

At the end of that time he returned to Noble township, and worked as a miller, after which he became a merchant. He was a member of the Methodist church, and for years served on the School Board.

BARTLETT Y. WATKINS.

A great essay written once said that "when one has given the best that is in him to a work, he experiences a feeling of satisfaction." While this statement may seem rather broad yet a greater truth than this was never spoken. Whether one is successful or not in what one undertakes if he realizes that nothing on his part has been left undone, he should have no regrets. This does not mean that the unsuccessful person feels just as good over defeat as the successful over victory. When one does his best and is successful he has a double reason to be happy. To this class belongs Mr. Watkins, for he did his best and has succeeded.

Bartlett Y. Watkins was born near Asheville, North Carolina, July 20, 1842. His parents were good old Southern people. The father, James G. Watkins, was born in North Carolina, while the mother, Mary D. (Patterson) Watkins, was a native of Virginia. To this union were born eight children of whom Bartlett was the oldest. On his mother's side he was of Irish and German descent, while on his father's side his ancestors were English and Welsh.

When Bartlett was ten years old the family came north to live in Richland county, Illinois. Here the father died November 9, 1872, and the mother died eleven years later in Christian county, Illinois.

The family being poor it was necessary for Bartlett to leave school with just a common school education, but this he made the most of. After leaving school he began working on the farm which occupation he has followed all his life. At the age of twenty-two years he was married to Elizabeth Lawless, daughter of Hiram and Catharine (Holden) Lawless, who had moved to Richland county from Highland county, Ohio.

To Mr. and Mrs. Watkins were born twelve children. Five boys and three girls are living, four of the children dying in infancy. The other eight are all living in Richland county, with the exception of Laura, wife of James R. Brown, a mechanic living at Evansville, Indiana. Nancy Jane is the wife of Ed. Stage, a farmer of Noble township; Lora, the other daughter, is the wife of Parker Bolby, a farmer of Olney township.

The boys are all married; Olis, with his family, is living on the home farm which he cultivates; Commodore D. and Edmond T., farmers, live in Noble township. William F., the only son who has not followed the occupation of the father, is a machinist living at Olney; Oliver B., is also a machinist at Olney.

Mr. Watkins was a member of Company E. of the Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry in the

War of the Rebellion. He saw little active service, however, for he was discharged on November 27, 1862, because of his physical condition. He returned to Richland county and November 22, 1864, the marriage of which we have already spoken took place. In 1887 Mr. Watkins, by hard, honest labor had accumulated enough to buy a comfortable little home, a farm of one hundred and four acres.

He farmed in a general way and was quite successful. During his long life he never allied himself with any church, but his wife was a member of the Christian church, and he attended the Blaine church with her.

Politically Mr. Watkins was a Democrat, but having never aspired to office, he took no active part in politics.

CAPT. WILLIAM T. JOHNSON.

There can be no greater honor or privilege than to conscientiously serve one's country during its days of peril. It requires something more than patriotic zeal for a man to forsake home, business, the pleasures of social or public life and voluntarily assume the hardships of the camp and the field, much less risk one's life in the brunt of battle, and the younger generation of today are apt to not give the respect due the brave "boys in blue" who saved the nation's integrity and who did so much for them. The subject of this sketch is one of those

whose name is to be found on the scroll of honor in this connection.

Capt. William T. Johnson was born in Scott county, Indiana, October 29, 1841, the son of Stephen and Levina (Williams) Johnson, the former having been born in Lexington, Indiana, in 1815 when Lexington was the county seat of Scott county. The subject's paternal grandfather secured land in Scott county just as the Indians were leaving there. Elijah English also secured land nearby at the same time, which land is owned at present by Capt. W. E. English, of Indianapolis. The father of the subject was a cabinetmaker, a preacher and a farmer, and quite a prominent man of that time. He was a great admirer of Millard Fillmore. He turned to the Republican party late in life, but never sought political office. He was called to his rest in 1870. Levina Williams Johnson, mother of our subject, was born in the memorable year of 1812. Her uncle was an Indian fighter for many years and was with Lewis and Clark in their raid through Indiana. Her uncle's name appears on a monument in the West where the last raid was made on the Indians in the battle of Tippecanoe. She had four brothers and four sisters. The parents of the subject married in 1835. Eight children were born to them, all living at this writing, namely: Sarah, William T., our subject; Caroline, John and David, twins; Martha, Mary and James.

The subject's paternal grandfather was a "minute man" under Washington.

William T. Johnson was educated in the

public schools of his native community. However, his schooling was somewhat limited. He worked about the home place until the time he enlisted in the army. He came to Marion county, Illinois, in 1870, to engage in farming and has lived in Patoka township ever since. He was for several years in the dairy and stock raising business, having made a pronounced success of whatever he undertook, being a man of great industry and rare soundness of judgment. He always kept his farm in first class condition and it was well tilled and produced excellent crops. For the past eleven years Mr. Johnson has lived in quiet retirement in a beautiful and comfortable home in Vernon.

Mr. Johnson was first married to Samantha Gray in the year 1866. There are no living children from this union. Mr. Johnson's second wife was Addie Gray, daughter of Thomas and Amanda (Carroll) Gray. Amanda Carroll was a distant relative of Charles Carroll, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. The second wife of Mr. Johnson was the fifth child in a family of twelve. One girl and one boy have been born to the subject and wife: Tina, who married Warren Murfin; Biness, the son, is single and living at home.

As intimated above our subject was one of the gallant defenders of the flag during the dark days of the sixties, having enlisted in 1861 in Company C, Thirty-Eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, under command of Colonel Schribner, and was sent at once to General Sherman's command. Walter Q. Gresham was in line with the subject as a

private at the organization of the regiment. He engaged in a skirmish lasting thirty days before the battle of Stone River, in which great battle our subject was wounded. At the battle of Chickamauga our subject was under the command of Colonel Thomas in the One Hundred and Forty-Ninth Regiment. He was captured at Chickamauga and sent to Libby prison for six months, but he was one of the six men who dug out of that prison and escaped. Twenty men made the effort, but the others failed. They worked in relays of five men and tunnelled under the wall from the basement of the old warehouse where they were confined. They had nothing but an old chisel to work with. Those who escaped were, beside our subject, Charles Vaughn, Thomas A. Morrison, Alex Lorington, T. McVey and D. Laporte. They spent seventeen days and nights digging their way to freedom. The subject was thirty-six days and nights getting back to the Union lines. He remained in hiding during the day and traveled at night. He came out of the army in October, 1865, a captain and acting adjutant at the time. He is said by his comrades to have been a most gallant soldier and never flinched from duty.

Our subject was captain of Company D, in Pittinger's Provisional Regiment, during the Spanish-American war.

The above is a record of which anyone should be proud. Captain Johnson has been Justice of the Peace since living in Vernon and his court has been a popular one, his decisions being fair on all matters submitted to him. He is a loyal Republican and is

known to all classes for his honesty, integrity, public spirit and good natured personality, which makes him one of the most highly esteemed men in Patoka township.

JOHN WILLIAM PFLAUM.

Inheriting the thrifty and frugal habits of a sturdy German father and mother, who many years ago left the shores of the Fatherland to seek their fortune in the new world, it is little wonder that the subject of this sketch has won his spurs in the battle of life. The people of Noble township, Richland county, Illinois, have known him as boy and man, and as his dealings with his fellow beings have always been honorable they repose in him the most implicit confidence, as his election to township offices on different occasions would amply demonstrate.

John William Pflaum was born in Meigs county, Ohio, March 31, 1855, his parents being Valentine and Elizabeth (Hartman) Pflaum, both of them having been born in Baden, Germany. Shortly after their marriage in 1851 they came to this country, and settled in Meigs county, Ohio, from which place they removed to Noble township in 1873, being in the eighteenth year of his age. Mr. Pflaum began purchasing land in small tracts until he had accumulated nine hundred acres, the greater portion of which he eventually had under a high state of cultivation.

The subject of this sketch was married to Cordelia Rexrout in 1886. She was born in Russell county, Kentucky, August 12, 1867. Their children are Bertha, wife of Alfred Woods, who lives on a farm with her husband near the home of her parents; Ralph, Flossie and Raymond. Ralph and Flossie are twins, and the latter is married to a prosperous farmer of the neighborhood by the name of John Ireland, while Raymond and Eva live at the home of their parents. All of the members of the family, except Ralph, are members of the Church of Christ, and take a great deal of interest in the affairs of their denomination. When he attained his majority the subject of this sketch cast his lot with the Republican party, and he remains steadfast to the same. He has for some years been a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Mr. Pflaum takes great pride in the appearance of his well cultivated farm of one hundred and fifty acres, from which he raises abundant crops. He is a public spirited citizen in every sense of the word, and takes an active interest in the affairs of Noble township. He has twice held office, having been Collector and Road Supervisor.

JOHN BOWER.

Prominent among the men of Noble township, Richland county, who have attained a competence through their individ-

ual efforts is John Bower, fruit grower and farmer. Despite his years, for he is nearing the sixty-ninth milestone, Mr. Bower is an active man, and gives close personal attention to his business. He has spent almost a half a century in the community in which he now resides, and holds a high place in the estimation of his neighbors, who know him as a man of probity and integrity. He is of German parentage.

Mr. Bower was born in Ross county, Ohio, April 10, 1840, and came to Richland county, Illinois, in March, 1865. His parents, Robert and Geneva Bower, were born in Germany. For seven years the father of the subject served in the German army, and was with Blucher in the famous battles of Leipsic and Waterloo. He was wounded twice in these engagements, receiving a sabre thrust and a bullet in the leg. He was the father of eleven children, John being the tenth in the order of birth.

John Bower was married twice, his first wife being Catherine Martin, daughter of Joseph Martin, of Clermont county, Ohio. This alliance was contracted January 21, 1864, and as a result thereof the following children were born: Clara, died in infancy; Flora is a missionary in Florida; Louis J., a resident of British Columbia; Ella is in St. Louis; Charles lives with his parents. Mr. Bower's first wife died May 9, 1880. It was two years later when the subject took unto himself a second help-mate in the person of Jemima Hammet, daughter of William and Rebecca Hammet, who

came to Olney township from Clermont county, Ohio, with her parents when a little girl. Five children were the fruits of this union, two of them dying in infancy. Of the survivors Bessie is a teacher at Cerro Gordo, Piatt county, Illinois, while Hazel and Paul are at home.

In his early youth Mr. Bower attended the country schools, and when he had completed his course there, evinced such a great desire to continue his studies that one of his brothers loaned him sufficient money to enable him to attend college in Missouri, where he remained for some time. The subject learned the trade of stone cutting, but finally abandoned the business for fruit growing and farming. His orchard of forty acres is conceded to be one of the finest and most productive in Noble township, and besides this he owns a well cultivated lands in Noble, Preston and Olney townships, consisting in all of about two hundred and forty-six acres. It will be seen from this that Mr. Bower is well supplied with this world's good which are the fruits of a life of industry.

Mr. Bower is not a member of any religious denomination or fraternal organization, but he is a man of unimpeachable character, who has done much toward advancing the business interests of Noble township, being always ready and willing to contribute his share toward insuring the success of any project that has for its purpose the weal and welfare of that section of Richland county. Mr. Bower is a Democrat, but in his political belief is neither

"hide-bound" nor partisan, always giving his franchise to men whom he believes will best subserve the interests of the people.

ELBRIDGE ROBINSON.

The life of the subject of this sketch has not been of an unusual character, nothing strange or tragic about it, but rather the antithesis, quiet and unostentatious, a life that has resulted in no harm to those who have come under the influence of the subject. He is one of the "boys in blue", to whom all honor is due.

Elbridge Robinson was born in Morgan county, Ohio, January 7, 1844, on a farm. He came to Marion county after the war. Mr. Robinson is the son of Israel and Margaret (Warne) Robinson, the former having been born March 3, 1804, in Brook county, West Virginia, who came to Ohio when six years old, a pioneer of the woods. He became a public man and served one term in the Legislature. He was a Whig. Israel Robinson was one of eleven children, a prominent man in his locality. He died in 1872. The mother of the subject was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, in 1812, being a member of a family consisting of twelve children, six girls and an equal number of boys. The parents of the subject married December 31, 1829. Our subject is the only one of six children living.

Elbridge Robinson spent his early life on a farm. His education was secured in the

common school and at Roos College at Sharon, Ohio. When only sixteen years old he obtained a certificate to teach, and successfully taught school both before and after the war. His services were in great demand for he gained quite a reputation as an able educator.

As already intimated, Mr. Robinson was one of the brave sons of the North who offered his life in defense of his country, having enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in August, 1862, under the command of Colonel Ball, a judge at Zanesville, Ohio, and he served until the close of the war with much credit. He was wounded at Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864, which wound did not heal until after the close of the war. He was in the battles of Milroy's Defeat in June, 1863, Locust Grove in November, 1863, also fought at the Wilderness and at Spottsylvania, and several other engagements, some of his comrades having been killed in every battle. He was all through the strenuous Wilderness campaign. He has a congressional medal of honor for heroic service, having saved a fallen comrade from being captured by the Confederates. The unfortunate man was Price Worthington of Company B, One Hundred and Twenty-second Regiment, the same as that of our subject. Mr. Robinson rushed back in the face of the enemy's fire through their lines and saved Mr. Worthington. After his return he was warmly congratulated by the officers and men for his heroic deed. He was then only nineteen

years old. He is remembered by his government by a pension.

Mr. Robinson was united in marriage on March 3, 1870, to Moretta Reichert and to this union the following children were born: Fora, born February 21, 1872, married Mamie Smith; they are living in Vernon, and are the parents of two children; Lewis was born April 12, 1874, and died January 13, 1898; Harry was born October 21, 1877. The subject's first wife died in 1877. He was again married, his second wife being Martha L. Peddicord, the daughter of A. M. and Mary Peddicord. No children were born to this union. But a little child, Bertrice Reynolds, whose parents and family had just moved to the village in very destitute circumstances with mother sick, the little six months' old Bertrice was found by Mrs. Robinson while on one of her visits of charity in an out building with scarcely any clothing or attention. Her sympathetic nature prompted her to carry the little waif to her home and assume the duties of mother. By proper consent she has ever since remained with her new found parents to scatter sunshine in their home, and with her affectionate disposition and loving words cheer their declining years down life's shaded pathway.

The life of our subject has been spent on a farm and in the mercantile business, both of which he made a pronounced success of, and was enabled to lay up an ample competence for his old age which he is spending in comfort and peace in quiet retirement. He is the owner of four hundred and fifteen

acres of valuable land in a high state of cultivation and highly improved, being one of the model farms in Patoka township. He has a substantial and well furnished home, an excellent barn and convenient out buildings, and he always keeps good stock of various kinds. He lives in Vernon at this writing.

Mr. Robinson has always been a Republican, however, he has never aspired to positions of public trust, preferring to lead a quiet life and devote his time to his individual business. He is a great reader, keeping posted on all current events. He is a deep thinker, has an excellent memory and is a very interesting conversationalist. He is held in high esteem by all who know him.

JOHN O. HENRY.

Mr. Henry is identified with the financial, commercial and social life of Richland county, having succeeded in building up a prosperous banking business. He has been entrusted by his fellow citizens with the office of Mayor of Noble, Illinois, and during his term performed the duties of office with dignity and credit. He has been returned as Supervisor of Noble township at two succeeding elections. And this is but a chapter from the life of a man of thirty-five years of age.

John O. Henry is the son of Mason and Lucy Henry. On his father's side he comes of sturdy Irish pioneer stock, his grand-

father's parents being natives of Cork county, Ireland. His father, a native of Illinois, removed to Lawrenceburg, Missouri, and there, in 1845, Mr. Henry was born. In his sixth year he came with his family to Noble, Illinois, which has been his home ever since, and where in company with his four brothers and two sisters he laid the foundation of his education. Upon leaving school he entered business life where his strenuous efforts and affable manner soon brought him to the forefront.

The year 1902 marked an important epoch in the life of Mr. Henry. In that year he married Bessie Shannon, prominent in Noble society circles, whose father, William Shannon, had the distinction of serving his country all through the Civil war.

In addition to directing the affairs of an ever-growing banking business, Mr. Henry is active as a stock buyer. He is reputed to be an excellent judge of stock, and it is said he pays a good price for anything he fancies.

As a public man, Mr. Henry is thoroughly clean and conscientious. He has a sane conception of public interests; never allows himself to be swayed by prejudice or party feelings; and is an alert student of the needs of the day. He is broad-minded and tolerant, and the many occasions he has had during his public career to display his public spirit have indelibly marked him as a most desirable citizen. His integrity and practical common sense combine to give him a high place in a community where he is most popular. He has a praiseworthy

ambition to be of further service to his town and county, and many prophesy for him a higher place in public life than he has heretofore attained.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Henry are prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and lead a happy domestic life.

JAMES MARSHALL KINKADE.

The old-fashioned notion that hard work, patient industry, and far-sightedness make for success in the various avenues of life does not seem to be accepted so unreservedly in our day. The spread of pessimism engendered by many phases of our complex life is in a great measure responsible for the lack of faith in the old idea. However, if we observe conditions closely we will find that the intelligent individual, who leads a practical and industrious life, will reach a point of success commensurate with his efforts. The life of the subject of this sketch will afford us an instance of this.

James Marshall Kinkade, of Preston township, Richland county, Illinois was born October 22, 1845, in Hardin county, Kentucky. He was the son of James and Martha A. Kinkade, his mother's maiden name being Veach. Both were natives of Hardin county, as were their parents before them and both came originally of Irish stock. In the fall of 1850, then being five years of age, the subject of our sketch came with his parents from Hardin county,

Kentucky. The journey was a formidable one in those days. The wagons of the pioneer had to be requisitioned; the Ohio had to be crossed by ferry at Louisville, Kentucky, camping out was a necessity. Added to this were the usual strain and restless expectation which always attended such journeys. They landed eventually in Shelby county, Illinois, where his father rented a farm remaining on the same for two years. Then they moved to Richland county, where one hundred and sixty acres of government land was purchased at the then current price of one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre. The place was then in the original state of wildness and its appearance bespoke years of hard and unremitting labor to bring it to perfection. Undaunted, the elder Kinkade set about the task, and at once started building a house for his family upon the property, in the meantime placing them for safety under the roof of the log cabin of another family at the next settlement. The house erected was a frame one, being the first of that description built in what is now Preston township. Having added barns and other buildings he moved the family into their new home. This was at a period eight or ten years before the district had been surveyed. There were no roads. People drove haphazardly about over cow-paths and trails. Upon the official survey being made, the elder Kinkade was elected Supervisor and as the township was as yet unnamed the process of christening it was left to the father of the subject of our sketch.

He named it Preston township which name it bears today. In the period we are referring to the antiquated horse-mills were in use. It was customary for people to bring "grist to the mill" on horseback, utilizing the horses on their arrival to grind their produce. Whole wheat flour and that of the coarse variety were in use at that time. The process of evolution asserting itself, later on the windmill superseded the horse as motor power. Old time methods ruled in the agricultural line. In the planting of corn it was usual to hitch three yoke of oxen to the plow. At every third furrow corn was dropped in and the soil turned over upon it. The subject of our sketch remembers this process perfectly and many youthful days spent in assisting his father in the operation. As another instance of the backwardness of agricultural life at this time the threshing machine had not yet appeared on the scene. Threshing was done in this manner: The sheaves of wheat were laid upon the ground in a circle and horses were ridden around over them. When one side was threshed, or more literally, trampled out, the sheaves were turned and the process repeated. The elder Kinkade continued to improve the farm all through this time, fencing and erecting out-buildings. He obtained his timber supply from a plantation of eighty acres which stood in his land.

James Marshall Kinkade remained at home on the farm until his twenty-first year. Afterwards, as something of a change he hired out with neighboring

farmers. When past his twenty-third birthday he married Margaret J. Upton, on February 28, 1869, at which time he erected the home he now lives in on the family property, and having purchased forty acres from his father settled down to farm. His parents continued to live in the nearby home until the fall of 1884, when they bought town property in Dundas, Preston township, whither they moved, and where they remained until their demise. The elder James Kinkade was born October 26, 1817, married April 9, 1838, as before stated, in Hardin county, Kentucky, and died August 23, 1893. His wife preceded him February 3, 1891. Both are buried in Dundas cemetery, Preston township. During their married life they reared nine children, five boys and four girls, of which James Marshall Kinkade was fourth in order of birth. Seven of the family grew to maturity, while one died at the age of ten years.

The mother of James Marshall Kinkade was born August 11, 1816, in Hardin county, Kentucky. On her marriage she left the home of her parents who were also natives Kentuckians, and who died in their native state. She was one of seven children, all of whom grew up.

Margaret J. Upton, the wife of the subject of our sketch, whom he married in 1869, was born in Richland county, Preston township, October 11, 1852, and was the daughter of Isaac and Cynthia Upton, natives of Ohio, whose parents originally came from Kentucky. Her parents married in September, 1851, in Mercer county,

Ohio. In 1851, her father and grandfather went to Iowa in search of land, when not finding a suitable location they turned their faces toward Richland county, Illinois, in which they settled on one hundred and sixty acres, paying the government price of one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre. Upon settling in Illinois they sent to Ohio for their families. They remained in the new location for three years when they sold out and purchased another one hundred and sixty acres of prairie and eighty acres of timber which they settled on and where Grandmother Upton died, Grandfather Upton surviving her a few years and dying upon what is known as the Hill farm. He had reached his seventieth year. The younger people, Isaac and his wife, remained on the farm at Dundas, Illinois (Preston township) until the time of their death. Mrs. Upton died at the age of thirty-one, in the year 1866. Her husband survived her several years, dying December 13, 1889, aged fifty-seven years, two months and two days. The couple were the parents of six children—five growing to maturity, one dying in infancy. The wife of the subject of this sketch was the oldest of her family.

During his long farming life, James Marshall Kinkade prospered, and he now owns one hundred and five acres of rich farm land and which has been painstakingly improved and admirably cultivated under his supervision. He leads a very happy family life and has had three children born to him. Two grew to maturity while one died in early life. Of his children, Luella

became the wife of Allison T. Phillips, a well known accountant in Casper, Wyoming, and James I. has been an employee of the Illinois Central for several years on which road he is a brakeman.

In early life James Marshall Kinkade obtained a better education than many in the township. He spent a term of six months in the subscription schools, after which he attended the free common schools until his twenty-first year. In his school-boy days he was considered a very apt pupil; and his early training has been of much benefit to him in after years.

In politics he is a Democrat and is an ardent admirer of William Jennings Bryan. He has been quite active in township affairs where his ability and practical common sense have received recognition. He has been for some time Road Commissioner, an office for which he is well fitted and which he still holds. He served a term of nine years as Treasurer of schools in Preston township. In religion his wife is a member of the Missionary Baptist church at Dundas, Preston township, Richland county, Illinois.

ROBERT HAMILTON CHAPMAN. .

The blue blood of the Hamiltons, who were so prominent in those troublous days when the American forefathers were sacrificing their life's blood for that priceless boon—liberty, flows through the veins of

Robert Hamilton Chapman, he being a descendant of the distinguished Alexander Hamilton, who was so closely identified with the early history of the republic as secretary of the treasury in President Washington's cabinet. Being a man of great energy, with a determination to accomplish perfectly whatever task he set out to perform the subject of this sketch can look back over a very busy career. Although he has been a resident of Noble township, Richland county, but a short time he has many friends who admire him for his sterling qualities.

Mr. Chapman was born in Kent county, Michigan, March 11, 1853. His father was Anthony Chapman, who moved from New York to Michigan in 1828. His mother's maiden name was Adeline Hamilton, and she was a native of New York. Four children were born to the couple, viz: Malina (Potter); Edwena (Doris); Robert, the subject, and Amherst Cheney.

The subject was wedded to Ida Kent, December 23, 1876. She was born in Williams county, December 23, 1856. Her father lineally came from Irish stock, and was born in 1810. Her mother was Sarah (Kearns) Kent, and was of German ancestry. Her father was a pioneer in Ohio, and when he settled in Williams county, it was in a very wild state, being practically a wilderness. He entered upon the task of clearing this land, with vigor, and eventually converted the unbroken forest into fruitful fields. Incidentally he made "good Indians" out of several very bad Indians. Mr.

Kent helped build the first court-house that was erected in Williams county.

Mr. and Mrs. Chapman are the parents of five children, namely; Robert, born May 20, 1878, is a prosperous farmer and carpenter in Alberta, Canada; Pearl (Mrs. Billings) was born October 17, 1879, resides in Noble township, her husband being manager of a tile and brick factory. She has three children, Hazel, Myrtle and Claude. George, born August 31, 1882, is a blacksmith, of Alberta, Canada, where also resides Ruby (Mrs. Davis), who was born July 9, 1886, has two children, Daisy and Dorothy. Barney Kent, born April 20, 1888, is also a resident of Canada.

Mr. Chapman was a carpenter, farmer and lumber dealer until he removed to Lake Arthur, Louisiana, in 1888, where he confined himself to his first named trade. In 1892 the family made another change, removing to Richmond, Texas, where Mr. Chapman combined the pursuit of agriculture with mechanical labor. The great Galveston storm and tidal wave of 1900, which created so much devastation, moved him to dispose of his interests in Texas, and to remove to Noble township, where he worked as a blacksmith until 1901, when he decided to try his fortunes in Alberta, Canada, where the majority of his children were living, and shortly upon his arrival there he acquired a homestead. After five years' residence in Canada the family returned to Noble, where they purchased a desirable farm on which they have placed many improvements in the way of modern machinery for its cultivation.

Throughout his life Mr. Chapman has been imbued with the war spirit, and his first attempt to serve his country was during the civil strife, when he tried to enter as a drummer boy, but much to his chagrin was refused on account of his tender years. He volunteered for Spanish-American war service at Rosenberg, Texas, 1898, but failed to pass the examination, hence he has given up all hope of ever satisfying his thirst for military glory. He has been a life-long Democrat. He is the possessor of a modest competence, and he and his wife live in a very comfortable dwelling, happy in the knowledge that they will be able to live a life of ease in the declining years of their life.

ELI W. JONES.

The honored subject of this sketch has lived to see Marion county develop from the wild prairie and primeval forests inhabited by wild animals and a few pioneer settlers to its present magnificent prosperity, its elegant homes, comfortable public buildings, fertile farms and thriving cities; and he has played no small part in this great work of transformation.

Eli W. Jones was born in Marion county, Illinois, April 20, 1839, the son of James and Laura (Luelen) Jones, the former having been born in October, 1795, in Georgia, near where Atlanta now stands. He came to Illinois in 1814 and was in the War of 1812, having served two short terms guarding the surveyors when the state was sur-

veyed. He was in Captain Schurtz's company. He married in Bond county, Illinois, at Keysport, in 1823, and came to Marion county soon afterward, where he settled among the earliest pioneers and where he lived until his death, August 29, 1865. He devoted his life to farming. He was a very pious man, a member of the Methodist church and an exhorter. He entered government land in this county which he improved and put a part of it in cultivation. There were some Indians here at the time. He was a Democrat until the time of Franklin Pierce, when he turned Republican. He was always opposed to slavery. He never took much interest in politics, but devoted his time to the farm and the church. The mother of the subject was born in Kentucky, December 1, 1806, and died February 26, 1885.

Eli W. Jones spent his boyhood days much like the other boys of his time, in assisting with the work on his father's farm and attending school in the country district for a short time during the winter, receiving a meager education.

When the national government was in need of loyal supporters to defend its integrity it found no more willing patriot than our subject, who enlisted in 1861 at the beginning of hostilities in the Twenty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, being assigned to Company H, under command of Colonel Loomis and Capt. A. B. Morrison. He faithfully and gallantly served for four years when he had a leg shot off, having been shattered by a minie-ball in Sherman's

last big fight, which fact causes him to wear an artificial leg. He never missed a battle or a march until losing his leg. He was in the famous march to the sea, in the battle of Corinth, the siege of Vicksburg, the battle of Missionary Ridge and out of fifty-seven smaller engagements was never defeated. He is remembered by his government for his gallantry with a pension of forty-six dollars. He was never in the hospital a day while in the army until he was wounded. He spent ten days in the ambulance before finding a hospital.

Mr. Jones was united in marriage to Mary Rymon, August 28, 1860. When he went away to war he left a little baby, three months old. His wife was born December 31, 1839, the daughter of Justus R. Rymon, who was born November 14, 1808. The mother of the subject's wife was Martha Dickens in her maidenhood. She was born July 26, 1816. Mr. and Mrs. Rymon were married May 4, 1836. Mr. Rymon was a preacher and a doctor and was a prominent man in his community. He was called from his earthly labors February 24, 1878, and his wife passed to her rest January 1, 1881.

The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Jones: J. T., a well known physician of Salem, Illinois, who is at present unable to practice on account of failing health. He married Carrie E. Bennett and they are the parents of two children. Logan M., the subject's second child, was born November 1, 1864, and died in 1873; Flora was born May 10, 1868, and died November 9, 1873.

Our subject was for many years a breeder of fine horses and hogs and the owner of some high grade imported stallions and others of fine variety.

Mr. Jones has always been a loyal Republican, having cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. In 1872 he was elected Circuit Clerk of Marion county, being the first Republican clerk the county ever had. This shows Mr. Jones's great popularity in his own county. He faithfully served in this capacity, giving entire satisfaction to all concerned. He has also served his township as School Trustee, was the first Town Clerk of Foster and is at present Justice of the Peace. He is regarded as being entirely fair in his decisions. He served as Supervisor of Patoka township for one term of two years. He is well known politically, and he is held in high favor by all who know him.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HEAP.

Benjamin Franklin Heap, living in section 23, Olney township, was born January 26, 1847, in this township. He is the son of Isaiah and Rachael (Powell) Heap, the former a native of Guernsey county, Ohio, where he was reared. When a young man he came to Richland county, Illinois, and entered government land in Olney township, where he lived until his death, April 27, 1881, having improved a farm. He was among the pioneers of that section. Isaiah Heap was a soldier in the Union

army in the Civil war, for about a year, having been a member of Company E, Sixth Illinois Cavalry. His wife survived him, dying February 23, 1905. She was born in Chester county, Pennsylvania, in 1824, and when two years old was taken to Winchester, Guernsey county, Ohio, where she was reared. When ten years old she was left an orphan. In 1840 she came to Richland county, Illinois, with James Wilson and family, who were relatives. She entered land with a warrant issued to her by her father for services in the War of 1812. She joined the United Brethren church in 1842, at a log school-house, a short distance from her home and in the winter of 1877 united with the Methodist Episcopal church at Calhoun. She lived to see four generations of her family living. She was a woman of beautiful characteristics.

Benjamin F. Heap, our subject, was reared on the old homestead, where he remained assisting with the work until eighteen years old, attending school in the winter months. Like his father he was patriotic, and on March 28, 1865, enlisted with the former, becoming a member of Company E, Sixth Illinois Cavalry. A year earlier he quit school and offered his services, but was rejected on account of his youth. He was mustered out at Selma, Alabama, and was discharged December 25, 1865. He was on the march most of the time during his service in Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Florida. After the war he was sick about a year as a result of his exposure in the service, then he began work as a farm

hand, later renting land and began for himself. He now owns a farm of eighty acres, three and one-half miles south of Olney, where he has lived many years and which he has improved and which produces excellent crops from year to year under his efficient management. He devotes considerable time to the manufacture of brooms, finding a ready market for his product which is of fine quality and excellent workmanship. He raises large quantities of broom-corn on the farm.

Mr. Heap was united in marriage March 6, 1870, to Mary D. Wilson, who was born March 19, 1847, in Guernsey county, Ohio, then living in Coles county, Illinois. Mrs. Heap is the daughter of William J. and Mary (Powell) Wilson, the former a native of Virginia, who emigrated to Ohio with his parents, his wife having been born in Pennsylvania and moved to Ohio with her parents when seven years old. The subject's great-grandfather Powell was a soldier in the Revolutionary war and Grandfather Powell was a soldier in the War of 1812. The latter also had three brothers, David, John and Benjamin, in the War of 1812. Two brothers of Mrs. Heap, Abel and William Wilson, served in the Civil war, William dying in the service of the Seventh Illinois Cavalry, at Little Rock, Arkansas, about a year after his enlistment. The parents of Mrs. Heap emigrated to Coles county, Illinois, in 1861, where her father died at the age of sixty years. The mother died in Wright county, Iowa, at the age of eighty-four years. Mrs. Heap is from a

family of long longevity. Her grandfather lacked but a few days of being one hundred years old when he died.

Three children have been born to the subject and wife: Carrie, who was born April 22, 1871, is the wife of Owen Hudson, of Vancouver, Washington; Mark O. was born March 8, 1874, is a carpenter in Richland county; Karl L., born September 22, 1876, is a veteran of the Spanish-American war, and a farmer in North Dakota. He served one year in Cuba with Company H, Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

Mr. Heap is a staunch Republican and a member of the Ed. Ketchell Post, No. 662, Grand Army of the Republic. He is honest in his dealings with his fellow men and one of the well known citizens of the county.

JAMES S. MORTON, M. D.

Concentration of purpose and persistently applied energy rarely fail of success in the accomplishment of any task however great, and in tracing the career of Dr. Morton, a well known physician of Vernor, Marion county, it is plainly seen that these things have been the secrets of his rise to a position of prominence and respectability. Moreover he possesses genuine love for his work and regards it as a privilege to carry comfort and aid to the sick and suffering.

Dr. James S. Morton was born in Clinton, Alabama, September 8, 1864, the son of Samuel and Julia (Bizzell) Morton. His

father was born in Belfast, Ireland, March 28, 1827, and came to the United States in 1852, landing in New Orleans, soon afterward coming on to Clinton, Alabama, where he remained for a short time when he began the study of medicine, later attending the University of Pennsylvania from which institution he graduated with honor, after which he returned to Alabama and became one of the state's most able physicians. He came to Patoka, Illinois, in 1868 and went to farming, five miles northwest of that town. He came to Vernon in 1872 for the purpose of resuming the practice of medicine which he continued with much success until his death July 10, 1906. He was one of a family of ten children and he came to America unaccompanied. The mother of our subject was born near Goldsborough, North Carolina, in 1841. The parents of our subject were married in 1860, and to them the following children were born: Andrew B., who became a physician, died at the age of thirty-eight; James S. was the second in order of birth; John died in infancy; Eliza P., who is thirty-eight years old at this writing, married William Binnion. They have three children and are living in Vernon, Illinois. Samuel, the third child of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Morton, died when three years old; George died in infancy; Anna is thirty-five years old, is single and living with the subject.

Doctor Morton received his early education in Vernon, this county, where he attended the common schools and made a splendid record. Being ambitious to follow in the footsteps of his worthy father in the

medical profession, he went to Valparaiso, Indiana, where he took a course in the university from 1880 to 1883, after which he entered Rush Medical College in Chicago in 1884, from which institution he graduated with high honors in 1887, and he has been engaged in practice in Vernon, Illinois, ever since, being the oldest doctor here.

C. R. DAVIS.

Any volume which ventures to give anything like a comprehensive enumeration, biographically, of the prominent citizens of Clay county, Illinois, must necessarily be incomplete without inclusion of the life history of C. R. Davis, the popular editor and proprietor of two newspapers of large circulation—The Toledo and The Louisville Republican. In his sphere of endeavor he has earnestly sought to expound and inculcate the higher ideals of citizenship; and not even the modesty characteristic of him has prevented his obtaining recognition as a moulder of public opinion in his section of the state.

Our subject was born in Maysville, then the county seat of Clay county, on the 28th day of January, 1844. He was the son of John W. Davis and his wife, whose maiden name was Mary Bishop. John W. Davis was a well known figure in the political life of the state in his day, and for many years of his life held responsible official positions of trust. He provided well for his family and lived a well ordered life. C. R. Davis spent his youth in the shelter of the paternal

homestead and being eighteen years of age during the Civil war he enlisted in July of the year 1862 and served as a soldier, participating in many engagements, until September, 1865. His first vote as a citizen was recorded during this time and was cast for Abraham Lincoln while at the front in Georgia in 1864. On returning from the war he entered a printing office in Louisville and there learned the various phases of the printing trade, serving an apprenticeship of three years.

In the year 1871, in partnership with another, he launched the publication of a newspaper in Greenup, Illinois, which he sold in the spring of 1872. He then returned to Louisville and took charge of the official Republican paper of Clay county, which he conducted with marked success. In 1874 he became the publisher of The Baptist Banner for Reverends Kelly and Allen at Ewing, Franklin county. In 1876 he was in Louisville as editor and publisher of The Louisville Ledger. In 1882 he started The Farina News at Farina, Illinois, which he conducted for over nineteen years, disposing of the plant on the 10th of January, 1902. On the 17th of December, 1901, he purchased The Pinckneyville Advocate, the official Republican paper of Perry county. Here he remained for four years and built up the paper when, having made it one of the best circulating in the southern part of Illinois, he sold it for a good price and purchased a job office in Centralia, where for a year he did excellent business and finally disposed of it to a company.

In October of the year 1907, gaining control of The Toledo Argus, he re-named it the Toledo Republican and added machinery and new material, making it an up-to-date modernly equipped newspaper plant. The paper from the time of its reorganization gained in popularity, and each succeeding week saw an increase in its circulation. At the present time C. R. Davis also controls the destiny of The Louisville Republican which was established in 1894. Both papers are ably edited with undiminished vigor and receive all the benefits of the foresight and judgment of our subject.

The veteran Republican newspaper editor and soldier of the Civil war is now in his sixty-fifth year and indications point to his still being in the harness many years from today. He is a well known figure at the gatherings of Republican newspaper editors and is popular with his confreres. In fraternal and social circles the subject of our sketch is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, local post; of the Masonic Order up to the Royal Arch degree, and of the Eastern Star. In religion he is a member of the Methodist church.

JAMES MILLER RATCLIFF.

To his own efforts is the success of James M. Ratcliff attributable, for he started out upon his business career practically without capital or aid from anyone, but being ambitious and industrious he forged ahead and

is the owner of a good farm in Olney township, Richland county. This, too, is the visible evidence of his prosperity and industry, for when it came into his possession it was only partly improved and not nearly so productive as it is at this writing. Such a man deserves the high regard in which he is held by his neighbors.

James M. Ratcliff was born in Noble township, Richland county, August 20, 1848, the son of John and Mary (Bullard) Ratcliff, the former a native of England, the latter of Noble township, this county. John Ratcliff came to the United States when twelve years old with his parents, William and Mary Ann (Miller) Ratcliff, locating in Ohio, where they remained for a short time, and later came to Richland county, taking up one hundred and sixty acres of land in what is now Olney township. The country was then wild and uninhabited. They were among the early pioneers. Here William and Mary Ratcliff lived a number of years, developing a good farm, and died on the same, the former November 8, 1868, at the age of seventy-eight years, his wife surviving him several years.

John Ratcliff, father of our subject, born January 27, 1823, was twelve years old when he came to the United States with his parents. He grew to manhood in Richland county, and bought an unimproved farm in Olney township which he developed into a good farm, selling the same in a few years and engaging in merchandising at Louisville, Illinois, for a few years, later

going to Texas where he died October 27, 1900. His wife, born May 29, 1827, also died in the Lone Star state, February 10, 1907. They were the parents of thirteen children, seven of whom grew to maturity, five of them living at this writing, the subject of this sketch being the third in order of birth. When he was six years old the family located on a farm in Olney township, where James was reared and where he attended the common schools, receiving a fairly good education. The father of the subject being a preacher in the Methodist Episcopal church, James was compelled to do much of the work on the farm and he did not have the advantages of an education that he desired. He remained under his parental roof until he was twenty-two years old, when he married and settled on a farm which he rented, consisting of one hundred and twenty acres in Madison township, where he remained for twenty years, having thrived from the first owing to his habits of industry and economy. Besides engaging in general farming he raised much good stock.

In 1903 Mr. Ratcliff bought forty acres where he now lives in section 27, Olney township, having previously bought forty acres in Madison township. His farm shows that a man of good judgment and business ability has managed it, for it ranks well with the modern farms of this county in every respect, on which is to be found an excellent, comfortable and convenient residence.

Mr. Ratcliff was united in marriage

August 27, 1870, to Levina Stauffer, a native of Olney, and the daughter of Michael and Elizabeth (Lutz) Stauffer, natives of Pennsylvania, who were early settlers in Richland county, near Calhoun. The parents of Mrs. Ratcliff died in Olney. The subject and wife are the parents of three children: Cora, born July 2, 1871, the wife of Harvey Barnes, of Madison township; Oris, born June 15, 1874, who is living at home; Ira, born April 10, 1879, married Elsie Kite and lives in Vinton, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Ratcliff also have a (foster) daughter, Lena, who has been in their home since she was two and a half years old, and is now over fifteen years old.

In politics Mr. Ratcliff is a Republican. He faithfully served on the School Board for a number of years. In his fraternal relations he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Calhoun. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he has been a steward, class leader, etc., for many years. He and his family are held in high favor by their neighbors and all who know them for their clean and industrious lives.

HERBERT D. RYMAN, M. D.

The subject of this sketch, although yet a young man, has won a wide reputation in the medical profession and shown what a man of careful mental training, honesty of purpose and an abundance of zeal and per-

sistence can accomplish, although his early advantages were none too flattering. He is naturally endowed with the capacities of the successful practitioner of medicine, at least this would be inferred, judging from the eminent success he has attained.

Dr. Herbert D. Ryman was born April 11, 1878, in Vernon, Illinois, the son of Samuel T. and Martha S. (Jones) Ryman, the former having been born near Salem, this county, in 1850. He was a successful merchant in Vernon for many years, but in later life was a farmer, having died on his farm in 1882. He was a well known Republican and took quite an active part in local political affairs in Marion county. He ably served as Collector, Assessor, Supervisor and in many other township offices. He was the son of old Doctor Ryman, of Salem, who was known to everyone in the county during his residence here. The Ryman family came from Heidelberg, Germany, being the descendants of the royal family. One of them who was entitled to high rank in Germany died in 1882. The grandmother of our subject on his father's side was a direct descendant of Charles Dickens, the famous English novelist. The mother of the subject was born in Foster township in 1860 and passed to her rest in 1902. She belonged to the Methodist Episcopal church. The subject's paternal grandfather was a preacher, a doctor and a tailor at Salem.

The subject had one brother who is deceased; one sister also deceased, and two half sisters, one of whom is deceased. Our

subject is from a family of physicians and it is quite natural that he should take to the medical profession. He is the cousin of Doctor Jones, of Salem, and the grandson of old Doctor Ryman, of Salem. His grandmother's father was also a physician.

Dr. Herbert D. Ryman received his early education in Marion county, first attending the public school at Vernon. Being an ambitious lad he applied himself in a most assiduous manner and made rapid strides in his studies. He entered the medical college at Topeka, Kansas, from which he graduated with high honors. He is both a registered physician and pharmacist of Kansas and a registered doctor of Illinois.

After leaving college, Doctor Ryman practiced for a short time in Shawnee county, Kansas, with much success from the first. Then he moved back to Vernon, Illinois, and has been engaged in practice here ever since, having built up an excellent patronage.

Only about two years of the subject's life was spent out of the school room since he was six years old. He taught school for several years in Kansas where he became known as an able educator. He was principal of the Richmond, Kansas, schools. He was also principal of the schools at Rochester, just north of Topeka. Through years of study and experience in teaching and practice he has become a well educated man and is an interesting conversationalist. His practice is not confined to Patoka township, but it extends to remote parts of the county, being often called on serious cases and in

counsel with other physicians, and his advice is invariably followed with flattering results.

Doctor Ryman was happily married to Cora B. Norris, of Vernon, this county, September 7, 1898. She is an accomplished and refined lady, the representative of an excellent family, being the daughter of J. P. Norris, whose sketch appears in full in this work. Two interesting children have been born to our subject and wife, namely: Christene, who was six years old in February, 1908; and Lucile, who was two years old in June, 1908. Our subject was married at high noon and left at one o'clock for Kansas. His wife is also a teacher of much ability, having taught school in Kansas with her husband. Doctor Ryman served as Town Clerk in Richmond, Kansas. He is a loyal Republican. The future to such a man as our subject holds much of promise, for he is a man of genuine worth, ambitious and popular, being well liked by all who know him.

THOMAS RATCLIFF.

(1824-1909.)

Richland county is characterized by her full share of the honored and faithful element who have done so much for its development and upbuilding and the establishing of the institutions of civilization in this fertile and well favored section. In this work are comprised many biographical and memorial sketches of this class of citizens

and it is not in the least too early to record in print the principal items in the lives of such honest people, giving honor to whom honor is due. Among those sturdy pioneers, if not pioneers in settlement, at least in certain lines of business that have developed along with the rest of the county, the gentleman whose life history we now take under review is properly installed, for his eminently useful career which has now been closed by the inevitable fate that awaits us all, resulted in incalculable good to this locality as many who revere his memory can attest.

Thomas Ratcliff, long one of the most widely known business men of the county, but who lived in retirement in the town of Olney for several years prior to his death, was born in the County of Kent, Canterbury, England, April 24, 1824, the son of William and Mary Ann (Miller) Ratcliff, who emigrated to America in 1830, locating at Buffalo, New York, where they remained two years, then moved to Richland county, Illinois. William Ratcliff had previously entered one hundred and sixty acres in what is now Olney township, five miles south of Olney. Here the family located, built a log house and began making improvements, developing a good farm, being among the pioneers. William Ratcliff died on the farm he entered, having reached the age of seventy-nine years, and his good wife passed to her rest a year later at the age of seventy-six. They were the parents of fourteen children, three of whom died in infancy, only one of the number is

now living, Elijah, who is residing in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. He was the eighth in order of birth and our subject was the seventh. The family was nine weeks and three days in crossing the Atlantic from Liverpool to New York, making the trip on the "Mount Vernon," an old sailing vessel.

James M. Ratcliff, brother of Thomas, was a soldier in the Civil war, having served three years. Two brothers of the subject's mother, George and John Miller, came to the United States in an early day and became farmers in Richland county, Ohio, where they died.

Thomas Ratcliff was six years old when he came to the United States, and in his fourteenth year when he came to Richland county, Illinois. He was here reared on a farm and attended the subscription schools, such as they were in those early days, and received a good foundation for an education which in later life was supplemented by home reading and contact with the business world. He helped clear and improve his father's farm, experiencing many hardships and privations, remaining at home until 1842 when he began the trade of blacksmith in the village of Olney, in a shop located on the lot owned by the subject until his death. He served an apprenticeship of three years under James Urie, who had come from Ohio and opened a shop here. He received three dollars and fifty cents per month, board and washing. Mr. Ratcliff succeeded his employer in business in a little frame shop. He later erected a two-story brick on the lots and conducted the

business for about thirty years with splendid success, after which the work was carried on by his son for several years. In early days he manufactured tools, plows, wagons and many other things used by farmers.

Thomas Ratcliff was united in marriage September 19, 1844, to Catherine Ransted, a native of Vigo county, Indiana, who came with her step-father and mother to Richland county, Illinois, in 1839, her father having died previously. Her mother married Thomas Ellingsworth, a farmer, owning a farm adjoining the village of Olney; he later sold the same and bought a farm in Claremont township, where he died. Her mother died in Olney at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Ratcliff. To Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ratcliff nine children were born, four of whom are deceased. They are Albert, William F., Luther, John, Oscar, George W., died when young; Caroline, Julia Ann, Ida Eudora. Albert, the eldest child, enlisted in Company B, Ninety-eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war, without mishap, having been in many engagements. He became a blacksmith and machinist and carried on this business very successfully for many years after his father retired. He later moved to Princeton, Indiana, where he engaged in similar work, and where he died.

After retiring from blacksmithing Mr. Ratcliff was engaged in the sale of agricultural implements for several years. By years of hard work and good management he laid up a comfortable competence.

In politics Mr. Ratcliff was a Republican, and served in several local positions, having been one of the Supervisors at the time the court-house was built, and he was also on the building committee. He also served as Alderman of Olney.

On September 19, 1908, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ratcliff celebrated the sixty-fourth anniversary of their marriage, one of the leading events in the history of such gatherings in the county. They were then both in good health and in full possession of all their faculties, but the dawning of another year meant the closing of their beautiful lives on earth and the breaking of a new day in the mystic beyond, for death, "like a friend's voice from a distant field," called them hence, only a few days apart, the summons coming to Mrs. Ratcliff on January 8, 1909, and on January 23, 1909, to her honored and faithful husband.

CHARLES E. BLANKINSHIP.

He whose career we now take under consideration and to whom the reader's attention is respectfully directed is numbered among the progressive and successful business men of Marion county, of which he has been a resident for many years, while he has gained prosperity through his own honest efforts in connection with the development of the natural resources and the subsequent business prosperity.

Charles E. Blankinship was born in Fay-

ette county, Illinois, August 8, 1861, the son of Edward and Susannah (Lollar) Blankinship. Grandfather Blankinship was a native of Tennessee, who came to Illinois about 1837 and settled in Fayette county, on a farm and where he lived until his death in 1860. The father of the subject was born in Tennessee and was brought here by his parents when a child. After he reached manhood he first engaged in farming and later engaged in merchandising the balance of his life, having passed to his rest in 1871, at the age of thirty-four years. The subject's mother was also about the same age when she died in 1877. The father was a member of the Methodist church and the mother of the Christian church. The former was a Democrat. They were the parents of five children, all having died young except our subject.

Charles E. Blankinship attended the public schools at Patoka until he was seventeen years old. He then attended school at Valparaiso, Indiana, and at Eureka, Illinois, receiving a good education, having made a splendid record in each.

After leaving school he went to farming on his own account. He inherited a farm from his father in Marion county on which he remained for a period of five years, making agriculture a paying business. He then moved to Patoka and became postmaster under President Harrison, and served four years under that appointment and four years under McKinley's administration. He made a most efficient public servant and won the approbation of all in the community,

and the high favor of the Post Office Department.

Since he left the office he has been engaged in the hay, grain and coal business, also has been handling farming implements and is still in this line of business which he has built up until he has a lucrative patronage, his trade constantly growing by reason of his sound business principles and his courteous and kind consideration of customers. He is vice-president of the local bank.

Mr. Blankinship was married on March 9, 1882, to Albertine F. Clark, daughter of Henry I. and Mary J. Clark. Her parents were natives of Virginia, who settled in McLean county, Illinois. Her father died in Woodford county, this state. He was over eighty years old at the time of his death and he had been a soldier in the War of 1812. Her mother, a woman of fine traits, is still living at the age of eighty years. The subject's wife has one brother, two sisters and two half-sisters.

Four children have been born to the subject and wife, namely: Leta C., whose date of birth occurred in January, 1883, is the wife of Robert A. Ward, and the mother of one son; Dean Francis, who was born in August, 1885, is now cashier of the bank at Patoka and is married; Nellie M., who was born in 1887, is the wife of Albert J. Earl and the mother of one son; Clark J., who was born in October, 1898, is living at home.

The subject of this sketch is a great Mason, belonging to six lodges in this frater-

nity, namely: Patoka lodge No. 613, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, Centralia Chapter No. 93, Cyrene Commandery, Knights Templar, No. 23, Centralia Council No. 29, Royal and Select Masters, Oriental Consistory (thirty-second degree) of Chicago; also Chapter 253 Order of the Eastern Star, of Patoka. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen. He has filled all the chairs in the local lodge of the Free Masons.

Mrs. Blankinship is a member of the Christian church. Our subject has long taken an active part in political and public affairs, having served as Supervisor of the township, also Township Collector. He was a member of the School Board for nine consecutive years, and was Mayor of Patoka for two terms. In all these public offices he served the people in a most capable and praiseworthy manner, eliciting nothing but favorable comment from everyone, and because of his past honorable record, his integrity and his successful enterprises, together with his gentlemanly bearing to both stranger and friend, he is popular with all.

ADEN KNOPH.

Aden Knoph, the well known president of the First National Bank, of Olney, Illinois, was born in Lawrenceville, this state, December 18, 1843, the son of Thompson and Lucinda (Brunson) Knoph, a former resident of Copenhagen, Denmark, where he was born. The latter was a native of Ohio.

The subject's father came to America in 1830 and engaged in the mercantile business in Evansville, Indiana, operating a wholesale grocery in 1835, which was a large undertaking in those early days. In 1839 he located at Lawrenceville, Illinois, and continued in the merchandise business. He was one of the original pork packers of that place, having built up an extensive business for that time, giving a market for most of the hogs raised in Southern Illinois. He retired from the packing business in 1855. In 1859 he located in Vincennes, Indiana, and engaged in the mercantile business and in 1861 he came to Olney, Illinois, where he was engaged in business until 1865 when he retired. He was successful in whatever he undertook and was a man of many sterling traits of character that made him influential wherever he went. He was called from his earthly labors in 1867, at the age of sixty-seven years. His first wife died many years previous and he re-married the sister of his first life companion, who passed away in Washington before it was a state.

The subject's paternal grandfather was born on the day that Commodore Nelson bombarded the city of Copenhagen, Denmark. When he was twelve years old he went to sea as cabin boy and as he grew to manhood he worked his way up until he became master of the ship and he made many long voyages to foreign lands and was several times around the globe.

Aden Knoph, our subject, was reared in Lawrenceville, Illinois. His educational advantages were limited owing to the re-

verses of his father and the death of his mother shortly after his birth. When nine years old he entered the store of his father to help with the work and he stood on a box behind the counter when he measured goods. Yielding to his patriotic spirit when the war between the states began, he tried to enlist, but was rejected when he sought to become a private in the Eighth Regiment, Illinois Volunteers. He was later rejected by the Fourteenth and Twenty-fourth Indiana regiments. Still persistent he finally enlisted in the Ninety-eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry in January, 1864. This regiment was first assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, later to the Wilder Brigade. He served in a most gallant manner until the close of the war, taking part in many closely contested engagements. In September, 1864, Mr. Knoph was promoted to sergeant and on December 5, 1864 he was promoted to adjutant of the regiment. He participated in all the battles in which this regiment was engaged. He was wounded at Selma, Alabama, being shot twice through the left leg; one of the bullets he carries today. He was mustered out at the close of the war, July 7, 1865, at Nashville, Tennessee.

After the war our subject returned to Olney and entered the store of his father, where he remained for about a year, when the business was closed out on account of the failing health of the subject's father. Mr. Knoph then turned his attention to the study of law, entering the law office of Hayward & Kitchell, where he remained for one

year, making rapid progress. Mr. Kitchell was later colonel of the subject's old regiment. The father's health now gave way and he met with financial reverses, so our subject began clerking in the store to assist in supporting the large family, during the year 1867-68. During the latter year he was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court, and was twice re-elected, but he resigned at the close of the third term, each term being of four years, after having given his constituents entire satisfaction in the faithful discharge of his duties. He was a Republican in a strong Democratic county, but his popularity was such with all parties that he was chosen without serious opposition for this office.

Mr. Knoph assisted in the organization of the Olney Electric Light Company, in 1887, and was its secretary and treasurer. He organized the Olney Elevator Company and one of the largest and most complete elevators in the southern part of the state was built, having a capacity of sixty thousand bushels. Mr. Knoph afterwards became its sole owner.

Mr. Knoph became traveling salesman in 1880, for the Cincinnati Wholesale Dry Goods Company, giving his employers entire satisfaction and showing that he had much native ability in this line of work.

In 1882 our subject was elected president of the First National Bank, of Olney. The honor came unsolicited and as a surprise. He quit the road and entered the bank and has continued as its president ever since, with a most excellent record, having built

up the institution until it is regarded as one of the soundest institutions in the southern part of the state. It was organized December 6, 1865, with a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars, and its first officers were: Henry Spring, president; Andrew Darling, cashier; the first board of directors was William Newell, M. O. Kean, H. Hayward, J. H. Parker, Jacob Kramer and Robert Byers. In 1877 on account of excessive taxation the capital stock was reduced to fifty thousand dollars, at which it has since stood. In December, 1885, the charter expired and was renewed. The bank first occupied a small frame building in the east part of town, but it prospered and went gradually forward and in a very few years became one of the solid institutions of the state, being so recognized generally. It was moved to its present splendid location several years ago and a modern block was purchased in which to house it properly. It has the latest designs in safety deposit boxes and all other necessary equipment. The deposits in 1908 are four hundred thousand dollars, loans and discounts two hundred and sixty thousand dollars. The present officers are Aden Knoph, president; Deuel Gould, vice president; John T. Ratcliff, cashier; Nellie Levering, assistant cashier.

In 1878 our subject was a candidate for Supreme Clerk of the Southern District of Illinois, embracing thirty-six counties, all Democratic, but he was defeated. In 1894 Mr. Knoph made a tour through Illinois with Major McKinley, being an original

McKinley man. At the request of Mr. McKinley our subject became the candidate for delegate to the national convention from this district. After the election he received a letter from President McKinley, asking him to call at the White House when convenient, for he desired to thank Mr. Knoph for his interest in the election. This he did later, and lunched with the President. He prizes McKinley's letter very highly. In 1898 Governor Tanner, who was in the subject's old regiment and a personal friend, sent a message to the subject asking him to organize a regiment for the Spanish-American war, which resulted in his organizing the Nineteenth District Volunteer Infantry, and Mr. Knoph was elected colonel of the same, but it was not called on to go to the front, although it became well drilled and everything was in readiness due to the subject's untiring interest in the same.

Mr. Knoph's domestic life began July 1, 1869, when he was united in marriage with Carliette Morehouse, a native of Richland county, the daughter of O. B. and Mary (Elliott) Morehouse, natives of Connecticut. The Morehouse family was among the first settlers in Richland county, which then included a large territory. The father of Mrs. Knoph was the first white child born in the county. He was a farmer and later a merchant of Olney. He and his wife are now living retired.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Knoph has been blessed with the birth of three children, namely: Ada died at the age of twenty-two

years; Edward, who married Mary Clutter, resides in Freeport, Illinois, being conductor on the Illinois Central Railway, and Maud married Edgar P. Cochenour, and they reside in Pratt, Kansas. Her husband is a conductor on the Rock Island Railway.

In his fraternal relations our subject is a member of the Masonic Order, being past eminent commander of the Templars. He is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and belongs to several fraternal insurance societies. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, while his wife belongs to the Episcopalian church.

Mr. Knoph has always been in the public eye and his friends have often sought him for various public offices. At their solicitation he was a candidate for nomination for State Treasurer in 1904, and although he received a large vote in the convention, he failed.

The home of Mr. Knoph is a modern and imposing one. His private library is next to the largest in Olney, consisting of many choice and carefully selected volumes. Because of his genuine worth, his past record of usefulness and honor, his honesty of purpose and his friendly disposition, Mr. Knoph is held in high esteem by all who know him, and is regarded as one of the foremost citizens of the county.

JOSEPH H. WALKER.

The life of this venerable and highly respected citizen has been led along lines of

honorable and useful endeavor and has resulted in the accomplishment of much good not only to himself but to those with whom he has been associated. He has seen the development of the West and has taken a leading part in it, consequently in his old age he can look back over a life well spent and for which one should have no regrets.

Joseph Hill Walker was born in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, twenty miles from Pittsburg, October 19, 1822, and he lived there until 1848 when he moved to Jackson county, Ohio, and then to Marion county, Illinois, in 1862. Our subject is the son of William Walker, who was born in Beaver county, the old Keystone state, in 1773. He was a Democrat and a Presbyterian. Our subject is one of nine children, six boys and three girls.

Joseph Walker obtained what education he could in the pioneer schools of his day. He bought land in Marion county and began farming, but when the war between the states began he gladly left his work and his home and offered his services in defense of the flag, enlisting in the army in the quartermaster's department and served three enlistments as a wagon maker, one in West Virginia, one at Nashville, Tennessee, and one at Little Rock, Arkansas, having been foreman of the wagon department at the last named place. He learned the trade of wagon making in Pittsburg, in which city he worked at his trade for many years. After the war he returned to Marion county and resumed farming. He has been a hard worker and has made all the extensive improvements on his farm which

ranks well with Marion county's excellent farms. He has a good residence and barn and everything about his place shows thrift.

Our subject was married to Josephine Miles, who was born in Jackson, Ohio, September 17, 1834. She came to this county when twenty-six years old. There was no town where Vernon now stands when she came here. She was the daughter of Branson and Angeline (Sargent) Miles. Branson Miles was born in 1808, in Shenandoah valley in Virginia. His wife was born in Ohio in 1821. Our subject and wife married October 9, 1850. His wife and family drove from Ohio to Vandalia on the old National Turnpike and from Vandalia to Marion county during the war. The following children have been born to the subject and wife. Angeline, born December 3, 1851, married Abner Moore, who is in the real estate and insurance business at Irving, Illinois. They are the parents of four children. Frank, the subject's second child, was born in 1854, and died in March, 1875; Miles, born August 29, 1857, married Emily Johnson. He is engaged in the creamery business in Ewing, Missouri. They have four children. Thomas B., born February 25, 1860, married Nora Jackson, later marrying Mary Taylor, three children having been born by the first union and one by the second union. Thomas B. is station agent at Patoka. Ellen, the subject's fifth child, was born June 5, 1864. She married Charles King, a factory manager in Chicago, and they are the parents of two living sons; Henry was born April 26, 1868, mar-

ried Mary Mealy. They live in St. Louis and are the parents of three children.

Mr. Walker has devoted his life to farming and stock raising with great success, and he now lives retired in Vernon. In politics he is a staunch Republican, having first voted for Henry Clay in 1844, although our subject never took a very active part in politics. In religion he is a faithful supporter of the Methodist church. Mr. Walker is widely known in this section of the country and he numbers his friends by the score, for he is known to be thoroughly honest, a fine and friendly old gentleman to meet, making all feel at home who visit him.

JOHN C. BROCKMAN.

It requires considerable personal courage and strong resolution to sever the ties which bind one to home, friends, kindred and native land and seek a home in a foreign country, where the language is unknown, where manners and customs are strange and where the future is uncertain, but John C. Brockman took the risk incident to such a course, nor has he been disappointed in the hope which led him to leave Germany and come to the United States, a young man of eighteen years at the time of his arrival, possessing no capital save a willingness to work and a strong determination to succeed, which he has admirably done, as we shall see by the study of the following paragraphs, which will show the ease with

which thrifty Germans come to this country, achieving such financial success that it is astonishing to most Americans. It need not, however, be wondered at. The German is more industrious and less extravagant than the average American, for he realizes the value of money and hoards his earnings. He knows its power and ability to earn other money for him in the way of interest. The average American is much more a success at spending money than he is at getting or saving it. The record of Mr. Brockman is not only one of industry but also of honor.

John C. Brockman, now living in retirement at Olney, Richland county, Illinois, was born in Hanover, Germany, January 31, 1830, the son of Peter and Anna (Gieschen) Brockman, also natives of Germany, where they died; the former was a carpenter and farmer. Our subject remained in his native country until he reached maturity and received a common school education. He came to the United States in 1848, believing that better opportunities existed here than in the Fatherland for a man of his ambition. He first located in St. Louis, Missouri, where he secured work in a drug store, remaining in the same for a few years and giving his employer entire satisfaction. He was without money when he landed there, but soon got a start through his industry and economy. Later he managed a confectionery store for a time. In January, 1857, he located in Newton, Jasper county, Illinois, and in 1861, in company with Walter Patrick,

raised a company for the Union army, our subject being loyal to the stars and stripes and espousing the national cause, giving vent to his patriotism in a most laudable manner. This company became Company K, of the Fifty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and he and Patrick became partners as sutlers of the regiment. Later the subject sold his interest and returned home. Then he joined David Scott in the sutler business of two companies in the Hitchcock Battery, also at a later date had the sutlership of the Eighth Kansas Regiment in which he continued until the close of the war. In the meantime a friend of John C. Brockman had taken charge of the treasurer's office and was later elected to succeed him. The friend made a settlement at the expiration of the term of the subject while he was in the army and everything proved satisfactory.

After the war Mr. Brockman and his partner came to Olney in 1866, where the firm name of D. Scott & Company, jobbers and retail grocers, produce, etc., was formed. They also established a small stock of dry goods. They had a large business in a short time which extended to remote parts of this locality. They shipped the first carload of dressed poultry from Olney or Southern Illinois. Just after the war was a time of high prices, and while they did a big business for a few years it was usually on a falling market and not always successful, but it brought much trade to Olney and helped immeasurably to build up the town. The partnership of this firm

was dissolved in 1887, and the business closed out. The subject then operated a cafe and eating house which he successfully conducted for a number of years. His restaurant was popular and he fed large numbers continuously.

Mr. Brockman owns a fine business property on Main street and also a beautiful residence property, having retired from active business a few years ago, being one of the oldest business men in town.

Our subject's domestic life began in 1854, when he was united in matrimony with Mrs. Johanna Greninger, widow of John Greninger, and who had two children, Mary and William. She is a native of Switzerland, who came to the United States with her parents in 1845, locating in St. Louis, Missouri. Mrs. Brockman has been a faithful helpmeet. Five children have blessed their home, namely: Anna, Caroline, Louisa, Agnes, John F. They have received educations and all give promise of happy futures.

Mr. and Mrs. Brockman and their children are adherents to the Catholic faith, and faithful attendants of this church.

Mr. Brockman very ably and creditably served as County Supervisor for one term, during the time when the county was sued for two hundred thousand dollars in railroad bonds.

The splendid success our subject has won in life is due entirely to his own efforts. There are few men who begun in a humble way as he did when coming to this country, who can show as much for their time and

talents as he can. It is all attributable to the splendid qualities of head and heart of which he is the possessor and which he has so judiciously exercised.

WILLIAM ELICE COAN.

Among the residents of Richland county, Illinois, who are especially worthy of notice as having been active in the improvement and prosperity of the county, and have built up reputations which shall endure for decades to come, none have figured more prominently in their respective communities or exerted a more beneficial influence on those about him than Mr. Coan, whose life since coming to this county has been closely interwoven with the progress of the same. His leading aim has been to provide well for his own and do good to others, and those who have reason to know are authority for the statement that no one has dispensed his means with more liberal hand to the deserving poor than has the large-hearted, generous subject of this brief review, whose long and unusually active life has been so full of incident and worthy deeds that it would be impossible here to set forth all of them in detail. He early realized the necessity for good citizenship, and with strong mind and determined purpose addressed himself to bringing about this deserved result. His life has been a power for good and his influence has always been exerted in behalf of whatever

tended to promote morality in his neighborhood. When a mere boy he determined to become a good man and a useful citizen, and that he has successfully carried out his original intentions is attested by a long life fraught with so many beneficial results to humanity. He has always been optimistic enough to look on the bright side of life, partly due to the encouragement and sympathy of his worthy life companion, and, unlike the majority of old men, he still retains much of his youthful spirit and is popular with all who know him.

He has indeed, borne well his part, and now as life wanes and he proceeds toward the twilight and the journey's end, he carries with him the respect and love of numerous friends whose prayers are that his years may yet be many in the land of the living.

William Elice Coan, the scion of a sturdy Southern family, was born in the state of South Carolina, November 16, 1826. He is the son of Isaac Coan, a man who bore well his part in the pioneer days of the old Palmetto state, established a good home and reared a good family.

The parents of the subject of this sketch were natives of Ireland and Virginia, the mother's side of the house being well known and influential in their native locality.

Mr. Coan had little opportunity to obtain a high intellectual training, owing to the fact that during his youth primitive schools were taught only a few months out of each year, and also the children of the pioneers were compelled to assist in the im-

portant work of home building, but William E. has been a close observer and has done much extensive miscellaneous reading so that he is well informed on general topics.

When he reached man's estate Mr. Coan was united in marriage with Mary Ann Whaley, daughter of a sterling old Hoosier family, having been born in Pike county, Indiana. Her father was William Whaley.

To Mr. and Mrs. William Elice Coan four children were born, namely: Francis, Allen, William and Malica.

Mr. Coan has devoted his life principally to agricultural pursuits which he has made a success, having always been a hard worker and economical, so that in his old age he is enjoying the well earned fruits of the labor of his earlier years.

In his political relations Mr. Coan loyally supports the Democratic ticket.

HON. MARTIN D. FOSTER, M. D.

An enumeration of those men of the present generation who have won honor and public recognition for themselves and at the same time have honored the state to which they belong would be incomplete were there failure to make prominent reference to the one whose name initiates this review. He is characterized as a man of great breadth of wisdom, indomitable perseverance and strong individuality and yet in his entire life there has not been one esoteric phase, his history being as an open

scroll, inviting the closest scrutiny. There is, however, in him a weight of character, a native sagacity and fidelity of purpose which commands the respect of all and he has left his impress for good, while yet a young man, upon the political, medical and business circles of Richland county, whose interests he has ever had at heart.

Dr. Martin D. Foster was born in Edwards county, Illinois, September 3, 1861, the son of Blashel and Emily (Houser) Foster, the former having been born near Lexington, Indiana, and the latter at Salem, North Carolina. Grandfather Martin Houser was a minister of the Moravian church, one of the greatest, in fact, in this country. He was a native of North Carolina and moved in the early days to Indiana, where he was identified with the early history of the state, having established the town of Hope, which he laid out. He later moved to what is now West Salem, Edwards county, Illinois. Grandfather William Foster was born in England, and became a minister in the Christian church. After coming to America he located on government land near West Salem, in an early day, many English settlers having come to the same locality. Grandfather Houser had eight daughters. He drove from Hope, Indiana, to Salem, North Carolina, taking two daughters at a time, taking two every two years. They were educated in a female seminary there. He made several trips in that way. He preached on Sundays and farmed through the week days. He took up much land and became

wealthy for those days. The father of the subject was reared and educated in Edwards county and became a farmer, rearing his family there. He and his wife now live in Monmouth, Oregon, to which state they moved in 1888. Five children were born to them, all of whom are living, the subject of this sketch being the third in order of birth.

Doctor Foster was reared on the farm and received his early education in the public schools. Being ambitious he studied hard and later entered Eureka College. In 1880 he entered the Eclectic Medical Institute at Cincinnati, from which he graduated with high honors in 1882. He later graduated from the Hahnemann Medical College in Chicago in 1894. In the fall of 1882 he located in Olney and began practice which he continued for many years, his success being instantaneous from the first and he built up a very large business, his practice extending to all parts of the county, being known as one of the best general practitioners in this part of the state.

He continued to practice medicine until he was elected Congressman. In the fall of 1904 he was a candidate for Congressman on the Democratic ticket from the Twenty-third district, but was defeated in the Roosevelt landslide. In 1906 he was the unanimous nominee for this office and was elected by a majority of one thousand three hundred and fourteen votes, and the able and conscientious manner in which he served his constituents soon proved their wisdom in his selection. He was on the

Committee of Pensions, Mines and Mining, and he made a splendid record, especially was his work commendable in reference to pensions. In the fall of 1908, Doctor Foster was nominated without opposition to succeed himself, and with one exception he carried every county in the district, including one county which Taft carried. His home township, which is one hundred and fifty Republican, he carried by three hundred and fifty majority, and carried the county by seven hundred and thirty-one. This shows his high standing and popularity in Richland county and the Twenty-third district. Doctor Foster was elected Mayor of Olney in 1895, for a term of two years and was again elected in 1903 for two years. During his incumbency of this office he did many things that will be of permanent benefit to the city and community, making a record that was highly praised by all. He served for four years as president of the School Board, and he was a member of the Board of Pension Examiners for eight years.

The harmonious domestic life of Doctor Foster began in 1888 when he married Alice Igo, who was born in Shelbyville, Illinois, the talented daughter of Samuel and Catherine Igo. Mrs. Foster was called to her rest in 1889. No children were born to this union. The subject was again married, his second wife being Lulu B. Cliffe, a woman of gracious personality, whom he married October 27, 1891. She is a native of Olney, the daughter of Rev. William and Martha (White) Cliffe, the former a native of England and the latter of Indiana.

Reverend Cliffe was chaplain of the Ninety-eight Illinois Regiment during the Civil war and was a prominent minister of the Methodist Episcopal church for many years. He died in 1869. His wife is also deceased.

Doctor Foster is a member of the Masonic Order, the Knights Templar, being Past Eminent Commander of the latter; he is also a member of the Shrine, and is a charter member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 926, and is Past Chancellor of the Knights of Pythias. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a liberal subscriber to the Christian church of which he is a member. Mrs. Foster is a faithful attendant of the Methodist Episcopal church. Our subject is a member of the National Eclectic Medical Society and also the Illinois State Medical Society.

Doctor Foster is widely and favorably known throughout the state, his abilities well fitting him for leadership in political and social life. The terms progress and patriotism might be considered the keynote of his character, for throughout his career he has labored for the improvement of every line of business or public interest with which he has been associated, and at all times has been actuated by a patriotic love for his county and her welfare. No man in Richland county is better known or held in higher esteem, and because of the high position he has gained so young in life, the future must necessarily hold much of good and promise for him.

HISTORY OF THE ST. JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC CONGREGATION OF
OLNEY, RICHLAND COUNTY,
ILLINOIS.

In the beginning of the last century this section of the country was but thinly settled. Most of the country was timber. The first Catholic settlement in this neighborhood was that of Ste. Marie. In 1838, J. Picquet landed on the shores of this country from Alsace to seek for himself and countrymen a home in the new world. He journeyed on horseback from Philadelphia to Chicago, which was then a little town. He did not tarry long but started out for St. Louis, Missouri, from which city he came to Jasper county, Illinois. This section of the country with its wide prairies and extensive timber lands along creeks and rivers pleased him. He secured a grant of one thousand two hundred acres of land from the government. With his few companions he repaired to the spot he had selected for his home.

His first act was to erect a cross on a little hill and kneeling down he and his companions sang the "Salve Regina," in honor of the Heavenly Queen. The spot was named "Ste. Marie." In the course of time a church was built and the spiritual wants of the little faithful band were attended to from Vincennes. Later on a resident priest, or rather a missionary, was located at Ste. Marie, with headquarters at that place. The various missions in the surrounding neighborhood such as Mt. Carmel, Flora,

Carlyle and others were attended from here. When the parish had grown to such an extent that two priests were required for all the work, an assistant was sent to Ste. Marie to attend to the outlying missions.

Meanwhile the town of Olney had sprung up on the Baltimore & Ohio line, fifteen miles southwest of Ste. Marie. Some few Catholic families from Ste. Marie moved to the new place. The first priest to visit them was Father Loghren. He came in July, 1859. Services were held in a brick building, the so-called O'Donnell home. This house is still in good condition at 122 West North Avenue. Father Loghren attended Olney until June, 1860, when Father Sandrock, pastor of Ste. Marie, took charge until February, 1861. So far no services had been held on Sundays. In February, 1861, Father John Vahey was intrusted with the Olney mission. Father Vahey was a good organizer. It seems to have been his particular work to visit different places with the result of establishing churches. His principal work in Olney was to collect funds for a church building. Father Vahey was originally an Irish lawyer and very fond of debating. He was called away in July, 1861. For the next six months Father Sandrock had no assistant. The continuation of the work was left to him. He succeeded in building the church in the fall of the same year. The site was donated by Tom Lilly. The church was erected by the firm of Gadus & Lutz. It was situated on what is now Fair street.

From January until July, 1862, the Rev. H. J. Koven attended to Olney and was succeeded by Father Thomas Walsh in October, 1862. Father Walsh was a fine specimen of manhood physically and a neat dresser. He left in December, 1862. For the next eighteen months no records of baptisms are found on the books. During this time Father Sandrock was without an assistant and baptisms were conferred at Ste. Marie. He would, however, occasionally come to Olney and minister to the spiritual wants of the faithful.

In June, 1864, the Rev. James Harty was assigned to Olney as its first resident pastor. He boarded for the greater part with private families notably Frank Gillespie. Father Harty was true to his name, a hearty, genial gentleman, and a good "mixer." He was in consequence well liked by both Catholics and non-Catholics. His health, however, was not robust. He stayed but one year. From July until December, 1865, Father Sandrock again took charge of Olney. In December, 1865, the Rev. Patrick Dee was sent to Olney. He boarded with a family named Hines. He was a young energetic priest. During his administration of the parish two acres of ground were secured in the extreme southwestern part of town and set apart for a Catholic cemetery. Father Vahey also organized a private school for Catholic children with Miss Gillespie as first teacher. Father Vahey went from here to Alton, but soon after died in the St. Vincent hospital at St. Louis.

Rev. A. T. David succeeded him in June, 1868, but remained only until October of the same year. Father David was an elderly gentleman. In the fall of 1868 he built an addition to the parsonage, added a steeple to the church and placed bells in the belfry. Messrs. Gallagher and Schilt were the contractors. In January, 1869, Rev. P. Kearney came to Olney and stayed until October of the same year. He was advanced in years.

Next came Father Meckel, who is at present in Alton, Illinois. He had just arrived from the old country and was at once assigned to Olney parish. He was pastor from November, 1869, until August, 1874. In 1871 Father Meckel built a school and engaged a private teacher. Heretofore the school had been conducted in the parsonage. He was succeeded by Rev. J. B. Molitor, who is now Rural Dean of the Alton diocese and stationed at Newton, Illinois. Father Molitor was in charge until January, 1877, when Rev. J. W. Merscher was called to Olney. In September, 1884, Rev. F. H. Budde, who is now in Mt. Carmel, took charge of Olney. He stayed until March, 1888. During his time the mission of Stringtown was added to Olney.

In March, 1888, the Rev. J. B. Schnelten was commissioned to the congregation at Olney, which he faithfully held until November, 1906. In 1893 Father Schnelten moved the church building to the corner of East Chestnut and South Elliott streets. The property consisted of three lots and was bought of the Dowling estate and is

favorably situated. A new parsonage was also built in connection with the old church. In 1906 Father Schnelten resigned the pastorate on account of ill-health. He retired to Carrollton, Greene county, Illinois. Father Schnelten was very well liked by all who knew him. He was very genial and gentlemanly in his character and diplomatic in his ways. His successor is the present incumbent, the Rev. J. B. Henken.

The Rev. John B. Henken was born September 4, 1870, near Germantown, Clinton county, Illinois, of German parents. He received his early education in country schools. At the age of sixteen he began to study Latin, and in the year 1888 entered the Franciscan College at Teutopolis, Illinois. The next year found him in Quincy, where he finished his classical studies. In 1893 he took up theological studies at the St. Francis Seminary near Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He was ordained priest June 16, 1895. His charge was as assistant at the Belleville cathedral where he stayed one year. For the following twelve months he acted as substitute for different priests in the diocese, viz: Four months at Ridgway, six months at Damiansville, six weeks at New Baden, six weeks at Centralia. In 1897 he was sent to Rosiclare, Illinois, as the first pastor of that congregation. Here he remained six years when he was transferred to Sandoval, Illinois. Here he stayed three years, but through all that time he was in poor health owing to a siege of typhoid fever. In 1906 his bishop asked him to take charge of Olney. During his

stay here Father Henken has succeeded in erecting a two-story, brick building which now serves the manifold purpose of school, church and sisters' dwelling. The school was opened January 1, 1908, with a roster of forty-five. In the fall of the same year four Ursuline sisters from Paolo, Kansas, took charge of the school which now has about seventy pupils. In February, 1908, the furniture was moved from the old church building to the second story of the new school building which for the present serves the purpose of a church. The congregation now numbers eighty-five families. The parish is well organized, having different societies which look to various needs of church and parsonage. The old church building serves as a hall for entertainments. All in all the parish is prospering and bids fair to become one of the foremost in this section of the country.

ANDREW M. PEDDICORD.

The life record of this venerable citizen of Patoka township is one of interest and instruction, for it has been active, always so modulated as to be of the greatest service to those whom it touched. He has lived to see the transformation of a great country from the primeval forests and the wild prairies and he has performed well his part in this great work.

Andrew M. Peddicord was born May 9, 1822, in Mason county, Kentucky, where

he lived in 1851, when he came to Jacksonville, Illinois, having farmed sixteen miles from Jacksonville, paying only two dollars per acre for rent of land, the first cash rent ever paid for land in that part of the county. He was at the first state fair ever held in Jacksonville. A few years later he came to Marion county for the purpose of engaging in farming. He first landed in Salem and bought wild land here, which he improved.

Our subject is the son of Andrew and Delilia (Eaton) Peddicord, being one of fourteen children born to them, consisting of seven boys and an equal number of girls. They were said to be the healthiest and finest looking family in Kentucky. The subject's father was born in Mason county, Kentucky, and the subject's mother was born in Harrison county, the Blue Grass state, both being representatives from large families.

Mr. Peddicord was united in marriage on August 29, 1845, to Mary Foley, born September 29, 1829, the daughter of Daniel and Mildred (Mastison) Foley, the former having been born in Virginia and the latter in Kentucky. Ten children have been born to our subject and wife as follows: Daniel E., born May 18, 1848, married Katherine Weeks and they are living in Decatur, Illinois; William M., born November 27, 1851, married Mary Tune; they are living in Vernon and are the parents of six children, two children being deceased; Mollie L. married E. Robinson; James L., born January 1, 1854, married Belle Mann, they have one son and live near Odin; Martha

L., was born November 22, 1855; Ora Anna, born March 20, 1858, married Charles Tillman, and they live in Springfield; Claybrook B. was born October 31, 1860, and died in infancy; Charles M. was born September 26, 1862, and is deceased; John Henry was born May 21, 1865, married Ulga Friar, and they have three children. He is engaged in the livery business at Vernon.

Mr. Peddicord was one of those brave sons of the great Prairie state, who offered his assistance in saving the nation's integrity during the dark days of the sixties, having enlisted in Company G, Seventh Illinois Cavalry in 1865, and served with credit until the close of the war.

Our subject is a great lover of horses and he has always kept some good ones about him. His place used to be stocked with very fine ones. He was said to have been the finest horseman in Marion county in his younger days. He had the reputation of bringing more good stock to Marion county than any other man. He was a well known character in his younger days, and is today possibly the best known man in the county. He was a loyal friend of Judge Bryan, father of William J. Bryan. Our subject saw the great Commoner when he was only three days old. Mr. Peddicord has been a man of thrift, unusual business ability and foresight and he laid up an ample competence to insure his old age free from want. He has been living in quiet retirement for the past ten years. He has been a staunch Mason, having been identified with the or-

der in Mason county, Kentucky. He is a good Democrat, but notwithstanding his ability and popularity he never took much interest in politics. Our subject has been a very able bodied man in his day, strong, of fine appearance and much endurance, but now his great weight of years is telling on him and his eyesight and hearing have failed considerably. He is an uncle of A. M. Peddicord in Carrigan township, a well known man whose sketch appears in full in this work.

Mr. Peddicord has a comfortable home in Vernon. He gets a pension of twenty dollars a month. He has numerous friends who are always glad to pay him the respect due a man of his years and who has led a useful and influential life.

HON. THOMAS TIPPIT.

Illinois has been especially honored in the character and career of her public and professional men. In every county there are to be found rising above their fellows, individuals born to leadership, men who dominate not alone by superior intelligence and natural endowment, but by force of character which minimizes discouragements and dares great undertakings. Such men are by no means rare in the great Prairie state and it is always profitable to study their lives, weigh their motives and hold up their achievements as incentives to greater activity and higher excellence on

the part of others just entering upon their struggles with the world. Such thoughts are prompted by a study of the life record of the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this article who has long been one of the prominent figures in Richland county whose interests he has ever had at heart and sought to promulgate.

Hon. Thomas Tippit was born in Olney, Illinois, June 6, 1851, and he has been contented to spend his life in his native community. He is the son of Matthew L. and Sarah (Ellingsworth) Tippit, the former a native of Tennessee, and the latter of Ohio. Grandfather Tippit was a native of Virginia. He moved to Tennessee and in 1820 came to Illinois and located about sixteen miles south of Olney, in what is now Edwards county at a point now known as Samsville. He was among the early pioneers in that wild country, but he did not live long after coming to this state. Matthew, the oldest of the two sons and one daughter, was only about six years old when his father died. The family experienced many hardships in their struggle for existence. Matthew, by hard work assisted his mother in rearing the family, caring for his crippled brother and sister. He had no educational advantages other than what he acquired himself by home study. The family located in what is now Richland county prior to the settling of Olney. They took up land, a portion of which is now within the corporate limits of Olney. Matthew bought and sold much land in the county and eventually became well-to-do.

In 1849 he went to California, having been one of that famous band who crossed the plains with an ox team. He remained in that state two years and was successful in mining. After returning to Richland county he carried on extensive farming and stock raising for years and died on the place adjoining Olney at the age of fifty-five years, in 1871. His wife passed away in 1903, at the advanced age of eighty-six. They were the parents of seven children, five boys and two girls, the subject of this sketch being the sixth in order of birth.

Thomas Tippit was born in a log cabin north of Olney. He was reared on a farm and received his education in the common schools, assiduously applying himself to his studies and took advantage of what opportunities he had, and attended high school in Olney. When the subject's father died he took charge of the farm and he has continued farming ever since, at present owning one hundred acres of highly improved land, all within the corporate limits of Olney, also owns land in Wayne county. For years he has been extensively engaged in the stock business, paying particular attention to horses, of which he is regarded as an excellent judge. Until 1890 he bred draft horses of a fine quality, but in that year he discontinued draft horses and began breeding roadsters and trotters. He now has from twenty-five to thirty head almost all the time. They attract much attention, being of a high grade and well kept. His first horse to gain special promise was "Redbrook," registered and sired

by good masters. "Favorite Prince," with a record of 2-22 1-4, in Indiana and Illinois, gained some prominence and is now nineteen years old in 1908. "Royal Prince" is generally regarded as one of the best horses ever in this part of the state. Mr. Tippit has also bought many good horses, having raced them in a number of states. The subject is known as one of the leading horsemen of the state. He has a beautiful, commodious and modern residence, with well kept lawn and grounds. He also has large and convenient barns and outbuildings, in fact, everything about the place shows prosperity, good taste and careful management.

In politics Mr. Tippit is a Democrat. He was Circuit Clerk by appointment to fill a vacancy and so faithfully did he perform his duties that he was elected three terms, having served over twelve years in all. He served as Master in Chancery from 1892 to 1896. In 1894 he was elected to represent his district in the state Legislature, having been re-elected in 1898, 1902, 1904. During his tenure of this important office he served his constituents in a most acceptable manner, showing that he possessed rare insight into the workings of the body politic, was conservative, careful and calculating, just as if he had been managing his own business, and his counsel was often sought and followed with gratifying results while he was a member of that body. Many things were accomplished by him in this capacity that resulted in incalculable good not only to the people of his own section

of the state but throughout the commonwealth. One of the most important acts of our subject was securing the adoption of a resolution providing for the submittal of the vote of the Legislature to elect a United States Senator by direct vote of the people. He was candidate for Speaker of the House in 1901 and was defeated by only two votes. In 1905 he was one of the four in his party for candidate for Speaker of the House, being elected and became by reason of his candidacy the minority leader at that session of his party. He was always active and among the leaders of his party. In 1908 he was also the candidate of his party for election to the Legislature, and was successful in this race.

Mr. Tippit was married in 1877 to Eva Leaf, a native of Richland county, the talented daughter of George and Nancy (Moore) Leaf, natives of Ohio, who came to Richland county in 1854.

The home of the subject and wife has been blessed by the birth of three boys and one girl, namely: George M., who is living in Oklahoma; Mabel, the wife of H. C. Horrall, of Bridgeport, Illinois; Albert V. is living at home; Thomas, Jr., is living in Birmingham, Alabama.

Mr. Tippit is a Mason in his fraternal relations, also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Pythias, the Knights Templar and the Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, having been past commander and held other stations of the former.

From the foregoing brief outline of a busy career, it is not difficult to arrive at a

just estimate of Mr. Tippit's character or to fix his proper standing in the community. Beginning life in moderate circumstances, he has not only gained an honorable position in the business world, but has also lived to become a power in the political affairs of the state and one of the most influential men in the development of his community. Interested in all that tends to benefit his fellows, materially, educationally and morally, his influence has always been exerted in the right direction and from what he has accomplished along the lines to which his talents have been directed it is clearly demonstrated that the world has gained by his presence.

AMEL LUCAS.

The subject of this sketch, who is one of the well known farmers of Foster township, is a scion of one of the sterling French families whose presence in America has always been most desirable, for it is a well known fact that the French people are thrifty, energetic and intellectual wherever found, therefore they always contribute much to the development of any country, and the subject's people were not unlike the rest of the immigrants from that country.

Amel Lucas was born in Southern France on January 16, 1842, the son of Pascale and Louisa Lucas, both natives of Sonti, France, the former being a farmer and came to America in 1855 on a sailing vessel which was thirty days in making the voyage, having landed in New York City. He went