

wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Cox, was also of Irish lineage, having first seen the light of day in county Cork. These parents were married in their native land, but sometime in the forties came to the United States and, as indicated above, moved westward in 1849 and first located on forty acres of government land in what is now Illyria township, Fayette county, Iowa, there being at that time only a few scattered families in that part of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Fennell came west poor in this world's goods, the sum total of their possession on arriving at their destination in the wild, unsettled country of northeastern Iowa consisting of two good oxen, a cart, a few household effects and seventy-five cents in money. With this meager and inauspicious beginning they set resolutely to work to improve their small farm and, being rich in health and energy, they faced the future with hopeful anticipation and in time realized the results of their labors in a comfortable home.

Without entering into a detailed account of Thomas Fennell's career, suffice it to state that it was not long until he was able to increase his holdings and otherwise add to his means, and at one time he was the owner of four hundred and ninety acres of as fine land as Fayette county could boast, the greater part of which he reduced to cultivation, using the remainder for pasturage. He became one of the leading farmers and stock raisers of Illyria township, as well as one of the wealthiest men, and as a citizen he was enterprising, public spirited and a leader in nearly every movement for the material progress and general welfare of the community in which he resided. He is still living and, although rapidly nearing the century mark, is hale and hearty, possessing nearly all of his faculties, mental and physical, and today there are few if any as intelligent and interesting characters to be met with in this part of Iowa as "Uncle Tom Fennell," as he is affectionately called by his friends and neighbors. He has lived to see Fayette county developed from a wilderness to its present advanced state of civilization and for many of the changes that have taken place since his arrival, over sixty years ago, the country is largely indebted to his intelligent forethought and efficient leadership. A devout Catholic and ever loyal to the Holy Mother church, he was one of the leading spirits in organizing the local church at Wadena and it was mainly through his generosity that the congregation was provided with the beautiful temple of worship in which services are now regularly conducted. Mrs. Fennell, or "Aunt Bess," the name by which she is familiarly known, was a fit companion for her energetic husband and all who came within the range of her influence were profuse in their praise of her many lovable qualities. After a long and useful life, devoted to the good of her

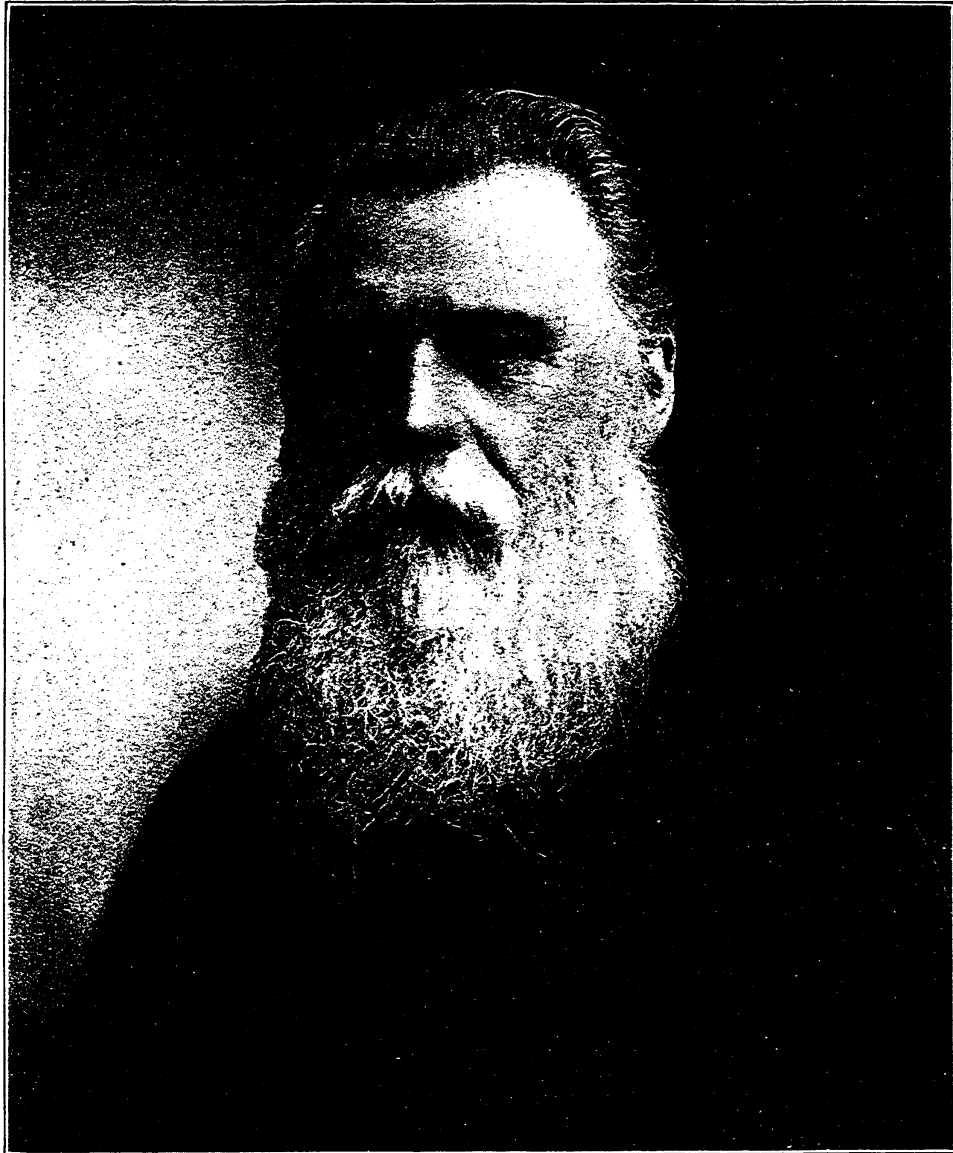
family and friends, she entered into rest on the 2d day of July, 1900, leaving to perpetuate her memory, the love and veneration of all who knew her.

Thomas and Elizabeth Fennell reared a family of eleven children, namely: Mrs. Mary McIntee, deceased; John, who is living in retirement at Elkader, this state; Thomas, a farmer of Independence, Oregon; William, of New Hampton, Iowa; James, a farmer and stock raiser of Illyria township; Edward C., of this review; Elizabeth, who lives with her father and looks after his interests; Ella, now Mrs. Arthur A. Hill, of Los Angeles, California, where the husband has been engaged in the mail service for a period of seventeen years; Kattie, whose husband, Oliver Smith, also a resident of Los Angeles, is engaged in mining.

Edward C. Fennell was born October 19, 1859, in Illyria township and spent his early life on his father's farm. After acquiring a practical education in the public schools of Wadena, he turned his attention to agriculture and stock raising, which he still carries on and in which his financial success has been commensurate with the intelligence and energy displayed in all of his undertakings. In 1890 he began buying and shipping live stock, which has been no inconsiderable part of his business ever since, although in the meantime he has built up other important interests and, as indicated in a preceding paragraph, is now distinctively a man of affairs and one of the representative citizens of the county of Fayette.

In October, 1906, Mr. Fennell assisted in organizing the Wadena Savings Bank, in which he is the largest stockholder and of which he was elected president, a position he has since held. This bank began business with a capital stock of ten thousand dollars and at the present time the deposits amount to ninety thousand dollars, the institution proving popular from the beginning and being highly prized by the citizens of the town and country. The other officers are J. D. Shaffer, vice-president, J. O. Probert, cashier, the board of directors consisting of the following well known professional and business men, namely: Dr. R. P. Berry, J. D. Shaffer, Oakland Probert, Henry Jennings, J. C. Probert, P. H. Hastings, J. H. Wilson, F. J. Schroeder and E. C. Fennell. The present handsome and commodious brick building, one of the finest and best equipped structures of the kind in the northeastern part of the state, was erected in 1908 at a cost of six thousand dollars.

Politically, Mr. Fennell wields a strong influence for the Republican party, but has never been an office seeker, his large and varied business interests requiring all of his time and attention. Aside from serving as a member of the board of directors of the Wadena school district, he has held no public positions, although by nature and training well qualified to fill any



GEORGE D. DARNALL, M. D.

office within the gift of the people of his town or county. In his religious faith he was reared a Catholic and has ever been a true son of the church and active in the affairs of the same, being a leader of the local congregation at Wadena, and one of its chief financial supporters.

On May 15, 1891, Mr. Fennell was united in the holy bonds of wedlock with Alma Messerli, daughter of Christ and Marie (Krebs) Messerli, these parents coming to America in 1867, from their native country of Switzerland and settling in Illyria township, Fayette county, where they still live, the father being one of the prosperous and enterprising citizens of the community. Mrs. Fennell is one of six living children, the names of her brothers and sisters being as follows: Lizzie, wife of Louis Wilbur; Amanda, who married G. A. Rice; Christ, Fred, and Clara, wife of W. D. Mattocks.

Mr. and Mrs. Fennell have one child, a daughter, Marie Elizabeth, who was born December 31, 1894, and who is now a student in a parochial school at Elkader. Miss Marie is a young lady of fine mind, which has been carefully cultivated under the direction of very able instructors, being especially proficient in music, in which she early manifested decided talent. She excels in both instrumental and vocal music, graduating in each from St. Joseph's Academy at Elkader, standing especially high as pianist, being one of the most skillful performers ever sent from that well known institution. She is also an artist of marked talent and is now studying painting under a master of art in the school where she received her other training. She has a lovable disposition, is popular with her schoolmates and friends and her presence in the home gives interest as well as gladdens and makes bright the domestic circle. Fraternally, Mr. Fennell is a Knight of Columbus, being a member of Lodge No. 510, of Dubuque, Iowa.

HON. GEORGE D. DARNALL, M. D.

There is no class to whom greater gratitude is due from the world at large than the self-sacrificing, sympathetic, noble-minded men whose life work is the alleviation of suffering and the ministering of comfort to the afflicted, to the end that the span of human existence may be lengthened and a great degree of satisfaction enjoyed during the remainder of their earthly sojourn. There is no standard by which their beneficent influence can be measured; their helpfulness is limited only by the extent of their knowledge and skill, while their power goes hand in hand with the wonderful laws of nature that spring

from the very source of life itself. Someone has aptly said: "He serves God best who serves humanity most." Among the physicians and surgeons of Fayette county who have risen to eminence in their chosen field of endeavor and have won a reputation that has transcended the limits of the county is Dr. George D. Darnall, of West Union, whose career has been that of a broad-minded, conscientious worker in the sphere to which his life and energies have been devoted and whose profound knowledge of his profession has won for him a leading place among the most distinguished medical men of his day and generation in upper Iowa. But a perusal of his interesting life record, briefly set forth in the following paragraphs, will show that he is also a potent factor in other relations of life, as well.

George D. Darnall was born near Paris, Edgar county, Illinois, May 28, 1843, and is a son of Capt. William D. and Eliza J. (Metcalf) Darnall, the father having been, for many years, a captain in the Illinois state militia and for a time a major. Doctor Darnall is descended from one of the oldest and best families of the United States, many members of which have been prominent in various walks of life, Col. Henry and John Darnall (brothers), who emigrated from England with a company of Lord Baltimore's colony, in 1665, locating in Maryland, being the first of this name on this side the Atlantic. Col. Henry Darnall was the first surveyor-general of Maryland. Members of the family took a conspicuous part in the Revolutionary war, and Charles Carroll of Carrollton, the last surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence, married Mary Darnall, a member of this family. Carroll was said to have been the wealthiest of Maryland patriots, worth perhaps two million dollars when the war began. His contributions to the cause of the colonies were liberal. He reached the advanced age of ninety-five years. Doctor Darnall's grandfather, John Darnall, emigrated from Maryland to Kentucky in 1779, accompanied by his brother, Isaac, and settled near Paris, where he took up farming. The Doctor's father, William D. Darnall, was born in Kentucky, November 19, 1812, and removed to Illinois in 1820, the family locating near Paris, Edgar county, and there he grew to maturity, received his education and worked on the home farm during his youth, and there he married Eliza J. Metcalfe in 1838. She was a native of Louisville, Kentucky, the daughter of William and Jemimah (Redmon) Metcalfe. The family was of English origin and settled in Kentucky in an early day. They removed to Edgar county, Illinois, about 1824. Four sons and two daughters were born to Mr. and Mrs. William Darnall, namely: Prudy Jane married Alexander Moyer, both now deceased, her death occurring in Paris, Illinois, in August, 1870; John W., formerly a lawyer in Chicago, now deceased; Dr. George D.,

of this review; James J., who served nearly four years in the Civil war, married Eveline Graham, of Pratt county, Kansas; Jacob N. is married and lives in Paris, Illinois; Sarah Ann, who married James A. Kester, of Paris, died January 5, 1889. The father of these children, a man of many praiseworthy characteristics and influential in his community, was called to his reward on November 12, 1888, having spent a half century on his farm and in Paris, Illinois, where he resided at the time of his death. His widow remained on the old homestead in Paris until her death on October 31, 1906. William D. Darnall was a patriotic and public spirited citizen, and he served as a soldier in the Black Hawk war, in the campaigns of 1831 and 1832, in the same command of which Abraham Lincoln was a captain, they having been old and intimate acquaintances.

Thus, considering the ancestry of Doctor Darnall, it is no wonder that he is a man who does things and is a leader in his chosen life work. He grew to maturity on his father's farm and early in life knew the meaning of hard work in the fields. Determined to become an educated man, he walked between three and four miles during the winter months to attend the subscription schools of those early days, paying a tuition of five cents per day. He subsequently attended the Edgar Academy at Paris, a Presbyterian school, and he began life as a teacher, which he followed very successfully for some time, but, believing that the medical profession offered greater inducements, he began studying medicine with Dr. Mark Rowe, of Redmon, Illinois. He made rapid progress and in 1866 he entered upon the regular practice at Cherry Point, Illinois, and remained there until 1867, when he removed to Solon, Iowa, and opened an office. The year previous he had begun attending lectures in the Medical College of Ohio, located at Cincinnati, and was graduated with honors from that institution with the class of 1872. Fully equipped for his chosen profession, he then located in Pomeroy, Iowa, where he continued practice until 1872, which year witnessed his advent in West Union, Fayette county, where he has remained in continuous practice to the present time, having been successful from the first, his name long since becoming a household word throughout this locality, ranking with the leading members of this profession in the state. He is now the senior physician in active practice in Fayette county. He has kept fully abreast of the times in all that pertains to the practice of medicine and surgery and is not only profoundly versed in his chosen line, but is also acquainted with the best literature of the world and is well posted on all current topics of the day.

Doctor Darnall's domestic life began on November 17, 1872, when he formed a matrimonial alliance with Sarah C. Lawyer, who was born in Illinois

City, Rock Island county, Illinois, August 1, 1854, the daughter of L. M. Lawyer and wife, the father born in Maryland, of German parentage, and the mother, whose maiden name was Fisher, was also a native of that state. Her death occurred in 1868, being still survived by her husband, who makes his home in Solon, Iowa. Doctor Darnall's wife died January 27, 1883, and on May 28, 1896, the Doctor married Cora A. Lawyer, a sister of his first wife.

Politically, Doctor Darnall is a Republican and he has long taken much more than a passing interest in party affairs, holding various official positions with credit to himself and with satisfaction to all concerned. For five years he was the efficient chairman of the Republican central committee of Fayette county, was once coroner of the county, was a member of the city council of West Union for seven terms, and a member of the pension board for over twenty-five years, being now president of the same. He has also rendered efficient service as a member of the board of education. He received the nomination by his party for representative to the twenty-second General Assembly of Iowa, to which office he was duly elected, and at the succeeding convention he received a renomination by acclamation, but was defeated, as were many others of the Republicans, owing to the combined Democratic, Greenback, Labor and Prohibition vote of that year. He was also connected with H. B. Hoyt in the erection of the city hall.

Doctor Darnall has long taken an abiding interest in fraternal organizations. Early in life he became a member of Mt. Vernon Lodge, No. 112, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and upon coming to Iowa he transferred his membership to West Union. He has rapidly advanced in this order, and was made a member of Clermont Chapter, No. 62, Royal Arch Masons, and Langridge Commandery No. 47, Knights Templar. Later he was advanced to the Scottish Rite degrees, and is a member of DeMolay Consistory, at Lyons, Iowa, having attained the thirty-second degree. He is also a prominent member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to Round Grove Lodge No. 41, West Union Encampment No. 57, and West Union Rebekah Lodge No. 97. He has served as worshipful master of West Union Masonic Lodge No. 60 for eight years, and has been an active and influential member, and he seems to carry the sublime precepts of this order into his daily life. He is an influential member of the Fayette County Medical Association, of which he has been secretary and president. He is also a member of the Iowa State Medical Society and the American Medical Association.

Doctor Darnall has been very successful as a business man and is the owner of valuable property. He owns the splendid brick block at the southwest corner of the public square, a beautiful residence and other property.

In company with his cousin, Dr. Charles F. Darnall, and L. A. Fisher, he carried on an extensive drug business in West Union for a number of years after 1887. He is now alone in the practice, in which he has been phenomenally successful, both professionally and financially. The firm name of Darnall & Fisher was long familiar at the corner of Vine and Elm streets. He is president of the Fayette County National Bank and a member of its board of directors. He is one of the influential men in financial circles in the county. Personally he is popular with a vast number of friends and acquaintances, possessing to a marked degree the characteristics that win and retain warm friendships. By his kindness, courtesy and public spirit he has won an abiding place in the esteem of his fellow citizens, and by his intelligence, energy and enterprising spirit has made his influence felt for many years in this section of the state, and as a result he occupies no small place in the favor of the public.

WILLIAM JONES.

In looking over the list of honored residents of Fayette county of a past generation who are now sleeping the sleep of the just there is found the well remembered name of William Jones, a man who led a life of which his descendants and friends who survive him should be justly proud, for he was truly a good and useful man, whom to know was to admire and respect. He was born in 1822 in Breconshire, Wales, and there he grew to manhood and learned the shoemaker's trade. In 1856, accompanied by his mother, he came to America and located in Illyria township, Fayette county, Iowa, where he bought twenty acres of land in section 20, built a log house on the place, which he cleared up and transformed into a good farm, making shoes and tilling the soil at the same time. He worked something less than a year at his trade in West Union, and he made his own shoes all his life. From time to time he added to his original purchase and at his death owned one hundred and fifty acres, forty acres in section 29 and the balance in section 20. Mr. Jones's mother made her home with him on the farm until her death, in 1879. In 1878 Mr. Jones built a large two-story stone dwelling on his place, consisting of nine rooms and he and his wife lived there very comfortably until their deaths. Politically, Mr. Jones was a Republican, but, preferring to give his farm all his attention, he never took much interest in political affairs and never sought office.

James Jones, an older brother of the subject, who was also born in

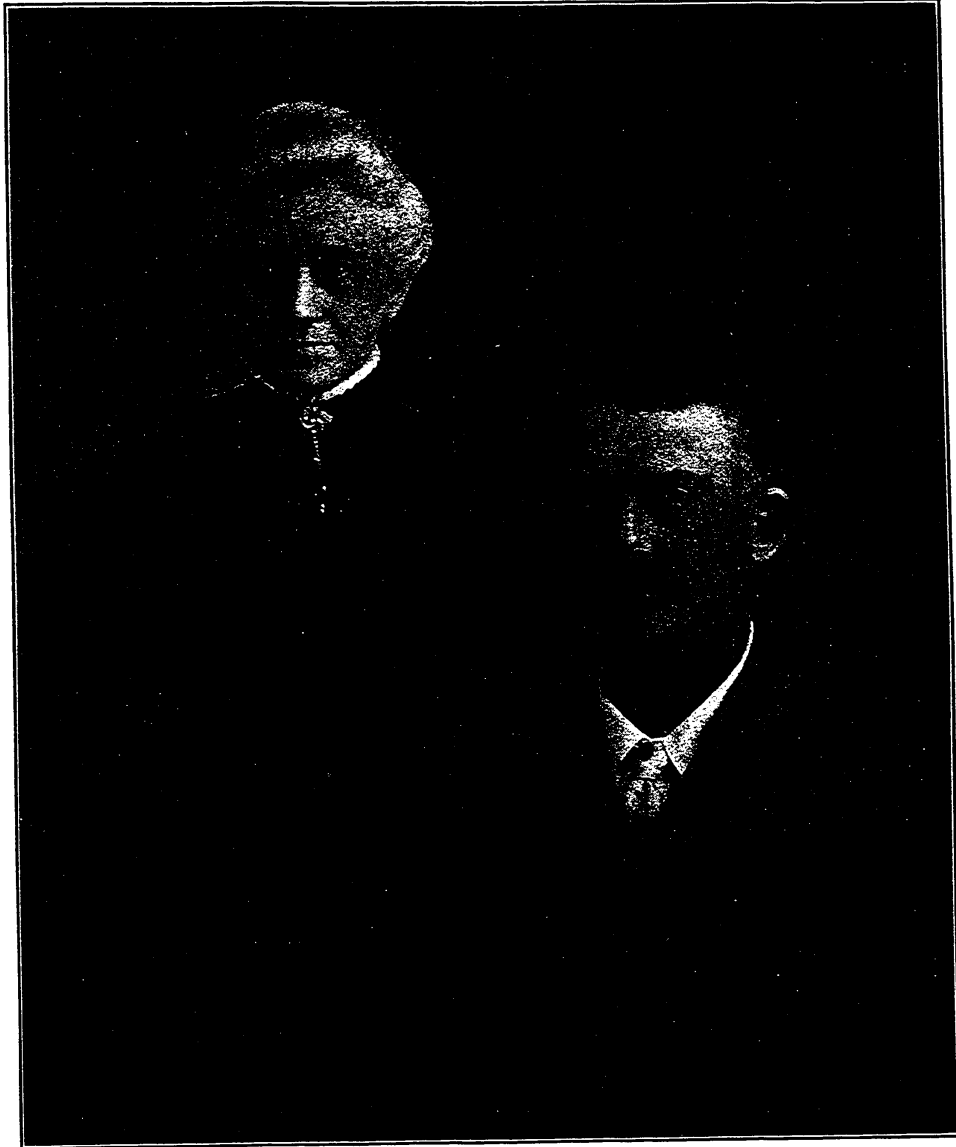
Breconshire, Wales, left his native land sometime previous to the date that saw the departure of his mother and brother. He located in New York and there married Ann Sanders, who was born in Breconshire, Wales, in 1833. She had come with her parents to America when a young girl, locating in New York.

About 1857 Mr. and Mrs. James Jones came to Fayette county, Iowa, and located in Illyria township, where Mr. Jones was killed soon afterwards while digging a well. He left a widow and two daughters, Mary, now the widow of John Stephens, and Mrs. Clara Landas, of Fayette county. Sometime after the death of James Jones, William Jones and Mrs. Ann (Sanders) Jones were married, and to them were born five children, namely: William C., who lives in South Dakota; George W., who lives on the home place, which he owns; Jane is the wife of Grant Wilber and lives in South Dakota; Emily M. is the wife of Frank Follensbee, of Illyria township; Frank T. lives in Westfield township, this county. The two daughters of James Jones made their home with their mother and step-father until they were married. The death of William Jones occurred in May, 1887, and that of Mrs. Jones in July, 1887.

BURTON E. ODEKIRK.

Practical industry, wisely and vigorously applied, never fails of success. It carries a man onward and upward, brings out his individual character and acts as a powerful stimulus to the efforts of others. The greatest results in life are often attained by simple means and the exercise of the ordinary qualities of common sense and perseverance. The everyday life, with its cares, necessities and duties, affords ample opportunities for acquiring experience of the best kind and its most beaten paths provide a true worker with abundant scope for effort and self-improvement.

Burton E. Odekirk is a native of Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, where he was born on November 9, 1863, and is a son of William and Lurinda H. (Handcock) Odekirk, the former a native of Hoosick, Rensselaer county, New York, and the latter of Onondaga county, the same state. They were married in the latter county and in 1848 moved to Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, the trip being made by boat to Milwaukee and then by ox team to their new home. There Mr. Odekirk applied himself to the work of a frontiersman and in the course of time succeeded in clearing two farms, a considerable task. In 1868 he came to Center township, Fayette county, Iowa, and bought one hundred



MR. AND MRS. BURTON E. ODEKIRK.

and fifty acres of land, and also forty acres of timber land in Westfield township. Here he made his home and spent the rest of his days, his death occurring on September 25, 1890, at the age of seventy-three years, six months and seven days. His wife died on February 3, 1908, at the age of eighty-four years, one month and six days. They became the parents of seven children, namely: Quincy A., Adelbert (deceased), Josie A. (deceased), Herbert E., Sarah L., Willard B. and Burton E. William Odekirk was a Republican in his political belief and served several terms as trustee as well as other township offices, being active in political affairs. He was an attendant of the Universalist church.

The subject of this sketch was reared on the parental homestead and as soon as old enough applied himself to the labors of the home farm. He secured a good common school education, supplementing this by attendance in the commercial department of the Upper Iowa University at Fayette. His active years have been devoted to agricultural pursuits and he has met with a gratifying measure of success along this line. He owns one hundred and thirty-six acres of the old homestead and on this he produces all the crops common to this section of the state, giving also some attention to the raising of livestock, which has proven the source of a considerable part of his income.

On February 6, 1889, Mr. Odekirk was united in marriage with Carrie A. Miner, who was born in Ashtabula county, Ohio, on November 4, 1866, a daughter of Francis Brown and Eliza (Marvin) Miner. These parents were natives respectively of Vermont and Ohio and after their marriage they located in Ohio. In 1873 they came to Fayette county, Iowa, settling on a farm in Center township, their home now being in West Union. They are widely known and highly respected. Politically, Mr. Miner is a Republican and has served several terms as trustee of his township. Religiously, his wife is a Baptist, while he is liberal in his views. They became the parents of four children, namely: Carrie, Hattie B. (deceased), Ella Frances and Horace Clyde. To Mr. and Mrs. Odekirk have been born four children, as follows: One that died in infancy, Forest, Roy Francis and Robert William.

Politically, the subject of this sketch is an exponent and supporter of the Republican party, though in no sense a seeker after public office, while in religion he holds liberal views. Because of his business ability, his sterling integrity and his honesty of purpose in all the affairs of life, Mr. Odekirk has won and retains to a marked degree the confidence and esteem of all who know him, his friends being in number as his acquaintances.

Francis B. Miner, father of Mrs. Odekirk, enlisted in the Sixth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, on October 14, 1861, in which he served three years,

and was discharged October 15, 1864, while in camp before Petersburg, Virginia. He was a bodyguard of General Fremont and received a silver medal for bravery. He was quartermaster sergeant. On his way home, this medal was stolen from him by some one who wanted the silver more than the medal.

HERBERT E. ODEKIRK.

Among the citizens of Center township, Fayette county, Iowa, who have, by a course of right living, governed and controlled by high ideals, won not only pecuniary independence, but what is of far more value, the esteem and confidence of the community in which so many years of his life have been passed, is Herbert E. Odekirk, who was born in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, on the 7th day of January, 1852, and is a son of William and Lorinda (Handcock) Odekirk, who are mentioned more fully in the sketch of Burton E. Odekirk, elsewhere in this work.

Mr. Odekirk spent his boyhood years under the parental roof and as soon as old enough he applied himself to the work of the home farm. He received the advantage of a common school education, and on attaining mature years, he obtained employment at railroad work, which he followed for two years. He then entered the employ of the Standard Oil Company and was sent to the Dakotas, where he spent a year. He then came to Center township, Fayette county, Iowa, where he secured some good farming land, to the operation of which he devoted his energies. He cultivated from eighty to one hundred and sixty acres from time to time and uniformly met with gratifying results. However, he has sold a part of his land and is now holding only twenty acres, comprising his home property, where he is living in comfort and ease. During his active years as a farmer he carried on a diversified system of operations and in the community where he has lived he is considered a man of sound, practical ideas and wise and discriminating judgment, his business affairs having always been conducted in an able and careful manner. Mr. Odekirk is a large stockholder in the Randalia Savings Bank, one of the solid financial institutions of the county and an influential factor in local commercial circles.

In 1877 Mr. Odekirk was united in marriage to Ozzama Potter, to which union were born two children, Jessie and Lila.

Fraternally, Mr. Odekirk is a staunch supporter of the Republican party and has taken a keen interest in the success of his party. That he holds the confidence and esteem of his fellow voters is evidenced in the fact that he has

served as township trustee and held practically all the township offices, performing his duties in such a manner as to win the approval of his constituents. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he has taken a number of high degrees, and he also belongs to the auxiliary order, the Daughters of Rebekah. He is also affiliated with that great beneficial fraternal order, the Modern Woodmen of America.

Mr. Odekirk has ever had the welfare of the community at heart and has always been found willing to devote his time to any movement looking to the development of the public weal, and as a result of his genuine worth, his pleasing demeanor, integrity of principle and honesty of purpose, he is today recognized as one of Center township's foremost citizens.

C. A. BALDWIN.

Day before yesterday, they were young, full of life and activity, giving their strength unsparingly at duty's call in battle for the nation; yesterday, they were the stalwart men of mature age, men of affairs, the bone and sinew of the nation, diminished in numbers, but still a host; today, they are few and scattered, and those few becoming feeble, reaching that age when memory takes the place of activity; tomorrow, they will all have disappeared. But never, while this country stands a monument to their sacrifice, will the work which those brave soldiers of the Civil war accomplished be forgotten, though they themselves have long passed away. Those who now survive, members of the Grand Army of the Republic, are, in every assemblage in which they appear, made honored guests and awarded heroes' places.

C. A. Baldwin was born in Berrien county, Michigan, April 1, 1844, the son of A. D. Baldwin, who was born in New York, and Mary A. (Allbright) Baldwin, born near Knoxville, Tennessee. His paternal grandfather, Amos Baldwin, a native of New York, served faithfully in the war of 1812, and married a Miss Woodworth, of his own state. His maternal grandparents were Christian and Martha (Walker) Allbright, he a native of North Carolina, she also from the South. Grandfather Allbright was a farmer. He died at A. D. Baldwin's home in Fayette county. Grandfather Baldwin was a farmer and physician, one of those pioneer settlers who so usefully combined those occupations.

A. D. Baldwin was educated in Michigan, where he lived until 1846, when he and Grandfather Allbright came to Stephenson county, Illinois, and

Mr. Baldwin, who had a team, entered eighty acres of prairie and twenty acres of timber, and put up buildings and made a home. This was twenty miles northeast of Freeport, and the town of Davis afterwards grew up on the same location. In 1857 he came to this county and bought two hundred and seventy acres in section 23, Pleasant Valley township, and lived there until his death.

C. A. Baldwin had a very limited education. In 1862, at the age of eighteen, he enlisted in Company H, Thirty-eighth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, served with credit for eighteen months, and was then discharged on account of disability contracted in the service. Returning home, he farmed in Fayette county until 1885, when he removed to Elgin, engaged in the agricultural implement business for three years and then retired. On September 8, 1867, he was married to Esther A. Cooley, who was born near Elkhart, Indiana. They were the parents of ten children: Maggie, born July 27, 1868; John A., born November 1, 1869; Ellen M., October 29, 1871; Allisha L., April 12, 1873; Lily M., September 16, 1874; Sarah A., June 2, 1876; George A., October 12, 1877; Emma R., November 13, 1879; Della E., April 9, 1882; Florence J., January 6, 1884; F. Logan, May 29, 1885. Mr. Baldwin's mother died in 1909, aged ninety-two. Mr. Baldwin and his family are Methodists. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the Iowa Legion of Honor, a man whose many virtues speak for themselves more strongly than words can express.

WILLIAM W. WHITEFORD.

There could be no more comprehensive history written of a city or a community, or even of a state and its people, than that which deals with the life-work of those who, by their own endeavor and indomitable energy, have placed themselves where they well deserve the title of "prominent and progressive," and in this sketch will be found the record of one who has outstripped the less active and less able trodders on the highway of life and who has attained to an enviable position in the business, political and social life of the community where he has resided for many years.

William W. Whiteford was born in the city of Glasgow, Scotland, on June 4, 1852, and is a son of Samuel and Margaret Whiteford, both of whom also were natives of the land of hills and heather. These parents, in 1856, came to the United States, locating first in New York city, where the death



MRS. W. W. WHITEFORD.



WILLIAM W. WHITEFORD.

of the mother occurred. In 1861 Samuel Whiteford enlisted in the Thirteenth Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry, with which he served faithfully until the close of the war. He was wounded in the battle of Fair Oaks, and died in a hospital at Washington, D. C., in 1865. He was the father of five children, of whom two are living, the subject of this sketch, and John W. Whiteford, of Fostoria, Iowa.

William W. Whiteford came to Sandwich, Illinois, in 1866 and was there engaged in farm work until attaining his majority. On February 5, 1885, he came to Fayette county, Iowa, and located on a farm one mile from Randalia, and there he was continuously and successfully engaged in the pursuit of agriculture until 1905, when he moved into the village of Randalia and engaged in the livery business, in which he is still interested. He was a thoroughly practical and intelligent farmer, giving a wise direction to all of his operations, and his fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he still owns, is numbered among the best farms in the township. Mr. Whiteford is also a stockholder in the Randalia Savings Bank. He has in other ways evinced an interest in the commercial welfare of the community and was one of the original stockholders and the first president of the Randalia Creamery Company, being also for several years a member of the board of directors.

Politically, Mr. Whiteford is an adherent of the Democratic party, in the success of which he has been deeply interested, and he has held the office of township assessor for eight years continuously, being the present incumbent of this office. Fraternally, he is a member of Randalia Lodge, No. 177, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he has also taken a number of the higher degrees in this order, belonging to the encampment and canton at West Union. Mrs. Whiteford is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which she gives a liberal support.

On September 22, 1876, Mr. Whiteford was united in marriage to Eliza Canham, a native of England, born on March 7, 1844, a daughter of Thomas and Rebecca (Groom) Canham. These parents, who also were natives of England, brought their family to the United States in 1852, locating first in New York city. In 1856 they moved to Illinois, where the mother's death occurred in 1900, at the age of seventy-seven years, her husband following her to the silent land in 1902, at the age of seventy-nine years. They were the parents of three children, of whom the subject's wife is the only one living. A brother, Henry, died in the Belle Isle prison during the Civil war. Mr. and Mrs. Whiteford have become the parents of four children, namely: Gertrude is the wife of Fay Potter and they have one child, Gladys; Walter W., a grain dealer at Randalia, is mentioned in a later paragraph; George assists his father

in his business affairs and carries the mail; Charles, who is a farmer, having charge of the old homestead, married Florence Tatro and they have two children, Robert Owen and Charles Leroy. George married Fannie Steele and they have a son, Paul.

Walter W. Whiteford was born near Pawpaw, Illinois, on December 27, 1878. He was reared on his father's farm and received a common school education, supplementing this by a business course at Hiland Park. Since attaining mature years he has been engaged in the grain business, having worked eight years for Gilchrist & Company, of McGregor. He was then for two years with the Northwestern Life Insurance Company, but in August, 1908, he engaged in the grain business at Randalia on his own account. He met with success from the start and is now numbered among the prosperous business men of the community. Politically, he is a Republican, while he and his wife attend and support the Methodist Episcopal church.

In July, 1906, Walter Whiteford married Lulu Beamer, a native of West Union, and a daughter of William and Fannie (Sands) Beamer. To this union have been born two children, Elizabeth A. and Margaret M. The members of the Whiteford family have always stood high in the estimation of those who know them and they have exerted a potential influence for the best interests of the community in which they live.

WILLIAM HENRY STONE.

One of the oldest, most honored and influential families in Fayette county is that represented by W. H. Stone, a leading citizen of Waucoma and a man who has long enjoyed distinctive prestige in the business world, ready at all times to do his full share in furthering movements calculated to advance the general welfare of his community and county. He was born at Warrensburg, Warren county, New York, May 29, 1852. In 1860, when eight years of age, he came to Iowa with his parents, Oliver and Mary E. (Bonesteel) Stone, also natives of New York, who settled four miles southeast of Waucoma, Eden township, Fayette county, Iowa, on the wild prairie, where they remained until eight years before the father's death, which occurred at Waucoma, where he spent the last years of his life, dying in 1899 at the age of seventy-six years; his widow survived until 1906, dying at the same age. When the family came here they found a sparsely settled country which abounded in wild animals and frequently bands of Indians passed through. It was neces-

sary for the family to do much of their trading at McGregor, fifty miles distant, this being the nearest shipping point for years, consequently much livestock was driven there and grain was hauled to that market. Mr. Stone paid five dollars per acre for his first eighty. He was a good manager and prospered and added to his original purchase, until he owned two hundred acres. His son, Gerald O., is now occupying the old homestead. He was a well known and influential man in those early days and highly respected by his neighbors. He was a Democrat and held several local offices, and he belonged to the Methodist Episcopal church.

Four children, two sons and two daughters, were born to Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Stone, namely: Juliette, the wife of H. A. Bender, of Fayette, Iowa; W. H., of this review; Jannette, wife of M. S. Adams, of Waucoma, Eden township; Gerald O., who lives on the old home place.

W. H. Stone remained on the home farm until he was twenty-one years old. He received an excellent education in the common schools and in the Upper Iowa University, where he spent two terms. When only eighteen years of age he began teaching, which he continued during several winters. He spent two and one-half years, from 1873 to 1875, in Montana, prospecting for gold. He was in the present great city of Butte when there were but thirty men there. In 1875 he started a hardware store in Waucoma which he conducted for two years, then spent one year on a farm, then entered the dry goods store of his father-in-law, with whom he remained. He was for some time cashier of the S. B. Ziegler Company Bank at Waucoma. He has been very successful in whatever he has undertaken and he is now the owner of over one thousand acres of excellent land in this locality, which he rents. He devotes most of his attention to the bank, having been connected with the same for a period of twenty-eight years. About twelve years ago, in company with his nephew, he started the First State Bank of Glenville, Minnesota, in which he still has an interest. In company with his brother-in-law, C. A. Moody, he started the First State Bank of Fountain, Minnesota, in which he is also still interested, and he is a stockholder in other banks.

Mr. Stone was married in 1879 to Hattie M. Moody, a lady of culture and education and the representative of a prominent old family. This union has resulted in the birth of the following children: Leo C.; L. Oliver, who is in the bank at Mason City, Iowa; Ruby Cornelia was a student in the Upper Iowa University at Fayette, but is now at Los Angeles, California; two died in infancy.

In all his relations with his fellow men the conduct of Mr. Stone has been above reproach and it is scarcely necessary to say that his sterling busi-

ness qualifications, his genial address, integrity and substantial worth have gained the unbounded esteem of those with whom he comes into contact and that he is numbered today among the influential citizens of the county honored by his residence, and is eminently deserving of the large success that has rewarded his efforts.

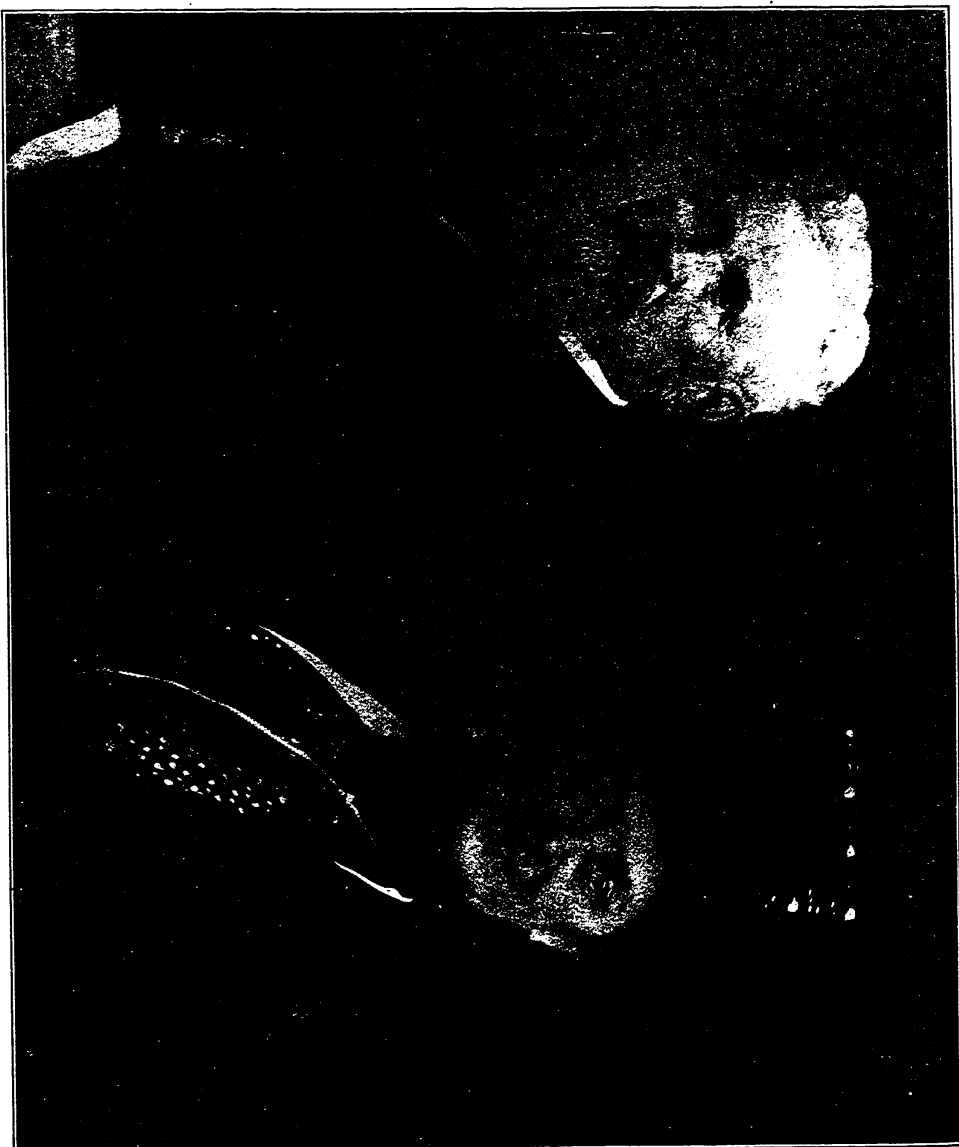
The Bank of Waucoma, the private bank of W. H. Stone, was established in 1882 by S. B. Ziegler & Company under the same name, with W. H. Stone as cashier, who remained in this capacity for a period of five years when he purchased the institution and has since conducted it as a private bank, giving it his personal management. It is well equipped with safety deposit vaults and all modern fixtures, and is well patronized by the citizens of northwestern Fayette county. Mr. Stone's son, Leo C. Stone, is the present efficient cashier.

DAVID A. HOLMES.

Few men of Fayette county are as widely and favorably known as D. A. Holmes, of Donnan. He is one of the strong and influential citizens whose lives have become an essential part of the history of this section of the state and for years his name has been synonymous for all that constitutes honorable and upright manhood. Tireless energy, keen perception and honesty of purpose, combined with every-day common sense, have been among his chief characteristics and while advancing individual success he has also largely promoted the moral, educational and material welfare of his community.

Mr. Holmes was born in Rensselaer county, New York, on January 5, 1834, and is a son of William and Rachael (Thompson) Holmes, both of whom were natives of Ireland. The father came from his native land to New York state in 1820 and was there married. In 1838 he came to Oswego county, New York, where he followed the vocation of farming, though earlier in life he had been a weaver. In 1864 he came to Fayette county, Iowa, and here spent his remaining days, his death occurring in 1883, at the age of eighty-three years; he had been preceded to the silent land a number of years by his wife, whose death occurred in 1870. They were the parents of five children, four sons and a daughter, of which number the daughter, Mrs. Margaret J. Claxton, and the subject are the only ones living.

D. A. Holmes, who spent his boyhood days on the home farm, was given the advantage of a good practical education, his common school training being supplemented by a course in the Mexico (New York) Academy. He engaged



MR. AND MRS. DAVID A. HOLMES.

in teaching school, and was so employed in New York and in Fayette county, Iowa, for several years. He then decided to make agriculture his life work and to this end he bought forty acres of land, to the cultivation of which he assiduously applied himself. Hard and consecutive labor brought its result and as Mr. Holmes prospered he added to his landed possessions until today he is the owner of four hundred acres of good land, practically all of which is under cultivation or devoted to pasture for his livestock. He has been an extensive and successful breeder of pure-bred Durham and Galloway cattle, having gained an enviable reputation in this line. In 1904, Mr. Holmes went to California, remaining there until the spring of the following year, and on his return he erected a fine residence in the attractive village of Donnan, where he now resides, having turned the operation of the home farm over to other hands and is now enjoying that rest which his former years of toil have so richly entitled him to.

Politically, Mr. Holmes is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party and has held several local offices, having been township trustee several years, a member of the school board for twenty years, and assessor for several terms. Fraternally, he is a member of the Good Templars. He has taken an active and potential interest in the advancement of the best interests of the community and was a very active promoter of the county fair, having served ten years as a director of the fair association and one year as the president. He has always had a deep interest in educational matters and he has been in many ways a valued friend of the Upper Iowa University, to the success of which he has been devoted, assisting materially in advancing its interests.

In 1860 Mr. Holmes was united in marriage to Angelica Newman Holmes, the daughter of John and Catherine Newman, and the widow of J. A. Holmes, having by that marriage two children, James A. and Lizzie C. Her parents were born in Germany and on coming to the United States settled in Saratoga county, New York, where they spent the remainder of their days. To Mr. and Mrs. Holmes were born two children, S. Kate, deceased, and D. N., a farmer in Center township, this county. Mrs. Angelica Holmes died in 1867 and in 1869 Mr. Holmes married Sarah Carter, who was born at Carterville, Oswego county, New York, the daughter of Robert G. and Emily M. (Chittenden) Carter, the father a native of Ireland and the mother of Westland, New York, her people being of Scotch origin. Robert G. Carter came to Oswego county, New York, when seventeen years of age, and was married in Oneida county, that state. He became the father of four sons and a daughter, of which number four are living. Mr. Carter was a successful farmer and extensive land owner, his holdings at one time amounting

to about two thousand acres. He was also engaged in mercantile business, owned and operated a grist-mill and a saw-mill, a tannery and a hotel. His death occurred in 1893 and his widow passed away in 1903. To the subject's second union were born four children, namely: One that died in infancy; George R., born August 23, 1871, is engaged in business at Donnan; John Andrew, and Ina Sarah, the wife of Henry Adams, of West Union. John Andrew Holmes, who is the successful pastor of a large Congregational church at Champaign, Illinois, received a splendid education, being thoroughly equipped for the sacred calling to which he has devoted his life. After completing the common school course, he pursued the full course and graduated from the Upper Iowa University, after which he traveled in Europe with Professor Geiser, returning home the day he was twenty-one years of age. He then became a student in the Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois, after which he attended Yale College, and completed his training at the Andover Theological Seminary, Andover, Massachusetts.

Mrs. Holmes is descended on the maternal side from Jerry Chittenden, a soldier of the Revolutionary war, who was with the patriot forces at Valley Forge and Yorktown, and who, though of English extraction, devoted himself unselfishly to the cause of the colonists. For his services he received a land warrant for six hundred acres of land. His wife was Asena Douglas, a cousin of Stephen A. Douglas.

Mr. Holmes is justly numbered among the representative men of his county. He wields a definite influence in his community and his opinions on the leading questions of the day are treated with the greatest respect. He is a man of many sterling qualities, successful in business and influential in his community, and is known for his public spirited interest in all that tends to benefit his fellow man, standing deservedly high in general esteem.

JAMES F. COLE, M. D.

The success achieved by the honored subject of this review in one of the most responsible and exacting of the learned professions entitles him to a prominent place in the ranks of those who, by the force of strong mentality, have gained public recognition for themselves and added luster to the communities honored by their citizenship. Dr. James F. Cole, who is distinctively one of the leading physicians and surgeons of Fayette county and as a business man actively identified with a number of important enterprises in

his own city and elsewhere, comes of sturdy Scotch-American stock and embodies many of the sterling qualities of mind and heart for which his antecedents have long been distinguished. Ira L. Cole, the Doctor's father, was born June 19, 1830, in Scotland. He was the son of John Cole, who emigrated to America in the latter part of that year and located at Franklinville, Cattaraugus county, New York, where Ira L. grew to maturity. On October 11, 1852, Ira L. Cole entered the marriage relation with Sarah Jane Fay, of New York, and the same year came to Iowa, settling in Cass township, Clayton county, where he entered eighty acres of land, which he improved and in connection with its cultivation devoted considerable time to contracting and dealing in lumber, establishing in 1890 the lumber business at Oelwein now conducted by Cole & King Brothers. At the breaking out of the Civil war he enlisted in Company D, Twenty-first Iowa Infantry, and was with his regiment when it led the first attack on the fortifications at Vicksburg, Mississippi, during the siege of which stronghold he contracted disabilities which eventually led to his discharge. Returning home, he at once began recruiting another company, of which he was elected captain and which he continued to serve until mustered out at Dubuque at the close of the war. Ira L. Cole was a man of fine mind, keen perceptions, practical intelligence and stood high in the confidence of those with whom he mingled. He was called from earth on May 7, 1902, his death being deeply lamented by the community in which he spent the greater part of his life.

Sarah Jane Fay, the wife of Ira L. Cole, was born at Franklinville, New York, where her parents, James and Olive (Rice) Fay, settled many years before. Cyrus Fay, grandfather of Mrs. Cole, was a native of Massachusetts and served with distinction in the war of the Revolution as colonel of a regiment from that colony. Her grandfather on the distaff side was Ezekiel Rice, also a patriot of the Revolutionary struggle, having served as quartermaster sergeant in a Massachusetts regiment during the greater part of the war. The Rice and Fay families were of sturdy old colonial-puritan stock, both names appearing in connection with the history of their respective places of residence besides being identified with many important enterprises of a public and business nature. The Doctor's mother was descended from men of much more than local distinction, it being a well authenticated fact that both branches of her family were represented in the convention which drafted the Constitution of the United States and took an influential part in bringing about its adoption. Four children were born to Ira L. and Sarah Jane Cole, namely: Olive, who died at the age of three years; Harriett, whose death occurred when she was two and a half years old; Benjamin also died in early child-

hood, and James F., the subject of this review, is the only surviving member of the family, the mother dying in August, 1909.

James F. Cole was born in Clayton county, Iowa, on the first day of December, 1862, and received his preliminary mental discipline in the public schools, being the first to graduate from the high school building at Strawberry Point, which was erected in 1877 and which was under the management of Prof. E. G. Cooley, later superintendent of the public schools of Chicago and one of the country's most distinguished educators. After completing his course in the above institution, young Cole entered the Ames Agricultural School, where he pursued his studies for three years and then became a student in the medical department of the University of Iowa, from which he was graduated with an honorable record on March 2, 1887.

Fortified with thorough intellectual and professional training, Doctor Cole, in 1885, opened an office at Strawberry Point, where he practiced medicine during the two years ensuing, forging rapidly to the front the meantime and acquiring more than local note as a successful physician and skillful surgeon. In July, 1887, he located at Oelwein, where he soon built up an extensive and lucrative professional business and where he now takes high rank among the representative men of his calling in the northeastern part of the state, his practice taking a wide range and his financial success being commensurate with the ability displayed in his chosen field of endeavor.

Doctor Cole combines many of the qualities of the ideal family physician, possessing strong character, a warm heart and generous sympathies, and he seldom if ever fails to gain the confidence of his patients, which is one of the first prerequisites to successful treatment. Always calm and self-possessed in the sick-room, he impresses friends with his ability and tact, and the marked degree in which he arouses the love and gratitude of those under his care indicates his thorough mastery of the situation, however grave or critical. In surgery he also exhibits a high order of ability, being especially successful in this important branch of his profession and as a skillful operator he has few equals and no superiors in his present field of practice. The Doctor avails himself of every opportunity to keep abreast of the times on all matters pertaining to his chosen calling, and to this end he has become identified with various professional societies, among which are the American Medical Association, Iowa State Medical Association, Cedar Valley and Austin Flint District Associations, the Fayette County Medical Society and the Medical Society of Oelwein. Although devoted to his profession, he manifest a lively interest in public and political affairs, being a pronounced Republican and one of the leaders of his party

in the county of Fayette. He is now coroner of the county, which position he has held for fifteen years, a longer term than any other person in this position. His counsels and labors have contributed largely to the success of the Republican cause in this part of the state. He takes a pardonable pride in the prosperity of the enterprising city in which he resides, served six years as a member of the common council, and was chairman of the committee appointed by that body to superintend the construction of the efficient water-works system.

Doctor Cole is an enthusiastic believer in secret fraternal work and holds membership with a number of societies founded upon the principles of mutual helpfulness. He stands high in Masonry, belonging to Hebron Lodge No. 374, at Oelwein, Kenneth Commandery No. 32, Knights Templar, at Independence, Iowa, Consistory No. 2, Cedar Rapids, and Elkadir Temple, Mystic Shrine, at Cedar Rapids. He is also identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Oelwein, being an influential worker in both subordinate lodge and encampment, and for some years past he has been a leader in the Pythian order in the city, besides holding the office of grand chancellor of the state. In addition to the organizations enumerated, he is a member of Eureka Encampment No. 332, Ancient Order United Workmen, belongs to Palm Camp No. 230, Modern Woodmen of America, and is now serving as exalted ruler of Lodge No. 741, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of Oelwein. His name also adorns the records of Iowa Banner Camp No. 314, Royal Neighbors, Prosperity Homestead No. 90, Order of Yeomen, Camp No. 89, Woodmen of the World, and Lodge No. 199, Modern Brotherhood of America. The Doctor is likewise connected with various business enterprises, being director of the Aetna State Bank of Oelwein, a stockholder in the First National Bank of the city and of the First National Bank of Strawberry Point, besides owning an interest in the firm of Cole & King Brothers, lumber dealers in Oelwein. In his medical practice he is associated with Doctor Leehey, being senior member of the firm, and for several years he has been surgeon for the Rock Island Railway Company at Oelwein.

Doctor Cole has been twice married, the first time on December 27, 1888, to Nellie E. Barclay, daughter of Thomas C. Barclay. She bore him three children and her death occurred on March 25, 1902. Later, January 1, 1903, the Doctor was united in marriage with Mrs. Margaret Torrey, of Oelwein, the union being without issue. Doctor and Mrs. Cole are esteemed members of the Episcopal church of Oelwein and deeply interested in the good work of the same, besides taking an active part in promoting all laudable measures for

the public good. Foremost in every enterprise having for its object the moral advancement of the community and filling a large place in the social and intellectual life of their city, they enjoy the confidence and high esteem of all who know them.

EDWIN O. MOORE.

The gentleman whose name forms the caption of this biographical review has long enjoyed distinctive precedence as one of Fayette county's most enterprising and successful agriculturists and stock raisers, who is at present managing a popular and well patronized creamery in West Union, and, besides enjoying the reputation of one of the county's representative men of affairs, he has at the same time won a reputation for honesty and square dealing in all the relations of life.

Edwin O. Moore was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, February 16, 1853, and is the son of Rev. William and Catherine (Robbins) Moore, the father a native of Pennsylvania and the mother of Vermont. William Moore's birth occurred in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, October 9, 1813, and his death was recorded on April 27, 1873; he was of Scotch-Irish ancestry. His wife, who was born in Rochester, Addison county, Vermont, November 20, 1817, died September 17, 1907, having reached the advanced age of ninety years. William Moore devoted his life to farming and he came to Fayette county, Iowa, when Edwin O., of this review, was about two years old, the family having emigrated from Ashland county, Ohio, where they had lived twelve years, to Rock county, Wisconsin, in 1852, their arrival in Illyria township, Fayette county, Iowa, taking place in 1854. The family of Mr. and Mrs. William Moore constituted the following children: Rev. Samuel Wallace, who was born in Pennsylvania, June 18, 1838, received a common school education and when seventeen years old joined the church of which his father was minister, the United Brethren denomination, and at the age of twenty began preaching; receiving license from the general conference in 1860; he preached in Linn county, Iowa, one year, and on July 3, 1861, married Mary Dresser, and one child was born to them, but died in infancy. On August 13, 1862, Rev. Moore enlisted in Company D, Twenty-first Iowa Infantry, with the rank of sergeant, and he proved to be a gallant soldier, and was fatally wounded May 18, 1863, at Black River Bridge, Mississippi, dying almost instantly, and his body was buried on the field, thus cutting short a very promising career. Mrs. Mary J. Dye, next in order of birth, was born April 23,

1840, in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, and she has for many years lived in Windsor township, Fayette county, Iowa; she first married, on March 18, 1860, Josiah W. Hardy, a teacher of superior attainments, who enlisted in Company D, Twenty-first Iowa Infantry, on August 13, 1862, and died in St. Louis, May 25, 1863; their only child, Clara S., who was born July 6, 1861, married N. A. Shaw and they live on a farm in Fayette county. On June 2, 1864, Mrs. Mary J. Hardy married Andrew Dye a widower having two children, and this union resulted in the birth of eight children, Vernie E., Addie E., Edwin H., Minnie A., Bertie, Henry S., Melvia E. and Sophia Beulah. Mr. Dye's death occurred on January 21, 1890. Vesta A. Moore, was the third child in order of birth, her birth having occurred on April 19, 1842. She married Thomas J. Rice, in 1861; she married Daniel Shaffer, of Tama City, Iowa, in 1882; three children were born of her first union, Samuel Wallace, William O. and Katie; the two former are married. Samantha R. married Peter McKellar and she died October 31, 1894; Roxie A., born December 18, 1845, became the wife of George W. Fitch, of West Union. Minerva R., wife of Austin R. Moats, of Cedar Rapids, was born June 19, 1847, and is the mother of eight children. Robert Clark, born September 4, 1850, married Elizabeth Moats, and resides in Longwood, Custer county, Nebraska; they have six children, four living. Edwin Osborn Moore, the immediate subject of this review. Jasper Smith Moore was born May 20, 1854, married Mary Crane, and upon the homestead in Illyria township they are living with their five children. Francis Kirkwood Moore was born September 20, 1857, and died January 25, 1893; he married Nettie Clements and had one child.

William Moore was for many years one of the best known and most influential men of Fayette county, a man whom everybody respected and admired for his many sterling virtues. He was always very active in church work. He was steward of the poor farm in Fayette county for two years.

Edwin O. Moore, of this review, received his early education in the country schools of Fayette county. He has devoted his life to farming, having started for himself when about twenty-two years of age. He was married in 1875 to Mary Waltenbaugh, who was born in Clayton county, Iowa, November 1, 1858, and she was the daughter of James Waltenbaugh and wife, natives of Pennsylvania.

Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Edwin O. Moore, namely: Cynthia, who was born June 14, 1877, married William J. Myers, a farmer of Volga City, Iowa, and they have one child, Merrill; Susie, born September 3, 1880, married J. R. Jones, of Iowa Falls, this state, and has one son, Paul

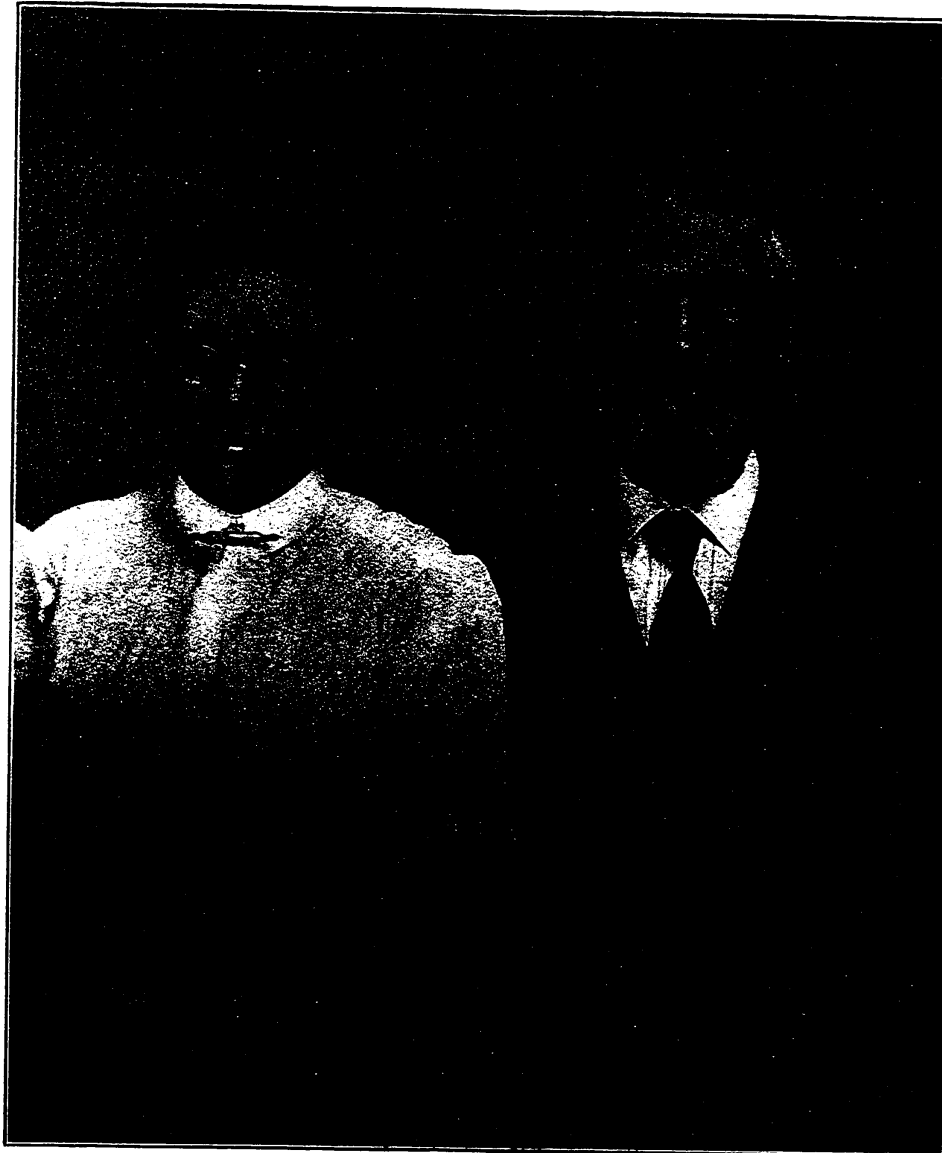
E. James, who was born May 16, 1885, is living at home; Guy's birth occurred on June 1, 1894, and he is also living with his parents.

Edwin O. Moore located in Clayton county, near Volga City, where he farmed a few years, then came to Fayette county in 1901, buying the old Gilson farm, on which he lived for eight years, when he sold it and purchased his present fine home in section 18, just one mile west of West Union on the Hawkeye road, his home being attractively located and everything about it showing thrift and good management.

Mr. Moore has never been an office seeker, always a home man. He and his wife are members of the Christian church, holding their membership in Clayton county. His farm consists of one hundred and twenty acres of good land, well improved. Mr. Moore recently bought and is now operating the Farmers' Creamery in West Union, and moved his family to town, having rented his farm. This is the only creamery in West Union, and it has become a well established business industry. Mr. Moore also operates a produce market, where he handles poultry, cream, etc. Himself and his son James conduct the business at each place.

JONAS H. LEARN.

The Learns were an old family long settled in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania. Like many others, however, in the emigration days of the last century, they began to cast longing eyes on the rich and cheap lands of the west and formally resolved to secure some of this fertile region. The fever of emigration was at its height during the fifties and all the central valley states of the Middle West got their share of the influx. No state, however, secured a more desirable class of farmers than Iowa, into which poured a rich stream of the best German, Scandinavian and American blood, whose work later told strongly in the development of the state. New Yorkers, Ohioans, Pennsylvanians and New Englanders were conspicuous among the vanguard invading the fertile young commonwealth beyond the Mississippi. To trace the story of some of these families is the object of these writings and among the number we find Charles Learn, who came from Pennsylvania in 1855, when Iowa was still raw as an agricultural state. He was accompanied by his wife and eight children, the trip being made from McGregor by team. As soon as he had landed on the prairie he bought forty acres where J. H. Learn now resides. It was at that time wild land, but he cleared the place and



MR. AND MRS. JONAS H. LEARN.

temporarily erected a log building for shelter. Later he added another forty acres to his original hundred and lived there until his death.

J. H. Learn, one of the sons of the foregoing, was born in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, in 1849. He grew up on the home place and was educated in the common schools. With the exception of about six years he has lived on the home farm. Farming has been his sole occupation and he has met with success in his calling, but only by the hardest and most exacting work. However, he is a good manager, knows how to make both ends meet and at the end of the year generally has a balance to show on the right side of the ledger. When he started in he pre-empted a homestead, and to this he has added fifty acres. He confines his efforts to general farming and stock-raising, not attempting any fancy flights and avoiding everything like speculation.

On December 19, 1876, Mr. Learn married Rachel Havenstrete, daughter of Francis and Clementine Havenstrete, all of Pennsylvania. They came to Iowa in 1868 and settled in Dover township, near the Clermont line. Their children are: Clarence, a student and teacher in Washington University, St. Louis; Nellie, at home; Roy, a farmer in Dover township; Charles, at home. The family are members of the Evangelical church and Mr. Learn's political affiliations are with the Republican party.

THOMAS NELSON WALSH, M. D.

Among the successful physicians and surgeons of Fayette county is Dr. Thomas Nelson Walsh, of Hawkeye, whose professional career presents a series of advancements which have gained for him an honorable reputation in the noble work to which his life is being devoted, and a confidence on the part of the public which bespeaks for him a still larger field for the exercise of his talents in years to come. Doctor Walsh is a native of Montreal, Canada, where he was born on the 6th day of July, 1865, and his early experience amid the bracing airs and wholesome discipline of rural life was conducive to well-rounded physical development and the formation of habits which enabled him while still young to direct his thoughts into proper channels and make the most of his opportunities. After devoting about the usual time to his preliminary studies he entered McGill University, from which in due season he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts and later completed the medical course in the same institution, receiving his medical degree with the class of 1892.

With a mind well disciplined by intellectual and professional training, Doctor Walsh, through the representations of Doctor Berry, of Clermont, Iowa, was induced to locate at Hawkeye and it was not long until his abilities were recognized by the people of the town and adjacent country, as his rapid rise in his chosen calling abundantly indicates. His progress from the beginning has been encouraging and all that could reasonably be desired and he now commands the confidence of the public to a marked degree, besides coming steadily to the front among the representative men of his calling in a field long noted for a high order of professional talent. He has left nothing undone in the way of fitting himself for efficient service in his work, always keeping abreast of the times and in touch with the latest improvements and discoveries in medical science and surgery. To this end he took a post-graduate course a few years ago in the Chicago Polyclinic, later completed a similar course in New York City and, he attends every year at Harvard Medical School at Boston. Doctor Walsh is a member of the Fayette County Medical Society, being at this time president of that body, and he also belongs to the State and National Societies and the Medical Association of Flint. Every year he spends a month's vacation to keep in touch with the great medical institutions in New York and other Eastern states, where, under the personal direction of some of the most distinguished professional men of the day, he enlarges the area of his knowledge and acquires additional skill as a surgeon and general practitioner. The Doctor possesses a genial presence and sympathetic nature which at once gain the confidence of his patients, and which, with his skill, mark him as a true friend of suffering humanity. In the sick room he is a typical family physician and his high moral principles and conscientious fidelity to duty have won for him the esteem and confidence of all with whom he comes into contact as a medical adviser. Although devoted to his profession, he manifests an interest in whatever makes for the progress of his town and the general welfare, and, with his wife, wields a salutary influence in the social and intellectual life of the community, being a gentleman of broad and liberal culture and well calculated to take the lead in such matters. Fraternal-ly, he holds membership with the Masonic order and Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Doctor Walsh married, in Hawkeye, Edith Hauth, who was born in Michigan, but reared in Madison township, this county, where her father, William Hauth, is a larger farmer and stockman. Four children have been born to this union, viz: Edwin, Eugene, Jeannette and George, the last named dying when seven years of age.

ABNER GILBERT M. NEFF.

A well-remembered old settler of Fayette county and one of the brave officers of the Ninth Iowa Infantry was the late Lieut. Abner Gilbert M. Neff, who was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, in August, 1829, the son of John Neff, a native of Germany who emigrated to America in his youth. Abner Neff received a fairly good English education and served as an apprentice to the shoemaker's trade in his father's shop, and became an expert workman. He also studied medicine, but did not complete the course. On October 27, 1851, he married, in Connellsville, Pennsylvania, Anna Hobson, daughter of John W. and Abigail Bishop (Scott) Hobson and a sister of the Hon. Joseph Hobson, of West Union. Her father was born in Peniston, Yorkshire, England, August 22, 1794, and emigrated to America in 1816. While living in Pennsylvania, in 1819, he was married to the daughter of Joseph Scott, a wealthy manufacturer there. Mrs. Hobson was born in New Jersey, April 10, 1799, and crossed the mountains on horseback with her parents during her girlhood, the family coming to Fayette county, Iowa. They were originally from Massachusetts, of English and Scotch descent. Mr. Hobson died of cholera, August 14, 1834, his wife surviving many years, dying in 1883; their daughter, wife of Mr. Neff, was born in Connellsville, Pennsylvania, October 29, 1829.

For several years Mr. Neff engaged in the boot and shoe business at West Newton, Pennsylvania. In June, 1856, he located in Fayette county, Iowa, opening a shop at Auburn. His medical studies were interrupted by the Civil war, and in August, 1861, he enlisted in Company F, Ninth Iowa Infantry, and on September 12th following was made first lieutenant. He was mortally wounded in the battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, his first regular engagement, March 9, 1862, receiving a gunshot wound in the region of the heart from the effects of which he died on March 11, 1862, in the hospital. He was much esteemed by his brother officers and men as a true soldier and a brave and faithful defender of the country's cause.

Lieutenant Neff was survived by a widow and five children, four sons and one daughter, namely: John Devitt, born in Connellsville, Pennsylvania, January 4, 1853, received a common school education and wedded Mary C. Hare, of Summerfield, Ohio; he died July 10, 1884, leaving a wife and two children, Homer M. and Minnie M.; his wife survives and is a teacher in the institute for the deaf at Olathe, Kansas. At sixteen years of age he became a clerk in a drug store and two years later was appointed deputy clerk of the court of Fayette county, filling the office until 1877, when he embarked in

the drug business at West Union. In the fall of 1880 he was elected clerk of the court and re-elected in 1882, serving his second term at the time of his death. Mary Elizabeth Neff was born in Connellsville, Pennsylvania, August 21, 1854, and became the wife of Rev. S. P. Marsh, now of Birmingham, Alabama. Homer M. Neff, born in Connellsville, Pennsylvania, March 6, 1856, studied for the profession of architect and engineer, at Chicago. Returning to West Union in 1881, he served from 1884 to 1889 as clerk of the court. Since then he has carried on the work of his chosen calling. Full sketches of Charles G. and Joseph H. Neff appear elsewhere in this work.

Mrs. Anna Neff, mother of these children, resides in Birmingham, Alabama. Mr. Neff was a Republican, studious, honest, talented and a born leader of men,—in short, a most estimable citizen. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

REV. JOHN H. C. WALTERS.

Ministers are, from the nature of their calling, self-sacrificing men, the bigness of whose lives and the character of whose abilities cannot necessarily be measured by the size of the town in which they locate nor always by the pecuniary endowments attached to their office. So it is that there are found in small towns ministers of intellect and character high above the average, men to whom one cannot talk without receiving much of value; men who in the service of their Master have consented to give Him that which could not fail to bring them to notable success in a worldly profession; men who find in His service reward sufficient, conscious that He needs workers in small places as well as large; men such as the one whose name appears at the head of this sketch.

The Rev. John Walters was born December 11, 1848, in Harrison county, Ohio, the son of Martin and Susan (Hess) Walters, both of whom had grown up in that county. His father was educated in the common schools and farmed throughout life. In 1853 he came to Iowa alone and took up land four miles southeast of Arlington, in 1854 moved to eighty acres of wild land near Mill Grove, in 1855 or '56 bought eighty acres one mile southwest of Wadena, having also three forties north of Wadena, living there until the death of his wife, spending his later years among his children until his death in 1909. In September, 1862, he enlisted in Company A, Thirty-eighth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and served faithfully in many battles. He was a Republican, but



JOHN H. C. WALTERS

never aspired to office. The United Brethren church counted him among its most active members and he was a man very well known and very highly respected by all who knew him.

To Martin and Susan Walters twelve children were born: Lydia, the widow of John Hidinger, of Adams county, Iowa; John; George, a retired farmer of Arlington, Iowa; Annie, wife of J. E. Jennings, of Wadena (see his sketch); Mary, wife of Zeb Davis, of Wadena; Harvey, farmer in Fairfield township, this county; Eugene, of Haskell, Oklahoma, a teacher for many years; Clara (deceased), who was the wife of Fremont Ostrander; Ella and Allie, twins; Ella married George Jennings, a farmer of Illyria township; Allie married Henry Jennings, of Clayton county; Addie married James Probert, of Highland (deceased); Maggie (deceased) was the wife of John Minger.

John Walters attended the common schools and spent three years in Western College, Linn county, Iowa. He taught seven terms of school in Fayette, Linn and Bremer counties, Iowa. At the age of seventeen he began exhorting at Wadena, was licensed in Lima quarterly conference by Presiding Elder M. S. Dury, January 2, 1875, and in April, 1876, was ordained elder at Toledo, Iowa, by Bishop J. Weaver, and received into the conference at Castalia, Iowa, by Bishop Glossbrener. From 1885 until 1891 he traveled in northeastern Iowa, southern Minnesota and South Dakota, when he was compelled, on account of ill health, to return home and to retire from the ministry. Since that time he has looked after his father's business. He has served for several years as superintendent of Union Sunday school, and has always been a great worker in the cause of temperance. While in Minnesota and South Dakota he gave a great deal of time to lecturing and chalk-talking, beginning with blackboard work and later developing this into chalk-talking. He has never married. For the past thirty years he has written much in both prose and poetry. One of the most touching of his poems is that entitled, "Night Brings Out the Stars," published in *Word and Works* magazine. His published articles possess a great deal of merit. Mr. Walters has always been a student and thinker and a close observer of the ways of life, and is esteemed for his real worth by all those who know him.

FRANK Y. WHITMORE.

The distinction achieved by the subject of this sketch in business circles, as well as his high standing as a man of affairs, entitles him to honorable notice among the representative citizens of the county with which he has

long been identified, hence it is with much satisfaction that the following brief review of his life and tribute to his worth is accorded a place in these pages. Frank Y. Whitmore, banker of West Union, Iowa, is a native of Madison county, New York, born in the town of Lebanon on the 12th day of January, 1846. Joel S. Whitmore, his father, whose birth occurred at the above place December 23, 1806, was a son of Francis Whitmore, a native of Connecticut and one of the early pioneers and prominent citizens of Madison county. Jacob Whitmore, the latter's father, was a captain in the Connecticut militia during the war of the Revolution and was twice called into actual service.

Joel Stebbins, father of Mrs. Francis Whitmore, was a Massachusetts minute man during the struggle for independence and was also twice called upon for service in the field, the first time at the battle of Lexington and again when General Burgoyne made his invasion from the north. Marlitta Newton, wife of J. S. Whitmore and mother of the subject, was born at Marshall, New York, in the month of October, 1819, and, like her husband, spent all of her life in her native state.

Frank Y. Whitmore received his early education in the district schools where his parents resided, with two years in the academic department of Madison University and a brief time at Eastman's Commercial College, Poughkeepsie, New York. In 1866 he left home to clerk in a grocery store at Wauseon, Ohio, and after spending three years at that place severed his connection with his employer and came to West Union, Iowa, working a part of 1869 in the office of the county auditor, later being appointed deputy treasurer by James Stewart, which position he held until January, 1876, when he succeeded to the office of county treasurer. His continuous rise in public favor after coming to Iowa was a compliment to his ability, the county affording few if any such examples of rapid advancement in positions of honor and trust.

Mr. Whitmore served as treasurer of Fayette county from January 1, 1876, until January, 1882, discharging the duties of the office in an eminently able and satisfactory manner and proving under all circumstances a capable and obliging public servant, in whose hands the people's interests were always carefully safeguarded. In October following the expiration of his official term, he went with his family to DeLand, Florida, and opened a private bank under the name of the Volusia County Bank, but in the spring of 1883 he disposed of his interest in the concern and returned to Iowa to accept the position of cashier of the State Bank of West Union, to which position he had been chosen upon the organization of the institution and in which he has served

with marked success from that time to the present. Mr. Whitmore possesses financial ability of a high order and the continued growth in public favor of the bank with which he is identified is largely due to his keen interest and correct business methods. He is careful and methodical, somewhat conservative in his views and not inclined to be carried away by visionary or alluring schemes. His judgment on all matters relating to monetary affairs coming within his province is sound and well balanced and since entering upon the position which he now so worthily fills his progress has been uniformly successful, and he now occupies a prominent place among the leading financiers and business men of his part of the state.

Mr. Whitmore is a Republican in politics and as such has rendered effective service to his party in Fayette county, having been chairman of the county central committee for several years and in 1891 was the nominee for the state Senate, but, with the rest of the ticket of that year, failed of election. For a number of years he served on the local school board, in which capacity he did much for the cause of education by advocating more thorough preparation on the part of the teaching force and better accommodations for the children in the way of buildings and the latest and most approved appliances, etc. He was also for several years a member of the county council.

In addition to his business interests, which he makes paramount to every other consideration, Mr. Whitmore has always used his influence to promote the material prosperity of his city and county and, appreciating his indebtedness to the public, endeavors to discharge the same in a manner befitting a broad-minded citizen with the good of his fellow men at heart. Religiously, the Baptist church holds his creed and for a number of years he has been deacon of the local church, with which he holds membership, besides serving as church treasurer and superintendent of the Sunday school.

Mr. Whitmore, on September 4, 1872, was united in the bonds of wedlock with Alice V. Beach, of Wauseon, Ohio, daughter of Henry H. and Arminda (Livermore) Beach, well known and highly esteemed residents of that city, the marriage resulting in the following children: Frank B., present secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association at Nanking, China; Flora L., a teacher in the city schools of Des Moines; Alvah P., treasurer of the Sheridan Coal Company at Omaha, Nebraska. The mother of these children departed this life November 17, 1891. On December 13, 1893, Mr. Whitmore contracted a marriage with Ella Kingsbury, the accomplished daughter of J. B. and Hannah (Brown) Kingsbury, the father one of the early pioneers of Fayette county and a useful and influential citizen here until his removal a few years ago to another part of the state. In her youth and

young womanhood Mrs. Whitmore was carefully educated and is a lady of broad culture and refinement, popular in social circles and deeply interested in whatever tends to the moral welfare of the community in which she lives. For several years prior to her marriage she was a successful teacher and earned a wide reputation throughout Fayette and Buchanan counties and Omaha, Nebraska, for the efficiency of her work in the school room. Their daughter, Lillian K., has not yet completed her school work.

From the foregoing outline it will be gathered that Mr. Whitmore has been a prominent factor in the affairs of his adopted county and at this time occupies a conspicuous place not only in business circles but in church, society and local politics as well. Successful in all the term implies, he is well situated to enjoy the life he leads, being blessed with great happiness in his domestic relations and combining in his personality those qualities which win and retain the confidence and esteem of the public. Possessing firmness of purpose, unblemished integrity and a character above reproach, he exerts a beneficial influence upon those with whom he mingles and stands in the front rank among the enterprising business men and representative citizens of the community long honored by his presence.

HENRY LAUER.

Among the eminently successful men in agricultural life of Fayette county, the subject of this brief review holds a high place. Mr. Henry Lauer was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, on January 23, 1863, being the son of Philip Lauer. He has had unusual educational advantages. After having completed the common school course at the district school near his father's home in Winneshiek county, he attended the German parochial school at Eldorado, Iowa. Entering into active life, he became clerk in the hardware store of Olie S. Thompson, at Ossian, Iowa. After holding this position for more than a year, he devoted his energies to other lines, but returned from time to time to his duties in the store. Later, he attended the Decorah Business College for some months. After his course of study at this college, he returned to his home and assisted his father in farming.

In March, 1886, Mr. Lauer was united in marriage to Margaret Poetting, who was born in New York City, and had come with her parents to live in Iowa.

Mr. Lauer now determined to devote his energies exclusively to farming,



MR. AND MRS. HENRY LAUER.

with very remarkable results. He took up this work on a fine one hundred and seventy-acre place, where he still lives. His progressive, energetic and intelligent efforts in this line have resulted in his home place being equipped with new and excellent buildings, among them a tasteful and substantial house, with pleasant and agreeable surroundings, and with the entire farm equipped with every modern improvement and equipment that will help to bring the best results. About eighteen years ago he named his home "Sunny Slope Farm" and it is one of the well known places in that section.

Mr. Lauer early recognized the advantages to be gained from specialization and has, since 1890, devoted himself particularly to the breeding of fine hogs, in addition to general farming. He is now widely known as a breeder of full blood, Poland China hogs. His attention to this line of work has won him many prizes at county and other fairs, in 1908 he having the satisfaction of displaying the largest hog, which tipped the scales at eight hundred and twenty-five pounds. He also devotes much time and attention to the breeding and raising of cattle.

Mr. and Mrs. Lauer are the parents of eight children, all of whom are living: Ida, Augusta, Dora, Grant, Willie, Philip, Clarence and Henry D. The family are members of the Lutheran church. Politically, Mr. Lauer is a Republican; for eight years he was township clerk and for fifteen years he was secretary of the township school board. Aside from his agricultural productivities, which would tax most men's capacity to the utmost, he has found time to interest himself in commercial life, and has been secretary of the German Mutual Fire Insurance Company for the past eight years.

GEORGE HOWARD PHILLIPS.

Distinguished as a lawyer and public spirited citizen, the name of George Howard Phillips has long been closely interwoven with the history and development of Fayette county and it is with much satisfaction that the following brief outline of his career and modest tribute to his worth are accorded a place in this volume. Mr. Phillips was born April 28, 1845, at Whitewater, Wisconsin, where his parents, George W. and Olive Lamyra (Jons) Phillips, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Illinois, settled in an early day. The father, whose birth occurred in 1810 and who departed this life at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, October 2, 1888, was a blacksmith by trade and a most excellent and praiseworthy citizen; the mother, whose early life was spent in Lake county,

Illinois, died at Lemo Center, Rock county, Wisconsin, in the year 1861. Through force of adverse circumstances, George H. Phillips was early thrown upon his own resources and from the tender age of nine years has made his own way in the world. For some time the procuring of life's barest necessities was a matter for serious concern to him and as a result his educational advantages were exceedingly limited. By making the most of his opportunities, however, he obtained a fair knowledge of the elementary branches, but, possessing a strong mind and an ardent desire for knowledge, he subsequently made up for the lack of school privileges and in due time became a widely and unusually well informed young man.

At the breaking out of the late Civil war, Mr. Phillips was a lad of sixteen, but, animated by patriotic devotion to his country, he was among the first in his county to tender his services to the Union. In April, 1861, he enlisted in a company intended for the first call for three-months service, but the quota of the state being already full it was not accepted, much to the regret and disappointment of the members. The following year Mr. Phillips again enlisted and was assigned to the Thirteenth Wisconsin Infantry, but, his father refusing his consent, the boy being under age, he was discharged. In the fall of 1862 he engaged with a party to drive a flock of sheep from White Water, Wisconsin, to southwestern Minnesota and on reaching the latter state narrowly escaped death at the hands of the hostile Crow and Sioux Indians, who were then on the warpath in that region. With his companions, he succeeded in reaching New Ulm, shortly after the massacre at that place, the terrible effects of which could still be seen in the mutilated victims of the bloodthirsty savages. At one time the little party found themselves within a few miles of an encampment of several hundred hostiles, but fortune appears to have favored them as they escaped without their whereabouts being discovered. The danger of proceeding farther became apparent, and the sheep were finally left to the care of local parties and the drovers, thankful to escape with their lives, returned to their homes in Wisconsin.

In 1864 Mr. Phillips made a third and successful attempt to enter the military service, joining, on June 2d of that year, Company C, Fortieth Wisconsin Infantry, with which he shared the fortunes and vicissitudes of war until the expiration of his period of enlistment. He was at Memphis when the Confederate General Forrest raided that city, and passed through many trying experiences while at the front and retired from the army with a record for brave and gallant conduct of which he feels deservedly proud. On receiving his discharge Mr. Phillips located at Decorah, Iowa, where he learned the barber's trade, going thence in the fall of 1864 to West Union, where for several years

he was similarly engaged. From the latter place he went to Belle Plain and in 1872 to Denver, Colorado, where he remained for some time, when he returned to Iowa, locating again at West Union, but removing thence after a short time to Strawberry Point. Disposing of his interests in that town, he afterwards lived for a while at Manchester and in May, 1874, took up his permanent residence at Oelwein, with the subsequent history of which he has since been actively and prominently identified.

For some years after locating at Oelwein Mr. Phillips operated a barber shop and in the meantime made a number of judicious investments in real estate, which returned him handsome profits. Possessing fine business ability, he continued his operations in real estate and it was not long until he accumulated considerable property and became one of the leading men of the city. In early life he manifested an ardent desire to study law, but circumstances prevented him at that time from carrying out his intention. After coming to Oelwein he read such law books as he could procure and in due time took up the study in earnest under the direction of A. C. Parker, a young attorney of exceptional ability, whose instruction was of great value and whose deep interest in his progress proved an additional stimulus. After being well grounded in the principles of jurisprudence and more or less familiar with the usual methods practiced, Mr. Phillips began to devote considerable attention to the profession and in the course of a few months had all the business he could attend to in the justice courts. He continued this kind of practice with marked success from 1875 to 1880, when he was formally admitted to the bar in the district court at West Union and for some years was actively identified with the legal profession, having a large clientele, including many of the wealthy and substantial men of the county, and occupied a conspicuous place among the leading men of his calling in the city of his residence, but now devotes his time in looking after his extensive business interests.

Not long after beginning the practice of his profession Mr. Phillips was elected city attorney of Oelwein and as such served for a period of nine years, during which time he was untiring in behalf of the interests of the municipality and made every other consideration subordinate to his official duties. Since retiring from the above position he has given his entire time and attention to his legal business and other interests, all of which are extensive and far-reaching, making him not only a very busy man but a very successful one also. A well balanced mind, sound, practical intelligence and mature judgment are among Mr. Phillips' more prominent characteristics, to which may also be added the ability to foresee with remarkable clearness the future outcome of present plans and the tact to create opportunities where they do not already

exist. His career, which presents a series of continuous advancements, has been successful far above the ordinary and he is now without doubt one of the wealthiest men in Fayette county, as he has been for a number of years the heaviest taxpayer. He has contributed much if not more than any other to the material growth and prosperity of Oelwein and not a little of his capital has been invested with these ends in view. In addition to a number of other buildings, he erected some years ago a very creditable opera house which, after considerable service, was converted into a residence; he then purchased a valuable church property near the Rock Island depot, where he built a much larger and better planned opera house, which is modern and fully up-to-date and more in keeping with the city's dignity and growth. Mr. Phillips' wealth is nearly all within the city of Oelwein, consisting of business blocks, public buildings, private dwellings and town lots, from which he receives no inconsiderable part of the income which he is constantly adding to his already large and ample fortune.

From what has already been said concerning Mr. Phillips' professional career it is easily seen that he stands high among the leading members of the Fayette county bar, a remarkable fact, considering his having commenced life poor and friendless and advanced to his present proud position from the humble though honorable vocation of a barber. He has practiced his profession from time to time with a number of leading lawyers, with whom he was associated as partner, including A. C. Parker, now of Des Moines, with whom he was associated for two years, Capt. H. W. Holman and others. Among those who studied under his direction and owe their success to him the most prominent perhaps is Hon. Lewis Baker, now an eminent member of the Colorado bar, but formerly of Edgewood, Delaware county.

In politics Mr. Phillips is a Republican, but on account of the prohibition movement and the proposed amendments to the constitution, he voted for Hon. Horace Boies when that distinguished gentleman ran for governor. He is an active and influential member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Lodge No. 374, at Oelwein, and is also identified with Griffin Post No. 134, Grand Army of the Republic, of this city. He took a leading part in the organizing of the first lodge of the order of Modern Woodmen in Fayette county and was a charter member of the same and one of the first officers; his name also appears on the records of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at Oelwein, in which, as in the other fraternal societies with which connected, he wields a potent influence and from time to time has been honored with important official positions.

Mr. Phillips' domestic life dates from January 7, 1874, at which time he

was united in marriage at Strawberry Point with Ellen Johnson, daughter of Alexander Johnson. of Fayette county. The union has been blessed with two children, a daughter, Lena Blanche, and a son who answers to the name of Ray B. Phillips. In closing this brief sketch of one of Fayette county's eminent lawyers and distinguished citizens, the following from the pen of another appears peculiarly appropriate:

"It is Mr. Phillips's nature to do nothing by halves; he is and always has been intensely earnest in all he undertakes. Possessed of superior business ability, energy and perseverance, he has been successful in his various enterprises and acquired a large and valuable property. His success in life is more to his credit for the reason that it has been won by his own unaided efforts. He has a natural aptitude for business and displays more than usual sagacity in his investments and enterprises. As a lawyer he is conservative in his advice, sound in his conclusions, prompt in the discharge of professional duty and always reliable. As a collector, he succeeds in seemingly hopeless cases. His integrity, energy and promptness have won for him the confidence and respect of a wide circle of acquaintances and it goes without the saying the prominent place he occupies in the esteem of the public has been faithfully and honorably earned."

GEORGE WOOD.

Among the successful citizens of Fayette county must be numbered him whose name appears at the head of this sketch. After a period of years, during which he indefatigably labored along agricultural lines, he was prospered to a gratifying degree and is now enabled to enjoy that rest which he so richly earned. He is a man of stanch and reliable make-up and has won and retains the highest regard of those who know him.

Mr. Wood was born in the city of New York in 1845, and is a son of Joseph and Sarah (Barkley) Wood. Joseph Wood was a native of England, having been born near Manchester in 1818. At the age of nineteen years he came to the United States, landing at New York city, where for nineteen years he was employed in the noted firm of Robert Hoe & Company, manufacturers of printing presses. The subject's mother was born in the north of Ireland, though of Scotch antecedents. When the subject of this sketch was but seven years old, or in the fall of 1852, the family moved to Iowa and located in the northern part of Delaware county, where they remained until 1869, in which year they came to Fayette county, locating nine miles east of

Oelwein, in Scott township, where the father and son together bought an entire section of land, their respective halves being divided by the public highway. In 1872 Joseph Wood moved to Brush Creek (now Arlington), where he lived a retired life until his death, which occurred in January, 1876. His wife had died many years previously, when the subject was a small boy.

George Wood received his education in the common schools of Iowa and was early inured to the rigorous labor characteristic of a new western farm. He remained his father's assistant on the farm until 1869, at which time he entered upon the operation of his Scott township land. He was successful in this enterprise and remained engaged there until July 26, 1890, when he sold this farm and moved into Oelwein, where he is now living practically retired from active work. He possesses a neat and attractive home on First avenue east, and here he enjoys entertaining his many friends who are pleased to take advantage of the hospitality which is ever here in evidence. When the family first located in Scott township their nearest neighbor was a mile distant, and wolves and other wild animals were frequently seen near their home. Now this section is populous and thriving and bears little resemblance to its former condition.

On August 20, 1878, Mr. Wood was married to Emma L. Stiner, the daughter of Joseph and Esther (Wagner) Stiner, of Clayton county, this state. To this union were born two children, Joseph Wellington and Sarah Esther. The latter is the wife of James E. Lilly, of Marshalltown, Iowa, where he is employed as a machinist in the shops of the Iowa Central railway. They have one daughter, Emma Esther. Joseph Lewis Stiner, father of Mrs. Wood, was born in Columbus, Ohio, July 7, 1812, and came to Iowa in October, 1848. He was the son of Christopher and Esther (Lewis) Stiner, and the latter was a daughter of Joseph and Betsey (Tsanor) Lewis, the latter being a granddaughter of the Marquis de Lafayette. Christopher Stiner was a soldier in the war of the Revolution. Mrs. Wood's mother was born at Johnstown, Pennsylvania, March 4, 1815, and was married to Joseph L. Stiner in Columbus, Ohio. Among the prized heirlooms in the Stiner family is a magnificent oil portrait of Lafayette, the ancestor referred to. One of Mrs. Wood's ancestors, a great-great-grandfather, was a member of the King's Guards in England, a position of considerable honor and distinction.

It is said that Joseph Wood, the subject's father, was a mechanical genius of more than ordinary ability. He made shears for shearing sheep, doing the shearing himself, made a carding machine and spinning wheel, on which he carded and spun the wool which he had sheared, and then made a loom on which he wove the cloth from the thread which he had made, ending this re-

markable performance by making the cloth into garments. In many other ways he gave exhibition of his remarkable skill in mechanics.

George Wood has always voted the Democratic ticket and takes a strong interest in local public affairs. Fraternally he is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons and the Modern Woodmen of America. Religiously the family are all members of the Episcopal church, to which they give a liberal support. A man of highest integrity and of unvarying courtesy and kindness, he is honored by all who know him and is regarded as one of the representative citizens of his township.

JOHN A. ROWLAND.

The family of this name were early identified with Fayette county, their connection with this section going back as far as 1850 or before and the first of the name was among the very earliest of the settlers. In or about the year mentioned P. L. Rowland made his appearance in the precincts of Fayette county, which at that time was wild and uncultivated. Shortly afterward his brother, John M., assisted in building a mill at Auburn. P. L. Rowland also worked on the Clermont mill. Besides this he turned his hand to various jobs, including farming. He was also an evangelical minister off and on, until the last years of his life, but most of his time was given to farming. He started a creamery on the farm now occupied by his son, conducted it for four or five years, then rented and finally sold it. He married Alvina Wheeler, of Canada, and from this union was born the subject of this sketch.

John A. Rowland was born in Dover township, Fayette county, Iowa, in 1871, on the homestead that bears his family name. He remained on the farm with his father until about 1892, when he embarked in business for himself. John A. and Albert R. operated the two-hundred-ten-acre farm where the former now resides, keeping up their partnership for about four years. John A. then purchased his brother's interest and has since farmed with success on his own account. Mr. Rowland is one of the progressive young farmers whose combined work has made Iowa one of the finest agricultural states in the world. Besides the usual crops, which he has raised with success, he has achieved distinction as a livestock breeder. Many specimens of the fine thoroughbreds of different varieties and breeds which have made Iowa noted may be seen on Mr. Rowland's place. The celebrated Shorthorn family has no finer specimens than those found here. The peerless Norman horses, with

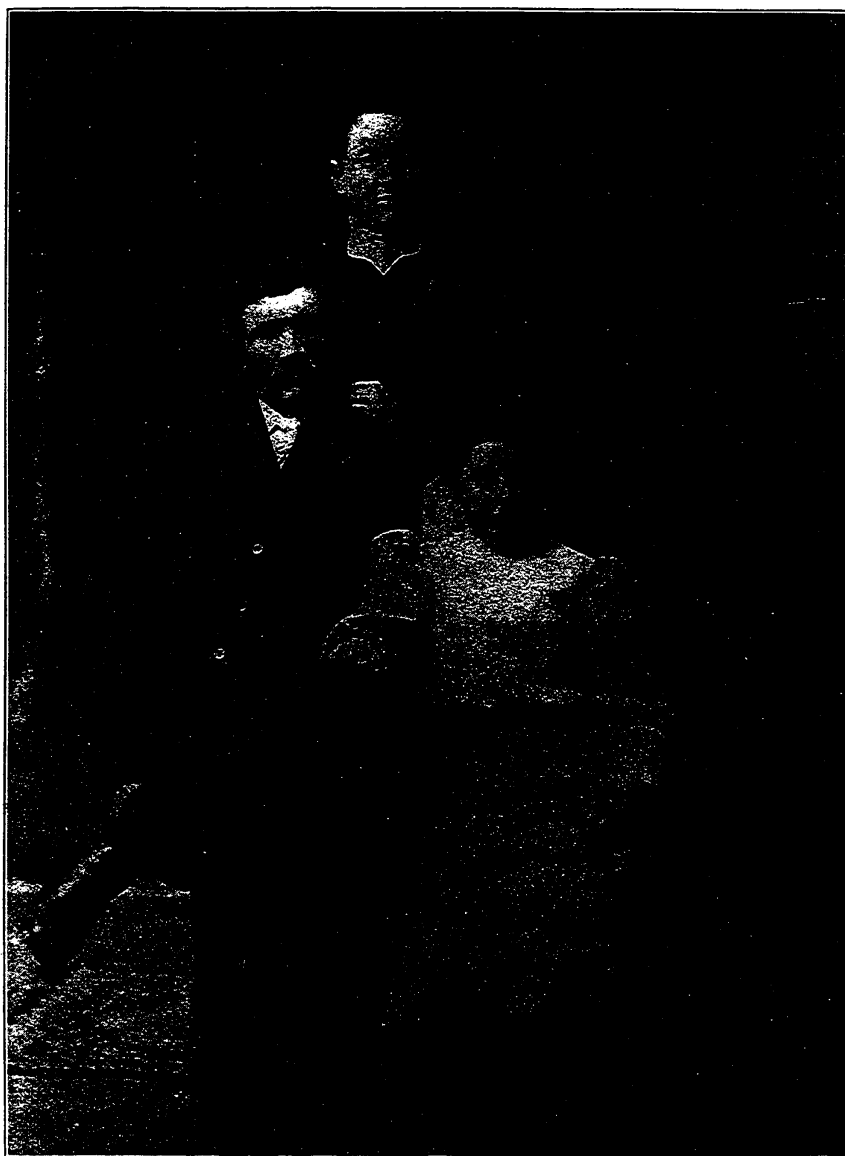
their graceful limbs and sleek, black coats, enliven the meadows and glades of the Rowland homestead. Duroc-Jersey and Poland-China hogs in the best of condition and of mammoth sizes give promise of rich revenues when they reach the swine market. In addition to his other interests, Mr. Rowland has followed dairying extensively and figured creditably in an industry for which Iowa is famous. Mr. Rowland inherited his love of fine stock, as his father believed in it and always kept a good stallion. He was a man of notable qualities and far above the average. He was founder of the Evangelical church in Fayette county and for many years practically stood the expenses of the same. He donated the land for the buildings which were erected in 1895 or 1896. One of the achievements of which he was justly proud was the passage of what was called the "herd law," for which he worked indefatigably.

In 1898 Mr. Rowland married Clara E., daughter of Henry Smith, and has three children: Merritt, Gladys and Myrtle. The family are members of the Evangelical church. Mr. Rowland is a Republican, but never sought office, though he has consented to act as president of the school board for some years. Like his honored father, he has always been a supporter of all moral causes and active in church work.

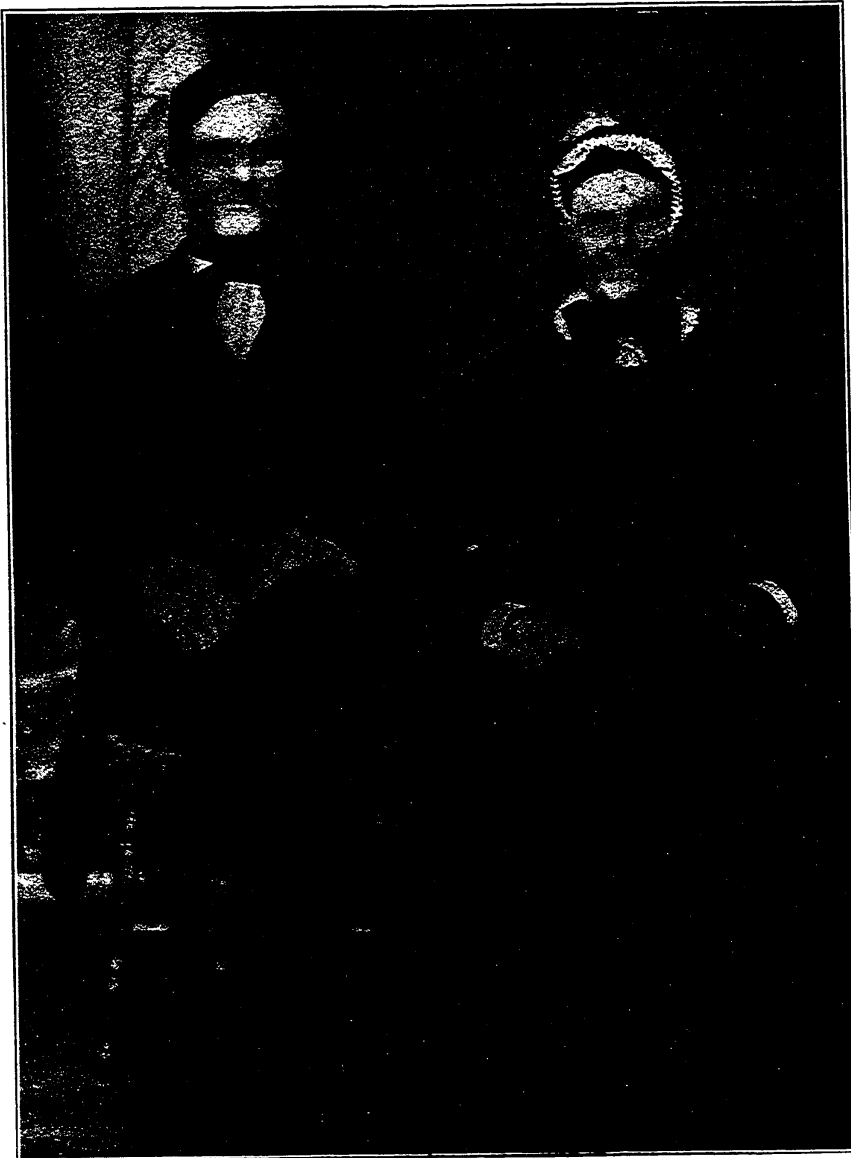
Peter Rowland, paternal grandfather of John A., was born December 31, 1791, at Hagerstown, Maryland, and died at the age of eighty-five years. He married a Miss Hoffner, who died in Ohio, and by her had six children, five sons and one daughter. They first moved to Pennsylvania, from there to Ohio, and in the early fifties came to Iowa and settled in Fayette county on land located in Clermont township. He was a pioneer of that section and ended his days peacefully after a strenuous life chiefly devoted to agricultural labor.

AMON C. SABOE.

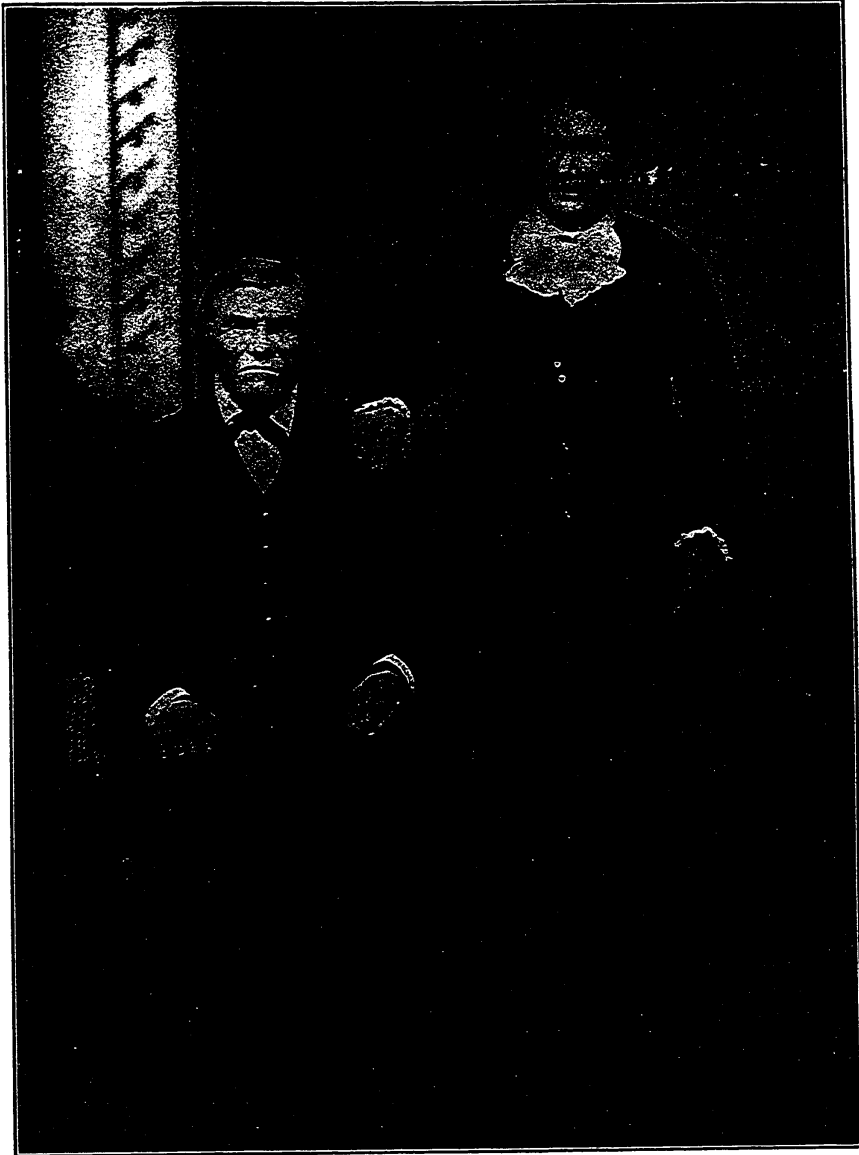
Among the prominent citizens of the northern part of Fayette county must be ranked Amon C. Saboe, for he has made this locality his home since babyhood and has been active in the general progress of the community. His birth occurred in Dover township in 1857, the son of Colben I. and Julia (Amondson) Saboe, both born in Norway, where they spent their childhood, coming to America early in life. They were married in March, 1850, and in April of that year they located at Beloit, Wisconsin. Colben Saboe had served five years as apprentice to a blacksmith and he received license as a result of this experience and followed this line for one year in Wisconsin; how-



AMON C. SABOE AND FAMILY.



MR. AND MRS. OLE O. FOSSAAN.



MR. AND MRS. COLBEN I. SABOE.

ever, he soon began working on the farm and in May, 1851, settled on the farm now owned by Amon C. Saboe, of this review. He first purchased forty acres where the buildings stand. Prospering from year to year as a result of his excellent business qualities, he added additional forties until he had eleven forties, or four hundred and forty acres. He became quite well-to-do and was an influential citizen there, and he carried on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale, having cleared most of the land himself, assisting the hands in the actual work of preparing the soil for cultivation. His son, Amon C., cleared perhaps one-half of the place. The father first lived in a dug-out where the present comfortable dwelling stands, though before its erection he lived for some time in a log house. All the present buildings were erected by him except the barn, which Amon C. built; it is a substantial structure, fifty-six by seventy-six feet, with a fourteen-foot shed, twenty-six-foot posts and a drive-way fifty-six by sixteen feet.

The father of Amon C. Saboe was very active in politics, being first a Whig, later a Republican. He held a position on the school board for a great many years and always took an active interest in the affairs of his county. He and his wife reared nine children, eight of whom are still living.

Amon C. Saboe was educated in the public schools of his native community and he began working on the home farm when but a mere lad, and he has driven a reaper for forty-five years consecutively on the same farm, having begun with a hand-rake when seven years of age; now he rides behind a modern McCormick self-binder. He challenges the state to break the record. He purchased the homestead in 1892, consisting of two hundred and seventy-five acres, his father having sold two hundred and eighty acres. The place is now widely known as the "Turkey Valley Stock Farm." He has made high grade cattle and hogs a specialty, keeping from one hundred to one hundred and fifty hogs at a time, preferring the Poland-China breed. He well understands the successful handling of hogs and has never had cholera among them. He also keeps from fifty to seventy-five head of cattle. Corn and oats are his chief grains. He has half interest in a general store at Ossian, Iowa, known as the John Moe Mercantile Company, and in all his business relations he has been very successful.

Mr. Saboe was married in 1892 to Inger Fossaan, who was born and reared on the farm just north of that owned by Mr. Saboe. She is the daughter of Ole O. and Inger (Christian) Fossaan, who came from Norway in 1852, locating on the farm mentioned above, which is still in the family. This family was always active in township affairs, and highly

respected people here. One child, Cora Julia, has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Saboe, and they have an adopted son, Albert Fossaan, a son of Mr. Saboe's brother-in-law. They have also reared Oliver Fossaan and Emma Fossaan.

Mr. Saboe and family are members of the Lutheran church. Politically, Mr. Saboe is a Republican in national affairs and independent locally. He has never aspired to public office, but he has been a member of the local school board for about fifteen years, eleven of which were consecutive; most of the time he was president and secretary of the board. Personally he is a genial, straightforward and hospitable gentleman whom everybody honors and respects.

HENRY L. ADAMS.

A whole-souled gentleman, an able attorney and a public-spirited citizen of West Union, Fayette county, is Henry L. Adams, formerly county superintendent of schools, a man who has thrown his powers, the weight of his soul and mind into study, work and practice, and who recognizes honesty, integrity and higher character as the most exalted of professional ideals and standards, realizing that men of character are not only the conscience of society, but in every well governed state they are its best motive power, as the moral qualities rule, and, guided by such ideals, he accomplishes whatever he undertakes, being now in the fullest development and vigor of his faculties, capable of his best and strongest work.

Mr. Adams was born at Maynard, Fayette county, Iowa, November 28, 1875, and is the son of Leander and Rebecca (Cline) Adams, the former a native of Cattaraugus county, New York, born January 18, 1835, and the latter born in Washington county, Ohio, February 22, 1848. The paternal great-grandfather, Capt. Abner Adams, was a commissioned captain in the patriot army in the Revolutionary war. Leander L. Adams enlisted as a private in Company B, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in 1862, and he was later in the marine service. He was in the engagements at Perryville, siege of Vicksburg, Ball's Bluff, but the major part of his time was spent in the vicinity of Vicksburg. For gallant service he was promoted to corporal, and was honorably discharged in 1865.

Henry L. Adams enjoyed the advantages of a good education in the local public schools, the Maynard high school, Upper Iowa University, at Fayette, the State University of Iowa and the Chicago University. Thus

he became exceptionally well prepared for his chosen calling, that of teacher, which he first followed at Waucoma, Iowa, from 1897 to 1899, making an excellent record. His abilities as an educator being generally recognized, he was elected county superintendent of schools in 1899 and served very faithfully and acceptably as such until 1905, during which time the cause of education in this county was greatly strengthened and encouraged. But believing that the law held greater inducements for him, he accordingly took up that line of research and was duly admitted to the bar, beginning practice in West Union in the fall of 1907, under the firm name of Rogers & Adams, and he has succeeded in building up a very satisfactory clientele, being well versed in the law and careful and painstaking, and eloquent and interesting both as a pleader before a jury and as a public speaker. Politically, he is a Republican and has taken more than a passing interest in the affairs of his party for some time, and in the fall of 1908 he was honored by his constituents by being elected state senator of the fortieth senatorial district, comprising the counties of Allamakee and Fayette, and his record in the Legislature as a champion of the rights of the people whom he represented was such as to win the approval and admiration of all classes. In religious matters he is a Presbyterian and a liberal supporter of the local church.

Mr. Adams is prominent in fraternal circles also, belonging to the local lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the Knights of Pythias, the Order of the Eastern Star and the Modern Woodmen of America, also holds membership in the Phi Delta Phi, a law fraternity, and the Historical and Literary Club.

On January 5, 1898, Mr. Adams formed a matrimonial alliance with Ina S. Holmes, the cultured and accomplished daughter of David A. and Sarah (Carter) Holmes, of Donnan, Iowa, and this union has been graced by the birth of two children, Maude, born April 8, 1902, and Edith Kate, born January 31, 1906.

Personally, Mr. Adams takes a high rank as one of Fayette county's representative citizens, his life having been lived in such a manner as to win and retain the confidence and respect of all who know him. He is a man of high educational attainments; always a student, he keeps abreast of the times in all matters of general interest and is familiar with the world's best literature on a great diversity of themes. He is the possessor of a high order of literary ability and whatever he writes or says is given a ready hearing and proper consideration, and there is no man in the county who is held in higher esteem by the population, regardless of all sects, politics or profession.

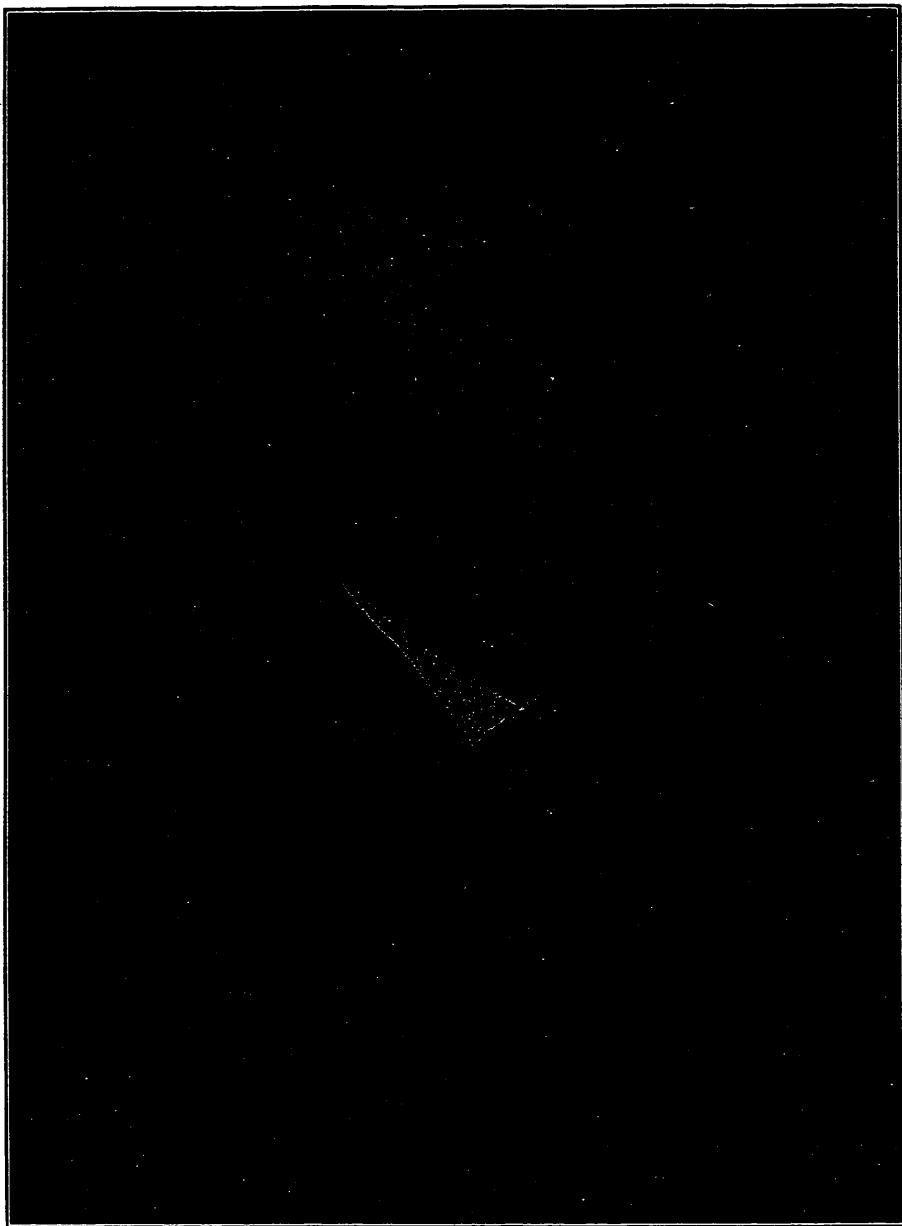
EDWARD EITEL.

This is an age in which the farmer stands pre-eminently above any other class as a producer of wealth. He simply takes advantage of the winds, the warm air, bright sunshine and refreshing rains, and applying his own hands to nature's gifts he produces the necessities of life. The commercial world has come to recognize his importance and has surrounded him with many conveniences not thought of one hundred years ago. And the farmer has not been slow to take advantage of the aids thus offered. Among the up-to-date farmers of Fayette county is Edward Eitel, who operates a highly improved farm in Center township, and who is entitled to be numbered among the progressive and enterprising farmers of the community.

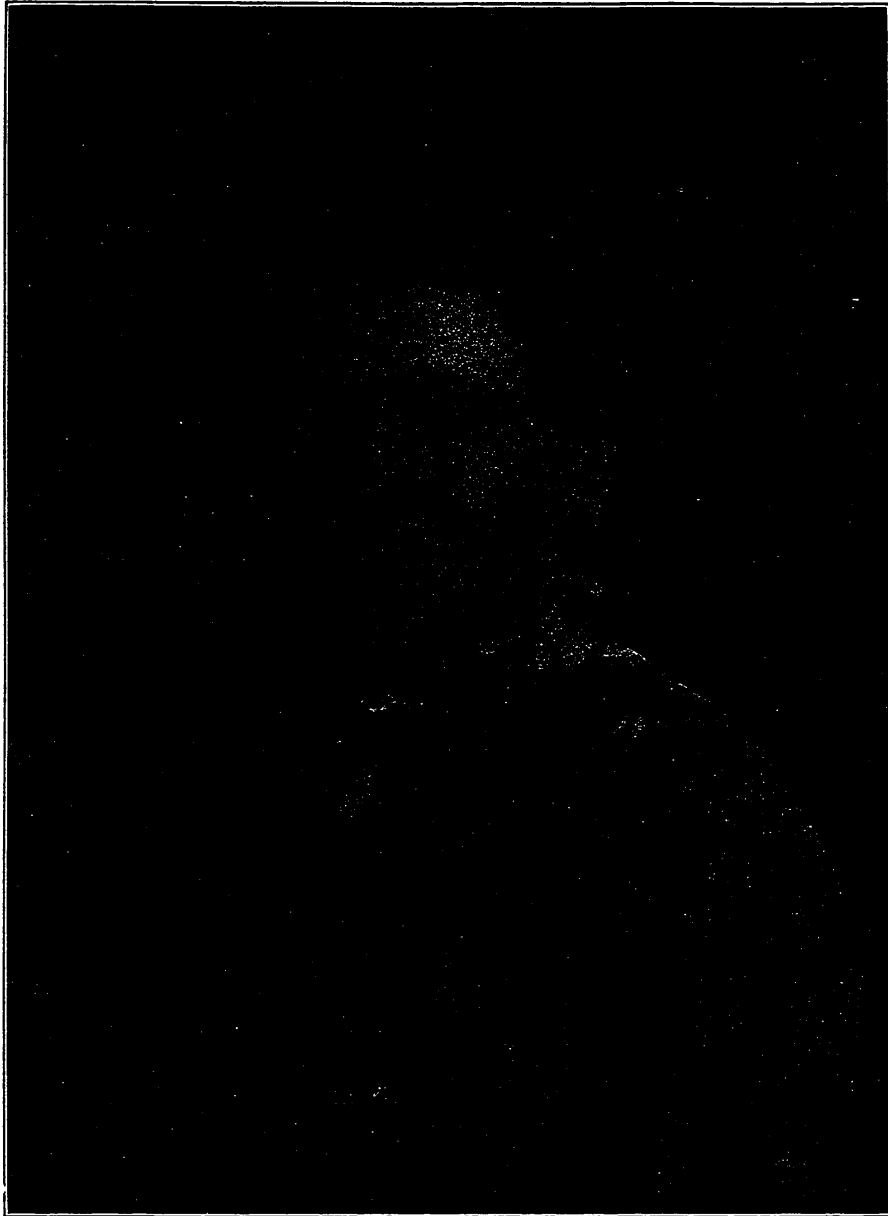
Mr. Eitel was born in Green county, Wisconsin, on October 15, 1859, and is a son of John G. and Lena (Fisher) Eitel, both of whom were natives of Wurtemberg, Germany. They came to America in 1849, settling in the state of Vermont. Two years later they removed to Green county, Wisconsin, where the father engaged in farming up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1898. His wife died in 1887. Of the seven children born to them, six are living. Politically, John G. Eitel was a Republican, though not an office seeker, while in religion he was a member of the Lutheran church, his wife being a Catholic.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm, with the work of which he became familiar at an early age. He is indebted to the common schools for his educational training, which has been liberally supplemented during the subsequent years by observation and experience of a practical nature. In 1887 Mr. Eitel came to Fayette county, Iowa, and rented a farm in Windsor township, to the cultivation of which he applied himself for three years. At the end of that period, in 1890, he bought the splendid farm in Center township which he now owns. This farm, which comprises two hundred and forty acres, is up to date in every respect, and Mr. Eitel has made a number of permanent and substantial improvements, having built an attractive, well-arranged and comfortable residence, commodious barn and other necessary outbuildings, all of which bespeak him as a man of sound ideas and practical methods. In addition to carrying on general farming operations, Mr. Eitel has met with much success as a dairyman and as a breeder and raiser of Holstein cattle. He has been a hard working man and to his own personal efforts is attributable the success which he has enjoyed.

Politically, Mr. Eitel gives an earnest support to the Republican party and has rendered efficient service as a trustee of his township. His fraternal



EDWARD EITEL.



MRS. ROSA EITEL.

relations are with the Modern Woodmen of America, the Brotherhood of American Yeomen and the Mystic Workers.

On January 25, 1885, Mr. Eitel was united in marriage to Rosa Zelmer, who was born in Green county, Wisconsin, on January 14, 1863, the daughter of William and Sophia (Beckman) Zelmer. These parents, who were natives of Germany, came to America, locating in Green county, Wisconsin, in an early day, and there the mother died in 1901. Mr. Zelmer, who was a farmer of vocation, is now retired and is living in Monroe, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Eitel have become the parents of one son, Arthur Lewis, who was born on January 30, 1888, in this county. The latter received a good common school education, which he supplemented by two years' attendance in Upper Iowa University, and he is now at home assisting in the operation of the farm. He is a young man of fine personal qualities and is well liked by all who know him. Mr. Eitel is known as a man of industry, honesty and loyalty to right principles, and because of his estimable personal qualities he enjoys an enviable standing in the community.

CHARLES GILBERT NEFF.

Of the firm of Neff Brothers, proprietors of the West Union Electric Light and Power Plant, Charles G. Neff, one of Fayette county's native sons, was born at the town of Auburn on March 26, 1859. His father was Abner G. M. Neff, whose birth occurred at Connellsville, Fayette county, Pennsylvania, October 13, 1829, and his mother, Anna Hobson, a native of the same place, was born October 26th of the same year in which her husband first saw the light of day. These parents were married in Connellsville, November 27, 1851, and in 1857 came to Fayette county, Iowa, where Mr. Neff worked at the shoemaker's trade until the breaking out of the late Civil war. Then he enlisted in Company F, Ninth Iowa Infantry, with which he served until fatally wounded at the battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, March 9, 1862, dying two days later. Mrs. Neff, who is still a widow, has reached the ripe old age of eighty-one years and for some time past has lived with a married daughter in Birmingham, Alabama.

John Dewitt Neff, the oldest of the family of Abner and Anna Neff, was born January 4, 1853, at Connellsville, Pennsylvania, grew to maturity in Fayette county, Iowa, and for a number of years followed the drug business at different places. He served some time as deputy county recorder and later

was elected clerk, in which position he was serving his first term when his death occurred, on the 10th day of July, 1884, at West Union, Iowa. As a local minister of the Methodist Episcopal church he took a very active part in religious work and his life measured up to a high standard of Christian manhood and citizenship. By his marriage, June 17, 1878, with Mary C. Hare, of Summerfield, Ohio, he had two children, Homer M. and Minnie H. Mary Elizabeth, the second of the family, was born at Connellsville, Pennsylvania, August 21, 1854, married, on September 24, 1877, Rev. S. P. Marsh, then of Summerfield, Ohio, now of Birmingham, Alabama, where she and her husband now reside. Homer Marsh Neff, the third in order of birth, is also a native of Connellsville, Pennsylvania, where he first saw the light of day on the 6th of March, 1856. In early life he studied architecture and civil engineering, in both of which professions he acquired great proficiency, and his studious habits led him to make investigations in various other lines of thought. He served as official surveyor of Fayette county, was city engineer of West Union for some years and held the position of county clerk for two terms, proving a very capable and courteous official. He stood high in the esteem of the public, ranked among the representative citizens of the county and will be remembered as one of the leading men of his day in the city of West Union. He died, unmarried, on the 5th day of January, 1902.

Charles Gilbert Neff, whose birth is noted in a preceding paragraph, is the fourth child of Abner G. M. and Anna (Hobson) Neff and one of the two representatives of the family now living in the county of Fayette. He was reared to manhood in West Union, received a good education in the city schools, and began life for himself as a druggist, which line of business he followed for some years with his brother, John D. Neff. While thus engaged he was located at different places, and at one time filled the responsible position of pharmacist for the Iowa Hospital for the Insane at Independence. Severing his connection with that institution at the end of one year, he took charge of a large drug store at Rock Rapids, Iowa, but after a limited period was obliged to relinquish the business on account of ill health and return to his home in West Union. Later he was associated with the drug trade in his native city and continued the same until June, 1885, when he severed his connection to accept the position of deputy county clerk, which he held for a period of fourteen years and in which he demonstrated ability of a high order and gained the confidence of the public irrespective of party ties.

Resigning the above position in 1899, Mr. Neff, in partnership with his brother, Homer M. Neff, purchased, in October of that year, from the founder, C. F. Freehauf, the West Union Electric Light and Power Plant, the

franchise for which had been issued on the 20th of March preceding for a period of twenty years, subsequently, July, 1908, renewed for ten years to C. G. and J. H. Neff, the present proprietors. After the death of Homer Neff, his brother, J. H., became the subject's partner, the firm thus constituted continuing as before under the name of the Neff Brothers, by which it is still known.

The West Union Light and Power Company was installed at a cost of eight thousand dollars, but with additions and improvements since made it now represents a capital considerably in excess of that amount. Nothing has been spared to make it answer the purposes for which intended and the plant at this time is a model of its kind, being equipped with the latest and most approved electrical appliances and, with a capacity of something over four thousand lights, affords the city ample illumination. Under the efficient management of the present proprietors, both experienced business men and familiar with every phase of electric lighting, the establishment has become a necessity to the city and is rapidly increasing in value. In addition to the proprietors, who devote all of their attention to the plant, the services of two other men are required, all selected with reference to efficiency and skill in their respective departments.

Mr. Neff is not only a wide-awake business man of progressive ideas, but he also manifests a lively interest in everything pertaining to the growth and advancement of his city and community. As a member of the city council for thirteen consecutive years, he had much to do in promoting important municipal legislation and to him the public is indebted for many of the utilities which the city now enjoys. A Republican in politics, he wields a potent influence for his party in local and state affairs and in the various nominating conventions his opinions and counsel always carry weight and command respect. For a number of years he has been a leading member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having passed all the chairs in the subordinate lodge and encampment, besides taking an influential part in the Rebekah lodge, to which his wife also belongs.

On November 24, 1880, Mr. Neff and Lillie A. Dorland, daughter of Cornelius A. and Mary A. Dorland, were united in marriage, the Dorlands being one of the old and well known families of West Union and for many years actively identified with the county and municipal affairs. Cornelius A. Dorland served as sheriff in an early day and was long a peace officer in West Union, his eminent fitness for the various positions with which he was honored being recognized by the public. He had a son and a daughter who grew to maturity, the former, Charles M. Dorland, having married Eva Neveler, by whom

he had five children; the latter became the wife of Mr. Neff. The father died October 26, 1902, the son on May 29th, of the following year; the mother, who is still living, is making her home with the subject of this sketch. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Neff has been blessed with two children, Harry A., born September 26, 1882, is a telegraph operator and station agent at West Branch on the Rock Island & Pacific railroad; he married Ella Wickham, of Clermont, this state, and is the father of two sons, Paul and Edward Allen. Florence Marie, the second of the subject's family, a young lady still under the parental roof, is her mother's efficient assistant in the management of the household and a favorite in the social circle in which she moves. Mrs. Neff is well known and greatly esteemed in the city of her residence, being active in its social and religious life and a leading worker in the Methodist Episcopal church, with which she has long been identified. At present she is secretary of the Ladies Aid Society, member of the official board of the same and is also prominent in the work of the Daughters of Rebekah lodge, of West Union.

COL. CHARLES W. BOPP.

The life of the eminent and successful business man, though filled to repletion with activity and incident, presents fewer salient features to excite the interest of the general reader than the man whose place in the public eye has been won through the glamour and display of military or political achievement. But to acquire distinction or great prosperity in the business pursuits which give to the country its financial strength and credit, requires ability of as high, if not higher, order than that which leads to victory on the field of battle. This will be readily appreciated by all who tread the business thoroughfare of trade. Ordinarily, merit may attain a respectable position and enjoy a moderate competence, but to spring from the common walks of life to a conspicuous place of monetary credit and power can only be the fortune of a rarely gifted personage. Eminent business talent is composed of a combination of high mental and moral attributes. It is not simply energy and industry; there must be sound judgment, breadth of capacity, rapidity of thought, justice and firmness, the foresight to perceive the course of drifting tides of business and the will and ability to control them, and, withal, a collection of minor, but important, qualities to regulate the details of the pursuits which engage attention. Col. Charles W. Bopp, president of the First National Bank of Hawkeye, Iowa, affords an example of this talent, if not in its highest develop-



CHARLES W. BOPP.

ment, yet an extraordinary character, and notwithstanding the somewhat limited theater of his operations he has achieved a reputation which places him among the first of upper Iowa's eminent financiers and distinguished business men.

Colonel Bopp was born on the family homestead near Hawkeye, Fayette county, Iowa, on March 23, 1868, and he grew to manhood in this vicinity. After finishing the usual course in the country schools he attended Ainsworth's Academy in West Union, Iowa, for several terms and later spent several years in the Iowa State Normal School at Cedar Falls, where he was ever studious and enjoyed the confidence of the professors of the college, which in later years proved a valuable asset to him. At that time he had in mind the career of a professional teacher and took an active interest in everything pertaining to school work, both in its relation to the pupils and the parents.

Thus exceptionally well equipped for most any kind of a career, Charles W. Bopp began life by teaching, which he followed with remarkable success for a period of seven years in Fayette county, during which time his services were in great demand, he being popular with both pupil and patron. He found his experience as a teacher very valuable in the development of personal self-control, and in studying human nature, in its many sided ways, as it was presented by large numbers of pupils; these lessons were valuable in all his later life and aided greatly in the success of his business career. But believing that the business world held greater opportunities for him, and that his talents lay along commercial lines, he abandoned the school-room and in August, 1890, became associated with the Cary Safe Company, of Buffalo, New York, as a traveling salesman. He proved to be a phenomenal success as a sales agent, and by dint of industry, close application to business, and by applying the rudiments of saving inculcated in him during his early education, he saved considerable money and was regarded by the firm as one of its most efficient and trustworthy employes.

During his vacations while a teacher, the subject found employment in the sale of subscription books, in which he had unusual success and it was while he was showing up the merits of one of the books that he attracted the attention of president H. D. Cary of the Cary Safe Company, who insisted on his trying the larger and more difficult work. He started out on a salary of nine hundred dollars per year and expenses, which had been increased before the close of the first year to two thousand four hundred dollars per year and expenses. From that time on his advancement as a salesman was very rapid, until in 1900 his company made the claim that he was the most successful safe salesman in the world. At that time he was receiving a salary of seven thou-

sand two hundred dollars per year and all expenses, and two months off during each year. However, he found that the strain was telling on his very strong constitution and he decided to gradually go out of the work. In 1898 he made an effort to enlist in the Cuban war, but was rejected on account of the loss of a small toe from an accident in early life.

In the spring of 1900, in company with his brother, J. W., Colonel Bopp went to Europe, taking the southern route via Gibraltar and Naples. They made a leisurely tour of all the countries in Europe west of Turkey and Russia, excepting Spain, Norway and Sweden, returning home late in the fall of the year. They visited all the capitals, many important fortifications and nearly all the large cities, spending a month in Paris during the time of the exposition. They also visited the Passion Play at Ober Ammergau. During this trip Col. Bopp had an unusual opportunity to visit the art galleries, museums and places of scenic interest in all parts of the country, the trip including a passage across the Alps over the route taken by Napoleon, and a climb to very near the summit of Mt. Blanc. On this trip Col. Bopp visited the birthplace of his parents on the Rhine. He also spent several weeks in visiting places of interest along that historic river. His parents lived in the village where Napoleon's army crossed the river on their memorable retreat from Moscow, and he later spent a day on the battle field of Waterloo, which finished up the military career of the great Napoleon, whose fortunes Col. Bopp's grandfather, on his father's side, had followed for eight years, in almost continuous warfare. Col. Bopp is a born traveler and has a very great faculty for getting the very best out of a trip, and his first tour to Europe left him with considerable of a desire to go over some of the territory a second time. Accordingly, in 1902, the year of King Edward's coronation, he made a second trip to Great Britain, spending a couple of months in London and at other historic points and witnessed the coronation ceremonies. After the London festivities, he made a second tour of France, Belgium and Holland, and also visited the principal points of interest in Norway and Sweden, including a trip to the North Cape, where he enjoyed seeing the midnight sun. During these journeys, he made a large collection of paintings, works of art, with photographs and views of the principal places he visited. He was a careful observer and from the storehouse of his recollection, can bring up a very interesting and instructive conversation for his friends at any time. He has added to his own observations the careful reading of works on travel by others, and very few men have a more comprehensive knowledge of European countries, customs and conditions than he has. During his trips in Europe, he had the unusual privileges of going through the national banks of all the capitals which he visited, and

inspected their vault work and their means for the protection of the national funds in case of war. These visits were nearly always made with four special guards, a turnkey and an interpreter, and it is not likely that a half dozen men in all America have ever had a similar privilege and experience. He has a peculiar faculty of mapping out matters so that nothing will be left undone to bring about the results he wishes to attain. This faculty was a great help to him in arranging for special privileges, during his travels, both in this country and abroad. In other words, he is a good fighter, not disposed to be put off on account of ceremony or special privileges. If he wants anything, he wants it, and generally manages to get it. He has made it a habit all his life of doing thoroughly whatever he took up. This is illustrated in a measure by his standing as a Mason. After joining the order, he was not satisfied until he had gone well to the top, and for a good many years has been a thirty-second-degree Mason. He is also an Odd Fellow, and was instrumental with others in building a hall for the society in the town of Hawkeye. In 1898 he donated to the town of Hawkeye its present large, well-equipped public library, together with the books. This institution is now well established and has a large and intelligent patronage, and is being added to all the time in the way of new and interesting books. This library has a regular librarian and is governed by the rules and regulations applying to public libraries. It is a great credit to the town and is the only public library in any city or town in the county.

In 1894 Colonel Bopp, with his brothers, established the Bopp Brothers State Bank of Hawkeye, Iowa, with a capital of twenty-five thousand dollars, which they later converted into the First National Bank of Hawkeye. After traveling in practically every state in the Union, Col. Bopp resigned his position with the Cary Safe Company and assumed active management of the bank, in 1906, and under his direction and careful management it has become known throughout the entire country as "The Bank That is Doing Things." Its officers are Charles W. Bopp, president; Will E. Bopp, vice-president; E. L. Bopp, cashier. These officers seem to possess excellent business acumen and their bank is one of the safest and most popular of this section of the state. After building a handsome brick block for their bank, when it was established, he, with his brothers, also built a number of others of the best brick buildings now in Hawkeye, which added very largely to the upbuilding of the town. He, with his brothers, have done more for the upbuilding of their home town than any other family that has ever lived in it. They have always been ready with time and money for every public enterprise or movement for the betterment of its business, its buildings, or its management. It is not often that a man with Col. Bopp's opportunities and accomplishments

is willing to settle down in his home town and give his time and talents for its upbuilding and the benefit of his old neighbors. However, he is philosophical about his life habits and has come to the conclusion that happiness does not consist so much in having unduly large possessions or extraordinary honors, but that it consists in doing well the work which comes to his hands, and being satisfied with the many blessings that surround us all, if we have the capacity to see them. He has seen the best advantages any state in the Union has to offer, and has a personal acquaintance with a very large portion of its public men, particularly those of the West, and has come to the conclusion that there is no exceptional honor without a sense of great responsibility and personal sacrifice in other directions. With that view of life, he aims to get as much good out of each day as good health, good spirits and congenial surroundings enable him to enjoy. For many years he has taken great interest in politics from the standpoint of good government and with intelligent interest in public affairs, which should be a part of the duty of every good citizen. He has probably known more of the public men of Iowa than any other man of his age who has ever lived in the state. This acquaintance was largely acquired while traveling through the state in the interest of the Cary Safe Company. He has never had any desire for office, but accepted the complimentary position of aid-de-camp on the staff of Governor A. B. Cummins of Iowa for six years, with the rank of colonel. He has visited all the national expositions in this country, since the Columbian Exposition at Chicago, and is thoroughly familiar with the best that has been produced in this and other countries.

In 1904 Col. Bopp was married to Elizabeth L. Miller, a lady of culture and refinement, formerly of West Union, Iowa, being a representative of an excellent old family. She presides over her beautiful home with rare grace and dignity, and, like her husband, is popular with a wide circle of friends throughout the county. Col. Bopp is very fond of children, and has been a great favorite of the little ones wherever they have known him all his lifetime. He has always been ready and willing to contribute to their pleasure in the way of entertainment, instruction and amusement, and is a thorough believer in the best possible facilities in every public school. This comes in part from his training and experience as a teacher and in part from his sympathy with children. He is a great admirer of anything which is artistic and in all his undertakings, in the way of buildings and in any matter of public improvement, insists that the element of beauty and pleasing outlines are as important as actual utility. Col. Bopp is also a considerable writer of current literature and has prepared many arti-

cles on special subjects for papers and magazines. He is a clear and very forceful writer, with ideas generally in advance of the ordinary citizen. His wide experience and observation as a traveler have given him an unusual fund of material for comparison and suggestion, and if he has seen anything good at some other point, he is always anxious to have it adopted and made available in his local surroundings. He is rather outspoken in his manner of expressing himself, and has small patience with useless ceremony or that which has no real merit back of it. He gets that from the wholesome teachings of his parents, who also inculcated his habits of thrift and gave him a boundless energy, and who taught him that only the good and useful was worthy of serious effort. He is a great admirer of good music and good plays, and whenever possible is a liberal patron of first-class talent in that line. He enjoys anything which has real merit and is good, whether it is along his own particular line of activities or not.

A few years after leaving the State Normal School Col. Bopp had the honor of being referred to by the president of that institution as one of the most successful and enterprising students who had ever gone out from its classes, and he has been known by every public man in Iowa for a long time as one of the most successful of the remarkable family of Bopp boys. He has a wide circle of friends who find him loyal and liberal, and is a good illustration of the opportunities afforded to the boys and girls of this county if they have energy and good personal habits. He has always been in the habit of doing everything he had before him in a thorough and systematic way; when he plowed corn or made hay or fed stock on the old farm, it was done well; when he was in school and depending on his own earnings to get an education, he worked hard and did his work well; when he went out into the larger field of a traveling representative for a large house to carry out the most difficult line of salesmanship, which any young man can undertake, he did his work thoroughly and well. As a traveler under varying conditions, he observed everything carefully and closely with no waste time, and this habit has been characteristic of him in business, in politics and in all his works with his fellow citizens. What he does may be depended upon to be done promptly, thoroughly and well, and is an excellent example of a successful young man not yet in the prime of life, who has come up from a family of European immigrants, settling on the wild and cheerless prairies of what is now Fayette county, Iowa, and succeeding against many adverse circumstances, by the teachings of his enterprising and economical parents and his own boundless energy and determination.

JOHN BURNS LINDSAY.

This old and esteemed citizen of Fayette county is a native of Scotland and a son of Alexander and Jane (Burns) Lindsay, who came to the United States in 1851 and settled in Illinois, removing then in 1854 to Fayette county, Iowa, locating on a farm two miles northeast of Waucoma, in Eden township, where they spent the remainder of their days, the mother dying in 1862, the father in 1867, both having reached the age of sixty-five years. By occupation Alexander Lindsay was originally a soapmaker, but after coming to this country he turned his attention to agriculture and followed the same until called hence. He paid four hundred dollars for his eighty-acre farm in Eden township, and later, with his two sons, bought one hundred and twenty additional acres at seven dollars per acre, this land at the time of his death being conservatively valued at twenty dollars per acre. In early life he was a Presbyterian in his religious belief, but became a Congregationalist and as such was an active and influential member of the church of that denomination in Waucoma. Alexander and Jane Lindsay were the parents of nine children, all born in Scotland and but two now living. Thomas, the oldest of the family, was accidentally killed in a saw-mill which he was operating, being about thirty years old at the time. Lillie married Andrew Tait, and has one daughter, Mrs. Husband, living in Fayette county. Christina, who became the wife of James Scott, remained in Scotland, where her death occurred some years ago. Jane died in childhood. John B., of this review, is the next in order of birth. Alexander, who owned a farm near the family homestead, died about the year 1880; his widow, Margaret (nee Murray) Lindsay, went to Texas some years ago and is now a resident of Houston, that state. Margaret, wife of Ed Munby, died fourteen years ago in this county. William, who succeeded to the old homestead, died on the same and his daughter now owns and operates the farm. Robert A., the youngest of the family and the only one besides the subject now living, was an early merchant of McGregor, but for some years past has made his home in the city of Waterloo.

John Burns Lindsay was born June 15, 1830, in Lancashire, Scotland, and in 1851 accompanied his parents to the United States, spending the three years ensuing in Illinois. In 1854 he came to Fayette county, Iowa, and purchased an eighty-acre tract in Eden township adjoining his father's farm, the land consisting of timber and prairie, for which he paid the sum of seven dollars per acre. Shortly after making the above purchase he hired by the month to team for M. B. Early & Company, of Asbury, who at that time were

engaged in freighting goods from Dubuque and other river towns to various inland points, the distance from the former city being one hundred miles from McGregor, and Prairie du Chien, about fifty miles. He drove a large four-horse wagon, which was loaded with grain or produce on the eastern trip and with various kinds of merchandise on the return trip. The firm employed quite a number of men and teams, doing for many years the largest business in the eastern part of the state. Mr. Lindsay devoted about five years to this kind of labor, receiving twenty-six dollars per month, which, carefully saved, enabled him to stock his farm, make the needed improvements and otherwise prepare for his subsequent career as an enterprising and successful tiller of the soil.

Severing his connection with his employers in 1862, Mr. Lindsay was married in that year to Jane Murray, sister of Margaret Murray, the occasion being a double ceremony, in which the latter was also united in matrimony. Mrs. Lindsay's parents, William and Margaret (Orr) Murray, were natives of Scotland, but many years ago emigrated to Canada, where their daughter Jane was born. Subsequently, sometime in the fifties, the family moved to Fayette county, Iowa, where Mr. and Mrs. Murray spent the remainder of their lives.

Immediately after his marriage Mr. Lindsay set up his domestic establishment on the land which he had formerly purchased and in due time had the greater part of his farm in a good state of cultivation and otherwise improved. The original dwelling has since been remodeled and made into a very comfortable and commodious modern residence, and additions have been made to the farm until it now contains one hundred and ninety-five acres of fine land. In many respects the farm is a model, the improvements of all kinds being first-class and in excellent repair, the soil cultivated to its full capacity, and the condition of everything on the premises bespeaks the presence of an intelligent and progressive farmer who believes in the dignity of his calling and makes the most of his opportunities. While successful in the matter of tilling the soil and raising of large crops of grain and vegetables, Mr. Lindsay devoted especial attention to livestock, from the sale of which the greater part of his income is derived. He has been active in the support of all measures for the good of the community and, being one of the oldest citizens of the township in which he lives, his acquaintance is quite large and his name honored wherever known. In his political faith he is a Democrat and an earnest supporter of the principles of his party, though by no means narrow in his views, being always ready to accord the same right of opinion to others

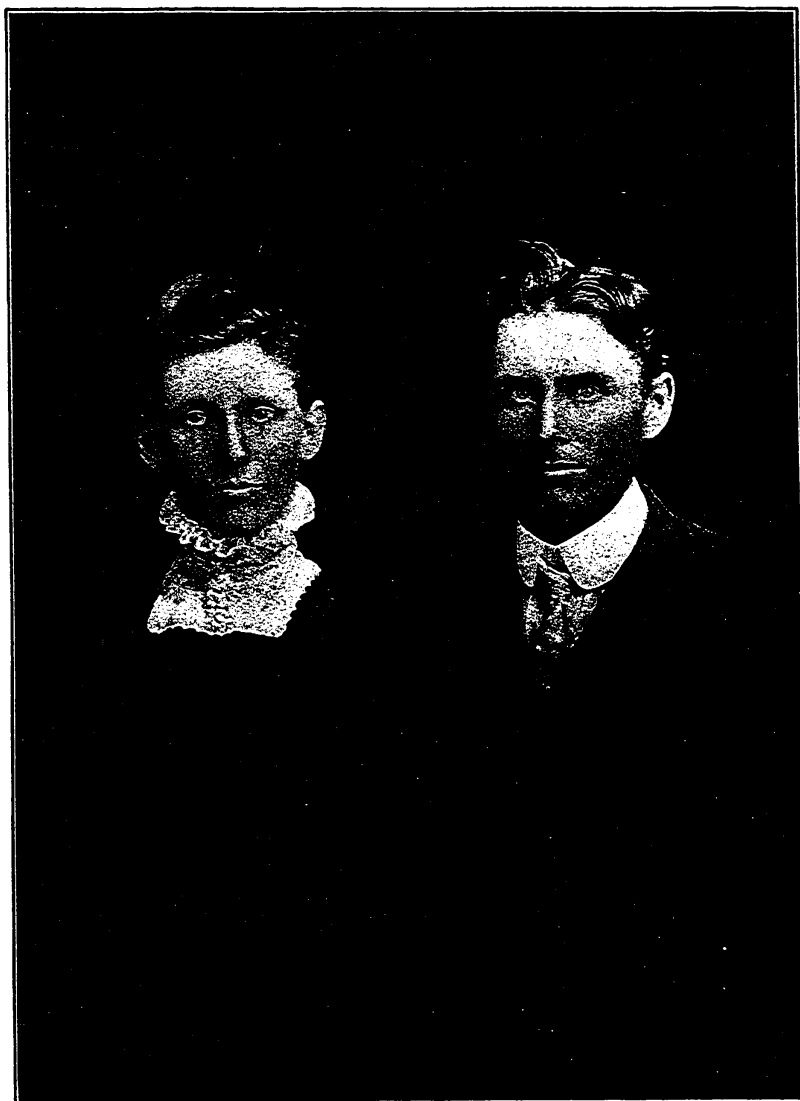
that he claims for himself. He has held various offices, in all of which he was faithful to his trust and loyal to the people whom he served.

Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay have had four children: Alexander, who is in the mail service at Sioux City; Robert Henry, a stockdealer and since the retirement of his father manager of the home farm; Lillian, wife of J. Lockwood, a carpenter and contractor of South Dakota; and Clayton, who was graduated from the medical department of the Iowa State University in 1898, and immediately thereafter opened an office and engaged in the practice at West Union. He entered in the practice of his life work under most favorable auspices, but what promised to be an unusually useful and brilliant career was terminated by the ruthless hand of death on September 2d of the same year in which he completed his studies and engaged in the practice.

JOSEPH A. STANGELAND.

The traits and characteristics which are necessary for success, and which are invariably found in the study of the character of a man who has achieved and holds a prominent place in any community, are always discovered to be integrity, intelligently directed energy, thrift and continuous effort. These characteristics are found in the subject of this sketch, and these he inherited from a long line of Norwegian ancestors, for, while a native of Dover township, he is of Scandinavian extraction, his parents having come to this country from Norway, having the farsightedness to see the opportunities which await people of character in this newer world.

Joseph A. Stangeland was born in Dover township on May 17, 1874, his parents being Andrew K. and Gertrude (Steensland) Stangeland. The father was born in Norway in 1825, being the son of Knudt Stangeland. Although educated to become a teacher, he decided to pursue fortune on the other side of the Atlantic rather than to follow that profession. He arrived in Canada in 1853 and located there, only temporarily, however, for in that part of the continent he did not find the opportunities he sought, and came to Iowa, taking up his residence in Dover township, Fayette county, where he purchased ninety acres of land. On this tract he erected many improvements and here he made his home until his death. The mother of the subject of this review was born in Norway in 1834. In 1850 she came with her parents to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where they remained but one year, at the end of that period locating on a farm in Dover township, where they took up



MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH A. STANGELAND.

their residence. Here her mother passed on to the better world. Her father, after remarriage, returned to Winneshiek county. The parents of Joseph A. Stangeland were blessed with nine children, and they were, Christina, who is no longer among the living; Isabel; Anna; Claus, who is now deceased; Samuel; Emilia, who has passed beyond; Thomas, also deceased; Joseph, and John. The family are Lutherans, and were excellent people, whom everybody admired and respected.

Joseph A. Stangeland received his education in the school near his home and remained with his father, assisting him in his successful endeavors on the farm until he was twenty-four years of age, and there received the lessons in intelligent effort and perseverance which mark the progress of every man in any calling. In 1899 he bought eighty acres in the northeastern part of Dover township, where he has since lived. This farm he has greatly improved, having a pleasant and decidedly comfortable home and many new and excellent buildings.

In 1904 Mr. Stangeland was married to Emma Kloster, a native of Dover township, her parents being Andrew and Enger (Quale) Kloster, who both came to America while in their youth. Mr. Quale was born in 1847 and reached America in 1855 and with his parents came to Dover township. Mrs. Quale, who was born in 1855, had the courage and trepidity to cross the ocean alone in 1871, and alone to seek her fortune, and the truth that for those of such courage success is always assured has been demonstrated in her experience.

To Mr. and Mrs. Stangeland has been born a son, whom they have named Thomas Adolph. They are members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Stangeland is a Republican, and has held the office of township assessor since 1902.

E. A. MABON.

The two most strongly marked characteristics of both the east and the west are combined in the residents of the section of country of which this volume treats. The enthusiastic enterprise which overleaps all obstacles and makes possible almost any undertaking in the comparatively new and vigorous western states is here tempered by the stable and more careful policy that we have borrowed from our eastern neighbors, and the combination is one of peculiar force and power. It has been the means of placing this section of

the country on a par with the older east, at the same time producing a reliability and certainty in business affairs which is frequently lacking in the west. This happy combination of characteristics is possessed by the subject of this sketch, E. A. Mabon, a leading citizen and successful business man of Randalia, Fayette county.

Mr. Mabon was born in Kane county, Illinois, on September 13, 1867, and is a son of George W. and Augusta (Howard) Mabon. The subject's parents came from Illinois to Fayette county, Iowa, in 1869, and settled on a farm in Center township, one and a half miles from Randalia. He is still living in this vicinity and has long occupied an enviable standing in the community, being a man of unquestioned integrity of character and genuine worth. In politics he is a Republican, while his fraternal relations are with the Free and Accepted Masons and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He and his wife became the parents of three children, two of whom are living. Mrs. Mabon died in 1887 and subsequently Mr. Mabon married Mrs. Jessie Averill, and they have one son.

E. A. Mabon was reared on the paternal farmstead and received his education in the public schools of the home neighborhood. On attaining mature years he began business on his own account, engaging in the livestock business, and as a stock buyer he has been eminently successful, having been so engaged for twenty-two years. He was at Hawkeye for three years, but in 1892 he came to Randalia and bought eighty acres of land. Here he erected a fine residence and has made many other permanent and substantial improvements, bringing the place up to a high standard of efficiency. The present farm comprises two hundred acres, much of which is in cultivation, but Mr. Mabon now, as formerly, devotes the major part of his time to the stock business. He has been wide-awake to the best interests of his community and took a leading part in the organization of the Randalia Savings Bank, which was effected on July 20, 1908. Mr. Mabon was elected president of the new institution and is the present incumbent, much of the bank's success being due to his influence and business judgment. He is also a stockholder in the Randalia Creamery Company. He is a man of broad and comprehensive ideas and his business judgment is valued by those who are associated with him. Because of his ability, his genial disposition and his high personal character, he enjoys to a marked degree the good will and respect of all who know him.

Politically, Mr. Mabon gives an earnest support to the Republican party, in the success of which he is deeply interested. His fraternal relations are with Randalia Lodge, No. 177, Independent Order of Odd Fellows,

while religiously, he renders a generous support to the Methodist Episcopal church.

On April 7, 1892, Mr. Mabon was united in marriage to Minnie Van Bogart, a native of Fayette county and the daughter of Frank and Amelia (Tromblee) Van Bogart. Her parents were natives of New York state. Mrs. Van Bogart died on September 1, 1886, and Mr. Van Bogart now resides at Hawkeye, this county. To the subject and his wife has been born one child, Sybil Adel, her natal day having been August 3, 1902.

CHARLES R. CARPENTER.

A well known and progressive business man of Fayette and one who has proven himself worthy of the trust reposed in him by his fellow men is Charles R. Carpenter, a descendant of an excellent old family, his birth occurring in Buchanan county, near Buffalo Grove, Iowa, June 16, 1866. He is the son of Lorin D. and Mary (Andrews) Carpenter, the former a native of Trenton Falls, New Jersey, and the latter of Boston, Massachusetts. Mr. Carpenter's maternal grandmother was Margaret (Welch) Andrews, a native of Maine. This family goes back to Irish stock on the mother's side, Matthew Andrews, the subject's maternal grandfather, having come to America from Castletown, Ireland, his descendants now being scattered throughout the country and are prominent in their respective communities. Of equally influential New England stock comes the Carpenter branch of the family, Loren D. Carpenter being the son of Bradford Carpenter, a native of Vermont. The mother of the former was known in her maidenhood as Laura Jones, also a native of the Green Mountain state; she was descended from Welsh parentage.

Charles R. Carpenter spent his early boyhood days at Buffalo Grove, Iowa, remaining there until 1877, when the family moved to Brush Creek, now Arlington. His father operated a foundry and general machine shop at Brush Creek, he being an expert in this line and he was very successful in the same, building up an extensive business there and turning out first class work. His death occurred in February, 1887; then his son, Charles R., went to Fayette, Iowa, to make his home. In 1888 his mother also came there to live. Mr. Carpenter had received a good education in the local schools, having applied himself very carefully to his text books with the view of entering the business world, and, being both ambitious and capable, he made rapid

progress from the first and is now enjoying the large success that always comes to rightly applied effort. When he came to Fayette he took a position as cashier of the Bank of Fayette, which position he retained when it was made a state bank, and still holds to the entire satisfaction of both stockholders and patrons, being well equipped in every respect for the position, observant, well posted on modern business methods and courteous to all, besides bearing a reputation that is above reproach. When he came to this bank in 1887 there was only about twenty thousand dollars on deposit, but the affairs of the institution have been so well managed and its prestige has so rapidly overspread the entire locality that the deposits are now three hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars and it is universally regarded as one of the soundest institutions of the state.

Mr. Carpenter's domestic life began in 1892, when he married Gertrude Whitney, the talented daughter of the late William A. Whitney, of West Union, Iowa, where this family has long been prominent and where Mrs. Carpenter grew to maturity and was educated.

Mr. Carpenter is a member and a liberal supporter of the Methodist Episcopal church at Fayette, while his wife holds to the Baptist faith. Fraternally, the former is a Mason, belonging to the Pleiades Lodge at Fayette. Politically, he is a Republican, and while he takes an active interest in local party affairs, being usually a conspicuous figure in conventions, he is not himself an aspirant to official honors, preferring to devote his attention exclusively to business affairs; however, his support can always be depended upon in furthering any movement looking to the development of Fayette county. He has held some local offices, such as treasurer of Fayette and also treasurer of Fayette schools. Personally, he is of pleasing address, always friendly and cheerful, but quiet and unassuming, a man whom everybody likes and trusts.

PETER WOLFS.

Prominently identified with farming and stock raising, two of the leading industries of Fayette county, is Peter Wolfs, who was born in Dover township, this county, on the Wolfs homestead, on February 22, 1864, and, while yet a comparatively young man, he has been very successful. He was reared on his father's farm and educated in the common schools of Dover township. He is of German descent, his father, M. J. Wolfs, having been born in Germany in the year 1821. He, like many other enterprising men



MR. AND MRS. M. J. WOLFS.

of his country, saw opportunities in America and emigrated here, settling in Fayette county. From his father, Mr. Wolfs inherited those Teutonic qualities which the German settlers have almost invariably possessed and which have made the so-called German element of such great value in the agricultural and industrial development of this country. In 1862 his father married Helena Helgerson, who was born in Norway in 1834, and from her also the subject of this sketch inherited that fitting sense of thrift and wise management which are necessary for the accumulation of a fortune. To this couple ten children were born, six boys and four girls, and all are still living: Joseph, who has made his home in Portland, Oregon, for the past twenty years and is captain of one of the large steamboats which ply on the Columbia river; Peter, the subject of this review; Bertha, who has married and lives in Winneshiek county, with a family of three children; Anna, who is also married, living now in Dover township, and who is the mother of seven children; Emilia is married and has three children; Michael, who is engaged in farming in Winnebago county and is married, having three children; Lewis H., who is married, and to whom three children have been born, lives in Dover township; Henry J., who lives at home, is married; Johanna Elizabeth, who has remained at home, giving assistance to her mother, and John C., who is a farmer. M. J. Wolfs, the father, came to America in 1851, and first went into Missouri. He worked on the construction of the first railroad west of the Mississippi river and in 1853 he decided to make his home in Dover township, Fayette county, where he purchased one hundred and eighty acres of land, on which he built a substantial dwelling house and other buildings, and put in important improvements. He lived on this farm until his death, on June 21, 1908. He was a member of the Catholic church. He was actively engaged in local politics, having been assessor for thirteen years, also holding other local offices.

Peter Wolfs was educated at the home school and remained with his father until he was twenty-four years of age, when he married and bought a fine farm of eighty acres, to which he has since added eighty acres, making a splendid farm, on which he has placed all modern improvements, and which is under a high state of cultivation, with new and excellent buildings, thus taking every precaution to see that his general farming and stock raising business is conducted along the most up-to-date lines and to show the best results.

Politically, Mr. Wolfs is a Republican and has been fairly active in local politics, and, in addition to holding the office of township clerk for ten years, has held a number of school offices.

In 1888 Mr. Wolfs was married to Carrie Nesvik, of Winneshiek county, and the following children were born to them: Helena, now deceased; Anna Helena, Josa Paulina, and Peter Cornel, who has since passed away. Mrs. Wolfs died on August 30, 1894, and Mr. Wolfs remarried on April 2, 1899, entering into the marriage estate with Barbara Olson, a native of Fayette county. One child was born to them, Selmer Merl Oliver. Mr. Wolfs and his family are members of the Lutheran church.

LORENZO DUTTON.

Lorenzo Dutton was born February 28, 1826, in Meredith, Delaware county, New York, the son of Oliver and Polly (Jones) Dutton. His mother was a native of Long Island, his father of Connecticut. His father was a farmer and came west first on a visit in 1858, then returned to his old New York home, but in 1877 came back to Fayette county and lived with Lorenzo until his death, in 1885. His paternal grandfather was a soldier of the war of 1812. Lorenzo was the second of seven children, six of whom lived to maturity. He was educated in a private school in Meredith, attending school in winter and farming in summer. When nineteen, he was working for his uncle, and was called out one night to defend the community against anti-renters, who had terrified the citizens, and remained on duty about two weeks. Then he went to Steuben county and worked in the fields in summer and in the woods in winter, remaining there two years before returning home, in March, 1848. In May, 1848, he, with Henry and Charles Jones, William Blanchard and W. W. Bailey, started west from Utica, where they took the train to Buffalo, then went by boat to Chicago. Then there were no railroads west of Chicago, so they stayed there a while, then walked to Beloit, then rode with teamsters to Galena, and from there went to Sand Prairie where they hired as hay hands. In July they started on foot to the Turkey River country, and passing through Dubuque and Colesburg, came to Elkader. There the first grist mill was being put up by Thompson, Sage and Davis, who told Mr. Dutton and his companions of the prairie northeast of West Union, and said that there was one shanty already put up there. They started there on foot the next day with a few provisions, struck a military road, followed it to where Ed. Heiserman now lives and there ate the last of their food. Though each had a gun, game was very wild. A man came along with a team going to Old Mission to harvest, and they all went there with

him and stayed over night, got some provisions and started back to the prairie mentioned. That night they slept in Indian wigwams. They looked around east of West Union, then followed the track to the breaking and cabin, which consisted of four forks covered with basswood, with room for only two, and two men were already in it. They had an ax and tools. As it was raining, the travelers built a fire to get dry. The next morning most of them were sick. They started on in a northeast direction and about noon reached the place where Mr. Dutton's farm house now stands. Here they finished their provisions, with the exception of one slice of bread. They then went through the timber to a point eight miles above Elkader, remained out all night, and the next day found a settler and dealer with the Indians, Wanser by name. Then Mr. Dutton and Henry Jones went to Sodom, Gomorrah, and other places in Clayton county, then back to Elkader. Jack Thompson, the miller, and Carlton took Mr. Dutton to look over the Fayette county land again, and he and the Joneses decided to settle here. So they went to Sand Prairie and bought provisions, a wagon, plow, pitchfork, hoe and scythe, also three yoke of oxen, and started for the prairie, stopping at Elkader to buy a little lumber, and arrived at the place September 11, 1848. They set up forks and with the lumber made a shanty, thatching the roof. They discovered a number of bee trees and lived on "slapjacks" and honey. They cut hay and stacked it and Jones, who had been west before, said they ought to burn around the cabin. They tried this and the wind changed and burned the shanty down and also burnt the haystacks. They hauled logs and built another shanty. On November 2d and 3d eighteen inches of snow fell and the snow stayed on until April. They had no shelter for the oxen and turned them out for exercise. Jones started after the oxen one night and never got back until morning. Mr. Dutton started out the next morning, hunted them all day, and returned without cattle, but with frozen feet. He went on his hands and knees for two weeks and did not entirely recover until 1896. Henry Smith's boys found the cattle about a week later and returned them. One went past the yard and on to Elgin. Once during the winter Henry Jones went to Old Mission to buy corn, and afterwards Mr. Dutton took the oxen and home-made sled and went after corn. The other Jones was then in Clayton county. There was a man near who had hay, so they took the cattle there, where two of them starved to death. January 1st Mr. Downey, who lived where the breaking was, came to cut logs, stopped over night with the boys and left a barrel of flour. In the spring Mr. Dutton broke ten acres on his claim and put in winter wheat. The crop was a failure, but they cut it and threshed with a traveling thresher. One day he was hunting bee trees and found Dutton's

cave, in which he killed eighteen rattlesnakes. In the fall of 1849 he returned to Steuben county, New York, and married Malinda A. Hawley, returning to Iowa the next May. He farmed with Henry Jones that summer and then dissolved partnership. Jones was afterwards county surveyor. Mr. Dutton had settled in section 3, on a three hundred and twenty-acre claim, but a friend entered part of it and he lost it. He got one hundred and twenty-five acres and forty acres school section. That fall he went to Dubuque and got a land warrant on the eighty-five acres north of his claim. This was in timber and he cleared it. He had traded the school land for the building of a house in 1858. He lived here until he came to West Union in 1896. While on the farm he raised a great many hogs, first raising Chester Whites, later changing to Poland-Chinas. In 1853 he had bad luck. He had bought a team of horses and put them on a threshing machine; the thunder scared them, and one of them ran his foot under the tumbling rods and broke his leg. At this time he had one cow and had raised a calf to be two years old, when it died, probably killed by lightning.

Mr. Dutton is the father of the following children by his first wife, who died October 1, 1868: Lily F., born May 5, 1851; Carrie H., now Mrs. Hackett, born December, 1855; and Elsie Mabel, deceased, born June, 1857. Mr. Dutton was married on October 5, 1881, to Mrs. Christ Verity, who was Sarah Ann Preston. Mrs. Dutton is a Methodist, while Mr. Dutton is a Christian in belief; he helped organize the Baptist church of West Union in 1852, and took an active part in church work for some time. He voted for Fremont and has since been a member of Fremont's party. His first vote would have been cast for Taylor in 1848, but he was snowed up and could not go to the polls. Mr. Dutton is one of the oldest men now living in the county and his experiences in the times when the country was new are extremely interesting. He is a splendid example of the type of men who conquered the wild country and made it the productive region that it is now.

HOLVER H. PAULSON.

The methods of making money are not confined to the cultivation of the soil merely, nor to the rearing of superior grades of stock, although both of these are of the first importance and in both H. H. Paulson, owner of the beautiful "Spring Valley Stock Farm," near Ossian, Fayette county, has won marked success and thereby become one of the county's substantial, influen-



MR. AND MRS. HOLVER PAULSON BERKEY.

tial and representative citizens, but the leading farmers and business men of today are also always on the alert for various opportunities in trading and investment. One of the modern men of affairs in every respect who leaves no stone unturned whereby he may earn an honest dollar is the gentleman mentioned above.

Mr. Paulson was born in Dover township, this county, December 31, 1866, on the farm he now owns, and he is the son of Holver Paulson Berkey and Bertha Berkey, both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity, were educated and married, and from which country they came to America in 1848, locating in Wisconsin, where they remained two years. In 1850 they came to Fayette county, Iowa, locating on the farm where the subject now resides, part of this land having been obtained by them from the government, the place consisting of two hundred and seventy acres, including timber land. The father was a hard worker and he at once began clearing the place, living for some time in a "dug-out," in typical pioneer style; but in due course of time he had a comfortable home and an excellent farm. When Mr. Berkey landed in America with his wife and three children he had the sum of fifty cents, but he was one of those strong characters who never know the meaning of defeat and he finally succeeded in laying by quite a competency. While living in Wisconsin he worked for ten dollars per month until he could get a start. He later built a log house and lived in that until 1868 when he erected the substantial brick house where the subject now resides and here the father lived until his death. His family consisted of eleven children, five of whom died when young, the other six reaching maturity. The father was a member of the Hauges Senate church and in politics a Republican. He was one of the founders of the Hauges church in this country and was very active in its affairs. He served his township as trustee and was school director for a number of years. From 1875 to 1881 he engaged in the mercantile business at Ossian, Winneshiek county, except a short time on the farm. He was an honest, industrious man whom his neighbors highly respected.

H. H. Paulson (the difference in name of Mr. Paulson and that of his father is accounted for by the fact that often the Sandinavians change their name in this country) received a liberal education, having attended the common schools at Ossian when his father was in business there; he also went to the district schools near the home farm, and later took a course in Ainsworth Academy. He purchased the home place in 1887, buying the timber land and all of his mother, and this has continued to be his home to the present time. He has added many valuable improvements to the place and

placed it under a high state of cultivation. Stock raising has occupied his attention to a considerable extent for several years. He always keeps a good grade of various kinds of livestock, especially full-blooded Durham Short-horn cattle and Poland China hogs, also Norman and Clydesdale horses, and, as already indicated, his fine place is known as the "Spring Valley Stock Farm," there being no more attractive farm in this part of the county. He has also invested a thousand dollars in the Florida Timber Land Company, representing an interest in one thousand acres of land.

Mr. Paulson was married on September 14, 1898, to Agatha Tinderholt, who was born in Dover township, the daughter of Sorn and Martha (Storghuge) Tinderholt, both born in Norway, the father having come to America when seven years of age with his father, who located in Wisconsin, later came to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he bought land and there he still lives. The mother of Mrs. Paulson came to America with her parents, who settled in Winneshiek county, Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. Paulson the following children have been born: Martha Henrietta, Harry Adrian and Elmer Barnard.

Mr. Paulson is a member of the Hauges church, while Mrs. Paulson and her people are members of the Norwegian Senate church. Mr. Paulson is a Republican in politics. He is now school treasurer and township trustee. He was formerly secretary of the local school board and he is now treasurer of the same. He is now serving his second term as trustee of this township. He takes much interest in the advancement of his community and county and he is well and favorably known in this part of the county.

CHARLES O. FOTHERGILL, M. D.

In analyzing the career of the successful practitioner of the healing art it will be invariably found to be true that a broad-minded sympathy with the sick and suffering and an honest, earnest desire to aid his afflicted fellow men have gone hand in hand with skill and able judgment. The gentleman to whom this brief tribute is given fortunately embodies these necessary qualifications in a marked degree and by energy and application to his professional duties is building up an enviable reputation and drawing to himself a large and remunerative patronage.

Dr. Charles O. Fothergill is a native of the county in which he now lives, having been born at West Union, Iowa, on the 8th day of March, 1864.

He is the son of Rev. Enoch and Lydia (Wade) Fothergill, the former of English and the latter of Welsh ancestry. Rev. Enoch Fothergill was born in Marion county, Ohio, October 13, 1823, and in his early days became a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, but a few years later he changed his membership to the United Brethren church, with which he afterwards remained affiliated. He moved from Ohio to Lagrange county, Indiana, where he married in 1843 and in 1847 he located in Dubuque county, Iowa. He remained there until about 1858, when he came to West Union, Fayette county. He was devoted to his church and gave to it all of his attention that could be spared from his daily labor, being one of the best known church men in the county. His death occurred November 14, 1894. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Lydia Wade, was born in Virginia, and by her union with Enoch Fothergill she became the mother of eight children, four of whom are living, Charles O., Samuel, Joseph and Mrs. Anna L. Hotchkiss, the others having died in infancy.

Charles O. Fothergill received his elementary education in the public schools at West Union, supplementing this by attendance at a school at Beatrice, Nebraska. Having decided to make the practice of medicine his life work, the subject then matriculated in the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati, where he was graduated in 1890. He then entered upon the practice of his profession in Kansas, but a year and a half later he went to Culbertson, Nebraska, where he remained four years, and at each of these places he served in official capacity as coroner. In 1894 Doctor Fothergill came to Elgin, Iowa, and has since remained here in the active practice, in which he has met with splendid success. He keeps in close touch with the latest advances made in the healing art, an evidence of this being that since entering upon the practice he returned to college for post-graduate work, from a desire to perfect himself in his profession. He enjoys a large and constantly increasing practice, being now numbered among the leading physicians of this part of the county.

On January 15, 1885, Doctor Fothergill was united in marriage with Elizabeth H. Chase, of Motor, Kansas, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Chase. She was born in Canada and her family are all Quakers in religious belief. To Doctor and Mrs. Fothergill have been born two children, namely: Claud E., born October 9, 1886, is employed in a bank at Monticello, Iowa, and Carl F., born February 26, 1893, died in August, 1898.

Doctor Fothergill has had but little to do with matters political since locating in Elgin, his practice demanding practically all his time, and also from the fact that he invariably considers the candidate's fitness for the office rather

than his party affiliation. Fraternally he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Modern Woodmen of America, belonging to the former organization in Kansas and the latter at Elgin, this county. In his private life the Doctor is a man of strict integrity and true purpose, and, though he is not a member of any church, his moral ideals are high. He gives his support to every movement for the advancement of the community along all lines and is considered one of the leading citizens of Elgin.

JOHN BENSON.

It is doubtful if any people that go to make up our cosmopolitan civilization have better habits of life than those who came originally from the Scandinavian peninsula, especially Sweden, which country has long been noted for citizens of thrift and honesty, and these two qualities in the inhabitants of any country will in the end alone make that country great. When with these two qualities is combined sound common sense, there are afforded such qualities as will enrich any land and place it in the forefront of the countries of the world in the scale of elevated humanity.

John Benson, of Pleasant Valley township, Fayette county, is one of that thrifty band who have come from the far northland referred to above and has bettered his condition by locating in America, and at the same time has lived a life that has benefited his neighbors and the community where his lot has been cast. His birth occurred in Sweden in 1840, and he is the son of Ben Swanson and wife. (The difference in name here is accounted for by the fact that many of the residents of that country modify the spelling of their names or change them entirely upon coming to the United States, the father's given name being made the basis for the son's surname.) Mr. Benson grew to maturity and was educated in his native land and there worked in a steam-boat shop for some time, becoming a skilled workman in this line. It was in 1869 that he crossed the Atlantic ocean for our shores, coming direct to Highland township, Clayton county, Iowa, where he worked about twelve years, then went to the Pacific coast and worked in the state of Washington and California, there working out at various things. When he returned to Iowa he worked at different occupations, then formed a partnership with Ben Schori in the stock and grain business, the partnership lasting for a period of eight years, during which time they did a very satisfactory and extensive business.

Then, in March, 1887, Mr. Benson married Mary Ruegg, who was born in Monroe county, Ohio, the daughter of Jacob and Mary (Guldinger) Ruegg, both born in Switzerland, from which country they came to America when young, Mr. Ruegg spending his last days in Fayette county, Iowa. To this union were born two children, a daughter and a son, the latter dying in infancy.

After his marriage Mr. Benson farmed a two hundred and thirty-acre place in Fayette county, and later a farm in Clayton county, consisting of one hundred and forty-one acres, remaining there until 1903, when he moved to Elgin, Pleasant Valley township, Fayette county, where he had built an attractive and substantial residence. He still owns his farm in Clayton county; while there he devoted much attention to stock-raising—in fact, ever since he began farming he has devoted much time to handling good stock. About 1906 he bought three hundred and three acres in Texas, selling the same two years later. He is a stockholder in the State Bank at Elgin.

Considering the fact that Mr. Benson started in life practically empty handed and by hard work and able management has become one of the substantial men of his locality, having made a good living and laid by an ample competence, indicates that he is eminently deserving of the large success that has attended his efforts and the high esteem in which he is held by all who know him. When he came to North McGregor he had but seventy-five cents and this was the start he had in America. He spent twelve years in clearing land and he and his brother saved in twelve years three thousand dollars and had this money on interest. He is now exceedingly well to do and has made a big success of life. He is a man in whom the utmost confidence may be safely reposed, being scrupulously honest and business-like and straightforward in all the relations of life. He is a member of the Lutheran church and a liberal supporter of the same.

ISAAC N. CONNER.

Among the citizens of Pleasant Valley township, Fayette county, Iowa, who have not only won by their personal efforts a fair share of this world's goods, but also, because of their upright and honorable lives, the respect and esteem of the entire community, the subject of this sketch stands pre-eminent. He has at all times stood for the highest and best interests of the community and is regarded as one of the representative citizens of the township.

Isaac N. Conner was born February 1, 1853, at Elgin, Iowa, and is a son of Benjamin and Eliza (Cane) Conner. Benjamin Conner was born in Madison county, Indiana, in 1826, and is a son of John and Mahala (Chris) Conner. The latter was born in Tennessee and died after her removal to Iowa; her husband died in Illinois. In 1836, at the age of ten years, Benjamin Conner left Indiana with his parents, en route for the West, which held out glowing promises to the pioneer settlers, but the father died on the way, in Illinois. The trip was made by wagon and the journey was a long and tiresome one, made doubly so by the death of the husband and father. The family located in Green county, Wisconsin, where Benjamin Conner was reared to maturity. In 1847 he was married to Eliza Cane. Two years later he located in Pleasant Valley township, where he entered one hundred and sixty acres of government land, located south of Elgin. He entered at once on the task of clearing and developing this property, putting up a set of log buildings, in which the family lived about two and a half years, at the end of which time they moved to Turkey River where they bought land. Mr. Conner was prospered in his business affairs and added to his landed holdings from time to time, until at length he owned eight hundred acres of good and cultivable land. The improvements on the place comprised a comfortable residence, an "Iowa" barn and other necessary buildings. Eventually Mr. Conner rented this property and moved to a farm on the West Union-Elkader road, comprising one hundred and twenty acres, where he resided until the death of his wife. In 1895 he came to Elgin to live, and has since maintained his residence here, having been practically retired from active labor since 1905. To him and his wife were born the following children: Asbury, Eliza Jane, Isaac, Precilla, Abijah, Henry and Wakeman. In matters political Mr. Conner had been a stanch advocate of the principles embodied in the platforms of the Republican party, but later supported the Greenbacks, and eventually allied himself with the Democratic party, with which he is now affiliated. He has at all times taken an intelligent interest in local public affairs and has given good service to the community as road supervisor and school director.

Isaac N. Conner was reared under the parental roof and received his early education in the district schools. He was early inured to the work of the farm and until he attained his majority he proved an able assistant to his father. Starting out in life then on his own account, he went to Dakota and acquired one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he devoted with much success to the raising of grain until 1898, when he returned to Iowa and bought two hundred and twenty acres of land comprising the splendid farm

in Pleasant Valley township, Fayette county, which he now occupies. Here he carries on general farming, raising all the crops common to this section of the country, and he also gives considerable attention to the breeding and raising of thoroughbred Shorthorn cattle. He is practical and progressive in his operations and is accounted one of the enterprising and successful farmers of the township.

In 1877 Mr. Conner was united in marriage to Alice Elizabeth Kreps, a native of Switzerland, and they have become the parents of the following children: Rebecca May, Edith Lavica, Benjamin Walter, Mahala Maude, Milo Dwight, Weaver Dow, Elizabeth Matilda, Clara Leila, Winifred Sophronia and Isaac James. Mrs. Conner was reared and educated in her native state and in 1857 came to the United States to make her future home.

Mr. Conner was formerly affiliated with the Greenback party, but of recent years he has given a staunch support to the Democratic tickets. He has taken an active interest in local public affairs and has rendered efficient service in a number of township offices, including those of pathmaster, member of the township board, constable, school director and assessor. In every official position to which called, Mr. Conner has proved faithful to his trust and he enjoys marked prestige among the citizens of this township with whom he has lived so long. He possesses personal qualities of a high order and enjoys a wide acquaintance throughout the county, among which are a large number of warm and loyal friends.

JOHN LEHMANN.

With the rapid destruction of our forests the lumber business, once one of the largest and most flourishing of American industries, is now declining in importance and will continue to do so. Somehow there is a fascination about a saw-mill or a lumber yard. The bark-covered logs, bearing the marks of their handling, their speedy conversion into lumber by those powerful engines, the saws, the great piles of lumber, the odor of the freshly sawed wood, and, perhaps more than all, the sense that all this means construction, building, progress—these give to a lumber yard an attractiveness. And a moment's thought will convince any one of the great share which the lumber dealer has had in the building of shops and factories, in the construction and furnishing of homes.

John Lehmann was born in Switzerland in 1833, and at the age of eighteen came to America, leaving Bern February 8th, crossing the ocean on a

sailing vessel, and arrived at Turkey River, Iowa, on June 29th. He was the son of John and Mary (Miller) Lehmann, who came to America in 1854 with a family of nine boys and three girls, seven of whom are now living, and settled about one mile from Elgin. John Lehmann, Sr., and his brother entered land in Clayton and Fayette counties. He farmed all his life and died highly respected at the age of eighty-seven years.

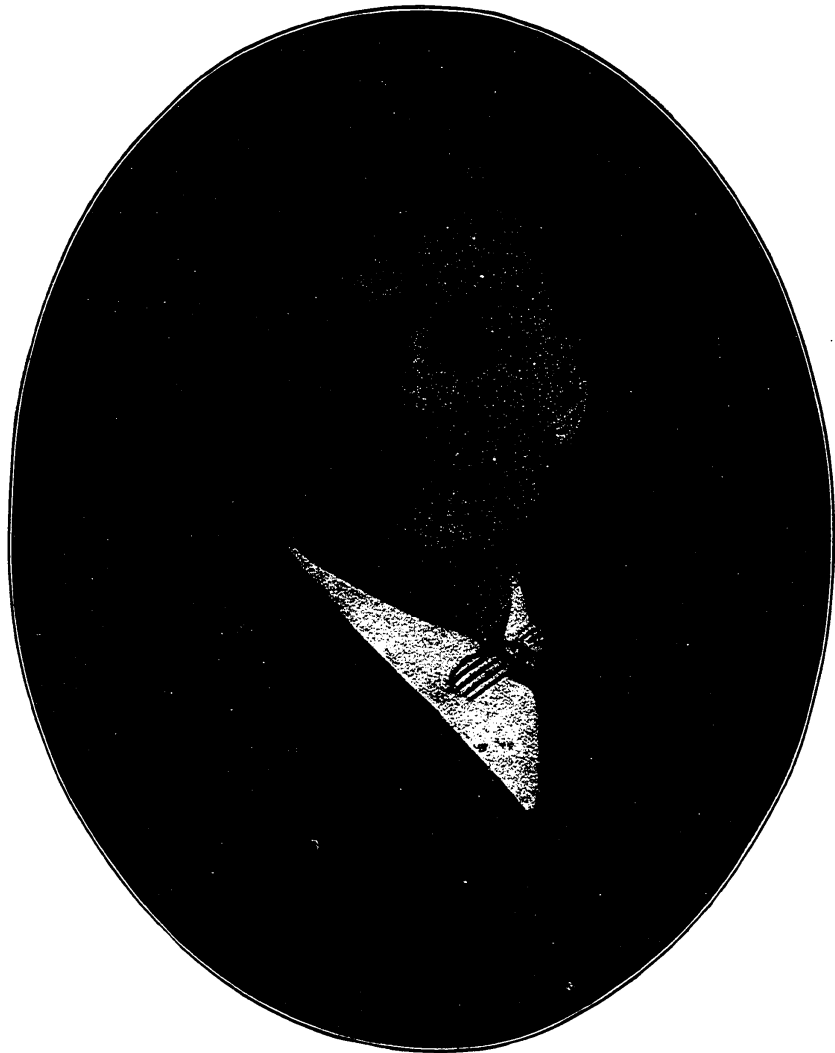
John Lehman, Jr., was educated in Switzerland, and there assisted his father on his farm. In America he worked on his father's farm and later hired out. In 1858 he married Elizabeth Kohler, who was born in Switzerland in 1839, and who came to this country with her father in 1854. He now bought one hundred and forty acres of wild land, put up a house and broke the land. He lived there until 1872, when he established a lumber business in Elgin, and later took his youngest son into the business. In 1901 he sold out and retired. John and Elizabeth Lehmann are the parents of nine children: John W., now a hardware merchant at La Porte City, Iowa; Louise; Lena; Albert, who died September 10, 1868; George; Frederick; Cecelia; Julia; Amelia.

Mr. Lehman is a member of the Iowa Legion of Honor. He was baptized into the church in Switzerland. He is a Democrat, and was supervisor several terms, township collector one year, clerk of the township ten years, school treasurer at Elgin ten years, township trustee, and was elected assessor, but resigned. His choice by the people to fill these offices shows the confidence which his neighbors always have had in him.

In early days Mr. Lehman was much in demand to help survey land for the settlers as he could control the length of his steps so well that he could measure land almost as accurately by stepping as by the use of a chain. His character and worth have attracted many friends who are the solace of his declining years. Would that all our citizens could look back over a life as well spent as his.

CHARLES W. NICKLAUS.

All deaths are mournful, but at times circumstances seem to conspire to make it seem an especial hardship. When a man is taken in the very prime of life and success, prospering in every material way, possessing a loving wife and happy family, with everything progressing as he could wish—then the ways of providence seem inscrutable. But we have no reason to believe anything else but that all things work for the best in the end, even in the case of this widow and children whose bereavement was more than ordinary. One



CHARLES W. NICKLAUS.

thing above price the husband and father left them and that was the memory of his excellent life and strong character.

John Peter Nicklaus was born near Bern, Switzerland, April 26, 1831, the son of Frank Henrick Nicklaus. He learned the cabinetmaker's trade in Switzerland and came to America in 1852, and located at Pittsburg, working at his trade, and here married, on November 2, 1854, Elizabeth Schnider, also a native of Switzerland, who had come over with her parents at the age of eighteen. Her father, who was a farmer, located near Pittsburg, and died there. In 1856 Peter Nicklaus and his wife came to Elkader, Iowa, where he followed his trade for two years, then went to Clermont, ran a cabinet shop until 1861, then bought a saw-mill, and later added a stove factory. In 1872 he moved the mill to Elgin. A few years later he started a canning factory, which his son Charles later took over, the father retiring in 1903, and dying September 19, 1907. He also owned a large amount of land and carried on an extensive farming business. To him and his wife eleven children were born, four of whom survive. They were Presbyterians. He was a Mason, an Odd Fellow and a member of the Legion of Honor. For many years he was trustee of Pleasant Valley township. His success was remarkable, but was due to his excellent business ability.

Charles W. Nicklaus was educated in the Elgin public schools and the Cedar Rapids Business College. After graduating from the latter, he accepted a position as bookkeeper for George Weeks at the creamery, which he occupied for five years. He was married on November 27, 1889, to Agatha Keenen, who bore him four children, Ruth, Helen, Harry and Theodore. He gave up his position at the creamery to organize the present Elgin Canning Company, succeeding his father in the management of the same. At the outset he was made secretary and manager and filled the office fifteen years until his death. His success and good management is shown by the development of this industry. He was born July 31, 1865, and was taken away before his time, on the 27th of February, 1905. By his death Elgin lost one of the most active and the most promising of her younger business men, a loss by no means easy to fill, for he was a man of rare ability.

WILLIAM LINDSAY.

The gentleman whose name appears above, and who was late a resident of Eden township, Fayette county, was a son of Alexander and Jane (Burns) Lindsay and a younger brother of John B. Lindsay, who is noticed

elsewhere in these pages. Born September 19, 1836, in Lancashire, Scotland, he spent his childhood and early youth in his native land and in 1851, when a lad of fifteen, accompanied his parents to the United States, spending the following three years in the state of Illinois. Later in 1854 he moved with the family to Fayette county, Iowa, and immediately after arriving at his destination assisted his father in erecting a log house on the latter's farm in Eden township, following which he addressed himself to the task of clearing and cultivating the land. Like a dutiful son, he remained with his parents and looked after their interests and comfort as long as they lived, his mother departing this life in 1862, the father five years later, both being sixty-five years old when called to the other world. Meantime, February 20, 1867, three weeks previous to the death of his father, William Lindsay was united in marriage with Mary Clyde, of Ayreshire, Scotland, who came to America with her father, Alexander Clyde, when twenty-one years of age, the two making their way direct to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where they located on a farm, which Mr. Clyde purchased, he being a widower at the time and his daughter his housekeeper. She continued in that capacity until her marriage nine years later, after which her father sold his place and bought a farm two miles east of Waucoma in Eden township, where he lived until old age compelled him to forego further active work, when he rented his land, and spent the remainder of his life with his daughter, dying in 1884, at the age of eighty-four years.

William Lindsay made substantial progress as a farmer and in due time became one of the most successful men of his calling in Eden township, prominent and public spirited in all that pertained to the community's welfare. Like the majority of enterprising farmers, he gave special attention to the breeding and raising of fine livestock and always kept on his farm a large number of thoroughbred high-grade cattle, which he sold at liberal prices. He always endeavored to keep abreast of the times on matters of public interest, kept himself well informed on the leading questions and issues of the day and gave his support to the Democratic party, although never actively engaging in politics. Before leaving his native country he united with the Congregational church and after coming to Iowa became a charter member of the local branch of that denomination in Waucoma and continued faithful to the same as long as he lived, living a life singularly free from fault, demonstrating the beauty of Christianity when practically applied.

This estimable gentleman and representative citizen wielded a potent influence for good among all with whom he associated, and enjoyed the esteem and confidence of the community in which the greater part of his life was

spent. After a mutually happy wedded experience, he was called to his final reward on May 3, 1897, and on the 3d day of January, 1906, his faithful and devoted wife and helpmeet was reunited to him in that world where the loved and lost are restored and where partings shall be no more.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay resulted in the birth of two children, a son by the name of Clyde, who died at the age of sixteen, and a daughter, Tina, who, on October 3, 1900, became the wife of Charles Fee. Mr. Fee was born at Center Point, Iowa, January 16, 1874, and spent his early life in Linn county, where his parents, Matt and Hannah Fee, still reside. Since his marriage he has devoted his attention to the management of the farm in Eden township, on which he now lives, renting the tillable land and giving his time to stock raising, in which he is quite extensively engaged and in which his success has been most gratifying. The farm is one of the finest and best improved in the township, containing about two hundred and forty acres of fine land, and as a model rural home it compares favorably with any other place of like area in this part of the state. Mrs. Fee inherits many of the sterling qualities for which her parents were distinguished and is a lady of sound, practical intelligence, an excellent housewife, and keenly alive to the interests which have come to her by inheritance. She assists her husband in all of his efforts, presides with becoming grace and dignity over the household and is held in high esteem by her neighbors and friends of the community in which she lives.

THOMAS HOWARD.

The Howards and their connections were old families long resident of Pennsylvania. The paternal grandparents of the subject of this sketch were Thomas and Lucinda Howard, the former a soldier in the war of 1812. William and Elizabeth Alcorn, the maternal grandparents, lived in Pennsylvania for many years. John Howard, son of Thomas, was born near the Ohio and Pennsylvania line and devoted his life to farming. In 1854 he removed to Iowa and located in Fayette county where he met with unusual success and became a large land owner. He bought two hundred three and a half acres of timber in Pleasant Valley township and after years of work in clearing, ditching, fencing and otherwise improving, had a fine estate to show for his labor. He married Mary Alcorn, by whom he had nine children, five still living. Among his sons was Thomas Howard, who was born in Pennsylvania March 7, 1853. He attended the district schools during the winter and helped with the farm work in the summer seasons. As soon as he became

of age, he started to farming on his own account and has met with success in his ventures. Within a mile of his father's homestead he bought two hundred and eighty-two acres and farmed it until 1907. During the last few years he followed cattle raising, which he found profitable, but lately has been in retirement.

In 1875 Mr. Howard married Esley, daughter of Isaac Connor, of Wisconsin, who came to Fayette county about 1855 and settled in Pleasant Valley township. He was a soldier during the Civil war, serving in the Thirty-eighth Regiment for three years. Mr. Howard adopted Anna Clark, when eight months of age, and reared her to womanhood. She was a daughter of William Clark, who came from Ohio to Iowa, about 1855 and settled in Clayton county, where he engaged in farming. He married Ellen Conner, by whom he had six children, three still living. At present he is in Montana, his wife having died in 1876. He served a short time toward the close of the Civil war, being very young when he enlisted. Emery and Henry, his two older brothers, served during nearly the whole period of the war.

John Howard, the subject's father, was a man of great force of character and noted for his energetic way of doing things. He worked hard when work was to be done, but loved sport and realized the importance of vacations. He was passionately fond of hunting and spent many days in pursuit of game in Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska and Pennsylvania. He obtained considerable reputation as a hunter and was known far and wide as a successful Nimrod. As a farmer he was a hard worker and as he was a man of strong and robust constitution he was able to do much labor. The members of the Howard family, which has been identified with Fayette county for nearly sixty years, have always ranked among the prominent farmers and they have been successful in most of their undertakings. Mr. Howard is a Republican in his party affiliations, though he has never cared for or sought office and pays little attention to what is called "practical politics." His wife is a member of the Ancient Order of Gleaners and takes considerable interest in the affairs of the society.

HANNIBAL H. HOUSE.

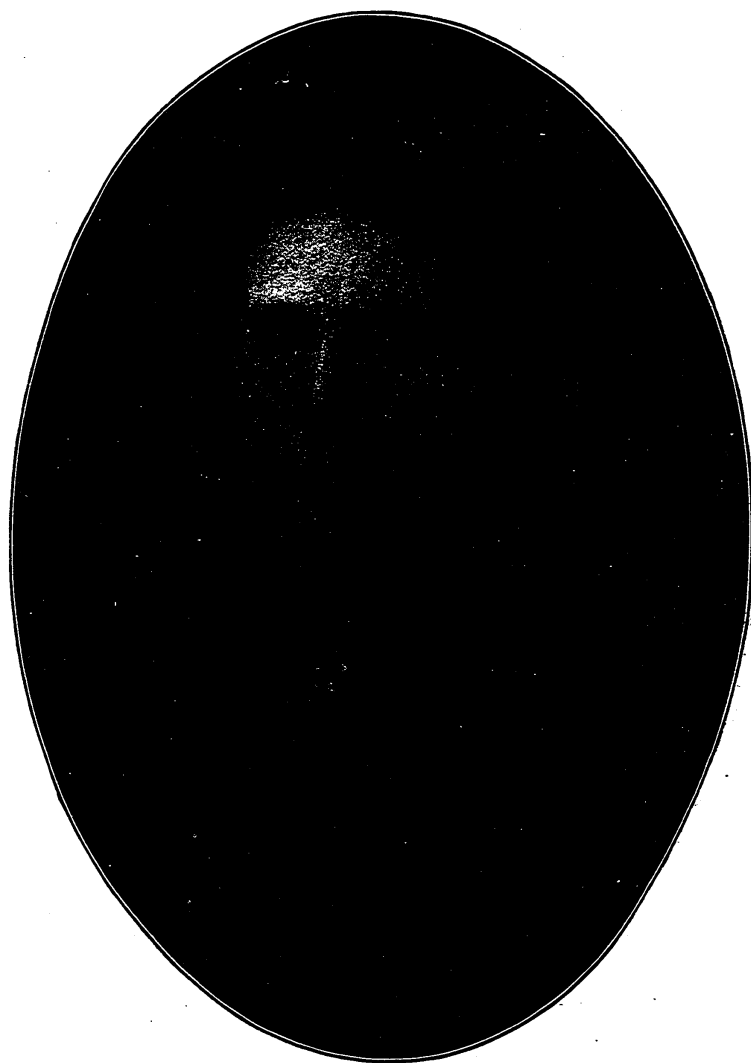
The family of this name in Fayette county came from New York to the West many years ago—in fact, when Iowa was little more than a wilderness compared to its wonderful development in recent years. Abraham Jackson House, the founder of the western branch, was born in Herkimer



HANNIBAL H. HOUSE AND FAMILY.



A. J. HOUSE.



MRS. A. J. HOUSE.

county, New York, in 1834. His parents were A. J. and Rachel (Putnam) House, both born in Montgomery county, New York, where the father followed the occupation of carpenter and farmer. In 1852 A. J. House, with his entire family, came to Iowa and located in Fayette county in the northern part of Union township. They pre-empted land and embarked in farming with a log house for a residence. There the father lived until his death, a year later. His son remained on the home farm in Union township for a while and then returned to New York on a health trip. In 1859 he married Esther Shaffer, by whom he had nine children.

H. H. House, the eldest of these, was born in Union township, Fayette county, Iowa, in June, 1861, and received his education in the district schools. He has always followed farming and has prospered as the result of good management and much hard work. Besides sixteen acres in Dover township, he bought the part where he now lives in 1901, first sixty-five acres, to which he added fifteen acres in 1905 by another purchase. In 1908 still another tract of eighty acres was added to his holdings and in all it will be seen that he owns considerable land. He is a general farmer and stock raiser, painstaking and prudent in all of his business affairs. In 1894 Mr. House married Effie, daughter of Charles Anderson, and has three children, Chauncey, Stella and Lydia. He is a Republican in politics and, with his family, a member of the United Evangelical church.

Charles Anderson, father of Mrs. H. H. House, was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, February 18, 1850. His parents were James and Marinda (Bell) Anderson, the former of Ohio and the latter of Indiana. About 1845 they removed to Wisconsin and located on government land in Rock county. In 1852 they came to West Union and opened a general store, which was operated about two years. The next move was to Colorado, where they ran a grist mill for some two years. They took up farming, which was followed until the father's death. He owned one hundred and sixty acres at the time of his death, in 1862. Charles was educated in Dover township and worked at farming until 1899 in Fayette and Winneshiek counties. He accumulated one hundred twenty-eight acres and engaged in general farming. In 1899 he came to Clermont and was there engaged in the restaurant business for three years. His next venture was the purchase of a small place near Clermont where he spent one winter and then returned home. Since then he has lived in retirement except the office of street commissioner, which he still holds. In 1871 he married Emma G. Learn, by whom he had seven children: Elmer, of Clermont; Herbert, of Montana; Effie Blanche, of Dover township; Lester, of Montana; Mertie, of Clermont township; Ruth,

at home, and Beulah, at home. Mr. Anderson is a Democrat and in earlier years served for seven years on the board of trustees. He was also a member of the Clermont school board. The Houses and Andersons have long been one of the strong family connections in Fayette county and have held up their corners at all conjunctures calling for good men. They have been mostly successful in their ventures and stand high in the business community as men of integrity and honesty. They are quiet and unassuming in manners, but move steadily along to the accomplishment of whatever they undertake. Henry Anderson, a brother of Charles, was a member of Company G, Thirty-eighth Iowa Regiment, during the Civil war.

MILES HOLTON.

Eighty years have dissolved in the mists of the past since the venerable gentleman and esteemed settler whose name introduces this sketch first saw the light of day. Miles Holton was born October 16, 1829, in Ontario county, New York, where his parents, Francis and Sallie (Ellis) Holton, were then living. Three years later the family moved to Huron county, Ohio, and settled about twelve miles from Sandusky, where the subject remained until attaining his majority. Francis Holton, a native of Maryland, died in Ohio at the age of seventy-one years; his wife, who was born in Massachusetts, lived to the age of sixty years. The early life of the subject was spent on a farm in Huron county, Ohio. In 1851, when a little past twenty-one years old, he came to Fayette county, Iowa, and located in Illyria township, where his brother, Samuel, who had arrived the previous year, was then living. The latter was a hardware merchant, but afterwards engaged in the grocery business at West Union where he made his home for a number of years, having been an honored citizen of Fayette county from 1850 until his death, at the age of seventy-one years.

Shortly after his arrival, Miles Holton purchased a tract of school land in Pleasant Valley township, near the village of Elgin, and with his accustomed industry and energy at once proceeded to improve the same. By well directed labor he soon had his possession enclosed and in due time the greater part of it was broken and in cultivation, besides being otherwise well improved. He erected a substantial dwelling and good outbuildings, but the great Civil war breaking out interfered very materially with his plans, for, like other loyal young men throughout the North, he deemed it his

duty to assist the government in the time of need, accordingly he laid aside the implements of husbandry, in September, 1861, enlisting in Company F, Ninth Iowa Infantry, entering the army as corporal and in due time rising to the position of first lieutenant. Mr. Holton served with an honorable record until the downfall of the Confederacy, veteranizing at the expiration of the period of his enlistment, participating in many of the most noted engagements of the war, and at its close took part in the Grand Review at the national capital. He was in command of the company when mustered out and his long and strenuous period of service was without a single day in the hospital, nor was he ever absent from the ranks on account of wounds, sickness or any kind of disability. After his discharge, in July, 1865, he retired to Fayette county and engaged in the grocery trade at West Union, where he did a fair business until 1869, when he disposed of his stock and moved to his present farm near Alpha, from which time until retiring from active life, a few years ago, he devoted his attention to the cultivation of the soil. On taking possession of his place it was the mere beginning of a farm, as but few acres had been cleared and the improvements were of the most ordinary kind. By diligent application and good management, however, he was not long in changing the appearance of things and within a comparatively brief period he had the greater part of his land in a successful state of tillage and substantial buildings erected and prosperity seemed to attend his every effort.

Mr. Holton, on March 31, 1867, was united in marriage with Anna Davis, daughter of Philander and Euphrasia (Talcott) Davis, who came to Iowa, a number of years ago, and settled at Waucoma, Fayette county, where the father died August 2, 1891, the mother on December 29, 1897. Of the family of this estimable couple all are living except Ashbel E., who departed this life at Alpha, in the month of May, 1908. Mrs. Anna (Davis) Holton was born November 30, 1844, in Rock county, Wisconsin, and at the age of twelve was brought by her parents to Waucoma, Iowa, where she grew to maturity and received her education. When but fifteen years old she began teaching and was thus engaged for six years in the public schools of Fayette and Delaware counties, having been employed for three terms at Waucoma, when there was but one teacher besides herself in the town, several of the old residents having been her pupils, among whom were Mrs. Dr. Dodd, J. W. Kieron and A. Webster.

Mr. and Mrs. Holton have had one child who died when quite young. Claire O., whose birth occurred on the 9th of March, 1884, and who was taken by Mr. and Mrs. Holton at the age of seven months, married Lena Talbert and is the father of a daughter who answers to the name of Ruth.

He is prominent in the order of Odd Fellows, being past grand of Waucoma Lodge, besides belonging to the encampment, and is also an active member of Alpha Camp No. 5357, Modern Woodmen. A farmer by occupation, he is also a leading citizen of Eden township and enjoys the respect and confidence of a large circle of friends.

Mr. Holton is a zealous member of the Grand Army of the Republic and nothing affords him greater pleasure than to meet his old comrades and recall the trying times and stirring experiences while upholding the honor of the flag on the bloody fields of the Southland. He still has the sword which he carried as first lieutenant and prizes the weapon as a sacred relic. As already indicated, he discontinued active labor some years ago and is now living a life of retirement, his adopted son Claire carrying on the farm.

LEWIS I. SPRAGUE.

A young farmer of Center township, Fayette county, who is making rapid strides as a modern twentieth-century husbandman is Lewis I. Sprague, the representative of an old and influential family. He was born at Sandridge, Dekalb county, Illinois, August 27, 1870, and is the son of Charles and Hattie (Rogers) Sprague, the father a native of Canada and the mother of Sandridge, Illinois. The maternal grandfather, Israel Rogers, came from the state of New York to Chicago, driving an ox team overland, in a very early day, before much of the intervening country was settled, and he "staked" out a large farm on Fox river. On this he made a small clearing, built, first, a log cabin and in time had a very comfortable home and a good farm, and there he spent the remainder of his life. He was very active in the affairs of the state of Illinois, especially in Republican politics. He became well-to-do and owned a large interest in the shops at Sandridge, and was president of the same many years. He was a Latter-day Saint and was one of the organizers of the church of that denomination in his community, being a leader in the same for many years. He was the son of Israel Rogers, a native of England who came to New York in the early days, and who spent his last days in the state of Illinois with his son. He traded in furs with the Indians, and he was a brave and hardy pioneer. Peter Sprague, the subject's paternal grandfather, married Hannah Brown, the daughter of one of the old and honored pioneer families. He was born in Canada August 23, 1826, and to this union two sons and two daughters were born, one daughter dying in infancy;



MRS. LIBINAS SPRAGUE.



LEWIS I. SPRAGUE.

Rachel married Nelson Darnell and died in 1890; John lives in Sandridge, Illinois; Charles, father of Lewis I. Sprague, of this review, and who was born in Canada March 13, 1847, lives in Decatur county, Iowa. He came with the family to Iowa in 1876, the same time the Darnell family came, and located in Decatur county, where he farmed about six years and then moved to Fayette county, and bought wild land of A. J. Ducan, the place consisting of four hundred acres, where Lewis I. Sprague, of this review, now lives, and here the father worked improving the place, until 1900, devoting his time to general farming and stock raising.

Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sprague, four of whom are still living. In 1900 the father moved to Lamoni, Decatur county, Iowa, and in a short time retired. He is a Democrat in politics and is highly esteemed by all who know him.

Lewis I. Sprague was educated in the public schools and the high school of Fayette. He has always followed farming and has been very successful, and, with the exception of nine months spent at Independence, working for D. P. Shaddeck, he has lived in Fayette county all his life, and with the exception of the time he spent there has always worked for himself. He now owns one hundred and sixty acres of the old homestead and is a general farmer and breeder of full-blood Poland China hogs, which, owing to their excellent quality, find a very ready market.

Mr. Sprague was married on January 1, 1891, to Libinas Bratt, who was born in Fayette county on January 1, 1870, the daughter of William A. and Electa J. (Proctor) Bratt, the father a native of New York and the mother of Ohio.

The father of Mrs. Sprague came to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, when a boy with his parents and there grew to maturity. When the Civil war came on he enlisted in Company H, Fourteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served gallantly throughout the struggle, after which he came to Iowa and located in Center township, Fayette county, and here directed his attention to farming. He first bought forty acres and later eighty more, making him a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which he improved. He was a Republican and a Baptist.

Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Lewis I. Sprague: Lewis Lloyd, born in Fayette county, September 24, 1894, and Clair William, born here April 23, 1900.

Mr. Sprague is a Republican in politics and he has been school director, but he has never been an aspirant to political offices, though he is interested

in the welfare of his community and county and always ready to aid in movements for their betterment. Fraternally he is a Woodman, while Mrs. Sprague is a member of the Woman's Relief Corps.

KNUD HALVERSON.

Among the citizens of Clermont township who have built up comfortable homes and surrounded themselves with landed and personal property, few have attained a higher degree of success than the subject of this sketch. With few opportunities except what his own efforts were capable of mastering and with many discouragements to overcome, he has made a success of life, and in his old age has the gratification of knowing that the community in which he has resided has been benefited by his presence.

Knud Halverson is a Scandinavian by nativity, having first seen the light of day in far-away Norway on March 24, 1835. He is a son of Halver and Margaret Knudson, both also natives of the "land of the midnight sun." In 1857, attracted by the alluring prospects offered in the New World, they set sail for the United States, and on landing came at once to Clayton county, Iowa, settling on a farm, to which they devoted their energies. Their deaths eventually occurred in Wisconsin, both at advanced ages, the father being eighty-eight years old and the mother ninety-five years and two months old at decease. They were the parents of three children, of whom the subject of this sketch and a sister survive.

The subject was reared under the parental roof and secured his education in the schools of his native land. He came to the United States in 1855, two years prior to the coming of his parents, and he established himself in Clayton county, this state, where he successfully prosecuted farming operations and at the same time worked at the carpenter's trade, at which he had become an adept before leaving his native land. In 1905 he sold his Clayton county farm and came to Clermont, Fayette county, where he now resides. His success in business affairs has been pronounced and he has also acquired that which is of more importance—the good will and respect of the people with whom he has been associated for so many years. Persistent industry, good management and strict integrity have been the elements which have contributed to his success and today no man in the community stands higher in general esteem than does he.

In 1866 Mr. Halverson was united in marriage to Isabel Oleson, who also was a native of Norway, and to them was born a daughter, Anna Matilda, who married Edwin Knudson, now deceased, and they had two children, Mabel and Edna. Mrs. Halverson died in February, 1908.

Politically, Mr. Halverson has given a staunch support to the Republican party and has at all times taken a keen interest in public affairs, though in no sense has he been a seeker after public office. Religiously, he is a faithful member of the Lutheran church, to which his wife also belonged. He has been true to his life's duties and opportunities as they have come to him and has been a loyal supporter of his adopted government at all times. In marked evidence of this is the fact that in 1861, at the outbreak of the great Rebellion, he enlisted as a member of Company B, Sixteenth Regiment Iowa Volunteer Infantry, for the three-year service. After about a year's service, however, he was injured in the engagement at Florence, Alabama, and was sent to the hospital at St. Louis, being afterwards discharged from the service because of physical disability. He was a good soldier and faithfully served his country to the extent of his ability. He enjoys a wide acquaintance and is well liked by all who know him and who esteem him for his genuine worth.

PATRICK SULLIVAN.

The design of the fathers of the United States government was to make of this country a home of such undoubted freedom that the oppressed of every land could come here and do better than they could in their own countries. In this way the fathers reasoned that they could build up the nation with a freedom-loving people, and that their reasoning was sound and eminently wise is shown by the phenomenal development of this country. In proportion to population, no foreign nation has sent so many emigrants to the United States as has Ireland. Restricted and oppressed at home, curtailed of their rights and privileges in the management of their local government, these people by the thousands crossed the wide Atlantic to the shores of better America in the hope and with the utmost confidence of improving their worldly condition.

Among the native sons of the Emerald Isle who have contributed to the advancement and prosperity of Fayette county, Iowa, mention must be made of Patrick Sullivan, who owns and operates a splendid fertile farm in Clermont township and who is favorably known because of his industry and success in

his chosen line of effort. Mr. Sullivan was born in Ireland in 1845 and is a son of Michael and Mary (Divine) Sullivan, both also of Irish birth, but who came to the United States in 1852. They first located in Ohio, but in 1856 they came to Fayette county, Iowa, and settled on a farm, to the improvement and cultivation of which their energies were devoted. Mr. Sullivan was prospered and became the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land. On this place this worthy couple spent the remainder of their days, the father dying in 1897 and the mother during the year previous. Michael Sullivan was a Democrat in his political affiliations and his religious membership was with the Catholic church, to which his wife also belonged. They became the parents of four children, two of whom are living.

Patrick Sullivan was reared by his parents and for his mental discipline he is indebted to the common schools of Fayette county principally. He has consistently devoted his entire life to agricultural pursuits and, by the exercise of sound judgment and wise discrimination, he has been prospered to a very gratifying degree. He is now the owner of four hundred and forty acres of land, practically all of which is improved and in cultivation. Mr. Sullivan does not specialize in any line, but carries on diversified farming, in connection with which he gives some attention to the raising of livestock, with good results. He is practical in his methods and progressive in his ideas and is considered one of the best farmers in Clermont township. He has also other business interests, being a stockholder and director of the Clermont State Bank, one of the solid and influential monetary institutions of this part of Fayette county.

On February 14, 1871, Mr. Sullivan was united in marriage with Mary Minihan, who was born in Brattleboro, Vermont, on October 20, 1850, daughter of Patrick and Catharine (Curran) Minihan. These parents were natives of Ireland and came to the United States about 1845, settling in Vermont, where they remained until 1853, when they moved to Ohio. In 1856 they came to Clayton county, Iowa, and there spent the rest of their days, the father dying on October 13, 1873, and the mother on April 24, 1901. They were the parents of seven children. The father was a farmer by vocation and in politics he was an ardent Democrat, while he and the members of his family were affiliated with the Catholic church. To Mr. and Mrs. Sullivan have been born eleven children, namely: Michael (deceased), James, Thomas, Mary (deceased), John, Margaret (deceased), Catharine, Henry, Johanna (deceased), Clara and Elizabeth.

Politically, Mr. Sullivan gives a staunch support to the Democratic party,

while religiously, he and his family are members of the Catholic church, to which they give an earnest support. Mr. Sullivan enjoys a wide acquaintance throughout Clermont township and vicinity and he stands high in the esteem of all who know him.

REV. JOHN G. REMBOLD.

The writer of biography, dealing with the personal history of men engaged in the various affairs of every-day life, occasionally finds a subject whose record commands exceptional interest and admiration and especially is this true when he has achieved more than ordinary success or made his influence felt as a leader of thought and a benefactor of his kind. The gentleman whose name forms the caption of this sketch was eminently of that class who earn the indisputable right to rank in the van of the army of progressive men, and by reason of a long and strenuous career devoted to the good of his fellows and to the dissemination of the gospel of peace throughout the world he occupies a position of wide influence and made a name which will long live in the hearts and affections of the people. Though most of his latter life had been closely identified with agricultural pursuits, yet he never lost an opportunity to do a good deed, to help some one in need of kindly service or to foster any movement looking to the general good. He was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, June 24, 1832, and was the son of George and Barbara (Enteman) Rembold, who also were natives of Wurtemberg, the father born in 1800 and the mother in 1807. They married in 1827, and became the parents of four sons and three daughters: Dora, born in Wurtemberg in 1829, married George Rapp, and became the mother of eight children; Mr. Rapp for many years operated a meat market at East Dubuque, Iowa; Frederick, born in Germany, married after coming to America and died in 1853; Rev. John G., of this review; Barbara, born in Germany, in 1833, married Jacob Loeb, who died in Germany, after which his wife with her five children came to America in 1882. The mother of this family died in 1836 and the following year Mr. Rembold was again married, and three children were born of the second union: Jacob, born in 1839; Frederica, born in 1840, and Christoph, born in 1842. The father died in Germany in 1875, at the advanced age of seventy-five years.

Rev. J. G. Rembold spent his boyhood days in his native land and laid the foundation for an excellent education in the common schools there.

When twenty years of age he came to America, landing in New York City, a few weeks later went to Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, where he spent about four years with an uncle. He came to Iowa in 1856, locating in West Union, where he remained until 1858. Determining upon the ministry as a life work, he resumed his studies, entering the Upper Iowa University at Fayette and a year and a half later became a student at St. Sebald Seminary, from which he was graduated in 1864, having made a splendid record there. The Iowa synod of the German Lutheran church, which was in charge of that school, ordained him as a minister in the year of his graduation.

The domestic life of Rev. Mr. Rembold began at Detroit, Michigan, on June 13, 1865, when he espoused Magdalena Prottengeier, who was born in Germany, March 2, 1844, a daughter of Conrad and Barbara (Braunlein) Prottengeier, whose family consisted of three sons and five daughters, namely: George, born July 26, 1829, married Emma Koeberle about 1862, and eight children were born to them; he was a miller by trade and resided near St. Sebald until after the death of his wife, when he moved to a farm near Waverly, Iowa, where he died in July, 1890; Annie Prottengeier was born September 20, 1831, and died in St. Sebald in 1881; she married George Wuest, a cabinetmaker of Dubuque, Iowa, and six children were born to them: Margaret, who was born in 1832, married Prof. Sigmund Fritschel, D. D., of Dubuque, Iowa, and for many years professor of literature and Bible history in St. Sebald Theological Institute, and they became the parents of eleven children, one of whom was exceptionally highly educated, passing through many noted institutions in this country and Germany, and at the beginning of a very promising and brilliant career, he died in Mendota; Annie Magdalena Prottengeier was born in 1836, married Albert Andrew, formerly a merchant in Dubuque, later a farmer near St. Sebald; Barbara, born in 1839, married Rev. C. Ide, and became the mother of eight children, dying at the parsonage of Zion's congregation in 1881; Rev. Christoph, who was born in 1841, a minister in the German Lutheran church, married in Toledo, Ohio, and eight children constituted his family; the next in order of birth was Mrs. John A. Rembold, wife of the subject; the youngest was born in 1847 and died in childhood.

Over thirty years of Rev. Mr. Rembold's life was spent in educational work, which he began in 1858 and he became one of the noted educators of this section of the state during that long period of service in this line. Twenty-four years of his very busy and useful life were spent in the ministry, his first charge being at Marine City, Michigan, from which place he was soon transferred to Sanilac, Michigan, where he remained until 1867, when he

came to Iowa and became pastor of the church at Bellevue. In 1873 he was appointed superintendent of the Asylum for Orphans and Destitute Children, of the Evangelical Lutheran church. He assumed full charge of the school, both the financial and clerical business, in a manner creditable to himself, of much profit to the institution and of general satisfaction. Three hundred children were taken into the school, educated and provided for otherwise at the expense of the church, during his superintendency, all homeless and destitute children being welcomed; most of those children have become useful and worthy citizens. In connection with his work there, he also had charge of the congregations at Andrew and Maquoketa, where he preached two Sundays each month. He also served as local missionary at various times, preaching to congregations who were without a minister, laboring in such a manner at Lost Nation, Spragueville, Buckeye and other places. He started the congregations at the last three named places, and, in fact, served them for years. He revisited each of these in 1909 and found flourishing conditions, good strong churches. He found his most pleasant work in the church; he started many Sunday schools, and during his long ministry he never missed a Sunday on account of sickness. He was always liberal in his views on public matters, being independent in politics, also liberal in his views on prohibition—in fact, he was not a prohibitionist. Although advanced in years, he served the church at Wadena until his death. He was a power for good in the church, a forceful, learned, eloquent expounder of the gospel of the lowly Nazarene. He was always a profound student and had one of the most extensive and best libraries in the county, composed of the world's best literature, with which he was familiar and he was a most charming conversationalist as well as a public speaker. He led a useful and upright life, devoted to the church and its interests and was esteemed by all classes.

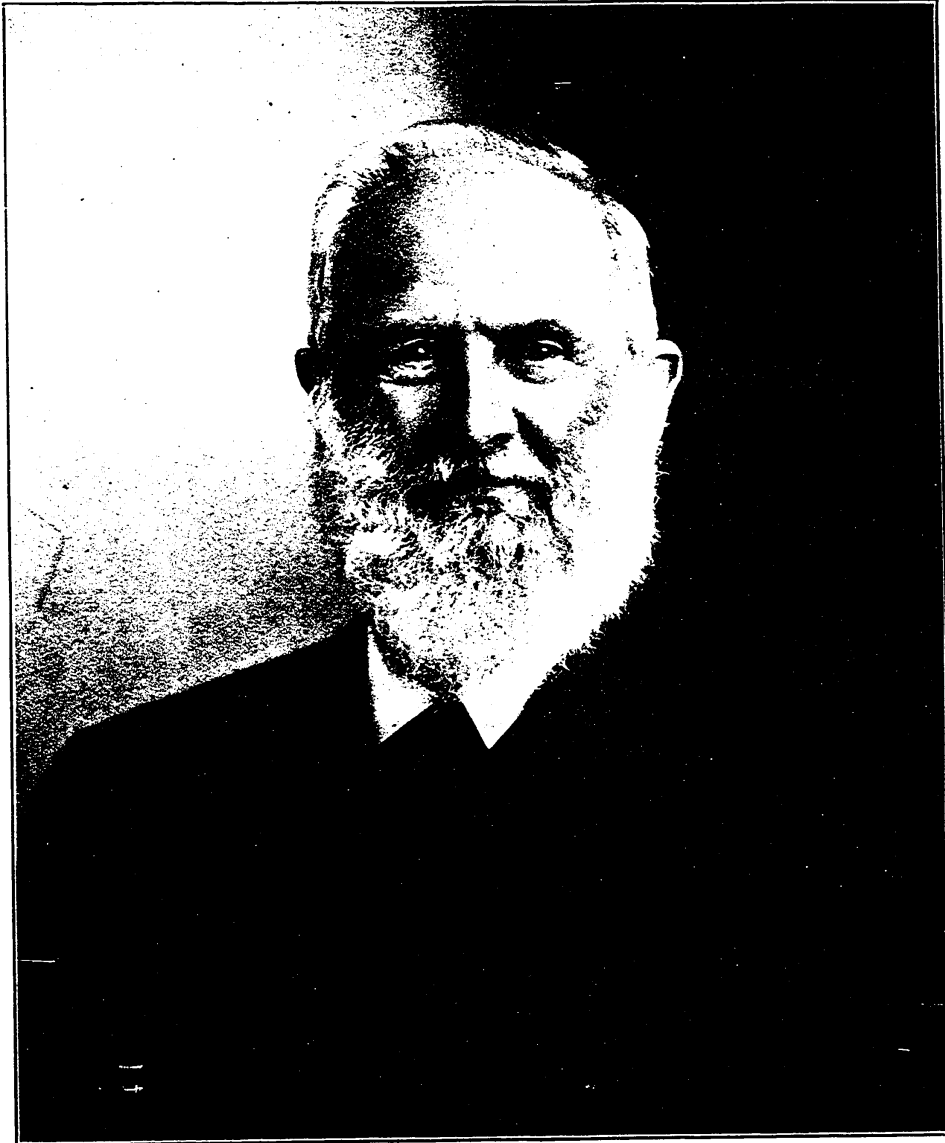
Finding it necessary on account of failing health to abandon regular work, in 1885 he purchased the farm to which he moved in 1887, which is known among old settlers as the Turner place and consists of two hundred and eighty acres, which is valuable and well improved, having a large, attractive and cozy dwelling and commodious barns and outbuildings. The place is well watered and admirably adapted to stock raising and grain production. He managed his place in a very able manner and made of it one of the choice farms of the township. Here Mr. Rembold lived until his death, in September, 1910.

To Rev. Mr. Rembold and wife the following children were born. Barbara, born May 23, 1866, is the widow of Rev. John Moehl, who died at the age of thirty years while pastor of the church at Lost Nation; Godfried, born

October 9, 1868, received an excellent education, and is now a cement contractor at Oelwein; John, born October 11, 1870, became a farmer, assisting his father on the home place; Hans is a barber at West Union, Iowa; Albert, born January 27, 1873, operates the home farm; Christoph, born September 24, 1875, is a minister in the Lutheran church at Berea, Ohio; he graduated at the Waterbury Seminary at Waverly, Iowa, and he served the church at Lost Nation, Iowa, and Genoa, Illinois; Paul, born February 9, 1878, is a jeweler at Farmington, Minnesota; Mary Ann, born March 9, 1881, is the wife of Emil Moschel, a farmer in Windsor township; Karl, born December 1, 1883, is a graduate of the Watbush Seminary, and became a minister, preaching in the Lutheran church at Lamont and Aurora, Iowa, and at Dundee; Julius, born November 22, 1887, is a jeweler. These children were all well educated and are successful in their chosen callings, men and women of high ideals and are regarded as good, honorable people wherever they live, reflecting the wholesome home environment in which they were reared.

LORIN M. STRANAHAN.

The history of the highly honored venerable citizen whose name introduces this review is one of vital interest to the people of Fayette county, with which it has been so intricately entwined, and it is safe to say that Lorin M. Stranahan is regarded by all classes as one of the leaders in the progress of this county, having, while advancing his own interests and that of his immediate family, never lost sight of his obligations to the community at large. He was born in Canaan, Columbia county, New York, July 13, 1831, the son of William, Jr., and Dorcas (Fisher) Stranahan. His paternal grandparents were William, Sr., and Margaret (Salts) Stranahan; through the former the family may be traced back through two generations further to one of their brothers who came to America from Ireland, locating in Columbia county, New York, where the Stranahans have lived for seven or eight generations. When Lorin M. was only a few months old his parents moved to Essex county, New York, and he there attended the public schools and worked on a farm as soon as he was old enough. In 1845, when he was thirteen years of age, the family moved to Rock county, Wisconsin, and there the father entered a quarter section of land from the government, which was the family home for a period of nine years. They had an interesting trip from their eastern home to Rock county, Wisconsin, having made the journey



LORIN M. STRANAHAN.

by steamboat on the lakes, which were visited at that time by frequent squalls and storms. They came by water as far as Southport, now Kenosha, Wisconsin, and from there by wagon through a rather rough and unfrequented country, which was wild at that time and overrun by numerous prairie wolves.

In 1850 Lorin M. Stranahan made a trip to West Union, Iowa, there being but one house in the place at that time, having as his object securing a school, but he did not care to take up teaching when he saw the nature of the "fare" he would be compelled to accept while "boarding around" and he accordingly returned to Wisconsin, in various localities of which state he taught very successfully for a period of six years, during the winter months. A part of that time, however, was spent in Illinois and Missouri. He had received an excellent education in the public schools of Essex county, New York, and in Beloit College at Beloit, Wisconsin. During the summer he worked on the farm, pursuing his studies during the winter months and later began teaching, which he made a very successful undertaking.

In 1853 Mr. Stranahan again came to Iowa and purchased land, but returned to Illinois to teach during the following winter. He purchased a farm lying between Fayette and Arlington, in Fayette county, near where the Corn Hill postoffice was formerly located, having secured one hundred and sixty acres of prairie land and one hundred acres of timber land in Fairfield township. He also acquired another eighty acres the following fall, this being known as "graduation land," which had been in the market until a specified time stated by the government, the price being reduced according to the time it remained unsold, he having purchased this land for seventy-five cents per acre. It is now worth about sixty-five dollars per acre without improvements.

Mr. Stranahan's parents came with him to Fayette county, in 1854, the father dying the same year and was buried at Taylorsville, the mother dying two years later.

In those early days corn was worth only seventeen cents per bushel and Mr. Stranahan was compelled to haul his wheat to McGregor, quite a distance, in order to secure a market. His home was then a frontier cabin situated upon the open prairie, across which one could look for many miles on either hand, but industry, enterprise and hard work developed the raw land into a rich and highly productive farm, one of the best in the county. Prospering from the first, he was soon enabled to build a substantial and comfortable home which is today one of the most attractive in the county, being surrounded by fine shade trees, planted by his own hands, and made many other improvements, both useful and ornamental. In many respects

Mr. Stranahan has shown himself to be one of the leading citizens of this locality.

Mr. Stranahan was married in 1856 to Sarah Cockerell in St. Charles county, Missouri. She was born in Northumberland county, Virginia, May 30, 1833, of an excellent old Southern family. This union resulted in the birth of eight children, of which number two died in infancy; the others are named as follows: William, who married Emily Moore, lived at Harper, Kansas, until his death, in 1892; he and his wife were the parents of six children, one of whom died in early childhood, those living being, Lily, William, Grace, Frank and Helen. Lizzie Stranahan married William B. Stevenson, a well known citizen of Fayette, and they have two children, Oliver W. and Nellie I., the former having married Imogen Cobb, daughter of Sidney Cobb, and he is practicing law in Fayette; Nellie is editor of the alumni department of the Upper Iowa University *Collegian*. Nellie Stranahan married Winfield Moine and they live on a farm in Clayton county, about five miles from Arlington, and they had one daughter, Edna, who died when six years of age. Frank Stranahan married Lida Bogart, daughter of Isaac Bogart, of Oelwein, and they are living in Fayette, but own a farm near that town; they are the parents of three children, Merritt, Mildred and Margory. Loren Seymour Stranahan died in September, 1888; he and Frank were twin brothers. Warren Stranahan, who is farming near Hurdland, Missouri, married Ada Homewood and they are the parents of five children, living, one child having died in infancy; those living are, Bessie, Willard, Blanche, Howard and Esta.

For many years Mr. Stranahan was a leading citizen of Smithfield township, having taken a prominent part in local public affairs and held every office in the township with the exception of that of constable. He is usually found working with the Democratic party, having cast his first vote for Franklin Pierce for President in 1852, but he is in nowise narrow in his views and is rather independent in politics. He was a member of the Greenback party during its existence, but he afterwards returned to the Democratic party. He never belonged to any secret order except the Grange and that was years ago. He was justice of the peace in Smithfield township until he moved into Fayette, since which time he has refused to hold office. On one occasion he was the nominee of the party for county treasurer, but the county being overwhelmingly Republican he failed of election.

In January, 1885, Mrs. Stranahan was called to her reward, and in May, 1887, Mr. Stranahan married Mary E. Brooks, daughter of Chancy Brooks, one of Fayette county's first pioneers, he having been born in Livingston

county, New York, in 1817, the son of Benjamin and Olive (Harris) Brooks. Chancy Brooks married Hannah Casebier, a native of Wayne county, Ohio, and they came to Fayette county, Iowa, May 13, 1847, finding here a wild prairie and virgin timber-land on which lived Indians and wild beasts, and at that time there were no settlers living north of the Volga. He was an industrious and upright man and he became prosperous.

In 1892 Mr. and Mrs. Stranahan moved into Fayette and he sold his farms to his sons, Frank living two and one-half miles south of Fayette and Warren residing at the old home. Mr. Stranahan, in order not to be idle and to gratify his desire to raise small fruit, bought twenty-two acres on the east edge of the town of Fayette, which he cultivates, and has shown great skill and good management in the raising of a variety of small fruits. One year he raised strawberries extensively, producing on two and one-half acres two hundred and fifty bushels of strawberries. At one time he had seventy-five hands engaged in picking them. He also owns several good houses and lots, besides some valuable business properties in Fayette, and he owns a part interest in the opera house here. He is a stockholder in the Inter-State Telephone Company and he is also interested in the State Bank at West Union.

Mr. and Mrs. Stranahan have many loyal and warm friends throughout the county, and he is honored as one of the pioneers of Smithfield township, in the organization and development of which he bore a prominent part. He is public-spirited, having always been ready to do what he could in the development of his community, and his efforts along business lines have been crowned with abundant success, as they deserved, owing to his close application to whatever he had in hand and his honorable dealing with his fellow men, having always been regarded in every-day life as a man whose word was as good, if not better, than the bond of many. Honesty and integrity are no meaningless terms with him and his record as a man and citizen is without blemish.

EZRA L. ROWLAND.

A man deserving mention in this history of Fayette county is Ezra L. Rowland, the subject of this sketch, for he was born and raised in Dover township of this county and during his life has been actively engaged in a progressive and enterprising manner in furthering the interests of the community by a careful and intelligent development of his own land, for it is a well recognized principle that where a man does extremely well with his own interests, the public, as well as himself, is benefited.

Ezra L. Rowland, the son of P. L. Rowland, of Dover township, was born on December 6, 1874. His education was acquired at the township schools. After completing his school course, he resided with his parents, assisting his father in caring for the home farm. His mother passed beyond on January 29, 1890, but he and his father made their home together until November 21, 1903, when his father joined the mother in the other world.

Mr. Rowland continued to live on the home farm and has managed it most successfully and economically. Upon coming into his inheritance the tract consisted of one hundred and twenty-six acres, and to these he has since added forty-eight acres. In 1906 and 1908 he erected two fine new barns, excellently built and equipped, which were erected with a view to the better conducting of his general farming business, but also for the purpose of caring for the stock which he takes great pride and interest in breeding. His two specialties in stock raising are the very best high-grade Norman horses and pure bred Poland-China hogs. To these two specialties he has given all the time and attention he can spare from his general farming industry with such excellent results that he is widely known for the grade of stock which he raises, and for which there is a demand, often from distant points.

On December 12, 1902, Mr. Rowland was united in marriage with Emilia Vasby, and their union was blessed with a daughter, Elvira Rachel. Mrs. Rowland passed away on February 24, 1905. Mr. Rowland remained a widower until December 20, 1906, when he married Bertha E. Wirz, and to them have been born two daughters, named Matilda Evon and Mildred Isabel.

Mr. Rowland is a Republican, but has not been active in politics other than furthering in a quiet way whenever possible the interests of his party locally. He is actively interested in educational affairs in this community, being a member of the school board, of which he has been president for the last three years; he was also treasurer of the board for some years.

Mr. and Mrs. Rowland are members of the Evangelical church, in the work of which they take a practical interest.

JOHN F. HARRINGTON, M. D.

Conspicuous among the many successful men in the medical profession in Fayette county stands the subject of this sketch, and his position as one of the leaders of the community is not only deserved by reason of his ability and success as a physician, but also because of the connection which his



JOHN F. HARRINGTON, M. D.

family has had with the growth and development of the county, his father having been actively connected with business interests in the county for many years.

J. F. Harrington was born in Jackson county, Iowa, on July 6, 1871, being the only son of Ira L. and Jennie (Stahl) Harrington, his paternal parent having removed to Jackson county from Cayuga Falls, Ohio, and his mother being a native of Clayton county, Iowa. Although he had been reared on a farm, at the age of twenty-two years the business instinct asserted itself in Ira L. Harrington, and he took up well-drilling in Jackson county, where he was an early settler, helping to operate the first well-drilling outfit ever seen there. In 1878 he removed to Elgin, Fayette county, and in this county he drilled many wells and also took up extensively the business of handling pumps and wind mills, in which he was likewise successful. After continuing for some years in these different lines of business, he took up bridge work and insurance, and in the latter he is still engaged. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is well and favorably known throughout the county.

J. F. Harrington, after attending the schools at Elgin, Iowa, entered the State University in 1891, leaving that institution in 1894, when he entered the Keokuk Medical College, for his training for professional life. After graduation from the medical college, he began his practice at Westgate, Iowa, where he remained one year, removing at the end of that time to Ossian, Iowa, where he practiced for one and one-half years, from this latter place removing to Eldorado, Iowa, where he resided, practicing, for three and a half years, whence he removed to New Albin, where he lived until 1904. In that year he located at Wadena, Iowa, where he has since resided and where he is enjoying a large and lucrative practice. In addition to his extensive private practice, Doctor Harrington is medical examiner for the Royal Neighbors, Brotherhood of American Yeoman, Northwest Life Insurance Company and the Equitable Life Assurance Company.

In 1899 Doctor Harrington married Elizabeth S. Thompson, of Eldorado, Iowa, and a son, Hawley R., was born to them on October 6, 1900, this son now attending the Independent Order of Odd Fellows School at Mason City, Iowa. On March 15, 1902, Doctor Harrington suffered a great misfortune in the death of his wife.

The Doctor is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, of Wadena, Iowa, of the Royal Neighbors and of the Independent Order of Odd Fel-

lows of Arlington, Iowa. To his professional ability and capacity is added an attractive personality and those characteristics which attract and make friends, for Doctor Harrington has a host of friends, not only in Wadena, but throughout the entire county. Politically he is a Democrat.

JOHN STANSBARY.

Among the prominent citizens of Fayette county who have had a large part in the development and upbuilding of this section of the state, none stand higher in the community than John Stansbary, who, though now retired from active participation in business activities, is still numbered among the representative citizens of the county. Mr. Stansbary was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, in 1841, the son of George and Margaret (Welch) Stansbary and the grandson of Isaiah Stansbary. Isaiah Stansbary, who was a slaveholder and lived twelve miles from Baltimore, Maryland, married in Ohio. Margaret Welch was a native of Pennsylvania. George and Margaret Stansbary were the parents of eleven children, of whom three died in early childhood; the others, who are all living, are as follows: Mary, the wife of William Bennett and living near Elgin, this county; Edmona, the wife of George West, lived near West Union, this county, until recently, when they moved to South Dakota; Isaiah lives at Maynard, this county; L. L. has lived in Fayette county most of his life; Milliron lives in Sioux City, Iowa; William J. lives near Los Angeles, California; J. J. is in Montana; John is the immediate subject of this sketch.

The subject remained in Muskingum county, Ohio, with his parents until he was about eight years old. In 1849 George Stansbary brought his family to Fayette county, locating near the present site of West Union. The only other settlers in that neighborhood then were William Wells and Jacob Smith; also a man named Uri or Ory. The government land had not yet been opened to entry. All kinds of game was plentiful and the family larder did not lack for fresh meat. The nearest flouring mill was twenty-six miles distant and Mrs. Stansbary's father was engaged in making barrels for this mill. Indians were still to be seen occasionally, though from that time forward they gave the settlers no trouble. When the Stansbarys first came they lived for about three weeks with William Wells. Mr. Uri had broken thirty acres of land and had erected a rude shack. Mr. Stansbary paid him for the improvements he had made and took his place, and the following year he also entered

two hundred acres of government land near by. During that summer (1850) he helped to build the first house erected on the original plat of West Union, it being a log house owned by J. W. Rogers. What is now the court house square was then a wheat field. Four years after Mr. Stansbary obtained this land he sold at a big advance and then made a prospecting trip of several hundred miles, taking his family with him in two wagons. After looking the country carefully over, he decided that Fayette county was the equal if not the best that he had seen, and he returned to West Union. Soon afterward he bought four hundred acres of land in Illyria township about seven miles east of West Union, and there he lived until the spring of 1892, when he sold his farm and moved to Oelwein, where he spent his remaining days, dying March 3, 1897.

John Stansbary was reared on the home farm and remained with his parents until his marriage, in 1863, when he went to farming on his own account in Illyria township, where he bought a farm of eighty acres. He was a hard worker and a good manager and was prospered, so that from time to time he was enabled to add to his landed possessions, eventually becoming the owner of five hundred acres of good land. After he had gotten a good start as a farmer, he became interested in the stock business, buying hogs and raising cattle, which he shipped to the Chicago market. On the 23d of August, 1887, he moved to Oelwein, where he has since resided. He had for nearly a quarter of a century devoted himself indefatigably to business and had succeeded in acquiring a fair competence, so that now he is enabled to enjoy that rest which he so richly earned. During the past four years he has spent the winters near Los Angeles, California. Mr. Stansbary assisted in the organization of the Aetna State Bank at Oelwein and was a member of the board of directors until 1909, when his continued absence in California led him to resign from that official position, though he still remains a stockholder in the institution. He now owns a one-hundred-acre farm in this county, and has four hundred acres of land located near Milner, Sargent county, North Dakota.

On March 25, 1863, Mr. Stansbary was united in marriage to Finette Hopkins, who was born in Boone county, Illinois, the daughter of Henry and Nancy (Hinman) Hopkins. Her father was born in New York state December 5, 1814, and her mother in the same state April 1, 1823. After Mrs. Stansbary's birth her family moved to Wisconsin, where they remained until June, 1849, when they came to Iowa, locating near Lima, Fayette county. Her parents lived in this county until 1863, when they went to Pennsylvania, where they lived for several years, eventually moving to Phelps county, Mis-

souri, where they spent their remaining days, the father dying July 20, 1879, and the mother February 23, 1887. To Mr. and Mrs. Stansbary three children have been born, of whom one, a daughter, died in infancy. James K., who owns and operates a farm about two and a half miles north of Fayette, married Addie Butler, daughter of Lorin Butler, and they are the parents of six children, namely: Beulah E., Lola F., Blanche, Bernice, Milan and Leland. Clara Belle is the wife of James Sykes, a traveling salesman living in Kansas City, and they have one daughter, Lillian. Besides their own children, Mr. and Mrs. Stansbary have an adopted son, Albert C., who is unmarried and lives in this county, being engaged in farming.

In matters political Mr. Stansbary has given his support to the Democratic party, and served as justice of the peace for several years, eventually resigning the position. He was for six years a useful member of the Oelwein city council. In 1908 he was a delegate from Fayette county to the Democratic state convention. Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The story of Mr. Stansbary's success is short and simple, containing no exciting chapters, but in it lies one of the valuable secrets of the marked prosperity which it records, and his private and business life are pregnant with interest and incentive, no matter how lacking in dramatic action, for in it we find the record of an honorable and useful life, consistent with itself and its possibilities in every particular.

HON. JOHN D. SHAFFER.

Among the most conspicuous and widely known citizens of Fayette county in recent years is Hon. John D. Shaffer, who was born in Black Hawk county, Iowa, May 18, 1858. His father, Rev. Israel Shaffer, for many years an eminent minister of the United Brethren church, was a native of Somerset county, Pennsylvania, and his mother, who bore the maiden name of Mary M. Schrock, was also born and reared in Pennsylvania. Israel Shaffer went to Illinois in 1847, locating in Stevenson county, where his marriage occurred three years later, and immediately thereafter he engaged actively in the work of the ministry of the Albright Methodist church, with which he became identified in early youth. Later he withdrew from that body and joined the church of the United Brethren, in which he soon rose to a position of prominence and influence and with which he labored very successfully as a minister during the remainder of his life. About ten years after his



J. D. Shaffer

marriage, Reverend Shaffer moved to Black Hawk county, Iowa, where he soon engaged in missionary work, traveling over the vast thinly-settled prairies, visiting many localities and founding a number of churches, not a few of which are still in existence and among the most successful organizations of the above denomination in the state.

As a preacher Reverend Shaffer possessed much more than ordinary ability, having been a master of assemblages, and his earnest presentations of the truths of the gospel, reinforced by superior gifts of exhortation and power of song, never failed to move his audiences and render his labors effective. No minister in Iowa has done more to build up the United Brethren church than he, having been an active and influential member from the year 1856 until his death, during which period he traveled twenty-five circuits besides serving some years as presiding elder, his last field of labor being the Fayette circuit, where he was called from the church militant to the church triumphant on December 11, 1883, dying from a stroke of apoplexy while engaged in the active duties of his holy office.

The family of Israel and Mary M. Shaffer consisted of the following children: Sylvester, who married Nancy Jane Albright and lives at Alma, Nebraska; Charles Luther, whose wife was Maria Ogle, after whose death he married Mrs. Isabel (Nichols) Jacquette, of Fayette county; John D., of this review; Emeline, wife of T. J. Capper; Sarah J., wife of J. I. Phillips, and Ella, now Mrs. Samuel Greenley, of Elgin, the mother dying at the latter place in March of the year 1905.

John D. Shaffer spent his early life on his father's farm and while still young was taught those sterling principles of rectitude and honor which tend to well rounded character and upright manhood. His education was obtained in the public schools, supplemented by a partial course at Western Iowa College, after which he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, which, with stock raising, he has since followed with success such as few achieve. Since the year 1866 he has lived in Illyria township, Fayette county, and from that time to the present he has been active in all matters pertaining to the advancement of the community and influential in inaugurating and carrying forward important enterprises for the welfare of his fellowmen. In politics Mr. Shaffer has always been an uncompromising Republican and his time, talents and, when necessary, his means have been generously devoted to the maintenance of his party's principles and candidates. His intelligence and well-balanced judgment were early recognized by his neighbors and fellow citizens as peculiarly fitting him for positions of honor and trust and some years ago he was elected assessor of his township, in addition to which he also

served six years as a member of the county board of supervisors. The ability displayed in these offices made him widely and favorably known as a man to be trusted with still more important public duties, hence in 1903 he was chosen to represent Fayette county in the General Assembly, serving with marked distinction in the thirtieth, thirty-first and thirty-second sessions of that body. As a legislator he took high rank among his colleagues and performed an important part in the work of the sessions with which he was connected. In addition to serving on a number of committees and taking an active interest in the general deliberations on the floor of the House, he championed several important bills which gave him wide publicity, among them being one governing the introduction of diseased cattle into the state, which was bitterly opposed by the packing-house interests, but which, after much contention and debate, was passed and is now a law.

Mr. Shaffer's legislative career was creditable to himself and highly satisfactory to his constituents and at the expiration of his term he retired from office with the confidence of his fellow citizens irrespective of political affiliations, men of all parties uniting in pronouncing him an able, creditable and in every respect honorable and upright public servant. As an agriculturist he easily ranks among the most enterprising and successful of the locality in which he resides, his fine place of three hundred twenty-seven acres being one of the most beautiful and desirable rural homes in Illyria and comparing favorably with the best improved and most valuable farms in the county of Fayette. As indicated in a preceding paragraph, he devotes considerable attention to live stock and during the past twenty-five years he has been dealing quite extensively in the finer breeds of horses, making a specialty of the Percheron breed besides doing much to improve those for coach and general road purposes. He is also a recognized authority on Short-horn cattle, which he breeds and raises in large numbers, his flocks of Shropshire sheep and fine grade of Poland China swine attesting the interest he takes in making the stock business one of his principal sources of income. In addition to his home-farm, he owns a fine tract of land in Minnesota, which has increased very materially in value since coming into his possession, this with his other interests making him not only independent but one of the well-to-do men of his community.

Mr. Shaffer's domestic life dates from September 19, 1878, at which time he was married to Susan C. Robbins, whose parents, Francis K. and Christina (Peters) Robbins, were among the early pioneers of Clayton county, Iowa, both dying in the year 1909. Of the eleven children born to this estimable old couple, the following are living, viz: Jerome, a prosperous farmer

of Clayton county; Mrs. Maloa McCrea, of Alberta, Canada; John C., a farmer and representative citizen of Fayette county; Arvilla, widow of George Stamp, of Cedar Rapids; Mrs. Susan Shaffer, wife of the subject; Mrs. Irvin Crane, of Elkader, this state; Mrs. Amy Layton, of West Union; James, of Volga, Iowa, and Nora, wife of Edward Klingman, of Elgin.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Shaffer has been blessed with eight offspring, namely: Mable, now Mrs. Harry Gilson, of Alma, Nebraska; they have three children, Donald, Dorothy and George. Israel, the second in order of birth, married Bessie Richards and is the father of two children, LaFonda and Ralph. John M., whose wife was formerly Inez Howard, lives on the home farm in Illyria township. Raymond W. married Nora Crane, of Elgin, and has three children, Herschel, Irvin and Virgil. Myrtle and Ethel are students at the Upper Iowa University, Hazel and Mary, the youngest, being still under the parental roof.

The subject and wife, together with their children, are respected members of the United Brethren church and manifest an active interest in the local society to which they belong. As a neighbor and citizen Mr. Shaffer is loyal to the last degree, and stands high in the esteem of all with whom he is acquainted. He is a gentleman of genial quality and of a charitable and forgiving disposition, generous in all of his impulses, and those who know him well assert that no worthy friend or cause ever applied or was presented to him in vain. His influence has ever been on the right side of every moral issue and he stands today a creditable representative of the successful American farmer and enterprising man of affairs.

PETER HOEPFNER.

No people that go to make up our cosmopolitan civilization have better habits of life than those who came originally from the great German empire for they and their descendants are distinguished for their thrift and honesty, and these two qualities in the inhabitants of any country will in the end alone make that country great. When with these two qualities is coupled the other quality of sound sense, which all classes of these people seem to possess, there are afforded such qualities as will enrich any land and place it at the top of the countries of the world in the scale of elevated humanity, and the gentleman whose name initiates this biographical review may well be proud of the fact that he belongs to this noble race of mankind.

Peter Hoepfner, a farmer of Center township, Fayette county, was born in Germany, October 6, 1852, the son of Jonas and Mary (Tim) Hoepfner,

both born in Germany, where they grew to maturity and married and there the father worked at various things in an effort to make an honest living, until 1870, when he brought his family, consisting of wife, two sons and one daughter, to America and located at Naperville, Illinois, and there the father found employment at various lines of work, spending the latter part of his life with his sons. Jonas Hoepfner died in 1875, and his oldest son came to Fayette county, Iowa, locating in Banks township, where the parents died and where the son, mentioned above, farmed for many years.

Peter Hoepfner received his education in the fatherland, being eighteen years old when he came to the United States. He began life here by farming in Illinois until 1892 when he came to Iowa and bought one hundred and sixty acres in Center township, Fayette county, where he still resides and which he has under a fine state of cultivation and improvement, having erected a large and substantial barn and made other noticeable changes. He is a general farmer and stock raiser and has been very successful in his chosen line of work.

Mr. Hoepfner was married in 1876 to Louisa Schulty, who was born in Germany, the daughter of Herman and Christina (Saase) Schulty, who came to America in 1868, and located at Naperville, Illinois, and there followed farming until he retired to the village of Naperville. The following children have born to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hoepfner: Minnie (deceased), Lewis, Augusta, Emma (deceased), Nellie, Mary, Herman, Liza, Fred, Lulu (deceased) and Peter.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoepfner are members of the Lutheran church, and in political matters he is a Democrat; he has been school director and road supervisor for many years, very conscientiously performing the duties of these offices, for he is always interested in whatever tends to the betterment of his community.

HERMANN HENRY PIEPER.

After a life of honor and industry, fraught with good deeds to his fellow men, Hermann Henry Pieper, late of Windsor township, Fayette county, closed his earthly accounts and took up his work anew in the unseen world, leaving behind him an ample competence for his family, a host of warm friends and, what is to be admired most of all, a good name. Although an American by adoption only, he was loyal to our flag and institutions, just the same as he was in his native country, Germany, having been born in Hanover, September 29, 1835. He was reared on a farm and in June, 1870,