked the matter over with their parents and their girls, and when they had finished they were nearly ready to take Horace Greeley's advice to "Go west and grow up with the country."

In the spring the boys were ready, packed their carpet bags, bid their parents and sweethearts good bye, and started on their long journey, promising to write when they got located.

They traveled until they reached the big woods in western Indiana. Thinking that would be a good place to locate, as the Indians had been moved away and a few whites were coming in, they selected eighty acres of land with a creek running near the west line which would furnish plenty of good water near by. They divided the eighty acres, forty acres being all that one man could use in a heavy timber. They immediately set about building a log house for each near the little creek. Meantime they sent word to their girls that they had located, giving a fine description of the country and their location,

and saying that they were building a house for each near together; that they could guess what they meant, and promising to be at home as soon as they could get ready to go back in the fall before cold weather. Of course the girls were delighted to hear from them and set about to give them a good reception.

The boys worked hard clearing away brush and timber and building their cabins. They had very few tools to work with. They split out their shakes for the roof, weighted them down with poles, hewed out their lumber for the floor with the broad ax and split out lumber for the doors, as there was not a sawed board within fifty miles of them. They used wooden pins for nails and made wooden hinges. It was a hard task to build a house in those days, but they finally finished the cabins the best they could for the present, thinking they could put on the finishing touches when they came back with more tools.

They started on their long journey for home, reaching there all right, tired, ragged and dirty, with beards long and shaggy, as they had not shaved since they left home. Their people hardly knew them, but they gave them a grand reception. The boys and the girls, too, went to work with a vim getting ready to return before cold weather. Their parents fitted them out with a yoke of oxen and a cow each, covered their wagons with heavy oil cloth to turn rain, and gave one a set of blacksmith's tools and the other a set of carpenter's tools. The old ladies fitted the girls out with the best cooking utensils they had in those days.

One evening when they were all ready they called in the old Baptist minister and had a double wedding. The boys traded sisters and the girls traded brothers.

So, with good byes and sobs and tears, they left their parental homes for their new homes in the far west, their parents thinking they would never see them again.

The double honeymoon was spent on the road. It was a great journey. Every night they would turn their oxen and cows out to feed while supper was being prepared over a fire and the cooking done for the next day. They would milk their cows, put the milk into churns and the motion of the wagons would churn it so that they could have fresh butter every day. After supper they would tie their cattle up for fear they would stray off, and would sleep in the wagons. It was a wonderful experience for the girls, for they had never been away from home before. They sent back word as often as possible to let the old people know that they were all right and having a good time.

Reaching their new homes safely, the girls found everything to their liking and all went to work to prepare for winter.

The winters were not as cold in that country as in the east. There was

some snow, but it would soon go off. There was plenty of game, wild hogs, wild turkeys and deer. These furnished an abundance of meat if they could only learn to catch it. Hunting is a trade. Few men make good hunters. It requires both courage and caution, especially in hunting wild hogs. They are different from most wild animals; will hunt for their food all day, but go back to a certain place to sleep if they are not disturbed. About the only way you can get one is to creep up to them when they are in their nest and shoot one as they start out in the morning. But you must be sure to kill him dead. If you don't, you had better have a good place to climb, for if you make one squeal, you had better face a den of lions. There were plenty of them in Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana and Missouri in an early day. They lived on acorns, chestnuts and beech nuts, and made fine pork if you could get one a year old in the early fall.

The two families lived well through the winter on Johnny cake, milk and butter. But it was hard on their cattle as there was no hay in the country. They had to live on browse and a little corn. The boys went to work clearing a piece of ground ready to plant early in the spring. They would cut down the large basswood and maple trees and the cattle would eat off the buds. The boys would then cut up the logs, roll them in piles, pile the brush on top and burn them.

It was a big job to make a farm in the timber. If a man cleared an acre every winter ready for the plow in the spring he did well. A man would be getting old by the time he would get forty acres cleared. They saved the best logs from their clearing and built a large blacksmith shop and carpenter shop together so that they could work at their trades in bad weather. They made chair frames and wove hickory bark in for bottoms, also a spinning wheel and loom so the girls could work at their trade of spinning and weaving as well as keeping house.

They soon got a few sheep and geese, ducks, chickens and turkeys. Wild turkey eggs were hatched under hens. They were easily tamed and made very fine birds, both large and hardy. The place was well calculated for raising geese for their feathers. These supplied new beds as their needs increased. They spun and wove the cloth for new clothes and lived an independent and happy life.

In due time there came a little boy to stay with the blacksmith. He was a fine little fellow, weighed ten pounds and was named Peter. He was the pet of both families until two years later when a little girl came to the carpenter's house and was called Polly. Peter thought Polly was the nicest dolly he ever saw and wanted to stay with her all the time. When she was a little

older he would lead her, teaching her to walk and talk. She soon became large enough to take part in all his plays. Their mothers took great pride in them, clothed them in their best home spun garments and sent them to school together.

The country began to settle up and Peter's father had more work in the shop, but Peter did not like blacksmithing and would rather work in the open air. When he got older his father let him work in the clearing at piling and burning brush. Polly would help him pile and burn brush. She would go with him after the cows and hunt squirrels and turkeys. Their mothers made them some bathing suits and their fathers taught them to swim in the creek near by. Polly's mother taught her to do house work, spin and weave as well as raise poultry, so that she would know how to keep house.

We cannot say that the friendship of Peter and Polly ripened into love, for they always loved each other from babies. One day as they were out for a walk together Peter said:

"Polly, do you know what I have been thinking about?"

"No, Peter, what is it?"

"I have been thinking about going west across the big river. I will be twenty-one in the spring and you will be nineteen. If we ever expect to get a home of our own, it is time we were thinking about it. I am tired of trying to make a farm in this timber. I have been reading what a beautiful country it is beyond the river, good water, timber and nice prairie. All we would have to do is to plow up the ground and plant a crop, without so much chopping, digging and burning."

"That would be very nice, Peter, but I cannot think of your going off that way alone."

"It would be so lonesome I could not live without you. I would select a nice home and come back after you."

"I cannot consent to have you go so far away alone. If you will go, I will go with you."

"Well, Polly, I would like to take you, but it would be a hard journey."

"Not nearly as hard as it would be to stay at home. I would be afraid the Indians would kill you."

"Then there is but one thing to do and that is to get married and go together."

"All right. I cannot let you go alone."

So they told their parents of their plans, and while the older people did not like to have them go so far from home, they could not object, for it was precisely what they had done. Preparations were made for the journey in the

spring. On the first of April the carpet bags were packed and all was ready but one thing. Then they called in the parson one evening and were made one. A fine wedding supper followed and in the morning they took an early start.

It had been their plan to take the old diagonal road from Paris, in Edgar county, Illinois, to Galena, in the northwest corner of the state, about three hundred miles. Peter concluded this would be too long a journey for Polly to make on foot and carry her satchel. They went directly west, striking the Mississippi at the nearest point and taking a steamer for Dubuque where they would get supplies for the remainder of their journey.

Dubuque was a small village of about three hundred inhabitants, mostly French traders who had married squaws. Dubuque, for whom the town was named, married the daughter of a chief of the Sac and Fox Indians. There were very few white women in the place at that time, 1838.

The inhabitants were very much interested in Peter and Polly, never having seen such a couple before. They were large and of fair complexion. Peter stood six feet in his stockings, was well built and weighed one hundred and eighty pounds, while Polly was a beautiful girl, fair and rosy, five feet eight inches tall, and weighed one hundred and fifty pounds, very different from the Indian squaws. The Frenchmen all fell in love with her, but Peter gave them to understand that she belonged to him and he was able to protect her.

Peter bought a wagon and a fine yoke of oxen from an emigrant, a breaking plow, tools for building and a cooking outfit, also provisions to last until they could raise some. He bought the finest rifle on the market and a good cow. He also covered the wagon with oilcloth that it might serve as a shelter until a house could be built.

Taking the old trail from Dubuque to St. Paul, they traveled two or three days, aiming to strike the neutral strip that the government had purchased from the Sioux and the Sac and Fox Indians, thinking that they would not be troubled by Indians as that was neutral ground and neither tribe had permission to occupy it. One evening they came to a fine little creek of clear water at the edge of the timber, a good place to camp since there was plenty of wood for fire and grass for the cattle.

The next day being the Sabbath, they rested, and on Monday Polly said: "Is not this a beautiful spot? It looks more like home than any place we have seen. Have we not traveled far enough? Here is good water, timber and prairie all together, and if we are going to raise a crop this year it is time (May 15th) we were planting it."

Peter agreed, so they unloaded the plow and Peter turned over some sod, where Polly put in the garden while he broke more for corn. This spot is now a part of the A. N. McGarvey farm just northwest from the bridge.

They used the wagon for a house until the planting was done. They worked away happily and were not bothered by neighbors, the nearest being Joe Hewett down in Clayton county. Wild animals were plentiful, but not troublesome. The wolves were saucy, but they would bring the cattle up to the wagon in the light and Peter trusted to his rifle for protection. As long as the Indians did not molest them they were not afraid. After the crop was planted they built a shanty and took time to build a good one, as they knew it was a cold country.

As soon as possible Peter and Polly sent a letter by messenger to the nearest postoffice. This letter was addressed to their parents back in Indiana. It told of their safe arrival, set forth in glowing terms the fine country they had found and the splendid location they had chosen. It also told of the excellent opportunity of obtaining land at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre already cleared. It told of the advantages of the prairie over the timber especially when the timber was near by.

They got their house built in good time for winter and raised a fine crop of corn, potatoes and garden truck. They also made a lot of hay for the cattle in the winter, so they were well prepared for the cold weather. They could not get their corn ground, but they could grate it and hull it, and Peter would kill a deer once in awhile, so they had plenty of venison. It was too cold a country for the wild hog and the wild turkey, as they could not live over winter here. In a short time there were two young men came from the east and took land south of them (now the Lamb place), and a family named Mumford settled on Brush creek. Another family named Parks settled a mile west on what is now the V. E. Strayer farm.

Peter's father was induced to sell out and came west in 1839. He built a log house on the west end of Peter's house, so they had a double log house. And the old gentleman took land north of Peter's.

Peter's brothers thought they would speculate some, so they got a breaking team and would look up nice locations and break up five or six acres to hold the place for pre-emption, and when the country began to settle they would sell their claims at a good profit. Andrew Hensley bought his land from one of them at Bear Grove in Smithfield township in 1842. Peter and Polly had plenty of neighbors, but they were doomed to disappointment.

Our hero had settled on the neutral strip, thinking that he would not be troubled by Indians, but Uncle Sam traded for the land of the Winnebagoes

in Wisconsin and moved the full blooded Winnebago Indians here. Then the fun began. The Sioux on the north hated the Winnebagoes as badly as they did the Sacs and Foxes, and would scalp them when they could catch them.

In 1840 the government built Fort Atkinson and stationed two companies of soldiers there to keep peace among the Indian tribes and for protection to the few white settlers there were in the country. Peter's father was a blacksmith and was getting rather old to farm. He liked the trade better, so hired to Uncle Sam to work at the fort and moved up there.

One day as Peter was out near the old military road mowing, there came a young man plodding along with an old fashioned saddlebag across his shoulders. The stranger introduced himself as a doctor looking for a location. He had heard there was a white settlement out here somewhere and was looking for it.

"The only white settlement I know of is here," said Peter, "but I do not think we need a doctor. I am sure Polly and I do not, but you look tired. Come down to the house and get something to eat and see Polly and the children."

The doctor admitted that the family did not seem much in need of a physician, so after staying over night he proceeded to Fort Atkinson and finally established himself at the mission five miles this side of the fort where he became a very useful and influential man. He was a minister as well as a physician, and when the school was established at the mission he was employed to teach it.

All went well with Peter and Polly and their few neighbors until in the fall of 1842. A family named Tegarden and a young man named Atwood came up from Dubuque and built a log house in the ravine about one and one-half miles west of Peter's cabin (this was across the road from where James House now lives on the Lease farm), and began selling whisky to the Indians. Indians are very fond of "fire water" as they call it, so it is even more certain to make trouble with them than with white men.

One evening three Indians came to Tegarden's shanty and with Tegarden and Atwood began drinking freely. Tegarden was ugly and drove his wife out of the house. She went down to Peter's cabin for the night. The five men became still more intoxicated and finally all lay down on the floor before the fire and went to sleep.

Sometime in the night the Indians awoke and finding the white men still asleep, they tied them and commenced to beat them with a club. Tegarden said if they were going to kill him to take the gun and shoot him. One of the Indians then took the rifle and sent a bullet through his head. Atwood was

tortured longer, but was finally killed. The little boy was killed with a club and the two other children were badly wounded with a knife.

These two were sharp enough to pretend to be dead, and the Indians thinking they were, went out to the stable to harness and hitch up the horse. While the Indians were thus busy the two wounded children, a girl of nine and a boy of seven, slipped out of the house in their night clothes and hid in the willows by the spring three or four rods from the house. When the Indians had hitched up Tegarden's horse they returned to the house and after taking what whisky they could, set the building on fire and left.

By the light of the burning cabin, the two children made their way one and one-quarter miles east to the Beatty place. Their route next day could be traced by the blood on the snow. When they got within forty rods of Beatty's house, now the Lamb place, they could go no further but climbed on a fence and hollowed. Beatty heard them, and going out brought them in, one under each arm. Their toes were frozen, but not badly, and they both recovered except for scars.

Of course there was great excitement in the little white settlement. Mrs. Tegarden went back to Dubuque with her wounded children. The Mumford family went back to their house on Brush creek, north of where Arlington now stands. Parks, who was on the V. E. Strayer place, took his family to Hewett's cabin in Clayton county. Polly became so nervous that Peter took her up near the fort where they could have better protection. The settlement was nearly broken up, but Beatty and Orrear and the two Wilcox boys said they were not going to leave. They had good rifles, plenty of ammunition and a couple of large, savage dogs. With these, they felt able to meet quite a body of Indians. The soldiers were notified and soon captured the Indians, sending them to Dubuque for trial.

After Peter and Polly left there was not a white woman in Fayette county, unless perhaps Mrs. Mumford still remained near the Clayton county line.

Some time during the winter of 1843 Orrear married Peter's sister, who was living with her parents near the mission, five miles this side of Fort Atkinson. He brought her home with him and Beatty hired a man and moved down on his land where Fayette now stands, putting up a cabin near the site of the present Mrs. James Robertson residence. Parks came back to his place and his stepfather, Messenger, came in 1845, settling near him. Peter sold his home to Polly's brother, Van Dorn, who about this time married a Messenger girl.

The little settlement was thus started again. There should be a monument

raised where this old Wilcox house stood, where Peter and Polly first settled. In addition to being the first house built in the county I think it sheltered more families than any that has since been built.

As we stated in a former chapter, Peter and Polly were Frank P. Wilcox and wife, who settled on what is now the A. N. McGarvey place, in either 1837 or 1838. Orrear and Beatty came in 1838 and the elder Mr. Wilcox in 1839, Asa Parks in 1840, the Mumfords in 1841 and the Teagardens in 1842. I think old Mr. Wilcox and wife were buried at the mission near Fort Atkinson. Beatty and Van Dorn sold out to Mulliken and Bemis and they all went to Oregon in 1847, except Beatty, who went to Minnesota with the Indians in 1848. He was one of Minnesota's first representatives.

There is some dispute about the time the first house was built in Fayette county. Mrs. Mumford says her husband helped Beatty and Orrear build their log houses in 1841. I think that is true, but that is not the first log house they built. When they first came, in 1838, they built a small log house and lived in it a number of years. When Orrear made up his mind to marry, he built a larger log house about two rods north of the first one. I think that is the one Mumford helped to build. He also helped Beatty build his house on the J. E. Robertson place at Fayette. Orrear used the first house for a smoke-house and when Alexander bought it, they used it for a kitchen.

The second white settlement in Fayette county was made at Bear Grove, in Smithfield township. Andrew Hensley located his land on the line between Smithfield and Fairfield townships in 1842, but did not bring his family until 1844. John Moine made his selection of land in 1845, and took up his residence on it the year following. In 1846, Dan Finney located north of Arlington. Both Chauncey and John Brooks, with their families, came in 1847, and settled north of the Grove. The former's second wife and daughter still live on the old farm.

Parm Newton came in the fall of 1847 and took the land adjoining Finney on the west and lived in the house with the Finney family until he could get his house built, which he finished in 1848. Two more families were added to the settlement in the year 1848, Dave Fussell who settled south of the Grove, and Lemon Whiteley located northwest of the Grove.

These pioneers, though so far removed from civilization, were not without patriotism, and as the Fourth of July, 1847, drew near, arrangements were made to celebrate the nation's birthday at the Finney home. Early in the day the few families of the settlement gathered at the appointed place, ate their picnic dinner, after which they played games, shot at targets and enjoyed

various other amusements. I do not think they had a fife or a drum, and am not at all sure that they had a flag, but their patriotism was just as sincere as though there had been a procession of a thousand, headed by a good band and with flags galore.

Wild animals were plenty in those days. A fine hog which Hensley had gotten from Joe Hewett strayed off in the woods north of Finney's. One day Finney heard a hog squealing and thinking a bear had the hog, grabbed his gun and ran. Sure enough, when he reached the scene of action he found that a big black bear had just finished killing the hog.

Being in such a hurry, he had not used as much caution about making a noise as he should have done, and the bear hearing him, ran. Very little of the hog had been eaten and thinking the bear would return to finish his breakfast, he hid behind some thick brush and waited. He didn't have to wait long before he saw bruin coming. He got his gun all ready and just as the bear commenced eating he took good aim and brought him down at the first shot, so he was well provided with pork and bear meat.

He thought this would be a good time to get the big wolf that had bothered him so much, so he set a trap by the pig and was rewarded by catching a big grey wolf. The hides of the bear and wolf made fine robes and altogether he felt quite satisfied with his efforts and better paid than did Hensley, who furnished the bait.

Pertinent to the foregoing "hog and bear" story is the following dialogue, which appeared in the *Fayette County Pioneer* on November 30, 1863: "A passing traveler in the backwoods met with a settler near a house and inquired: 'Whose house?' 'Mogs.' 'Of what built?' 'Logs.' 'Any neighbors?' 'Frogs.' 'What's the soil?' 'Bogs.' 'The Climate?' 'Fogs.' 'Your diet?' 'Hogs.' 'How do you catch them?' 'Dogs.' This, it is presumed, ended the dialogue, and the traveler spurred on in a good jog."

LOST ON THE PRAIRIE.

In December, 1855, N. W. Spears, who had settled in township 92, range 10, in August previous, purchased a cow of a settler in Smithfield township, and went with his boys, Frank, aged thirteen, and Hart, aged twelve years, to drive the animal home. They hitched the cow to the "tail end" of the wagon and started for home about two o'clock P. M., but they had gone only a short distance when the refractory animal broke away. They pursued her until sunset, when they arrived at the cabin of Mr. Barnes, at

Long Grove. This was six miles from home, and there was no other cabin on the prairie. It is said that Spears and his boys drove their cow into Barnes' yard and "desired to stay all night, but they (Barnes' folks) would not keep them;" but this was very unlike Western pioneers, who were remarkable for their hospitality; and one can scarcely credit that anybody would turn away a neighbor on a cold winter's night. However this may have been, Mr. Spears and his sons started for home, leading the cow. Soon after they started, darkness overtook them, and the wind changed to the northwest and blew a gale, driving the snow before it in clouds, and the little party soon became bewildered. They struck the south fork of the Volga too far south, turned and followed it northward a mile or two, and then crossed. Taking the wind for their guide, they traveled until about midnight, when they brought up at Crab Apple Grove, about six miles south of home. Here they found a track leading homeward, which they followed and arrived at home about two o'clock P. M., having been twenty-four hours without food and nearly exhausted.

During the winter of 1856-7, Rev. H. W. Zimmerman, Peter Corbly, Joshua Burch and S. R. Maslay got lost on the way from Strawberry Point, and traveled in a circle for a long time. A severe snow storm was prevailing, and it was with the utmost difficulty that they reached home after abandoning their load of corn. Mr. Zimmerman was so much exhausted when he reached home that he could not speak, and his face was covered with ice and snow.

In 1842 Andrew Hensley came from Wisconsin to Fayette county, and purchased the claim of Nathaniel Wilcox, on or near section 1, township 92, range 8, about five miles east of Beatty and Orrear's. Mr. Hensley went back to Wisconsin, intending to return to his western home in the same fall, but sickness prevented. In September, 1843, he returned as far as Eads' Grove, Delaware county, with his family, consisting of a wife and four children, among whom was Andrew Jackson Hensley, then a lad of ten years. Here he spent the winter. In the spring of 1844, he rented Joe Hewett's place, northwest of Strawberry Point, just in the edge of Clayton county, and moved his family into a little cabin about one a half miles west of Hewett's, in the edge of Fayette county, owned by Moses, son of Joe Hewett by his first wife. Here, November 27, 1844, Daniel P. Hensley was born, a claimant for the honor of being the first white child born in Fayette county. He is still living. Major Mumford and wife were residents of this county in the summer of 1843, when their daughter was born, while they were temporarily absent in Delaware county.

It is said that one Doctor Wilbur, probably a member of a gang of outlaws infesting the western settlements in Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa, came from Wisconsin to Volga City, Clayton county, in 1842, because he did not care to contend with the United States about a little matter like manufacturing imitations of the coin of the realm. The bail in the case, three hundred dollars, he had paid to two friends, with a bonus for their trouble, and migrated to Iowa, where he resumed his illegal trade at Volga City, a part of his tools being manufactured by a blacksmith of that place.

It is said that Hewitt, and others in the vicinity, afforded Wilbur facilities for prosecuting his vocation, and for circulating the spurious coin he manufactured; and it is also said that after Mumford's departure, some of Wilbur's traps were found in his house. Wilbur's goods were of superior quality and finish. Mr. John Padelford is authority for the statement that some of his coin was received without detection at the United States land office at Dubuque. Wilbur did not remain long, however, and left in 1842. Counterfeit money was also made and distributed in Fayette county for a number of years, commencing at a later date than the above, and several early settlers in the northern part of the county were under suspicion. One of them served fifteen years in the penitentiary.

POSTOFFICES.

Forty postoffices show upon the records of Fayette county. Of this number, but twenty are in existence today. It is not, perhaps, too ardent a flight of fancy to say that the course of progress in the county is marked by post-official graves.

Many of these mail distributing points established by the government for the benefit and convenience of the people of the county are not remembered, even remotely, by the present generation. Several of them were so transitory as to almost preclude the necessity of placing them upon the records. Others remained in existence many years, finally yielding up the ghost under pressure of circumstances incidental to the march of empire.

The stage lines gave way to the railroads, and the map changed. Towns which once seemed rich with promise faded away or settled down to a drowsy, stunted life, while others, favored by the powers that chose the pathway for the lines of steel, took on lusty growth.

Later the rural delivery service came and delivered the final blow to many postoffices which had survived the former readjustments, and that valuable and oftentimes picturesque character, the cross-roads postmaster, practically ceased to be a factor in the affairs of the county. In his place is the

mail box, in which the government carrier deposits daily the letters and papers of the dwellers in outlying districts. There is probably no more eloquent indication of the changes that have occurred in Fayette county during the past thirty-five years than is to be found in its postoffices and in the mail service given the people.

It is not the purpose of the writer to burden the reader with non-essential and uninteresting data, yet a list of the postoffices of the county, now discontinued, would seem necessary in order that the record may be fairly complete. Such a list follows, with the year of establishment of each office: Louisville, 1851; Gamble Grove, 1851; Taylorsville, 1853; Mill Grove, 1853; Eden, 1853; Corn Hill, 1855; Richfield, 1856; Penn. 1861; Scott Center, 1865; West Albany, 1872; Illyria, 1851; Bethel, 1866; North Fairfield, 1853; Windsor, 1853; Leo, 1855; Orion, 1856; Wilson Grove, 1861; Putnam, 1862; Seaton, 1866, Scott, 1897.

The postoffices in present existence in Fayette county herewith follow, together with the date of establishment, and the names of the postmasters of each office, in the order of appointment:

West Union, 1850—J. W. Rogers, D. Cook, William McClintock, D. Lacy, P. F. Crane, S. W. Cole, E. N. Phillips, C. H. Talmadge, William McClintock, C. H. Talmadge, Thomas Loftus, T. L. Green, C. F. Chambers.

Oelwein, 1873 (formerly Otsego, 1857)—J. G. Woods, J. Mettlin, B. H. Bennett, H. S. Day, H. Sprague, J. B. Bennett, P. Sayles, J. B. Bennett, I. Pattison, J. C. Miller, P. Kane, G. W. Jamison, H. R. Martin, Lew. I. Sturgis, A. M. Odell.

Clermont, 1851—C. Sawyer, C. D. Carlton, E. Stedman, F. S. Palmer, G. W. S. Lane, F. S. Palmer, C. W. D. Lathrop, F. S. Palmer, E. Stedman, M. B. Stedman, Alex. McKinley, John Crowe, Alex. McKinley, John Crowe.

Elgin, 1852—B. Dimond, George Gay, B. Dimond, E. B. Gipton, L. Armstrong, L. B. Baldwin, F. Wohlheter, F. M. Garrison, G. A. Stoehr, F. Wohlheter, L. M. Blakesley, D. W. Redfield, O. P. Miller, P. Dowse, Sr., Mrs. M. A. Bauder-Johnson, C. L. Freiburghaus, E. G. Stoehr, Hans Keiser.

Arlington, 1856 (originally Brush Creek)—C. N. Moe, C. D. Shambaugh, N. Huckins, C. C. Kelley, W. H. Hoover, C. Hughson, O. H. Osborn, M. Shumway, O. H. Osborn, G. A. Doerfler, O. Z. Wellman.

Fayette, 1861 (formerly Westfield, 1854)—J. N. Axtell, H. N. Sutton, H. B. Burley, W. H. Derby, H. W. Waterbury, Z. D. Scobey, Allen Holmes, F. N. Holmes, G. E. Comstock, W. B. Lakin, G. E. Comstock, C. H. Hoyt.

Lima, 1854 (formerly Westfield, 1851)—S. H. Ludlow, H. W. Light, C. Newcomb, J. P. Oelberg, A. Wheatley, G. W. Ward, A. J. Hensley, P. H.

Durfey, N. J. Henry, R. E. Matsel, J. J. Oelberg, P. H. Hastings, J. J. Oelberg, Simon Nefzgar, A. R. Oelberg, John L. Wallace, Etta M. Wallace, A. R. Oelberg.

Douglass, 1850—D. McDuffie, Z. McJunkins, J. Boale, P. Dowse, E. R. Carpenter, C. D. Crane, E. P. Bemis, A. Irving, A. R. Southerland, L. Irving, G. H. Clawson, L. Irving, Jennie A. McCleery, D. M. Vermilya.

Waucoma, 1855—M. B. Goodall, J. Sutherland, E. W. Huson, A. Sutherland, J. P. Webster, O. B. Dodd, L. J. Smith, J. M. Burnside, J. J. Kieron, J. M. Burnside, A. F. Gressler, J. W. Reed.

Brainard, 1874—B. S. Brainard, R. W. Helm.

Donnan, 1874—A. Odekirk, O. H. Waldron, T. W. Watson, D. S. Thompson.

Randalia, 1874—A. F. Randall, Jennie Duggan, L. A. Bratt, Thomas McFadden, Jennie Smith, A. J. Ramsey.

Saint Lucas, 1854 (formerly Old Mission)—F. J. Huber, H. H. Kunnen, Theo. Perry, George Grossman, F. M. Gerlemann, Theo. Perry.

Oran, 1858—R. O'Neil, Alex. J. Prebble, D. W. Weeks, E. E. Shippy.

Alpha, 1866 (formerly Bethel)—E. M. Aiken, N. Ives, T. S. Dickens, P. Davis, G. W. Bowers, R. S. Brayton, Mrs. M. A. Brayton-Johnson, E. E. Gager.

Wadena, 1863—Z. G. Hurd, J. B. Mitchell, R. E. Matsel, J. N. Hageman, George G. Scott, C. Herrling, William Jones, L. E. Bigler, A. G. Herrling.

Hawkeye, 1869—D. D. T. Hull, T. Cumming, J. W. Stam, V. S. Webb, Margaret Burrows, A. B. Peters, J. E. Palmer, A. H. Brooks.

Maynard, 1873—C. B. Rich, E. B. Snedigar, E. L. Payne, E. B. Snedigar, Ellen L. Snedigar, Frank Cummings.

Eldorado, 1851—E. Elrod, L. Curtis, B. Iliff, O. P. Lacy, E. Hurlbut, C. B. Ropes, B. H. Ropes, Theo. Hesselmeyer, Paul Buehrer, William Poetting, C. Peterson.

Westgate, 1858 (formerly Mill)—J. Chichester, N. W. Spears, W. E. Linstrum, G. M. Murray, J. W. Dwyer, G. M. Murray, N. H. Spears.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION.

During the year ending December 31, 1909, there were fines collected by the mayors and justices of the peace, aggregating \$1,159.55. The prosecutions were mostly on minor offenses, punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both. Some were imposed for selling liquor.

For the same period the county treasury was enriched to the extent of \$5,053.45 from liquor taxes, collected mostly from the city of Oelwein.

The court expenses of Fayette county for the year 1909 were \$15,180.50, which included \$2,747.38, expenses of the Oelwein superior court. The items cover expenses of the offices of clerk of the district court, county sheriff, county attorney, inquests, justices of the peace, grand jury, district court and superior court.

The bonded indebtedness of Fayette county, on January 1, 1910, was \$64,000, bearing interest at four and a half per cent., payable semi-annually. The last bond of \$4,000 matures on the 1st day of November, 1920, and others of \$3,000 to \$4,000 mature at intermediate stages, the interest-paying dates being May 1 and November 1 of each year.

The total expenses of conducting the county business in 1909 was \$51,708.45, as shown by warrants issued for the various purposes, including all items of public expense except the insane, bridges, the soldiers' relief fund, and possibly a few other minor expenditures. This sum is appreciably less than the preceding year, when the expenditures reached \$63,041.35. There was expended from the bridge fund during the year 1909 the sum of \$30,792, of which \$19,667.06 was on contract work in constructing new bridges, the balance being paid for material and labor on repair work and minor structures.

The sum of \$6,435.52 was paid from the insane fund during the year 1909, on account of the insane and inebriates of the county. But the greater part of this sum was paid to the state institution for the insane, and to the state hospital for inebriates. There were twenty-four patients from this county in the state hospital for insane, at Independence, and one in the kindred institution at Mt. Pleasant. Our own Fayette County Home Asylum provided for twenty-nine. Seven inebriates from this county were treated at the inebriate hospital at Knoxville during the year 1909.

Fayette county's contribution to the Feeble Minded Institute during 1909 was \$76.89; to the Orphans' Home, \$72, and to the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, \$16.52, total to the three, \$165.41.

During the year 1909 the beneficiaries of the Soldiers' Relief Fund received a total sum of \$1,713, divided among thirty-nine persons. Twenty-four of these were widows or dependent mothers. The average annual distribution of this fund in Fayette county since it was provided for by law, has been \$1,650.

Few people in the county fully realize the amount of monetary assistance which our local school system derives from the permanent school fund of the state. The sources from which this large fund was derived, and the methods

employed to maintain it intact, are explained in the chapter on State History. It is here sufficient to say that the only part of it which can ever be used is the interest on the five million dollars invested on real estate security at six per cent. This interest is payable semi-annually, hence the school fund money derived from that source is called the "semi-annual apportionment." All persons in the county between the ages of five and twenty-one years are entitled to school privileges. Of these, many are not yet enrolled in school, while most of those who are approaching their twenty-first year are permanently out of school. But these facts make no difference in the distribution of the interest on the permanent school funds belonging to the state. All share alike, and in Fayette county the two semi-annual apportionments for the year 1909 amounted to \$1.04 per capita. The receipts for the year for nine thousand and thirteen pupils in the county, were \$9,373.52. When we realize that this annual income is continuous, and varies but little in per capita rating, it is apparent that the schools whose enumeration is large and expenses small, are almost entirely supported by the semi-annual apportionment.

Sixty-one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine dollars of the Permanent School Fund are loaned out on mortgage notes in Fayette county, with six thousand four hundred dollars on hand January 1, 1910.

THE "TAX FERRET" COLLECTIONS.

This system of collecting delinquent taxes and correcting evaded assessments was provided for under the laws enacted by the twenty-eighth General Assembly, and has been operative in Fayette county at irregular intervals since. In principle it reminds one of the days when the country was deluged with "bad debt collecting agencies," whose success (if they had any) lay in harassing the debtor until the doubtful method exhausted its resources. Some of the promoters of these schemes were as bad as the delinquents they sought to torture. But the state came to the rescue and declared it an offense against the public peace to adopt such methods, and they were ruled out.

One can easily recognize the justice in compelling men to list their property for taxation, for in most cases the evasions come in the item of "moneys and credits," that kind of property being the more easily concealed from the assessors. But when it comes to distraining the widow's last cow, as the law provides may be done, and the over-zealous collector is willing to do (for a fee), the system savors greatly of the puritanical system of imprisonment for debt!

During the year 1909 collections were made by tax ferrets in twenty-four

corporations in Fayette county, from which were received \$15,840.72 in taxes and penalties. Of this sum the collectors received fifteen per cent., or \$2,376.10. No doubt a large proportion of this money should have been collected; but would it not have been less of a reflection upon the ability of the local officers had they discharged their whole duty in the premises, and thus placed the parties in line as willing contributors to the public revenue? The idea that foreigners must be brought in to collect our taxes is repulsive in the extreme!

RAILROAD MILEAGE AND VALUATION IN THE COUNTY.

There are 133.161 miles of railroad track in Fayette county, which, with its equipment, is valued at \$652,023. (See township histories for the distribution.)

EXPRESS COMPANIES AND TELEGRAPH LINES.

The United States Express Company operates over the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad lines and the Rock Island system and has 97.82 miles in the county. The Wells-Fargo Express Company confines its business to the Chicago & Great Western and its branches, and has 35.341 miles in the county. The two lines have an assessed valuation in the county of \$4,661. The Western Union and Postal Telegraph companies have the same mileage as the railroads, and are assessed in the county at \$10,124.

TELEPHONE COMPANIES.

There are fourteen companies, large and small, doing business in Fayette county. One of these has but one mile of line in the county, two others have but three miles each, and another has less than five miles. The total mileage of all is 853.75 miles, assessed for taxation purposes at \$32,677.

The three railroads operating in the county contributed in taxes paid by them during the year 1909, a total of \$24,278.52. Of this sum, the Chicago Great Western paid \$9,489.15. Jefferson and Oran townships and the city of Oelwein (in Jefferson township) were the beneficiaries to the extent of \$6,375.08.

The total taxable valuation of Fayette county, for the year 1909, was \$7,790,436. It is estimated that the assessment rate, as equalized by the board of equalization, is less than half of the actual cash value of the property

listed, while the exemptions would materially reduce this proportion. The tax levy for the year for general revenue was 18.7 mills. Special levies were made in the towns for miscellaneous purposes, such as board of health, electric light, water, cemeteries, sewers, corporation roads, etc. The total revenue for the year, as apportioned among the different townships and towns, was \$328,131.40.

The total valuation of personal property in the county for the year 1909, as returned by the assessors, was \$5,807,276. The exemptions were \$5,396, leaving a net personal valuation of \$5,801,880, and the taxable valuation placed upon this amount was \$1,450,470.

Poll taxes paid by persons under forty-five years of age were 4,029, and of those over forty-five, 2,802.

CROP STATISTICS OF FAYETTE COUNTY FOR 1908.

	No. of Acres.
Winter Wheat	203
Spring Wheat	711
Corn	84,154
Oats	63,623
Barley	13,255
Rye	468
Flax	649
Potatoes	2,041
Timothy	50,407
Clover	7,189
Prairie Hay	16,360
Pasturage	137,200
	<hr/>
	376,260

GROVES AND PRAIRIES.

Peculiar designations of locality in early days, and in use to some extent at present:

"Knob Prairie," the name applied to the high spot where the town of West Union stands.

Patch Prairie, named by William Wells, commenced about three miles southeast of Knob Prairie, and extended in a southeasterly direction to the county line.

North Prairie, north of Knob Prairie, in townships 94 and 95, range 8.

"Wilson's Grove," in section 18, 19 and 30, township 93, range 10 (Banks), and extending into Bremer county.

"Round Grove," south and east of Knob Prairie, or West Union, named by William Wells.

"Turkey Timber," the timber skirting the Turkey river.

"Volga Timber," the timber skirting the Volga river.

"Lost Grove," a small grove that stood alone on the prairie about two miles west of Knob Prairie.

"Hickory Grove," in township 95, range 10 (Eden).

"Long Grove," near the center of township 92, range 9 (Harlan), where Maynard now stands.

"Corbly's Grove," in township 92, range 10 (Fremont).

"Bear Grove," in township 92, range 7, and township 92, range 8.

"Gamble's Grove," near the geographical center of the county, in township 93, range 9 (Center).

"Dunham's Grove," changed from Gamble's Grove in 1852.

"Crab Apple Grove," in township 91, range 10 (Oran).

"Sac Bottom," east side of the Turkey river, in township 94, range 7 (Pleasant Valley), between Elgin and Clermont. On the "Sac Bottom" was the old Indian burial ground.

EARLY FARMING.

In the fall of 1845, Andrew Hensley, who had sown winter wheat on the land he had broken the previous fall, raised a bountiful crop. This was the first wheat known to be grown in Fayette county. In the autumn, as soon as he could get some of it threshed and dry enough to grind, he sent his two boys, Andrew J. and Jacob G., with twelve bushels loaded on an ox wagon, to Cascade, Dubuque county, to mill. It was not an easy task "to go to mill" in those days, and the boys were gone eight days. They had reached Hewett's, on their way home with the first flour made from Fayette county wheat, but during the night their oxen strayed away, and the next morning, not finding their team, they started for home. They were barefooted, and were in constant dread of rattlesnakes, as well as Indians. Arriving in sight of home, the boys were terrified, as they could discover no signs of life about the premises, and feared that the rest of the family had been captured and carried away by the Indians. They approached their home very cautiously, with heavy hearts, but were much relieved and rejoiced when they found their father

and mother, at the other side of the cabin, digging potatoes. Mr. Hensley went to Hewett's, found the stray cattle, and brought the flour home in safety. The boys dreaded the Indians, and the family appears to have had good cause for hating their uncomfortable and insolent neighbors.

Isaac Webster had a claim on the Volga bottom, a short distance east of Beatty's, lived with Beatty, and during the season of 1844, raised a crop of oats on part of the ground now covered by the village of Fayette. The crop was stacked on the hill where the Upper Iowa University now stands, and was "tramped out" by oxen during the following winter. During the winter of 1845, Lorenzo Mulliken lived with Beatty, and A. J. Hensley was there a part of the winter helping Webster thresh his oats, which were hauled to Fort Atkinson and sold. Beatty appears to have been a roving character, disliking to remain very long in a place, a characteristic of the earliest pioneers, who led the way for others to follow. About 1848, it is said that Beatty went to Minnesota, where he afterward became a member of the Legislature.

In the spring or summer of 1845, Webster sold his claim on the Volga to Lorenzo Mulliken, and returned to Dubuque. Mulliken immediately commenced the construction of a stone fence at the edge of the bluff surrounding the south part of his claim. Andrew J. Hensley worked with him, and Horace Bemis, who bought the Orrear improvements the next year, aided him in completing it. Mulliken died in 1847. He as one of the first settlers at Yankee Settlement, Delaware county, and his father, Samuel Mulliken, was one of the county commissioners of Delaware county in 1847-8.

PIONEER PREACHERS AND EARLY MARRIAGES.

The territory south of the Winnebago reserve, being open to settlement at a much earlier period than any portion of the reservation, is clearly entitled to credit for the first efforts at civilization. The settlements were scattered over a considerable area, and for the most part, seemed to be lacking in some features of organization which usually accompany the first settlements in a new country.

With the opening of the reservation to settlement in 1848, the tide of immigration seemed to be attracted to the northern and north central portions of the county, and so continued until nearly all desirable locations (from the view-point of the settler) were taken. This accounts for the "center of population" being fixed north of the center of the county for a great many

years, and probably would be there still but for the populous city of Oelwein in the southern tier of townships.

But many of the "first events," looking to permanency and internal development, clearly belong to the southeastern part of the county, as shown in this chapter.

PIONEER PREACHERS.

The first religious services in Fayette county, or the first of which any knowledge remains, were said to have been held by Rev. John Brown, at the house of Chauncey Brooks in 1848, possibly in 1847. Mr. Brown belonged to the United Brethren, and lived in Colesburg, or Yankee settlement. In 1846, he built a hotel at Rockville, Delaware county, but his wife died soon after, and his children managed the hotel, while he spent a portion of his time in ministering to the spiritual necessities of the pioneers in Delaware, Fayette, and other neighboring counties, and, it is said, married a Miss Harrow, about 1847 or 1848.

One of the first sermons preached by Rev. Mr. Brown was at the Orrear cabin, one evening in the summer of 1848. His audience was composed of three or four white men, two white women, two Indian men, and an educated squaw. As Brown warmed with his discourse, he began to pound the puncheon table in his gesticulations. One of the Indians leaned toward his companion and asked him what that meant. He answered that his opinion was that Brown wanted to fight. Again the preacher's sunburnt and ponderous fist made the table jump an inch, and the dishes rattle over the fireplace. The Indians arose as if impelled by the same force, clutched their blankets with their left hands, cleared the cabin door at one bound, and ran into the grove for safety, not caring to engage in a theological inquiry with a man so sinewy and handy with his fists as Brother Brown, who, they feared, might pound religion into their heads, as he was then attempting to pound it into the table.

Simeon Clark, the pioneer Methodist preacher of Delaware, visited this county at an early date, as he was the officiating clergyman at the wedding of George Culver and Miss Castall, in February, 1847, and Clark always preached whenever two or three would gather together. Mr. Clark went to the mission in 1840-41, and after the settlements began to be made on the Black Hawk purchase, he did some preaching in the wilderness. Mr. Clark was a bee-hunter in 1839, and traversed the woods of Delaware, Buchanan and Fayette every summer for years after that time, preaching in the humble cabins of the pioneers on the Sabbath, while he searched for wild honey during the

week, and it is very probable that he may have preached the first sermon in Fayette, as he did in Delaware. It seems almost certain that Clark held religious services at the Wilcox settlement, as early as 1843 or 1844.

Elder Clark, Methodist, and Elder Brown, of the United Brethren, were the pioneer preachers of Fayette county.

Rev. James Davis, a United Brethren preacher, with his family came to the county in August, 1849, and settled in Dover township, but in the spring of 1850 removed to Lightville (now Lima), having rented Harvy Light's place, his son William cutting out the road from West Union to Lightville. During the summer, Mr. Davis built a log cabin about a mile below Light's mill, on the south side of the Volga, on section 19, township 93, range 7 (Illyria township). The only other house in the vicinity was that of Andrew Hensley, built the previous year. Mr. Davis died April 11, 1854, and in 1856 his widow married Rev. John Brown, the pioneer preacher of this region, well known as a United Brethren preacher in Delaware, Clayton and Fayette counties. Mrs. Davis was his third wife. Mr. Davis was among the earliest ministers to settle in Fayette county, and is said to have preached the first sermon in Dover and West Union townships.

In the fall of 1850, after Mr. Davis had moved into his new cabin, his sons, William and Ambrose D., the former about seventeen, and the latter six or seven years old, started to go to the river, about a quarter of a mile distant, fishing. Ambrose, the little shaver, was carrying the bait and was several rods behind his brother, when he came to a very large basswood tree that had blown down. William had passed around it, but Ambrose clambered over it. While standing on it, he noticed a peculiar depression in the bark toward the top of the tree, and running along until he came to the place, he broke through and fell into the tree, which was hollow, and the wood had decayed and fallen away from the bark. In falling, the boy's feet struck something inside that frightened him. The tree was so large that he couldn't get out alone, and he yelled. William came running back, fearing that a snake had attacked his little brother, and lifted him out of the trap into which he had fallen. Upon further examination, the boys found a two-gallon jug about half full of whisky, a nice Indian tomahawk, three fishing spear heads—made of iron and about twelve inches long—a large stone pipe, cut out of some kind of red stone and nicely polished, and the fragments of a blue blanket. The boys carried the articles to the house, and Ambrose says his father thought that they had been deposited by Indians who had got drunk, wandered off and forgot where they had left them. From appearances, they had been hidden

in the old tree several years before, and the more probable explanation is that the redskin who left them there took a dose of lead, laid down suddenly and died, leaving his estate to be settled by the Davis boys.

GRAND CELEBRATION AT AUBURN.

Among the prominent events in the early history of Fayette county was a grand celebration of the birthday of the nation at Auburn. The citizens commenced to make arrangements on Saturday evening, May 20, 1854, when a public meeting was held "for the purpose of taking measures to celebrate the coming anniversary of American independence." Samuel Hull was chairman, and A. L. Dunn, secretary. At this meeting, John A. Griffith, James Boale, A. L. Dunn, James Moore and Morris B. Earll were appointed a committee of arrangements.

The officers of the day were Samuel Hull, president; Rev. S. D. Helms, chaplain; John A. Griffiths, W. A. Chase and C. L. Smith, marshals; A. L. Dunn, toast master; George Brown, M. Woodruff and J. C. Gregory, committee on fire-works.

A tall liberty pole was raised for the occasion, from the top of which gracefully and proudly floated the Stars and Stripes. The oration proper was delivered by Jacob W. Rogers, Esq., of West Union, followed by William McClintock, Esq., and C. A. Newcomb, Esq., in short speeches. The dinner, prepared for the occasion by Griffith & Pooler, was more elaborate than had been seen or eaten in Fayette county up to that time.

The Hoaglands, Henry Hull and other enterprising citizens of Auburn had organized a military brass band, which is said to have been one of the best in the state at that time. A military company, called the "Fayette Guards," properly uniformed and under command of Capt. George W. Neff, with the band, added very materially to the interest of the occasion.

Among the toasts on that memorable occasion were: "The Day we Celebrate—May it never be desecrated by acts of tyranny and oppression"; "America—The land of the free and the home of the brave"; "Our National Honor—May it ever remain unsullied."

THE FIRST REPUBLICAN MEETING.

Until about 1854, the people of the United States were divided into two great political parties, the Democratic and Whig; but there had been another element in the political atmosphere that had been quietly at work, preparing the

way for a revolution in political organizations, that had been considered as insignificant by the leaders of both political parties, and the vote of the Anti-slavery party since 1844 had been so light as to excite ridicule and derision. For several years this element had been organized distinctively as a third political party, first as the Liberty or Abolition, and then as the Free-Soil party; it had been gradually increasing in strength, and the people had been gradually discovering the encroachments of what was called the slave power, until 1854, when there was a general breaking up of existing political organizations. The Whig and the Free Soil parties disappeared, and a new party sprang into existence, opposed to the extension of the institution of human slavery upon free territory. It was not the Abolition party, because it did not propose to interfere with slavery in the states where it then existed as a creature of local or municipal law, but it said that the institution must not seek to extend its area, and must not exist outside of those states where it already existed. Upon this question, the Free Soil party was a unit, small, it may be, but appreciable in the body politic. The Whig party dissolved, a small portion of it seeking affiliation in the Democratic party. That party was also broken up and dismembered, but retained the name, while it practically became a new party, which represented the wishes and interests of the slave power. Many of its old members left its ranks and joined the opposition to the extension of slavery; so many in fact that the old Democratic party, which had had control of the government, with few exceptions, since the government was organized, went into a hopeless minority.

This great political revolution began to manifest its power in 1854, and a meeting of all persons in Fayette county who were opposed to the aggressions of slavery, as exhibited in the United States, and who were willing and determined to take up the issue forced upon the country by the advocates of slavery, whether freedom or slavery shall be the ruling power in the government, was called at the Methodist church, in West Union, on the 8th day of July, 1854. The meeting was called to order by Rev. Stephen D. Helms, on whose motion Dr. Aaron Brown was called to the chair. D. H. Miller was appointed secretary. Jacob W. Rogers submitted the following resolutions:

“Resolved, That we adopt the name of Republican as the distinctive style of an organization, as expressing opposition to slavery in all its forms, and devotion to the principle of equal natural, political and social rights.

“Resolved, That we ask all persons of all parties who are earnestly opposed to slavery and who are willing to make it the cardinal issue in political action, to unite with us in an endeavor to restore the government to

its original purpose, and make it in fact what it purports to be—a true republic.

“Resolved, That all other political questions sink into insignificance when compared with the overshadowing evils of slavery.”

The resolutions were unanimously adopted, and Jacob W. Rogers, Carman A. Newcomb and John Phillips were appointed a central committee. This was the birth of the Republican party in Fayette county.

The first ball in West Union, and probably in the county, was given at the “West Union House” on Christmas evening, 1851. The hall was in the second story of the building, and bear steaks were served for supper.

PIONEER MARRIAGES.

The first marriage of Fayette settlers that appears of record in Clayton county is the following:

“I do hereby certify that I did, according to the rules and regulations of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, of which I am a member, celebrate the rites of matrimony between William Orrear and Miss Mary A. Wilcox, on the 25th day of February, A. D. 1844, both of Fayette county, Iowa Territory.

“D. LOWRY, M. G.

“Recorded April 3, 1844. F. ANDROS, Clerk D. C.”

August 5, 1846, the marriage of Zophar Perkins and Valzick Tegarden is recorded, followed August 12th by William Tegarden and Asenath Perkins. August 6, 1847, George Culver and Margaret E. Castall were married by Rev. Simeon Clark, the pioneer preacher of Delaware, and March 27, 1848, Charles Glidden and Mary Lowe, by Andrew Hensley, justice of the peace.

Orrear’s marriage with Miss Wilcox is thought to have been the first marriage of Fayette county settlers, but the wedding was probably celebrated at the residence of the bride’s father, between the old Mission and Fort Atkinson, as Mr. Lowry was the officiating clergyman, and a question arises somewhat like that in relation to the birth of Mrs. Mumford’s baby, “was this a Fayette county marriage?”

PIONEER CHURCH GOING.

In September, 1849, shortly after Benjamin Iliff settled on section 7, township 95, range 8, he heard that there was to be a religious meeting at Mr. Smith’s cabin, at West Union. Mr. Iliff was anxious to attend, but was at some loss to know how to manage. He could not think of leaving his wife and two small children at the cabin alone, the nearest neighbor being four miles away. If he went with the oxen and wagon and took them with him,

there would be nobody to take care of the cows and young cattle at home. But where there was a will there was a way. Mr. Iliff was determined to "go to meetin'." He hitched up his team, put his wife and children in the wagon, hitched his horse, "Old Nance," behind the wagon, and the cattle, so lately coming from Wisconsin in that way, very readily fell into the procession, and away they all went to meeting at West Union, where the family enjoyed a good time and the stock found rich pasture, returning home, after the meeting was over, in the order in which they came.

It was only a little incident, but it gives an insight into pioneer life and customs. What citizen of Eldorado, in the year of our Lord one thousand nineteen hundred and ten, would think of going to West Union to church, driving a yoke of oxen attached to a wagon in which his family should be seated on some straw, with his horse led by a halter and his cows and young stock bringing up the rear? And yet, the sturdy pioneers of 1849 enjoyed it, and entered into the worship of Almighty God with quite as much earnestness and sincerity as characterizes much of the religious worship in these modern times. They did not "go to meetin'" to show their new bonnets or spring overcoats, nor were they too proud to ride in an ox cart. They went to attend to the spiritual necessities of their being, and cared very little for external show.

The first quarterly meeting was held near Otter creek, at the house, it is said, of George Smith, about three miles east of West Union, about June 1, 1850. The first quarterly conference was composed of Rev. G. B. Bowman, presiding elder; Rev. H. S. Brunson, Rev. John Hinman, Rev. Eli Elrod, Benjamin Iliff, J. W. Foster, James Robinson and G. P. Slayton. It is possible that this was the second meeting, and that the first was held in September, in 1849.

FIRST COURT PROCEEDINGS IN FAYETTE COUNTY.

The first term of district court held in Fayette county, in accordance with an act of the Legislature, approved January 15, 1849, was really a special term. The district comprised the counties of Allamakee, Fayette and Winne-shiek, and the first term for Fayette county was fixed for the 26th of September, 1851, but this date was allowed to pass without any appearance of Judge Wilson, probably because there was no suitable place provided in which to hold court.

But another and special term was called to meet on the 6th of July, 1852, and Hon. Thomas S. Wilson, judge of the second judicial district, presided. Hon. J. W. Rogers was clerk and George W. Neff, sheriff. The

sheriff's deputy was Simeon B. Forbes. The first term of district court in Fayette county was held in the West Union House, in a dance hall where a grand Christmas ball had been given in December previous to the convening of court.

The first grand jury summoned and impaneled was as follows: James B. Earll, J. W. Foster, William Wells, Joseph S. Burdick, A. G. Park, D. P. Lowe, Lemuel Iliff, Eli Elrod, Erastus A. Light, P. F. Sturgis, Stephen Reeves and Hiram Jackson; Joseph S. Burdick was appointed foreman.

The first entry was a case of attachment, Jonathan Cruzan vs. William Root, disposed of as follows: "This case having been settled by the parties, and the costs paid, the cause is dismissed." Several other cases were disposed of in a similar manner.

THE FIRST JURY TRIAL.

Noah W. Harrow vs. Joseph L. Bruce; appeal. A jury was called consisting of James Austin, David C. German, E. C. Sooy, Eli Root, Nicholas Russell, William Edgar, Charles Sawyer, John Conner, Benjamin Dimond, Edwin Montgomery, Thomas Douglass and William Stephenson. The verdict was for five dollars for plaintiff, and costs.

July 7, 1852 (second day), William McClintock and J. B. Onstine, practicing attorneys for the state of Ohio, were admitted to practice in the courts of the state. Martin V. Burdick, upon examination, was admitted to the bar.

The first divorce case was that of William S. Key vs. Jane Key. Plaintiff filed his petition on the 7th. Defendant defaulted; divorce decreed, with custody and guardianship of children to plaintiff, who was charged with the costs.

FIRST INDICTMENT.

The grand jury returned a true bill, State of Iowa vs. Chauncey Leverich, for retailing spirituous liquors. Court ordered a *capias ad respondendum* to be issued, returnable at next term; and that the respondent be held to bail in the sum of one hundred dollars. This was the only bill found by the grand jury at the first term.

Court adjourned on the 7th, having been in session two days.

DISTRICT COURT IN 1853.

The second (and first regular) term of the district court was held in the Methodist church in West Union, June 15, 1853. Thomas S. Wilson, judge, presiding; John Webb, clerk, and Hiram W. Earll, sheriff. The grand jury

was made up as follows: Joseph S. Burdick, foreman; James B. Earll, J. G. Webb, J. W. Foster, William Wells, Lemuel Iliff, Eli Elrod, James Robinson, Horatio Warner, Jerome Boswell, Stephen Reeves, William P. Kavanaugh, P. L. Hinkley, J. A. Griffith and Nelson Graham.

The first criminal trial was the State vs. Chauncey Leverich. Indictment for retailing intoxicating liquors and keeping a dram-shop. Martin V. Burdick was prosecuting attorney, and defendant appeared by William McClintock and J. B. Onstine, his attorneys. Defendant filed a demurrer, which was sustained as to first count. Defendant filed his plea of not guilty to second count. Thereupon came a jury, viz.: John McMillen, Samuel Stephens, Cephas Felch, F. S. Palmer, Jacob Rosier, James Jamison, Miles Lewis, Martin Dunham, Aaron South, R. M. Hooker, M. B. Earll, J. W. Fisher. After hearing, jury returned a verdict of not guilty, and defendant was discharged.

The divorce mill seems to have been a prominent feature in the early courts, since the records show many petitions for the severing of the "hymenial knot," a procedure which does not seem to have grown out of date with passing years!

FAYETTE COUNTY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

This organization came into existence on November 3, 1860. The place of meeting was at the chapel of the Upper Iowa University, and after the adoption of a constitution and by-laws, the following named officers were elected for the first year: President, J. M. McKenzie; vice-president, W. W. Warner; secretary, A. O. Whaley. The first executive committee was J. M. McKenzie, W. W. Warner, R. H. Spencer, Nellie Herrington and Electa Abernathy.

With the introduction of the teachers' normal institute system, the county association was merged into that as an auxiliary, though separate meetings have always been held, but usually at the time fixed by the county superintendent for the convening of the annual institute. Some excellent ideas relative to the teaching profession were first brought out and discussed at the county associations. The early existence of this organization, which, though recognized by the law, was not compulsory under it, is evidence that the better class of educators in early days were thoroughly alive to the importance of their work.

The normal institute system, at the meetings of which attendance was supposed to be compulsory, has served as a kind of training school for inexperienced teachers, and no doubt has done much good in that respect. In recent years its plans and purposes have been changed, and the cramming pro-

cess to fit attendants for examination has been abandoned. It is now conducted largely along didactic lines, and its curriculum made to meet the necessities of all classes of students, from the beginner in the country schools to the superintendents of the high schools.

CRIMES, CASUALTIES AND CALAMITIES.

The foregoing title is one which creates a shiver of discontent when writing it; and yet we suppose that something ought to be said on such subjects. Under the first would come shooting and cutting affrays, murders, suicides, disappearances, etc. Of all these, Fayette county is not without representation. But to record them in detail would only gratify the morbidly curious, while the recital would involve innocent persons, in no way concerned in the commission of the crimes for which their ancestors suffered. That some cold-blooded murders have been committed on Fayette county soil is already a matter of history through the public press, through general discussion, and, in some instances, through confessions. We will leave the unsavory record without further comment, except to say that in all cases efforts were made to bring the guilty parties to justice, and usually with success. In only one case, however, was capital punishment administered in the county.

The first drowning of record is that of William M. Rosier, brother of the early established Rosiers who settled in Dover township. While on a fishing excursion on the Volga river, he got beyond his depth and went down, never to rise. His body was recovered some time after life was extinct, by dragging the river with a seine. It is said that young Rosier had quite a sum of money concealed about his cabin, which was never recovered, though the place of concealment was found years afterward, but no money. This gave rise to suspicions of foul play at the time of his death, the community being divided in opinion on this subject. Rosier had built his cabin in 1848, and his death occurred in June of the next year.

The Turkey and Volga rivers have claimed many victims since the date of the above, which is probably the first death by drowning in the county.

In early days these streams were crossed at "fords," and this is sometimes the custom at present. The adjacent land being hilly, the rise from a freshet is rapid. At times a team will pass over in perfect safety in the morning, and get entirely beyond its depth returning, a few hours later. Bridges are frequently wrecked or washed away, and then resort is had to the old fords, until repairs are made. Teams with their loads and drivers have been

lost occasionally, and individual drownings have been frequent. The record of these is presented in the township histories where the accidents occurred.

But one of the most pathetic drownings in the Turkey within recent years, and one which excited universal sympathy, both for the unfortunate girl and her parents, as well, was the death of Mary L. Fitch. She was a self-reliant and accomplished young woman, engaged in a laudable effort for self-support. She had organized music classes in the towns of Elgin, Clermont, and Dover Mills, and drove her own rig between these places. While driving from Clermont to the last named place, and having crossed "Barker's Ford" in safety a few hours previously, her horse plunged into eight feet of water, and was swept from the ford into still deeper. This occurred on the 7th of February, 1889, during a winter thaw, and the occupant of the buggy was swept under the ice below the ford. The body was not recovered until the sixth day afterwards. Workers and sympathizing friends were at the river side constantly during these hours of hopeless distress; and it is safe to say that every township in the county was represented among the willing workers. As an evidence of the high esteem in which the unfortunate one was held, the Masons, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the city of West Union, each offered liberal rewards for the recovery of the body, and each organization paid promptly in accord with its proposition.

In the summer of 1908, William McMullen, a young man with a large family of small children, was entertaining a party of friends by diving from a high bank into the Volga river, below Wadena. After several successful exhibitions, his head struck against a rock or other obstruction, and his neck was broken. This misfortune befell a worthy and needy family, the mainstay of which was removed "in the twinkling of an eye." "Billie" McMullen, and his wife, were both students of the writer's in the "long ago."

In May, 1871, William B. McCleery, a prominent early settler of Auburn township, lost his life by being thrown from a wagon while returning from Ossian, a market town in another county. This death, it seems, resulted from some drunken hoodlums whom he met, yelling and scaring his team. His wife was also seriously injured.

Christian Minger, an early German settler in Illyria township, met his death in a manner similar to that described above. Mr. Minger, while returning from Elgin with a load of lumber, fell off the wagon and was crushed to death under the wheels. He was a prosperous man, and his heirs still own the old homestead. This accident occurred in 1879.

Simon Schlatter lost his life in Windsor township while digging a hole beside a large boulder, to bury it below the reach of the plow. The weight

of the rock crushed the earth left to support it, and the rock fell into the hole, crushing the victim.

These are a few of the peculiar and distressing circumstances under which Fayette county people lost their lives; but the list is almost interminable. Were we to record the deaths or serious injuries from lightning, from prairie fires, from run-away teams, from operating machinery, from handling vicious stock, etc., more space would be required than can be accorded to the subject in this work.

Under the title of "calamities" should appear a record of serious and destructive storms, from which Fayette county has always been remarkably free. We believe there have never been but two cyclones within the bounds of the county which did any serious damage, other than the demolition of small buildings, fences and tender trees.

One of these passed through a portion of western Windsor township, wrecking one or two houses. But the sparsely settled section over which it passed escaped serious injury. It passed into the Auburn timber where its track could be followed for several years, as but few trees in its path escaped its fury. This occurred about 1874.

The "Brush creek cyclone" occurred in June, 1884, though why it should be localized in name is more than we are able to explain! It was evidently intended for "general distribution"; and if the blowing down of a circus tent, with its attendant quota of broken heads, from falling poles, and the wetting of Sunday clothes, at West Union, is any indication, it was quite "distributed!"

But the only serious damage to property occurred at Brush Creek (now Arlington). The Methodist Episcopal church was demolished, the structure being turned "upside-down," or practically that. Other buildings were damaged. One freak of the storm was the driving of a piece of a pine fence board, three inches wide at the larger end, and tapering to a sharp point, entirely through a two-inch-thick frieze plank of the veranda at the home of Rev. Israel Shaffer. This projectile stuck out horizontally for two feet or more, and Mrs. Shaffer used it to rest the "rain board" against, in catching water off the porch. Another of its freaks, and one which came near being a serious one, was the moving of the W. H. Walrath residence a few inches on its foundation, just as Mr. Walrath was making his escape into the cellar. He was caught and received an uncomfortable "squeezing," but was not seriously hurt. Straws were driven into trees, feathers were plucked off chickens, without apparent injury to the birds, and a strong lumber wagon was literally crushed to the earth, leaving scarcely a spoke unbroken! But there was no loss of

life in the path of the storm, which seemed to rise too high to do great damage after leaving Arlington, until it passed out of the county to the northeast. It traversed fully twenty-five miles, in an air-line, in Fayette county.

RAIN STORMS.

Serious damage has been done to crops, buildings, fences, live stock, and even human lives have been lost, by reason of heavy rains.

We think Mrs. Maynard describes the most disastrous rain fall which ever visited the southern part of the county, and Dr. G. D. Darnall mentions two as occurring on June 1, 1878, and June 3, 1890, as the most severe and destructive that have ever visited the county. He also mentions January, 1888, as the coldest month, and most destructive to life and property, since the winter of 1874-5. But we doubt if either of these approach the estimate the soldier boys put upon the "Cold New Year's of 1864!"

It has frequently occurred since the building of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Minnesota railroad, and especially before it had any rival in the territory, that the railroad would be blocked with snow for weeks at a time, and the mails were carried in and out of the blockaded territory by horse power. Facetiously and factiously, the patrons along the route of this road, in its early days, were often heard to say that a "heavy frost would blockade it"! But there is no doubt but this line, the first in the county, suffered heavy financial losses by reason of heavy rains and deep snows. At one time all its bridges between West Union and Elgin were swept away by a freshet.

POPULATION.

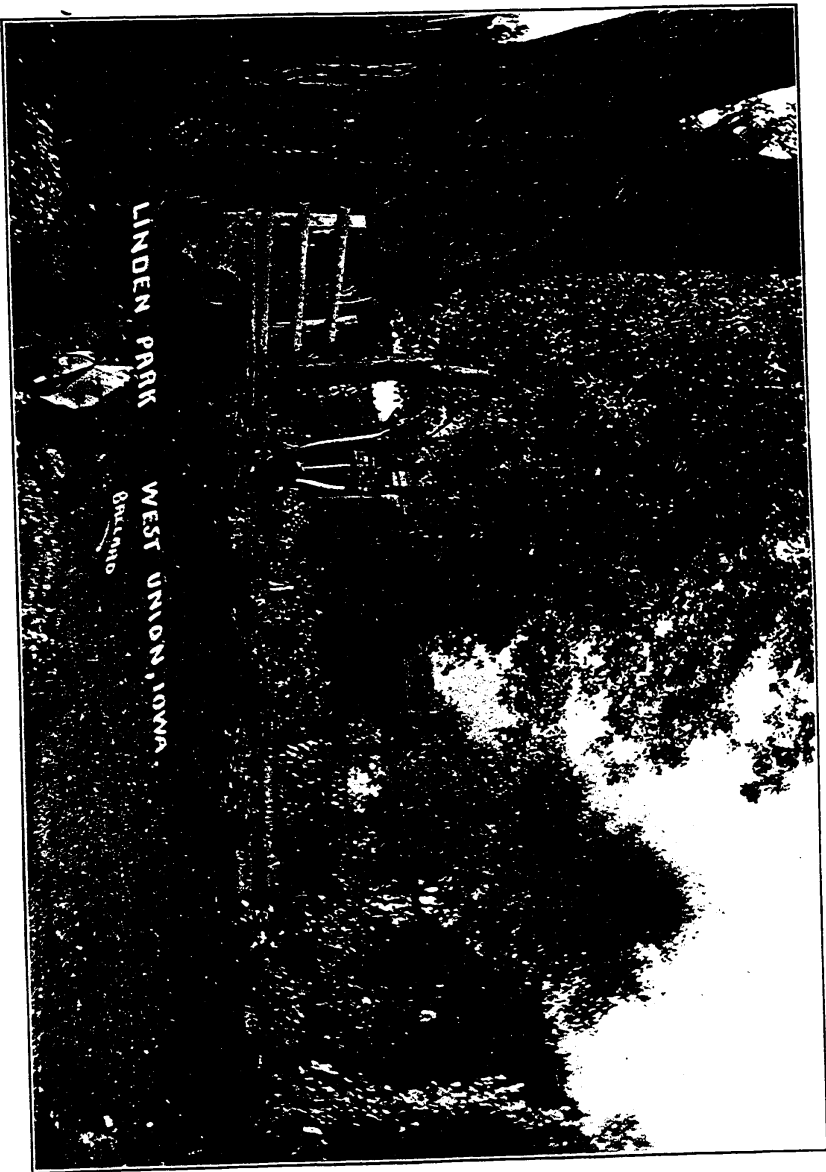
Fayette county joins the state in the general decrease in population since 1900. The population of the county has dropped from 29,845 to 27,919, a loss of 1,926 as given out officially from the census bureau on November 5, 1910. The decrease in population of the state during the decade, 1900 to 1910, is 7,082 and this is confined almost entirely to agricultural districts. There has been a gradual increase in the population of the cities and most of the towns. The decrease in the population of the state is attributed by the census director to the fact that the land is already fully occupied and to the general tendency towards larger farms.

CHAPTER XXXIX.

OUTDOOR ART IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW COUNTRY.

By J. W. Bopp.

The development of "outdoor art in a new country" is a matter of very slow growth. This was true, no doubt, chiefly because the early settlers were kept busy obtaining necessities in the way of food and shelter for themselves and families, and providing for the care of their stock and produce. It required many years to subdue the virgin soil and prepare it for the production of useful crops and grasses; the building of roads, bridges, school houses and fences, and the payment of taxes for other public purposes. When it took three days for the farmer to make a trip to market and return, he was more concerned in meeting the actual necessities, than in beautifying his home surroundings. This is nearly always true of the entire first generation, and it is not until the second generation is able to get out into the world to see what has been done in the older states and older neighborhoods, that the beautifying of the home grounds is seriously considered. The pressing necessities of the pioneer very greatly dwarfed, and in many cases entirely crushed out, the appreciation of, and desire for, that which was largely a matter of taste and culture. The pioneers did not give up their good books and papers and were ever ready and willing to establish good government, good churches and schools, and to make provisions for other necessities of a public nature, but had little time for anything beyond that. There was, here and there, a pioneer interested in the planting of ornamental and orchard trees, and now and then a pioneer woman who never quite gave up the old-fashioned flowers and shrubs, even under the most trying circumstances; but when it came to beautifying the home grounds and buildings, the vast majority looked more to convenience and usefulness than they did to anything which appealed only to the sense of taste. Gradually, however, the idea has grown that a place may be beautified, and at the same time be convenient and useful. At first this was worked out by the planting of a few ornamental trees and beds of flowers, which bordered the walks to the highway, with here and there a vine to soften a corner or an entrance.



LINDEN PARK
WEST UNION, IOWA
ROLLING

A RUSTIC CORNER, AT LINDEN PARK.

Within the past few years, however, the question of beautifying farm homes, school grounds, city residences, and even the general aspect of the cities themselves, has received a wonderful impetus, and where once there was only silence or indifference on matters of that nature, it is now discussed at institutes, clubs and at picnic addresses, and even in the pulpit. It has come to be recognized by writers that in the case of children, the home surroundings have a very large influence in moulding their habits, hopes and characters. Cities are cleaning their congested districts of the poor, and doing everything possible to get the population spread out so there will be more than bare streets and crowded rooms for the growth of children and the health of their parents.

Franklin once said that outdoor art was only for other people's eyes, but we have long since found that it has a marked influence on ourselves as well as others, and we have learned from bitter experience that crime is sure to flourish in crowded, unsanitary and uninviting surroundings. So that now it is a well established fact that clean homes, with cheerful surroundings and good fresh air, have a positive value in the establishment and maintenance of law and order in society. Cities are spending vast sums for parks, for shade trees, and open air places, which are kept beautiful and cared for at public expense, on the theory that it pays well in the health of their inhabitants and in its influence on their children. Even in the country districts, where for two generations a school house without a tree or a shrub, and often without even a fence, was regarded as the full duty of the district to the children of the neighborhood, this is being changed, and it is beginning to be recognized that a school house should be more than four bare walls, and that school yards should be more than a barren piece of ground. Even the style of school buildings is rapidly changing, and the school grounds, in many neighborhoods, are being planted to trees, flowers and shrubs. There is no doubt that with the awakening on this subject, both on the part of the cities and villages, and by the owners of farm homes, there will be a very large increase of out-door art, so that the next generation will come to understand that life may be surrounded with that which is pleasing and agreeable as well as that which contributes only to physical comfort and utility. The well-to-do farmer is coming to realize that a beautiful lawn, with hedges and ornamental trees, is as pleasing to his children at home, as when seen in the city; and it is believed by those who have given the matter serious thought, that this change will have a large influence in keeping the country population from wishing to go to the city. It is certainly an element stimulating the finer and better nature of the coming generation, and, joined with the teachings in the public

schools, of kindness to animals, and the protection of bird life, will have a marked influence for the betterment of the next generation. Nothing is more natural than the thought that those who have a taste for the beautiful, and are willing to make an effort and, if necessary, a sacrifice to attain it in their surroundings, have a better conception of their relation to their fellowmen and to society than those who look only to the gratification of selfish ends; and it is now certain that children brought up under favorable and ennobling influences are much more likely to become useful and high minded citizens than those who are brought up in crowded, ill-cared-for and neglected homes. Most states, in their laws, are giving thought to this feature as an element of better government, and there is no doubt there will be a large increase in sentiment along that line in the coming generation. That should not be taken as finding fault with the pioneers, who did the best they could, but is a good reason why the present, and coming, generations should carry this work further for their own benefit, and the benefit of those who may come after them.

A conspicuous example of the development of "outdoor art," along the foregoing lines, is "Linden Park," at West Union, Iowa. This is regarded by good judges as one of the beauty spots of Iowa, and has been so described and illustrated in many newspapers and magazines. Linden Park is the residence of J. W. Bopp and Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Whorley, and has a background of a beautiful natural grove of linden trees, from which the grounds take their name. It is very artistically laid out, with lovely trees and beautiful lawns, and a great many well-kept, beautiful hedges of various kinds of evergreen trees. Mr. Bopp and Mr. Whorley have increased the beauty of the place by the planting of many hundreds of shade and ornamental trees, and there are many excellent cement walks to all the buildings and other parts of the grounds. There is a fine private system of water works, with many hydrants for use on the lawns, and the greatest profusion of flower beds and flowering shrubs. The arrangement of the lawns, shrubbery and flower beds, and many of the trees and walks, are due to the superior taste and skill of Mrs. Whorley, who has a natural aptitude for that kind of work and an exceptional taste in harmonizing colors and the arrangement of plants and trees. She has designed many unique arbors and hedges and shady nooks, and a profusion of vines which soften the angles and the outlines of many of the buildings. She has her own greenhouse for the care of many of the tender plants, and her work has been an inspiration to many others who have made beginnings in a similar way. The entrance to the grounds is through two sets of large iron gates and beautiful iron grill work, with large old

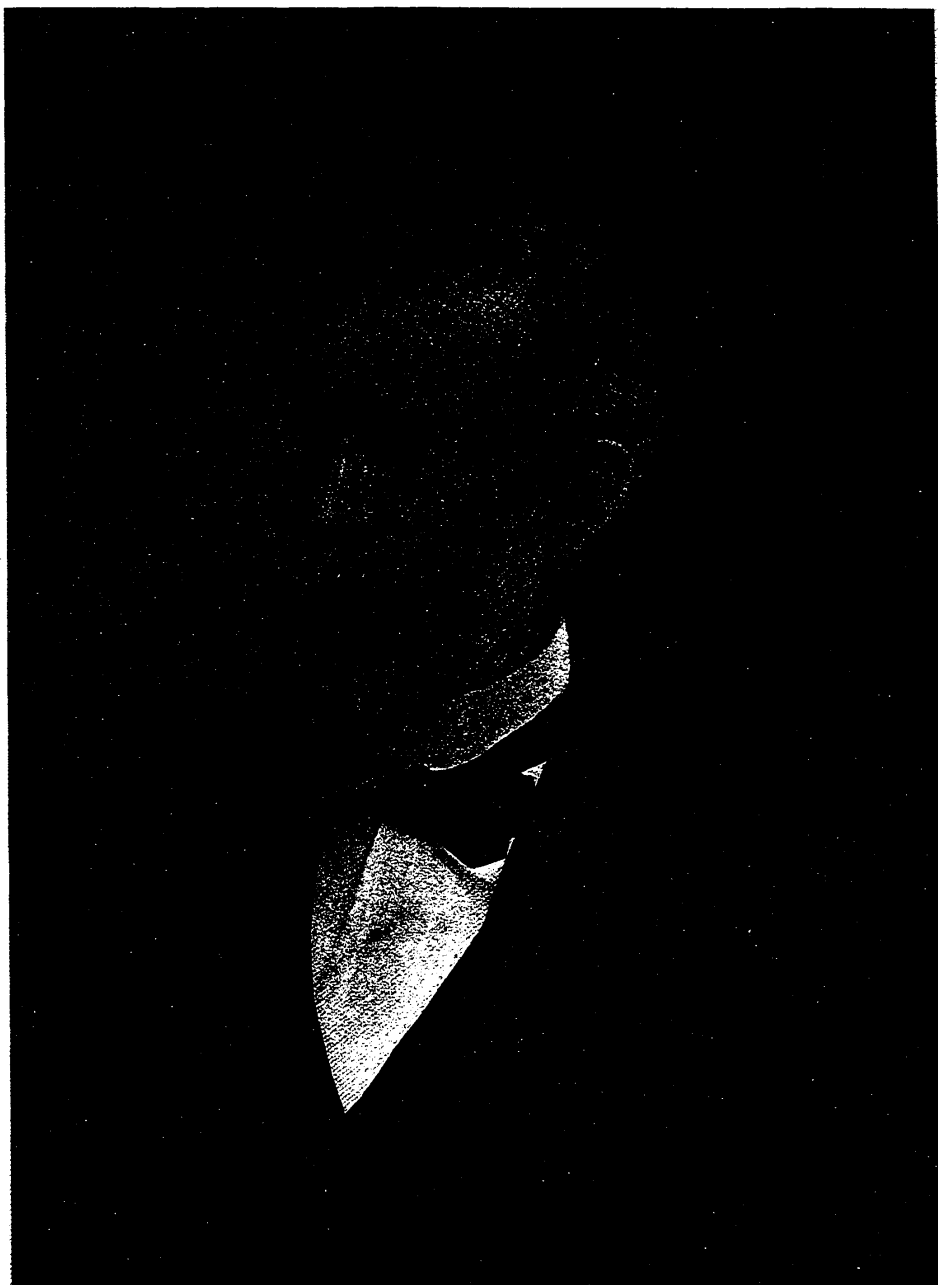


EVENING SHADOWS, AT LINDEN PARK



ACROSS THE LAWN. AT LINDEN PARK.

English style cement gate-posts, which will be a monument to their builder for many years to come. The long and winding driveway is bordered with fine large trees and cut-stone curbing, and all the fences about the grounds are made with woven wire and steel posts. They are a source of delight to the many visitors and an inspiration for those who admire the beautiful and artistic. While it may not be possible for every one to have grounds like "Linden Park," which has many natural advantages, all of which have been developed and brought to their best, yet there is no doubt that grounds like these are a strong factor in aiding others to undertake the development of outdoor art in a limited way. Another example of the making of a farm homestead beautiful and attractive, is the Bopp family homestead, which was taken by Michael Bopp and his wife from the government as raw prairie, and which has remained in the family up to the present time. Mr. Bopp had been a gardener and vintner on the Rhine, and brought with him many good ideas in the laying out and up-building of an ideal homestead. The large and commodious buildings were well arranged for a family homestead, and during his life-time it was, without a doubt, one of the best-kept-up places in the county.



W. A. Roy 2

BIOGRAPHICAL.

HON. WILLIAM ALLEN HOYT.

True biography has a more noble purpose than mere fulsome eulogy. The historic spirit, faithful to the record; the discerning judgment, unmoved by prejudice and uncolored by enthusiasm, are essential in giving the life of the individual, as in writing the history of a people. Indeed, the ingenuousness of the former picture is even more vital, because the individual is the national unit, and if the unit be justly estimated the complex organism will become correspondingly intelligible. The world today is what the leading men of the last generation have made it, and this rule must ever hold good. From the past comes the legacy of the present. Law, art, science, statesmanship and government are accumulations. They constitute an inheritance upon which the present generation have entered, and the advantages secured from so vast a bequeathment depend entirely upon the fidelity with which is conducted the study of the lives of the principal actors who have transmitted and are still transmitting the legacy. This is especially true of those whose influence has passed beyond the confines of locality and permeated the state life. To such a careful study are the life, character and services of the late Judge William Allen Hoyt pre-eminently entitled, not only on the part of the student of biography, but also of every citizen who, guided by example, would in the present wisely build for the future. In studying a clean-cut and distinct character like that of the subject, there is small use for indirection or puzzling. His character was the positive expression of a strong nature, and a partial revelation of his sterling qualities, prolific application and eminently successful life will be secured through a perusal of this brief tribute.

William Allen Hoyt was born in the little town of Cleveland, Oswego county, New York, on the 16th day of April, 1844, and was the son of Charles and Mary (Allen) Hoyt. He received his preliminary education

in the public schools of Oswego county and early decided to make the profession of law his life work. To this end he read law for some time in Oswego, and then entered the law department of Columbia University, New York City, where he was graduated in 1866 with special honors. Much of his youth, and especially during the period of his preparation for his life work, was spent in the home and office of his uncle, Judge William Allen, a distinguished lawyer and eminent jurist of New York and the author of "Allen's New York Reports." After graduating from the law school, Mr. Hoyt became connected with the law firm of Scudder & Carter, of New York City, with whom he remained until 1871, when failing health compelled him to seek a more congenial and favorable climate. He located in Fayette, Iowa, and at once entered upon the active practice of his profession, which was continued without interruption, other than his official services on the bench, until his death. Mr. Hoyt at once attracted the attention of the bar throughout northeastern Iowa, for his knowledge of law was as thorough and extensive as that of any man in the state. In 1878 Mr. Hoyt formed a professional partnership with H. P. Hancock, of West Union, the firm maintaining offices at West Union and Fayette. His abilities were quickly recognized and he was twice chosen attorney for Fayette county. He had already given valuable service to his city as councilman and mayor and particularly in the capacity of city counsellor. In 1889 he was nominated on the Democratic ticket for the position of judge of the thirteenth judicial circuit and, although the district was normally Republican, he was elected. Prior to this he had been appointed and served an unexpired term of two years, his record on the bench giving him marked prestige and an enviable reputation throughout the district, and beyond. On the completion of his regular term of four years, Judge Hoyt consented to again make the race, but in the ensuing election he was defeated by a very small majority. In 1887 Judge Hoyt became connected with the Bank of Fayette, of which he was chosen president, and also became a stockholder in the bank at West Union. He was an able financier and business man and became possessed of considerable farm land. For many years he was associated with A. J. Duncan in the law and the real estate business, in which they met with the most pronounced success. Judge Hoyt's comprehensive knowledge of the law and his sound judgment made him a valuable citizen and to him were referred practically all difficulties in municipal affairs. In 1875 Judge Hoyt became a member of the board of trustees of Upper Iowa University, with which he was identified for many years, and during most of the time he served as secretary of the board. On him the college authorities largely

leaned when confronted by doubtful circumstances or knotty questions. The reliance placed on him by his associates in financial circumstances is shown by the fact that when the Bank of Fayette was changed from a private bank to a state bank he was made its first president, retaining the position continuously until his death. He was also counsellor for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company, and was considered a safe and sound adviser in any affair.

Judge Hoyt had many staunch friends in all the northern counties of Iowa, regardless of creed or party, because at all times he was a courteous gentleman to rich and poor alike. His eminent fitness for the bench is shown in the fact that fewer of his decisions as judge were reversed by the supreme court than those of any other judge in Iowa. He was a good citizen, a faithful husband, a loving father and a true friend. He was eminently just and fair in all his dealings. He was reserved and retiring in his disposition, yet fearless and steadfast in his defense of what he believed to be right. He was generous in his treatment of others, yet he tried to help men help themselves. He cared nothing for personal display, seeming absolutely devoid of personal vanity. He knit men to him with cords of the strongest friendship, which stood the test of time. He loved the social hour with friends, but most of all he loved the quiet of his own fireside, where he showed himself an ideal husband and father. His death occurred on May 28, 1903, following an operation for cancer of the stomach. When in the valley of the shadow of death, he turned instinctively to the Bible, which had been his constant solace during health, and when recovering consciousness after the operation the first words he murmured were the Lord's Prayer.

On October 23, 1872, during the second year of his residence at Fayette, Judge Hoyt married Elma L. Marvin, a native of McHenry county, Illinois, and the daughter of Asahel E. and Phoebe (Knowles) Marvin. These parents were originally from Livingston county, New York, near Rochester, and in 1865 they moved to Fayette county, Iowa, where the father became a well-known and successful carpenter and contractor. He died in 1892. His widow now makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Hoyt, and is in her eighty-ninth year. To Judge and Mrs. Hoyt were born four children, namely: Allen Fitch died at the age of one year; Blanche died at the age of six years; Katherine, who became the wife of John Budd, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is the mother of two daughters, Elizabeth and Willa Hoyt; Elizabeth M. is the wife of L. J. Ayer, of Chicago, and they have one daughter, Katherine.

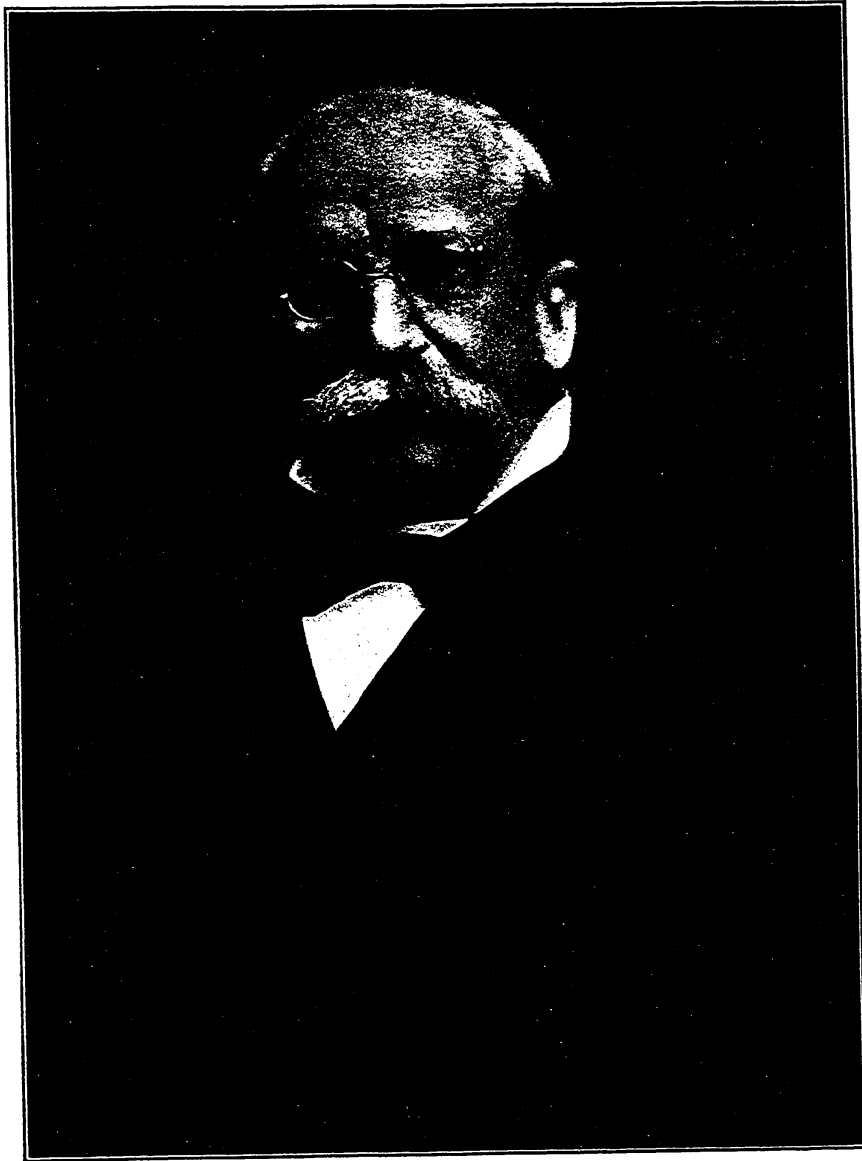
Politically, Judge Hoyt was closely identified with the Democratic party, and he never swerved in his allegiance, though he was not at any time offensively partisan. Religiously he was a member of the Congregational church at Fayette since 1871. He was an earnest and liberal supporter of this society, as he was also of the Upper Iowa University, taking at all times a deep and abiding interest in religious, moral and educational objects. Fraternally he was a member of the time-honored order of Freemasonry, in which he was identified with Pleiades Lodge, Ansel Humphries Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, and the commandery of Knights Templar at West Union. In 1899 Judge Hoyt received from the Upper Iowa University the degree of Doctor of Laws, in recognition of his sterling character and eminent abilities. Mrs. Hoyt, who still resides in the old home in Fayette, is a woman of refinement and culture, whose graces and pleasing personality have endeared her to a host of warm and loyal personal friends.

Judge Hoyt stood admittedly in the front rank of Iowa's distinguished professional men, possessing a thoroughly disciplined mind and keeping in close touch with the trend of modern thought relating to his profession. He ever maintained his high standing, never descending beneath the dignity of his profession nor compromising his usefulness by countenancing any but honorable and legitimate practice. The apparent ease with which he mounted to his commanding position in the legal profession marked him as the possessor of talents beyond the majority of his professional brethren, and, being a close and critical student, he experienced no difficulty in sustaining the high reputation which his professional abilities and marked success earned for him.

HON. WILLIAM LARRABEE.

The career of ex-Governor William Larrabee is too familiar to the people of Iowa, and especially of Fayette county, to need any encomium on the part of the biographer, a mere statement of facts being deemed sufficient to show that he, as the representative of a sterling old family, has endeavored to perform his duty at all times as he saw and understod the right, without courting the plaudits of his fellow men. His genealogy is traced to the French Huguenots who came to America early in the seventeenth century.

Adam Larrabee, the father of William, was born March 14, 1787, and was one of the early graduates of West Point Military Academy, and during the war of 1812 (March 1, 1811) he was commissioned a second lieutenant,



HON. WILLIAM LARRABEE.

promoted to captain of his company February 21, 1814, and on March 30th following, at the battle of Lacole Mills, during General Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence river, he was severely wounded in the lung, but finally recovered. He married Hannah G. Lester, who was born June 8, 1798, and died March 15, 1837. Captain Larrabee reached the age of eighty-two years, dying in 1869.

William Larrabee, of this review, was born at Ledyard, Connecticut, January 20, 1832, being the seventh child in a family of nine children. His boyhood days were spent upon a farm and he early became familiar with hard work in the fields, attending the neighboring schools during the brief winter months until he reached the age of sixteen years. He made the best use of his limited advantages and taught school during the winter months of the next two years. He was not to be discouraged by obstacles, one of which was the loss of his right eye when fourteen years of age by the accidental discharge of a gun. The homestead was only two miles from the seashore, and in those days it was the custom for boys in New England to follow the sea. William's three oldest brothers had chosen this occupation, while the fourth remained upon the home farm. Believing that better opportunities awaited him in the Western states than in his home country, young William, in 1853, made the long journey to Iowa, locating in Garnavillo, Clayton county, where his older sister, Mrs. E. H. Williams, had previously located. He taught one term of school at Hardin, and during the three following years he was employed as foreman of the Grand Meadow farm of his brother-in-law, Judge Williams. In 1857 he purchased a one-third interest in the Clermont Mill, at Clermont, Fayette county, becoming sole owner of the same within three years. He operated this mill until 1874, when he sold to S. M. Leach. When the Civil war began he offered his services, but was rejected on account of the loss of his eye. Being informed that he might be admitted as a commissioned officer, he raised a company and was elected as first lieutenant, but was rejected for the same disability.

After selling his mill Mr. Larrabee again turned his attention to agriculture, and also started a private bank at Clermont. He started a nursery on his farm and carried it on for several years.

Mr. Larrabee was always more or less interested in political matters, but his active political career did not begin until 1867. He was reared a Whig and when the Republican party was organized he at once identified himself with the same and has never changed his views, remaining loyal to its principles. The only public office he had filled prior to the date mentioned above was that of secretary of the school board. In the fall of 1867 he was elected

to represent Fayette county in the state Senate, and being re-elected to the same office from time to time, he served continuously for a period of eighteen years, having been always nominated by acclamation, and for several years the Democrats made no nominations to oppose him. During his long service in the Senate, Governor Larrabee was a member of the ways and means committee, and it is said that he never missed a committee meeting, and many of the important measures passed by the Legislature owe their existence or present form to him. He won the reputation of being a persistent worker for what he believed to be the best interests of his constituents.

In 1881 Mr. Larrabee was a candidate for governor, but Governor Sherman's forces having already been well organized, he was too late in entering the contest. But he received the nomination in 1885 and was subsequently elected the state's chief executive, having been inaugurated January 14, 1886, and re-elected in 1887, and his record as the twelfth governor of this great commonwealth was such as to win the commendation of all classes, being always alert for the best interests of the state. After he was governor he published a valuable work dealing with the history of transportation, and entitled, "The Railroad Question," issued in 1893. In 1898 he was made chairman of the board of control in charge of public charities and penal institutions for Iowa, which position he resigned in 1900. He was president of the Iowa commission to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis in 1904.

Governor Larrabee's domestic life dates from September 12, 1861, when he married, at Clermont, Ann M. Appelman, daughter of Capt. G. A. Appelman, long a well known citizen of this county. Seven children have been born to the Governor and wife, Charles, Augusta, Julia, Anna, William, Frederic and Helen.

HON. LEVI FULLER, M. D.

Hon. Levi Fuller, M. D., a leading citizen of Fayette county for nearly fifty years, was born August 14, 1824, at Wellsboro, Pennsylvania. He was the eighth child of a family of eleven children and the only son who grew to maturity. His father, Capt. Elijah Fuller, was born December 9, 1787, at Surry, Cheshire county, New Hampshire, and died January 5, 1880, at West Union, Iowa. He was eighth in direct line from the Pilgrim Edward Fuller, who, with his wife, came in the "Mayflower" in 1620 and landed at Plymouth, Massachusetts, his line being, Edward, Samuel, Samuel, Barnabas,



Eng. by E. J. M. & Co. N. Y.

Levi Fuller

Samuel, Joshua, Levi, Elijah. He married Matilda Newcomb, born May 10, 1790, at Leyden, Massachusetts, died May 11, 1862, at West Union. She also was a lineal descendant of the Pilgrims. The blood of Governor William Bradford and Edward Fuller of Plymouth Colony were united in the marriage of Matilda Newcomb and Elijah Fuller. Jerusha Bradford, daughter of Thomas Bradford, son of Major William Bradford, son of Governor William Bradford, married Hezekiah Newcomb. Matilda Newcomb was a lineal descendant of this union.

Elijah Fuller's father, Levi Fuller, and three brothers, Samuel, Joshua and David, were in the Revolutionary war. Joshua was killed at the battle of Bennington, Vermont. Levi was a member of Capt. John Grigg's company, Col. Alexander Scammel's New Hampshire regiment, Continental Army, at the age of sixteen years. He enlisted at Walpole, New Hampshire.

Elijah Fuller was captain of a company at the time of the war of 1812, but was not called into service. In 1818 he was a member of the New Hampshire Legislature. His wife's father, Hezekiah Newcomb, was a member of the Massachusetts Legislature continuously for eighteen years.

Dr. Levi Fuller, of this review, had many marked characteristics that might be attributed to his Pilgrim ancestry. In early life he attended the academy at New Castle, Pennsylvania, after which he began the study of medicine and in due time entered upon the successful practice of his profession. He came to Stephenson county, Illinois, in 1846 and practiced his profession at Rockgrove several years. On May 13, 1845, he married Jemima Elizabeth Tipton, born June 3, 1826, who was his loved companion until her death, February 1, 1899. She was the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Shade) Tipton, of Howard, Center county, Pennsylvania. She was a woman of rare judgment, artistic tastes and strong religious convictions. Her health was poor for many years, but she always was cheerful and made home pleasant. Their home for many, many years was the stopping place for the itinerant ministers, who always received a warm welcome. To them were born three children, William E., born March 30, 1846; Matilda Jane, born May 17, 1848, died August 6, 1851; Mary Elizabeth, born June 9, 1850, died December 7, 1851.

Doctor Fuller came to West Union, Iowa, in April, 1853, and practiced his profession for a time, but soon entered into general business. He opened up a hardware store in West Union, in May, 1854, the first in the town and county. In 1868-9 he and his son, William E., owned and operated the West Union Bank, the only bank in the county, which was sold to S. B. Zeigler and afterwards merged into the Fayette County National Bank. For many

years Levi Fuller was engaged in active brokerage business and buying and selling lands. He laid out three additions to West Union and erected many buildings.

Mr. Fuller was a Whig and a Republican. His first Presidential vote was cast for Taylor in 1848. He was in the convention that nominated Lincoln in 1860 and attended most of the subsequent national conventions of his party. He represented Fayette county in the Legislature during the war, serving through two sessions on important committees and being especially active in enacting legislation to raise money during the war period. His judgment and counsel was sought by Governor Kirkwood during the trying war period. Governor Kirkwood tendered him the command of a regiment of Iowa troops, but he declined as he had no military training. The Governor commissioned him a surgeon in the Thirty-eighth Iowa Volunteers. Before going to the regiment, President Lincoln appointed him to the important office of United States collector of internal revenue for the third district of Iowa, composed of twelve counties. This position he held until November, 1865, when he resigned, he having filled this responsible position with honor to himself and his county. He collected many million dollars to aid the government in its extremity in putting down the rebellion.

Following the "Grasshopper raid" in northwestern Iowa, Doctor Fuller was one of the three commissioners to distribute the relief appropriation of the Legislature for seed, performing the duty with his accustomed thoroughness and fidelity and returning back into the state treasury about one-third of the amount appropriated. This is a rare incident in the history of the state. In the later years of Doctor Fuller's life he became deeply interested in the subject of education, partially due, perhaps, to the confidence reposed in him by the people of the independent district of West Union, who for eighteen consecutive years kept him a member of the board, most of the time as president. It was a matter of congratulation with the teachers and pupils that one of his last public acts, within a few days of his death, was to make the rounds of the grades, inspecting the work in each and addressing the pupils in words of wisdom fitting and appropriate to those who were to be the future men and women of West Union.

For about twenty years he was president of the board of trustees of the Upper Iowa University and all familiar with that institution of learning are free to credit to his sagacity and conservative business management much of its later success. He gave freely of his means to assist the University. The Methodist church at West Union was the constant subject of his fostering care and he assisted liberally in the building of all the churches in West

Union. Doctor Fuller became a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at nineteen years of age and was an active member until his death, holding official positions, including Sunday school superintendent and Bible class teacher, during the active years of his life. We quote the following extract in reference to his death from the *West Union Gazette*:

"All Saturday forenoon Dr. Levi Fuller was in his office or on the street following the daily routine of his life in this community for nearly fifty years.

"At 3:30 Saturday afternoon, December 8, 1900, he was dead. Through the morning he complained of not feeling well and attributed his condition to indigestion, to which he was often subject. He was persuaded to not come up town after dinner, occupying the lounge in conversation with Mrs. W. E. Fuller. Suddenly, in the midst of the talk, with no warning, without a struggle, he ceased to breathe. The shock, followed by consternation and grief, which accompanied the announcement that 'Doctor Fuller is dead' was not confined to his family, stricken as they were, but extended to all. For the moment it seemed as if the crowded streets were paralyzed and as the news spread throughout the county there was everywhere a feeling of grief suggesting the thought of a general demonstration of mourning. So much was he loved, admired, venerated and respected."

JAMES ALEXANDER CLAXTON.

No business man in Fayette, Iowa, is regarded with higher favor than is the gentleman whose interesting life record is briefly outlined in the following paragraphs, who, while looking to his own interests, does not neglect to discharge his duties in fostering the upbuilding of the community in general, and, by thus possessing the qualities that inspire confidence and which at the same time win, he is held in high esteem by all who know him.

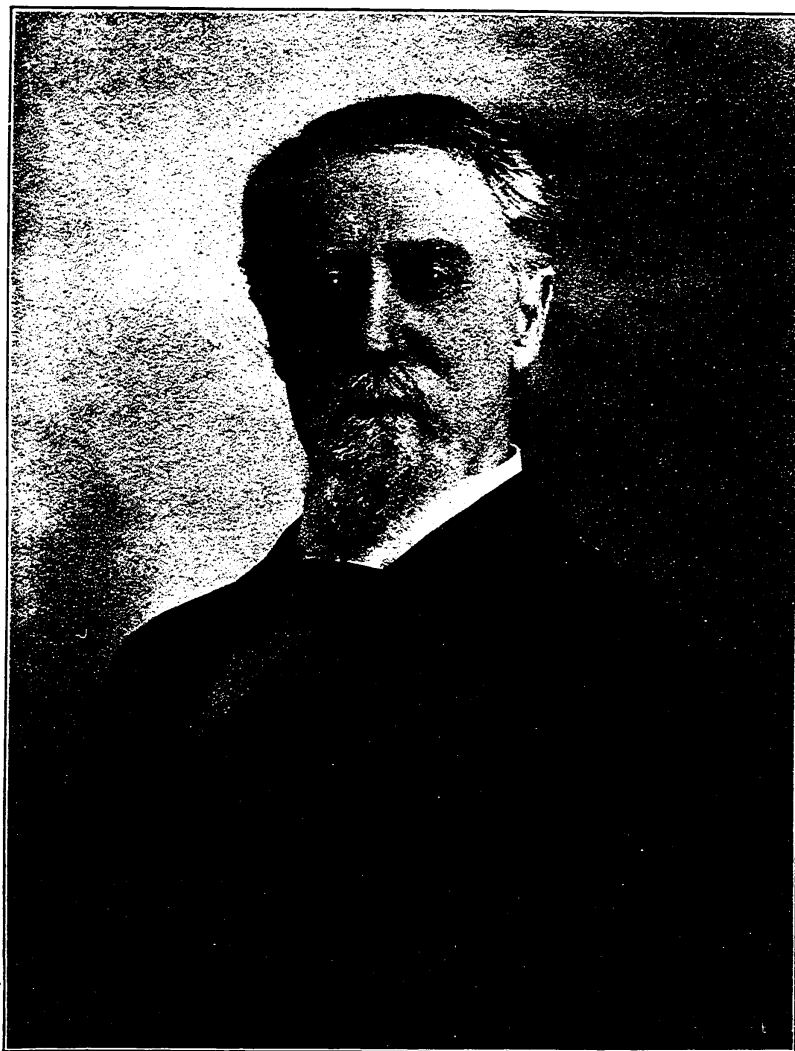
James Alexander Claxton, president of the State Bank at Fayette, was born in Oswego county, New York, in 1854. He is the scion of influential and sterling ancestors on both sides of the house, being the son of Isaac and Margaret (Holmes) Claxton. In 1864 his parents moved to Dunhamas Grove, Center township, Fayette county, Iowa, where the father bought a farm of two hundred and eight acres, lying on the dividing line of Westfield township, and here, amid primitive conditions, he developed a fine farm and established a comfortable home, prospering by reason of arduous toil and good

management; and here it was that James A. Claxton, his son, grew to sturdy manhood amid healthful outdoor environment, alternating farming in the summer months with schooling in the neighboring schools in the winter time. In that way he received a very serviceable education, but, being ambitious to enter the business world properly equipped, he took a commercial course in the Upper Iowa University, and two terms in the collegiate work of the same institution. After leaving the University he taught school for two terms, but not finding this line of endeavor exactly to his liking he returned to farming, which he then followed on his own account, owning a fine place of one hundred and twenty acres, managing the same in a very successful manner.

Mr. Claxton's domestic life began in 1879, when he formed a matrimonial alliance with Emma Elphick, a very estimable lady and the daughter of James and Martha Elphick. She was born near Whitewater, Rock county, Wisconsin, where she spent her early childhood, coming to Fayette county, Iowa, with her parents. The family she represented was highly honored both in Wisconsin and in this county. After his marriage Mr. Claxton continued farming on his place in Center township.

On April 1, 1901, the Bank of Fayette was reorganized as a state bank and Mr. Claxton became a stockholder in the same and was elected vice-president of the institution. In 1903, Judge Hoyt, the president of the bank, died, and Mr. Claxton succeeded him as president, his innate business ability and his record as a straightforward, conscientious business man qualifying him for this place, the duties of which he has discharged with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of stockholders and patrons, the prestige of the institution having been greatly augmented with the succeeding years. In 1906, in order that he might more properly discharge his official duties to the bank and partly in order that his children might enjoy better school advantages, Mr. Claxton gave up active farming and moved to Fayette, where he has an attractive home. This bank is safely and conservatively managed and is in a flourishing condition, having at this writing about three hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars of deposits. The capital stock is forty thousand dollars and there is a surplus of sixteen thousand dollars.

Besides his interests in the Bank of Fayette, Mr. Claxton is also interested in the bank at Randalia, Iowa. He and his wife are the parents of four interesting children, named as follows: Bessie, Robert, Forest and Bernice. The first named married Ralph Thompson and lives on the home place at Dunham's Grove. Robert took a four years' course in the Agricultural College at Ames, from which he was graduated with a very creditable record



JAMES W. McLEAN.

in June, 1906, and for two years thereafter he managed a big stock farm near Toledo, Ohio. He is now in partnership with William McFadden, secretary of the Poland-China Record Association. He and Mr. McFadden have a large stock farm about twenty-five miles from Chicago. Robert married Sarah Harwood, the daughter of a prominent family.

Mr. Claxton and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

JAMES WHARTON McLEAN, M. D.

In one of the most exacting of all callings Dr. James Wharton McLean, of Fayette, Iowa, has attained distinction, being recognized as one of the most successful physicians in the county of Fayette. He is a well educated, symmetrically developed man, his work as a professional man having brought him prominently to the notice of the public, the result of which is a great demand for his services throughout this locality, where a high standard of professional excellence is required. He is a gentleman of scholarly tastes and studious habits, keeps abreast of the times in advanced materia medica, and his general knowledge is broad and comprehensive, yet he is one of the most unassuming of men, plain, genial and generous. He is, in short, a worthy descendant of a distinguished and sterling ancestry which the genealogist is able to trace back to the fourteenth century, the numerous branches of this fine old family being traced back without a missing link to the old Scottish clan, McLeans, who possessed, by charter, as early as 1390, a part of the island of Mull, off the west coast of Scotland. This clan traced its origin to one Gillean, who flourished about 1250 and is named as its first chief. From that time until the breaking up of the clan, the McLeans were led by a succession of brave and warlike chiefs, who often found it necessary to defend their rights or revenge their wrongs at the point of the sword. Each clan enjoyed, in large degree, sovereign rights until the disastrous battle of Culloden, April 16, 1746, when the Highland army was defeated by the English. One of the results of the English victory was the taking away of the veritable jurisdiction of the proprietors and investing it in the crown, and the abolishing of the Highland garb. These and other inimical acts destroyed the distinct existence of the clans and caused many to seek homes in other lands. The United States alone has some twenty thousand Scotch descendants by the name of McLean, many having won prominence as statesmen, authors, lawyers, doctors, soldiers and divines.

A man of unusual sterling characteristics and the benefactor of his race was the father of Dr. James W. McLean, of this review, the Rev. John McLean, who was born July 22, 1805. Having been reared in an exceptionally religious home, he was early impressed with the idea of expounding the teachings of the Nazarene, in whom he confessed faith as the redeemer of mankind when sixteen years of age. When about twenty-three years of age he began the work of the ministry in the Methodist Episcopal church, being received on trial at the conference held in Salem, Pennsylvania, in 1828. His lack of early text-book training seems to have greatly distressed him temperamentally and he became a very arduous student, educating himself, becoming in due course of time a well informed man, possessing a full store of knowledge. In 1830 he was ordained a deacon at Uniontown, Pennsylvania, and two years later at the conference held at Wellsburg, West Virginia, was made elder. After fourteen years connection with the Pittsburg conference, it was divided, and he was transferred to that part composing the Erie conference, thus becoming identified with Methodism on the Western Reserve. In 1876 these conferences were made into three and Rev. Mr. McLean cast his lot with the Eastern Ohio conference. After a period of nearly half a century, forty-seven years of faithful and devoted service in the ministry, he took a superannuated relation and located in Canfield, Ohio, where his death occurred February 15, 1887. He was widely and favorably known in western Pennsylvania and eastern Ohio and accomplished an incalculable amount of good in those early days. Nothing deterred him from his work, storms, bad roads, deep snows, unbridged streams, physical ailments—nothing was allowed to stand in his way when there was an appointment to be filled or some one was in need of his services. He married Laura Pryor, a woman of rare beauty of character and strength of mind, and this union proved a most happy one; she was a woman of positive character, as one illustration will suffice to indicate. During the pastorate of her husband at Wesleyville, a saloon was opened in the village in spite of protest and defiance of law, so Mrs. McLean, assisted by a score of other local women, proceeded to demolish the saloon and its contents with axes and hatchets, and although the proprietor of the place attempted to have the despoilers of his place of business prosecuted, the grand jury refused to indict them.

Eight children were born to this worthy pioneer couple, of whom Dr. James W., of this review, was the sixth in order of birth. He is a native of Ravenna, Portage county, Ohio, and the date of his birth is recorded as November 13, 1843. He received a good education in the common schools, after which he attended the academy at Waterford, Pennsylvania, and the Western

Reserve Seminary at West Farmington, Ohio. He showed his patriotism when the war between the states began by offering his services to the Union army, but was rejected on examination, much to his regret. In 1863 he emigrated to Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, and began teaching in the graded schools of Montfort, Beetown and Peach Grove, also clerked about two years in a store at the last named town. In the meantime he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. J. B. Cory, surgeon of the Convalescent Hospital at Prairie du Chien. In 1865 and 1866 he took a course of medical lectures at Ann Arbor, Michigan, and in 1869 graduated from Rush Medical College of Chicago. Thus well equipped for his chosen life work, he soon afterwards located at Volga City, where he successfully practiced for a period of ten years. In 1881 he removed to Fayette, this county, and formed a partnership with Dr. C. C. Parker, which continued until in October, 1903, when Dr. McLean withdrew from the partnership. In 1876 he took a special course at Long Island Hospital and in 1890 took a course at the Polyclinical School in Chicago. In 1876 he represented the Fayette County Medical Society at the centennial meeting of the American Medical Association, and also at a meeting of the State Medical Society. In the county organization he has held the positions of president, secretary and treasurer. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity, having held the highest office in the local lodge, and he is a Knight Templar Mason. He has been master of the blue lodge, and high priest in the chapter—in fact, he has passed all the chairs in the Masonic order. He has been representative to the grand lodge and the grand chapter. Politically, he is a Republican, and for four years was coroner. Both he and his wife belong to the Methodist church, of which he is chairman of the board of stewards. He was for years a member of the board of trustees of the Upper Iowa University and of the town school board, having voluntarily withdrawn from both. He is a member of the county medical board of pension examiners and is local surgeon for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company. It will thus be seen that Doctor McLean takes an abiding interest in all the institutions that have for their object the improvement of society.

The domestic life of Doctor McLean began on October 22, 1871, when he was united in marriage with Anna E. Miller, a native of New York and a woman of education and culture. To this union five children have been born, namely: Hattie L. is teaching vocal music in the graded schools of Miles City, Montana, having previously graduated from the Upper Iowa University and afterwards taken special musical training in both Minneapolis and Chicago; she is regarded as an instructor of high merit; Lester W. is married,

lives in Miles City, Montana, and is traveling salesman for the Cudahy Packing Company; Dr. Ray A., who holds a degree of Bachelor of Science from the Upper Iowa University and a degree of Doctor of Medicine from the Iowa State University, is associated with his father in the practice of medicine at Fayette and is making an excellent start; Harry A. is married and is devoting his time to music, piano tuning, band and orchestra instructor, and is a cornetist of much more than average ability; John P., who lives at home, is making a specialty of drawing, sketching, painting and other art work in this line, and his work is of a high order.

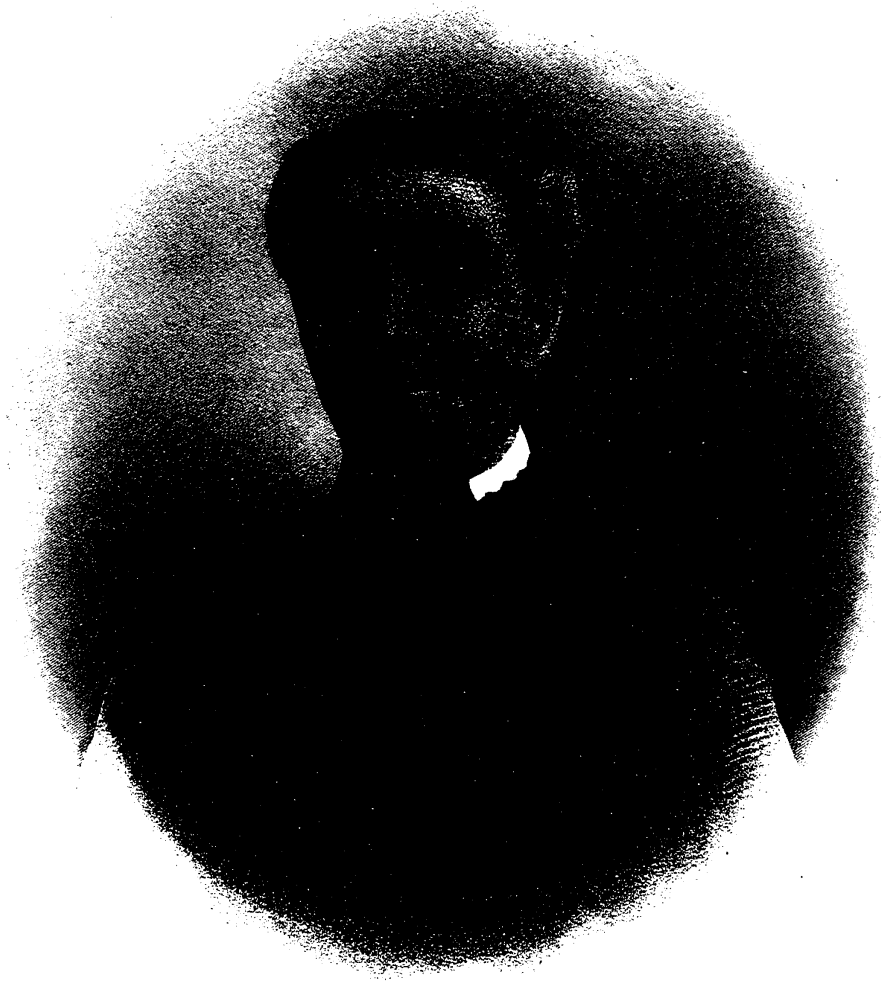
Doctor McLean has dignified his every station in life with a charm that has constantly added to his personal worth and has discharged the duties of citizenship with the earnestness and loyalty characteristic of the true American. His popularity extends wherever he is known, and his probity of character is recognized by his fellow men, who are free in according to him proper confidence and esteem.

HON. CHRISTIAN MILLER.

Hon. Christian Miller, familiarly known as "Chris," is one of the most influential factors in the present business interests of Clermont. Unlike the man who has slipped noiselessly through the world, unheard of, unthought of, and living solely for his own selfish motives, this man has been seen, heard and felt in every branch of industry—every channel of human goodness and activity has felt the force of his courage and manly powers.

Christian Miller, who was but a lad of nine summers when he came to our shores, was born in Bern, Switzerland, December 21, 1847, a son of Benedict Miller, a native of the same county, born June 12, 1813, and was one of four children. Benedict was the youngest in his parents' family. Rudolph, the second of the children, came to America in 1851, and the following year he took up his residence in Pleasant Valley township, Fayette county, Iowa. Christian continued farming in his native land, and Elizabeth is now the wife of Christian Duby, of Switzerland. By occupation Benedict Miller was a carpenter and later in life carried on an extensive building and contracting business. He married Magdalena Shank.

In the spring of 1856, Mr. Miller, with his family, consisting of wife and five children, crossed the Atlantic to America and on his arrival in this country at once came to Fayette county, Iowa, where he purchased a farm of seventy acres in Pleasant Valley township, near the home of his brother Rudolph, who



Anna Le Willis



Christian Miller

had located here some four years previously. This farm he improved, but it was some years before the income was sufficient to keep his family, hence he engaged in work at his trade. As time passed he not only provided well for his family, but was able to lay up some for investment, and at length possessed two hundred and twenty-seven acres of good land, one-half of which was under cultivation with good buildings. In 1872 he sold his entire farm to his son Christian for the sum of four thousand dollars. On May 22, 1880, in the sixty-sixth year of her age, his wife died. In 1882, accompanied by his son Christian, he returned to Switzerland, where he spent several months, and while he was visiting the scenes of his boyhood days, and renewing old acquaintances, Christian made quite an extensive tour over Europe, visiting places of interest and historic note. They then returned to their home in their adopted land, after which Mr. Miller resided with his children until his death, which occurred February 7, 1893, aged almost eighty-two years.

Christian Miller is the fourth in a family of six children. John F., the eldest, is married and owns a fine farm of two hundred acres in Pleasant Valley township. He is a well-to-do citizen and an earnest worker in the German Baptist church of Elgin. Benedict, at the age of twenty-five years, went with his family to Green county, Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming and became an extensive dairyman. He was also the prime mover in establishing in that neighborhood a cheese factory, one of the first in that county. Leaving Wisconsin in 1882, he removed to Moody county, South Dakota, where he is now carrying on farming on a large scale, and is a recognized leader in all the progressive movements for the public welfare. His family consists of his wife and eight children. Anna Mary, the next younger child, in 1866 married Peter Lehman, of Elgin, Iowa, and died in 1885, leaving three children and her husband. Christian is the next younger in his parents' family. Magdelena became the wife of Jacob Frautchy, a prominent, prosperous and enterprising citizen who died on February 7, 1904.

Christian Miller continued on the old homestead farm, purchased from his father, until March, 1906, when he removed to the village of Clermont, where he already had many business interests to demand his personal attention. Among his land ownings, in which his sons are joint owners, he has in Fayette county over two thousand acres of highly cultivated and improved land, besides seven hundred acres in Alamakee county, Iowa, all of which farm lands are rented and carried on by members of his own family and tenants. Within this large possession there are almost five hundred acres of excellent timber land, of great use and value at this date. A portable mill is on it. The firm of Christian Miller & Sons also owns the largest hardware store in Cler-

mont and one of the most modern and extensive brick-making plants in northeastern Iowa. At this plant, which is in the village limits of Clermont, red and white brick of the common grades are made, as well as hollow brick, hollow blocks, for building purposes, and tiling in great quantities. During the year 1909 there were made over three million brick, which product finds a ready market at various Iowa towns and cities, even as far away as central Iowa, Cedar Rapids and Independence. The quality of these brick make a ready sale and the plant is being constantly enlarged to meet the demand. During the last season, the Millers also shipped five hundred cars of sand and gravel for cement work. These brick and tile works are supplied with an excellent grade of clay (white and red) from eighty acres owned by the Millers.

In 1901, Christian Miller purchased the old pioneer mill known as the Brick City Mills—the old Governor Larrabee flouring mills, the history of which during the Civil war period is mentioned elsewhere in this work. It was operated by his son, John F., for several years, and then was furnished with new machinery, consisting of the improved sifter system of flour making. It was then operated by the Millers until the autumn of 1909 for general grinding purposes, but is now being converted into an electric lighting and power plant. By it the towns of Clermont and Elgin, with possibly other nearby cities and towns, will be furnished with light and power, a franchise being held with Ossian and Calmar. The Turkey river, upon which this mill site is situated, at this point has a water power “head” of from twelve to fourteen feet, and with two immense horizontal turbine water wheels and a Corliss engine, ample power will be supplied to carry out the enterprise. When remodeled, this milling plant will be able to run during the daytime the heavy machinery to operate the brick and tile plant and propel the flouring mill, while at night-time the waters of the same stream will run the electric plant, this being one of the most thoroughly modern as well as unique arrangements known of in the entire country.

Mr. Miller also owns several business houses and dwellings in Clermont, which command good rentals. Whether one views his milling plant, his mercantile house, his many farms, with their immense modern barns and farm houses, his hundreds of head of stock, his great brick and tile works, or other business interests, he is impressed with the thought of good business sagacity and an endless amount of hard work to bring all these vast interests to their present state of perfection.

Some men are born rich in worldly goods, but in the case of Mr. Miller he has worked his way up from the bottom rung of the ladder. He put in the years from the time he was a boy of fourteen to past eighteen years of age

at breaking up the virgin soil of this county, with five and six yoke of oxen and a twenty-four-inch breaking plow, where cutting roots and grubs as large as a man's arm was no uncommon occurrence. He trapped and hunted and sold the furs and game, and with it bought his first live stock (a small calf); now he can count by the hundreds his fat cattle and swine. He not only worked with good hard muscle, but also used his brain-power, with which he was highly favored by nature. These combined elements have enabled him to succeed in his life's career.

Politically, Mr. Miller has ever voted the Republican ticket, having cast his first vote for Gen. Ulysses S. Grant in 1868. In 1898 and 1900 he was the representative from Fayette county in the twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth General Assemblies, where he did most excellent work for his constituents, so much so that not one line of newspaper criticism was ever penned against his conduct as a law-maker. After the termination of his duties at the state capital, he resumed his business routine at home, although he could have been elected state senator, but has respectfully declined further political honors at the hands of his friends and neighbors. His own business and the care and comfort of his family have been with him of paramount importance, and yet he is a firm supporter of all that is wise and excellent in the party of his choice.

For many years Mr. Miller has been a devoted, consistent member of the German Baptist church, as is also his excellent wife, both of whom have been true to the faith they profess, and have reared their interesting and successful family in the way that they should go, hence are an honor to their parents and reliable, good citizens. Their children all live within the county in which they were born, and are men and women possessed of excellent minds and hearts.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Christian Miller are as follows: (1) John F., born February 13, 1872, attended college at Rochester, New York, and now occupies the old homestead in Pleasant Valley township. He is married and has six children, Walter, Edna, Carl, Wilma, Ervin and Clara. (2) Mary, born June 13, 1874, married William Haas, of Fayette county, and now resides at Clermont, being interested in the electric light and milling business. They have one child, Herbert. (3) Christian C., born February 19, 1876, married Louise Hoffer, and they are the parents of one daughter, Grace. Christian C. is in company with his father in the various branches of his business, especially that of milling, and the electric light plant. He has been mayor of Clermont for several years, and as such gives the highest possible satisfaction. (4) Eddie M., born July 17, 1877, died November 23, 1879.

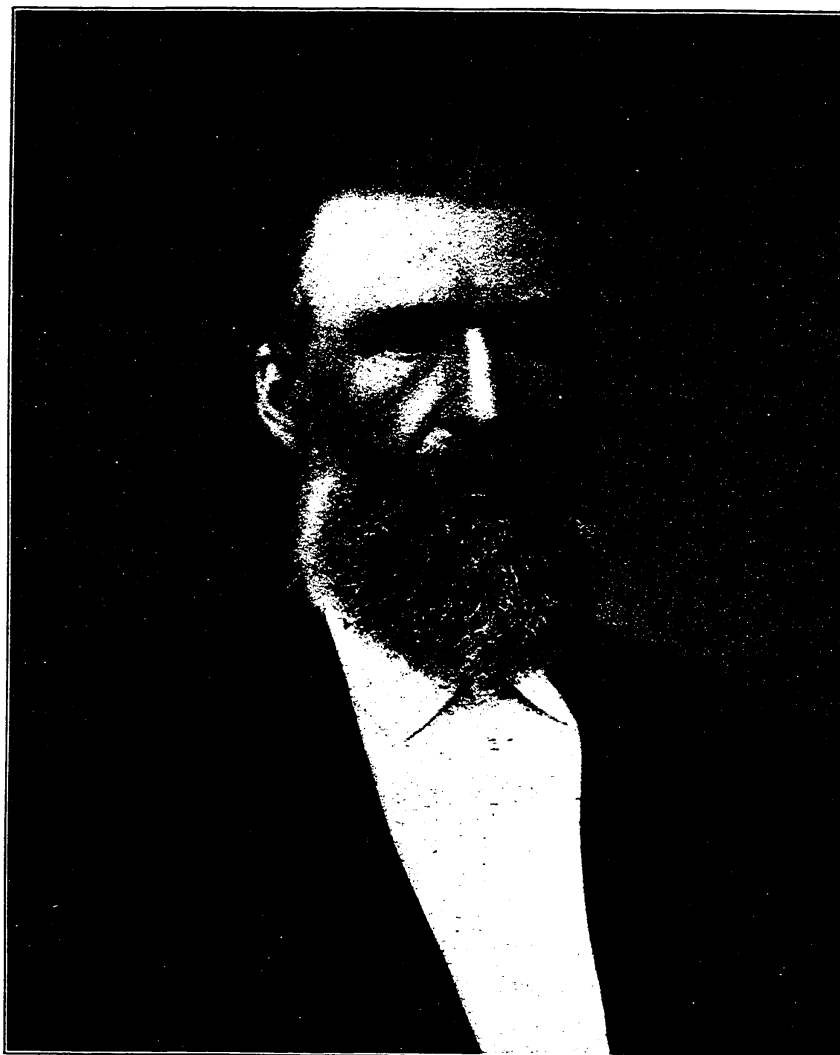
(5) William B., born November 9, 1880, married Jessie Bracken, of this county, and lives in Pleasant Valley township; they have one child, Mildred. (6) Alfred E., born July 5, 1882, married Hulda Hoffer and resides in Clermont. He is associated with his father in the milling industry. (7) Anna M., born August 12, 1885, died October 2, 1888. (8) Clara H., born November 11, 1887, married Otto Krueger, now farming in Pleasant Valley township. (9) Meta M., born February 7, 1889, also farming in Pleasant Valley township. (10) Lillie, born December 13, 1893, died in infancy. Mrs. Miller is the daughter of Freiling Haus, a native of Switzerland who came to America in 1867 and settled in Pleasant Valley township. He was a cabinet maker. He died in 1889. Mrs. Miller's mother died in Switzerland.

HIRAM HOAGLAND.

The history of Fayette county would be lacking an important link should the record of Hiram Hoagland be omitted, for he was one of the leading citizens of the same during the past generation, being a man of splendid attributes and always ready to assist his neighbors in the battle of life and do what he could toward the general good of the county, consequently his memory will long be cherished here. A man of excellent endowments and upright character, he was long a valued factor in local affairs and ever commanded unequivocal confidence and esteem, being loyal to the upbuilding of this locality and ever vigilant in his efforts to further the interests of the county along material, civic and moral lines.

Mr. Hoagland was born in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, January 13, 1828, and was the son of John and Catherine (Hull) Hoagland, an excellent old family of the Keystone state. Hiram grew to maturity in his native community and was educated in the common schools of those early times, but it may be said that he remained a student all his life and was a well informed man. He learned the trade of wheelwright under his father, and he later learned cabinetmaking and became a very skilled workman, making his own wagon, buggy and household furniture, and when he came to this county he made his own chairs and table.

On November 22, 1849, Mr. Hoagland married Elizabeth D. Boale, a native of county Down, Ireland, born September 12, 1829, and she was the daughter of John and Grace (McWha) Boale, natives of Ireland, but of Scotch descent and Presbyterian faith. They came to America in 1839 and



HIRAM HOAGLAND.



MRS. ELIZABETH HOAGLAND.

settled in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, where they lived until 1852, when they came to Fayette county, Iowa, and located on a farm two and one-half miles north of West Union, on which they spent the rest of their lives, Mr. Boale dying in 1859, at the age of sixty-one years, his wife following him to the grave in 1860, when sixty-three years old. Seven children were born to them, two of whom are living at this writing, Mrs. Jane Jamison and George H., an Ohio farmer. The Boale family was an influential and highly respected one.

Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Hoagland emigrated to Grant county, Wisconsin, the year after their marriage and in the autumn of 1850 came to Fayette county, Iowa, where Mr. Hoagland purchased a tract of land near Auburn, then returned to Wisconsin to spend the winter. In the spring of 1851 he moved to his farm and remained on the same two years, then sold it and engaged in the mercantile business in Auburn. Being a public-spirited and patriotic man, he was active in raising troops for the Federal army when the Civil war began, and on June 20, 1861, he was commissioned captain of a company, but ill health prevented his going to the front, very much to his regret. In 1863 he disposed of his store and purchased a farm on which he lived the balance of his life, being very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser, having at one time owned a very valuable place of six hundred acres, which was one of the choice farms of the county. He built attractive and substantial buildings. He was a successful business man, and besides his farm and livestock he became associated in numerous commercial enterprises. He was treasurer and stockholder in the Farmers' Joint Stock Company, a stockholder in the Citizens' Savings Bank at Elgin and other financial institutions of the county,—in fact he was one of the best known and most influential men in this part of the county in business, civic and social circles.

Always taking an active interest in the affairs of the Democratic party, Mr. Hoagland was frequently honored with nominations for public offices. He had the distinction of being the first coroner of Fayette county and by virtue of his election to this office, on the resignation of the sheriff, filled the latter office. He was a member of the county board of supervisors for several years, and in 1869 was elected auditor of the county notwithstanding he had to oppose a large Republican majority. He received the nomination for representative in the state Legislature in 1879, but failed of election, with the rest of his party, and at one time he ran for state senator against ex-Governor Larrabee, but was defeated. Being tendered the nomination for Congress in 1880, he declined the honor.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hoagland six children were born, namely: Melissa, born September 3, 1850, died July 28, 1851; John A., born May 5, 1852, was educated in the West Union public schools and Upper Iowa University and for several years he followed farming, then entered the mercantile life in Vermilion, South Dakota, and remained there until his death; Katherine B., who was born September 14, 1854, and died December 25, 1878, was educated in the Upper Iowa University and she taught school a number of terms; Seth D., born November 18, 1857, was educated in the Upper Iowa University; for some time he has been a grain dealer in Kenesaw, Nebraska; Perry J., born March 24, 1860, was educated in the Upper Iowa University, and for several years farmed on the Hoagland homestead, then went to Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he is now connected with several prosperous business enterprises; Eva G., who was born November 6, 1865, was educated in Upper Iowa University at Fayette, and on March 21, 1896, she married W. F. Phillips, which union resulted in the birth of two children, Marcus Henry, born April 6, 1897, and Hazel Elizabeth, born May 5, 1900; both are now attending the public schools of West Union, in which city Mrs. Phillips resides, having a very cozy and attractive home which is often the gathering place for her many friends.

The death of Hiram Hoagland occurred on December 7, 1885, loved, honored and respected by all who knew him. Mrs. Hoagland continued until 1887 to reside on the homestead, whither she came in 1863, finally moving to West Union where she spent her last years at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Phillips, her death occurring on June 14, 1908. She was a woman of beautiful Christian character and admired by a wide circle of friends.

The Hoagland family were always advocates of the Presbyterian faith.

Mr. Hoagland was a fine type of the self-made man, broad-minded, aggressive, generous, keen, far-seeing American who win in life's battles from sheer force of character and personality and depend upon no one. By his own efforts, starting in life practically empty handed, he surmounted every obstacle and gained a large competency and an honored position in the county of his residence.

REV. GUSTAV EDWARD BLESSIN.

Fayette county has been the home and the scene of labor of many men who have not only led lives which should serve as a lesson and inspiration to those who follow them onto the stage of life's activities, but who have also

been of inestimable service through important avenues of usefulness in various lines.

The honored and highly esteemed pastor of the Lutheran church at Eldorado, the Rev. Gustav Edward Blessin, is one of those who have labored long and unceasingly for the amelioration of conditions in this county and whose services have been richly crowned. He is known to all classes as a man of well-rounded character, devoted and loyal, so that there are many salient points which render consonant a tribute to his commendable career. He was born on February 1, 1847, in Berlin, Germany, of an excellent old family, and there he attended school until ten years of age; then entered the Cadet school in Potsdam. He was confirmed there in 1861, in the Garrison church. In 1865 he entered the normal school in Drossen, Germany, finished the prescribed course with credit, and then began the study of theology under Loche, Bauer, and I. Deinzer, in the theological school at Neuendettelsan.

Thus well equipped for his high calling, he sought a proper field for the exercise of his talents and where he believed he could accomplish the greatest good as an humble follower of the lowly Nazarene, so he set sail for America, for the purpose of serving in the Lutheran church, in the fall of the year 1871. He became the assistant of the late Rev. I. Hoertein, in Iowa City, Iowa. In the spring of 1872 he followed a call to Crane Creek, Bremer county, Iowa, and he remained there four and one-half years where he did a great work in strengthening the congregation and raising the general moral status of the community and elevating the spiritual tone of the people; this has been his record wherever his lot has been cast. While at Crane Creek he accepted a call from the congregations at Eldorado and Fort Atkinson, in Fayette county, where he is well known, honored and admired by all classes, everybody recognizing his genuine worth and his fidelity to his trust. He says he has worked nearly thirty-four years in sunshine and rain, and that the Lord has guided and provided, and will guide and provide after his promise.

Rev. Blessin is a thoroughly accomplished musician and a teacher of music, renowned for his success and efficiency. He is a thorough scholar, versed in many languages, talented, versatile, a forceful, earnest and eloquent speaker, a deep theologian, a wise but conservative pastor, an excellent church financier and a man who would accomplish great good in any field. He has a beautiful home in Eldorado, and possesses a large and very valuable private library where he delights to spend much of his time perusing the world's best literature, "losing himself in other men's minds," as Charles Lamb wrote. His home life is simple and unpretentious.

The acts of Rev. Blessin, both spiritual and temporal, have met with the united approval of his own people and all others as well, the good he has done being deeply engraven on the hearts of the people whom he has served, and the approval of his own conscience and that of the Divine Master are all the reward he wishes for his labors in behalf of the church.

COL. JACOB W. BOPP.

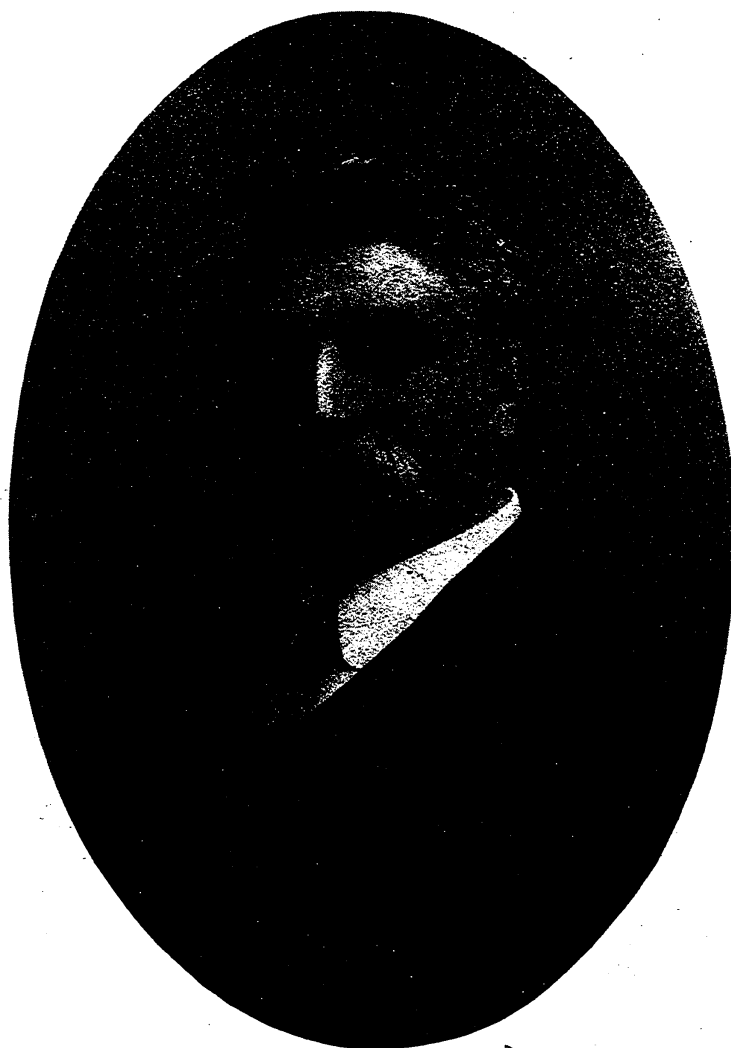
The subject of this biographical review was born in Chicago, Illinois, on the 28th of September, 1853. At the time of his birth his parents were on their way to the then frontier country designated on the map as Iowa. He is the oldest child of John Michael and Margaretha Bopp, whose personal sketch appears fully under their own names in this volume.

Jacob W. Bopp was reared amid the environments of pioneer life and his early years were spent in attending the district school and in working on the parental farm. But he early developed a taste for reading and study which ultimately led him into schools of higher standing and he soon developed into a district school teacher. But after two years employed in teaching, he again returned to his studies as a student, at Ainsworth's Academy, in West Union, where he spent two years very profitably. During his two years of teaching, it may be added, he spent his evenings in teaching night schools in the surrounding districts and in private study. This special teaching was in the nature of instruction on bookkeeping, commercial arithmetic and penmanship, and Mr. Bopp says that he believes he was as much benefited by this work as any of his students. In the autumn of 1876 the subject became a student in the collegiate department of the Iowa State University, and continued there for two years, when he transferred his allegiance to the Upper Iowa University, in his home county. He earned the money to prosecute his collegiate work as a newspaper correspondent, a line of literary endeavor in which he became very prominent and well known throughout the Northwest, and in which he continued, in connection with other lines, for many years. In the spring of 1880 he became associated with the local papers at Mason City, Iowa, and at the same time served as special correspondent to several metropolitan dailies in the West.

At the convening of the Legislature in 1882, Mr. Bopp was elected secretary of the railroad committee of the Senate and discharged the duties of that position in connection with his work for the press. On adjournment



LINDEN PARK, WEST UNION, IOWA.
Home of Col. J. W. Bopp and Mr. Frank E. Whorley.



COL. JACOB W. BOPP.

of the Legislature he entered upon his journalistic work with renewed vigor, being very actively engaged in politics, and supplied the leading Republican papers of the Northwest with a daily resume of political news. In his capacity as a reporter his presence was required at the leading summer resorts, fairs and expositions, and thus he was enabled to combine sight-seeing and extensive travel with a pleasant and profitable business. While thus employed Mr. Bopp came in contact with the leading men of the state and nation, and was well acquainted with prominent politicians everywhere.

Mr. Bopp took up the preliminary study of law in the office of Miller & Cliggitt, at Mason City, thus multiplying his manifold duties; but he has always been noted as a busy man, and even now, after fortune has smiled upon him, rendering work unnecessary, he probably devotes as many hours to business as any man in Fayette county. In the autumn of 1882 he entered the law department of the State University and was graduated therefrom with the class of 1883. He took up this study, he says, for the mental discipline it afforded, and without any intention of ever practicing law; but it is noticeable that in the manipulation of his extensive real estate business his legal advice is often sought, and is found to be accurate and reliable.

While in law school, in recognition of his ability as a writer, Mr. Bopp was chosen editor of the *Vidette Reporter*, conducted by the students attending the university. During commencement week, in connection with a fellow student, he published a special edition, designating it, for the time being, as the *Law Times*. In this was published a full synopsis of addresses delivered on that occasion, also a general review of the public exercises, notes by the way, and a large amount of information valuable to the embryo lawyer.

After his graduation Mr. Bopp took a few weeks' vacation to visit his home people, and then allied himself with the interests of the Republican party in the capacity of special correspondent to the leading journals of the state. He was employed by the state central committee to report speeches, joint debates etc., and assisted Hon. H. S. Fairall in the preparation of a volume entitled "Manual of Iowa Politics." He continued his connection with the Associated Press until the convening of the Legislature, when he resumed his former position as secretary of the railroad committee of the Senate, and also served in the same position at the succeeding session. While thus employed he was a regular correspondent to the Burlington *Hawkeye*, Dav-

enport *Gazette*, Dubuque *Times*, Cedar Rapids *Republican*, and other daily papers.

At the close of the twentieth General Assembly, Mr. Bopp accompanied the delegation of Iowa physicians on their excursion to the International Medical Congress, at Washington, D. C., and reported their proceedings to the press of the country. Following the close of the congress he spent a month in sight-seeing in the national capital, in Virginia, North and South Carolina, and the great cities of the East and South.

Returning to Iowa, Mr. Bopp took an active part in the congressional campaign of 1884, and in the winter following attended the World's Fair at New Orleans, visiting the jetties and other points of interest in the South. Mr. Bopp was the founder of syndicate letters in Iowa, a system of correspondence now generally followed by newspaper correspondents. For many years he furnished the farm department for the *West Union Gazette*, which matter was syndicated to most of the leading papers in Iowa. He assisted in organizing the Fayette County Farmers' Institute, as he did many others, and was an officer or director during all the years that the local institute was in active operation. He was for fifteen years a director of the Fayette County Agriculture Society, and has always been active and zealous in promoting its interests.

Several years of his life were spent in connection with the Republican state central committee as reporter for special campaign work and big meetings everywhere. While actively in the newspaper harness, he and his co-laborer, A. W. Clancy, gave a complimentary dinner to the newspaper fraternity in Des Moines, at the Capital City Hotel, which was characteristic of the way he treats his friends. The following bill of fare will show with what spirit the guests toasted to the good health and long lives of their hosts:

THE VERY LATEST.

RESCUED FROM THE WATERS

Oysters with Soup.

KILLED NEAR CHICAGO.

Lake Trout Baked.

VICTIMS OF SEETHING WATERS.

Chicken with Egg Sauce.

Leg of Mutton, Caper Sauce.

SCIENTIFIC SHOOTING.

Glass Balls with Cream.

SHOT DEAD IN SPORT.

Wild Turkey Roasted, with Cranberry Sauce.

Roast Mallard Duck, with Currant Jelly.

A FATAL HOLOCAUST.

Roast Loin of Beef. Loin of Veal, Plain Dressing.
FROM THE FAR WEST.
Haunch of Venison Roasted. Mountain Squirrel.
Wild Pigeons on Toast.

THE GREAT JOINT DISCUSSION.

Roast Chicken, Oyster Dressing. Pigeon Pie.
Fillets of Duckling. Salmi of Wild Pigeon.

AGRICULTURAL CONGRESS.

Sweet Potatoes. Mashed Potatoes. Boiled Potatoes.
Boiled Onions. Turnips. Sauer Kraut. Corn.

A MIXED AFFAIR.

Lobster Salad. Oyster Patties. Salad. Mayonnaise of Chicken.
Vol au Vents, Garnished with Macedonia Fruits.

PERSONAL POINTS.

Boston Cream Puffs.

A LOVER'S POEM.

Ox-Heart, Braized, Ella Wheeler.

A STRONG SUSPICION.

Macaroni and Cheese.

LOCAL LAY OUTS.

Lemon Pie. Pumpkin Pie. Mince Pie.

PROHIBITION POINTS.

Water. Tea. Coffee. Milk.

THE MARKETS.

Apples. Nuts. Raisins. Grapes. Oranges.

WINE LIST.

Vinegar Bitters. Wine of Tar. Baby's Bull
Syrup, Squills with Ipecac.

POPULAR FLOODS.

Olson's Favorite, Goode's Fighter, Sanford's Contortionist, Kent's Commentary, McCracken's Dude, Painter's Paralyzer, Clarey's Straight, Rositer's Turpentine, Persinger's Tornado, McCube's Lower Level, Fairall's Lightning, Bishard's Hospital, Shaver's Hard Labor, Ayers' Itemizer and all's Lightning, Bishard's Hospital, Shaver's Hard Labor, Ayers' Itemiber and Groves' Annihilator. All warranted to kill.

Mr. Bopp has been an extensive traveler, both in the capacity of a news-gatherer and for his own pleasure and enlightenment. He has made five extensive trips through the South and several through the East, and has made two extended trips through the British possessions on the North.

But the climax came when he and his brother, Charles W., made their memorable trip through all Europe. They embarked on the 12th of May, 1900, and landed at New York, returning September 23d, of the same year. A handsomely printed "Souvenir Itinerary" designates the points to be visited each day during the four months' sojourn abroad, but lack of space prevents its publication here in full.

The subject is a lover of the beautiful, both in nature and art. While on his European trip he made notes and diagrams in the matter of home adornment, which he transplanted to his beautiful suburban home, "Linden Park," on the western margin of West Union. This is one of the most artistically arranged homes and grounds to be found anywhere. A full description is not a possibility in this connection. Suffice to say that the newspapers of the state, both local and foreign, have found "Linden Park" the subject of much favorable comment, and handsome cuts of the premises have been printed in the home papers, the Des Moines papers and others. There are two sets of old English gates, with iron grill work, and handsome ornamental fences inclosing the grounds. The latter are ornamented with beautiful flowers, vines and shrubbery, some of which have been imported from Russia and other northern European countries, while the northern portion of the United States and Canada have been searched for hardy plants, trees and shrubs. These have been arranged after the manner of experienced landscape gardeners, and the exterior of the premises is a "thing of beauty and a joy forever."

The conveniences of the place are greatly enhanced by the placing of water hydrants, electric lights, etc., about the grounds, house, barn, poultry houses and pastures. We will not attempt to describe the interior of the house, except to say that it is modern in all respects and fully in keeping with the outside surroundings. It also contains one of the finest private libraries in the state.

Mr. Bopp is a bachelor, and his handsome home is also the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Whorley, who have charge of the premises, farm, stock, etc., and with whom Mr. Bopp makes his permanent home. They have been life-long friends, and he has made his home with them for about fifteen years. Mr. and Mrs. Whorley take great pride in keeping up and adding to the beauties of "Linden Park," and Mrs. Whorley has shown superior taste in assisting with the laying out of the grounds and the arrangement of the many conveniences. For some time after his return from Europe Mr. Bopp

was in great demand as a lecturer, and entertained large audiences, both in public and at parlor parties, in reciting the beauties of other countries. But he has always devoted considerable time to the lecture field, usually on topics related to agriculture, horticulture, stock-raising, etc. The "good roads" movement has always received his full support from voice and pen.

The souvenir edition of the *West Union Gazette*, published in 1898, gives Mr. Bopp some well deserved compliments, intermingled with a superfluity of "hot air," fired off with the clearness and versatility characteristic of the late Charles H. Talmadge. Mr. Talmadge seemed to deprecate the fact that Mr. Bopp had "swapped" the ever alert faber of a talented, active and popular journalist for the more staid and "homey" employments of a real estate man. This was about the beginning of Mr. Bopp's career in that business, which he took up after a successful siege of farming, or managing, the home estate in accordance with the latest methods in scientific farming, and in which he and all concerned were phenomenally successful. But Mr. Bopp has always been successful in all of his varied undertakings, a result achieved only by hard work and careful, intelligent management. He is today one of the most successful and widely advertised real estate men in northeastern Iowa.

But Mr. Talmadge again charges that Bopp accepted the appointment to a place on the staff of Governor Drake, serving two years, and thereby acquiring the title of "Colonel," which is liable to stick to him through life.

Mr. Bopp possesses a rather striking personality. Even during his student life he took no interest in the usual sports which engage so much of the time and energies of the average student, nor has he ever "acquired the habit." He has never been associated with any secret societies, though admiring their work for humanity and often encouraging others to join them. He is not associated with any religious organization, but is a liberal contributor to the support of the gospel and the up-building of all social and benevolent institutions. During the great temperance movement in Iowa, which placed the prohibitory amendment on the statute books, he took a decided stand in favor of its adoption, and with voice and pen rendered every possible assistance to the cause of temperance and sobriety. Since its adoption, and the ruling of the supreme court rendering it inoperative, he has rendered all possible assistance in furthering legislative enactments looking to the state control of the liquor traffic. He is a man of positive convictions, and whatever he believes to be right and just receives his hearty support, even though

alone and unsupported by popular opinion. Like our worthy President, Mr. Bopp wears a smile that will not come off and a temperament adjusted to all occasions. No one ever saw him "ruffled," but a genial smile and pleasant, seductive voice meets every rebuff, and stamps Mr. Bopp as a polished gentleman. He is exceptionally well informed, particularly on political topics, and enjoys the acquaintance and friendship of a greater number of prominent officials, office-seekers and politicians than any other man in northern Iowa. His Democratic friends delight to place him at the head of the so-called "Republican ring," and Bopp rather enjoys the distinction! He has always declined public office, preferring to help his friends, or his party principles, but would never accept a nomination, though easily within his grasp.

Mr. Bopp is an extensive property holder in West Union and Fayette county, all accumulated, largely, through his own unaided efforts. Besides his beautiful home property, he owns eight handsome residences in West Union, all of which have been built or rebuilt within recent years and modernized and rendered "up-to-date" by the owner. These, besides being a handsome addition to the town, are always in demand at good rental figures. The Bopp block, a modern two-story brick building, with handsome stone front, was constructed in 1898, and is occupied by several permanent tenants, besides Mr. Bopp's commodious offices.

Such, in brief, is the record of a man, now in the prime of life, who is distinctively "self-made," as that expression is understood. As shown in his parental sketch, to which reference has been made, he was born of German parents who came to this country in pioneer days, and were poor, ignorant of the manners and customs of American people, and also ignorant of the usual methods of money-making. The subject heard no language in the home except the German until after he was six years old, but the memory of the mother tongue is one of the sweetest remembrances of childhood's happy days. In later years he studied the language and is fluent and accurate in the use of German.

It is not the purpose of this article, nor of consistent biography generally, to unduly extol the merits of any individual, except as their recital stimulates an effort to imitate the example of a worthy subject. If this object-lesson should encourage any struggling young man to work for attainments above the mediocre, and pave for himself the pathway to success, it will have served a worthy purpose.

RONOLD S. F. CRAWFORD.

Fayette county, Iowa, enjoys a high reputation because of the high order of her citizenship, and none of her citizens occupies a more enviable position in the esteem of his fellows than the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch. A residence here of almost his entire lifetime has given his fellows a full opportunity to observe him in the various lines of activity in which he has engaged and his present high standing is due solely to the honorable and upright course he has pursued. As a leading citizen of this community he is eminently entitled to representation in a work of this character.

R. S. F. Crawford is a native son of old Ireland, and in him are exemplified those sturdy qualities for which the natives of the isle of the shamrock are noted. He was born on May 9, 1844, and is a son of Samuel F. and Anna Maria (West) Crawford, both of whom also were natives of Ireland. The subject's uncle, John B. West, was a man of local influence and importance, having defeated Daniel O'Connell for Parliament from Dublin, the latter being recognized as one of Ireland's strongest men. The subject's father was a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, and in 1848 he brought his family to the United States. For nine years he was the second steward at Ward's Island, being under the immediate authority of the commissioner of immigration. On September 14, 1855, he came to Fayette county, Iowa, and bought farm land, to the improvement and cultivation of which he thereafter devoted himself. He owned two hundred acres of fine land which he developed into a good farm, on which he resided until his death, which occurred on July 7, 1897. In politics he took an independent attitude, but so high was he held in general esteem that he was chairman of the first board of supervisors in Fayette county and for some years he served as tax collector and justice of the peace. He was a splendid rifle shot, being considered the best wing shot in Fayette county. He and his wife were members of the Episcopal church and while residing in New York City were members of St. George's church. Of their ten children, five are living. The mother of these children died on March 11, 1897, at the age of eighty-nine years, her husband having been but a year younger at the time of his death. The subject's oldest brother now living, William F. Crawford, gave his adopted country faithful service during the Civil war, having first enlisted in the Third Regiment Iowa Volunteer Infantry. He was placed under the command of Commodore Foote, as fourth quartermaster. After his discharge, he re-enlisted in the Sixth Regiment Iowa Cavalry, under Capt. Allen Ainsworth, and served until the

close of the war, when he received an honorable discharge. He is now acting as inspector of United States war vessels at Bremerton.

R. S. F. Crawford received his education in the public schools of New York City and the common schools of Fayette county, and he was reared to the life of a farmer, from which line of effort he has never departed. He is now the owner of three hundred and forty-two acres of land, which he devotes to diversified farming. Mr. Crawford has given special attention to the buying and feeding of cattle for market and in this line he has met with marked success, having found it a profitable source of income. His farm is highly improved and well equipped, being numbered among the best farms of the township.

Politically, Mr. Crawford was aligned with the Democratic party until Cleveland's administration, since which time he has taken an independent attitude, though, strictly speaking, he would be termed a progressive Republican. He is giving efficient service as school treasurer of his township. Fraternally, he was at one time an active Freemason, but is not now affiliated with any blue lodge.

In August, 1904, Mr. Crawford was married to Alice Fannie Reese, who was born in Kane county, Illinois, the daughter of William and Hattie (Smith) Reese, the former a native of Somersetshire, England, the latter of New York state. They moved to Kane county, Illinois, and subsequently came to Fayette county, Iowa, where the mother's death occurred, Mr. Reese now living at Maynard, this county. Mr. Crawford has one stepson, William H. Pratt.

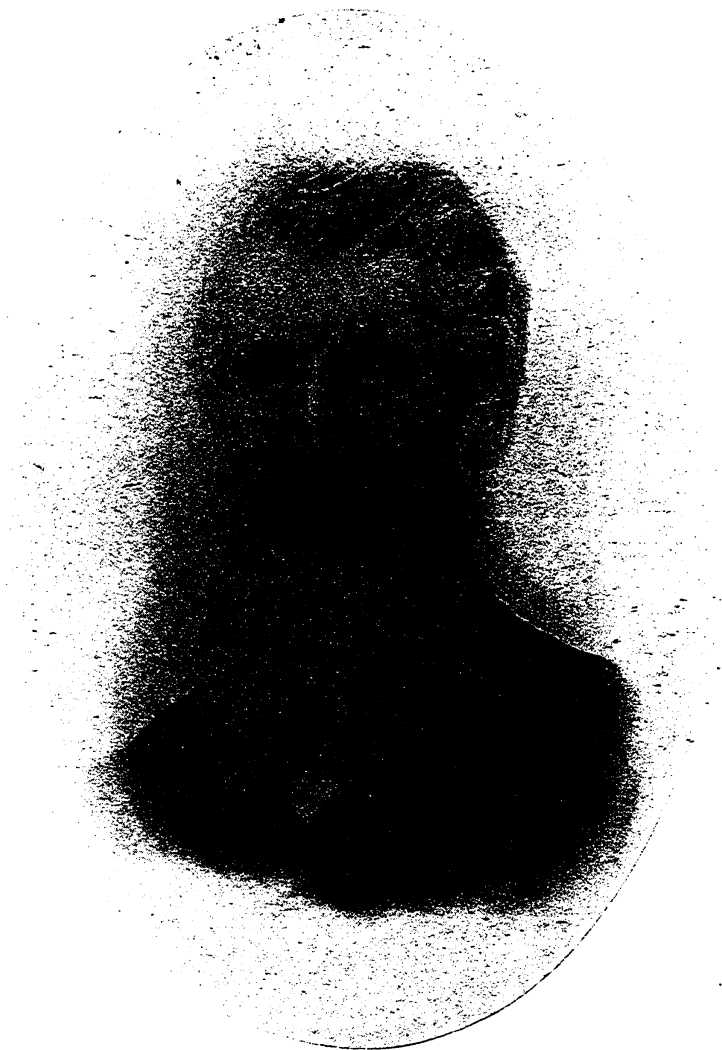
Mr. Crawford enjoys a splendid reputation throughout Fayette county, because of the marked success to which he has attained and the high personal character borne by him. Large-hearted, generous and courteous to all, he easily makes acquaintances and enjoys a large circle of warm personal friends, who esteem him for his genuine worth.

JOHN MICHAEL AND MARGARETHA (SCHMIDT) BOPP.

The subjects of this sketch were both born in the beautiful Rhine country at Mayence, Germany. Mr. Bopp was born October 28, 1822, and was the son of John and Magdalena (Faszbender) Bopp. His father was born in 1788, and his mother in 1790. They were farmers who devoted a



MRS. MARGARETHA BOPP.



JOHN M. BOPP.

large part of their land to the raising of the famous Rhine wine grape. His parents were the only members of his immediate relatives who followed farming as a business, the other members of his father's family being trades people and mechanics. His father was a soldier under the great Napoleon for eight years, until he was captured on the retreat, in the campaign which the French made against the Russians at Moscow. He was held as a prisoner of war until after the battle of Waterloo. He was also mayor of his town for many years, and was always prominent in its business and social affairs. In his family there were six sons and three daughters, who have all long since died, but their descendants are numerous in the vicinity of the old home on the Rhine.

Mr. Bopp grew to manhood in his native land, and was the only one of his family who came to America. On February 1, 1851, he was married to Margaretha Schmidt, who was born in the same village, on February 14, 1828, the daughter of Peter and Anna Mary (Bopp) Schmidt. Her father was born in the same neighborhood June 28, 1802, and her mother on May 28th of the same year. There were five children in her father's family, one son and four daughters, who have all died excepting one sister who still lives in the old home. Her father was a fisherman by trade, and carried on his business on the rivers Rhine and Main, which join at that place. She grew to womanhood in her native town. They both received good common school educations with additional training in music and some other branches.

A little over two years after their marriage, May 29, 1853, they started on their journey to America, coming over the Atlantic in a sailing ship. The journey required forty-two days, and was filled with many hardships and much sea-sickness. At one time, of the entire shipload of immigrants, Mrs. Bopp was the only passenger not sea-sick. They landed at New York, and immediately came on to Chicago, which was then only a small town by the lake, and where they knew but one family who had preceded them to this country. They were both sick with typhoid fever for several months, and here Mr. Bopp worked on the railroad for about a year. In May, 1854, he came to Iowa with some other Germans, who brought along an interpreter, and entered a piece of government land in Windsor township, Fayette county, and returned to Chicago to arrange for moving out. He arrived with his wife and first child September 28, 1854, and built a small slab house near a creek in the northwest part of the township. This slab shanty had no floor, and only one window, and here they spent their first winter. Mr. Bopp bought a span of oxen and hauled logs for a house on the land which he

had entered, and for fencing a small tract which he put into crops that season. He also rented some land for the first year. There were no near neighbors, and no house to be seen from the little log cabin on the prairie. They endured many hardships the first winter, on account of the deep snow and severe cold, to which neither of them was accustomed, and which was much harder to endure on account of insufficient clothing.

In the spring of 1855 Mr. Bopp erected a log cabin, and shortly afterwards the family moved into it. The prairies were covered with tall grass and an endless variety of native flowers, and the wild wolf and native game were plentiful. It was a wonderful change from the peaceful German village to the wild open prairies of a new country like Iowa at that time, but the hope of success, and the determination which had decided them to come and to make the journey from their native land, stood by them in their new surroundings, and gave them courage to work and wait. Neighbors came very slowly, and it was many months before they could see the smoke from another log house, and a long time before they could learn enough English to make themselves understood, even to the few who came. These were days of hardship and toil, and, no doubt, their memories and their hearts often went back to the peaceful German village which they had left, with all their friends and early associates.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bopp were born fourteen children, nine of whom are yet living: (1) J. W., the eldest, was born September 28, 1853, at Chicago. His sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. All the rest of the children were born on the home farm in Windsor township. (2) Ellen M. was born August 4, 1855, and is the wife of William Billmeyer, a large land owner of Auburn, Iowa. They have five children, four daughters and one son, all of whom are living. (3) M. N. was born June 2, 1857, and resides in Windsor township, on the old home farm which he now manages. He was married to Minnie Clark, and they have two children, both of whom are living. (4) J. G. was born September 3, 1858, and was married to May Mottinger. They live at Hawkeye, Iowa, where he is a retired farmer and money loaner. They have no children. (5) Martha P. was born September 20, 1860, and was the wife of G. H. Mottinger, of Mottinger, Washington. She died May 14, 1909, and was buried in the family lot at Hawkeye, Iowa. They had no children. (6) Louise E. was born November 3, 1861, and is at the old home. She has been an invalid all her life. (7) Clara I. was born June 8, 1863, and died March 16, 1882. (8) Henry E., a twin brother of Clara, was born June 9, 1863, and died October 14, 1867, from the effects of an accidental fall from a wagon. (9) L. E. was born October 18, 1864,

and was married to Leona Mendenhall, July 9, 1896. His wife died August 14, 1897. He was again married to Carlotta Baety, of Canada, and now lives at Minneapolis, and is engaged as a traveling salesman for the Cary Safe Company. (10) C. W., (11) William E. and (12) Chauncey, triplets, were born March 23, 1868. Chauncey died August 3d of the same year. The other two are still living. C. W. lives at Hawkeye, Iowa, and is president of the First National Bank, and was married to Elizabeth L. Miller, who assists him in the management of the bank. His sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. William E. is a traveling salesman for the Cary Safe Company, and lives in Minneapolis. He was married to Luna E. Wheeler, of Grinnell, Iowa. They have two children, both living. (13) Fred A. was born November 6, 1869, and was killed in a railroad accident near Redfield, South Dakota, February 23, 1903. He was married to Eugena Rudloff, of Columbus, Wisconsin, and left a widow and one son. She has since re-married and lives in Minneapolis. At the time of his death he was one of the highest salaried salesmen in the west. (14) Anna M., the youngest of the children, was born April 14, 1873, and lived at the old home until her marriage to J. D. Hughes, of Boise City, Idaho. They now reside at Roseberry, Idaho, and have three children, one son and two daughters.

Mr. and Mrs. Bopp were truly life companions, as they were born in the same village, studied in the same school, under the same teachers, and attended the same church before their journey to this country. They both lived to a ripe old age in the new home in their adopted country. They celebrated their golden wedding February 1, 1901, on the farm which they had taken from the hand of nature, and with their own planning and efforts had made it into a beautiful home, with all the modern conveniences which may be enjoyed on a farm.

Mrs. Bopp was a member of the Methodist church for many years, and did much to keep up neighboring Sunday schools and churches. Mr. Bopp was a supporter of schools and churches but was not actively identified with any one denomination. They were both deeply interested in the success and education of their children, and gave most of them college schooling, and assisted them in every possible way to become active and influential business men and women in the community in which they lived. In their later years they took great pride in the success of their sons in the business world. Seven members of their family were school teachers part of their lives, and the family did much to further the interests of education in the neighborhood of the old home, and were always active in supporting any worthy enterprise or undertaking. Mr. Bopp was not

a strong man and felt the hardships of pioneer life very keenly. He was a great lover of flowers and books, and in his earlier years was a fine singer. He was one of the choir at the dedication of the first monument to Gutenberg, the inventor of printing, at Frankfort, Germany, and was a great lover of fine penmanship and the beautiful in nature. Mrs. Bopp was of a more commanding disposition, and took great delight in seeing successful enterprises and material prosperity. They worked hard for many years and saw the wild prairies subdued and converted into prosperous farms and beautiful homes. They saw the growth of churches and schools; the building of roads and towns, and were taxed heavily to start in the building of the first railways, which brought them nearer to the outer world. With their neighbors, they sold eggs for four cents per dozen; butter for six cents per pound; dressed pork for one dollar and thirty-five cents per hundred, and wheat for thirty-five cents per bushel, which had to be delivered at McGregor, with ox teams, a distance of fifty miles; and with all these disadvantages they kept their family together, attended church in their own and neighboring cabins, and contributed to that cordial sociability only found in the pioneer homes. They enjoyed the afternoon of life together in the same devotion and companionship in which they grew up in their native village, and lived to see a great county and a great state grow to be a part of a great nation, by the efforts of themselves and other immigrants from foreign countries, joined with those of native Americans. Theirs were lives well spent, and their last years were gladdened with the satisfaction of success for themselves and their family, and the consciousness of having wrought faithfully and well at the old homestead.

Mr. Bopp died July 21, 1901, at the family home. He was buried in the Hawkeye cemetery, where he had lived to see a prosperous town, in which his sons had taken an active and prominent part in its growth, on what was a houseless prairie when he came to Iowa. Mrs. Bopp died at the old homestead, August 5, 1905, surrounded by all the members of her family and amid the scenes and associations of more than fifty years. Six of her sons acted as pall bearers for her, as they did for all the members of the family who have gone on before, and she is buried in the Hawkeye cemetery, where five of her children, and husband, had been laid to rest.

Mr. and Mrs. Bopp were truly pioneers, and were widely known over the county, both by their own friends and because of the success and enterprise of their children. It is certainly a great achievement when a young couple like Mr. and Mrs. Bopp leave their native land to go thousands of miles across the seas, into a strange country, whose language and customs

they do not understand, and take up a homestead and develop it into a home for a large family, and start them in life with good health, splendid educations and commendable business habits. Such lives must be counted a success, and it is families like this one on which the strength and greatness of a state and nation must be founded. It is families like this one which make a state and nation great, and the benediction of "well done, good and faithful servants," went with them to their final rest.

ANDREW F. RANDALL.

It is not an easy task to describe adequately a man who has led an eminently active and busy life and who has attained to a position of relative distinction in the community with which his interests are allied. But biography finds its most perfect justification, nevertheless, in the tracing and recording of such a life history. It is, then, with a full appreciation of all that is demanded and of the painstaking scrutiny that must be accorded each statement, and yet with a feeling of satisfaction, that the writer essays the task of touching briefly upon the details of such a record as has been that of the honored subject, Andrew F. Randall, one of the honored and influential business men of Fayette county.

Mr. Randall is a native son of the old Empire state, having first seen the light of day in Madison county, New York, on March 16, 1837. He is the son of Asahel and Julia (Dykins) Randall, who were numbered among the early settlers of Madison county, where the father successfully followed agricultural pursuits for a number of years, he and his wife spending their last days at Oneida, that county. They became the parents of six children, of which number two are living, B. F., of Cedar Rapids, this state, and the subject of this review. Politically, the father was originally an old-line Whig, but on the formation of the Republican party he allied himself with it. He and his wife were members of the Presbyterian church. They are both now deceased.

The subject of this sketch was reared in Oneida, New York, the paternal farmstead being near that city, and in the public schools of that community he received a good practical education. In 1856 he came to Lyons, Clinton county, Iowa, and was employed in driving a team on railroad construction work. After a short time he returned to his old home in New York, but soon afterward again came to Clinton county and took a position as engineer

with his brother, P. D. Randall, who had charge of twenty miles of construction of the Northwestern railroad west of Cedar Rapids, and in this capacity he assisted in laying out the town of Clinton. After completing this work Mr. Randall again returned to Oneida county, New York, and was married. In 1860 he came to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where he remained a year and was then appointed railroad station agent at Lisbon, this state, retaining the position two years. At the end of that period he went to Carroll, Iowa, and during the following summer he run a boarding house. During the following three years he was employed as station agent at Mount Vernon. Receiving then the appointment as superintendent of the Lynn county poor farm, Mr. Randall efficiently discharged the duties of that position for three years. In 1873 he came to Center township, Fayette county, and he and his brother, P. F., of Cedar Rapids, platted the village of Randalia, which they named. During the following six years Mr. Randall served as station agent at the new railroad point, but during the following years he chiefly applied himself to mercantile pursuits, having opened up a general store at that point. He was appointed the first postmaster at Randalia and held the office for twelve years, to the entire satisfaction of the patrons of the office. He has been in business here continuously since the inception of the business life of the village and has been one of the principal figures in the business life of the community, the commercial prosperity of the place being largely due to his influence and personal efforts. He has taken the keenest interest in the welfare of the town and was one of the organizers and stockholders of the Randalia Savings Bank, of which he was chosen a member of the board of directors, this being one of the solid and influential banks of Fayette county. In various ways has Mr. Randall shown at all times his unvarying faith in the community in which he lives and the unselfish interest that he has exhibited in its welfare has earned for him the sincere respect of all who have been associated with him. Sound business principles and staunch integrity have characterized his commercial life and a sense of fairness has actuated him in his dealings with others.

Politically, Mr. Randall is an adherent of the Republican party, in the success of which he has ever been deeply interested, having been chairman of the township central committee for a number of years, in which capacity he rendered appreciated service to his party. He served satisfactorily as justice of the peace for several years, but has never been an aspirant for public office. Fraternally he was a charter member of Randalia Lodge, No. 177, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is also a member of the Rosebud Lodge No. 232, Daughters of Rebekah, to which his wife also belongs. Mr. Randall also belongs to West Union Encampment of Patriarchs Militant, in which he has

received special recognition officially, having been elected colonel of the Third Regiment, Second Brigade. Mr. Randall was reared in the faith of the Presbyterian church, as was his wife, but they now give their support to the Methodist Episcopal church.

On April 29, 1858, Mr. Randall was united in marriage with Addie Foland, who was born at Oneida, New York, on November 22, 1838, the daughter of Jonas and Elizabeth (Mowers) Foland, both of whom were natives of New York state, the former born at Schenectady and the latter at Hudson. In the Foland family were nine children, of whom may be noted the remarkable fact that six of them lived wedded lives of more than fifty years. Mrs. Randall's parents both died in New York state. Mr. and Mrs. Randall have had no children of their own, but had an adopted daughter, Belle. The latter received a good education in the public schools and Fayette College, and was also highly accomplished in music. She became the wife of Daniel Duncan, of this county, who is now teacher in a Presbyterian school in New York City. Mrs. Duncan died in New York City on December 5, 1894.

In all that goes to make up strong and potential manhood, Mr. Randall has been well equipped and in all the affairs of a busy life he has "stood four square to every wind that blows," his present high standing in the community where he has lived so many years attesting the opinion held of him by those who know him best. Every movement looking to the advancement of the community, morally, educationally, socially or materially, has received his earnest endorsement and support and he has justly earned the right to be numbered among the representative men of his community.

THE SCHORI BROTHERS.

Albert, Ernest and George Schori, all sons of Benjamin Schori, mentioned at length elsewhere in this work, comprise the firm of Schori Brothers, widely known in this section of the state as stock buyers and all-around stockmen, being among the most progressive and substantial of Fayette county's representative citizens, for in their dealings with their fellow men they are honorable, fair, punctual, possessing a genius for execution and management and of those qualities of personality which usually win whatever the line of work followed.

Albert Schori was born in Elgin, this county, May 24, 1872, and he

received his education in the public schools of this place, and worked for his father, who was engaged in the stock business, remaining with him until he became of legal age, when he became a partner of his father and thus the firm continued until 1899, when Ernest Schori joined the firm; then the business was operated by these three until 1907, when George Schori purchased his father's interest, since when the firm has been known as Schori Brothers, who continue the business started by their father. They are the largest stock dealers in northeastern Iowa, as already intimated, the name of the firm being familiar not only throughout this locality, but at the leading markets of the middle West where they frequently take large numbers of various grades and qualities of livestock. Together with their father, they operated about one thousand acres of land in this vicinity, in connection with their livestock.

Albert, Ernest and Elmer Schori, the last named a younger brother, together with Elias Benson, comprised the lumber company of Elgin, known as Schori & Benson, which carried on an extensive business for some time.

Albert Schori was married, December 18, 1895, to Ella Neuenschwander and they are the parents of the following children: Clarence Benjamin, Georgie May, Leo Levern and Gerald. Fraternally, Albert Schori belongs to the Free and Accepted Masons and the Yeoman lodge.

Ernest Schori married Lily Thoma, of Elgin, in 1896, and they are the parents of two children, Ernestine Ethel and Jeraldine Elizabeth. Ernest Schori is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons.

George Edward, the third member of the firm of Schori Brothers, does the clerical work in connection with their business.

Such a firm does a community a great deal of good in furnishing a ready market for its livestock and by giving it a prestige in other communities and the Schori Brothers are deserving of the high esteem in which they are held by all who know them.

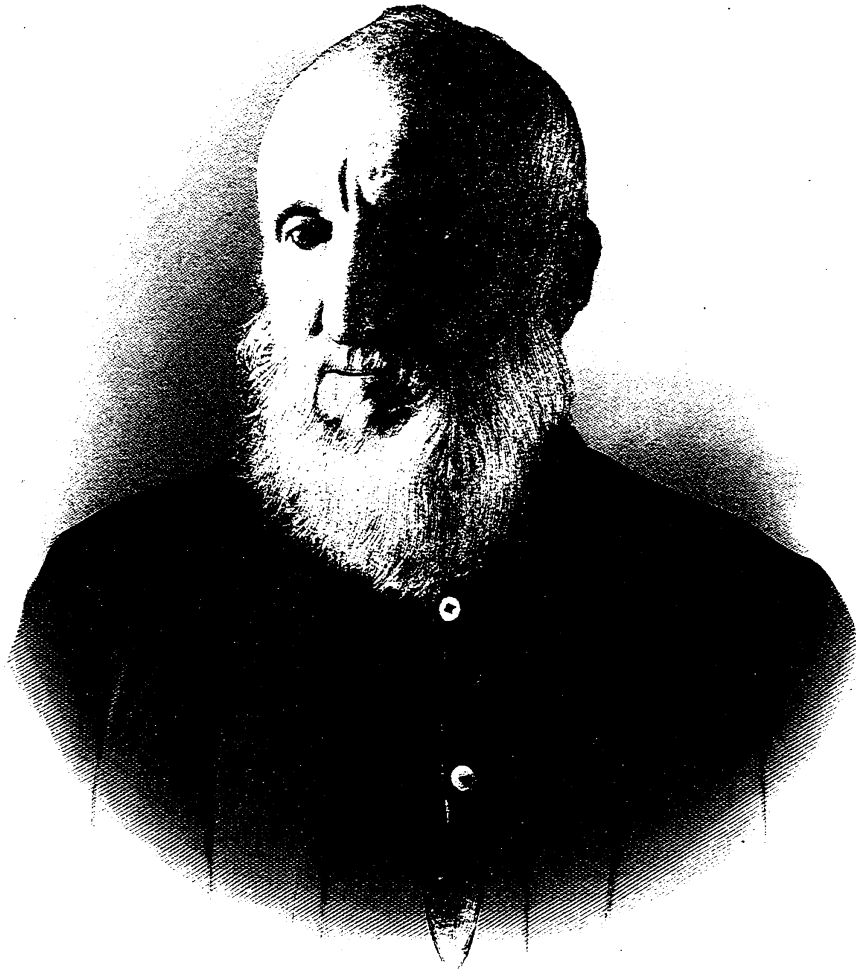
EDWARD C. FENNELL.

This enterprising business man and representative citizen is a native of Fayette county, Iowa, and an honored member of one of the oldest and best known families of Illyria township, where his parents, Thomas and Elizabeth Fennell, located as early as 1849, shortly after the land was subject to entry. Thomas Fennell was a native of county Tipperary, Ireland; his



Engraved by E. W. Williams. 2 Dec. 1877

ELIZABETH FENNELL



Eng. by E. G. Williams & Son N.Y.

THOMAS FENNELL