

beautiful Christian faith, survives, living in Olney. They were the parents of two children, George A., our subject, and a sister, Mrs. E. W. Reef, of Carbondale, the former being the older. He was reared in Olney, where he attended the public schools, graduating from the high school, having received a good practical education. He was assistant postmaster under J. C. Allen for some time, after which he went on the road selling wholesale groceries for a Cincinnati house, having been clerk in a grocery store for four years, during which time he thoroughly mastered this line of business, which he decided to make a life work. He was on the road for two years. In 1897 he purchased an interest in a grocery store in Olney under the firm name of Winans & McGahey, which firm successfully continued for three years. In 1900 our subject established his present grocery store, one of the largest in Olney or this locality anywhere. It occupies a space of eighteen by one hundred and seven feet, and a complete line of staple and fancy groceries is carried. A liberal trade has been built up within the city and surrounding country, and his customers are on the increase owing to the fair and courteous treatment that is accorded to all who visit this neat and well kept store.

Mr. McGahey has never assumed the responsibilities of the married state, but lives at home with his mother and administers to her comfort.

In politics Mr. McGahey is a Democrat, having long taken an active part in the affairs of his party, being a member of local Democratic committees, etc. He is a director

in the Business Men's Association of Olney, which has done much to promote the interests of Olney. He was one of the founders of the same, and has been one of its leading advocates. In his fraternal relations he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

In all the relations of life Mr. McGahey has proved signally true to every trust. He possesses a social nature and by his genial and kindly attitude to those about him, has won the respect and confidence of everyone. He has been very successful, being known as an able and careful business man and one whose integrity of purpose is beyond question.

SHANNON KAGY.

The memory of the worthy subject of this memorial biography is revered by a host of friends and acquaintances among whom he labored, having spent his energies through a long life of strenuous endeavor to make the most of his opportunities as well as to assist as best he could his neighbors to improve their condition.

Shannon Kagy was born in Marion county, Illinois, May 26, 1844, and he was called from his earthly labors in 1889, after a life of usefulness and success in every particular. He was the son of Christian and Anna (Hite) Kagy, natives of Ohio, and early settlers in Marion county, Illinois.

The subject was reared on his father's farm in Omega township, and was educated in the common schools of Marion

county. He married Anna E. Brubaker, born in Stevenson township, this county, daughter of Eli and Ann (Warner) Brubaker. Mr. and Mrs. Kagy were the parents of five children, namely: Myrtle, single and living at home, is one of the popular teachers of Marion county; Corwin, who lives in Oregon, married Pearl Crippen; Clark lives in Salem, this county, and married Quette Leckrone, and has two children, Donald and Harvey; Frank married Nellie Boring, living in New Mexico and they have one child, Fay; Ellis married Ora Druendike. He is a farmer and has two children, Keith and Rex.

After his marriage our subject moved to Nebraska, where he remained for three years, then returned to Marion county and went to farming in 1882, on the place where his widow is still living in Stevenson township, three miles east of Salem. Our subject remained on this place until his death. He was a most excellent farmer and always managed his fields to best advantage, reaping rich harvests from year to year, making a comfortable living and laying by an ample competence for his family. He raised good stock and the buildings on his place were comfortable and convenient.

Mr. Kagy was one of the patriotic sons of the great Prairie state who offered their lives on the field of battle to save the Union, having enlisted in Company K, One Hundred and Eleventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry and served three years. He saw much hard service, but was never wounded nor taken prisoner.

Mr. Kagy was a loyal Democrat and held some of the minor public offices of Stevenson township. He was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and was a faithful member of the Presbyterian church. He was regarded by everyone as a good man, honest and upright at all times and always interested in the welfare of his community, lending what aid he could in its development at all times.

Mrs. Kagy, the widow of our subject, lives on the home farm with her daughter. She manages the entire farm with skill and profit, being a woman of rare business ability and force of character. She understands the proper rotation of crops so as to get the best harvests and the maintenance of the soil to its original fertility. She also understands the proper handling of live stock. Her farm is regarded as one of the best in Stevenson township. The buildings are modern, and always kept in good order. She is held in high esteem by her neighbors and many friends for her many admirable traits of character and her kind heart and cheerful disposition, being a pleasant woman to meet, as is also her daughter.

ROBERT O. BRIGHAM.

No business man of Centralia is regarded with higher favor than is the subject of this sketch, who, while looking to his own interests does not neglect to discharge his duties in fostering the upbuilding of the community in general.

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R. O. Brigham



CENTRALIA ENVELOPE CO.

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Robert O. Brigham, manager of the Centralia Envelope Company, was born in Clinton, New York, May 23, 1861, the son of Lewis and Sophia (Johnson) Brigham, the former having been born in Vernon Center, New York, December 4, 1820. His parents were of English extraction on both sides of the house. Lewis E. Brigham was a contractor and carpenter, and was educated in the public schools of his native state. The subject's parents reared a family consisting of eight sons and one daughter, Robert O., our subject, being the seventh in order of birth. The subject's father died in Clinton, New York, February 22, 1907, at the age of eighty-seven years. His wife was born in that city April 29, 1825. She was educated in the common schools in her native community. The parents of the subject were married in 1843 in the state of New York. The mother of our subject, an elderly woman of beautiful Christian character, is still living in Clinton, New York.

Robert O. Brigham received his early education in Clinton, New York, in the public schools. He quit school when fifteen years of age and went to Boston to learn the machinist's trade. Here he took advantage of the Boston night schools and applied himself with his accustomed vigor to technical drafting and the necessary commercial branches. He served his apprenticeship with the National Sewing Machine Company, for which he worked for ten years, at the end of which time he was called to take charge of the Whitmore Sewing Machine

Company, in the employ of which he continued for one year; he then went to Los Angeles, California, then to Denver, Colorado, and worked for W. E. Scott, machinery company, having charge of the model and repair work, after which he worked for the J. C. Teller Envelope Opener Company, of Denver, Colorado.

Robert O. Brigham invented an attachment to an envelope machine for placing a string in the envelope and then formed a company to put such an envelope on the market. The manufacture was continued with much success until 1896, when he and two other men bought the interest of the former manager, forming the Western Envelope and Box Company. They continued for one year in Denver, but finding that they were too far west for the successful working of such a plant, they moved to Omaha, Nebraska, remaining there one year, after which they moved to Centralia, Illinois.

After operating the plant for eight years in Centralia, it was reorganized and called the Illinois Envelope Company, and moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan. After one year's residence in Kalamazoo, Mr. Brigham resigned his position with the Illinois Envelope Company and returned to Centralia and helped to organize a new envelope company with only Centralia capital. This company is known as the Centralia Envelope Company, and is capitalized for one hundred thousand dollars, fully paid in. This company is now only two years old and is doing a thriving business. Its capacity at

the beginning was one and one-quarter million envelopes every ten hours, and has been increased to one and one-half million per day. The order for the machinery for the plant was the largest ever given at one time for a like enterprise.

The view accompanying this article is of thirty of the latest improved envelope machines in the plant of the Centralia Envelope Company mill. These machines are marvels of ingenuity. The paper is cut to the proper size and shape, then taken to these machines in which they are gummed, folded, dried and counted at the rate of one hundred to one hundred and thirty per minute, according to size. The picture shows only the envelope machines. There is also a large printing department equipped with latest improved printing machinery and all the necessary equipment that goes to make a complete printing establishment, cutting department, box department, case department, handfold department, machine shop, in fact, everything that goes to make up a complete envelope mill.

The capacity of the mill, as already stated, is one and one-half million envelopes every ten hours, making it one of the largest in the United States, and one of the leading industries of Southern Illinois. Its goods are known far and wide for their high quality.

This mill is owned and controlled by Centralia capital. Its directors are composed of the following well known business men: C. C. Davis, Ferdinand Kohl, Jr., Harry Warner, F. F. Noleman, Jacob

Erbes, Ed Cornell, J. G. Goetsch, R. O. Brigham, W. E. O'Melveny. Officers: C. C. Davis, president; F. Kohl, Jr., vice president; H. M. Warner, secretary; Harry Kohl, treasurer; R. O. Brigham, general manager.

Our subject is particularly well fitted to be manager of such a gigantic and successful enterprise. His native constructive ability for technical mechanics and intricate machinery has eminently fitted him in this special line. His economic foresight of proper management, good machines, good workmen, good material all contribute to the success of the company.

All the machinery in the plant is modern, up-to-date in every respect, and high grade work is turned out rapidly. Our subject has had a wide experience in the management of such concerns. He is the originator and inventor of many of the improvements to be found in the present highly developed envelope machine. This company under his superior management now operates thirty envelope machines, ten printing presses and ten box machines. The factory also has a complete machine shop and repair department, also a complete case department. The buildings are two stories high, built of brick and frame. The main building is two hundred feet long and fifty feet wide. The shipping and stock room is one hundred and thirty-five by eighty-five feet. A switch from the main track of the Illinois Central Railroad runs to the door of the big shipping room, all under cover of spacious sheds. The Illinois Southern tracks also

run into the sheds of the shipping department. The machines of the plant are run and the buildings are lighted and heated by a one hundred and sixty-horse power steam plant and a sixty horse power engine. A four hundred light dynamo furnishes the lighting of the great plant. Eighty girls and twenty-five men and boys are constantly employed to operate the plant, the daily capacity of which is one million and five hundred thousand envelopes.

This new but successful enterprising company was started by thirty-five of the business men of Centralia, and it is owned by Centralia people, being capitalized at one hundred thousand dollars, which was raised in a very short time. The capacity of each machine runs from sixty-five to seventy-five thousand each ten hours. It is an interesting plant in every detail and one of the rapidly growing large industrial concerns of Southern Illinois.

Robert O. Brigham was married to Minnie G. McDonald, the accomplished daughter of James and Rebecca (Nicholson) McDonald, a well known family of Quincy, Illinois, to which family there were four children, Minnie being the youngest. To our subject and wife one daughter was born, who passed away when eighteen years old.

Our subject is a member of Centralia lodges, Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He served as a member of the school board for one term. In politics he is a Republican, and he was reared a Baptist, but he at pres-

ent worships with the Christian Scientists, and is president of the Church Board of Centralia. His beautiful home just west of the Public Library is nicely furnished, being also well filled with choicest books of an excellent variety, also a large number of beautiful oil paintings by his sister and daughter. He is a genial gentleman of good habits and modest demeanor.

PHILIP HELTMAN.

An honorable retirement from labor in which to enjoy the fruits of former toil and the enjoyment which life can offer, is the fitting reward of a useful and active career, in which one, through keen discernment, indefatigable labor and honorable methods advanced steadily toward the goal of prosperity. Such, briefly stated, is the record of Philip Heltman, who is now living retired in Olney, Richland county, and through his long connection with agricultural interests he not only carefully conducted his farm, but so managed its affairs that he acquired thereby a position among the substantial residents of the community. Moreover he is entitled to representation in this volume because he was one of the sons of the Northland who stood by the flag during the days of the rebellion. He came to this county over a half century ago, and from those early times down to the present day he has been an interested witness of its development, taking a just pride in what he has accomplished and the high rank the

county has among her sister counties of the great Prairie state.

Philip Heltman was born in Clermont county, Ohio, December 6, 1834, the son of John and Elizabeth (Weaver) Heltman, natives of Pennsylvania, of German parentage. John Heltman grew up in the old Keystone state and married there. In 1809 he emigrated with his wife and two children to Cincinnati, Ohio, going down the Ohio river in skiffs. He was a distiller and came to Ohio for the purpose of following that business. This was in an early day, and he was obliged to take refuge in a fort in the Miami valley more than once on account of the Indians. He later located on a farm which is now located in Clermont county, Ohio, near the Hamilton county line, where he died at the age of sixty-eight years, his wife having previously passed away in 1840. Our subject is the youngest of fourteen children and the only one living at this writing. He was about fifteen years of age when his father died. He then went to live with an older brother and was reared on a farm in Clermont county, where he attended public school in the winter in an old log school-house, and one term in a frame, but he applied himself and laid a good foundation for an education which has later been added to by home reading and a contact with the world of men.

In February, 1857, Mr. Heltman came to Richland county, Illinois, and soon afterward bought over four hundred acres of raw land in Denver township, on which two log cabins had been built. He at once began

work on the place and in time made extensive and radical improvements.

When the war between the states broke out, our subject was not long making up his mind to offer his services in behalf of the nation, consequently he enlisted in June, 1861, in Company D, Eleventh Missouri Volunteer Infantry, and after a faithful service was mustered out in Memphis, Tennessee, in August, 1864, and was paid off in St. Louis. His regiment was assigned to the Mississippi, and opened up the same, raising the blockade on Island No. 10. He soon afterward went to Tiptonville by transport, where his regiment took about five thousand prisoners. Later Mr. Heltman was in the siege of Corinth, his regiment forming the left wing of the army in the fighting there. It was later sent against Bragg and Price at Iuka, where the Confederates were defeated. Then came the engagements at Raymond, Mississippi, the Siege of Vicksburg, and during the latter part of the siege this regiment was in front. After the surrender there, the regiment went to Jackson, Mississippi, and captured that place, the subject having charge of the provost guard the first night at Jackson, when the city was taken. It then returned to Vicksburg and soon afterward went up the Red river to Alexandria. After the Red river expedition, it was sent to Memphis where it was mustered out, and from which place our subject went home.

After the war Mr. Heltman engaged in farming and stock raising for many years, making a success in these lines, for he was

a man of good judgment in buying and selling stock, and a most careful farmer, besides a hard worker. He improved a good farm in Denver township, which he still owns, consisting of seven hundred and twenty acres, of very productive soil, having been so carefully and skillfully tilled that the land is just as strong today as when he took possession of it. It is well fenced, has an excellent dwelling and outbuildings on it, in fact, everything about the place shows that a man of thrift and energy has had its management in hand.

In October, 1874, Mr. Heltman located in Olney, owning one hundred and twenty acres of valuable land just outside the city limits and eight acres within the city limits, on which he lives. He has a beautiful residence where the many friends of the family often gather and always find good cheer and hospitality unstintingly dispersed. All this Mr. Heltman has made unaided, and in a most honorable manner, therefore he deserves the great credit he is given by his friends who are limited only by the circle of his acquaintance.

Mr. Heltman's married life began in 1854 when he was united in the bonds of wedlock with Laura E. Smith, a native of Clermont county, Ohio, the daughter of Orrin Smith. Four children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Heltman, namely: Georgiana, the wife of William J. Eichin, of Olney, Illinois; Cora is the second child; Mamie is residing in Arvada, a suburb of Denver, Colorado; Hattie is the wife of Benjamin Holscher, of Linton, Indiana.

In politics our subject was a Republican all his life up to 1896, since which time he has voted the Democratic ticket, except in 1904, when he voted the Prohibition ticket. He says he is a Lincoln Republican or a Bryan Democrat—one and the same thing—and he has always taken an active interest in politics. He has served several terms on the Board of County Supervisors from Denver and Olney townships. He is a member of the Protestant Methodist church, as is also his noble wife. His children are members of the Episcopal church.

Mr. Heltman won definite success in life because he persevered in the pursuit of a worthy purpose, gaining thereby a most satisfactory reward. His life is exemplary in every respect, and he has always supported those interests which are calculated to uplift and benefit humanity, while his own moral worth is deserving of the highest commendation.

WILLIAM J. MARTIN.

A list of Marion county's prominent families would certainly be incomplete were there failure to make specific mention of the well known farmer and representative citizen, and his relatives, whose name introduces this sketch, for his life has been one of usefulness and honor, resulting in good to everyone with whom he has had dealings whether in business or social life.

William J. Martin was born in Gibson county, Tennessee, January 15, 1859, the

son of Caleb and Martha J. (McHaney) Martin, the latter a native of middle Tennessee and the former of South Carolina. Jacob Martin, the subject's paternal grandfather, came to Tennessee from South Carolina in an early day and farmed there until his death. The parents of the subject married in Tennessee. Martha McHaney was the daughter of William McHaney, a native of Tennessee. She first married David Young, who died and left two children, Frances, the wife of Atlas Hammond. The second child died in infancy. Caleb Martin first married Miss Susan Batie, who died leaving the following children: Jacob, George, Amos, America, Jane, Parthene, Martha and Mary Susan.

The parents of our subject married in Tennessee and in November, 1862, settled in Salem township, Marion county, Illinois. Caleb Martin was a strong Union man and left the South on account of the war. His wife, a noble old lady, is still living with her son, our subject. The subject's father farmed in Marion county, Illinois, until his death, July 11, 1888. He and his wife were members of the Christian church. He was a strong Republican. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Caleb Martin, as follows: William J., our subject; Monroe, Houston, Benjamin Van Buren, John A. Logan, Sarah Ida.

Our subject was about three years old when the family came to Illinois. They made the trip from Tennessee with ox teams and camped out on the way, having all ox teams with the exception of one team of

horses. William J. Martin was reared on his father's farm and educated in the common district schools of this county. On his farm now stands the little old school house in which he was educated. He purchased it and moved it on this place, which he now uses for a store house and granary. It was built about 1850. Mr. Martin remained at home and worked on the farm until he was twenty-five years old. This was in 1884, in which year his happy and harmonious domestic life began, having then married Elizabeth Hershberger, who was born in Crawford county, Ohio, the daughter of Henry and Catherine (Snaveley) Hershberger. (For a full history of this family the reader is directed to the sketch of David Hershberger in this work.)

Four children have been born to the subject and wife, namely: Minnie, born October 3, 1886, is a member of the home circle; Claude was born in April, 1888, and died in January, 1895; William Franklin was born December 26, 1890, and died January 16, 1891; Nellie Zada, born August 14, 1892, is at home attending school.

Mr. Martin's highly improved and productive farm consists of one hundred and sixty acres. He has a beautiful country home, substantial, comfortable and nicely furnished, and a good barn and other convenient out buildings, everything about the place showing thrift, good management and industry. He keeps an excellent grade of cattle and other live stock, and is regarded as a good judge of stock and one of the leading farmers of Salem township. His

hogs are of good breed and he raises some fine horses. Mr. Martin also owns two hundred acres of his father's old farm in this township, which he keeps well improved and the soil in good productive condition.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin are members of the Christian church at Young's chapel. Mr. Martin is a trustee in the church and a liberal subscriber to the same. In politics he is a Republican. In the social and private walks of life no man bears a more enviable reputation for sterling worth. In short, Mr. Martin is an honorable, upright citizen, belonging to the somewhat rare class that direct and control public sentiment without pushing himself forward and without incurring the ill will of those with whom they come in contact and leave the impress of their strong personality indelibly stamped upon the community, winning the friendship of all classes.

DANIEL GAFFNER.

The honored subject of this sketch is now living in retirement in Olney, Illinois, enjoying the respite due the closing of a long and useful business career. He has been prominently identified with industrial movements of no mean scope and importance and the name which he bears has stood for progressiveness and large enterprise ever since the pioneer days in this section of the state, while he is a scion of an old family of Switzerland, being numbered among that ele-

ment of foreigners in this country who have greatly benefited America by their presence. So important have been the business and industrial undertakings with which he had been connected, and so high is the confidence and esteem in which he is held in Richland county, that it is imperative that he be accorded recognition in a publication like the present volume.

Daniel Gaffner was born in Interlaken, Switzerland, July 7, 1831, the son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Gerber) Gaffner, also natives of Switzerland where they lived and died. The subject's father was a farmer in the mountains of that country and was seventy-eight years old when he died, his wife having died at the age of seventy-five. The family of Gaffner was originally French, one branch passing to Switzerland many years ago. The father of the subject was in the military service of his country for some time. Grandfather Gerber was of Swiss birth and parentage, but took part in a number of battles under Napoleon. A remarkable fact is that the subject remembers the funeral of his grandfather who died in 1833, when the subject was a trifle over two years old. Seven children were born to the parents of the subject, five of whom grew to maturity, Daniel being the fourth in order of birth. Three members of the family came to the United States.

Our subject was reared in his native land on a farm and there developed that sturdy manhood and sterling character that have made for his later success in new environments. He received a common school educa-

tion. He left home when sixteen years old and was apprenticed to a shoemaker, at which trade he worked in several parts of Switzerland. When twenty-three years old he came to the United States, landing in New York and went direct to La Porte, Indiana, where he arrived without money. His father was reluctant to have him come to America, but after consenting gave him money enough to pay his passage. He at once began work at his trade in LaPorte, but soon afterward went to Highland, Illinois, where he worked for three years, being regarded as a high grade workman by his employers. In 1858 he came to Olney and resumed working at his trade, but at the end of two years he went to Edwards county on account of failing health, having traded property in Olney for a two-hundred-acre farm. Two years later he sold the same for two thousand two hundred and fifty dollars, besides realizing about one thousand dollars from his personal property. Thus we see how our subject prospered from the first in his adopted country. His next move was to Albion, where he worked at his trade for three years, having been in partnership one year in a shoe shop and store. He had bought property in Albion which he traded for property in Olney, then taking up his permanent residence in the latter town where he has since resided continuously, having carried on business here in a most successful manner for many years. He first opened a shoe store and later was engaged in wholesale and retail hide and leather business, gradually accumulating property. In 1882 he built a three-story brick business

block on Main street, twenty by eighty-five feet with a good basement, in addition to a large warehouse. It is one of the most pretentious blocks in Olney, modern, substantial and convenient. He also owns another brick block two stories in height, twenty by one hundred and eighty-five feet, located on Main street. He also owns a valuable building, thirty by one hundred and eighty feet, on Vaile avenue, together with two stores on Railroad street, besides valuable residence property. He is one of the stockholders of the First National Bank and for some years was one of its directors.

Mr. Gaffner was first married in 1852 to Susanna Schneiter, a native of Switzerland, who came to the United States with her father, her mother having died in Switzerland. To the subject and his first wife six children were born, four of whom are living, as follows: Robert, a druggist in Olney; Tell, Charles and Walter, all reside in Seattle, Washington. They are all young men of much business ability. Their father gave each one ten thousand dollars to start them in life.

Mrs. Gaffner passed to her rest in August, 1898, and the subject subsequently married Mrs. Fannie (Suardet) Emerson, who was born in De Vand, Switzerland, of French-Huguenot descent, who came to the United States with a brother, who soon afterward went to California during the gold excitement and subsequently died there.

Mr. Gaffner is a Republican in politics, but he has never aspired to public office and he is not a partisan, believing in men rather than

measures. His first presidential vote was for Stephen A. Douglas. Mr. Gaffner was reared in the German Reformed church. His wife is a member of the Presbyterian church.

This review of Mr. Gaffer's life history is necessarily general in its character. To enter fully into the interesting details of his career would require a much larger space than possible in this volume. Sufficient, however, has been stated to show that he is entitled to a place in the front ranks of successful men who have engaged in industries in Richland county. He, by his pluck, energy and enterprise, controlled by correct principles and founded upon unswerving honor, has attained to a position meriting the respect and admiration of his fellow citizens which they gladly give.

FRANCIS M. PURCELL.

The subject is a representative business man and citizen of Marion county, managing one of the largest lumber establishments in the county, the well known firm being F. M. Purcell & Company, doing business at Kell. Our subject was born in Wilson county, Tennessee, July 2, 1843, the son of Hiram and Parthena (Williams) Purcell, natives of Tennessee, and a fine old Southern family. Hiram was a prosperous farmer and lived and died in Tennessee. He and his faithful life companion were members of the Missionary Baptist church. The subject's father was a gallant soldier

in the Seminole Indian war in Florida. To Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Purcell five children were born, namely: Lavina, Ella; Frances M., our subject; L. B. and Hiram.

The subject's father first married a Miss Jones and they became the parents of two children, Eliza and Henry.

Our subject grew up in Tennessee on a farm. He remained in that state on a farm until he was twenty-seven years old. In 1870 he came to Jefferson county, Illinois, and engaged in farming, also the lumber business, making a success of each. In the fall of 1904, he came to Kell, Illinois, where he is now located and where he has built up an extensive business by means of his industry, his careful methods and fair treatment of customers. He is in partnership with Omer V. Cummings in the lumber business. They supply a large scope of country with lumber and all kinds of building material as well as much hardware. They also handle paints, cement, lime, nails, in fact, everything that a builder uses in a house, barn or other structure. They always handle a good line of material and their prices are always right, according to the statement of many of their customers. They have extensive sheds and their office is a nice place and is always a busy place.

Our subject's happy domestic life began in 1866, when he was united in marriage with America Penuel, who was born in Tennessee, the daughter of Frederick and Lucinda (Jennings) Penuel, natives of that state.

Eight children have been born to the sub-

ject and wife as follows: Amanda, the wife of W. W. Hay, who lives in Jefferson county, this state; Samuel married Dora Riley and they live in Carrier Mills, Illinois; Lucinda is the wife of George Snyder, living in Jefferson county, Illinois; Robert married Anna McCormick, and they also live in Jefferson county; Otis J. married Josie Hawkins; William Edgar is single; Nora is the wife of Adolphus Caldwell, also of Jefferson county; Fred is single.

Mr. and Mrs. Purcell are members of the Missionary Baptist church. The former is a loyal Democrat. He very ably served for six years as Supervisor of Rome township, Jefferson county, this state. He was chairman of the Board of Supervisors for one year. He takes considerable interest in political matters and his advice is often sought in the local affairs of his county. In his fraternal relations he is a member of the Masonic Order, the Knights Templar.

Mr. Purcell owns a valuable and well improved farm, near Kell, on which he lives, having a modern, substantial and nicely furnished dwelling, an excellent barn and convenient out-buildings. He is a very busy man, for he successfully conducts the affairs of his lumber establishment in town and at the same time superintends the work on the place, being an excellent judge of live stock of all kinds, and he is regarded as one of the leading business men of Haines township. He deserves much credit for what he has accomplished, having started in life under none too favorable circumstances, but he has been a hard worker and

a good manager and success has attended his efforts from the first. He is a gentleman of pleasing demeanor, easily approached, and while not an aspirant for high political favors, he has done much in a quiet way, as already intimated, to promote the good of the community where he lives. He occupies a commendable standing among his fellow citizens and has a large circle of friends who have learned to esteem him for his industry and many manly qualities.

KENNETH D. HORRALL.

Kenneth D. Horrall, the well known hardware merchant of Olney, Illinois, which business he established in 1856, and which he has conducted continuously ever since in a most successful manner, his business having steadily grown from a modest beginning until now it is one of large proportions. He carries a stock of about fifteen thousand dollars, often reaching twenty thousand dollars, his store room being twenty by one hundred and sixty-five feet, and two floors, and one hundred feet on three floors. In 1866 he erected his present brick block. His is the oldest business in Olney, and the oldest hardware business in Richland county. His business is known all over the county, and his customers come from all sections of this locality.

Kenneth D. Horrall was born near Washington, Daviess county, Indiana, June 9.

1838, the son of John and Rebecca (Johnson) Horrall, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Illinois. They were among the early settlers of this section of the state, being sterling pioneers and people of force of character. The father of the subject served in the wars under General Harrison and took part in the battle of Tippecanoe. He devoted his life to farming and died in Daviess county, Indiana, at the age of fifty-two years. His wife survived him for several years and passed to rest while living in Richland county, Illinois, at the advanced age of eighty-five years. Our subject was the youngest of seven children, only two of whom are living at this writing.

Mr. Horrall was reared in his native state and was educated in the country schools, where he applied himself in such a manner as to gain an education despite lack of opportunities. When he was fourteen years old he came to Olney and entered the hardware store of John Banks in order to learn the tinner's trade, at which he worked successfully for about fifteen years. In 1856 he began business for himself in a small way, having a stock of about three hundred dollars. He built up his business to its present proportions by years of hard work and close application to business, and by his fair treatment of customers.

In politics our subject is a Republican, but he has never been active in his party's affairs. However, he served very faithfully for two years as a member of the City Council. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, having held about all the

offices in the same and he has been one of the main pillars of this church.

Mr. Horrall's domestic relations began in 1858 when he was married to Sarah J. Baird, a native of Olney, Illinois, and the daughter of Asa and Lucy (Tanner) Baird, natives of Vermont, who were among the pioneers of Richland county, where they spent their active and useful lives, and where they died. Asa Baird was a contractor and he built a large part of the national road to Vincennes. At one time he was one of the officials of the county. His death occurred in 1849. His wife was a relative of ex-Governor Tanner.

The subject and his wife are the parents of seven children, namely: Adelbert, George Lewis, Charles Asa; Carrie, deceased; Edward Eugene, Walter Lewis and Henry Cliff. Adelbert, Charles and Walter assist their father in the management of his large store. Adelbert is bookkeeper, having graduated in a business college in Buffalo, New York. George is a tinner by trade and he manages a farm two miles north of Olney, which is owned by himself and father. It is a valuable farm, well improved and highly cultivated. Charles also learned the tinner's trade and also telegraphy. Edward is a druggist and owns and operates a drug store at Decatur, Illinois. Henry Cliff is engaged in the hardware business at Bridgeport, Illinois. These children have all received good educations and are well established in life.

No man in Richland county is better or more favorably known than Mr. Horrall.

Because of his public spirit, his honesty in all his dealings with his fellow men, his generous and kindly nature, he has won and retained a host of warm personal friends throughout this locality.

HARVEY D. MAY.

By a life of persistent and well applied industry led along the most honorable lines, the gentleman whose name appears above has justly earned the right to be represented in a work of the character of the one at hand, along with the other men of Marion county who have made their influence felt in their respective communities.

Harvey D. May, the present popular Trustee of Haines township and a well known dealer in harness, saddlery and hardware in the town of Kell, Illinois, was born in Raccoon township, Marion county, October 12, 1879, and while yet a young man he has shown what properly applied energy and a business mind can do toward wrenching success from seeming insurmountable obstacles. He is the son of Jesse H. and Mary (Williams) May, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Tennessee. Anderson May, the subject's grandfather, was also a native of Kentucky and was one of the early settlers in Marion county, Illinois, having settled in Raccoon township. Jesse H. May, who has devoted his life to farming and is still living in that township, is a highly respected citizen. Three chil-

dren were born to the parents of our subject, Amos is a farmer in Raccoon township; Laura, who is deceased, was the wife of Orvil Prater, and they were the parents of two children, Etha and Henry, who are still living; Harvey D., our subject, was the second child.

Our subject was reared on a farm where he assisted with the work about the place. He attended school in Raccoon township, having applied himself in such a manner as to gain the foundation for a good education. Deciding early in life that he desired to be a harness maker and dealer, Mr. May learned the harnessmaker's trade and became quite a proficient workman early in life, and he finally opened a shop in Kell, this county, establishing his present business, in which he was successful from the first and which has steadily grown, his business now extending through a wide scope of country on every hand, owing to the fair dealing he gives his customers and the intimate knowledge he has of the harness business. He does a general repair business and is always very busy. His shop is equipped with all the latest appliances and improvements known to the harnessmaker's art and his work is all of a high grade.

Mr. May's domestic life was begun in 1903, when he was united in marriage with Ava Williams, who was born in Jefferson county, Illinois, and is the daughter of N. A. and Jane (Rice) Williams. Mrs. May was called from her earthly labors January 14, 1908. She was a member of the Baptist church. She was a woman of many esti-

mable traits of character, a good wife and was beloved by all her neighbors.

Mr. May is a member of Romine Lodge No. 663, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He has represented this lodge at the Grand Lodge on two different occasions, and has passed all the chairs in the local lodge. Our subject is a loyal Republican and has taken considerable interest in his party's affairs. He was elected Trustee of Haines township in the spring of 1908. He is regarded as an energetic, honest and influential citizen, enjoying the respect of all who know him.

ELI BRUBAKER.

The man who has made a success of life and won the honor and esteem of his fellow citizens deserves more than passing notice. Such is the record, briefly stated, of the gentleman whose name heads this review, the record he left behind being one of honor in every respect, for a more whole-souled and popular man never lived in Stevenson township where he long maintained his home and where he labored for the general good of the community, and, although his life work has been closed by the good angel, who has set the seal on the record of his life history, his influence still permeates the lives of those who knew him best and loved him for his fortitude, fidelity, honor and industry.

Eli Brubaker was born in Fairfield

county, Ohio, December 11, 1819, and he was called from his earthly labors in 1907, after a long and eminently useful and successful life. He was the son of Abraham and Elizabeth (Myers) Brubaker, and was reared on his father's farm in Ohio, where he assisted with the work about the place until he reached manhood, attending the common schools in the neighborhood until he received a fairly good education, such as the old pioneer schools of those times afforded. The school house which he attended had puncheon seats and greased paper was used for window panes. For a full history of the Brubaker family the reader is referred to the sketch of Noah Brubaker, which appears in another part of this volume.

The subject of this sketch came to Marion county, Illinois, in 1843, and settled among the pioneers on new land in Stevenson township, where, by dint of hard work, he made a home and developed a good farm. The old Brubaker homestead is today one of the best farms in Stevenson township. Eli Brubaker was a hard worker and an excellent farmer, and he made a comfortable living.

Our subject was first married to Mary Ann Warner January 20, 1842, daughter of William Warner, an early settler of Marion county, Illinois. She was born in Lancaster county, Ohio. She passed to her rest in 1872. She was the mother of eleven children, namely: Isaac, who lives in Iuka, this state; Christina, deceased; Annie, E., widow of Shannon Kagy, lives in Stevenson township; William is a prosperous

farmer in Stevenson township; Edgar and Edward are twins; Logan is a farmer, living in Stevenson township; Mary Jane is the eighth child; the ninth, tenth and eleventh child died in infancy.

On February 4, 1875, the subject married a second time, his last wife being Emma Squibb, who was born in Ohio county, Indiana, the daughter of George Y. and Mary Ann (Harpham) Squibb, natives of Indiana, who moved to Stevenson township, Marion county, Illinois, where the mother is still living, the father having died soon after coming to this county. Mrs. Brubaker is living on the old homestead in Stevenson township, which she manages successfully.

Our subject was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church and a liberal supporter of the same. He was a good everyday Christian, always strictly honest in his dealings with his fellow men, a good neighbor, father and husband. In politics he was a Democrat, but never held office. The different members of his family are well settled in life and are highly respected in their respective communities. They reflect great credit upon their parents, who gave them every advantage possible, and no doubt they will ever uphold the honor of the family name which is one of the highest integrity.

The subject of this sketch was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church and was ordained elder in this church in 1847. He was superintendent of the Sunday school at Brubaker chapel for the long period of

over forty-two years, after which he was elected honorary superintendent for life. He was a leader in church work for many years and was foremost in promoting everything which makes for the betterment of humanity. It was largely due to his efforts that the new and modern church edifice was erected and dedicated June 20, 1896, which he christened New Bethel, he not only donating the land, consisting of four acres for the manse, but also gave freely of his services and money to the building fund.

Mr. Brubaker gave each of his children a farm.

SAMUEL MARION HOLT.

The subject of this review, who, though past the meridian of life many years, is still in the same physical and mental vigor that have characterized his earlier years of endeavor and he is almost as capable in bearing his part in the concerns of his neighborhood as he was in former days.

Samuel Marion Holt is a native of Marion county, having been born in Foster township, June 25, 1845, the son of John F. Holt, who was born in Georgia in 1806, and came to Marion county, Illinois, when a young man, where he took up government land in Foster township, settling on North Fork creek among the pioneers, there being then only four families here, the first settlers of this creek being Isaac Agan, Hardy Foster, John F. Holt and Moses Garrett. The subject's grandfather was Harmon Holt,

who was born in Georgia and came to Marion county, Illinois, where he died at a ripe old age. He was of Irish descent. Harmon Holt's wife was named Ibbey Holt, whom he married in Georgia. The maiden name of the subject's mother was Elizabeth Jones, who was born in the state of Delaware, and who came with her parents to St. Clair county, Illinois, when five years old. Eleven children were born to the subject's parents, five of whom are living. They are: Martha, Henry, Mary, Matilda, Harmon, Salina, Samuel M., Sally, John D., Hardy F. (twins) and Isabelle.

The Indians made a treaty with the government to hunt in the new country which was still partly a wilderness after his parents had come. Our subject spent his early life on his father's farm and attended the common schools, such as they were in those early days. When he reached maturity he married, on July 21, 1864, Susan F. Atkins, who was born in Marion county, July 16, 1847, the daughter of John Atkins, who was born in Franklin county, Tennessee. He moved to Alabama with his parents when a boy. He was about thirty years of age when he came to Illinois and took up government land. He was the father of four children, an equal number of boys and girls. He spent the remainder of his life here, with the exception of the last fifteen years, dying at the age of seventy-three years, in Texas, where he had gone fifteen years previous.

Our subject is the father of seven children, named in order of birth as follows: Mary M., who married Eli M. Arnold, liv-

ing in Shawnee, Oklahoma, and who are the parents of five children; Margaret E., who married Oscar Chance, of Salem, Illinois, and who is the mother of six children; Emma F., who married James A. Arnold, living in Fort Worth, Texas, and the mother of two children; Rhoda A., who married Ed. Jones, of Salem, Illinois, and who is the mother of two children; John A. was married to Maud Davis, December 13, 1908, and lives at home; the sixth child was an infant, who died unnamed; Lulu B., the youngest child, is the wife of Will Harkey, who lives in Fayette county, near St. Peter, this state, and she is the mother of one son.

Our subject is the owner of a fine landed estate in Kinmundy township, consisting of three hundred and eighty-five acres, of well improved land, which he has successfully managed until it is one of the most valuable farms in the township, being under a high state of improvement and the fields well fenced and well drained. Much good stock of various kinds is to be seen in the subject's barns and fields, and he always keeps good horses, cattle and hogs. He has an elegant and comfortable dwelling which is nicely furnished and is surrounded by a beautiful yard and convenient out-buildings, in fact, the entire place has an air of evident thrift and prosperity.

Our subject is a Democrat in his political affiliations and he has long taken an active part in his party's affairs. His wife is a devout Christian and a faithful mother, being a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Holt is not a member of the

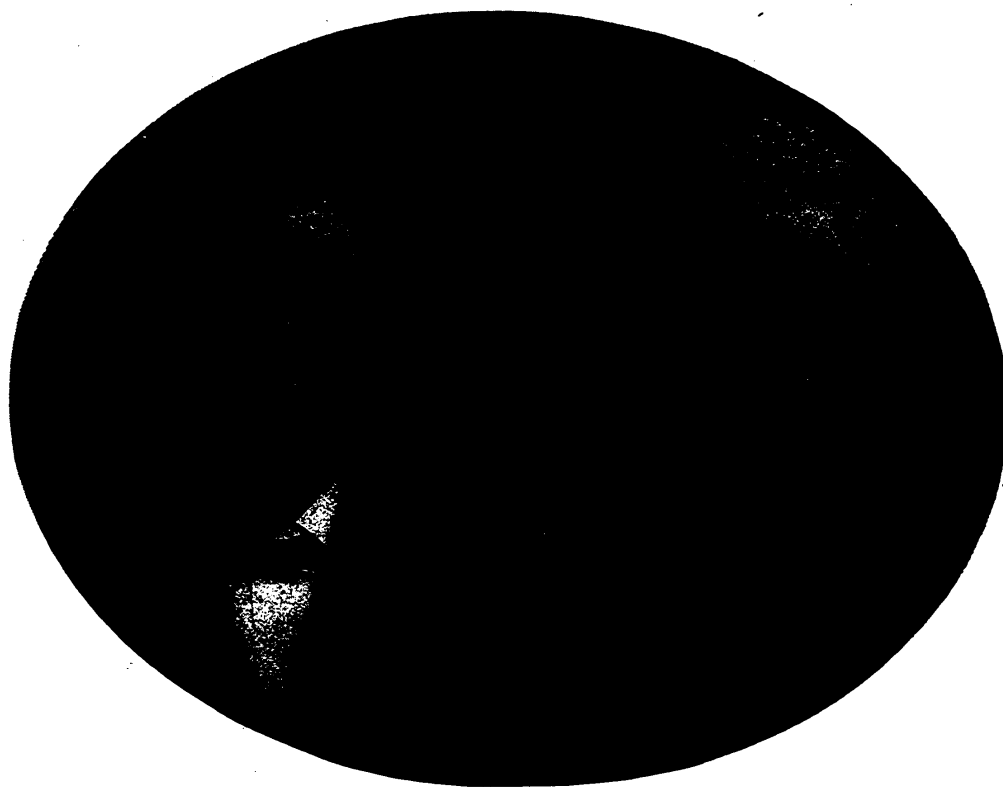
church and does not hold to any Orthodox creed, yet he is a believer in good citizenship, honesty and fair dealing and is highly respected for his good citizenship. The different members of the family are well settled in life and highly esteemed in their respective communities. They reflect great credit upon their parents and no doubt will ever uphold the honor of the family name, which thus far has not been dimmed by the commission of a single unworthy act.

Z. C. JENNINGS.

The life history of the subject of this sketch goes back to the pioneer days, since which Mr. Jennings has been a very potent factor in the affairs of Marion county, in which he is regarded as a foremost citizen in every respect, therefore, for many reasons, it is deemed entirely consistent to give him conspicuous mention in this volume.

Z. C. Jennings was born February 14, 1838, in Marion county, Illinois. Israel Jennings, the subject's grandfather, was a native of Maryland and when he reached young manhood went to the state of Kentucky and while at Marysville married Mary Waters in 1808. In 1818 he came to Marion county, Illinois, and settled six miles southeast of Centralia, being among the very first settlers there, having Indians as his neighbors and the dense woods abounded in an abundance of wild game. He was one of the squatters at Walnut Hill until 1827. This

section was then a part of Jefferson county. It was here that Mr. Jennings entered land, which he developed and where he died in 1860. His first wife passed away in 1844 and he married a second time, his last wife being Lear Sterling, of Centralia, this county. There were no children by his second wife. The following are the names of the children by his first wife: Israel, Jr., who married a Miss Davidson, was the father of eleven children; Charles W., the subject's father; William W. left home in 1847 and went to Wisconsin. He was in the mining, mercantile and grain business, in which he made a fortune. In 1853 he went to California and engaged in gold mining, but on account of failing health and trouble with his eyes, came back to Marion county where he remained for several years, at one time engaging in railroad contracting in northern Missouri. In 1861 he enlisted in the Union army and served during the war, after which he settled in Marion county and in 1875 he went to Austin county, Texas, where he lived until 1890, when he came to Alvin, Illinois, and built a modern home, having become prosperous. He first married Margaret Noleman. The date of his death was 1904. He was highly respected by all. Ann, the third child of the subject's grandfather, married Rufus McElwain, a farmer in Centralia township, who later lived at Salem, this county. Mary, the fourth child, who was known as "Aunt Polly," married a Mr. White. They lived near Walnut Hill where he conducted a tannery. John, the fifth child, died when he



MR. AND MRS. Z. JENNINGS.

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reached maturity. The sixth child died when young. In Marion county, in the early days, no citizen was more prominent than Israel Jennings, who was one of the largest land owners of the county. He was a faithful member of the Methodist church, and a good Democrat. In 1827 he was elected a member of the Legislature when Vandalia was the capital of the state. He was a member of the house contemporaneous with Peter Cartwright. He was postmaster at Walnut Hill, Illinois, for many years, beginning in 1834. He was a slaveholder and owned the only male slave ever held in this county. He came here before there were any steam railroads, but during his life he noted wonderful changes, being instrumental in bringing about much of the progress of the county. He opened a store and gave dry goods and groceries in exchange for produce which he hauled to St. Louis by wagon, bringing back supplies. At the time of his coming to this county he had two daughters who had reached maturity. They were taken sick while he was away in Shawneetown on one of his usual trips and one of them died. There was no lumber in the community, so a white-oak tree was cut and a coffin hewn from it, in which to bury the young lady, whose grave is on the old place he owned. He was known to be a very eccentric man, and ten years before his death he bought a metallic coffin, which he kept in the house until his death, and he was buried in it, dying April 20, 1872. His wife died April 3, 1885.

Charles W. Jennings, the subject's father,

was born in Kentucky, and he came to Marion county, Illinois, with his parents, settling one-half mile from his father, where he made a home, and became owner of nine hundred acres of land. He married Mariah Davidson, a native of Kentucky, and the following children were born to them: Sarah, deceased, married Capt. R. D. Noleman, who is also deceased; Josephus W., deceased, was born October 29, 1827, lived on the old place and was educated in the district schools. He was a merchant at Walnut Hill, Illinois, until 1856, when he moved to a farm one-half mile west of that place, where he died November 20, 1890. He married Amanda Couch, who was born January 8, 1834, the daughter of Milton and Mary (Beard) Couch. They were the parents of the following children: Edgar, Frank, Mary, Lizzie and Nancy. Harriett, the third child, married B. F. Marshall, who lived at Salem, Illinois. They are both deceased. Maria E. married Silas Bryan, who was county Judge, and lived at Salem, Illinois; Z. C., the subject of this biographical sketch, was the fifth in order of birth. Nancy married James Davenport, who is deceased. She is living at Salem, this county. America married William C. Stites. Both are now deceased. Docia married Alram Van Antwerp, who is deceased. She is living in St. Louis, Missouri.

The subject's father was a man of excellent business ability and a good manager, he having become wealthy. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and in politics was a Democrat.

Z. C. Jennings, the subject of this sketch, grew to manhood on the old home place and was educated in the home schools and the high schools at Salem and Centralia. When twenty-two years old he married Mary J. Baldrige, daughter of James C. Baldrige, of North Carolina, and Margaret (Rainey) Baldrige, a native of Kentucky. At the age of nine years, James C. Baldrige came to Marion county with his parents. Dorn-ton and Mary (Boggs) Baldrige, who settled near Walnut Hill, Illinois. James Baldrige and wife died in Jefferson county, Illinois. He married a second time, his last wife being Tabitha, the widow of Isaac Casey.

The subject started on the place where he now lives to make a home. He first owned forty acres of land, but being progressive he added to it from time to time until he now owns a fine farm of four hundred and twelve acres, which is in a high state of cultivation and one of the best stock farms in the county. He has raised some high-grade horses and cattle and has made all the improvements on the place himself, being regarded as one of the foremost agriculturists of the county, holding high rank among the stockmen of this locality.

Six children have been born to the subject and wife, as follows: Dr. Dwight was born September 1, 1860, and he graduated at the St. Louis Medical College in 1890, having previously attended the Carbondale Normal School, and he read medicine with Dr. Richardson, of Centralia, Illinois. He took up his practice at 4101 Washington

avenue, St. Louis, where he has since been residing and has built up a large practice. He married Cora Locy, of Carlyle, Illinois, and three children were born to this union, Beatrice, Dorothy and Dwight L. Charles Emmett, the subject's second child, was born January 4, 1862. He is a farmer at Mosco, Washington, also a dealer in stock and grain. He married Angeline S. Creed, of Centralia township, and they have one son, Fred Allen. Maggie D., the subject's third child, was born December 17, 1863, and married Lewis E. Thomas, of Centralia, Illinois. He is a carpenter in the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad. Their only son, Charles, is deceased. Samuel R., who was born December 24, 1865, has always been a farmer and lived at home. Maria, who was born January 22, 1871, died in August the same year; Harriett G., who was born October 7, 1873, married E. M. Jones, of St. Louis. He is traveling freight agent for the Southern Railroad. They have three children, namely: Leona, Dwight and Grace.

The subject of this sketch lived at home until 1859, and was in the lumber business with his father for awhile, then he located on his present place. During the past few years he has devoted a great deal of his attention to raising fruit. For two years he successfully manufactured crates and berry boxes at Walnut Hill, Illinois.

Mr. Jennings has always taken a great deal of interest in politics. He ably filled the office of Supervisor for four years and other minor offices in the Democratic party,

a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a well read man on all leading topics. He has a substantial, beautiful and well furnished home, presided over by a most estimable helpmeet, his wife being a woman of culture and refinement. Our subject is an uncle of Hon. William Jennings Bryan. He is well and favorably known throughout the county, being regarded by all classes as a man of force of character, stability, industry and honesty.

FINCH FAMILY HISTORY.

Sir Heneage Finch was the first Earl of Nottingham, England (1682), and was Lord Chancellor of England. He was descended from an old family, many of whose numbers had attained a high eminence in the legal profession; and he was the oldest son of Sir Heneage Finch, the Recorder of London. He was born in Kent, December 23, 1621, educated at Westminster and became a member of the Inner Temple, 1638; he was admitted to the bar in 1645, and became one of the leading members thereof, being called the "English Cicero". He was chosen a member of the Convention Parliament in 1660, and shortly afterward appointed Solicitor-General, and in 1675 Lord Chancellor. In 1660 he was also created a baronet, and in 1670 he was made Attorney General. He died in Great Queen Street, Lincoln Inn Fields, December 18, 1682, and was buried in Ravenstone in Bucks. He was spoken of as the father of equity, and was

the originator of the Statutes of Frauds, which are accepted in America and England as universal law and justice. He also published some of the speeches in the trials of the Judges of King Charles I, in 1660, and later emulated himself with other publications appertaining to the execution of King Charles I, but was not their author.

Sir Daniel Finch was the second Earl of Nottingham, and the son of Sir Heneage Finch, was born in 1647, and died January 1, 1730. He entered Parliament in 1679, and was one of the privy counsellors who in 1685 signed the order for the proclamation of the Duke of York, but kept away from the court during the reign of James the II. After the abdication of James II, he was one of the leaders of the party who were favorable to the establishment of the Regency. He declined the office of Lord-Chancellor under the reign of William and Mary, but accepted that of Secretary of State, and filled that position until December, 1693, and he also held the same office under Queen Anne in 1702, and retired in 1704. On the accession of George the First he was made President of the Council and withdrew from office in January, 1716; on the 9th day of September, 1729, he succeeded to the Earldom of Winchelsea and died on the 1st day of January, 1730.

Sir John Finch was a son of Sir Daniel Finch, the second Earl of Nottingham, was counsel to the Crown under George II, in the early part of his reign, and for his strong liberal views, and the active interest he took in espousing the cause of liberalism he was

by King George the Second, banished from the realm, and coming to America, landed at the port of Boston, and married somewhere in the eastern part of Massachusetts, and after a time emigrated to New York, and founded what is taken to be the Northern branch of the Finch family. To Sir John Finch, the banished counsellor of the court of King George the Second, were born two sons, whose names were respectively, Isaac F. Finch and John Finch; Isaac Finch and John Finch left their homes in the State of New York and settled in Wyoming Valley in Pennsylvania, sometime previous to the Revolutionary war; they engaged in the milling business in an extensive way; and when the Revolutionary war broke out they were each at the head of a large family.

Isaac Finch enlisted in the Revolutionary war, and John remained at home to look after the families of his brother Isaac and his own, and also their property; they were then living in Wyoming Valley, at Fort Forty. Isaac Finch was killed in the battle of the Wyoming Massacre, July 3, 1778, and John and his entire family were massacred at the same time. Unto Isaac Finch and Amy Finch, his wife, were born five sons and five daughters, and the names of these children were: Isaac, Moses, John, Enos, Amy, Rebecca, Sarah, Elizabeth, Mary and Solomon. On the 4th day of July, 1778, Amy Finch, the widow of Isaac Finch, with the aid of faithful servants, loaded her household effects into a wagon drawn by a pair of oxen, and with all the children, excepting Isaac Finch and Amy Finch, who were then visiting in Massachusetts, prepared to fly from the recent

scene of the bloody carnival. As the wagon was about to pull out with the household goods and children, a number of Indians seeing one of the servants standing by the wagon, with savage yells and flourishing tomahawks rushed upon him and with their tomahawks dashed out his brains, bespattering with blood and brains the five-months-old baby of the deceased Isaac Finch and his widow, who was lying upon the bed-clothing in the wagon. The name of this five-months-old baby was Solomon Finch, the last born. The widow of Isaac Finch, together with these children, then took their departure from the scene of the massacre and after many days of tedious, tiresome and dangerous travel, made their way through swamp and wilderness for some three hundred miles to Genesee county, New York, where they were finally given shelter, food and clothing, and abided until they were joined by the son and daughter who had gone on the visit to Massachusetts. They finally built them a house of logs and remained in this settlement for some years, and until the children were grown and married.

It seems that all the children of Isaac and Amy Finch were married in this part of New York, except Solomon, who again returned to the scene of the battle where his father and other relatives had met their death, and there married a Sarah Gardner, whose father owned the battlefield on which had been fought the bloody battle of Wyoming, and here he was married, and soon afterward returned to Genesee county, New York, and joined his relatives. He was married on the 13th day of March, 1804.

Solomon Finch was born on the 31st day of January, 1778, married to Sarah Gardner on the 13th day of March, 1804, and died on Elm Creek farm, Clay county, Illinois, in June, 1851, at the age of seventy-three; and to this union were born Rebecca, Mary, James Gardner, Almena, Solomon, Tomkins and Amos Parm Finch, Rebecca Finch was born January 5, 1805, in the Wyoming Valley, in Pennsylvania, married to George Shirts in Indiana, November 29, 1821, and to this union were born William Shirts, February 12, 1823, who died in 1885; Augustus Finch Shirts, November 26, 1824; Mary E. Shirts, July 26, 1826; Angeline Shirts, November 26, 1828; Sarah Shirts, November 29, 1830, and Hiram G. Shirts, July 15, 1834; in May, 1842, after the death of George Shirts, Rebecca Finch Shirts was married to Jay Ridgeway, to whom was born Solomon Ridgeway. Rebecca Finch Shirts died in 1873.

Mary Finch, born January 24, 1807, in Genesee county, New York, and was married to Hiram Finch, son of John Finch, who was the son of Isaac Finch, November 28, 1829, and to this union was born one son, Henry Clay Finch; Mary Finch died December 29, 1839.

James Gardner Finch was born October 16, 1809, in Rochester, New York, and was married to Sarah Woodborn, November 28, 1833, settled in Clay county, in November, 1839, and to this union was born one son, Francis M. Finch, April 29, 1837, who died in Andersonville prison, July 27, 1864. After the death of Sarah Woodburn Finch,

James Gardner Finch married Mary Ann Purdom on the 21st day of July, 1839, and to this union were born Walton H. Finch, October 13, 1840, and he died in Pamona, California in 1894, leaving a large family. Cynthia C. Finch was born February 24, 1845; John C. Finch, born January 23, 1847; George W. Finch, born June 21, 1849, and died in Harper county, Kansas, in 1896, leaving a large family; Henry Clay Finch, born October 1, 1852; Charles Sumner Finch, born July 24, 1856; Florence Evaline Finch (Kelly), born March 24, 1858; Almena Finch, born in the State of New York, January 13, 1812, married to Stephen Knolton, afterwards to Benjamin Creus, and later to Gabriel Manly, the latter to whom she bore one daughter, Emma Manly, July 28, 1832; Emma Manly married A. J. Hurlock in 1862, and after his death she again married John Ryan, in Kansas, 1876.

Emily Finch was born to Solomon and Sarah Finch, May 12, 1816, and died October 13, 1871.

Augustus H. Finch was born to Solomon and Sarah Finch September 1, 1818, and died November 12, 1820.

Solomon Tompkins Finch was born to Solomon and Sarah Gardner Finch in Hamilton county, in the state of Indiana, on the 21st day of November, 1820, and in February, 1847, he moved with his parents to Clay county, Illinois, where his mother, Sarah Gardner Finch, died June, 1847, and on the 22d day of July, 1847, he was joined in marriage with Bethsheba Long, who was born April 15, 1831, and

who was the second daughter of Rosamond and Hanna Stanford Long, and to this union were born Rebecca Margaret Finch in April, 1852, and who died with premature consumption in March, 1868. Mary Elizabeth Finch, who was born in Flora, Clay county, Illinois, on the 25th day of September, 1854 (being the first child born in the city of Flora), and Solomon Tompkins Finch on the 23d day of February, 1857, in the town of Flora, Illinois. On the 14th day of April, 1857, Solomon T. Finch died, leaving surviving him Bethsheba Long Finch, his widow, and the three children, viz: Rebecca Margaret, Mary Elizabeth and Solomon Tompkins Finch. Solomon Tompkins Finch, son of Solomon Finch and Sarah Gardner Finch, was the first business man in Flora, Clay county, Illinois, having embarked there into business with one George Harter, under the firm name of Finch & Harter, which continued until his death. In 1870 Bethsheba Long Finch on the 15th day of February was married to John Resen Finch, who was a son of Aaron, and grandson of John Finch, who was a brother of Moses and Solomon Finch. To this union was born one child, Martha Luella Finch, on the 7th day of February, 1871, and on the 16th day of July, 1871, Bethsheba Long Finch departed this life.

Amos Parm Finch was married to Louisa Griffith August 10, 1852, and to this union was born one son, Hiram Clayton Finch, on the 11th day of May, 1854, and after the death of Louisa Griffith Finch, Amos Parm Finch married Sarah Eliza-

beth Davis on the 5th day of December, 1860, and to this union were born Rosa Belle Finch, August 21, 1861; Henry Ernest Finch, August 28, 1868; he married Sarah E. Sibley; Clarence A. Finch, February 6, 1872, married Lulu Morrean on November 17, 1895, and Maggie Elizabeth Finch, November 3, 1875.

Mary Elizabeth Finch was on the 3d day of February, 1876, married to John Minor Cunningham, whose father was an early settler in Clay county, Illinois, and to this union were born three children, viz: Fremont Cunningham, born on the 29th day of November, 1876, and died six years later. Nelle Cunningham was born September 19, 1878, and was married to Jerry J. Bowman, October 22, 1902. Max Finch Cunningham was born April 14, 1883.

Solomon Tompkins Finch was on the 28th day of May, 1884, married to Lillie Estella Pearce, the youngest daughter of Frederick and Martha Ingrahm Pearce. The father, Frederick Pearce having been born in Leeds, England, came to this country with his father when he was but twelve years of age; first settled in Western Pennsylvania, and afterward moved to the city of Pittsburg. When at the age of manhood he married Martha Ingrahm, and in 1858, moved with his family, which consisted of his wife and two children at that time, to Ingrahm Prairie, Clay county, Illinois; engaged in the milling business, and was among the first settlers of Flora. After his removal to Flora, Illinois, his youngest daughter, Lillie Estella Pearce, was born on

the 13th of January, 1862. To the marriage of Solomon Tompkins Finch and Lillie Estella Pearce were born two sons; Earle D. Finch, born in the city of Flora on the 14th day of March, 1865; and Rollae D. Finch was born in the city of Flora on the 7th day of September, 1887.

Solomon Tompkins Finch, after taking a preparatory course at Loxa College, entered the Michigan University, from which college he graduated in the law department, in 1879, and after being admitted to the bar of Illinois commenced the law practice in Flora, Clay county, Illinois, the home of his birth.

Hiram Clayton Finch, after graduating in medicine, entered into the practice, and in 1882 moved to Iowa, continuing the practice and on the 6th day of October, 1882, was married to Ausis Oliva Matthews in Jasper county, Iowa, and to them was born one daughter, Ethel Finch, on the 29th day of December, 1884.

Moses Finch, son of Isaac and Amy Finch, was born in the Wyoming Valley, April 15, 1771, and was married to Sarah Beanon in 1789, and to them were born eleven sons; their names were: Isaac, Kinney, Charles, Beanon, Abraham Wheeler, Benoni Wheeler, Moses, Archibald Wheeler, James Beanon, Nathaniel, Walter and John. Sarah, the mother of the above sons, died in Indiana, June 17, 1831. The sons all grew to manhood. Moses Finch, after the death of Sarah, his wife, married Manda Grange, a widow with three sons and two daughters. To Moses Finch and Man-

da Grange Finch were born two daughters, Florilla and Rebecca. Rebecca married in 1860, and she and her husband died in 1861. Florilla married a Doctor Graydon, of Southport, Indiana.

To John Finch, son of Isaac Finch and wife, were born three sons, viz; Jubal, John and Cyrus. The mother of these children died, after which John Finch married again, and by his second marriage he begot four daughters, viz: Sarah, who married a Dr. Amos Palmer; Elizabeth, who married a man by the name of Davidson; Margaret, who never married, and Laura, who married a man by the name of Meak. After the death of the mother of these children, John Finch married the third time, and unto this marriage were born, Hiram C. Finch, John Finch, Fabious M. Finch, who was a prominent lawyer and judge in Indianapolis, Indiana, and lived to an advanced age. Rebecca, who married James Holl; Angeline, who married a man by the name of Williams, Cynthia married Dr. Nathaniel Mall, and Horatio Finch studied law, and afterwards died in San Francisco, California.

Hiram C. Finch was married to Mary Finch, on the 28th day of November, 1829, and to this union was born one son, Henry Clay Finch. Mary Finch died December 29, 1839, and after her death, Hiram G. Finch married his second wife, and to this union were born Frank, Allice, who was married to John Connor, and Horatio Finch. The name of the second wife of Hiram G. Finch was Mariah Passwatter.

Fabious M. Finch was married in 1810 to Mariah Allen, and to this union were born John A. Finch and Alice Finch. John A. Finch, after having studied law, made a specialty of the insurance law, and being associated with his father in the law practice under the firm name of Finch & Finch, became one of the first insurance lawyers in the United States, and compiled what is known in the law practice as Finch's Insurance Reports. John A. Finch died suddenly in Minneapolis, Minnesota, while on business in that city.

Fabious M. Finch soon followed the death of his most honored son, and left surviving his widow and Alice Finch, a most estimable and accomplished daughter, unmarried. Aaron Finch was married in Indiana, 1823, to Mary Waddell, and afterwards moved to Clay county, Illinois, and settled on a farm eight miles southeast of Flora, Illinois. To Aaron Finch and his wife were born: James Austin Finch and John Resen Finch; also a daughter, Laura. Aaron Finch died in the early fifties. James Austin Finch was joined in wedlock with Mary P. Griffith and studied medicine and died in the early sixties. To this union was born one son, James Austin Finch, Mary P. Finch died in 1898. James Austin Finch was married to Florence Brissanden, studied law, became well up in his profession, and was elected to the office of Prosecuting Attorney of Clay county in 1876, and afterwards located in Olney, Il-

linois, where he died in the summer of 1881. To this union of James Austin and Florence Brissanden Finch were born four children, viz: Mary, William, Laura and James Austin.

John Resen Finch was born in Indiana, moved to Clay county, Illinois, with his father, and settled on the farm with his father. He first married Sarah Schooley, and to this marriage were born one daughter and one son, viz: Mary Matilda and William Fabious Finch. After the death of his first wife he married Rachel Schooley, a sister of his first wife, and to this union were born one son and one daughter, viz: Aaron and Amy Finch. After the death of Rachel, the second wife of John Resen Finch, he then married Bethsheba Long Finch, and to this union was born one daughter, viz: Martha Louella Finch. After the death of Bethsheba Long Finch, John Resen Finch then married one Sarah Warmath, and departed this life in 1879, having continued to reside on the farm upon which he and his father located upon moving to Clay county, Illinois.

Augustus Finch Shirts, who was born to George Shirts and Rebecca Finch Shirts, was born November 26, 1824, married to Nancy Barnhill, and to this union were born three children, viz: George Shirts, Mary Shirts, who married a man by the name of Baker, and Elbert Shirts. Augustus Finch Shirts studied law, settled at Noblesville, Indiana, became very prominent as a lawyer, and as a politician, also became noted as the author of the history of Hamilton

county, Indiana, and retired from the law practice in 1900.

George Shirts, son of Augustus Finch Shirts, studied law, graduated at the law department of the University of Michigan, in 1876, entered the law practice at Noblesville, Indiana, became eminent as a corporation lawyer, and in 1903, was selected by the Governor of the state of Indiana, as one of the Codifying Commission, and selected by that body as their clerk.

In the early spring of 1814, Amos Parm, John, Moses and Solomon Finch, together with their families, went in wagons from Genesee county, New York, to Olean Point, New York, a point on the tributary of the Ohio river, and building a flat-boat there, they floated down the river to the Ohio river, and thence down the Ohio river to North Bend, Ohio, the present site of Cincinnati, Ohio, and after landing there, Solomon T. Finch took service under Gen. William H. Harrison (Old Tippecanoe), and after the war was over still remained with him for a time as superintendent of his plantations, the old log cabins that were famous during the campaign of Gen. William H. Harrison as a candidate for President. Enoch Finch settled somewhere in the eastern part of Ohio, and Moses and John went to Brookville, Indiana, engaged to some extent in the milling business there, and afterward went to Connersville, and were there joined by Solomon Finch. Soon afterward Moses went to Michigan, and died there at an advanced age.

In April, 1819, Solomon Finch and his

family and part of the family of John Finch, moved from Connersville to Hamilton county, Indiana, and settled on what was then known as Horse Shoe prairie, about two miles from the present site of Noblesville, Indiana, the county seat of Hamilton county, and they were followed in the following September by John Finch, and the remainder of his family. John Finch lived to a ripe old age, and as shown many were his sons and daughters. He died in Hamilton county, Indiana.

The compiler of these accounts, including deaths, births, marriages and events, has relied upon statistics furnished him by old members of the family in its various branches, and on the war records furnished him from the department at Washington, and on letters from the Lord Mayor of Nottingham, England, and on the true historical data as furnished by reliable authors. He has compiled this short history not for any compensation, but because he has felt that it ought to have been done by some member of the family, but up to this time, they have all been too busy a lot of Finchs to give it their attention.

JOHN R. FRENCH.

The subject is the obliging and well known hotel proprietor, insurance and real estate dealer of Kell, Haines township, Marion county, who has spent his life within the borders of the same, having been

identified with the growth and taken no small part in the same. He was born August 4, 1861, the son of Gilbert W. and Louisa (O'Bryant) French. John R. French's father, a native of Tennessee, came to Marion county, Illinois, in 1835. He was a native of Tennessee and the son of John P. and ——— (Hartman) French. John P. French was a native of Pennsylvania, who moved to Tennessee in an early day and in 1835 came to Marion county, Illinois, locating in Tonti township, where he devoted his life to farming, having died in the town of Alma. The subject's grandfather was a soldier in the War of 1812. Gilbert French and his first wife were the parents of four children, namely: Angie, the wife of Mathew Organ; Louisa, who was the wife of J. N. Jones, is deceased; John R., the subject of this sketch; Amanda is the wife of J. W. Ross, of Centralia, this county. The subject's father married Mary Howard, and three children were born to this union, Thomas, living in Kinmundy, this county; Harry B., of Odin, Illinois; Rachel is the wife of E. W. Wilson, of Alma, Illinois.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm near Alma and was educated in the common schools. After farming for a while, he learned the plasterer's and brick layer's trade. In 1891 he clerked in a store at Alma, this county, and in 1894 he entered business in a general store in Alma which he successfully conducted for a period of eight years, when he sold out and went back to farming, which he followed

for a while, then he moved to Newton, Illinois, and bought a furniture factory and a restaurant, ice cream parlor and bakery, all of which he conducted with great success until in May, 1907, when he came to Kell and bought the hotel here, which he has since conducted in such an able manner that it has become known to the traveling public as a comfortable and well conducted hostelry, where no pains are spared to make guests feel at home and comfortable. He has built up a good business which is constantly growing. He also finds time to do considerable business in insurance and real estate.

Mr. French was united in marriage in December, 1886, to Etta Sweet, who was born in Alma township, the daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Carnes) Sweet, a well known family of their community.

The subject and his wife are the parents of the following children: Edward is single and living at home and is engaged in the restaurant and bakery business. He has a modern and fully equipped bakery and does an extensive business, shipping bread to many outside towns; Cora, the second child, is living at home; Bessie is the wife of Wesley Howard; Gladys, who is living at home attending school; Clara is living at home; Clifford is a baby at this writing, (1908.)

Mr. French is a Democrat. He has ably served as Justice of the Peace for eight years in Alma township and he was School Treasurer for four terms of two years each. In 1892 he made the race for the nomina-

tion on the Democratic ticket for County Clerk, but was defeated, however, the results showed that our subject was a popular man in the convention. Mr. French helped incorporate the village of Alma. He was also a member of the first board that organized the Building and Loan Association at Alma, Illinois. Our subject is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, being a charter member at Alma. His son, Edward, is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Kell. Mr. French is known to be a man of strictly honest business principles, industrious, pleasant and agreeable, making both friends and visitors feel at home.

HON. WILLIAM BOWER.

It is both gratifying and profitable to enter record concerning such a man as he whose name appears at the head of this life record, and in the following outline sufficient will be said to indicate the forceful individuality, initiative power and sterling character, which have had such a decided influence in making their possessor a leader in enterprises requiring the highest order of business talent, and to gain for him wide publicity among those who shape and direct policies of more than ordinary consequence.

William Bower, the well known druggist of Olney, Illinois, was born May 21, 1842, the second child of Philip P. and Mary (Dundore) Bower, the former a native of

Germany, and the latter of Pennsylvania. The father was born in Hesse-Darmstadt in 1804, and when twenty years old emigrated to the United States and lived in Pennsylvania, first settling in Philadelphia in 1840. His first wife died in the old Keystone state and he married the subject's mother, a native of Lancaster, and the daughter of Philip Dundore, of German descent. Philip Bower moved to Jeromeville, Ohio, and in the spring of 1840 came to Olney, Illinois. He worked at the cabinet maker's trade for several years, and also engaged in merchandising and farming. His death occurred in the fall of 1873, at the age of sixty-nine years.

William Bower, our subject, is a member of a family of six children, born to Philip P. Bower by his second wife, being the second white male child born in what is now the city of Olney. The mother of the subject was called to her rest in 1856. Our subject attended school at the old log school-house of Olney, having finished his education at the Olney Seminary, where he applied himself in such a careful manner that he received a good education. He began to make his own way in the world soon after his mother's death, leaving his parental fireside at that time. Beginning life as a teacher, he taught a six months' term at Macksburg and afterward two terms in Olney, making a success in this line, but not feeling that this should be his life work, he began learning the trade of marble cutter and later engaged to learn the trade of watch maker, having worked a few months at each, but he never finished either. He then engaged with

K. D. Horrall, then as now, a hardware merchant in Olney. He was to receive three dollars per month for the first year, four dollars per month during the second year, and an increase of one dollar each month for the third year, also board and lodging. After remaining at this for a period of two years, Mr. Bower could not restrain the patriotic fervor he felt when the War of the Rebellion began, consequently he enlisted in the spring of 1861 in Company D, Eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Colonel Oglesby, afterward Governor of Illinois. After serving his enlistment of three months, proving to be a very capable soldier, he returned home and taught school, working at night at the tinner's trade. In the spring of 1863 he engaged to Charles Schultz as sutler clerk. While thus employed he was captured by General Wheeler's forces, shortly after the battle of Chattanooga, but after being held prisoner for a few days, was paroled and sent north.

In October, 1863, Mr. Bower bought a stock of tinware and stoves and carried on a business in Olney until the following December, when he sold out and bought a half interest in the drug store of Dr. E. W. Ridgway. Fifteen months later he purchased his partner's interest and has since conducted the business alone, now being the oldest druggist in point of years of continuous trade in Richland county. He was successful in this line from the first and his business has gradually increased until he has quite an extensive trade throughout this locality. Mr. Bower is the second oldest busi-

ness man in years of uninterrupted dealing in Olney. He has been actively identified with the Illinois Pharmaceutical Association for many years, having served as its first vice president and chairman of the committee on legislation during the period when the Illinois pharmaceutical law was first enacted. On November 29, 1864, Mr. Bower was married to Sarah E. Ridgway, a representative of a well known family. Her father having been the late Dr. E. W. Ridgway. She was born in Mansfield, Ohio. Four children have been born to the subject and wife, as follows: Catella, now the wife of M. E. Sebree, now superintendent of the Indiana Southern Railroad Company; Ernst Zeledon, who is in the store with his father, also owner and manager of the "Bower Knoll Stock Farm", the home of "John G. Carlyle" and other high bred horses; Emma died at the age of four years and Nina when two years old. The children of Mr. Bower have received good educations and are cultured and popular.

Mr. and Mrs. Bower are members of the New, or Swedenborgian church. In politics our subject is a Democrat. He served as Alderman from the second ward in Olney in the early seventies, and was elected by a large majority from the forty-fourth district as representative to the Thirty-first Illinois General Assembly, where he served as a member of the Committee on Education, Printing and Militia. He was the author of some important measures and proved a most industrious and useful member, showing that he was thoroughly alive to the in-

terests of his constituents and he succeeded in making his influence felt in that body, gaining the admiration of all concerned for his clear and logical counsel. Mr. Bower was elected Mayor of the city of Olney in the spring of 1901, serving one term during which the city's interests were carefully conserved and many new policies inaugurated that will be of lasting benefit to the community. During the two years in which he served as Mayor, among the more important things accomplished for the public good was the building of the reservoir, costing over six thousand dollars, the city building remodeled, the Bower Park established and over four thousand dollars expended for water pipes, and there was an unusual activity in all departments of the city, while the debts of the city were not increased, but on the contrary, were somewhat reduced. During Mr. Bower's term an epidemic of smallpox was wiped out at a cost of over fifteen hundred dollars.

Socially Mr. Bower is a Royal Arch Mason, also belongs to the Richland Lodge No. 180, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Mr. Bower has one of the most extensive drug stores in this part of the state, carrying a very carefully selected stock ranging from twelve thousand to fifteen thousand dollars, consisting of all kinds of drugs, physicians' supplies, books, paints, wall paper. He occupies his own building, a substantial two-story stone structure, twenty-five by one hundred and sixty-five feet, running from Main

to Market streets, and he also has a very pleasant home.

In all the relations of life our subject has proven true to the trusts imposed upon him, and because of his past honorable record, his public-spirit, his genial disposition and his honesty of purpose, he is held in high esteem by all who know him.

SAMUEL W. JONES.

The honored subject of this sketch is a representative of one of the sterling pioneer families of Marion county and is personally identified with the industrial interests of this section of the state where he has spent his life, being the owner of a fine farming property in Kinmundy township.

Samuel W. Jones was born in Marion county, Illinois, September 15, 1858, and he has preferred to spend his entire life within the borders of the same, where he believed he would have better advantages among the people where the Jones family had long been noted for their industry and honesty, than he would have in other counties of this or any other state of our great Union. He is the son of Jackson C. and Margaret (Whiteside) Jones. A history of the subject's father and mother and their ancestry will be found under the head of James R. Jones, whose sketch appears in another part of this volume.

Our subject received his early education in the district schools where he applied him-

self in a diligent manner to his books and received a fairly good education, having fed a large herd of his father's cattle in the meantime. He left school at the age of nineteen and began farming, which enterprise he has since been identified with and which he has made a great success, being recognized today as one of the leading agriculturists of his community. He has prospered until he has become the owner of a valuable farm consisting of one hundred and thirty-five acres. His land is under a high state of cultivation and the soil has been kept in a very good condition through proper management until excellent crops are reaped from it year by year, the subject being thus enabled to make a comfortable living and also lay by something for the future. He has a good income also from his stock, being especially interested in the raising of Poland China hogs and Shropshire sheep, both being noted for their excellent quality, for Mr. Jones certainly understands the successful handling of stock. He has a nice, modern and comfortable dwelling and a large number of good outbuildings, in fact everything about his place shows excellent management and prosperity.

Our subject was united in marriage September 20, 1877, to Hannah Atkins, who was born in Foster township, Marion county, December 24, 1861, the daughter, of Nathan Atkins, who was born August 28, 1817, in Alabama. He came to Illinois when a young man and took up government land, cleared a farm which he contin-

ued to work the rest of his life and on which he reared a family of twelve children, eight boys and four girls, five of whom are still living. Their names are James, Moses, John, Thomas, Barbara, Margaret, George, all deceased: Joseph, Richard, Hannah, Elizabeth and Catherine, all living. Nathan Atkins has long since passed to his rest. He married Mary Garrett, the daughter of Moses and Hannah Garrett, pioneers of this county.

Our subject and wife are the parents of three living children and one child that is dead. Their names are, Charles W., William O., deceased; Bessie C., and Mary J. Charles W. Jones married Susie Pearson, and they have one son, named Carroll G. William Pearson, the father of Charles W. Jones's wife, was born in Marion county. Her mother's name was Emiline Anglin, who was also born in this county. William Pearson was the father of six children, two boys and four girls. Mrs. Hannah Jones was educated in the country schools of this county where she diligently applied herself until she was sixteen years of age when she was married to our subject who was nineteen. She is a good housewife and mother, of a cheerful disposition and is beloved by all who know her for her many beautiful traits of character.

Our subject, while not a member of any church, is a believer of the principles of Christianity and good government. He is a staunch Democrat and his support can always be depended upon when any measure looking to the public good are at issue.

JAMES W. ARNOLD.

The subject of this sketch is a citizen of Foster township, Marion county, and he is so loyal to what he considers his duty that no personal consideration will deter him from its accomplishment. It is such worthy citizens as Mr. Arnold who have made this county the productive and prosperous region that it is today.

James W. Arnold was born in section 9, Foster township, February 14, 1847, the son of John Wesley Arnold, who was born in Alabama, he the son of John Arnold, of Georgia. He married Elizabeth Webb and they came to Illinois, settling near Charleston in 1825, where they remained for one year, when they went back to Alabama. Twelve years later they located near Lebanon, Illinois, where they remained until 1844, when they moved to Foster township, Marion county, buying land there. Later they went to Ellis county, Texas, where Mr. Arnold died in 1887, at the age of eighty-seven years. His wife died in Foster township, this county. Mr. Arnold was a farmer and also owned a mill. The following children were born to them: William; Nancy, of Cairo, Illinois; John W., Joseph; Adeline, who is living in Missouri; Margaret, Esther, Ivey, living in Oklahoma; James A., Felix, Nathan of Texas; Fletcher was killed at Atlanta, Georgia, during the Civil war.

John Wesley Arnold married Nancy Jones, of Foster township, Marion county, the daughter of James and Laura Jones. He settled in section 9, Foster township,

where he secured wild land and made a home. He was always a farmer and stock raiser and owned five hundred acres of good land. He was active in politics, being a Republican, and was at one time Supervisor of Foster township. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He was born in 1820 and his death occurred in 1889. His wife was born in 1827 and died in February, 1905. Seven children were born to them as follows: James W., our subject; Mary E., who married Alexander Mussey, living near Vernon, Illinois; John I. is living retired in Foster township; Elizabeth married John Doolen, living at Kinmundy, this county; Joseph T. lives at Kinmundy; Eli M. is in the oil business at Shawnee, Oklahoma; Rosie E. married Isom W. Doolen, living at Vernon, this county.

James W. Arnold, our subject, attended the home schools. He remained a member of the family circle until his marriage, November 18, 1869, to Permelia J. Robb, who was born in Kinmundy township, the daughter of Samuel and Agnes Pruitt, who were pioneers of this county and who died here. The following children have been born to the subject and wife: Cyrus Elmer, a farmer in Foster township, who married Ann Green and who has one child, Gladys; Samuel W., living in section 3, Foster township, was married first to Jennie Green, and his second wife was Isabelle Nichols. He had two children by his first wife, Doris and Dale, and two children by his second wife, Thelma and an infant born in 1908. Lola Etta is the name of the subject's third

child, who is the wife of Cyrus Green, of Foster township, and the mother of four children, Glen, Lovell, Anna and Russell; Orin M., graduate of the Business College of Dixon, Illinois, married Laura Garrett, of Foster township, is farming and they have two children, Florence and Harold D. The subject's children were educated in the home schools, receiving careful mental training, and they all give much promise of successful futures.

After Mr. Arnold's marriage he lived on the old home place for two years when he bought the place where he now lives, consisting of one hundred and eighty-three acres. He at one time owned considerably more but gave it to his children. Besides his farming Mr. Arnold successfully operated a saw mill for a while. He also managed a store at Lester, Illinois, for two years and was also successful in this venture. He was postmaster of that town, giving entire satisfaction to all concerned. He made all the improvements of his farm which now ranks among the best in Marion county. He has a most excellent and valuable apple and peach orchard, consisting of forty acres, also of small fruits. He carries on general farming and stock raising. He is active in politics, being a Republican, and he has filled all the township offices. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In his fraternal relations he is a Mason, the Blue Lodge, No. 398, at Kinmundy, Illinois. Mr. Arnold is well known throughout Marion county for his industry and his honesty in dealing with his fellow men.

THOMAS A. PATTON.

For various reasons the subject of this sketch is deemed eligible for specific mention in this volume, not the least of which is the fact that he was one of the brave "boys in blue" who offered his services in defense of his country during the dark days of the sixties. His life has been one of honest endeavor and filled with good deeds throughout, and now in its golden evening he is enjoying a respite in his serene home in Centralia township, Marion county.

Thomas A. Patton was born in Mt. Vernon township, Jefferson county, Illinois, December 8, 1837, the son of Austin and Angelina (Thorne) Patton, the former a well known physician, both natives of Virginia, of which state William Patton, the subject's grandfather, was also a native. Austin Patton grew up in Virginia, receiving only a limited education, but he was ambitious and became self-educated, reading medicine with Dr. Frost, of Jefferson county, Illinois, beginning practice at Walnut Hill, where he located about 1830. He secured a farm of three hundred acres, but devoted most of his time to his practice, which was always large. He became widely known, and is remembered as a very jolly man, resulting in his winning hosts of friends. Although a good Democrat, he never held office. His death occurred in 1896. His first wife died December 24, 1837, and he was married a second time to Ann Bateman, a native of Jefferson county, Illinois. She is now living at Walnut Hill. Austin Patton and

wife were the parents of three children, namely: William, deceased; Mary, also deceased; Thomas A., our subject. Nine children were born to Austin Patton and his second wife, as follows: James L., deceased, was a farmer at Walnut Hill; Livona J., deceased; Lewis J. is a farmer, living at Newton county, Kansas; Joseph T. is a farmer in Harvey county, Kansas; Iduma A., deceased; George B. is a farmer, living in Jefferson county, Illinois; Carula, who first married Bell Talbott and then Frank Gore, of Walnut Hill; Ila C., who married Willa Copple, of Centralia township; Omer P. is farming on part of the old homestead in Centralia township. He married Helen Telford.

Our subject had only a limited chance to attend school, having studied in a subscription school for a time. Living at home until he was twenty-three years old, he then started in business for himself in Centralia township, section 36, and farmed there with great success for seven years, when he bought a farm in Raccoon township, consisting of forty acres of new and unimproved land on which he remained for four years, then selling it and renting near Walnut Hill in Jefferson county. In 1881 he bought one hundred and fifty acres in Rome township, Jefferson county, which he worked with most gratifying results until he retired in 1902, when he sold out and moved to Walnut Hill, having since lived retired.

Mr. Patton was first united in marriage in 1861, to Alena Smith, of Walnut

Hill, and she passed to her rest May 19, 1901. He married again, his second wife being Augusta Maltimore, whom he married October 5, 1905. She was the widow of Christopher H. Maltimore, of Ohio, and she was the daughter of Benjamin F. Nelms, who married Nancy Bailey, the former was of Virginia and the latter of Kentucky. Benjamin Nelms was the son of Jerry Nelms, a native of Virginia. His father was also a Virginian. The first of the family to come to Illinois was Jerry's wife, Mary A. He died in St. Genevieve, Missouri, and his wife, in 1854, came to Marion county, Illinois, and located on a farm near Walnut Hill, where she died, in 1897. He now lives at Decatur, Illinois. Mrs. Patton had one daughter, Mary L., by her first marriage.

Five children were born to the subject by his first wife, namely: William L., who is living in Centralia township on a farm, and who married Cordelia Snow; Zina D. married Alta Kell, and is living on a farm in Jefferson county, Illinois; May married Oscar Breeze, of Jefferson county; Mary married Edward Watts, of Centralia, Illinois; Frank L. is a stationary engineer in the mines, now located in North Dakota.

Our subject has always been a farmer, and being interested in public affairs, he has been entrusted with various local offices. He was Highway Commissioner at one time and School Director for twenty years. He has always voted the Republican ticket, having cast his first ballot for Abraham Lincoln in 1860. Fraternally he is a member

of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having been identified with lodge No. 710, at Walnut Hill for the past thirty-five years. Our subject enlisted August 12, 1862, in Company H, Eightieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, at Centralia, under Colonel Allen. He was sent to Louisville, and later to Perryville, Kentucky, being in the battle there, October 8, 1862. He was in the battle of Stone River, also at Knoxville, and at Chattanooga in the spring of 1863. He was picked out of a division of men to go on an expedition into Georgia. At Rome the whole number of men on this expedition, consisting of fifteen thousand, were captured and sent to Belle Isle Prison, where they were held for fifteen days and paroled. They went to Camp Chase, Ohio, where they remained for ten days, when they were sent to St. Louis, Missouri, where they remained fifteen days. On July 4, 1863, they reorganized and went to Nashville, Tennessee. They opened up the valley leading to Lookout Mountain, and after remaining there for about forty days, they went to Missionary Ridge and engaged in the battle there, also at Lookout Mountain, after which they went into winter quarters in Chattanooga. The subject contracted rheumatism and could not go on the Atlanta campaign, consequently he was transferred to the veteran reserve and was detailed to the hospital steamer for Washington City, District of Columbia, and was sent to City Point, Virginia, to look after the sick and wounded of Grant's army. Part of the time the subject was located in Washington City, New

York, Annapolis, Fortress Monroe, Virginia, having served in this capacity until the close of the war, and was discharged June 15, 1865, at Washington City. He received two scalp wounds and was shot through the hat once. These wounds have troubled him a great deal since the war.

Mr. Patton is a good scholar, is well posted on current topics and is a fine conversationalist. He is held in high esteem by the people of Marion county for his life of industry, his honesty and friendly manners.

SOLOMON T. FINCH.

One of the men who has stamped the impress of his strong individuality upon the minds of the people of Clay county in a manner as to render him one of the conspicuous characters of this locality, is the subject of this sketch, one of the prominent attorneys of the southern part of the commonwealth of Illinois. Faithfulness to duty and a strict adherence to a fixed purpose, which always do more to advance a man's interests than wealth or advantageous circumstances, have been dominating factors in his life, which has been replete with honor and success worthily attained.

Solomon T. Finch was born in Flora, Clay county, February 23, 1857, the son of Solomon T. Finch, who was born in Indiana, and who came to Illinois in 1849, settling in Clay county. He was the first merchant in Flora, and was influ-

ential in the affairs of the pioneer days of this community. He was in business here until his death in 1857. The subject's paternal grandfather was also named Solomon. He was a native of New York, having removed from the Empire state to Southern Indiana, and was superintendent of the log cabin display in General Harrison's campaign in 1832. He came to Illinois with his father in 1849. His death occurred in 1851. The subject's mother was Bathsheba Long, who was a native of Virginia. She passed to her rest in 1872. She was a representative of a fine old southern family. Three children were born to the subject's parents, namely: Rebecca was born in 1852, and died when fifteen years old; Mary is the wife of J. M. Cunningham, of Flora, she having been the first child born in Flora, the date of her birth being 1854; Solomon T., the subject of this sketch, is the youngest child. The father of the subject moved to Flora in 1853, and engaged in the dry goods business.

Mr. Finch received his preliminary schooling in the common schools of Flora. He attended Loxa College in Coles county, this state. Desiring a higher education, he entered the University of Michigan in 1876, from which he graduated in 1879, from the law department, having made a brilliant record in the same. He was admitted to the bar in 1880, and has been engaged in practice ever since. He removed to Springfield in 1900, where he practiced for five years with his usual success, but he moved

back to Flora in 1905, much to the satisfaction of his many clients and friends in Clay county.

Mr. Finch was united in marriage May 28, 1884, to Lillie E. Pearce, daughter of Frederick Pearce, who was born in England, having emigrated to the United States in 1858, when he was twenty years old. Lillie E. Pearce was born in Flora within one block of where Mr. Finch was born. Two sons have been born to the subject and wife, Earl D., who is associated with his father, is a graduate of the Springfield high school and also a graduate of the law department of the State University; Rollae D. also graduated from the Springfield high school, and is in 1908 a student in the medical department of Washington University, St. Louis. They are both bright young men, who give promise of brilliant careers.

Mr. Finch was nominated by the Democratic party for County Judge in 1898, but was defeated, however, by only one vote, although the county was largely Republican. He was also his party's nominee for State's Attorney in 1908, but went down in defeat with the rest of the ticket. He is engaged in the law and abstract business and his office is always a busy place.

In his fraternal relations he belongs to the Blue Lodge, Royal Arch and Knights Templar Masons. He organized and was the first chancellor commander of the Knights of Pythias in Flora. He also belongs to the Woodmen. He is a loyal Democrat. He belongs to the Presbyterian

church. Mrs. Finch and their youngest son are members of the Methodist church.

Mr. Finch has seen many changes in Clay county during his lifetime. Progress has been made, doing away with the old landmarks and substituting in their places all the evidences of advanced civilization, and in all matters pertaining to the general good and improvement he has been deeply interested, nor has he withheld his aid when it has been solicited for the advancement of any public measure of worth, but on the contrary he has often been the instigator of movements that have resulted in permanent good to the community honored by his residence. He is a highly respected citizen, held in uniform regard by those who have known him through long years.

JAMES F. PURDUE.

The subject was born in Montgomery county, Tennessee, March 1, 1833, the son of Jarrut and Rebecca (Farmer) Purdue, the former a native of Georgia, and the latter of North Carolina. They went to Tennessee when young and married there, and removed to Illinois in 1838, settling in what is now Haines township, where they took up government land. They made the trip from Tennessee in ox carts. When they settled here among the pioneers there was much wild game. They developed a good farm and worked hard. They died on the place, after becoming the parents of eight children: Margaret, Mary, Richard, Wil-

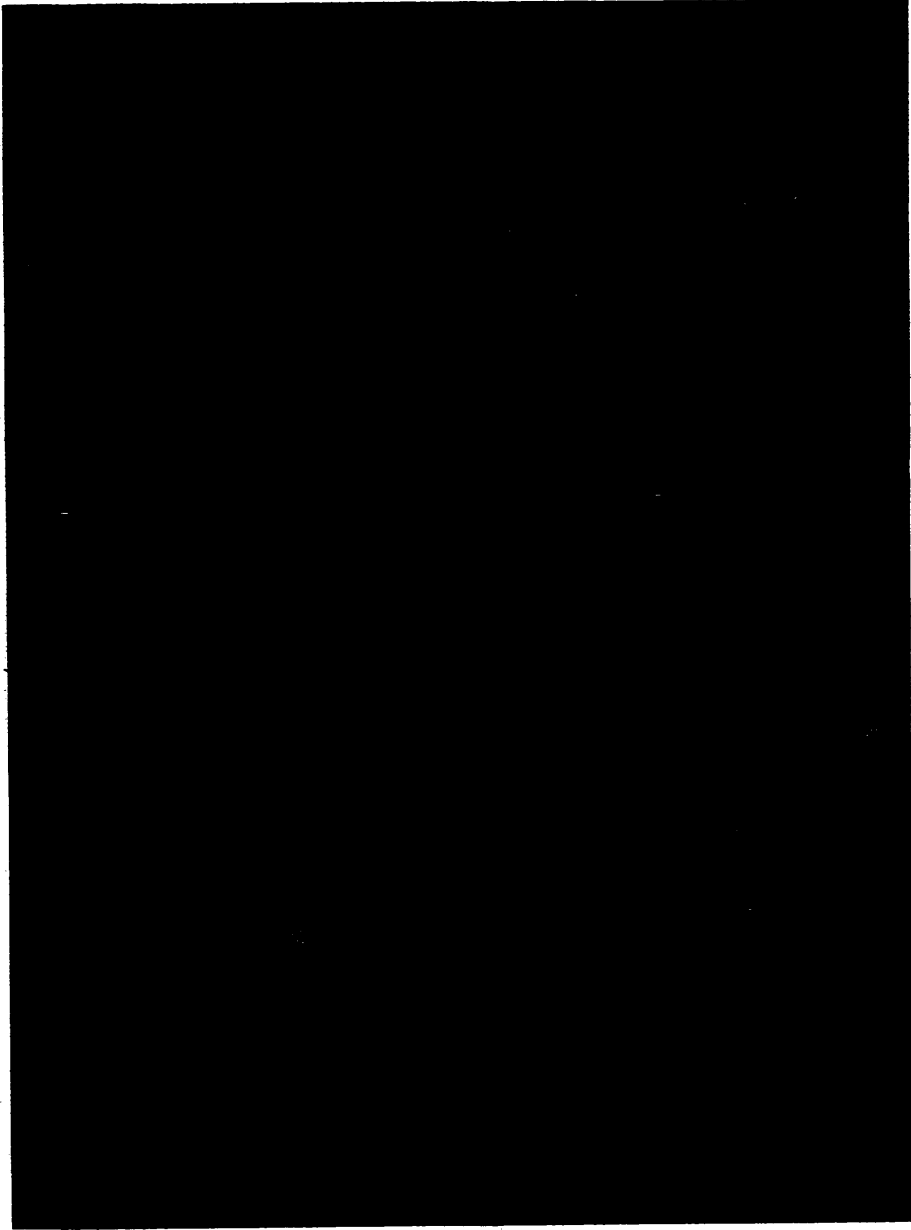
liam C., John W., Jacob H., James F., our subject, and Andrew V. Jarrut Purdue was a Democrat. His wife was a member of the Baptist church.

Our subject was six years of age when he came with his parents to Marion county, Illinois. He was educated in the common schools of the early days, and he has spent the balance of his life here, having remained at home until he reached manhood. He was married the first time in 1855, to Louisa Brasel, a native of Tennessee, and three children were born to them: Nancy Jane, who is living in Haines township, is the wife of Zach Brasel; Joseph H. is a farmer living in Haines township; John R. is also a farmer living in Haines township. The subject's second marriage was in 1867, his second wife being Loretta Price, a native of Ohio, to whom one child has been born, Louisa, now the wife of Harry Alvis, of East St. Louis.

The third marriage of the subject was to Vilinda Murphy, the ceremony having been performed in 1876. To this last marriage two children were born, Tence and Harry.

Mr. Purdue is a Democrat in his political relations. He has devoted his life to farming and has been very successful. He is now living retired, having moved to his neat, comfortable and pleasant home in Kell in September, 1908. He is well known throughout the county, being a member of old and prominent families of this region in which he himself was one of the earliest pioneers.

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J. V. T. Riley

HARVEY F. PIXLEY.

The able and popular president of the First National Bank of Flora, Illinois, is most consistently accorded recognition in a work of the province assigned to the one at hand, since it has to do with the representative citizens of Clay county, of which number he unquestionably is a worthy member and has long played well his part in the development of the interests of this locality.

Harvey F. Pixley was born in Ingraham, Clay county, November 25, 1869, the son of Osman Pixley, who was a native of New York, having settled in Edwards county in 1852. The subject's father was a merchant and for many years was the president of the First National Bank of Flora. He was a prominent man in this community, and was Representative in the Legislature in 1871 and 1872, representing this district, having been elected on the Republican ticket. He was for many years a leading and influential citizen here. He was postmaster of Ingraham for the long period of forty years. He received a request from Postmaster General Wanamaker for his photo to be used at the Chicago World's Fair. He was the fourth oldest postmaster in point of service in the United States. After an active and useful life he was called to his rest April 7, 1903. Asa Pixley, the subject's grandfather, was a native of Vermont, but he removed to Western New York and finally settled near West Salem, Edwards county, Illinois, about 1830, being among the pioneers. He was born March 26, 1805, and died February 9,

1883. The Pixley family is of Puritan stock. The mother of the subject was Frances Wood, a native of near Allendale, Wabash county, this state, where she was born June 29, 1832. She was a woman of beautiful attributes, and she passed to her rest May 16, 1907. Nine children were born to the parents of our subject, Harvey F. being the seventh in order of birth. Four girls and one boy are deceased. Dewitt C. is living in Orange, California, a prominent business man of that place, is married and has five children; Arthur H., who lives in Chicago, is a member of the Board of Trade and is associated with Ware & Leland. The subject's mother was a member of a large family, consisting of nine children. Her father was Spencer Wood, who was born near New Haven, Vermont, February 14, 1788, and died December 5, 1846. Her mother was Matilda Flower, who was born in Hardinsburg, Kentucky, March 19, 1791, and died March 12, 1855, the mother being the last surviving member of the family. Mr. Pixley's father's mother was Amanda Ingraham. The township of Pixley was named after Mr. Pixley's father, and the town of Ingraham was named after Mr. Pixley's grandmother, who was born February 22, 1806, and died September 26, 1844. Her parents are buried in Ingraham cemetery. Philo Ingraham, her father, was born June 28, 1768, and died April 21, 1842. Her mother was Arvilla Barney, born September 12, 1782, and died September 19, 1854. They are supposed to be the first white people buried in Clay county.

Harvey F. Pixley, our subject, spent his life up to 1899 in Ingraham. After receiving a common school education there he attended Eureka College, in which institution he spent two years, making an excellent record. Then he began work in his father's store, having remained there for twelve years, assisting to build up an excellent trade. In August, 1899, he came to Flora and began work in the First National Bank, becoming its cashier January 1, 1900, serving four years. He was then elected vice president of the institution, serving four years in this capacity, and was made president of the bank at the January, 1909, meeting of the board of directors. He has done much to increase the prestige of this bank and place it on a solid foundation so that it is today recognized as one of the soundest in Southern Illinois.

Mr. Pixley is treasurer of the Breese-Trenton Mining Company, which operates three coal mines at Breese, Beckemeyer and Trenton. He is also treasurer of the Ebner Ice & Cold Storage Company, operating four plants, one at Vincennes, Seymour and Washington, Indiana, and one at Flora, Illinois. He is also a director and large stockholder in both the above named companies. Mr. Pixley also has an interest in the Flora Canning Company, and is also a stockholder and one of the organizers of the Flora Telephone Company; also interested as a stockholder in two wholesale houses in St. Louis. He was one of the executors of the late Gen. Lewis B. Parsons, of Flora, having left an estate of one hundred thousand dollars with a will.

Mr. Pixley was married on October 22,

1892, to Callie Cisel, daughter of John Cisel, of Allendale, Wabash county, Illinois. She was born on the adjoining farm to where Mr. Pixley's mother was reared. To this union one son has been born, December 10, 1892. He is a bright lad and is attending the Western Military Academy at Upper Alton, Illinois.

In his fraternal relations our subject is a member of the Blue Lodge, No. 204, Free and Accepted Masons, and Royal Arch Chapter No. 154. He is a member of the Order of Eastern Star, as is also Mrs. Pixley. They are members of the Christian church, the subject being a member of the official board. He was also a member of the building committee that erected the new church, a splendid edifice that would be a credit to a much larger city. Mr. Pixley is one of the trustees of the Carnegie library of which he is treasurer. He has been trustee of the same since it was built and he was a member of the building committee. He was at one time president of the school board. He is now a member and one of the directors of the Flora Mutual Building, Loan and Homestead Association. In politics he is a Republican.

Something of the subject's ability as a financier may be gained from the statement that when he became associated with the First National Bank there was a surplus of only twelve thousand dollars; it is now twenty-five thousand. The undivided profits were less than one thousand dollars. They are now over sixteen thousand. The dividends are now five per cent., payable semi-annually.

Mr. and Mrs. Pixley have one of the finest