

HISTORY  
OF  
Kane County, Ill.

By R. WAITE JOSLYN, L. L. M.,  
and FRANK W. JOSLYN,  
Ex-State's Attorney of Kane County.

VOLUME II.

---

ILLUSTRATED WITH PORTRAITS AND VIEWS

---

CHICAGO  
THE PIONEER PUBLISHING CO.  
1908

grandfather, Jeremiah Hobbs, served in the Revolutionary war as a member of the Sixth Massachusetts Regiment and was mustered out in 1781 after an arduous campaign in which he served as corporal. Hostilities were in not perfected until about two years later. When his military service was over Jeremiah Hobbs settled at Falmouth, Massachusetts, where his son, Josiah Hobbs, the grandfather of our subject, was born and reared. He became a farmer and lived at the place of his nativity until his later years, when with his family he removed to Yorkville, Illinois. There he engaged in farming until his death.

R. M. Hobbs in early manhood learned the cotton manufacturing business and became a prominent representative of that line of production at Biddeford, Maine. He died October 5, 1890, but for a number of years prior to his demise had acted as treasurer of the Aurora Cotton Mills Company. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary E. Cobb, was a native of Maine.

E. S. Hobbs pursued his education in Bowdoin College, in Brunswick, Maine, from which he was graduated in 1874. He then turned his attention to cotton manufacturing, seeming to inherit his father's ability in this line. Throughout his entire business career he has been connected with cotton manufacturing interests and today stands as a prominent representative of this undertaking, for it has constantly progressed in the methods of manufacture and in the service which the house renders to the public. In the first year after he left college he was appointed superintendent of cotton mills at Roxbury, Massachusetts, and in 1876 he went to Selma, Alabama, where for eight years he continued as superintendent of a cotton mill. On the 15th of March, 1884, he arrived in Aurora, well equipped by a comprehensive knowledge and broad experience to add to the success of the Aurora mills, and to his effort is due in large measure the wonderful growth and consequent prosperity of the undertaking. The business here was organized in 1883 by Mr. Hobbs and his two uncles, S. F. and N. R. Hobbs. All had practical experience in this line of business, were enterprising and far-sighted and they succeeded in interesting local capital and established the mill which has since been one of Aurora's most prosperous and prominent manufacturing concerns. E. S. Hobbs remained as superintendent of the factory until he succeeded to his present position—treasurer—following the death of his father, R. M. Hobbs. From the beginning the business has grown steadily and has more than doubled since its organization. The men who are at its head are citizens of high character, of business discrimination and resolute purpose. Mr. Hobbs is now bending his energies largely to organization, to constructive efforts and administrative direction. Possessing broad, enlightened and liberal-minded views, faith in himself and in the vast potentialities for development in manufacturing lines, his has been an active career in which he has accomplished important and far-reaching results, contributing in no small degree to the expansion and material growth of the city and from which he himself has also derived substantial benefits.

In 1883 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Hobbs and Miss Mattie Dunklin, a native of Selma, Alabama. They have three children, Alice,

Virginia and Edward. They also lost their first born, Ernest, who died of typhoid fever in 1904, at the age of nineteen years while a student in Madison, Wisconsin.

Mr. Hobbs was chairman of the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce for two years and has been president of the Fox River Valley Manufacturers Association, in which connection he has done much to further the business interests of the city. He is also a member of the Congregational church. His advancement is due to the fact that he has carefully mastered every task assigned him and in an acquirement of a thorough knowledge of the business has qualified for the control of the efforts of others. The course he has always pursued has been such as to merit the confidence and good will not only of his colleagues but also of his associates and those who know aught of his career.

---

#### CAPTAIN DON CARLOS NEWTON.

Honored and respected by all, there has been no man in Kane county who has occupied a more enviable position in industrial and financial circles than Captain Don Carlos Newton, now deceased. This was due not alone to the success he achieved but also to the honorable, straightforward business policy which he ever followed. It is true that he entered upon a business already established, but in controlling and enlarging this many a man of less resolute purpose would have failed. As the result of his clear judgment, experience, laudable ambition and untiring industry, Captain Newton successfully controlled the business which his father had established and the methods which he employed won for him the respect and confidence of all.

He was born in Wyoming county, New York, in the town of Alexander, between Attica and Batavia, August 26, 1832. His father, Levi Newton, was born in Darien, New York, April 12, 1810, and arrived in Batavia, Illinois, in September, 1854. Here he established the Newton Wagon Company and built up a mammoth concern, turning out four thousand wagons per year. He continued an active factor in the business life of the community until June 29, 1879, when his life's labors were ended in death. He married Rachel Cooley, a daughter of Thomas and Rachel (Hubbard) Cooley and a sister of the great jurist, Thomas Cooley. The paternal grandparents of our subject were Lemuel and Nancy (Taggart) Newton. The former, a soldier of the war of 1812, was born in 1778 and died in 1861, while the latter, born in 1784, died in 1859.

Captain Don Carlos Newton was educated at the Alexander Academy and at Allegheny College in Meadville, Pennsylvania. He then went into business with his father in wagon manufacturing at Attica, New York, and in 1854 the plant there was destroyed by fire. On account of the large sales which the firm enjoyed in northern Illinois, especially in Kane county, they removed their business to Batavia and Captain Newton remained a factor in the control of this enterprise until his death, which occurred October 8, 1893.



DON CARLOS NEWTON





He was very successful in business and after his father's death succeeded to the presidency of the company, having previously been vice president for a number of years. In business affairs he displayed sound judgment and the ability to coordinate forces until he brought his interests to a successful completion.

At the time of the Civil war Captain Newton responded to the country's call for aid, enlisting in the Fifty-second Regiment of Geneva. He helped to form Company D, was elected lieutenant and in December of the same year was promoted to the captaincy. He then went to the front for three years and was mustered out in December, 1864, in Savannah, Georgia. He participated in many important battles, including the engagements at Chattanooga, Fort Donelson, Shiloh, the siege of Corinth and went from Chattanooga to Atlanta and on the march from Atlanta to the sea. At the close of the war he returned to Batavia and resumed his manufacturing interests.

On the 27th of October, 1853, Mr. Newton was married to Miss Mary M. Prindle, a daughter of Abijah L. and Caroline (Pearl) Prindle, of New York. In community affairs Captain Newton was always interested and active, doing much to promote the public welfare. In connection with Mr. Gammon he built and gave to the Methodist Episcopal society of Batavia a magnificent church building. It is constructed entirely of bowlders and is a beautiful specimen of architecture, attracting wide attention, not only from the townspeople but from visitors, who speak of it always in terms of praise. It will long stand as a monument to the donors. Captain Newton was a member of the Loyal Legion and was most prominent in the various movements for the upbuilding and progress of the community. When the First National Bank of Batavia was organized he became its president and so continued until his death. In business affairs his judgment was sound and he manifested the keenest sagacity as well as enterprise. The methods which he followed commended him to the confidence and respect of all and he was honored wherever known but most of all where best known.

---

#### HERMAN MILBACHER, M. D.

A fact to which due recognition is not usually given is found in the circumstance that the Austrian-American element has been a most important one in our citizenship. Investigation into the ranks of the successful business and professional men will show that a large majority are of Austrian birth or parentage. To this class belongs Dr. Herman Milbacher, one of the leading physicians of Aurora and a man of broad scholarship and marked intellectual attainment.

He was born in Roumania, October 13, 1850, a son of Dr. Valentine Milbacher, a native of Austria and a well-known physician of that country. His son, in the attainment of professional knowledge, studied in various parts of Europe but principally in Zurich, Switzerland and in Munich, where he was graduated upon the completion of a medical course in 1881. At-

tracted by the opportunities of the new world, he came to the United States in 1882 and for a time engaged in practice in New York, spending some time in a German hospital there. The same year he located in Aurora, and has been in practice here continuously since. A liberal patronage has been accorded him, for he is recognized as one of the leading physicians of the county. He has constantly promoted his efficiency by further research and investigation and keeps in touch with the advancement of the profession at all points.

In 1893 Dr. Milbacher was married to Miss Kate Vater, a native of Chicago. They now have two children: Louise, who was born May 31, 1896, and Walter, born December 11, 1901. Dr. Milbacher has never taken an active part in political work, but is interested in community affairs and the progress of Aurora, has served as a member of the library board and is an advocate of all interests which contribute to public prosperity and progress. He holds to high ideals in his profession and finds in the faithful performance of each day's duty inspiration and encouragement for the labors of the succeeding day.

---

#### MICHAEL THEN.

Michael Then, owning and operating two hundred and thirteen acres of highly improved and valuable land in Virgil township, was born in Bavaria, Germany, September 13, 1857, his parents being Alonis and Margaret (Geis) Then, both natives of Germany, the former born June 11, 1824, and the latter June 28, 1828. Their marriage was celebrated in November, 1852, and on the 1st of June, 1873, they landed in the United States, settling in DuPage county, Illinois, north of Wheaton, where the father resided until October 1, 1874. On that date he came to Kane county, settling in Virgil township, and has since continued to reside here. His wife passed away on the 10th of June, 1888, in Virgil township, her remains being interred in St. Peter's cemetery in Virgil. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Alonis Then were born four children. Catherine, whose birth occurred in Germany in 1854, became the wife of Nick Welter in June, 1874, and now resides in Virgil township. John M., born in Germany, March 6, 1856, married Miss Margaret Schomer, whose birth occurred in DuPage county, Illinois, in 1860. He is a farmer by occupation and resides in Virgil. Michael, of this review, was the next in order of birth. Margaret, who was born in Germany April 11, 1861, became the wife of Frank Halbmaier in February, 1882. He is a native of West Brooklyn, Lee county, Illinois, where he is engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Michael Then accompanied his parents on their emigration to the new world in 1873, and worked at the tailor's trade for four years. On the expiration of that period he began farming in connection with his father, thus continuing until 1887, when he started out in agricultural lines on his own account, operating a rented tract of land for four years. He then

purchased one hundred and thirty acres from his father and has placed many improvements thereon, including a commodious and attractive residence and a good barn. By an additional purchase of eighty-three acres he has extended the boundaries of his farm and now owns two hundred and thirteen acres of rich and productive land, to the cultivation of which he devotes his time and energies. He has put in twenty-six thousand feet of tile, so that the land is well drained and under a high state of development, and he uses the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work of the fields. He likewise conducts an extensive dairy, owning thirty-three cows and shipping milk to Chicago. He also has full blooded Plymouth Rock poultry and fifty or more head of full blooded Duroc Jersey swine. He is now numbered among the substantial and enterprising citizens of the county and has, moreover, gained an enviable reputation as a man of unfaltering integrity and reliability in all the relations of life.

On the 21st of April, 1888, Mr. Then was united in marriage with Miss Martha M. Lanan, who was born in De Kalb county, Illinois, in 1856. She is a graduate of the Sycamore high school and engaged in teaching school for a number of years prior to her marriage. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Then were born five children, three of whom are deceased. Catherine M., born in Virgil, November 15, 1892, attended the public and parochial schools here. Mary M., whose birth occurred in Virgil, February 6, 1896, also attends school here.

In his political views Mr. Then is a stalwart democrat, and is a member of St. Peter's Catholic church in Virgil. Germany has furnished to the United States many bright, enterprising young men who have left the Fatherland to enter the business circles of this country with its more progressive methods, livelier competition and advancement more quickly secured. Among this number is Michael Then. He found the opportunity he sought in the freedom and appreciation of the growing country, and in the wise utilization of every advantage which has presented itself he has gained a degree of success that makes him a credit alike to the land of his birth and that of his adoption.

---

#### BENT OLSON.

Bent Olson, who successfully carries on agricultural pursuits in Virgil township, was born in Sweden, January 6, 1851, his parents being Ola and Beatta (Anderson) Olson, also natives of that country. The father served in the Swedish army, and passed away in his native land in 1873, while his wife's death had occurred in Sweden in 1863. Their family numbered five children: John, born in Sweden in 1849, now makes his home in this country; Bent, of this review, was the next in order of birth; Andrew, whose birth occurred in Sweden in 1853, is married and follows farming in South Dakota; Peter, born in Sweden in 1855, is married and is a shoemaker residing in his native land; Mattelda, who was born in Sweden in 1860, came

to the United States in 1883 and subsequently gave her hand in marriage to John Johnson. She made her home at Rockford, Illinois, until she was called to her final rest in 1904.

Bent Olson attended the schools of his native country until sixteen years of age, and in 1883 crossed the Atlantic to the new world. For two or three years he was engaged in ditching, but for the last twenty years has carried on farming on his own account. He has farmed on his present place of one hundred and twenty acres, known as the Noreen farm and situated four miles north of Maple Park, for the last three years. In addition to the work of the fields he is largely interested in the dairy business, owning twenty cows and shipping forty gallons of milk daily from Richardson to Chicago on the Chicago & Great Western Railroad. He likewise has two hundred chickens and is engaged in the raising of poultry. In the various branches of his business he has been successful, owing to his unremitting industry, untiring perseverance and capable management, and throughout the community he is recognized as a most enterprising and progressive citizen.

On the 15th of November, 1884, Mr. Olson was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Cramer, whose birth occurred in Denmark, October 1, 1861, and who received her education in that country. She came to America when twenty years of age, and by her marriage has become the mother of the following children: John Ola, born November 10, 1886, who died in infancy at Maple Park; Bena, born in De Kalb county, Illinois, January 29, 1889, who is the wife of Christ Larson, a farmer residing at Maple Park; Carl Oscar, whose birth occurred in De Kalb county, Illinois, August 5, 1892; Axel William, born in De Kalb county, Illinois, April 26, 1895, and Helen Mary, whose birth occurred in Kane county, Illinois, April 5, 1902.

In his political views Mr. Olson is independent, voting for the man whom he believes best qualified for office, without regard to party affiliation. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, and in religious faith he is a Lutheran. The hope that led him to leave his native land and seek a home in America has been more than realized, for through the careful utilization of the broader business opportunities afforded in the United States he has gained a measure of success that entitles him to representation as a substantial resident of his community.

---

#### JACOB DICKES.

Jacob Dickes is conducting a prosperous business as a dealer in coal and wood and throughout his life has recognized the fact that close application, energy and unfaltering determination constitute the strong elements in success. He was born in the village of Hempstahl in Luxemburg, Germany, June 19, 1835, and his parents, John P. and Josephine (Kergen) Dickes, were also natives of that country. The father was a miller and served as a soldier of the Belgian army. In 1857 he came to America with his wife and several of their children and settled at Aurora, where he followed various



pursuits. He died in this city in 1876 at the age of seventy years, while his wife survived him and passed away in 1896 at the age of eighty-seven years. They were both consistent members of the German Catholic church. Their family numbered nine children, seven of whom reached adult age, while six are yet living: Catharine (called Kate), living in Aurora; Jacob, of this review; Peter, who likewise resides in this city; Mary, the wife of Chris Abel, of Aurora; Catharine, and Maggie, the wife of Andrew Klees, of Chicago.

Jacob Dickes, whose name introduces this record, was reared and educated in Germany. He worked on the home farm in his youth and in 1854 came to America, settling in Aurora, where various business interests claimed his time and attention. He spent one year in Michigan City, Indiana, in the grocery business and then returned to this city in 1867. In the succeeding autumn he established a coal yard and has since conducted business in this line, being now the oldest coal merchant of Aurora. He has, throughout the years, enjoyed an excellent trade, many of his patrons remaining with him throughout the entire time and the volume of his business now insures him a gratifying annual income.

Mr. Dickes was married in October, 1868, to Miss Mary Ann Lies, a daughter of John Lies, and they had one son, John L., who is a broker of Aurora of the firm of Battles & Dickes. The wife and mother died in 1870 and in 1887 Mr. Dickes wedded Mrs. Theressa Miner, the widow of P. M. Miner and a daughter of William and Catharine (Kohling) Kramer. There are two children of this second marriage, Cecelia and Loretta. Mr. and Mrs. Dickes are members of St. Nicholas Catholic church and his political allegiance is given to the democracy. He was a member of the city council for two terms, representing the fifth ward, and he has also served as school trustee and assistant supervisor. He is likewise a stockholder in the German-American National Bank and is known as a representative citizen and business man, whose cooperation in many measures of public good has constituted a strong element in the city's growth and progress.

---

#### EDWIN G. SABIN.

Edwin G. Sabin, deceased, was throughout his active business life connected with agricultural pursuits, but his last days were spent in ease and retirement in Elgin, where he passed away on the 4th of May, 1889. He was a native of Ohio, born in Geauga county, October 8, 1832, and was a son of Sylvester R. and Phoebe C. (Clapp) Sabin. The father also made farming his life occupation. An at early day he removed from Ohio to this state and was a resident of Barrington, Illinois, at the time of his death. He was born in the Buckeye state, October 7, 1797, and died September 30, 1875, while his wife was born on the 23d of July, 1803, and died November 21, 1860.

It was during his boyhood that Edwin G. Sabin accompanied his parents on their removal to this state, and his education, begun in the district schools

of Ohio, was completed here. Under his father's supervision he early became familiar with the work of the farm, and on leaving the parental roof he engaged in farming on his own account, meeting with success in his chosen work. At different times he was the owner of several farms but finally bought the old homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Barrington township, to the improvement and cultivation of which he devoted his energies for a number of years. Having accumulated a comfortable competence, he finally laid aside all business cares and moved to Elgin in 1886 where he lived retired until his death, enjoying a well-earned rest. While engaged in farming he made a specialty of the dairy business, which he found quite profitable.

On the 3d of July, 1859, Mr. Sabin married Miss Anna M. Covey, a native of Greene county, New York, and a daughter of Ebenezer and Mary (Bush) Covey, of Palatine, Illinois. Three children were born of this union. Willis E., now a resident of Elgin, married Pearlie Gallaway and they have two children, Edwin E. and Hazel Ruth. Addie A., born February 2, 1863, died on the 22d of the following June. Eugene E., born May 10, 1864, married Ida V. Monger and to them were born five children: Eva May; Eugene S.; Lester, who was born October 26, 1898, and died January 19, 1899; Grant C.; and Paul M.

Mr. Sabin was a stanch republican in politics and was deeply interested in public affairs, as every true American citizen should be. He was a member of the Episcopal church and was a man respected and esteemed by all who knew him. He was always found true to any trust reposed in him and he well merited the high regard in which he was uniformly held. His widow, who is a most estimable lady, holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church in Elgin, in which city she resides.

---

#### GUSTAVUS AUCUTT.

Gustavus Aucutt, a member of the firm of Gus Aucutt's Sons, coal dealers of Aurora, was born in Oneida, New York, July 20, 1839. He is entitled to representation in this volume not only because of the fact that he is a successful and enterprising man, but also owing to the fact that he was a loyal soldier of the Civil war and is a progressive citizen whose cooperation can always be counted upon to further movements for the public good. His paternal grandfather was William Aucutt, a native of England and a resident of London, where he worked at the rope-maker's trade. When a young man, however, he sought a home and fortune in the new world and settled in New York city, where he engaged in rope manufacturing. He died in Oneida county, New York, when almost ninety years of age, while his wife, Mrs. Mary Ann (Jaycocks) Aucutt, has also passed away. The maternal grandfather of Gustavus Aucutt was a native of New York and spent most of his life in Oneida county, where both he and his wife passed away. His parents were Francis and Sarah Ann (Jaycocks) Aucutt, both of whom were

natives of the Empire state. The father was a carpenter and joiner through much of his business career but in early life followed the occupation of farming. He died of cholera in Peoria, Illinois, in the year 1842 and his wife passed away the year previous. Both were Methodists in religious faith and were people of the highest respectability. They had a family of six children: Francis, deceased; Lucinda, the widow of Charles Curtis and a resident of Nebraska; Mary Ann, who became the wife of William Williams but is now deceased; Gustavus, whose name introduces this review; Sarah, the wife of Peter Patten, a resident of Aurora, and Olive, the wife of Nathaniel Wallace.

Gustavus Aucutt resided in Oneida county, New York, to the age of fifteen years, spending his youth upon the home farm and early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He attended the district schools and in 1856 came to the west, settling in Aurora. For a year he was employed in a store and was afterward on a farm until 1862, when, with patriotic ardor, he responded to the country's call and joined the Union army as a member of Company H, One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He served for nearly three years and was with Grant on the campaign around Holly Springs and was also at the siege of Vicksburg. He was the third man to go over the fort into Vicksburg, being at that time a member of the cornet band that led Grant's army into the siege. He was also in the Atlanta campaign and went with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea. His military service included participation in some hotly contested battles as well as in long, hard marches and the dreary waiting in winter camps, but he never faltered in the performance of duty, remaining ever a loyal defender of the old flag and the cause it represented.

After the war Mr. Aucutt returned to Aurora and resumed agricultural pursuits. He purchased a farm of eighty acres in Aurora township and sixty acres in Sugar Grove township and lived upon that farm for several years. On the expiration of that period he bought one hundred and seventy acres just west of Montgomery in the township of Aurora and lived thereon for fifteen years. He brought his fields under a high state of cultivation, added many substantial improvements and had a farm property which was very productive and valuable. In 1896 he removed to the city, selling his farm to the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company. In 1896 he engaged in the coal business, continuing active in its management until 1904, when he turned over the business to his sons. While he has largely left the active business affairs to others, Mr. Aucutt is still financially interested in various enterprises. When he came to Aurora he built a number of fine residences which he still owns and from which he derives a good annual income. He likewise owns his beautiful home at 84 North Lake street and he is interested in various commercial and industrial concerns, including the Streator (Ill.) Independent Telephone & Telegraph Company, of which he is the vice president; the Leavenworth (Kas.) Telephone & Telegraph Company, of which he is a director, and the old Second National Bank of Aurora, in which he is a stockholder. He is likewise a director in the new

Joliet rolling mills. His cooperation with various concerns has constituted an element in the business development of the various localities where they are located.

On the 7th of November, 1865, Mr. Aucutt was married to Miss Josephine Dennison, a daughter of Gilbert P. and Betsey (Andrews) Dennison. Mrs. Aucutt was born in Wayne county, New York, and by her marriage has become the mother of eight children, four sons and four daughters, as follows: Francis, who follows farming in Sugar Grove township and who wedded Elizabeth Myers, by whom he has a daughter, Sarah; Cora M., the wife of S. N. Cooper, of Aurora, by whom he has a daughter, Josephine; Gustavus, who is engaged in the grain and feed business in Aurora; Ruth, who died at the age of eight years; Charles M., who is engaged in the coal business in Aurora, and who wedded Mamie Keck, by whom he has two children, Florence and Lucille; Pearl E., the wife of Cyrus Stevens, a resident of Aurora; Harry S., who is engaged in the coal business in Aurora and who wedded Bertha Cromer; and Alta, who is with her parents.

In 1906 Mr. Aucutt, his wife and daughter Alta, were in San Francisco at the time of the great earthquake and fire, but all escaped uninjured, although forty-seven people were killed in the hotel in which they were guests. The parents are members of the People's church and Mr. Aucutt belongs to Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R., thus maintaining pleasant relations with his old army comrades, with whom he delights to recall the events which occurred upon the tented fields of the South. He is also connected with the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks. Politically he has always been a republican and before leaving the farm he served as highway commissioner and assessor of Sugar Grove township. He has ever been loyal and progressive in citizenship and in business has made a creditable record. He is recognized as a man of sound judgment and keen discrimination, who, in his business affairs, carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. His methods, too, are such as will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny and altogether the life record of Gustavus Aucutt is one which commends him to the confidence and regard of his fellowmen and well entitles him to mention in this volume as a representative citizen of Aurora.

---

#### ALBERT BIELENBERG.

Albert Bielenberg has for a quarter of a century lived retired in Elgin. He was formerly identified with the barbering business here for a long period and few men of the city have a wider acquaintance or have more comprehensive knowledge of the lines of development and growth here. He was born in Holstein, Germany, July 29, 1832. His parents were Albert and Margaret (Thieman) Bielenberg, who spent their entire lives in Germany, where the father engaged in business as a shoemaker. There were three sons in the family, but Adolph and John are both deceased.





ALBERT BIELENBERG





Albert Bielenberg is the only one that ever came to America. In his native land he learned the barber's trade, which he followed there until he came to the new world in 1853 at the age of twenty-one years. He was induced to take this step by reason of the favorable reports which he heard concerning business opportunities in America. He worked in New York city for one year and then went to New Orleans and afterward to Baton Rouge, Louisiana. There one winter was passed and he made trips up the river to St. Louis. Later, however, he returned to New York and in the year 1856 he journeyed westward to Chicago, where he worked for a short time. In November of that year he came to Elgin, where he owned and conducted a barber shop, carrying on the business until 1865, when he sold out and again went to Chicago. He was then proprietor of a barber shop in the Tremont House and on one morning he shaved four different governors. His business brought him into contact with many people of eminence and he relates interesting incidents of a number of them.

In 1866, however, he again came to Elgin, where he has since resided. He continued in business at this place until he was succeeded by his eldest son, who is now proprietor of a barber shop in the Elgin National Bank building. Mr. Bielenberg retired about twenty-five years ago with a comfortable competence that he had acquired through his well directed and earnest labor. He has been a great hunter, winning a reputation that has made him known all over this part of the country. He has hunted in Illinois and Wisconsin extensively, killing many deer and has many fine mounts. He has killed every animal native of this section and has many fine specimens of his prowess. He has hunted through the timber on the present site of Elgin and knew this section of the country when it was largely a wild and unimproved district. He is the owner of a good store on Fountain square and in 1859 he purchased a lot and built a shop and dwelling on the square, which is now the center of the city. At that time Elgin contained only about fifteen hundred population. Later Mr. Bielenberg purchased an adjoining lot and built the present store at No. 12 Fountain square in 1868. The building is twenty by one hundred feet and is a two-story brick structure with basement. Thus from his realty investments he is deriving a good income. He is also the owner of a pleasant home which he erected at No. 616 Brook street.

In 1857 Mr. Bielenberg was married to Miss Julia Schmidt, a native of Germany, who came to the United States in the year of her marriage. They traveled life's journey together for a half century and were separated by the death of Mrs. Bielenberg on the 27th of October, 1907, when she was in her seventy-fifth year. Their children were eight in number: Adolph, who died at the age of eight years; Louise, the wife of Albert Brookman, of Elgin; Fred, a barber of this city; Albert, who is with his father; Helena, who died in early girlhood; Herman, who died at the age of seventeen years; Annie, who died when but three years of age; and Paul, at home.

Few men have more intimate knowledge of this city and its history than has Albert Bielenberg, who has witnessed almost its entire growth and development. In 1858 he assisted in organizing the first German singing society here. While he is widely known in the city, he says that he has more acquaint-

ances in the cemetery today than he has downtown, for year by year the ranks of those with whom he was connected during his active business career are being decimated. However, he yet numbers many warm friends here and is widely known. He has crossed the Atlantic ocean thirteen different times, making the first voyage from Hamburg on a sailing ship which was six weeks in reaching New York. He has also made the trip from New York to New Orleans on a sailing ship and has traveled extensively, not only in America but over most of Europe. He is familiar with different parts of the old world and in his travels has gained that broad knowledge and culture which can be acquired in no other way. His mind is stored with many interesting reminiscences, not only of his journeys and his voyages but of events of an active business career. He has long lived in honorable retirement here, enjoying the rest which has come to him as the reward of earnest labor.

---

#### LAWRENCE ABRAHAM ROY OLESEN.

Lawrence Abraham Roy Olesen, owning and operating one hundred and twenty acres of well improved and valuable land in Kaneville township, was born in Denmark, May 8, 1883. His father, John Olesen, likewise a native of Denmark, served his country in the regular army for thirty-five years. He and his wife emigrated to America when our subject was a young lad of seven years, the family home being established near Kaneville, Kane county. They still reside in this county, and are devoted and faithful members of the Lutheran church. The brothers and sisters of Lawrence A. R. Olesen are as follows: Carrie, the wife of Thomas Thompson, who follows farming near Lily Lake; Ole, who also carries on agricultural pursuits near Lily Lake; Chris, deceased; Mary, the wife of Chris Nelson, a farmer residing near Lily Lake; Thorwald, who is engaged in farming near Elburn; Christina, also residing near Elburn, and Nelse, who has passed away.

Lawrence A. R. Olesen attended the country school until sixteen years of age during the winter seasons, while in the summer months he assisted his father in the work of the home farm. After leaving school he worked for his father for three years and then formed a partnership with his brother, but subsequently purchased his brother's interest and started out in business life for himself. He now owns a productive and well improved farm of one hundred and thirty acres two miles west of Elburn, and in the conduct of his agricultural interests is meeting with a most gratifying and well merited measure of prosperity. The place is beautifully situated and in its neat and thrifty appearance indicates the careful supervision and enterprising spirit of the owner. In addition to the work of general farming he also conducts a dairy, having thirty-one cows.

On the 11th of May, 1905, Mr. Olesen was united in marriage to Miss Lena Larsen, who was born at Geneva in 1887, her father being Jacob Larsen, who carries on farming near Kaneville. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Olesen have

been born two children, namely: Clarence, whose birth occurred April 18, 1906; and Clifford, born in January, 1908.

Politically Mr. Olesen is a republican, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Lutheran church. Although still a young man, he has already attained a good measure of success in his undertakings and his many friends prophesy for him a bright future.

---

### CHARLES F. THEURER.

Charles F. Theurer, who is energetically and successfully carrying on agricultural interests in Aurora township, was born in this township on the 29th of July, 1874. His father, John Adam Theurer, was a native of Wurttemberg, Germany, and emigrated to America about 1863, settling in Kane county. In Aurora, in 1871, he wedded Miss Elizabeth White, of Baden, Germany. For twenty years he engaged in the operation of the John Spillard farm, situated two and a half miles west of Aurora on the Galena road and comprising one hundred and fifty acres of very fine land. In connection with his farming interests he also conducted a milk route in this county for twenty years, and is widely recognized as a progressive and enterprising citizen. Since 1906, however, he has been living retired in Aurora, enjoying in well earned ease the fruits of his former toil. In March, 1908, he celebrated his sixty-sixth birthday, while his wife had passed the sixty-third milestone on life's journey in April, 1908. Unto this worthy couple have been born three children, namely: Mary, the wife of James Mitchell, of Marinette, Wisconsin; Charles F., of this review; and Lydia, the wife of Mike Nenno, of Waynesville, Missouri.

Charles F. Theurer acquired a common-school education, mastering the branches of learning which equip one for the practical and responsible duties of life. When his father retired from active life in 1906, Charles F. Theurer leased the Spillard farm on his own account and has since been successfully operating the same, meeting with a gratifying and well-merited measure of success in the conduct of his farming interests. He is a man of laudable ambition, progressive spirit and unflinching determination and will doubtless soon acquire capital sufficient with which to purchase property of his own.

On the 17th of March, 1896, Mr. Theurer was united in marriage with Miss Bertha Lawyer, of Joliet, Illinois, a daughter of Adam and Magdalena (Emerick) Lawyer. The mother passed away in October, 1883, and in 1886 Adam Lawyer was again married, his second union being with Elnora Boltz. He was called to his final rest in February, 1908, and his widow now makes her home with her stepdaughter, Mrs. Theurer. Adam Lawyer had five children, as follows: William F., of Wyncote, Wyoming; Dessie, the wife of Nelson Macier, of Joliet, Illinois; Frank, deceased; Mrs. Theurer, and Grace, the wife of Jesse Spooner, of Chicago. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Theurer have been born the following children: Edna May, whose birth

occurred September 4, 1896; William Adam, born March 2, 1898, and Theodore Charles, whose natal day was June 19, 1905.

Mr. Theurer is independent in his political views, while fraternally he is connected with the Yeomen of America. A native son of this county, he is well and favorably known and has gained an extensive circle of friends by reason of his genuine personal worth and many sterling traits of character.

---

### JACOB M. EBY.

No matter in how much fantastic theorizing one may indulge as to the causation of success, careful investigation will always bring to mind the fact that business advancement is attributable to two causes—industry and sound judgment. It is evident that these have constituted the basis of Mr. Eby's prosperity, making him one of the leading business men of Aurora, where he is now conducting a successful enterprise as the head of the Eby-Loser Company, wholesale confectioners and jobbers. He was born in Ontario, Canada, July 31, 1859, his parents being Moses and Marie (Miller) Eby, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. The father was a son of George Eby, also a native of the Keystone state, and of German lineage. His life was devoted to general agricultural pursuits and the maternal grandfather was also a farmer. He was born in Germany, and on coming from Saxony to the new world settled in Erie county, Pennsylvania. Moses Eby engaged in business as a contractor during the greater part of his life, and now resides in Berlin, Waterloo county, Canada, where he has made his home for many years. His wife died in 1902, at the age of seventy-six years and her many sterling traits of heart and mind made her loss one deeply regretted in the community. She held membership in the Mennonite church, of which Moses Eby is also a devoted member. Their family numbered ten children, nine sons and one daughter, but only four are now living: Isaac and George, who are residents of Ontario, Canada; and Jacob M. and Moses, of this city.

Jacob M. Eby was reared upon the home farm in Waterloo county, Ontario, and early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. The district schools afforded him his early educational privileges and when he was about sixteen years of age he left home and learned the baker's trade, which he followed continuously until 1906. The year 1879 witnessed his removal across the border into the United States, at which time he settled in Detroit, Michigan. He afterward went to New York city and in 1884 came to Aurora, where for three years he was in the employ of J. B. Roberts. On the expiration of that period he formed a partnership with Reuben Johnson, and established a restaurant and bakery business. They were together for two years and in 1889 Mr. Eby withdrew and opened a business on his own account at No. 38 Downer place. Two years later he admitted Edward Hinman and Peter Michaels and the firm became Eby, Hinman & Co. Later Mr. Hinman sold his interest to his



partners and the firm became Eby & Michaels. Eventually, however, Mr. Eby purchased Mr. Michaels' interest and admitted Christe Loser, this partnership forming a stock company, which is known under the style of the Eby-Loser Company. The business was incorporated and the house, represented on the road by a number of traveling salesmen, has become well known and has a large trade. They manufacture confectionery and also do a jobbing business. The quality of their manufactured product is such as to insure a continuance of the liberal patronage which they now receive. They have always aimed at excellence in their output and have also adhered to a high standard of business in the personnel of their house and in the service which they have rendered to the public. Thus along legitimate lines of trade Mr. Eby has gained success and is now numbered among the prosperous business men of Aurora.

On the 22d of September, 1887, Mr. Eby was married to Miss Florence Clark, a daughter of Richard and Lucy (Cone) Clark. They have become the parents of five children, Irene, Clifford, Mildred, Laverne and George. Mrs. Eby is a member of the New England Congregational church, while Mr. Eby's membership relations extend to Aurora Lodge, No. 254, A. F. & A. M., to the Elks and the Woodmen. Politically he is a republican but the honors and emoluments of office do not prove alluring to him, as he has always preferred to concentrate his energies upon his business, and the evidence of his prosperity is found not only in his manufacturing interests but also in the property which he owns. This includes a beautiful home at No. 158 North Lake street and two good brick residences on West Park avenue. Throughout his life he has been energetic and determined, brooking no obstacle that could be overcome by persistent effort, and thus through the stages of orderly progression he has advanced to his present creditable place in the business world.

---

#### CHARLES HOPKINS BARRETT.

Charles Hopkins Barrett was born at Lenox, Massachusetts, October 16, 1850. His father, Sylvester Barrett, was also a native of Lenox, Massachusetts, where his birth occurred January 8, 1819. He was a stonemason by trade and in 1857 came to Illinois, locating at Geneva. At that place he enlisted in a volunteer company which was afterward called the Fox River Tigers. Sylvester Barrett bore the distinction of being the best snare-drummer under the division command. At Brainard, New York, in 1849, he had wedded Miss Carolina Adelia Hicks, and their children were as follows: Lottie E., the wife of Willis Richardson, an engineer of Lafox, Illinois; Frank, deceased; Anna Irene, a school teacher at Batavia; Frank E., who has also passed away, and Charles Hopkins, of this review.

The last named attended high school until sixteen years of age, and on putting aside his text-books secured employment as a farm hand. Carefully saving his earnings, he was at length enabled to purchase a farm of

one hundred and fifty acres near Lafox, which he has since sold. In the conduct of his agricultural interests he has met with a most gratifying measure of prosperity and his success is all the more creditable by reason of the fact that it has been gained entirely through his own efforts.

Politically Mr. Barrett is a republican, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church. An heirloom which he now has in his possession and which has been in the family for four generations, is a combination bureau and secretary. He is well known throughout the community by reason of his long residence here and is widely recognized as a most public-spirited and progressive citizen.

---

### EUGENE B. MIX.

"There is no royal road to wealth," is a statement which finds verification in the life record of Eugene B. Mix, who, though a successful representative of financial interests, has won his prosperity through close and unremitting application and keen discrimination in business affairs. For some years he was a factor in banking circles and is now handling investments and securities, gaining a liberal clientage in this line.

One of Aurora's native sons, he was born June 27, 1845, of the marriage of R. C. and Sophronia (Ewell) Mix, both of whom are now deceased. The father, a native of Vermont, came to this city in 1841. He was a millwright by trade and removed to the middle west for the purpose of building the Black Hawk mill at this place. Being pleased with the country he decided to remain permanently and brought his family to Aurora, where he continued to make his home until his demise, which occurred November 18, 1871. The growth of the city, attributable to the efforts of its public-spirited citizens, found an advocate in Mr. Mix, who cooperated in many measures for the public good. In 1856 he was appointed postmaster of Aurora and filled the position through two administrations, discharging the duties of the office in a most prompt and businesslike manner. In 1861 he established the bank of Mix & Miller, which was conducted until 1873, when the company sold out to the Second National Bank.

Eugene B. Mix at the usual age entered the public schools and passed through successive grades in the acquirement of a good practical English education. He commenced his business life in the postoffice, where he performed such humble duties as sweeping the floor and other odd jobs. He also went for the mail, which was received once a day. When his father entered the banking business Eugene B. Mix became associated with him and has since been prominently connected with the financial and banking circles of Aurora. When the Mix & Miller Bank was sold to the Second National Bank, Eugene B. Mix became connected with the First National Bank and remained with that institution until 1905 as clerk, bookkeeper, teller, assistant cashier, cashier and president. Thus through successive promotions he worked his way upward until he became the chief executive head of the institution and so con-

tinued from 1899 until 1905, when ill health forced his resignation. In order that he might benefit by more outdoor life, as he felt that close confinement was detrimental to him, he turned his attention to the placing of investments and securities and has handled much commercial paper. His long experience in banking had given him a comprehensive knowledge of its value and he has conducted the business with good success, having now a liberal clientele.

Mr. Mix was married in 1881 to Miss Fannie Woodworth, a native of Aurora, and they are widely and favorably known in the social circles of the city. While he does not seek to figure in political circles, he has been a prominent factor in other public connections. He served as treasurer of the Aurora Hospital Association, and he belongs to Aurora Lodge, No. 254, A. F. & A. M.; Aurora Chapter, R. A. M.; and Aurora Council, R. & S. M. While he had the benefit of starting in business under his father's direction, he was made to realize that success depends upon individual effort, and, without placing dependence upon parental influence, he has worked his way upward, utilizing the means at hand and improving each opportunity as it has been presented until he stands today as a recognized and forceful factor in business circles.

---

#### CHARLES J. WATERHOUSE.

Charles J. Waterhouse, a popular and enterprising business man of Wasco, where he is employed as station agent and telegraph operator, was born in Holton, Kansas, December 9, 1869, the son of Robert J. and Martha A. (Spencer) Waterhouse. His father was a veteran of the Civil war, serving in the Twentieth Kansas Cavalry as second lieutenant. He was a prominent citizen of Jackson county, where he served as sheriff for ten consecutive years. Following his retirement from public life he engaged in the grocery business, in which he continued until the time of his death in 1905. In politics he was a democrat, and socially was a member of the Masonic order, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of the Knights of Pythias, and of several insurance orders. The mother was born in Upper Stillwater, Maine. Her father was for many years a sea captain. Two children were born to this union, but Edward J. left home at the age of fourteen years and has not been heard from since.

Charles J. Waterhouse received his early education in the public schools of Holton, Kansas, passing on through consecutive grades to the high school, spending his vacation periods in railroad construction work. From the high school he entered the Campbell Normal University, of Holton, where he took a two-years' course, and then entered upon the active duties of railroad life, with which he has since been connected. He has received a broad education in this work, gained through a vast experience in adapting himself to various positions. He was agent at Cambridge, Kansas; Shaw, Agricola, Holton, Mineral, Columbus, Junction City; Adair, Indian Territory; Savonburg, Kansas; Chanute, La Harpe, back to Chanute, Carl Junction, Missouri; Texar-

kana, Texas; Cape Girardeau, Missouri; Byron, Illinois; South Freeport, Illinois; Graf, Iowa; back to Byron, Illinois; thence to his present position in Wasco, where he has resided for the past three years.

While a resident of Shaw, Kansas, Mr. Waterhouse met and married Miss Sarah A. Allen, a native of that city. They have become the parents of two children: Paul Preston, born April 9, 1895; and Lillian, born July 5, 1905.

In his political views Mr. Waterhouse is a staunch republican, though he has never aspired to public office. Fraternally he is a member of the Masonic order, of the Modern Woodmen of America, and of the Order of Railway Telegraphers.

---

### MOSES WILLIAM HAWES.

Moses William Hawes was long well known in Elgin and was a factor in its business development and growth. He was a wide traveler and possessing an observing eye and retentive memory his mind was stored with many interesting reminiscences of his trips to foreign countries. He is still survived by his widow, who is yet an esteemed resident of Elgin. He was born September 2, 1814, at Watertown, New York. He acquired his early education there and later went to Baltimore, where he learned civil engineering. In 1837 he was sent to Point Conception, Chili, to build and put into operation the second flouring mill of that country. He was chosen for this position from among one hundred applicants. In the South American country he became prominent and for many years was in the employ of the government, doing contract work.

While in the south Mr. Hawes married a Spanish lady and unto them were born six children. Three reached years of maturity, but all are now deceased. Having lost his wife and being in poor health himself, Mr. Hawes went from Chili to China in 1859 and thence returned to the United States, having circumnavigated the globe. On the 12th of February, 1860, he was married to Miss Jennie R. Rosencrans, a native of New York, born near Hammondsport. Her parents were Asa and Jane (Cole) Rosencrans, natives of New Jersey, whence they removed to the Empire state, where the father owned a good farm on Crooked lake. He removed westward to Elgin with his family in 1837, Mrs. Hawes being at that time but four years of age. The family was prominent in pioneer days and aided in the early development and progress of Kane county.

Two sons of the family, Horace and Frazier Rosencrans, arrived in 1836 and entered a tract of land in Cook county near Elgin. The following year the father and other members of the family came to Kane county and with the work of pioneer development and progress were closely associated, aiding in extending the frontier which in due time took on all the evidences of a modern civilization. Another son, Garrett Rosencrans, served as assessor of Elgin township for many years and was city surveyor for a long period. His political allegiance was given to the republican party and he was an active and





MOSES W. HAWES





prominent member of the Young Men's Christian Association. He was also a director in the Home National Bank for many years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Rosencrans died here.

They were the parents of nine children, five sons and four daughters, but Mrs. Hawes is the only one now living. The eldest, Horace, is now deceased. Frazier was drowned in the Fox river near Elgin in 1838. Mrs. Maria Scott Smith, the third of the family, is deceased. Dr. Halsey Rosencrans was a physician, located in Texas at the outbreak of the Civil war. Owing to his Union sentiments he was forced to leave that country and he became a surgeon in the northern army. He was very successful in his treatment of yellow fever patients, losing only two cases during a long epidemic. After the war he returned to Texas, where for many years he was a prominent physician, but lost his life in Indianola, Texas, during a cyclone in 1886. Garrett, the next of the family, was prominent in business and political life here. Elizabeth and Katherine are now deceased. Hiram D. resided in Elgin until 1852 and then went west to Utah, where he died. The youngest member of the family is Mrs. Hawes, who is also the only survivor.

On the 1st of August, 1860, Mr. and Mrs. Hawes sailed for Chili, where about seven years were passed, returning to the United States in the autumn of 1867. Mr. Hawes then engaged in the lumber business at Mendota, Illinois, but his health failed and he sold out, going to Europe in 1873 with his wife. Following his return home he was closely associated with other business interests. In 1877 he was called to serve as president of the Home National Bank of Elgin and remained as its chief executive officer until 1879, when he resigned. His remaining days were spent in honorable retirement in the enjoyment of well earned rest and he passed away November 22, 1894, respected and honored by all who knew him. Mr. Hawes was an able business man, diligent, active and reliable, his name being a most honored one in both commercial and financial circles. He reached the venerable age of eighty years and a life of usefulness and honor was terminated when he was called to his final rest.

---

#### SOLEMNUS DAY SEAMANS.

The history of Aurora's commercial development and upbuilding would be incomplete without mention of Solennus Day Seamans, a prominent and successful representative of its commercial and industrial interests. With keen understanding in business situations and displaying at all times a thorough mastery of every problem which is presented, he has gained a place among the prosperous and able business men of the city, his career winning him the entire respect of his colleagues and the admiration of his contemporaries. He is now conducting a large trade as a dealer in lumber and building materials, and is also the president of the Aurora Corset Company.

A native of Richfield Springs, New York, Mr. Seamans was born October 11, 1848, his parents being Nelson and Lorinda A. (Day) Seamans. The

father was a plow maker when a young man in the Empire state. He lived principally in Herkimer county, New York, but in early manhood, attracted by the gold discoveries in California, he went to that state by way of the isthmus route, and was there engaged in mining and milling. Subsequently he went to Oregon and engaged in that trade at Port Orford, but the Indians becoming hostile to the white men he was killed by them in 1858, when about forty-eight years of age. His wife survived him until June, 1879, and died in Aurora, at about the age of sixty-five years. She had made her home here for a number of years, and had gained many friends in the community. She held membership in the Baptist church. They were the parents of three children: Solemnus D.; Charles D., of Los Angeles, California; and Cornelia, the wife of L. F. Gay, of Los Angeles, California.

Solemnus D. Seamans lived in New York to the age of twelve years, and in 1860 became a resident of Illinois. He remained upon the farm east of Aurora until April, 1861, when he took up his abode in the city and entered the public schools. He afterward attended Clark Seminary, and when his education was completed he accepted a position in the postoffice under George S. Bangs, there continuing for four years. On the expiration of that period he turned his attention to the production of strawberries and other fruits and one year raised three hundred bushels of strawberries. He continued in that business for a number of years, after which he owned a lumberyard in partnership with an old schoolmate, William Elliott, under the firm style of Seamans & Elliott. They were together for two years, after which Mr. Seamans purchased his partner's interest and admitted his cousin, Truman H. Day. They were together for a year, after which he bought out Mr. Day's interest and admitted John Loomis to a partnership. The latter was a practical lumberman and the firm of Loomis & Seamans continued for five years. Since the 1st of June, 1878, however, Mr. Seamans has conducted the business alone. He has enjoyed an excellent and constantly increasing trade and has furnished lumber and building materials for thousands of houses in Aurora. His business methods have ever been straightforward and reliable, and his earnest efforts to please his patrons have secured him the large measure of success which has crowned his efforts. He has also been the president of the Aurora Corset Company since its organization and is fourth owner of this enterprise, which is now one of the important productive industries of the city, employing about two hundred and forty people. A man of resourceful business ability, he has extended his efforts to many lines, and various enterprises have felt the stimulus of his commercial activity, his sound judgment and keen business discrimination. He is also a director in the Western United Gas & Electric Company, is also a director in the German American National Bank and has various interests outside of the city. He is now part owner in a large jewelry store in Los Angeles, California, in partnership with his brother-in-law, J. G. Donavan, under the firm style of J. G. Donavan & Company. He is likewise largely interested in the Hamilton Watch Company, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and is a stockholder in three banks in Los Angeles, California. His investments have been judiciously placed and return him a gratifying income.

On the 17th of August, 1882, Mr. Seamans was married to Miss Nellie C. Donovan, a daughter of Daniel and Eleanor (O'Connor) Donovan. There are three children of that union, Myrtle L., Ethel E. and Solemnus D., Jr. The daughters are graduates of the East Aurora high school. The parents attend the People's church and politically Mr. Seamans is independent. The family residence is at No. 42 South Fourth street, where he has built a modern dwelling, and he also owns other residence property in the city. He thoroughly enjoys home life and takes great pleasure in the society of his family and friends. He is always courteous, kindly and affable, and those who know him personally have for him warm regard. A man of great natural ability, his success in business from the beginning of his residence in Aurora has been uniform and rapid. As has been truly remarked, after all that may be done for a man in the way of giving him early opportunities for obtaining the requirements which are sought in schools and in books he must essentially formulate, determine and give shape to his own character; and this is what Mr. Seamans has done. He has persevered in the pursuit of a persistent purpose and has gained a most satisfactory reward. His life is exemplary in many respects, and he has ever supported those interests which are calculated to uplift and benefit humanity, or which are matters of civic virtue and civic pride.

---

#### FREDERICK HANSEN.

Frederick Hansen, a prosperous agriculturist residing in Burlington township, was born in the province of Pommern, Germany, on the 21st of June, 1865, and in the year 1883 emigrated to America. His marriage was celebrated in 1890 and for six years thereafter he resided in Plato, but for the past twelve years has made his home in Burlington. Throughout his active business career he has been engaged in agricultural pursuits, first purchasing eighty acres known as the Festus Eaton farm and subsequently adding more land by additional purchase until his farm now comprises one hundred and eleven acres. He has brought the place under a high state of development and improvement, erected an attractive and commodious residence and remodeled many of the other buildings on the property. The fields annually return golden harvests in return for the care and labor which he bestows upon them, and in addition to the work of general farming he also conducts a dairy, owning twenty cows and shipping milk to Chicago. He raises about twenty head of young stock annually, his herd being composed largely of graded Holsteins, and also raises a few colts each year. Through the careful management of his interests he has gained a gratifying and well deserved measure of success and at the same time has won the regard and esteem of all with whom he has come in contact by reason of his straightforward and reliable business methods.

On the 31st of January, 1890, Mr. Hansen was united in marriage to Miss Mary Swift, whose birth occurred in St. Charles township, March 3.

1874. Their children are as follows: Minnie L., born May 18, 1891; John C., whose natal day was February 12, 1893; Willie C., who was born November 30, 1896; Fred J., May 13, 1899; Henry August, February 7, 1902; Charley A., August 4, 1904; and Mary A., September 28, 1906. All the children were born in Burlington township with the exception of Minnie L. and John C., whose place of nativity is Plato township.

Mr. Hansen gives stalwart allegiance to the men and measures of the republican party, while fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. He is also a devoted member of the Lutheran church, in the work of which he takes an active and helpful interest. Leaving his native land when a young man of eighteen years with the hope of more rapidly attaining the goal of success in the new world, he has here worked earnestly and persistently as the years have passed by and is now numbered among the prosperous and enterprising citizens of the community.

---

#### FREDERICK WILLIAM WORST.

Frederick William Worst occupies a creditable and enviable position in the business circles of Aurora, where his ability as an architect is manifest in many of the substantial and attractive structures of the city. His life moreover proves that

"The man who wins is the man who works,  
The man who toils while the next man shirks."

His birth occurred in Elkhart, Indiana, on the 11th of August, 1867, his parents being Charles H. and Nannie (Manning) Worst, the latter a native of Indiana and the former of Michigan. In the year 1869 they removed from Elkhart, Indiana, to Aurora, where the father followed the carpenter's trade, continuing in business here until his life's labors were ended in death in 1901.

Frederick William Worst was educated in the East Aurora public schools, passing through consecutive grades to his graduation from the high school with the class of 1887. He then commenced the study of architecture in the office of J. E. Minott, of Aurora, and one secret of his success undoubtedly lies in the fact that he has persevered in the pursuit of a persistent purpose, concentrating his energies upon the profession which at the outset of his career he determined to make his life work. After qualifying for activity in this line he formed a partnership in 1894 with J. E. Minott under the firm style of Minott & Worst. The association was continued until January, 1898, after which Mr. Worst was alone until 1903, when he admitted R. S. Shepardson to a partnership and the firm style of Worst & Shepardson has since been well known in the business circles of Aurora. That Mr. Worst is a most competent architect is indicated in some of the finest buildings of Aurora, which have been designed and constructed by him. These include St. Mary's school, the Finch & McCulloch Printing Company, building the Marion Avenue Baptist church and the First Congregational church. That his fame as an architect has spread abroad is indicated by the fact that he was the archi-



tect and builder of the State Bank of Geneva, the Elburn Bank, the bank at Hinckley, the Faber Brothers Hotel of Mendota, the Congregational church at Princeton and many other substantial structures which constitute a pleasing feature in the landscape owing to their attractive style of architecture. Mr. Worst has worked on over six hundred important contracts, including many beautiful residences. He also built the Emanuel Lutheran church of Aurora and is most proficient in architectural lines, keeping in touch with the advancement of the profession through reading and research. He belongs to the Illinois Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and is an associate member of the main organization—the American Institute of Architects.

In 1906 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Worst and Miss Mary W. Grenelle, a native of Nebraska. They have many warm friends in Aurora, their sterling characteristics gaining for them high regard. Mr. Worst belongs to the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks and gives his political allegiance to the republican party. Although not an office seeker, he is interested in the public welfare and has served as alderman from the fourth ward. He prefers, however, to do his public service as a private citizen, knowing that there are many opportunities whereby he may promote the general welfare, and his influence at all times upholds the political and legal status of the community and stands for those things which are a matter of civic virtue and civic pride.

---

#### PRESTON A. KEEFE.

Numbered among the successful business men of Maple Park is Preston A. Keefe, who is conducting a livery barn and is also engaged in the real-estate business, handling Canada lands. He is a native son of this city, born September 7, 1889. His father, Cullen Keefe, was a native of Sackville, New Brunswick, born October 9, 1838. At the age of five years he was brought by his parents to Kane county, the family home being established on a farm in Virgil township, for which the father paid two dollars and a half per acre. Cullen Keefe acquired his education in the district schools of this county, and when the Civil war was inaugurated, offered his services to the government. On the 14th of August, 1862, he enlisted as a member of Company B, One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Illinois Infantry. He took part in the battle at Vicksburg, serving under Generals Grant and Sherman. He was taken ill with yellow fever, and for six weeks was confined in a hospital in that city. He was mustered out in Chicago, after which he returned to Virgil township and engaged in farming, which he followed for several years. He then disposed of his land and took up his abode in Maple Park, where for thirty-five years he was engaged in the grain, coal and live-stock business. He was a staunch republican and for five years filled the office of collector of Virgil township. His fraternal relations were with the Masons. He was united in marriage to Miss Ella J. White, who was born in West Casset, Maine, and the children born to this marriage were: Frank A. Keefe, who

for nine years filled the office of postmaster in Maple Park and took a very active part in the political life of that city, but is now deceased; Francis, who has also departed this life; and Ella Fern.

Preston A. Keefe was reared in Maple Park and attended the public schools to the age of seventeen years, when he entered the Metropolitan Business College of Chicago, continuing there for one year. He then returned to his home in Maple Park and assisted his father in the conduct of a grain, coal and live-stock business, in which they continued for many years, or until 1907, when they sold their business interests and Preston A. Keefe then engaged in the conduct of a livery, feed and sales barn. This is located one block from Main street and is well equipped, for he keeps on hand good horses and vehicles, which he hires to the public, and he also buys and sells horses, being an excellent judge of the noble steed. In connection with his barn he also conducts a bowling alley, his building being sixty by seventy-five feet and lighted by electricity. In addition to this he also does a real estate business, handling mostly Canada lands. He has made a close study of property values and is therefore meeting with good success in this undertaking.

Preston A. Keefe was married to Miss Lula Bennett, who was also born in Maple Park, and whose parents are now deceased, their remains being interred in the cemetery at this place. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Keefe has been blessed with two little sons: Cullen Wesley, who was born January 28, 1902; and Stanley A., born January 27, 1908.

Mr. Keefe has always given his support to the republican party, and for four years filled the office of collector of Virgil township. His fraternal relations are with the Modern Woodmen of America. He has made good use of his opportunities and has prospered from year to year, conducting all business matters carefully and successfully, and today he finds a place among the prominent business men of this section of Kane county.

---

#### A. V. GREENMAN.

A. V. Greenman, superintendent of schools of Aurora, holds to a high standard in his profession, and under his guidance the system of public instruction here has been much improved in various ways. Von Humboldt said, "Whatever we want to see introduced into the life of a nation must first be introduced into the schools"; and Professor Greenman works right along that line, believing with Kant, that "the object of education is to train each individual to reach the highest perfection possible for him." Professor Greenman has devoted his entire life to educational work since ceasing to be a student and entering upon the task of providing for his own livelihood. He was born in Leonardsville, New York, July 3, 1852, a son of J. V. and Euretta G. (Esterbrook) Greenman. His father was a native of the Empire state, was of English lineage, and on leaving New York removed westward to Wisconsin in 1855, settling at Milton. There he remained until his death, which occurred in 1863.

Professor Greenman was but a lad of three summers at the time of the removal to Wisconsin, and was but eleven years of age at his father's death. He pursued his education in the public schools and in the college at Milton, after which he took up the profession of teaching in the district schools of Wisconsin. He afterward spent four years as a teacher at Davis Junction, Illinois, and four years in Creston, Illinois. He was also connected with the public schools of Rochelle, Illinois, for six years, and in 1890 came to Aurora as superintendent of the West Aurora schools. It will be seen that each change has been a forward step in his professional career. He is a man of wide experience and ability and under his guidance has brought the schools up to a high state of proficiency. The methods of instruction are practical and it is his aim always that the work done will be a preparation for the responsible duties of life that follow the work of the schoolroom. The growth of the schools is also indicated by the fact that when he came to Aurora there were but eighteen teachers, and today there are thirty-five, while the high school attendance has been increased from eighty to two hundred and sixty.

Professor Greenman was married to Miss Katherine Calkins, a native of the state of New York, and they have one daughter, Ella M. They hold membership in the Congregational church and occupy an enviable position in social circles. For a number of years Professor Greenman has been a member of the State Teachers Association, and has been honored with its presidency. He has always worked toward high ideals in his profession, and his ability in this direction and his personal characteristics have won for him the high respect and sincere regard of the great majority of those with whom he has been brought in contact.

---

#### LEONARD S. TAYLOR, M. D.

Prominent among the medical fraternity of Elgin was Dr. Leonard S. Taylor, whose success in his chosen calling was widely acknowledged, gaining for him an excellent practice. He was born in Elgin on the 7th of October, 1867, a son of James and Rachel Taylor, and during his boyhood cultivated a love for books which grew with the passing years. He was, however, always ready to take part in the pastimes and games of his associates. He attended the public schools of Elgin, where he studiously applied himself, and after his graduation entered the employ of the Elgin National Watch Company. During his evenings he generally assisted his father in the shoe store, of which the latter was proprietor.

Desiring to become a physician he worked with that end in view and took up the study of medicine, industriously applying himself when his work for the day was over. He saved his money and at length was able to enter Bennett Medical College, Chicago, in the fall of 1887. On the completion of the regular course he was graduated with honors in March, 1891, and was honored with an appointment as interne at Cook County Hospital. His work during the eighteen months of his connection with that hospital was highly

complimented by one who knew him at that time, and on the completion of his hospital course, October 1, 1892, he returned to Elgin, where he opened an office and continued in general practice until his death. He gained a wide reputation as a successful surgeon, giving special attention to abdominal work, surgical gynecology. He also performed many operations on the kidneys and met with most excellent results.

The Doctor took an active interest in medical societies, being a prominent member of the Elgin Physicians Club, the Fox River Valley and the Illinois State Medical Societies and the American Medical Association. He was faithful in attendance at the meetings and contributed generously in scientific discussion.

In 1902 Dr. Taylor married Miss Ruth A. Leslie, who was born in Freeport, Illinois, and is a daughter of Philip and Amanda (Sheetz) Leslie, of Elgin. Three children blessed this union, namely: Helen, Jeanette and Laura.

In his fraternal relations Dr. Taylor was a prominent Mason. He was one of the leading and influential members of the English Lutheran church of Elgin, being chairman of the finance and building committees at the time the Holy Trinity church was built, so that this beautiful structure really stands as a monument to his untiring zeal and labor. He was liberal in his contributions to church and charitable work, and in his death, which occurred August 5, 1907, Elgin realized that it had lost a most valued and honored citizen.

---

#### F. A. RUSSELL.

F. A. Russell, conducting a prosperous insurance agency in Elgin, is one of Kane county's native sons. There is no surer proof of the attractiveness of this district as a place of residence than the fact that so many of the native sons have remained within the borders of the county, feeling that its opportunities and advantages were equal if not superior to those which could be secured elsewhere. Mr. Russell in his insurance business has secured a good clientage, writing a large amount of business annually, and previously he was closely identified with farming interests of the locality.

He was born on the 30th of August, 1861, his parents being Ira N. and Charlotte (Sherburne) Russell, both of whom were natives of the state of New York. He pursued his education in the Elgin Academy, from which he was graduated in 1881. He was reared upon a farm in Plato township and when not busy with his text-books worked in the fields, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He continued in farming until 1902 and as the years passed brought his fields under a high state of cultivation, carefully managing his business interests, his capable control and unfaltering enterprise bringing him a creditable success in that undertaking. He is still interested in farming, being the owner of two hundred acres of fine land in Plato township which he has rented to





F. A. RUSSELL





tenants. In 1902 he left the farm and removed to Elgin, where he established his insurance office. He represents the Old Connecticut of Hartford and the Queen Insurance Company of America. He also handles real estate to some extent and his business interests, carefully managed, have placed him with the men of affluence in the county.

On the 26th of September, 1882, Mr. Russell was united in marriage to Miss Lenora A. Lathrop, a native of Kane county, and unto them have been born three sons: Glen L., Ira N. and Harry L. In his fraternal relations Mr. Russell is connected with the Elks and the Woodmen, while politically his allegiance is given to the republican party. While he has never sought nor desired office for himself, he has always been public spirited in matters relating to the general welfare and is interested in all that pertains to the welfare and upbuilding of the community. He has, however, preferred to devote his energies to his private business affairs rather than to hold office and is widely known and respected for his enterprise and his reliability.

---

#### ARCHIE G. SYLVESTER.

Archie G. Sylvester, foreman of the coach department of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad shops at Aurora, was born at Irving Park, a suburb of Chicago, March 20, 1874, his parents being Lewis and Celinda (Moreau) Sylvester, both of whom were natives of New York, the former born at White Hall and the latter at Plattsburgh. Lewis Sylvester was a son of Frank Sylvester, who was a native of Canada and was of French descent. The grandfather learned and followed the cabinet makers' trade, and in early life removed to Chicago. Soon afterward he came to Aurora and for many years was in the employ of the shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company. Later he worked for his son Lewis and died in Aurora when about seventy-four years of age. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Harriet La Voy, died when past middle life. They had a family of two sons and one daughter.

The maternal grandfather of Archie G. Sylvester was Peter DuPlesy Moreau, likewise a native of Canada and of French lineage. He learned the shoemaker's trade and at an early day came to Aurora, being employed at Joseph Reising's place and afterward by Reising & Simmons for forty-seven years. He died in Aurora at an advanced age, while his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth (De Foe) Moreau, is still living at the age of seventy-nine years. They were the parents of fourteen children, including Celinda Moreau, who became the wife of Lewis Sylvester.

The latter is a contractor and builder who was reared to manhood in Aurora and in early life engaged in farming. When but fourteen years of age he enlisted for service in the Civil war, joining the One Hundred and Fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry at Sycamore. He served throughout the period of hostilities as a private, and was in all of the principal engagements under Sherman, whom he also accompanied on the celebrated march to the

sea. After the war he returned to Aurora, and has since been identified with the carpenter's trade and building interests to the present time. He has been a general contractor for over twenty years, erecting hundreds of important buildings of Aurora and the adjacent district, and throughout the entire period has maintained an unassailable reputation because of his fidelity to the terms of a contract, as well as his expert workmanship. He and his wife are members of the New England Congregational church. He also belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, and his political allegiance is given to the republican party. In matters of citizenship he has ever been progressive and as loyal to his country as when he followed the stars and stripes upon southern battlefields. Unto him and his wife have been born three sons, Edmund, Archie G. and Frank Moreau, all of Aurora.

Archie G. Sylvester was reared in this city and attended the public and high schools. After leaving school he started out to learn the carpenter's trade. In June, 1896, he entered the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company in their shops at Aurora and has been rapidly promoted in recognition of his ability. In 1900 he was made foreman of the coach shops and has since continued in this position, the duties of which he discharges in a most capable manner. He is an expert workman, thoroughly understanding building interests in every department, and is thus well qualified to superintend the labors of those who serve under him.

On the 19th of February, 1901, Mr. Sylvester was married to Miss Anna Margaret Bauman, a daughter of August and Catharine (Weber) Bauman. Mrs. Sylvester was born and reared in Aurora, where her parents located about 1865. She is an elocutionist of much more than local note, having read before the public for a number of years in this and other cities. By her marriage she has become the mother of three children, Ellsworth Archie, Evelyn Anna and Marion Elizabeth.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester are members of the New England Congregational church, in the work of which they take an active and helpful part, Mr. Sylvester belongs to Waubonsie Lodge, No. 45, I. O. O. F., to Charle- of the church. Both he and his wife are prominently known socially, and the hospitality of their pleasant home is greatly enjoyed by their many friends. Mr. Sylvester belongs to Waubansie Lodge, No. 45, I. O. O. F., to Charle- magne Lodge, No. 245, K. P., the Yeomen of America, the Sons of Veterans and the Spanish War Veterans. He has always been interested in military affairs and prior to the Spanish-American war was captain of Battery B of the Light Artillery. He was also captain of the Sons of Veterans' Camp of Aurora, was first lieutenant of the Aurora Rifles. When war broke out with Spain he joined the American army as a member of Company D, Third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with the rank of corporal. He served during General Miles' invasion of Porto Rico and after the return of the troops he was appointed captain of Company D, Third Illinois Infantry, which position he continued to fill until a recent date, when he resigned.

In politics Mr. Sylvester has always been a stalwart republican, is a prominent and active worker in the ranks of the party, and for the past six years has been a member of the county central committee. He is also super-

visor and is now serving for the second term. One of the salient characteristics in the life of Mr. Sylvester is his loyalty to the trust reposed in him. This has been manifest in civic office, in official positions, in military life, and in his business relations, and it has won for him the unqualified respect and regard of those who know him. He is a representative of an old family of Kane county, but it is his personal worth which has won him the enviable place which he now occupies in the opinion of his fellowmen, while his business capacity has gained him his present responsible position in industrial circles.

---

### JOHN AUGUST JOHNSON.

John August Johnson, a successful farmer and dairyman of Virgil township, was born in Linköping, Sweden, July 15, 1835, and attended the schools of his native country until sixteen years of age. On putting aside his textbooks he started out in life for himself, having no financial resources but possessing good health and the determination to win success if it could be obtained by honorable effort. At that time the population of Sweden was much congested and as a result wages were exceedingly low. At the age of nineteen years Mr. Johnson was able to secure only twenty crowns (about fifteen dollars) as compensation for an entire year's work.

While waiting at Gothenberg for transportation to America he saw in course of construction the first railroad that was ever built in Sweden. The line was to connect Gothenberg with Stockholm. After a stormy ocean voyage of seven weeks our subject reached New York, and immediately made his way to Chicago, where he was employed at making hay for a few weeks in the suburbs of that city. Subsequently coming to Elburn, he was here engaged as a farm hand for five years. Having carefully saved his earnings, he was enabled, on the expiration of that period, to purchase one hundred and thirty-two acres of timber land.

He was married about this time, and the young couple experienced many of the hardships and trials of pioneer life. They found they could not successfully operate their farm with the small capital which they possessed, so Mr. Johnson once more worked as a hired hand in order to obtain the necessities of life. He continued in the employ of others for several years, gradually improving his farm as opportunity offered, and when he had accumulated enough capital to justify the step, he started out as an agriculturist on his own account. The large degree of prosperity which has attended his efforts is indicated by the fact that he has placed over five thousands dollars' worth of improvements on his place, expending four thousand dollars in tiling a portion of the land. The success which he now enjoys is but the merited reward of his unremitting toil and unwearied diligence, and his ideal home and model farming property now stand as monuments to his well directed labor and excellent business ability. He operates an extensive dairy in connection with his farming interests and is widely recognized as one of the prominent and successful men of the community.



Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Emma L. Munson, who was born in Sweden, March 2, 1843, and came to America in 1852. To this union were born the following children: John Oscar, a farmer residing near Elburn; Charlotte T., the wife of Albert Anderson, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits near Elburn; Frank W., who follows farming near Lafox; and Charles F., who resides at home and assists his father in the operation of the home farm.

In his political views, Mr. Johnson is a staunch republican, and has held some township offices, while for twenty years he has served as school director, the cause of education finding in him a warm friend. He holds membership in the Lutheran church, in the work of which he is actively and helpfully interested. Leaving his native land in order that he might take advantage of the broader opportunities of the new world, he has here worked his way steadily upward, and now in the evening of life can look back over a well spent and honorable career. Having lived in this country for more than a half century, he is largely familiar with the various stages of its growth and development and relates in an interesting manner many incidents and experiences of pioneer days.

---

#### CARLTON E. STARRETT, M.D.

Dr. Carlton E. Starrett, who for twenty-two years was a representative of the medical fraternity in Elgin, was widely known as a successful practitioner and able educator, and at all times kept abreast with the profession in its progress toward that perfection for which the American medical fraternity is constantly striving.

The Doctor was born in Alna, Lincoln county, Maine, a son of David and Sarah (Chadwick) Starrett, and with his parents came to the middle west in early boyhood. He was reared and educated in Chicago and in Wheaton College, at Wheaton, Illinois, from which institution he was graduated with the degree of Master of Arts in 1887. In 1884 he was graduated from the Bennett Medical College at Chicago and during the following year did editorial work on the Chicago Medical Times. In 1886 he located for practice in Elgin and soon won a liberal patronage here, for in his treatment of complex cases he displayed superior skill in solving the intricate problems that devolved upon him. He pursued a post-graduate course in Rush Medical College in Chicago and in 1893 was graduated therefrom with the degree of M. D. He did considerable work in educational lines, being assistant professor of physiology in Bennett Medical College in 1884, demonstrator of chemistry in 1885, and professor of materia medica and therapeutics in 1888-89. He was also professor of chemistry and therapeutics in Wheaton College in 1887 and likewise professor of physiology and special therapeutics in the Chicago College of Ophthalmology, in which he was a trustee. He was president of the Cook County Pathological Society, of which he was one of the organizers; a member of the National Association of Military Surgeons;



a fellow member of the American Academy; a member of the Chicago Press Club; and also identified through membership relations with various medical societies.

In 1890 Dr. Starrett saw active service in the southwest in the Indian warfare and after that was continuously connected with the National Guard, becoming major surgeon of the Third Regiment Illinois National Guard. During the Spanish-American war he served as assistant surgeon of the Third Illinois Volunteer Infantry and won distinction in the West Indies. On his return he was offered an appointment in the Philippine expedition but declined. He retained his connection with the Third Regiment and at the meeting of the Spanish veterans at Springfield in 1902 he was chosen surgeon general of Illinois. At three different times he was appointed by the governor of the state to represent the Illinois National Guard at the meetings of the national encampments. In 1895 Dr. Starrett spent several months with the British forces on the Nile river—an epoch in his life which was intensely interesting from the standpoint of travel and culture as well as professional advancement. His life was somewhat varied in its character beyond that of most physicians because of his association with military affairs, and his friends—and they were many—found him a social, entertaining and interesting gentleman.

Dr. Starrett's family consisted of his wife, who was Miss Jessie L. Whitford, a daughter of Dr. H. K. Whitford, of Elgin, one of the best known physicians of the state, and three children, Carl, Kathleen and David Starrett. The Doctor died May 1, 1908.

---

### JOHN WIER.

John Wier belongs to that thrifty race which is noted for persistent industry and for achieving great results in every field of human endeavor. He was born in Germany, July 25, 1852, a son of Henry and Minnie (Lute) Wier, also natives of Germany and descended from long lines of ancestry resident in that country. The father was a farmer, but was devoted to his country and took part in the war of Germany against Denmark in 1848. He is still living in his native land, but his wife is dead. They had three children, John, Henry and Fred, all now farmers in Kane county.

John Wier went to school in Germany until he reached the age of fourteen, then worked on a farm two years. When he was sixteen he came to the United States and, choosing Illinois as his home, located at Elk Grove in Cook county. There he worked on farms until he arrived at twenty-five years of age. At that age he was married to Miss Minnie Bowman, who, like himself, is a native of Germany. They have had nine children, all but one of whom are living and still reside under the parental roof-tree. The children living are: Lena, Anna, Clara, John, Alma, Martha, Henry and Arthur; the one who died was named William.

After his marriage Mr. Wier rented a farm near Hampshire in this county, and on this farm he has had his home since the spring of 1907. The

farm contains one hundred and seventy acres. It is well cultivated in mixed crops and under Mr. Wier's skillful management is highly productive. In connection with his farming operations he carries on a flourishing dairy business, milking forty-two cows. In politics Mr. Wier is a republican, and in religion a Lutheran.

---

### SAMUEL EUGENE MILLER.

Samuel Eugene Miller is president of the Miller-Bryant-Pierce Company, manufacturers of typewriter ribbons and supplies at Aurora. He was the founder and promoter of this enterprise, which has become a leading productive industry of the city and from which he himself has derived substantial benefits. There has been no esoteric phase in his career, his success being gained through close adherence to the rules which govern strict and unswerving integrity and unwearied diligence.

A native son of Illinois, Mr. Miller was born at Hinckley on the 12th of February, 1870. His father, Robert Miller, was a native of Indiana and came to Illinois with his father, Samuel Miller, in his infancy, the year of his arrival being 1834. Samuel Miller acquired the land on which the town of Hinckley now stands, and was one of the earliest residents of this part of the state. Only two years before had the Black Hawk war occurred and there was still many evidences of Indian occupancy in the state. The forests were uncut, the prairies uncultivated and the streams unbridged. In fact, there was little evidence of progressive development and it seemed that many years would pass before Illinois would be settled and become a center of learning and of industrial, commercial and agricultural progress. The Miller family, however, became factors in the early development. Robert Miller was reared to the occupation of farming and made that pursuit his life work, but in 1889 retired from the farm and took up his abode in Aurora, where he died in September, 1905, at the age of seventy-two years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Maria Coster, and was a native of New York, is now living in Aurora.

Samuel Eugene Miller pursued his education in the public schools of Hinckley, in Dixon College and in the Jennings Seminary of Aurora, pursuing shorthand and commercial courses in the two last named institutions. He was thus well qualified for a business career and he entered the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company as private secretary to the general passenger agent. He afterward occupied a similar position with the division superintendent of the Pullman Company, but desirous of engaging in business for himself, he eagerly watched for available opportunities and at length feeling that there was a good opening for the manufacture of typewriter ribbons, carbon paper and other supplies, in 1896 he established business in this line under the name of the Miller & Carter Manufacturing Company, with plant and offices in Aurora. The partners had very little capital and their stock was a most modest one, for they had less than one thousand dollars at their command. The first year their receipts were extremely small but Mr. Miller

had confidence, ability and determination and the result shows that his confidence was well placed. The business has since enjoyed great growth and phenomenal success. He regarded the quality of his supplies as the best advertisement and utilized every available means to place his goods upon the market, knowing that when once introduced they would have a ready sale. In 1906 the business was incorporated as the Miller-Bryant-Pierce Company, but in a short time both Mr. Bryant and Mr. Pierce retired and now Mr. Miller owns virtually the entire stock of the company, the success of which is attributable in very large measure to his keen foresight and indefatigable energy. The trade is now very extensive, covering the entire United States, with branches in New York, St. Louis, Chicago and San Francisco. They also enjoy a large European trade and sell in India, Japan and Australia, and, in fact, wherever the typewriter is used. No week passes without many orders being shipped to foreign countries. At the beginning they employed only four or five operatives in the factory, but now they employ thirty-five or forty and use the most improved machinery in the manufacture of supplies. Each employe is today able to do as much under modern conditions and with the machinery now in use as twelve people could formerly do. The company also has a number of representatives on the road, both in this country and abroad.

In 1896 Mr. Miller was married to Miss Meda Jones, a native of Mendota, Illinois, and they have two children: Marjorie, born October 31, 1899; and Barbara, born February 9, 1904. Mr. Miller is recognized as one of the progressive young men of the city, of substantial qualities, of laudable ambition and firm purpose. He is a popular manufacturer and business man, having the esteem and good will of his colleagues and his associates. Fraternally he is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Lodge No. 705.

---

### NELS PETERSON.

Nels Peterson, a prosperous farmer and dairyman residing in Campton township, three miles northeast of Elburn, where he owns and operates a farm of one hundred and seventy acres, is a native of Sweden, born December 11, 1857, and from that country he emigrated to America in 1882.

He was born and reared on a farm and attended the district schools of his native land until at the age of nine years he was taken from school to aid his father in the work of the farm. He remained under the parental roof until twenty-five years of age, when he determined to seek his fortune in America, and booked his passage for this country. Arriving here he first located near Geneva, Illinois, and later removed to Wasco, where he worked as a farm hand for ten years, all this time saving his earnings as best he could with the ultimate object of buying a farm of his own. Eventually he was enabled to secure title to his present farm, and with renewed energy he undertook the work of establishing it on a paying basis and of paying his indebtedness. The investment proved a most fortunate one, as his crops yielded him good returns, so that he is now

entirely out of debt and derives an income from his property that has placed him in a position of independence. The place is well improved, has a fine orchard on it, and is well watered, the water showing strong indications of minerals, iron principally abounds and the well near the residence shows strong indications of sulphuretted hydrogen. About fifty acres of the land is rolling and covered with timber. Mr. Peterson now keeps a herd of forty cows and is engaged in the dairy business.

In 1887 occurred the marriage of Mr. Peterson and Miss Hannah Johnson, who is also a native of Sweden. Unto this union have been born three children: Edward, Albert T. and Anna E. All reside at home with their parents.

In politics Mr. Peterson supports the republican party, and religiously he is a member of the Lutheran church. He deserves the utmost credit for the success to which he has attained in life, as when he landed in America he had but five dollars and his success is entirely due to his own efforts and habits of thrift, industry and perseverance.

---

#### GEORGE CHRISTOPHER YATES.

The first born of eight children in his father's family, and the son of an active practitioner of veterinary surgery in the early days when a man of that profession was in great demand and obliged to practice over a very wide extent of country, George Christopher Yates had many homes in his childhood and youth and became familiar with many different parts of this, his native state. He was born near Bloomington, Illinois, on October 12, 1862, and is the son of Christopher and Almira (Beals) Yates. Both were born in New York state, the father in Montgomery county, December 25, 1837, and the mother in Yates county, December 3, 1842. The father was a skillful and successful veterinary surgeon and his services as such were in great demand. The almost countless calls on him for professional work obliged him to keep on the move in his early life, and as he always took his family with him, they had for a time no settled abiding place. This accounts for the numerous birth-places of his children, who were: George Christopher; William Edward, who was born in Kendall county, this state, March 12, 1866, and is now farming in Edmunds county, South Dakota; Albert LeRoy, born in Livingston county, Illinois, March 21, 1868, and now a successful veterinarian at Dwight, in that county; Nellie M., who was born in Iroquois county, Illinois, March 29, 1872, and is now living on a farm in Sugar Grove township, this county, with her husband, John Perkins; Bert Q., born October 16, 1874, in Iroquois county, who now lives in Aurora; Harry, who was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, July 2, 1877, and is now deceased; Alice, who was born in Livingston county, August 27, 1879, and married William Neel, a farmer in Saline county, Nebraska, near the village of Tobias; and Lefa A., who was born October 9, 1881, in Livingston county, the wife of Fred Neel, and now living on the farm of her husband in the vicinity of Tobias, Nebraska. Christopher Yates,





MR. AND MRS. GEORGE C. YATES





the father of these children, died November 17, 1892, aged fifty-four years, ten months and seventeen days.

George C. Yates obtained a common school education of limited extent, owing to the circumstances and migrations of the family in his youth. At the age of twenty-one he hired himself out to work as a farm hand, first in Livingston county and afterward in Kane county, and ever since then he has been engaged in farming, although, like his father, he has been somewhat migratory, and followed his chosen pursuit in different places.

The important event of his marriage occurred on October 29, 1888, when he was united with Miss Candace Estella Breese, a daughter of Lysander C. and Susan H. (Wormley) Breese. She was born May 9, 1864, on the farm in Aurora township which is now the home of herself and her family. It has been in the Breese family for three-quarters of a century, and she is the representative of the fourth generation in direct descent from Samuel and Betsey Ann (Smith) Breese, its first possessors, in the ownership and occupancy of it. Her parents were married February 25, 1854. The father was born October 29, 1824, and when a child was brought to this farm by his mother. On it he grew to manhood and passed the remainder of his days, dying here April 29, 1893. He was widely and favorably known in Kane and Kendall counties, and enjoyed great popularity. Being a great lover of the horse, he made a study of this noble beast, and became an acknowledged authority on all subjects of interest connected with it, his judgment being universally deferred to. An upright and conscientious man, he was true and faithful in all the relations of life. He was also a shrewd and successful business man. Mrs. Lysander Breese was born June 23, 1830, at Painted Post, New York. She was the daughter of John and Deborah (Winans) Wormley, and went with her parents to Oswego, Kendall county, Illinois, in 1838. She and her husband became the parents of four children: Candace Estella, now Mrs. George Yates; Mary E., now Mrs. Robert Hadley, of Montgomery, this county; and Helen Edwina and Elsie, who died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Yates have had seven children: Florence A., who was born August 21, 1889, and Helen Irene, born November 25, 1890, both at home; Harry Breese, who was born July 27, 1892, and now assists his father in carrying on the farm; Susan Maud, born August 27, 1895; Gladys Irma, born May 15, 1900; Nellie May, born September 27, 1902; and William Cuthbert, who was born July 17, 1904, and died April 11, 1906. The older children were born in Kane county and the three youngest in South Dakota. Florence, the oldest daughter, has attended the East Aurora high school, and all the others are or will be well educated.

In 1899 Mr. Yates moved his family to Edmunds county, South Dakota, where he bought a farm of three hundred and twenty acres, which he still owns. He remained in that state and farmed his land six years, but in the spring of 1905 returned to Kane county, and, after living a year in Montgomery, moved to the old homestead of the Breese family, which became the property of his wife at the death of her parents. This farm contains seventy-three acres of exceptionally fine land and is well improved. It is one of the most attractive and valuable country homes in Aurora township, and will

not suffer in appearance or condition under the management of Mr. Yates, who is conceded to be a skillful and judicious husbandman and is very industrious and intelligent in conducting his farming operations. He has followed farming all of his mature life, and during his residence in South Dakota also engaged in raising shorthorn cattle.

In politics Mr. Yates is a republican. He is earnest and zealous in his citizenship, accepting its duties with cordiality and performing all its obligations with intelligence and uprightness. He served ten years as school director and manifested great interest in the cause of public education and great energy in promoting it. Mrs. Yates is also a determined advocate of the cause. She is well educated herself and wishes all others to be. She began her education in the district schools, continued it at the East Aurora high school and completed it at Jennings Seminary, which she attended one year. The family are truly representative of the best American citizenship and well worthy of the high esteem in which they are held.

---

#### RALPH H. HARDY.

Ralph H. Hardy, who is the efficient manager of a general mercantile store in Kaneville, was born at Strafford, Vermont, August 9, 1869. His father, Hiram T. Hardy, is a native of North Groton, Grafton county, New Hampshire, where his birth occurred March 12, 1838. He received a common-school education in his native town and subsequently served an apprenticeship of one year at the shoemaker's trade. When about twenty-two years of age he became a student at the academy in Thetford, Vermont, and soon afterward began the study of medicine in the office of Dr. E. C. Worcester. The winter of 1861 he devoted to teaching school in Post Mills, Vermont, but in June, 1862, he volunteered in defense of the Union cause, enlisting in the Seventh Squadron, or what was known as "Sprague's Squadron of Rhode Island Cavalry," for three months. While in this command he participated in the Shenandoah Valley campaign and in the battle of Antietam. On the expiration of his first term of enlistment he returned to Thetford, renewed his medical studies, and in the fall of the following year attended a course of lectures at Dartmouth College. The war still continuing, he reenlisted in October, 1863, for three years, or during the war, in the Third Battery Vermont Light Artillery under the well-known Captain Stout. He served on detail a part of the time as hospital steward and also took part in the siege of Petersburg and the battle of the Wilderness. He participated in many of the engagements during the years 1863, 1864 and 1865, and was present at the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. He was honorably discharged from service at the close of the war and was mustered out June 15, 1865. He then returned to Thetford and completed his studies at Dartmouth College, where he was graduated as a physician and surgeon, October 31, 1866, and soon afterward began practice at Strafford, Vermont. Here he remained until April, 1871, when he came to Illinois, sojourning, however,

but a short time, and finally located in Nebraska. He practiced there only until the spring of 1872 and then returned to Illinois, locating at Elgin. In October, 1873, he moved to Kaneville, where he has resided up to the present time, meeting with gratifying and well-merited success as a medical practitioner.

On the 12th of March, 1868, Dr. Hardy was married to Sophia E. Buzzell, a native of Strafford, Vermont, born January, 28, 1848. This union has been blessed with three children: Ralph H., of this review; Mabel, deceased; and Adra Genevieve. In politics Dr. Hardy is a republican, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. He has served as school director in Kaneville for ten years and his fraternal relations connect him with the Modern Woodmen of America, the Mystic Workers, the Yeomen and the Royal Knights.

Ralph H. Hardy attended school in Kaneville until fifteen years of age and then entered the academy at Elgin, from which he was graduated in 1888. Returning to Kaneville, he has since made his home here and now has the management of the general mercantile establishment of J. W. Dauberman. He is a man of excellent business ability and unquestioned integrity and the success of the enterprise is due in large measure to his able control of its interests.

Mr. Hardy was joined in wedlock on the 12th of September, 1884, to Miss Bertha M. Eldredge, by whom he has two children: Hiram T., born September 18, 1896; and Irwin E., whose birth occurred July 5, 1902.

In his political views Mr. Hardy is a staunch republican, while fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church, and has gained an extensive circle of warm friends throughout the community during the long period of his residence here.

---

#### WILLIAM J. FOWLER.

William J. Fowler, secretary, treasurer and manager of the Aurora Silver Plate Manufacturing Company, is thus closely associated with the productive industries of Aurora. He is a man of marked strength of character, of clearly defined individuality, of laudable ambition and firm purpose and he stands today as one of the prominent residents of his adopted city.

He was born in Brooklyn, New York, April 8, 1854, being the youngest son of Edward Y. and Mary G. (Williamson) Fowler. His paternal grandparents were Weeden and Phoebe (Halsted) Fowler. The former, a native of New York, was a millwright by trade and came westward to Illinois with his parents, Gilbert and Martha (Keck) Fowler, who settled at Big Rock, where their remaining days were passed and where they were eventually laid to rest. Weeden Fowler bought land, improved and cultivated it and engaged in farming for many years, becoming recognized as one of the representative and leading agriculturists of his community. Both he and his wife died when well advanced in years.



In the maternal line William J. Fowler is a representative of an old New York family. His grandfather, William Williamson, was a native of the Empire state and a farmer by occupation. He died at Bedford, Westchester county, New York, at an old age. He was twice married, his first wife being Sarah Carpenter and the grandmother of our subject. They had a family of twelve children. For his second wife William Williamson wedded Phebe Park. His father was a soldier of the Revolutionary war and the English troops came onto their farm at the time of the battle of Tarrytown.

Edward Y. Fowler was born in Westchester county, New York, and has long been a prominent and well-known resident of Aurora. After his marriage he lived for a time in New York city, where he was engaged in the grocery business, but in 1854 came to Illinois, settling at Aurora, where he opened a grocery store on the old McClelland corner, where Hotel Arthur now stands. He died in 1863 at the age of forty-three years, while his wife survived him until 1900 and was more than seventy years of age at the time of her demise. She belonged to the Society of Friends, while Edward Y. Fowler was a Congregationalist in religious belief. He was always active in public affairs, aiding materially in the development and substantial upbuilding of the community in which he lived and his entire life was in harmony with the teachings of the Masonic fraternity, in which he held membership. Unto him and his wife were born four children who reached adult age. Josephine is the widow of John R. Little and was for many years a resident of Big Rock, but afterward removed to Fairmont, Nebraska, where her husband died. Josepha, twin sister of Josephine, is the widow of George W. King, who was an early settler of Big Rock. Edward Y. is a member of the firm of F. E. Royston & Co., wholesale grocers.

William J. Fowler, the youngest of the family, was reared in Aurora and attended the public schools. He then entered upon his business career, securing a clerkship in a grocery store, where he was employed until twenty years of age. He then began traveling for the Aurora Silver Plate Manufacturing Company and has been connected with the same line of business continuously since, much of the time being with the Aurora company. He was for a part of the time, however, with the Meriden Silver Plate Company, of Meriden, Connecticut. For the past ten years he has been with the Aurora Silver Plate Manufacturing Company and is now secretary, treasurer and manager. This company was organized in 1869 and is engaged in the manufacture of all kinds of silverware. The excellence of its output insures to the house a good trade and under the capable direction of Mr. Fowler the business is meeting with excellent success, for he is giving his attention to constructive efforts and administrative direction, possessing also excellent executive ability.

On the 8th of January, 1879, occurred the marriage of William J. Fowler and Miss Emma Quackenbush, a daughter of David and Anna (Beattie) Quackenbush. There are two children of this marriage: Ned Y., the elder, is deputy probate clerk at Geneva and married Miss Edna Corbin, a daughter of Daniel M. and Julia A. Corbin. William J. is superintendent of the Aurora Silver Manufacturing Company, with which he has been connected



for several years. He married Bertha Carnes, a daughter of Morris V. and Emma M. Carnes, and they have one son, Lewis Stanley Fowler, born in August, 1906.

Mr. and Mrs. Fowler attend the People's church and Mr. Fowler belongs to Aurora Lodge, No. 90, A. F. & A. M.; to Aurora Chapter, No. 22, R. A. M.; to Aurora Commandery, No. 22, K. T., and to Medinah Temple of the Mystic Shrine, in Chicago. He is likewise connected with the Elks, while politically he is a pronounced republican and an able worker in the party ranks. He is now serving as a member of the county central committee, has been a delegate to the state conventions and has been a helpful factor in securing republican successes. He resides at No. 277 South Broadway in the old home which his father purchased many years before. In manner he is genial and courteous, possessing qualities which well fit him for political leadership, while his business discernment and enterprise are manifest in the fact that he has worked his way upward to a position of responsibility and prominence in industrial circles.

---

#### SETH S. SHERWOOD.

The stock industry has engaged the attention of many active and enterprising men in this country for many years and grows every year in magnitude and importance in all its departments. Among those who are successfully occupied with it in the department of breeding for the market, Seth S. Sherwood, of Plato township, is one of the leaders in this county. He was born in Plato township, May 25, 1884, and is the son of Charles S. and Luella (Meurhead) Sherwood, both natives of Plato township. The father is now a retired farmer and lives in Elgin, Illinois. The father is a republican and the mother a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Seth S. Sherwood began his education in the district school near his home, which he attended until he was fifteen years old. He was then a student for six years at Elgin Academy, and after that took a special course of instruction at Elgin Business College. On the completion of his studies he returned to the farm to engage actively in its duties and subsequently to take charge of it. He has now been in active control of all its operations since March, 1908, and has shown himself to be a farmer of capacity and judgment and a stock breeder of enterprise and breadth of view.

On January 1, 1907, he was married to Miss Hazel Samis, who was born in Burlington township, August 12, 1886. Her mother is living and makes her home with them. Mr. Sherwood controls one hundred and twenty acres of land and keeps for his own use ten good cows. He devotes his attention mainly to raising live stock for the market, to which the farm is well adapted, it being largely composed of good grazing ground and located only two miles from the railroad station. In political faith Mr. Sherwood is a republican and in fraternal life a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He pushes his undertakings with earnestness and zeal and is mak-

ing a pronounced success of them. He also devotes a good citizens' interest and care to the welfare of the township and takes his place and does his part in the promotion of every worthy enterprise for its advancement. One of the most successful of the younger farmers and stock breeders of his township, he is also one of its most esteemed citizens.

---

#### FRED FAUTH.

That Fred Fauth is now one of the popular, prominent and influential residents of Aurora is indicated by the fact that he has been repeatedly reelected alderman until his continuous service in the office covers ten years, while his entire service as a public official covers nineteen years. His devotion to the public good is unquestioned and he maintains an equally enviable reputation in business circles as a successful cigar manufacturer. He was born in La Salle county, Illinois, June 13, 1860.

His father, John Fauth, a native of Germany, came to the United States when twenty years of age, and in 1854 arrived in Chicago, where he remained for a short time. He then removed to La Salle, where he followed the cooper's trade. Before locating in La Salle, however, he spent a short time in Aurora in the early '60s, and was so favorably impressed with the city as a place of residence and business that he returned here in 1868 and was identified with coopering interests of the city until his death, which occurred in 1888, when he was fifty-seven years of age. His wife, Magdalena Schmidt, is also a native of Germany and is now living in Aurora at the age of eighty-four years. They reared a family of five sons and one daughter, all of whom reside in Aurora and are most highly respected citizens, namely: Albert, John, Gustavus A., Fred, Henry and Barbara, the last named the wife of Timothy Biever.

Fred Fauth was but eight years of age when his parents came to Aurora, and in the public schools he acquired his education, pursuing his studies to the age of fourteen years, when he began learning the cigarmaker's trade. He has since continued in this line of business and as the result of his industry, careful methods and keen discernment, has won success. His progress, too, is undoubtedly attributable in large measure to the fact that he has continued in the line in which he embarked as a young tradesman and, therefore, his proficiency and ability have constantly increased. In 1879 he began business on his own account, and has since been known as a cigar manufacturer of Aurora with a large trade, the quality of his goods and his reasonable prices insuring him a liberal patronage.

While Mr. Fauth has made a creditable record in business circles, he is, perhaps, even better known because of his activity in public affairs, and many tangible evidences are given of his loyalty to the general welfare. In 1889 he was elected to represent the fifth ward on the board of aldermen and from 1891 until 1897 he served as a member of the board of public works. The following year he was again elected alderman without opposition and the same condition existed in 1900, 1902, 1904, 1906 and 1908. A nomination is equivalent

to an election and it is certain that Mr. Fauth can have the nomination as long as he desires, for his fellow-citizens have come to recognize the fact that no one would more conscientiously and faithfully serve the public interests than Mr. Fauth. Since 1902 he has been chairman of the finance committee, and may well be termed the watch-dog of the treasury. While he believes in progress at all times, he does not believe in useless or extravagant expenditure. In politics, as in his business and private life, he is progressive and honest, with a clean record and enjoys the full confidence of all who know him.

---

### HENRY W. ZIEGLER.

Henry W. Ziegler, who is engaged in the coal business in Maple Park, was born in Pierce, De Kalb county, Illinois, December 30, 1855. His father, Louis J. Ziegler, was born in Germany and at the age of twenty-one years emigrated to America, locating near Chicago. He was united in marriage to Catherine Schule, whose father was a farmer. Following his marriage, Louis J. Ziegler removed to Pierce, De Kalb county, where he purchased a tract of land, paying ten shillings per acre for the same. He improved this land and made his home thereon until his demise, which occurred in 1900, his remains being interred in East Pierce cemetery. In his family were nine children: Henry W.; Lizzie, the widow of John Hammond, who served in the Civil war and is now deceased, Mrs. Hammond now making her home in Hinckley; Louis, a miller of Maple Park; Amelia, the wife of Henry Haish, a retired farmer of Hinckley; Annie, the wife of Charles E. Emhk, a farmer of Iowa; Sapona, the wife of Edward Bloom, a blacksmith of Hinckley; Amanda, the wife of Frank Ramer, a farmer living near Pierce, Illinois; and Albert and Fred, who are also engaged in farming in Pierce.

Henry W. Ziegler, whose name introduces this review, was reared on the home farm in De Kalb county, assisting his father in the fields from the time he was old enough to handle a plow. In the winter months he pursued his studies in the district schools near his father's home. At the age of sixteen years he started out to make his own way in the world, being employed at farm labor for ten years. He operated a farm in Virgil township, Kane county, for some time, and in addition to carrying on general agricultural pursuits, also engaged in dairying, both branches of his business proving a profitable source of revenue to him. He is now engaged in the coal business in Maple Park. Mr. Ziegler has traveled quite extensively through the west and north and in 1903 purchased a farm in Colorado, which he sold in 1908, making a profit of forty-eight hundred dollars. He also owns property in Maple Park.

Mr. Ziegler has been twice married. He first wedded Lucy Garleach, who was born in De Kalb county, and whose parents now reside in Hinckley. This union was blessed with one daughter, Laura E. For his second wife Mr. Ziegler wedded Mary Newman, who was also a native of De Kalb county, and whose parents are now deceased, their remains being interred in the De Kalb

cemetery. By this union there is one daughter Olice C., who was born February 19, 1897, and is still at home.

Mr. Ziegler gives his political support to the republican party. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, while his fraternal relations are with the Modern Woodmen of America. Personally he is quiet and unassuming in manner, refusing political preferment and avoiding publicity. He possesses unusual will power and a high order of business talent, and in his undertakings is meeting with success, being numbered among the substantial citizens of Kane county.

---

### THOMAS S. HUNTLEY.

Although one of the younger attorneys at law in Elgin, his years do not seem any bar to his professional success, and Thomas S. Huntley is already well known as a capable representative of the legal profession, whose clientage has connected him with much of the important work in the courts in recent years. He was born in the town of Huntley, this state, October 17, 1877, a son of Thomas S. and Annette E. (Brinkerhoff) Huntley, who were natives of the Empire state. In early life they came to Illinois and settled in Grafton, McHenry county. The father devoted his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits and became quite prominent in his county, holding a number of local offices, while his opinions were an influencing factor in many affairs of public concern.

In his youthful days Thomas S. Huntley was a pupil in the village school and afterward attended the Beloit Academy of Beloit, Wisconsin. He qualified for his profession as a student in the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, being graduated from the law department in the class of 1900. He then went to Europe and gained in his sojourn that broad culture and knowledge which only travel can bring. After several months' absence he returned and located in Elgin. Being admitted to the bar in 1901 he engaged in the practice of his chosen profession with the law firm of Botsford, Wayne & Botsford, with whom he remained for about five years. He afterward shared offices with John A. Russell, but is now practicing alone and has secured a large and distinctively representative clientage. In the legal profession, which embraces many of the most brilliant minds of the nation, it is difficult to win a name and a place of prominence. Many aspire but few attain. No assistance from friends can prove of avail, for each lawyer must commence at the initial point, must plead and win his first case and work his way upward by ability, gaining his reputation and success by merit. Mr. Huntley's experience has been that of most lawyers, but his earnest application, analytical mind and careful preparation of his cases has brought him a creditable measure of success.

On the 31st of December, 1902, occurred the marriage of Mr. Huntley and Miss Gertrude B. Kennedy, of Grand Marais, Michigan. They now have one son, Thomas S. Huntley, the third of the name in successive genera-





T. S. HUNTLEY



tions. Mr. Huntley belongs to the Delta Chi, a legal fraternity, and is also connected with the Masonic Lodge and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. That he is prominent in republican circles is indicated by the fact that he is now president of the Young Men's Republican Club of Elgin; is also a member of the Hamilton Club of Chicago; and the Sons of the Revolution. He is now referee in bankruptcy for the district, comprising Kane, Dupage, Kendall and De Kalb counties. This is the only office that he has sought or filled, for he prefers to concentrate his energies upon his professional duties and is most loyal to the interests of his clients.

---

#### EBENEZER DENNEY.

For fifty-one years Ebenezer Denney was identified with the mercantile interests of Aurora. Now he is enjoying well-earned ease, having retired from commercial pursuits. His name has long figured in this city as a synonym of progressive business methods and of unfaltering honesty and his example may well serve as a source of emulation and encouragement to others. Mr. Denney was born in Yorkshire, England, August 15, 1840, and is a representative of old families of that country. His parents were Joseph and Jane (Woods) Denney, the former a cabinet-maker of England, whence he came to America in 1855, settling first in Aurora. In this country, however, he lived retired and passed away at the age of seventy-nine years. His wife died in 1859 at the age of sixty-five years. Both were earnest Christian people, holding membership in the Congregational church. Their family included six sons and a daughter, five of whom have been residents of Aurora: Thomas, who is still living; Joseph, William and Hallfield, all three deceased; and Ebenezer, of this review.

The last named was about fifteen years of age when he left the land of his birth and with his parents came to Aurora. Here he was reared to manhood and attended the public schools. After putting aside his text-books he joined his brothers, Joseph and William, who were engaged in the furniture business here, and continued with them until after the outbreak of the Civil war in 1861. His patriotic spirit being roused, he then joined the army, enlisting as a member of Company G, Seventy-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was commissioned second lieutenant and later first lieutenant, with which rank he was mustered out. He served until the fall of Vicksburg, when he was transferred to the Fiftieth United States Colored Troops, with which he was connected until the spring of 1866. He was then mustered out at Vicksburg and returned home with a most creditable military record. He had first enlisted as a private, but with the colored troops was quartermaster sergeant. He took part in the siege of Vicksburg from the beginning until the capitulation of the city, was also in the siege of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely and in innumerable skirmishes.

When the country no longer needed his aid Mr. Denney returned to Aurora, and again entered his brothers' store, this time becoming a partner

under the firm style of Denney Brothers. He bent his energies to the development of the business and to the extension of its trade relations, and became recognized as an enterprising and progressive merchant. In 1896 he became the senior partner of the house upon the retirement of his brothers, and continued in the business until January 7, 1906. During the last few years his nephew, Albert J. Denney, was associated with him. Altogether, he was in business here for fifty-one years and during most of the time was at one location at No. 27-29 Broadway. The house has always been noted for the large and well-selected line of furniture which has been carried, for its reasonable prices and for its honorable business methods. Mr. Denney figured as one of the leading merchants and trustworthy business men of the city, and continued active in the trade until 1906, since which time he has enjoyed a well-earned rest.

In September, 1861, was celebrated the marriage of Ebenezer Denney and Miss Mary Elliott, a daughter of W. T. and Rebecca (Pierce) Elliott. Mrs. Denney died, however, in the summer of 1862 and on the 7th of November, 1865, Mr. Denney wedded Miss Mary Alice Nix, a daughter of Leander and Margaret Miranda (Stewart) Nix. They have an adopted son, George Burton Denney. Mrs. Denney was born near Raymond, Mississippi, in Hinds county. Her mother was a native of the same county, while her father was a native of Tennessee. His death occurred when his daughter was but two weeks old and his wife survived for some years, passing away September 24, 1889, at the age of sixty-seven years. They were the parents of four children: Sarah and Rebecca, now deceased; Margaret Nix, of Aurora; and Mary Alice, now Mrs. Denney. The father was a farmer and was reared in Tennessee but married and removed to Mississippi. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Denney was William Stewart, who was of Scotch descent and lived in Mississippi during the latter part of his life. He devoted his time and energies to farming save for the period when he served his country as a soldier of the war of 1812. He lived to an advanced age, while his wife, Mrs. Sarah (Wilson) Stewart, had more than reached middle life when called to her final rest. Their family numbered ten children.

Mr. and Mrs. Denney are members of the First Congregational church, and enjoy the highest regard of all who know them. Mr. Denney is a member of Aurora Lodge, No. 90, A. F. & A. M., Aurora Chapter, No. 22, R. A. M., Ben Hur Lodge, I. O. O. F., and Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R. He is now serving as commander of this post, which has nearly two hundred members. He was also aid-de-camp on the staff of General Force and has always been much interested in military affairs. Politically he is a stalwart republican and was alderman for four terms, representing the old eleventh ward for two terms and the fourth ward for two terms. He was, likewise, city treasurer for two years, school treasurer for two years, and township treasurer, handling all the school money. While he is not active in business pursuits at the present time, he is a stockholder and director of the Aurora National Bank, and the president of the Aurora Home Building and Loan Association. He owns a beautiful residence at No. 104 South Broadway and owns three dwellings on Grant Place, two on La Salle and two on Lincoln avenue. Starting out in



his business career at the age of fifteen years, Mr. Denney has made steady progress, has utilized his opportunities to the best advantage and has proved his worth in his honorable dealings and his fidelity to every trust reposed in him. His name has become synonymous with commercial integrity and he has been an active moving force in the welfare and development of the city along commercial and many other lines. He has never failed to respond to a public call for assistance in community affairs and Aurora has profited by his energy, his business discernment and his active cooperation in matters upon which rests the public welfare.

---

### GUSTAVUS A. FAUTH.

Gustavus A. Fauth, who has made his home in Aurora from the age of twelve years, is now cashier of the German-American National Bank and aided in its organization in 1890. He was born in LaSalle, January 17, 1858. His father, John Fauth, a native of Germany, came to the United States when twenty years of age and in 1854 he arrived in Chicago, where he remained for a short time. He then removed to LaSalle, where he followed the cooper's trade. Before locating in LaSalle, however, he spent a short time in Aurora in the early '60s and was so favorably impressed with the city as a place of residence and business that he returned here in 1869 and was identified with coopering interests of the city until his death, which occurred in 1888, when he was fifty-seven years of age. His wife, Magdalena Schmidt, is also a native of Germany and is now living in Aurora at the age of eighty-four years. They reared a family of five sons and one daughter, all of whom reside in Aurora and are most highly respected citizens, namely: Albert, John, Gustavus A., Fred, Henry and Barbara, the last named the wife of Timothy Biever.

Gustavus A. Fauth pursued his early education in parochial schools at Naperville and Aurora and entered upon his business career as an employe in the dry-goods house of Miller & Pease, his connection therewith dating from August 11, 1871. His mercantile career needs no further comment than the statement that for thirty-three years he was connected with the firm and its successor, the S. S. Sencenbaugh Company. He worked his way upward through successive stages of promotion, his ready adaptability, enterprise and irreproachable honesty gaining him the full confidence and trust of those whom he represented. During twenty years of that time, from 1883 until 1903, he was a partner of his brother, Fred, in the cigar manufacturing business. In 1890, in connection with other capitalists, he incorporated the German-American National Bank, of which he was made a director and in 1904 he became actively connected with the management of the bank as its cashier and still continues in this position.

In 1892 Mr. Fauth was married to Miss Amelia S. Obenauer, a native of Peru, Illinois, and in Aurora they have a wide and favorable acquaintance. Mr. Fauth is a very popular citizen. His long connection with the dry-goods

trade brought him a wide acquaintance and his unflinching courtesy and deference to the opinions of others gained for him the high regard and esteem of those with whom he was associated. It also brought to him a large knowledge of business methods and, constantly broadening in the scope of his activities and in his experience, he is today recognized as an able financier, well qualified to handle the funds of his fellow citizens, while his commercial integrity is above question.

---

#### ADOLPH SCHNEPF.

Adolph Schnepf, deceased, was a native of Germany, born July 10, 1855, and he was reared and educated in his native land, remaining there for some years after his marriage. It was in 1882 that he wedded Miss Mary Schaal, who was born in the fatherland and is a daughter of Gotlieb and Elizabeth (Mogler) Schnepf. Nine children were born of this union, as follows: Emil; Mina, who married William Jurs and has two children, Elmer and Ora; Paulina, who married Frank Parren and has one child, Leona; Albert, Adolph, Henry, William, Fred and Frank.

Believing that he would have a better opportunity to gain a home and competence for his family in the new world, Mr. Schnepf came to America in 1892 and first located on a farm in Iowa, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits for three years. In 1895 he came to Illinois, but after spending a short time in Kane county, he went to Arkansas, where he lived for nine months. At the end of that time he returned to Elgin, but died soon afterward, passing away on the 20th of August, 1899, on a farm near this city. He made farming his life occupation and met with good success during his residence in the United States. Mr. Schnepf was an earnest and consistent member of St. Paul's Lutheran church and was an ardent republican in politics.

---

#### AUGUST WILLIAM BOWGREEN.

August William Bowgreen, a prosperous farmer and dairyman of Camp-ton township, was born in Westergotland, Sweden, November 23, 1868, the son of Carl G. and Louisa (Anderson) Bowgreen, both of whom are natives of Sweden, where their marriage was consummated and where they lived some years afterward before determining to seek their fortune in the new world. In 1888 the family removed to America, and eventually chose this county for their permanent home. Here they have done well, and of the nine children born to their union, Albert resides at Geneva, where he is employed in the gas works; Huldah S. is the wife of August Anderson, a farmer residing near St. Charles; Frank E. is a tailor, residing in Chicago; John A., Carl Adolf, Oscar E. and August William are all engaged in farming in Kane

county; Otto is employed in a piano factory and resides near Geneva; Fritz is employed in a screen factory at Geneva.

August William Bowgreen passed the days of his boyhood and youth in Sweden, and is indebted to the district schools of that country for his education. At the age of thirteen years he was apprenticed to the blacksmith trade, but finding the work too arduous and uncongenial he returned to the parental roof and aided his father in the work of the farm, remaining at home until sixteen years of age, at which time he came to America. Locating in Chicago he first secured employment as a laborer and afterward obtained employment on a farm. He also worked for a time in the shops of the United States Windmill Company at Batavia, Illinois. In 1903 he engaged in farming in his own behalf, renting land for this purpose, and has continued farming to the present time. He has also gradually built up a fine dairy business, and now has a herd of forty cows.

Mr. Bowgreen married Miss Amanda Skoyland, who was born in Sweden and came to America in 1886. To this union have been born five children, namely: Judith E., Norma N., Hazel I., Ruth H. and Alice E., all of whom are at home with their parents.

In politics Mr. Bowgreen is a republican. Religiously he is a member of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal church. By his industry and strict attention to business he commands the respect and confidence of all with whom he comes in contact, and is recognized as a valuable citizen of the community.

---

#### CHAMBERS DEWITT CALHOUN, M. D.

Dr. Chambers DeWitt Calhoun, engaged in the practice of medicine at Elburn, where his social as well as his professional qualities have won him high regard, was born in Armstrong county, Pennsylvania, August 17, 1858, his parents being S. S. and Hannah Calhoun. The father organized a company of Federal troops just prior to the Civil war. He spent his entire life in Pennsylvania, and was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He married Hannah Sheridan, whose parents were farming people of that state. The death of Mr. Calhoun occurred at the age of seventy-two years. His family numbered the following children: Joseph P., who is field secretary of the Presbyterian society and resides at Chattanooga, Tennessee; John S., who is a Congregational minister at Indianapolis, Indiana; G. O., a practicing physician at Charleston, Illinois; William J., who is engaged in the practice of medicine at St. Charles, this state; and Herbert B., a resident farmer of Kane county.

Dr. Calhoun, the other member of the family, pursued a district school education to the age of seventeen years and afterward entered the Gladrun Academy at Dayton, Pennsylvania. When he had completed his literary course he took up the study of medicine in the Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and completed the full course by graduation from that institution in the class of 1884.

Dr. Calhoun first located for practice in Earlville, Illinois, and while there residing married Miss Sophia Martin, who was born in Oneida county, New York, where her parents died when she was but a young girl. Dr. and Mrs. Calhoun have no children of their own but have reared a niece, Marian Webb, who is now seventeen years of age.

Dr. Calhoun, after living for a time in Earlville, removed to Troys Grove, Illinois, whence he came to Elburn, where he has now resided for nineteen years. Here he has successfully engaged in the practice of his profession, the public recognizing his ability to successfully cope with the intricate problems testing the powers of the physician. He is conscientious in the performance of all duty, and holds to a high standard of professional ethics. Moreover, he is loyal in his membership in the Congregational church, and the Masonic fraternity and the Modern Woodmen of America number him as a faithful representative.

---

### JOHN L. WALKER.

John L. Walker is national secretary of the Yeomen, a fraternal insurance order. In recent years the number of fraternal insurance companies has greatly multiplied, as the people have come to recognize their worth and value, and at their head are men of well-known executive force and administrative ability, for the interests thereof are complex and intricate, demanding careful control on the part of officers of keen discrimination. Well qualified for this work, John L. Walker is making a most acceptable national secretary.

He was born in England, January 24, 1842, a son of William B. and Jane (Lathorp) Walker. The father came to the United States in 1854 and settled in Oswego, New York. He brought his family with him and they lived for thirteen years in the Empire state, coming to Aurora in 1867. Here William B. Walker was in the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company as a blacksmith for many years. He was a most trusted employe and a highly respected citizen and his life record, extending to 1907, covered the long period of eighty-six years. His widow, still surviving him, has reached the age of eighty-five years.

John L. Walker, reared in England and New York and educated in the schools of his native country and of the Empire state, joined the army when nineteen years of age, enlisting in August, 1861, at Oswego, as a member of the Eighty-first New York Volunteer Infantry. He saw active service with the Army of the Potomac and participated in many hotly contested engagements. His valor and loyalty were proven by the fact that he was promoted from the ranks through successive grades until he was mustered out as first lieutenant and honorably discharged in September, 1865. When the war was over he located at Palermo, New York, where he engaged in farming for about three years. In 1868, however, he sold his farm in the East and removed westward to DuPage county, Illinois, where he secured land and carried on general agricultural pursuits for nine years. In 1878 he came to



Aurora and has since been identified with the interests of the city. He joined the police force and his ability as an executive officer and one ever fearless in the performance of duty led to his appointment as chief of police, in which capacity he served for several years. He was also assistant superintendent of streets, while for eight years he filled the position of assistant postmaster. In 1905 he was appointed national secretary of the Yeomen of America and has since been a factor in control of the interests of this rapidly growing organization.

Immediately after his return from the army, in September, 1865, Mr. Walker was married to Miss Ellen L. Smith, a native of Oswego, New York, and they have one daughter, Luvilla F. Mr. Walker is not only a member of the Yeomen, but is also prominent in the Odd Fellows lodge of Aurora, in which he has filled all of the chairs. He likewise belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and has filled all of the offices in Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R. He is naturally of a friendly disposition, courteous and cordial, and wherever he goes he wins the high respect of all with whom he is associated.

---

#### CHARLES D. AMES.

Charles D. Ames, a well-known and prominent citizen of Kaneville, is a native of Vermont, born at Clarendon Springs in Rutland county, on the 26th of August, 1857. The birth of his father, Avery Ames, also occurred in that county, July 6, 1827, and there he continued to reside for many years, his labors being devoted to farming. In 1859, however, he removed to Oswego county, New York, where he made his home until 1865, and then came with his family to this county, taking up his abode in Kaneville and living there until called to his final rest in 1906. During the Civil war he manifested his loyalty to the Union by two years' service with the boys in blue. In 1849 he was united in marriage to Miss Esther Davis and they became the parents of the following children: Fred A., who is now in the employ of the telephone company at Aurora; Edwin L., a farmer living near Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Eleanor, deceased; Jeanette, also deceased; Hiram, a farmer of Ellensburg, Washington; Annie, the wife of J. McDermott, a farmer living near Plato, Illinois; Katy, the wife of P. Stevens, a farmer of Ellensburg, Washington, and Charles D., of this review.

The subject of this sketch was only two years old when his parents left Vermont and removed to New York and at the age of eight years he became a resident of Kane county, Illinois. His education was mainly acquired in the district schools of Kaneville township and as soon as old enough to be of any assistance he began to aid in the operation of the home farm. Leaving the parental roof at the age of twenty-three, he accepted a position as driver of a stage coach in this county, and was thus employed for two years, since which time he has followed farming uninterruptedly, owning a good place of one hundred and sixty acres in Kaneville township and also a hotel in the

village, where he has made his home. Like most of the farmers of this county, he gives considerable attention to the dairy business, which he finds quite profitable.

On the 11th of February, 1883, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Ames and Miss Lucy E. Annis, and to them were born three children: Anna, now deceased; Benjamin H., who is attending the State University at Champaign, Illinois, and Lota F., a student in the home school.

The republican party has always found in Mr. Ames a staunch supporter of its principles and his fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, have called upon him to fill offices of honor and trust. From 1897 to 1900 he served as highway commissioner and he was also elected supervisor for a four-years' term. The duties of these offices he has faithfully performed, winning the commendation and approval of all concerned. Fraternally Mr. Ames is an honored member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Yeomen.

---

#### ALBERT HERMAN KRETSCHMER.

In the history of those citizens who have passed away, but who during the years of an active life enjoyed to the fullest extent the confidence and good will of their fellow townsmen, mention should be made of Albert Herman Kretschmer, who on the 15th of January, 1908, was called to his final home. He was one of Illinois' native sons, his birth having occurred in Rodenburg, Illinois, April 14, 1877. He was therefore only thirty years of age at the time of his demise. His father was a farmer and he spent his early life amid rural surroundings. His education was acquired in the public schools of Rodenburg and Chicago. He came to Elgin at the age of sixteen years and was first employed by his brother Paul in a grocery store. He soon acquainted himself with the business in principle and detail and in 1899 was admitted to a partnership. The firm of Kretschmer Brothers conducted one of the most extensive and up-to-date grocery establishments in Elgin. They made a specialty of high-grade goods, catering to the best trade and securing an extensive patronage. Their prices were reasonable, their business methods at all times honorable and their very earnest efforts to please have secured an extensive and growing trade.

On the 17th of June, 1903, Mr. Kretschmer was married to Miss Tillie Meyers, a daughter of Henry and Engeline (Weichmann) Meyers of this city. Mr. and Mrs. Kretschmer occupied an enviable position in social circles, the hospitality of many of the best homes being freely accorded them. A republican in politics, he was active in support of the party, for he believed that its principles contained the best elements of good government. He was also a devoted member of the English Lutheran church, contributed liberally to its support, served as an usher at the Sunday school services and was active in all departments of the church. Throughout the community he was very popular and his tragic death was widely mourned. While crossing the tracks



ALBERT H. KRETSCHMER



of the Aurora, Elgin & Chicago Railway he was struck by a car which was running at the rate of seventy-five miles an hour and was instantly killed, and the funeral, which was held in the church, was most largely attended. His admirable social qualities and unfeigned cordiality have rendered him very popular and all were glad to number him as a friend. His business associates and colleagues entertained for him the warmest respect and wherever he was known he met with good will and kindly feeling because he gave the same in return.

---

### LLOYD OCHSENSCHLAGER.

Lloyd Ochenschlager is a well-known representative of commercial interests in Aurora, where he is conducting a grocery and meat market. He was born in this city May 8, 1874, his parents being Michael and Kate (Markle) Ochenschlager, the former a native of Germany, while the latter was born near Chicago. The paternal grandfather, Adam Ochenschlager, is a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, and in that country married, his wife being Mrs. Eve Ochenschlager. Michael Ochenschlager was a farmer by occupation in early manhood and also learned and followed the cooper's trade. He came to America in his boyhood days and took up his abode upon a farm at North Aurora. For twenty-eight years, however, he was engaged in the grocery business, conducting a well appointed store and securing a liberal patronage by reason of his well known business integrity, his earnest desire to please his patrons and also by reason of the excellent line of goods which he carried. He retired some twelve years ago. His political allegiance has long been given to the republican party but the honors and emoluments of office have little attraction for him. His wife died in the fall of 1907, at the age of sixty-six years. Unto them were born five children: Irving, a grocer on State street; Scribner, who conducts a grocery and meat market on Blackhawk street; Lambert, a salesman representing the Cudahy Packing Company, of Chicago, and Josephine, the wife of C. L. Thomas, a resident of Aurora.

Lloyd Ochenschlager was reared in the city of his nativity and attended the public schools, passing through consecutive grades and later learning many valuable lessons in the school of experience. Entering business life he made his initial step as an employe in a cracker factory and also worked in a grocery store for a few years. In 1898, with the capital which he had acquired through his industry and economy, he purchased a grocery business at No. 342 South Lincoln avenue and added a meat market. Three years later he built a fine business block at No. 299 South Fourth street, where he is now conducting an extensive business, both departments securing for him a liberal patronage. His stores are neat and tastefully arranged and he carries a large line of staple and fancy groceries and good meats, for which he asks reasonable prices. His business methods have always been such as will bear close investigation and scrutiny and, prompted by a spirit of enterprise and progres-



siveness, he is winning a place among the prosperous young merchants of the city.

On the 3d of June, 1901, Mr. Ochsenchlager was married to Miss Josephine Holslag, a daughter of Charles and Mary Holslag, and they now have three sons, Carl Michael, David William and Valen Earl. Mrs. Ochsenchlager is a member of the Catholic church. Mr. Ochsenchlager is a supporter of the republican party, but office does not lure him from the strict path of business, to which he prefers to devote his time and energies, desiring to make ample provision for his family. He has gained a creditable place in commercial circles and is now conducting an excellent establishment.

---

#### ETHELBERT BARNES.

Both Mr. Barnes and his wife are natives of Kane county and have lived in it all their lives. The former was born in Sugar Grove township on June 3, 1847, and the latter in or near Aurora. Their son and only child, Clarence Ethelbert Barnes, was also born and reared in the county, coming into the world on the farm which is now occupied by the third generation of the family, on October 1, 1879.

Mr. Barnes is a son of Ira and Eliza (Carnegie) Barnes, natives of Jefferson county, New York, where the father farmed a few years after reaching his maturity. They came to Kane county in 1845, and soon afterward the father purchased a farm of sixty acres four and one-half miles west of Aurora, which was, at that time, a little straggling village. The father built a house on his farm and there he lived until his death. The mother was descended from Scotch ancestry and not distantly related to Andrew Carnegie, the renowned manufacturer and philanthropist.

Their son, Ethelbert, attended the public schools and passed one year as a student at Reifsneider's Business College in Aurora. After the death of his father he purchased the home farm, which he has since enlarged by additional purchases until he now owns one hundred and forty-six acres of well improved and very productive land. He has lived on this farm ever since he bought it, except during one year, when he dwelt in Aurora. The other children born in the Barnes household numbered six: Bertha, who married Benjamin Westover, but both have died; Maria L., now the widow of John D. Randall, of Aurora; Andrew J., who died a number of years ago; Ira C., a retired farmer now living in Aurora; Alfred, who resides in Eureka, California, and Mary E., who married Daniel C. Sherman, but they also are deceased.

On November 24, 1870, Mr. Barnes was united in marriage with Miss Antoinette Sedgwick in the city of Aurora, where she had her home at the time. As has been noted, they have but one child, their son, Clarence Ethelbert, who is married and living on the paternal homestead, of which he now has entire charge. He and his family occupy the house built by his grandfather, his parents having erected a new modern dwelling on the farm for themselves. The son received a good education and has never desired any

other occupation in life but that of his forefathers. He has, therefore, passed his life on the farm with his parents, assisting in its labors until he took charge of it, and since then giving it his whole attention with profit to himself and benefit to the township.

Clarence Ethelbert Barnes was married on November 19, 1902, to Miss Mabel Banker, a daughter of Henry and Fredericka (Ziegler) Banker, prominent farming people of Sugar Grove township, a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this work, and a granddaughter of Michael Ziegler, one of the best known pioneers and successful business men of Kane county. Mr. and Mrs. Barnes, the younger, have two children, their daughter, Maud Mildred, and their son, Clifford Henry.

The elder Mr. Barnes has been for many years an extensive breeder of standard strains of driving horses. He has made a study of this business and is an authority of every feature of it, his judgment being sought from all parts of the surrounding country and always received with high consideration. In politics he is a republican and in official life has served the township effectively and wisely as road commissioner for six years and also as school director for a long time. His son, Clarence, is now filling the latter position with energy and breadth of view.

The father is a man of much knowledge, a wide sweep of vision and firm convictions, but he is very tolerant of the opinions of others and welcomes good natured discussion for the light it gives on both sides of a question. He and his wife are very sociable and hospitable and number their friends by the score. They are members of the West Aurora Farmers' Club and take an active part in its proceedings. In all respects they are worthy of commendation and enjoy the general esteem of their friends, being truly representative of the best citizenship of the county.

---

#### HARRY R. HOLDEN.

Harry R. Holden, who, during an active and successful business career, has been identified with several interests of the city, is now vice president and secretary of the Miller-Bryant-Pierce Company, of Aurora, manufacturers of typewriter carbon, ribbons, and other supplies. A native son of the city, he was born November 19, 1865, a son of James L. and Sarah (Allen) Holden, the former a native of New Hampshire and the latter of New York.

Harry R. Holden at the usual age became a public-school student and eventually attended the East Aurora high school and later the Bryant & Stratton Business College. He entered upon his business career in connection with the hardware trade in Chicago, where he remained in that line for four years. He afterward took up the fire insurance business in that city, in which he also devoted four years, and on the expiration of that period he returned to Aurora, and engaged in the general insurance business. He made his start in a most unimportant and unpretentious way, but admitted N. W. Tomblin to a part-

nership and they worked up their business until it became the largest in the city, returning a gratifying annual income.

Mr. Holden retired from the firm in 1904 and became connected with the Miller-Bryant-Pierce Company as stockholder and secretary and is now vice-president of this company. The enterprise has become a profitable productive concern of the city, and Mr. Holden is now active in its management and control. He was the first secretary of the Improvement Building and Loan Association of Aurora, and is now a director.

On the 2d of November, 1892, occurred the marriage of Mr. Holden and Miss Marie Wheaton, a daughter of the late Judge Wheaton, of Aurora. Their union has been blessed with one child, Sarah.

Mr. Holden is a representative of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, being the first secretary of the lodge in Aurora, which position he capably filled for four years. He is very prominent and popular in the organization and is also known as an enterprising and influential business man of his native city. He now owns and occupies a beautiful home on South Lincoln avenue, which is one of the visible evidences of his life of energy and prosperity.

---

#### ISAAC D. HARLEY.

Isaac D. Harley, a successful farmer of Campton township, and manager of the Garfield estate, comprising two hundred and seventy-three acres of Kane county's best land, is a native of Bourbon township, Marshall county, Indiana, and a son of Daniel and Annie (Kaufman) Harley. His father, who was born in Stark county, Ohio, is a veteran of the Civil war, having served for twelve months in the Sixty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He married Miss Annie Kauffman, now deceased, and unto this union were born seven children, namely: Isaac D.; Ellen, the wife of Fred Hickman, a farmer residing near Hartville, Ohio; Elizabeth, deceased; L. D., a hardware merchant of Plymouth, Indiana; Sarah, the wife of Milo Gill, a farmer residing in Bourbon township, Indiana; Abraham, also engaged in farming in Bourbon township, Indiana; and John, a farmer residing near Tippecanoe, Indiana.

Isaac D. Harley resided in his native township until he was twenty-one years of age, and received his education in the district school, which he attended regularly up to the time he was eighteen. He then left school and devoted his entire attention to his father's farming interests until, at the age of twenty-one, he branched out for himself, securing employment as a farm hand. He remained in this position for five years then, in 1895, came to Elburn, where he has since resided.

On December 6, 1899, occurred the marriage of Isaac D. Harley and Miss Minnie Z. Garfield, a native of Campton township. Her father, Jefferson Garfield, was a native of Vermont and came to Illinois at an early day, locating near Elburn, where he bought the property referred to in the opening of this sketch, which now belongs to the Garfield estate. He married Miss Harriett Snow, who survives him and now resides in California. Mr. and Mrs. Garfield

were the parents of five children: Wade, who resides in San Diego, California; Fenton, deceased; Jennie E., who makes her home with her sister, Mrs. Harley, the wife of our subject; and Mable F., a teacher in the schools of Kewanee, Illinois.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Harley have been born four children: Garfield, Raymond, Wendall and Harriett. Mrs. Garfield owns an undivided interest in the ideal country home where they reside, which is situated three and a half miles east of Elburn on the St. Charles and Elburn road. It is a most desirable property, being provided with bounteous shade, an excellent water supply, and a well-established orchard.

Mr. Harley gives his political support to the prohibition party. He is public spirited and progressive and gives his influence to every enterprise for public good. He and his wife occupy an enviable position in the best social circles of the community and their pleasant home is the abode of hospitality.

---

#### CHARLES D. ROSSETTER.

Charles D. Rossetter, a passenger conductor on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, with many friends in Aurora and also among the patrons of the road, was born in Chicago, November 18, 1852. His parents were Asher and Sophronia (Newton) Rossetter, natives of New York. The father was born at South Barre, Orleans county, and was a son of Asher W. Rossetter, likewise a native of the Empire state. He followed the teacher's profession and was a man of some means, accumulating through business interests a comfortable competency. He died at No. 62 Hester street in New York city, when more than seventy years of age, while his wife, who bore the maiden name of Betsey Richards, and was born at Southeast, Putnam county, New York, in 1786, has also departed this life. They were the parents of ten children.

The ancestry of the Rossetter family can be traced back in this country to Edward Rossetter, who came from England with his family in 1630 on the ship Mary and John and landed at Nantasket, May 3, 1630. He began a settlement at Matapan, which they named Dorchester and which is now South Boston. In 1635 he removed to Windsor, Connecticut, and acted as assistant to Governor Winthrop, being chosen for the position in England previous to his embarkation to the new world. His son, Bray Bryan Rossetter, served as assistant governor of Connecticut when it was one of the English colonies, holding the office for eleven years. The maternal grandfather of Charles D. Rossetter was Henry Newton, a descendant of Sir Isaac Newton.

Asher Rossetter was a farmer boy in the Empire state and in 1833 or 1834 arrived in Chicago, but the city had not then been incorporated and presented the appearance of a straggling village stuck down in the swamp. He dug potatoes for his first night's meal and afterward assisted in taking the Indians to the reservations in Michigan. Later he returned to Chicago, where he remained until his death. He became one of the pioneer hotel proprietors of



that city, owning and conducting the American House. Later he purchased the Lake House, which stood on the north side, a two-story brick structure, which at the time was about the most imposing building that Chicago contained. He afterward added two stories and remodeled and rebuilt the hostelry, which was considered one of the finest in all of the west. He was also the pioneer woodenware manufacturer of the west, being senior partner in the firm of Rossetter, Pahlman & Smith. His business activity, his enterprise and his cooperation in civic affairs contributed in substantial measure to the early development and growth of Chicago and he left his impress upon the city in no uncertain way. He died in 1857, at the age of forty-three years, and his wife passed away in 1853. They were the parents of five sons and two daughters, as follows: Stephen Decatur; Charles Raymond; Henry Clay; George Washington; Charles Decatur, of this review; Mary Sophronia, deceased, who was the wife of Frank A Leavitt, of Gardner, Maine; and Julia, who died in infancy.

Charles D. Rossetter was reared in Chicago and attended the public schools. He was only five years of age when left an orphan and was early thrown upon his own resources. He worked in the commission house of George M. Allen and later was employed in a telegraph office, while subsequently he became a newsboy on the Northwestern Railroad. His next employment was as cabin boy on a steamship and eventually he became a steward. He was also at one time ticket agent and later had charge of the Hickson Grocery House of Chicago. He also learned the trade of brick-laying and studied architecture, while in 1877 he turned his attention to railroading. The following year he became freight conductor and for the past thirty years has been a passenger conductor on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. He is one of its most efficient and trusted employes in the passenger service. He is always courteous and kindly to the patrons of the road and, at the same time, thoroughly loyal to the interests of the corporation which he represents. He has made his home in Aurora since 1877 and is widely known here.

On the 18th of November, 1878, Mr. Rossetter was married to Miss Ella Duncan, a daughter of Arad and Mercia Ann (Watles) Duncan. Her father was a native of Vermont and her mother of New York. He learned and followed the machinist's trade, and about 1860 removed from Detroit to Aurora, having formerly owned and cultivated a farm in Michigan. In Aurora he followed his trade in the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad shops, and here he died in 1882, at the age of sixty-seven years, while his wife passed away in 1859, at the age of forty-five years. Their family numbered six children, of whom Mrs. Rossetter is one, the others being as follows: Louis, deceased; Libby, the wife of Samuel Emery, of Memphis, Tennessee; Lucy, the wife of Charles Hathaway, a resident of Grand Rapids, Michigan; Belle, the wife of Major Safford, of Detroit, that state; and Fred, of Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Mrs. Rossetter was born in Detroit, Michigan, in 1859, and by her marriage has become the mother of six children, namely: Frank Asher, system man with the Link Belt Machinery Company of Chicago, who married Maude

Leone Long, and by whom he has one son, Frank Paul, born May 22, 1908; Myrtle E., the wife of Albert G. Frost, of Aurora, by whom she has two children, Marion Wilson and Robert Rossetter Frost; Duncan Edgar, who is employed as assistant civil engineer by the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, with headquarters at Drummond, Montana; Alice Marion, in school; and two who died when young.

The family residence is at No. 387 Linden avenue, and was erected by Mr. Rossetter in 1893. The family is well known in Aurora, where the members of the household have many friends. Mr. Rossetter has here resided for more than thirty years and his many good qualities have gained for him the respect and confidence of all with whom he has been associated. He is one of the oldest representatives in passenger service on the railroad and his fidelity to its interests have never been called in question.

---

### CARL AUGUST BLOMQUIST.

Carl August Blomquist, who carries on agricultural pursuits in St. Charles township, was born in Jonkoping, Sweden, June 4, 1843, his parents being Carl Erickson and Maga Stina Bowman, both natives of that country, the former born in 1805 and the latter in 1812. The father of our subject passed away in Sweden in 1870, and the mother also died in the land of her nativity, being called to her final rest in 1858. The record of their children, in addition to the subject of this review, is as follows: Louisa, who was born in Sweden, married Gustaf Johnson, a shoemaker, and still resides in the country of her birth; Andrew Peter is deceased; Alexander M., who was born in Sweden in 1845, came to America in 1870 and now resides at Berwyn, Illinois.

Carl August Blomquist acquired his education in his native land and also served in the Swedish army for several years. In 1881 he emigrated to the United States, locating near St. Charles, Illinois, and has since been successfully engaged in general farming here. Seven years ago he purchased his present beautiful home, where he has since resided, the property being valued at five thousand dollars.

Mr. Blomquist was united in marriage in Sweden, in 1868, to Miss Caroline Peterson, whose birth occurred in that country on the 12th of April, 1839, and who passed away in Campton township, April 25, 1899, her remains being interred in St. Charles. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Blomquist were born five children. Franz August is deceased. Othelia Sophia was born in Sweden, November 22, 1869, and accompanied her parents on their emigration to America in 1881. She married Louie J. Johnson, a groceryman, and resides in St. Charles. John A., born in Sweden, February 4, 1872, attended school in that country and subsequently married Miss Josephine Axelson, of St. Charles. He is now a groceryman of St. Charles. Matildia Caroline, born in Sweden, October 19, 1873, makes her home in St. Charles with her father. Franz Albin is also deceased.

In his political views Mr. Blomquist is a staunch republican, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Swedish Lutheran church.

Coming to the new world in order that he might take advantage of the broader business opportunities here offered, he has worked diligently and persistently as the years have passed by and has gained a gratifying and enviable measure of success.

---

#### EDWARD C. FINCH.

Edward C. Finch, one of the most prominent citizens of Aurora by reason of the extent and importance of his business interests and associations and his activity in municipal affairs, is now serving as chief executive officer of the city, having been elected in November, 1907. He is giving to the city a public-spirited and progressive administration, for he is opposed to anything like misrule in public affairs and stands as a stalwart defender of municipal virtue and substantial upbuilding. He was born in Woodstock, Illinois, September 14, 1869, a son of Luther E. and Ellen S. (Ford) Finch. The father was a native of Syracuse, New York, and in 1837 removed westward, settling in Woodstock, where he remained until 1870, when he brought his family to Aurora. The following year he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife. While living in Woodstock he had engaged in general farming but after coming to this city he lived in comparative retirement, enjoying a well earned rest up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1894.

Edward C. Finch acquired his education in the public schools of Aurora and after putting aside his text-books learned the printer's trade in the office of the Daily News and the office of the Aurora Beacon. He afterward spent one year in the employ of Rand, McNally & Company, of Chicago, but ambitious to engage in business on his own account, in 1903 he established a printing business under the style of Finch & McCulloch, printers, binders and stationers. From the beginning this has proven a profitable venture. His business has grown to extensive proportions and in November, 1907, they removed to their present fine building, which is one of the best in the city. Here they are thoroughly equipped to do any kind of work in their line as printers, binders and stationers and the patronage of the house is steadily growing, making this one of the chief industrial concerns of the city. The business is thoroughly systematized and in all business affairs Mr. Finch has learned to discriminate between the essential and the non-essential, using the former in a continuance of business success and discarding the latter as detrimental to the furtherance of his interests.

In public affairs Mr. Finch has always been deeply interested and whether in office or out of it has labored earnestly to promote the best interests of the community. In politics he is a stalwart republican and an earnest champion of the party, and in 1907 he was elected to the mayoralty. He is now serving as chief executive officer and he brings to bear in the discharge of his official duties the same keen insight and reliability which characterize his private business interests.



E. C. FINCH





In 1905 Mr. Finch was married to Gertrude B. Grant, a native of Detroit, Michigan, and they are well known socially in the city, having an extensive circle of warm and admiring friends. Fraternally Mr. Finch is connected with the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks and with the Knights of Pythias. He is well known in the city where almost his entire life has been passed and at no time has he ever been disloyal to its interests, but on the contrary has been an advocate of all that pertains to public progress.

---

### CHARLES D. JUDD.

Charles D. Judd is holding the position of vice president in the national organization of Yeomen of America. He was born in Sugar Grove township, Kane county, Illinois, October 11, 1851, a son of Dexter C. Judd, who was a native of Warren county, New York, but in the early '40s came to this state and engaged in farming in Sugar Grove township. He also followed blacksmithing and manufactured axes, building the first shop in this section of the state outside of Aurora. His uncle, Thomas Judd, was one of the first settlers in Sugar Grove township and founded the town of Sugar Grove, where he built a school and otherwise contributed to the development and substantial progress of this part of the state. In community affairs Dexter C. Judd took an active and helpful part. He filled the office of supervisor and was also township clerk and in the discharge of his duties he proved most loyal and competent. He married Eliza Brown, a native of New York, and unto them were born five sons; A. T., S. B., S. L., C. D., and S. C. Of these the third and fifth are now deceased. The father, too, has passed away, his death occurring on the 28th of June, 1903.

Charles D. Judd is indebted to the public-school system of Kane county for the educational privileges accorded him. He was reared upon his father's farm, and the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist early became familiar to him and constituted a part of his life work. Desirous, however, of following other pursuits than the work of the fields, he left home and entered the employ of the Pullman Sleeping Car Company, with which he was connected for two and a half years. On the expiration of that period he came to Aurora and was engaged in the lumber business under the firm style of A. T. Judd & Company for four years. He then retired from the firm and joined the force of employes of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, which he represented in the operative department, being a conductor on the line for seventeen years. He proved a most courteous and capable official, always carefully looking after the interests of the patrons of the road and never neglecting the fidelity which he owed to the company which he represented. Upon his retirement he engaged in the grocery business for a short time and in June, 1898, he became one of the organizers of a fraternal insurance society known as the Yeomen of America, being associated in this with Charles E. Corlett, Charles M. Coates, William A. Colledge and Dr. Prichard. Mr. Judd was elected the vice president of the company and

has continued in the position to the present time. The success of the organization is attributable in no small degree to his methodical habits and his careful systemization of the duties that have devolved upon him in this connection.

On the 15th of October, 1873, C. D. Judd was married to Miss Sarah J. McDole, a native of Sugar Grove township, and a daughter of Rodney McDole, now deceased. Her father was one of the best known of the early pioneers of this part of the state and his eldest son, A. Gordon McDole, was the first white child born in the county. Mr. and Mrs. Judd now have one daughter, Abbie, the wife of Frank LaSuer.

Mr. Judd belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Order of Railway Conductors, and other social and fraternal organizations. In matters of citizenship he is progressive, desiring the welfare and upbuilding of the community to the extent not only of endorsing public measures, but of cooperating in many movements for the general good.

---

#### PHILIP PETERSON.

Although of foreign parentage, Philip Peterson, of Campton township, is a native of Kane county, having been born at St. Charles, August 31, 1861. He is a son of Fred Peterson, now a retired farmer residing at St. Charles, who was born in Sweden and came to this county in 1851. He has always been a farmer, but is now enjoying well-earned rest at the age of 84. He was married in Sweden to Christina Nelson of that country, now deceased. He is the father of eight children: Philip; John, at present a resident of Wisconsin, and a minister in the Methodist Episcopal church; Oscar, a carpenter and contractor, who lives at St. Charles; Caleb A., who is also a resident of St. Charles and a farmer on the old homestead; Emma, a trained nurse, who now lives in Florida; Carrie, the wife of M. Bennett; Abbie, the wife of E. F. Goodell; and Clara, who is living with her father. The father is a republican in politics, and has long served the public as a school director.

Philip Peterson attended the district school at St. Charles until he reached the age of nineteen. When he left school he started out in life for himself, and after working by the month for one year, rented a farm which he began at once to work with vigor and energy. The farm he now controls contains three hundred and twenty-seven acres, and is devoted to mixed crops, principally corn, oats and barley. As a side issue to his farming industry, and growing out of it, Mr. Peterson keeps fifty Durham cows, which enables him to carry on a thriving and profitable dairy business, to which his farm is well adapted.

On June 19, 1884, Mr. Peterson was united in marriage with Miss Ida Reams, the daughter of a Kane county carpenter, now dead. They have five children, all living at home: Arthur, Maggie, Ruth, Ruby, and Martha. Politically the father is a republican, and fraternally he is a Free Mason, holding membership in several branches of the order. He belongs to Unity Lodge, No. 48, at St. Charles; Loyal L. Mumm, Royal Arch Chapter, No. 96;

and Bethel Commandery, No. 36, Knights Templar, the last two at Elgin, Illinois. He and his wife are also members of Eastern Star Chapter, No. 265, at St. Charles, and he is connected with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 737, at Elgin, Illinois.

Mr. Peterson is prosperous in his business because he deserves to be, conducting it with intelligence and earnestness, and giving all its details close and careful attention. He also stands well in the community because he is a good, useful, upright and progressive citizen.

---

### JAMES O. MASON.

James O. Mason, the efficient treasurer of the Aurora Corset Company, is recognized in the city as a wide-awake, alert and enterprising business man of well formulated plans and of sufficient energy to carry them forward to successful completion. He was born in the town of Fort Ann in Washington county, New York, February 6, 1846. The Mason family, of which he is a representative, traces its ancestry back to Sampson Mason, who came from England to the new world in the seventeenth century and settled at Swansea, Massachusetts. The paternal grandfather of our subject was Shubal Mason, also a native of Fort Ann, New York, and a farmer by occupation. He reached an advanced age. He had a family of five children, two daughters and three sons, but only one is now living: Charles L. Mason, a lawyer by profession, who now resides at North Granville, New York, at the age of eighty-two years.

Orvin T. Mason, the father of our subject, was born at Fort Ann, New York, learned the wagon-maker's trade and followed that pursuit in his native town for half a century. He also owned a farm in the same locality. A few years prior to his death he removed to Truthville, Washington county, where he died in 1893 at the venerable age of eighty-five years. In early manhood he wedded Sarah A. Otis, also a native of Fort Ann, and her death occurred December 31, 1900, when she had reached the age of eighty-nine years. They were both consistent Christian people, holding membership in the Baptist church. Their family numbered five sons and three daughters: Rev. Warren Mason, deceased; Julius, who passed away in 1873; Ellen, the widow of R. D. Baker, of Aurora; Frances, the widow of Warner E. Wright, of Aurora; James O., of this review; Sarah A., deceased, who was the wife of L. F. Liscomb, of Hinsdale, New Hampshire; and Orvin T. and John T., both residents; of Aurora.

The maternal grandfather of Mr. Mason was also born at Fort Ann, New York, while his ancestors were from Nova Scotia. They settled in the United States, however, at an early day. Mr. Otis followed the blacksmith's trade and served as a soldier in the war of 1812. His death occurred in the Empire state when he had reached a venerable age. His family numbered five or six children.



James O. Mason was reared at Fort Ann, New York, and attended the common schools there. He worked in the fields through the summer months, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors incident to the tilling of the soil, and he also assisted his father in the wagon shop, so that he gained considerable skill in industrial lines. In 1868 he came to Aurora, where he has resided continuously since. He was at that time a young man of twenty-two years and, entering business circles, he secured a clerkship in the grocery store of Robert Pierpont, with whom he remained for three years, receiving only thirty dollars per month for the first year and a half. He then traveled upon the road as a commercial salesman for three years and was in the wholesale and retail bakery business in Aurora for twenty-seven years, or from 1874 until 1901. In 1897, however, the business was absorbed by the National Biscuit Company, but Mr. Mason remained in charge of the plant at this place for four years. The Aurora Corset Manufacturing Company was organized in 1895 and he has ever since been its treasurer. This is an important productive concern of the city and its interests are ably managed by Mr. Mason and his associates. He is likewise a director of the German-American National Bank, is also interested in what was then the Aurora Watch Company, but is now the Hamilton Watch Company, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and is widely known as a man of sound business judgment and keen discrimination, whose well-directed efforts have been attended with success. Since its organization he has been a director of the Western United Gas and Electric Company.

On the 30th of September, 1875, Mr. Mason was married to Miss Roma L. Adams, a daughter of Charles H. and Harriett L. (Coleman) Adams, of Fort Ann, New York, who arrived in Aurora in 1867 and spent their remaining days here. There is but one son of that marriage, Marquis Edgar Mason, who attended the public schools of Aurora and the University of Wisconsin at Madison, where he remained for two years prior to his matriculation in the Massachusetts School of Technology at Boston, from which he was graduated in 1904. He is now a well known chemist of that city. He married Laura E. Rice, a daughter of Dr. and Mrs. M. S. Rice, of Aurora. Mr. and Mrs. James O. Mason are now rearing the children of his brother, the Rev. Warren Mason, who died in February, 1906, in North Granville, New York, while his wife passed away a week later.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Mason are sincere and valued members of the Baptist church. He also belongs to Waubonsie Lodge, I. O. O. F., while his political allegiance is given to the republican party and he served as city treasurer for two years. He is interested in all that pertains to the general welfare and was one of the first directors of the Young Men's Christian Association in Aurora, filling that position from 1870 to the present time. He is also treasurer of the building committee of that association, and they are now erecting one of the handsomest buildings in the state, Mr. Mason devoting much of his time to this interest. His wife is also actively identified with the Young Women's Christian Association, and they have contributed several thousand dollars to these organizations. Mrs. Mason is now president of the Aurora Young Women's Christian Association, and vice president of the Illinois State Association.

Mr. Mason is especially active in matters relating to the public welfare and his cooperation may always be counted upon to further any movement for the public good. A man of great natural ability, his success in business from the beginning of his residence in Aurora has been uniform and rapid. He has persevered in the pursuit of a persistent purpose and has gained a satisfactory reward for his labors. His life is exemplary in all respects and he has ever supported those interests which are calculated to uplift and benefit humanity, while his own high moral worth is deserving of the utmost commendation.

---

#### NICHOLAS C. PAULOS.

Nicholas C. Paulos has in his business career made that steady progress which results from experience and the fit utilization of one's opportunities and innate powers. He was born in Tripoli, Greece, December 6, 1873, but at the age of twenty years sought the advantages offered in the new world and by their improvement has come to be recognized as a representative and successful business man of Aurora and as the leader of the Greek population of the city. His father has always been an agriculturist and both parents are still living in Greece. There were seven sons and four daughters in their family, of whom Nicholas C. Paulos is the eldest. His brothers, Harry and Angelos, have charge of his store at No. 33 Broadway. Thomas is engaged in business in Elgin and Spiros in Chicago. Another brother is an officer in the Greek army on the king's staff.

Spending his boyhood and youth to the age of twenty years in his native land, Nicholas C. Paulos then sailed from Greece to America and spent the first few months after his arrival in this country at Paterson, New Jersey. He also remained for seven months in New York City and the following year secured employment in a confectionery establishment in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, while during the succeeding year he was at Little Falls, New York. Making his way westward to Des Moines, Iowa, he there attended Highland Park College for three and a half years and for two and a half years was a student in Drake University, from which institution he was graduated. He was very ambitious to receive a thorough English education as well as to acquaint himself with the manners, habits and customs of the American people, but not possessing the means to obtain the much-desired knowledge, he had almost given way to despair when a fortunate incident transpired and doubtless changed the whole course of his life. Following his arrival in Des Moines he sought a situation, for his financial condition rendered immediate employment a necessity. While sauntering on the street looking in the window of a stationery store, he was accosted by a gentleman who proved to be Mr. Gray, the superintendent of the dining hall at the Highland Park School in Des Moines. Mr. Gray was interested in the striking personal appearance and intelligence of the Greek youth and, becoming cognizant of the fact that he possessed a naturally bright mind and was eager for an education, Mr. Gray

invited him to the school, where he presented him to the principal, Professor Longwell, who manifested much interest in the boy, as did the other professors and teachers in the school. In order to assist him in meeting his needs while acquiring a knowledge of English, they gave him work at building furnace fires and doing errands and in this way he managed to work his way through school. He displayed keen appreciation of the kind treatment which he had received in his faithfulness to every task entrusted to him and his devotion to those whom he served.

When he had received his diploma from Drake University Mr. Paulos lectured in many towns in Iowa, taking for his subject "The Manners and Customs of the Greek People." Later he engaged in the confectionery business in Chicago for a year and a half and in 1900 he came to Aurora, possessing at that time the sum of sixteen dollars of his own. However, he borrowed from friends sufficient money to enable him to establish a small confectionery store on New York street, near the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy depot. From the beginning this venture proved successful and after six months he leased a large store on South Broadway, paying a rental of sixty-five dollars per month. After one year he renewed the lease for a period of five years, paying the sum of \$140 per month for the entire building, a portion of which he sublet. In May, 1905, the Aurora, Elgin & Chicago Railroad Company leased the building on the corner of Broadway and Fox streets, now used as their transfer station, and the company sought Mr. Paulos to establish and conduct a confectionery store in the building. This he did in connection with his other store and has been very successful in the new undertaking, having at present the largest confectionery business in Aurora. For his privileges of conducting the restaurant and confectionery business in the transfer station he pays the sum of \$2,200 per annum. Two of his brothers are somewhat interested with him in this enterprise, having come to America at the suggestion of their brother, who sent them money to pay their passage. Nicholas Paulos also has a brother in Chicago and one in Elgin, whom he aided in a similar manner and he has also assisted each one in starting in business.

Mr. Paulos has not only been extremely kind and helpful to the members of his father's family but to his fellow countrymen as well, and is a recognized leader among the Greek residents of Aurora, who number seventy-five. Most of these are employed in mechanical lines and Mr. Paulos acts as interpreter and arbitrator between employer and employed. In October, 1907, the Greeks of Aurora organized Lyncurgus Lodge, which is of a charitable and literary nature. Every male Greek in Aurora is a member of this lodge, of which Mr. Paulos is president. During the winter months he instructs its members in the English language and in the manners and customs of the English-speaking people, and thus he is doing much to aid his fellow countrymen, not only in gaining material advancement but also in becoming good citizens, loyal in their support of their adopted land.

On the 31st of December, 1902, Mr. Paulos strengthened the ties which bind him to America by his marriage to Miss Edith M. Page, a native daughter of Illinois, born at Naperville, October 31, 1884. Her father, Al-

bert Page, residing at No. 424 Fifth street, Aurora, is engaged in cement work. Both Mr. and Mrs. Paulos are members of the Trinity Episcopal church, and his political allegiance is given the republican party. His position on political questions is not the result of chance or influence or of partiality but has come as the result of his thorough investigation into the political questions and conditions of his adopted land. He is actuated in all that he does by an American spirit. While feeling a deep attachment for the land of his nativity, he is thoroughly loyal to the land of his adoption and Aurora recognizes in him a representative and valued citizen.

---

### HON. JOHN W. LINDEN.

Hon. John W. Linden belongs to that class of men that the world calls self-made and to whom the public instinctively pays deference because of the success to which they have attained, but it is not alone his prosperous business career that has made John W. Linden a representative citizen of Aurora. He has been a prominent factor in democratic circles for many years and has twice represented his district in the state legislature, leaving the impress of his individuality upon the laws enacted during that period. He was born in Luxemburg, Germany, January 26, 1859. His father, Peter Linden, was also a native of that place and in 1861 came to the United States. In the meantime, however, he had resided for fifteen years in Paris and was engaged in business as a wagon-maker. After crossing the Atlantic and establishing his home in Kane county, Illinois, he did not follow his trade but turned his attention to general farming in Big Woods, being thus identified with agricultural interests until he retired from active business. He then removed to Aurora, where he lived for some years in the enjoyment of well earned rest ere he passed from this life in 1884 at the age of sixty-two years.

John W. Linden was but two years old at the time of the emigration to the new world and has been, therefore, practically a lifelong resident of Kane county. He attended the public schools until the age of eleven years, when he entered upon an apprenticeship in Stolp's woolen mill, where he displayed such adaptability and enterprise that while yet a boy he was given charge of the carding and spinning department of the mill. Few men are forced to start out in life so early as he did and few, with no better equipment as offered by the public schools and other training, gain such a creditable measure of success. However, Mr. Linden has always advanced in intellectual as well as business lines, for reading, observation and experience have kept him well informed. As he passed on in his business career, his fidelity winning him promotion with increased salary, he at length acquired capital sufficient to enable him to engage in business on his own account. In 1885 he embarked in the wholesale liquor trade and is now owner of a very extensive wholesale liquor house. He makes shipments to various parts of the country and has a business which has constantly developed along substantial lines, bringing him a gratifying financial return.



Mr. Linden is well known as a worker and leader in democratic ranks. In 1891 he was elected alderman, being a member of the city council for sixteen consecutive years, and his fellow townsmen further showed their confidence in his ability and integrity in political lines by electing him to the legislature, where he served in the forty-third and forty-fourth general assemblies. He has been a close student of the political questions of the day, has worked earnestly in party ranks and has been chairman of the democratic senatorial committee. In recent years he has refused to become a candidate for office, preferring to devote his time to his business affairs, yet he is still actively interested in the party and its success and as a public-spirited citizen is loyal to all that he believes will conserve the best interests of his city and the commonwealth.

In 1885 Mr. Linden was married to Miss Katherine Winkle, of Aurora. He has never courted publicity yet the qualities he has displayed in his business and public career have called to him the attention of his fellow citizens and the nature of his service has gained for him their commendation and respect.

---

#### WILLIAM ANDERSON.

William Anderson, a successful farmer and dairyman of Kane county, was born near Kirkcudbright, in the southern part of Scotland, of the marriage of William Jane (Dixon) Anderson. The father followed general agricultural pursuits as a life work. His family numbered two sons, namely: William, of this review; and James, who resides in Scotland.

William Anderson was educated in the public schools of his native land, and in 1872 crossed the Atlantic to America, locating in Chicago, where for one year he was engaged in stone work and assisted in rebuilding the metropolis after the great fire of 1871. In 1873 he came to Elgin and for the three succeeding years was employed as manager of the farm which was conducted in connection with the insane asylum. Subsequently he removed to Kendall county, where he was employed for two years, on the expiration of which period he returned to Elgin, being employed as a farm hand in Elgin township for one year and for a similar period in Dundee township. In 1881 he took up his abode in Dundee township and was there successfully engaged in the operation of rented land for seven years, when he purchased sixty acres of land in Elgin township, where he has since made his home. He afterward added twelve acres to the tract, has a nice residence and good barns and is also the owner of from thirty-five to forty cows. He is now conducting an extensive dairy business, employing several men to assist him, and is recognized as one of the successful dairy farmers of the county. It is a widely acknowledged fact that the Scotch are the most successful dairymen in the world and Mr. Anderson is no exception to this rule, his carefully conducted interests having gained him a creditable and gratifying measure of prosperity.

On the 4th of April, 1878, Mr. Anderson was united in marriage to Miss Emeline B. Redmond, a daughter of Thomas and Betsie (Thorn) Redmond,



WILLIAM ANDERSON



natives of Ireland and England, respectively. The parents came to this country when their daughter, Mrs. Anderson, was quite a little girl. Their family numbered eleven children, as follows: John, deceased; Charles, who has also passed away; Edward, formerly of Britt, Iowa, but now deceased; George, who lives in Whitewater, Wisconsin; Emily, the widow of W. A. Tanner; Emma J.; Emeline; D. I., of Kane county; Lavina; Orlando, who has departed this life; and Ida, the deceased wife of J. L. Fulton, of Whitewater, Wisconsin. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have been born two children: W. T., who wedded Mabel Kelly, a daughter of J. H. Kelly; and George E., who was united in marriage to Sadie Molton, daughter of Fred G. Molton.

The hope that led Mr. Anderson to leave his native land and seek a home in America has been more than realized. He found the opportunities he sought,—which, by the way, are always open to the ambitious, energetic man,—and making the best of these he has steadily worked his way upward. He possesses the resolution, perseverance and reliability so characteristic of his nation, and his name is now enrolled among the best citizens of Kane county.

---

#### MERTON ELLSWORTH WESTON.

Merton Ellsworth Weston, who successfully follows agricultural pursuits and also conducts an ideal dairy in Virgil township, was born in Kaneville, Kane county, November 28, 1872. His parents were Wirt Franklin and Mary Ann (Watson) Weston, the former a native of Rutland county, Vermont, and the latter born in Beatyestown, Warren county, New Jersey, June 26, 1852. In the early '50s the father came to Illinois with his parents, locating in Kane county, where for a number of years he was very active as a school teacher. He likewise took a prominent part in the work of the Methodist Episcopal church, while fraternally he was connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mrs. Weston still survives her husband and now makes her home in Hammond, Louisiana. The record of her children is as follows: Madian M., the wife of R. S. Harter, who is an undertaker of Maple Park; Charles M., a painter and paper hanger; Minnie I., the wife of J. J. Roman, an undertaker and furniture dealer of DeKalb, Illinois; J. Scott, who is a contractor of irrigation work and makes his home in Fallon, Nevada, and Robert L., deceased.

Merton Ellsworth Weston, the other member of the family, attended the district school in Kaneville until eighteen years of age and on putting aside his text books went to Chicago, where he learned the trade of a painter and paper hanger, which line of activity he followed for seven years. Subsequently he worked at his trade in DeKalb for a short time and afterward resided in Iowa for eleven months, but on the expiration of that period he returned to Kane county and has here since made his home. In addition to the work of general farming he conducts a model dairy, having thirty-five



cows. Both branches of his business yield him an excellent annual income and he is now numbered among the prosperous residents here.

Mr. Weston was joined in wedlock to Miss Emma Sophia Freeland, who was born near Kaneville, December 9, 1875. The children of this union are: Mildred A., who is attending school; Russell F. and Everett R., both of whom are deceased, and Evelyn I., at home.

In his political views Mr. Weston is a staunch democrat, while fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. Both he and his wife are widely known and highly esteemed throughout the community and the hospitality of their pleasant home is greatly enjoyed by their many friends.

---

### CHARLES KAMMRAD.

A German by nativity, born in the historic city of Rouen, October 27, 1865, and having become a resident of Illinois when he was but fifteen, Charles Kammrاد has exemplified in his citizenship and achievements here the sturdy and sterling qualities of both the land of his birth and that of his adoption, combining the indomitable industry and persistency of the German with the enterprise, energy and activity of the American.

His father, Louis Kammrاد, brought the rest of his family to the United States in 1882, and hastening to the teeming interior of the country, took up his residence on a farm in Kane county, locating near Plato Center. He is still living on this farm, which he has greatly improved and to the value of which he has materially added by the skill and vigor with which he has handled it. His wife, whose maiden name was Minnie Kramke, was also born in Germany. They are members of the Lutheran church and in political affairs the father supports the republican party. They became the parents of seven children: Gussie, the wife of Charles Misner, who lives at Wasco in this county; Bertha, the wife of Henry Dittmar; Mattie, who is dead; Alvina, Plato township farmers, and Charles.

Charles Kammrاد went to school in his native land until he was fifteen years old, then came to the United States and took up his residence in Kane county. He was employed in various capacities until he reached his maturity, assisting his father on the farm and doing other things as he found them to do, and doing all he undertook with an upright and determined effort to secure the best results.

When he was twenty-seven years old he was married to Miss Margaret Reed, the marriage occurring on December 28, 1892. Four children have been born to them: Carl Louis, Walter William, Lily Charlotte and Harvey Samuel. The father is a republican politically, belongs to the Methodist church in religious affiliation and is a Modern Woodman of America fraternally. He is rendering the township valuable service as school director, taking a great interest in the cause of public education. The farm he works

contains two hundred and forty acres and is devoted to a variety of crops, much of the land being in grass for pasture and hay to feed the fifty cows which make up the basis of his large and remunerative dairy business. He has thriven in his efforts for advancement in this country, and he has repaid the opportunities it has given him by loyal and intelligent support of its institutions, exhibiting on all occasions and in reference to every local and general interest an elevated, intelligent and patriotic citizenship.

---

### WILLIAM H. McCULLOUGH.

William H. McCullough is the junior member of the firm of Finch & McCullough, printers, binders and stationers of Aurora. In the prosecution of his business there has been manifest one of the sterling traits of his character—his desire to carry forward to the highest perfection attainable anything he undertakes. Not content with mediocrity in any line of life, he has given deep and earnest thought to the work of raising his business to a high standard, approaching the ideal in the character of its service to the public and in the methods employed in the prosecution of the work of the office.

Mr. McCullough is one of Aurora's native sons, his birth having here occurred September 6, 1866. His parents were William and Catharine (Irven) McCullough, the former a native of Liverpool, England, and the latter of the state of New York. The father came to America when six years of age. His parents died when he was very young and he was early thrown upon his own resources. He attained his majority in St. Louis years. Immediately after the close of the Civil war in 1865 he removed to Aurora. In his younger days he was a member of the navy and later and there learned the shoemaking business, which he has followed for many served as a soldier of the Confederate army, being captain of a company. He took part in many important engagements and after the close of hostilities between the north and the south he located in Aurora, where he engaged in the custom-made shoe business for many years. Since 1889 he has resided in Chicago and for eight years he was superintendent of the shoe department at Dunning, Illinois. Politically he is a stalwart republican, prominent in political circles of Chicago and has held several offices. Unto him and his wife have been born seven children, three sons and four daughters: William H., John Edward; Elizabeth, deceased; Mary; Nellie, the wife of M. W. Quinn, of Chicago; Catherine; and Henry Emmett.

William H. McCullough was reared in the city of his nativity and acquired his education through the medium of the public schools. When twelve years of age he went to work to learn the printer's trade and has followed that business continuously since. He was first connected with the Evening Post and afterwards became associated with the Aurora Beacon, with which he was connected for twenty-one years. He then formed a partnership with E. C. Finch, the present mayor of Aurora, and in November, 1903, estab-

lished the enterprise which they have since conducted. They began operations on a small scale but their business has rapidly developed owing to their unfaltering diligence and perseverance, their close application and thorough understanding of the trade. In May, 1907, they began the erection of a large and handsome building on the corner of La Salle and Benton streets, where they now employ forty-five workmen in the conduct of a printing, binding and stationery establishment. Their output is of such quality as to insure a continuance of the trade, which has increased with each passing year. Their office building is one of the finest business plants in Aurora and the firm is very popular with the general public, while the owners enjoy the full trust and respect of their employes. They have conducted their business on the principle that if they treat their employes fairly and with consideration they will receive good and faithful work in return and the years have proven the wisdom of this policy.

On the 23d of October, 1894, occurred the marriage of William H. McCullouch and Miss Catharine E. Garvey, a daughter of Thomas and Celia Garvey, who were natives of Ireland and came to America, settling at Batavia, Illinois, at an early day. They had seven children. There are three children of the union of Mr. and Mrs. William H. McCullouch: Florence Irene, Marion and William Leslie. The parents are consistent members of St. Mary's Catholic church and Mr. McCullouch belongs to the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters. He now resides at No. 151 Fourth street, where he erected an attractive residence in 1906, that stands as a monument to his business capacity and enterprise.

---

#### WILLIAM A. BEITH.

Among the progressive and enterprising agriculturists of Campton township is numbered William A. Beith, who was born in Campton, this county, September 1, 1878, and is a son of George A. and Lucinda (Richmond) Beith, of whom extended mention is made in the sketch of Robert E. Beith on another page of this volume. Upon the home farm our subject grew to manhood and he attended the Stewart district school until fifteen years of age. For three years he was a student in the Elburn high school, from which he was graduated and then entered Wheaton College, where he pursued a classical course, and was graduated from that institution in 1903, receiving the degree of A. B.

Sickness in the family of his brother then forced him to return home, and he has since devoted his time and energies to agricultural pursuits. He resides in a very beautiful country home, surrounded by fine shade trees, and there is a splendid spring upon the place which affords water the year round for his herds of stock. The farm is conveniently located three miles northeast of Elburn and is a part of the magnificent five hundred acre estate belonging to his father. He is interested in dairying and keeps thirty cows for that purpose.

In 1905 Mr. Beith was united in marriage to Miss Grace A. Sutor, who was born in Chicago and received her education in the public schools of that city. Her father, John F. Sutor, now resides in Clyde, Illinois, and is engaged in the real-estate business. Mr. Beith is a man of studious habits and is a great reader, being thoroughly familiar with the best literature. In politics he is a stanch prohibitionist, and as a public-spirited and progressive citizen he gives his support to every enterprise which he believes will advance the intellectual, moral and social welfare of the community in which he resides.

---

### JOSEPH INGHAM.

Joseph Ingham was born in Sugar Grove township, Kane county, October 18, 1839, and was, therefore, a representative of one of the oldest families of this part of the state. Comparatively few settlements had been made in Kane county when his parents, Samuel S. and Nancy (Owens) Ingham, located here. The Black Hawk war had been successfully fought a few years before and established the supremacy of the white race in the central Mississippi valley, but much of the land was still in possession of the government and the population was exceedingly sparse when compared with the numbers that are today residing in Kane county. Through the period of his boyhood and youth Joseph Ingham experienced many of the hardships and trials incident to frontier life and as the years passed he won for himself a prominent place in the regard and respect of his fellowmen.

His paternal grandfather, Joseph Ingham, was a native of New York and died in 1853 at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. He was twice married, his first wife being Sallie Star, and their children included Samuel S. Ingham. The second wife bore the maiden name of Dollie Barnes.

Samuel S. Ingham was born in Oneida county, New York, May 24, 1801, was descended from English ancestry and was reared to manhood in his native village of Steuben. He served as a colonel in the New York state militia, and at forty years of age he wedded Miss Nancy Owens, who was of Welsh lineage. Her father died when his children were small, so that little is known concerning the history of the family. In the year 1839 Samuel S. Ingham started westward, reaching Sugar Grove township, Kane county, Illinois, on the 18th of June. There he took up a large tract of land, bidding in for a number of neighbors before the land sales. In the course of years, he improved a valuable farm of three hundred and forty acres, which is still undivided and is now the property of John Ingham and Mrs. Joseph Ingham, who inherited her husband's share. It was upon that farm that Samuel Ingham passed away March 17, 1864, at the age of sixty-three years. His wife was born in Steuben, Oneida county, New York, January 16, 1822, and passed away in Aurora, July 2, 1879, at the age of fifty-seven years. They were both Universalists in religious faith and were most earnest workers in the church. Their family numbered five



children who reached years of maturity: Joseph; Squire U.; John O.; Adaline C., the wife of Burt Spencer; and Hattie, who died when sixteen years of age.

Joseph Ingham, whose name introduces this record, was reared in Sugar Grove township upon the old home farm where his birth occurred. There he was married and died. He attended Lombard University at Galesburg, Illinois, and was a schoolmate of the Hon. Edward Conger, who was later minister to China during the Boxer uprising. In 1861 Mr. Ingham responded to the country's call for aid, enlisting in Company I, Thirty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, while later he became a cavalryman. He served for four years and was wounded in camp by the accidental discharge of a revolver. He was commissary sergeant and at one time was aid to General Grant. He participated in the siege of Vicksburg and in many of the important battles of the war, making a most creditable military record, his loyalty nor his valor never being called into question.

On his return from the war Mr. Ingham resumed the occupation of farming on the old homestead, his father having died in the previous March. On the 4th of November, 1869, Mr. Ingham was married to Miss Elizabeth Stickland, a daughter of George and Olive (Sheldon) Stickland. Her birth occurred in Aurora on the present site of the Hotel Evans, September 28, 1840, and she has been a resident of Kane county continuously since with the exception of a period of eleven years spent near Nashua, Iowa. Her father, George Stickland, was born in Bristol, England, in 1816, came to the United States in 1830 and learned the wagon-maker's trade at Skaneateles, New York. Her mother was born at Chambly in lower Canada and when a young lady, came to the United States with a married sister, settling in Illinois. Her parents arrived several years later and took up their abode in Chicago when it was a mere hamlet. In early manhood George Stickland removed westward to Chicago and early in 1839 came to Aurora, where he was married. Here he formed a partnership with John Hall for the manufacture of wagons and he afterward worked for the McCollums. In 1857 he went to Iowa and settled in Chickasaw county near Nashua, where he died in January, 1860, at the age of forty-four years. His wife survived him until 1883 and was sixty-five years of age at the time of her death. They were the parents of nine children: Mrs. Ingham; Emeline, deceased, who was the wife of James Thurman; Edward A., of Preston, Iowa; Frances, who resides at Cedar Rapids and is the wife of James Thurman, whom she married after her sister's death; George A., of Moline, Illinois; Esther, the wife of George Griffin, of Creston, Iowa; Sarah, the wife of Henry Perry, residing near Creston, Iowa; Fanny, the wife of Clark Griffin, of Creston, Iowa; and Robert R. Stickland, of Juno, North Dakota. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Ingham were Joseph and Mary (Tucker) Stickland, while the maternal grandparents were Charles and Sallie (Sawyer) Sheldon. The latter was a native of Vermont, while Mr. Sheldon was the first white child born in Oneida county, New York. He was a farmer by occupation and became an early resident of Aurora, where he once owned what is known as the Downer Place addition.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ingham was blessed with five children, but two died in infancy: Samuel S., the eldest married Charlotte Fischell and is farming his mother's share of the old homestead. Sarah is the wife of Myron J. Tarbel, of Aurora, and they have one son living, Herbert Tarbel. Mildred is a bookkeeper in Chicago. The death of the husband and father occurred September 6, 1907, when he was sixty-eight years of age and was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, not only to his immediate family but also to many friends. He was active in politics and was assessor of his township for nine years. He was also the first recorder of deeds of the county and at one time was president of the Kane County Farmers' Institute. He belonged to Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R., and at all times was as loyal in his citizenship as when he followed the stars and stripes upon southern battlefields. His honesty of intent and purpose were never called into question and such was the appreciation for his sound judgment on the part of his fellowmen that his advice was frequently sought and was always freely given. He lived to see remarkable changes in the county as it emerged from pioneer conditions and took on all of the evidences of modern civilization. He aided in its development along agricultural lines and through the careful conduct of his business affairs won a goodly measure of success. His widow now resides in Aurora, and, like Mr. Ingham, is widely and favorably known in the county.

---

#### ERIC MARCUS ABRAHAMSON.

Eric Marcus Abrahamson, who has been engaged in the hardware business in Lily Lake since November 2, 1902, was born September 2, 1872, and is a son of Carl Jacob Abrahamson, who came to this country from his native land, Sweden, in 1883, bringing his family with him. He first located in Sycamore and turned his attention to farming, working for others until he familiarized himself with American methods. He later returned to St. Charles and he followed farming for some years with such success that he is now living retired. He is a republican in politics, and is a faithful and consistent member of the Lutheran church. He is the father of five children, namely: Carl A. and E. Matilda, deceased; Manda, the wife of William Andrews; Anna, who resides at home; and Eric Marcus, of this review.

Eric Marcus Abrahamson is indebted to the district schools of Plato township for his education. After completing his schooling he returned to the farm and assisted his father in its management for the next few years, or up to the time of his marriage, when he engaged in farming in his own interests. He followed this vocation until 1902, when he opened up the hardware business in Lily Lake. He handles a complete line of hardware, including pumps, windmills and plumbers' supplies, of which he makes a specialty.

On February 15, 1901, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Abrahamson and Miss Margarette H. Powers, who was born June 23, 1879. She was one of a large family, namely: Mary Ellen, the wife of James McCarthy, who

resides in Delta county: John, who is in the employ of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad; Catherine E., the wife of Fred. Durocher; Delia C., the wife of George Londis; Michael C., who is a railroad employe; Margarett H., the wife of our subject; Edward William; Florence, the wife of V. Sanders; Anna, the wife of Marshall Forest; Loretta, the wife of Gerald Gallagher; and Thomas, at home. Mr. and Mrs. Abrahamson have become the parents of one daughter, Irena M., born August 27, 1906.

In his political views Mr. Abrahamson is a stalwart republican. He is a public-spirited citizen, and his cooperation can be counted upon in every movement which tends to promote the moral, intellectual and material welfare of the community.

---

### WILLIAM RAMSAY.

William Ramsay, a well known representative of the hotel interests of Elgin, is a self-made man, who has worked his way upward from a humble financial position to one of affluence and is now proprietor of the Burns Hotel and the Ramsay House, adjoining hotel properties, which have a liberal patronage. He was born in Dufftown, Scotland, in 1865, a son of Peter and Margaret (Stuart) Ramsay, both of whom were natives of Scotland. The father is a farmer, and is still living in the land of hills and heather, but the mother is now deceased.

The son acquired his education in the schools of his native town, and, entering business life, was employed in Edinburgh until twenty-two years of age. Ambitious for opportunities which would bring him success, he resolved to come to America, attracted by the favorable reports which he had heard concerning the business conditions and advantages of the new world. He landed at New York with only one hundred and forty dollars in his pocket, and part of this was expended in making the trip to Elgin, whither he came immediately, arriving in the spring of 1887. Although without capital, he possessed a resolute spirit and unfaltering determination, nor was he afraid of work. He secured a situation with James Fitchie on a farm, where he remained for only a short time. He then returned to the city and entered the employ of Theodore F. Swan, with whom he continued until March, 1890. He then formed a partnership with Mr. Swan as a dealer in saddle horses and continued therein for two years, when he bought out Mr. Swan's interest and carried on the livery business for several years longer.

When he disposed of his interests in that line he had accumulated considerable capital, and embarked in the liquor business, with which he has now been connected for fourteen years. He has, however, not confined his attention to one line of trade, but has branched out into other fields and in April, 1898, he leased the Burns Hotel and three years later purchased the hotel, which contains fifty-two rooms. In 1905 he began the erection of the Ramsay House, which adjoins the Burns Hotel and which was completed in October, 1906. It contains thirty-five rooms and is three stories in height. The fact that Mr. Ramsay was enabled to purchase the Burns Hotel and to erect



WILLIAM RAMSAY





the Ramsay House is an indication that his business has been constantly growing and is very successful. He displays excellent executive ability in carrying on his interests and at the same time is a popular, genial host, who wins many friends among his patrons.

Mr. Ramsay was married to Miss Mary Alexander, a native of Glasgow, Scotland, whose father was a prominent citizen of Elgin for a number of years, but is now living in Chicago. Two children have been born of the marriage, Margaret Sadie and William. Mr. Ramsay is connected with the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks, but has had little time for outside interests, as his energies have been concentrated entirely upon the upbuilding of the business, which has grown in volume and importance, making him one of the prosperous residents of his adopted city. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to the United States, for here he found the opportunities which he sought and in their improvement has gained a gratifying competence.

---

#### CLYDE C. SHAW.

Clyde C. Shaw, a prosperous and progressive farmer residing in Campton township, where he has charge of the family estate, was born in this county October 4, 1873, the son of Comfort H. and Lovina (Cain) Shaw. His father was a native of New York, where he was born in 1835 and where he passed the days of his youth and early manhood. In 1869 he came to Illinois and located in Campton township, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty-two acres of land. This was the family home for twenty-seven years, or until 1898, during which year Mr. Shaw located in St. Charles, where he remained until the time of his death, which occurred in March, 1899. His wife still survives and spends most of her time with our subject. Three children were born of this union, namely: Clyde C.; Ida N., deceased; and Ella D., the wife of Ray Blackman, a resident of Chemung, Illinois, where he is superintendent of a condensed milk factory. In politics Mr. Shaw was a republican and religiously was a member of the Methodist church, as is his estimable wife.

Clyde C. Shaw attended school in his home district until he was ten years of age, when he entered the graded schools of St. Charles, graduating therefrom at the age of sixteen. He then entered the Oak street high school, of Aurora, from which he was graduated two years later and then returned to the parental roof, assuming the management of the farm and relieving his father of the active duties connected therewith. Under his successful management the place has developed into an ideal country home. It is most pleasantly situated on the St. Charles and De Kalb road, a route that was traversed by the tourists in their "round the world" automobile trip in 1908.

In March, 1898, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Shaw and Miss Allis Linington, who had been his schoolmate at the Aurora high school.

Mrs. Shaw is the daughter of George Linington, a carpenter and contractor of Aurora, in which city she was born August 24, 1874. Unto this union have been born three children, Glenn C., Oren L., and Lovina L.

Mr. Shaw is not identified with any particular political party but casts his ballot in favor of those candidates whom he believes best qualified to fill the office. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Court of Honor. Both he and his estimable wife are members of the Methodist church.

---

#### HARRY H. WHEELER.

Harry H. Wheeler, who is a successful farmer and breeder of registered stock, his farm being located on section 24, Virgil township, was born on the 25th of August, 1878. His parents are Hinton and Orrissa (Reed) Wheeler, the former born at Warrenville, Illinois, July 16, 1841, while the latter's birth occurred March 17, 1858, within sight of the present home of our subject. The father served for eighteen months in the Union army as a member of the Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, participating in the important engagements at Chickamauga and Nashville. After the cessation of hostilities he removed to Chicago, where for five years he conducted a hotel. Thence coming to Elburn, Illinois, he here operated a rented farm for a few years until he had accumulated capital sufficient to purchase a farm of one hundred and twelve acres, three and a half miles northwest of Elburn, subsequently giving his attention to its further cultivation and development. He is now, however, living retired and the old home farm is now owned and operated by his son, Harry H. Wheeler. The latter has two sisters: Olivia C., the wife of W. C. Drummond, of Spirit Lake, Iowa, who is now serving as county clerk, and Emma, the wife of E. R. Youmans, who resides in Chicago and is a locomotive engineer for the Northwestern Railroad.

Harry H. Wheeler attended the district school until fifteen years of age and then entered Dixon College at Dixon, Illinois, being graduated from the business department of that institution. He afterward learned the carpenter's trade in order that he might more profitably carry on the business of contracting and building, which he followed for four years. On the expiration of that period he returned to his father's farm, which he later purchased and on which he has made his home to the present time. He has gained an enviable and creditable measure of success in the raising of registered stock, having a large number of registered English Dorsetshire sheep, which were awarded the first prize at the Iowa State Fair and second prize at the Illinois State Fair. He also has an extensive breed of Chester White hogs, which have been exhibited at many county fairs and never failed to receive the blue ribbon. He also deals extensively in poultry, exhibiting his White Leghorn chickens, White Holland turkeys and White Embden geese at all county fairs and poultry shows. His motto is: "A thoroughbred eats less than a scrub and sells for much more." The success which he has achieved is but the merited

reward of his well-directed labor and enterprise and he is now widely recognized as a most prominent and prosperous agriculturist and stock breeder of the county.

On the 2nd of October, 1900, Mr. Wheeler was united in marriage with Miss Margaret M. Young, who was born in Kane county, but later removed with her mother to Chicago, completing her education in the public schools of that city. She is also a graduate of the Chicago Musical College. Like her husband, she is widely known throughout the community and has gained an extensive circle of warm friends here.

---

### W. H. HEALY.

W. H. Healy, who, since January 1, 1891, has been numbered among the business men of Aurora, and is now senior partner of the firm of W. H. & A. N. Healy, undertakers, is a native of Massachusetts, his birth having occurred at Southbridge, that state, August 19, 1853. His father, W. H. Healy, was born in Worcester county, Massachusetts, and for many years engaged in the hotel business and in milling interests in the East, but feeling that the opportunities of the West were superior to those on the Atlantic coast, he made his way to Muscatine county, Iowa, in 1854, influenced in his choice of a destination by the fact that he had a number of relatives living there. He remained west of the Mississippi for a year and in 1855 took up his abode in Kendall county, Illinois, where he purchased a tract of land and began farming. There he tilled the soil for about nine years, when, in 1864, he sold that property but purchased another farm in the same township. For twenty years he cultivated it, bringing the fields under a high state of improvement and development and annually gathering therefrom rich crops which, when placed upon the market, brought to him a gratifying return for his labor. In 1884, however, he put aside the plow and removed to Yorkville, where he resided in the enjoyment of well-earned rest until his death on the 1st of June, 1895, when he was seventy-five years of age. In early manhood he had wedded Diantha L. Lyon, a native of Lawrence, Massachusetts, and a cousin of General Lyon, of Civil war fame. Mrs. Healy passed away some years prior to her husband's death, dying on the 26th of October, 1867, at the age of forty-five years. In 1871 Mr. Healy was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Louisa Baker, of Massachusetts.

Brought to the Mississippi valley in his infancy, W. H. Healy was largely reared in Kendall county, where he pursued a district-school education. When not busy with his text books he worked in the fields, aiding in the plowing, planting and harvesting and when his education was completed he devoted several years to farm work. The opportunities in other business lines, however, proved alluring and he turned his attention to the agricultural implement business, working for one of the leading firms in that line. Naturally ambitious to engage in business on his own account, he saved his earnings until his diligence and careful expenditure brought him capital



sufficient to enable him to engage in the furniture and undertaking business in February, 1886, with Robert N. Newton. On January 1, 1891, he came to Aurora and here continued in the same line of trade, but in September, 1895, sold his interest in the furniture business to his partner, M. M. Pierce, while he purchased Mr. Pierce's interest in the undertaking business. He was then alone for about ten years, or until 1901, when his brother, A. N. Healy, joined him under the firm style of W. H. & A. N. Healy. They have been very successful, being leading undertakers of the city and widely recognized as enterprising business men.

On the 13th of February, 1879, Mr. Healy was married to Miss Elizabeth L. Palmer and their union has been blessed with a daughter, Ruth. Mr. Healy belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and many other fraternal orders, and is also connected with the Chamber of Commerce. He attends the First Baptist church and is a republican in politics. He is a man of resolute spirit, carrying forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes and the prosperity he has achieved is attributable entirely to his own well-directed labor. He is well known in this part of the state, where almost his entire life has been passed and the qualities which have made him popular are such as win confidence and command esteem in every land and clime.

---

#### WILLIAM THOMAS OAKE, M. D.

Dr. William Thomas Oake is devoting his time and energies to the practice of medicine and surgery at Elburn and by constant study and research he keeps in touch with the onward march of the profession. He was born in Clinton county, Iowa, February 24, 1871. His parents emigrated to America in 1842 and settled in the county where Dr. Oake was born. The father served as a private in the Civil war, enlisting when but eighteen years of age. He was under command of Generals Sherman and Logan and was with the former on the celebrated march to the sea. Many times in the thickest of the fight, he was wounded at Fort Donelson and was captured and taken to Libby prison, where he remained for three months before he was exchanged. After the war he returned to the north and for many years has made his home in Iowa. He is now living at Sabula, that state, where he is engaged in the insurance business, and during the administration of President Harrison he served as postmaster of the town. He wedded Miss Mary Ann Barrick, whose father came from England in company with the elder Peacock, the prominent jeweler of Chicago, and purchased ten acres of land lying between what is now Halsted and Green streets. At length he sold his property there and removed with his family to Clinton county, Iowa. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Oake were born the following named: Richard L., who engaged in the lumber business in the state of Washington and died February 6, 1908; George W., proprietor of a meat market at Prosser,

Washington; Frank R., who devotes his time to farming in Clinton county, Iowa, and Lottie May and Amy, who are deceased.

Dr. Oake acquired his education in the country schools and in the high school at Sabula. In preparation for a business career he entered the Northwestern School of Pharmacy, from which he graduated in 1892. He then engaged in the drug business for four years but thinking to find the practice of medicine more congenial and more profitable he matriculated in the medical department of the University of Illinois and was graduated from there in 1904. He has since practiced in Elburn and has gained a good patronage.

Dr. Oake was married in 1896 to Miss Isabella Robinson and they have one child, Willard W., who was born February 24, 1900. Dr. Oake belongs to the Masonic lodge, the Royal Neighbors, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Mystic Workers, while his political allegiance is given to the republican party. Although keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day, he has never sought nor desired office, preferring to concentrate his energies on his business affairs, and in his practice he is meeting with that success which comes only in recognition of superior skill and merit.

---

#### FRANKLIN W. MOORE.

Franklin W. Moore, whose death in 1904 was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, lived for many years in Kane county, where he arrived in 1854. He was at different times connected with agricultural and mercantile pursuits and his last years were spent in honorable retirement. He possessed many excellent traits of character that gained for him a constantly increasing circle of friends. He was born in Wolcott, Wayne county, New York, in 1837.

His parents were Lucius and Anna (Cook) Moore, whose family numbered one son and five daughters, but only two are now living: Almeda, the wife of Albert Leach, of Lyons, New York, and Mrs. Malvina Crane, the wife of Fred Crane, of Long Beach, California. The father died in New York state in 1840 when his son, Franklin, was but three years of age. The mother afterward came west with her family and lived for a time on a farm near Wheatland. Subsequent to the Civil war she removed to Aurora, where she died at the age of sixty-eight years.

Franklin W. Moore was reared in Wolcott, New York, to the age of seventeen years and acquired his education in the public schools. Owing to his father's early death, however, it was necessary that the boy begin work when quite young in order to provide for his own support. In 1854 he came to the west and conducted the farm for his mother. When the war broke out he sold the property and offered his aid to the government, enlisting as a member of Company M, Thirty-sixth Illinois Cavalry, with which he remained until the cessation of hostilities. He was on scout duty most of the time and did not participate in any of the battles, yet his military service was often arduous and hazardous. After the war he settled in Aurora, where

he engaged in the coal business. He was thus identified with commercial pursuits in the city for a number of years and became recognized as a representative and reliable business man.

On the 2nd of November, 1869, Mr. Moore was married to Miss Cornelia Dunning, a daughter of Josiah D. and Eudoxea (Smith) Dunning. There was one child born of that marriage, Lucius Wright Moore, who died at the age of seven years. Mr. and Mrs. Moore began their domestic life in Aurora but in 1874 removed to Iowa, settling on a farm near Martelle, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits. There they lived for eleven years, after which they returned to this city in order to care for her parents, who were then well advanced in years. Mr. Moore afterward lived retired until his death, which occurred June 11, 1904. He died in a Chicago hospital, whither he had gone to submit to an operation, being at that time sixty-six years of age. His widow still survives him. She was born in Sodus, New York, and was four years of age when she came with her parents to Illinois in 1843.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Moore attended the People's church and he was a member of Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R. His political allegiance was given to the republican party for a long period, but later he supported Bryan and the democracy. He was ever a man who stood firm in support of his honest convictions, was devoted to the interests and upbuilding of his city, was faithful in friendship and in his home was a devoted husband.

---

#### CHARLES SCOTT WASHBURN.

Charles Scott Washburn, a representative farmer of Blackberry township, owns a beautiful place of one hundred and twenty acres. It is adorned with all modern equipments and accessories. The residence stands on an elevation of ground that commands an excellent view of the surrounding country. It sets somewhat back from the road and a well-kept drive leads up to the house. Everything about the place is attractive in appearance and indicates the careful supervision of the practical, progressive owner.

Mr. Washburn was born in Batavia, Illinois, October 23, 1865, his parents being Joseph S. and Harriett E. (Scott) Washburn, who came to Illinois in 1865 and settled in Elburn. They were natives of New York and spent their early lives in the Empire state. The father gave his political support to the Jeffersonian democracy.

Charles S. Washburn was the eldest child in his father's home and at a comparatively early age, the care and management of the home farm devolved upon him. When a young lad he was sent as a pupil to the district schools of Blackberry township where he continued his education until eighteen years of age. During that period, however, he worked upon the home farm during the summer months and early became familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of an agriculturist.

After completing his education he assisted his father in carrying on the home farm and there he remained up to the time of his marriage in 1888. He wedded Miss Louisa R. Johnston, a daughter of Nicholas Johnston, who was a farmer and carpenter. Both of her parents are now deceased. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Washburn has been blessed with three sons: C. Scott, Harry J., and Newton.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Washburn removed to the farm which he had purchased, and which has been his home continuously since, covering a period of twenty years. It is one of the attractive farm properties in Blackberry township. In addition to the comfortable and commodious residence, there are good barns and outbuildings, affording ample shelter to grain and stock. He also uses the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work of the fields, and that his labors are practical are indicated in the large harvests which he annually gathers. Mr. Washburn votes with the democratic party, and always keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day, is able to support his position by intelligent argument. In his business life he is found to be thoroughly reliable, as well as enterprising, and his success is, therefore, well merited.

---

#### CHARLES JOHN ANDERSON.

Charles John Anderson, successfully engaged in farming and dairying in Virgil township, was born near Helsingborg, Sweden, June 26, 1874, his parents being Lett and Annie Anderson, the former a miner by occupation. Our subject has but one sister, Annie, the wife of Karl Christenson, who is engaged in farming.

Charles John Anderson attended the schools of his native country until he was thirteen years of age and subsequently worked as an assistant on a farm until he had attained the age of seventeen years. At that time he emigrated to America, taking up his abode in Chicago, where he secured employment as a plumber, following that trade for one year. On the expiration of that period he began work as a farm hand near Elburn and was thus engaged for four years, while subsequently he spent five years at the carpenter's trade. Afterward, however, he again turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and has since been successfully connected with that line of activity, operating his father-in-law's farm in Virgil township. He has twenty cows and in addition to the work of general farming also conducts a dairy, both branches of his business returning to him a gratifying annual income. He likewise has a number of registered Jersey red hogs, and is recognized as an enterprising and representative business man.

Mr. Anderson was united in marriage to Miss Jennie A. Jacobson, who was born in Virgil township, her father being Andrew Jacobson, a native of Sweden. The latter resides with his wife near Lily Lake. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have been born the following children: Lillie C., Charles C. and Andrew, who are attending school; and Herbert and Leslie, at home.



In his political views Mr. Anderson is a stalwart republican and has served for some time as school director, the cause of education finding in him a staunch champion. He attends the Lutheran church and is highly esteemed throughout the community for his many excellent traits of character. Coming to the new world with the hope of winning success in a land unhampered by caste or class, he has worked earnestly and persistently and is now numbered among the substantial citizens of his community.

---

#### MRS. HUNTOON SMITH.

Mrs. Huntoon Smith, now residing at No. 288 Galena street, Aurora, has long lived in this part of the state and is a most estimable lady, enjoying to the fullest extent the good will, friendship and high regard of those who know her. She was born in Littleton, New Hampshire, October 27, 1815, and has, therefore, passed the ninety-third milestone on life's journey. Her parents, Joel and Anna (Applebee) Wilder, were also natives of Littleton, New Hampshire. Their family numbered three daughters and two sons: Eliza, the eldest, died when eleven years of age; Anna became Mrs. Huntoon Smith; Jane, deceased, was the wife of George Lane; Luke and Warren came to Aurora in 1837 and were employed at various occupations during the early period of the county's development and upbuilding. They were alert, enterprising men and prospered in their undertakings. Luke Wilder afterward went to New Mexico, where his death occurred, while Warren Wilder went to St. Joseph, Missouri, in 1866. He owned a fruit ranch and made his home there for a quarter of a century, after which he returned to Aurora, where he lived until his death. At one time he owned considerable property. He passed away in April, 1908, at the age of eighty-seven years, leaving Mrs. Huntoon Smith as the only survivor of the family.

She was reared in Morristown, New York, on the St. Lawrence river, where her father conducted a hotel. He died there in 1834, when about forty-six years of age, having for some time survived his wife, who died in 1824, at the age of thirty-seven years. His father was also Joel Wilder, a native of Massachusetts and a farmer by occupation. He served his country as a soldier in the Revolutionary war and his death occurred at Antwerp, New York, as the result of a kick from a horse.

Mrs. Anna Huntoon Smith was reared to womanhood in the Empire state from the age of four years and was there married in 1836 to Elias Holbrook, who died in New York, leaving one child, a daughter, Belle, then but twenty-one months old. She is now the wife of Calvin Smith, resides in St. Joseph, Missouri, and is the mother of seven children: Nellie, Fred, Grace, Kittie, Harvey, Maude and May. Mr. Holbrook died in the east, and Mrs. Holbrook afterward became the wife of Edward D. Huntoon in Aurora. He had removed to the west from Massachusetts and had preempted land in 1836, only four years after the Black Hawk war occurred. He owned two quarter sections and was closely associated with the pioneer development of



MRS. HUNTOON SMITH



this part of the state. Mrs. Huntoon arrived in Illinois in 1840. By her marriage she became the mother of five children, Harvey, Josephine, Frank, Guy and Edward, but all are now deceased. Mr. Huntoon died in 1866, at the age of sixty-six years. He had figured prominently in business interests in Aurora during the middle part of the nineteenth century, and had built the old Huntoon Hotel in Aurora, located on Galena street and Middle avenue, now known as the Grand Hotel, but still termed the Huntoon Hotel by the old settlers and thousands of others who visited the city during an earlier day.

Following the loss of her second husband Mrs. Huntoon became the wife of James W. Smith, who died May 10, 1898, at the age of eighty-two years. He was engaged in buying cattle for the government at the time of the Civil war and he had two sons who were soldiers in the army. Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Smith conducted the hotel for ten years. They then purchased a comfortable home at No. 288 Galena street, where Mr. Smith died and his widow still owns and occupies the property. She has lived in this city for sixty-eight years and in addition to her present place of residence she owns four good business blocks on Galena street. Her son, Edward C. Huntoon, married Miss Alice Ruth, and died on the 18th of November, 1907, at the age of fifty-four years. His widow is living with his mother, Mrs. Huntoon Smith. She has resided in Aurora for a longer period than almost any of its residents and has witnessed its growth and development, so that she is familiar with the story of its progress and relates many interesting incidents of the early days. As the years have come and gone she has enjoyed the friendship of the great majority with whom she has come in contact and now receives the veneration and respect which should ever be accorded those of advanced years.

---

#### BOYD M. NASH.

Boyd M. Nash, a resident of Campton township, where he owns a fruit and stock farm consisting of thirty-four acres of land, three and one-half miles east of Elburn, was born in Kent county, Michigan, September 9, 1873, the son of James M. and Helen (Moffet) Nash. Both parents are natives of Ohio. While yet a young man Mr. Nash left his native state and located in Michigan, later going to North Dakota, where he is now residing. He is a republican in politics and now holds the office of justice of the peace. Religiously he is a member of the Presbyterian church and fraternally he belongs to the Masonic order. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Nash have been born five children, as follows: Merton J., a farmer of North Dakota; Verner D., who resides at Muskegon, Michigan, where he conducts a feed store; Frances B., the wife of Milo Miller, a farmer of North Dakota; Arthur J., the cashier of a bank in North Dakota, and Boyd M.

Boyd M. Nash attended the district schools in Michigan until he was fourteen years of age, when he left school to aid his father in the work of the farm. He went with the family to Barton, North Dakota, at the time they



located there, and remained until he was twenty-one years of age. He then came to Illinois and located near La Fox. Here he met Miss Jennie C. Flower, who afterward became his wife. She was born in this township. Her father is now deceased and the mother makes her home with our subject. After his marriage Mr. Nash returned to North Dakota and remained for six years, when he again returned to Illinois and purchased his present farm, which he has converted into an ideal home which affords him a competence and freedom to exercise his talents for his future advancement, for Mr. Nash is yet a young man and unlimited opportunities await him. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Nash have been born six children, namely: Vern T., Helen F., Mildred L., Ella M., Francis I. and Warren C.

In politics Mr. Nash votes the prohibition ticket, but he has never been an office seeker, preferring to give his entire time and attention to his farming interests. Religiously he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

---

#### AUGUST F. LOHMANN.

A. F. Lohmann is conducting a prosperous commercial enterprise as a dealer in monuments at Aurora. He started out in business life when but twelve years of age, and although obstacles and difficulties have confronted him at various stages on his business career he has overcome these by determined and resolute purpose and is now enjoying a liberal patronage. His birth occurred May 9, 1874, in Chicago, although, as the name indicates, he is of German lineage. His parents, Henry and Caroline (Biegus) Lohmann, were both natives of the fatherland. The former came to the United States when young, settling in Chicago, where he still resides. He learned and for many years has followed the cabinet-maker's trade. His wife passed away in 1895.

A. F. Lohmann, pursuing his education in Chicago, started out in life on his own account when but twelve years of age. He was a young lad to provide for his own support, but he proved faithful in his different business positions and won promotion with its consequent increase in salary. On starting out he learned the reed and rattan business in Chicago and worked in that way for a few years. Seeing better opportunities in monument work and believing it to be a pursuit more congenial to his taste, he learned the stonecutting business in 1890, and was employed in that line in Chicago for six years. Then, in order to gain experience, he visited all sections of the country, being employed in different localities in the making of monuments. During that time he worked in Aurora for two years and in 1906 he acquired the monument business formerly conducted by T. Otto Fisk. His previous broad and practical experience, his close attention to business and his unfaltering perseverance and determination have constituted the elements which have made his ventures successful. Because of the excellent quality of his work and his reasonable prices he is securing a liberal patronage and a trade that is increasing year by year.

In 1904 Mr. Lohmann was married to Miss Minnie A. Frazier, of Aurora, and in this city their circle of friends is a most extensive one. Mr. Lohmann is now connected with the Modern Woodmen and also with the Yeomen of America. He enlisted in the Chicago Thirtieth United States Infantry, and went to the Philippine Islands, where he remained for fifteen months but was nineteen months in service. As the architect of his own fortunes he has builded wisely and well, and his life record is an excellent exemplification of the fact that opportunity is open to all and that the road of usefulness and unfaltering activity eventually leads to the goal of prosperity.

---

### NELS HANSON.

Nels Hanson, a scientific farmer and dairyman of Campton township, was born in Sweden, May 27, 1852, the son of Hans and Hannah (Pearson) Hanson. Both parents were natives of Sweden, where the father engaged in farming. They had five children, four sons and one daughter: Nels; Jons, a farmer residing in Sweden; Betsey, the wife of John Julander, a cement worker near Elburn; Peter, who lives on a farm near Elburn; and Johan, who left home sixteen years ago and has not been heard of since. There is an estate awaiting him. The father was a member of the Lutheran church.

Nels Hanson attended school in Sweden until he was fourteen years of age, at which time he discontinued his studies to aid his father in the work of the farm. In early manhood he came to America and located in Chicago, where he secured employment in the construction department of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, which was then being built. His fidelity to his duties and interest in the work gained him recognition from Mr. Hill, the division superintendent, and he was promoted to the position of foreman of the construction department on the four tracks between Minneapolis and St. Paul. While in this position he invented a dump car for removing dirt from the cuts which greatly expedited the work, inasmuch as before his car came to be used but ten or twelve men could be used in digging a twenty-four foot cut, and by its use any number could engage in the work. Mr. Hill, in appreciation of the services which he rendered the company, in 1883 gave him a round-trip ticket to Sweden, including the ocean passage. On his return from his old home he brought back eighteen families with him. Mr. Hanson was in the employ of the Chicago & St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba railroads for a number of years, at the expiration of which time he engaged in farming, and has resided on the place where he now lives for the past twenty-six years. He operates one of the most modern dairy farms in Illinois, and, perhaps, in the United States. At present he milks fifty cows. The dairy barn is lighted with electric lights, the power being furnished from a four-horse gasoline engine. The floor is constructed of cement, as are also the mangers, which are built four inches above the floor, an arrangement that does away with the necessity of the cow having to bend the knees in order to reach her food. The stanchions are arranged in pairs, each pair being sep-

arated by a gas-pipe post, a necessary protection as by this means a cow, when rubbing, will not force another to step on the udder of the next cow. Ventilation and light are supplied by means of a small window behind each cow, and the barn is further supplied with flues by means of which the foul air is carried off in bad weather when the windows cannot be opened. Water is piped to the barn and the hydrants are so arranged that not only the floors but the mangers can be flooded. After the cows are fed the mangers are washed clean, not a particle of dust being left. All of these improvements were devised by Mr. Hanson. In the conduct of his business Mr. Hanson is aided by all the necessary modern machinery that has been invented for this purpose, among which may be mentioned a corn binder, corn shredder, corn sheller and grinder. The shredder and sheller are operated under the same roof.

Mr. Hanson's wife was Miss B. Christina Uerot, who was born in Sweden and came to America when she was twenty-one years of age. Unto this union have been born four children, of whom Hannah is deceased, and Helsing J., Ebba H., and Nelse F., reside at home with their parents.

Mr. Hanson casts his ballot with the republican party. Socially he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and also of the Royal Neighbors. Religiously he is a member of the Congregational church.

---

### JOHN WAIT.

For many years John Wait was a well known and honored citizen of Kane county, his last days being spent in the city of Elgin, where he lived retired from active labor. His early home was in the east, for he was born in Oxford, Massachusetts, on the 10th of December, 1811, his parents being David and Fannie Lillie Wait. His father was a blacksmith by trade, but after coming west he never followed that occupation. He located on a farm in Lake county, Illinois, during the '40s and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, dying there in 1850.

Reared in his native state, John Wait was indebted to the public schools of Massachusetts for the educational privileges he enjoyed during his youth and he early acquired an excellent knowledge of the blacksmith's trade, at which he worked for several years. Coming to Illinois in 1848, he located in St. Charles, Kane county, and for a time was in the employ of the Geneva Mercantile Company. During the gold excitement on the Pacific coast, he went to California in 1852 and for four years engaged in mining, meeting with good success in his search for the precious metal. At the end of that period he returned to Kane county.

Mr. Wait was married in St. Charles, October 16, 1847, to Miss Betsey Tallman Hammond, a daughter of Captain William and Lucy (Tallman) Hammond, who lived on a farm southeast of Elgin. Mr. and Mrs. Wait became the parents of four children, namely: William Tyler, married Luella Cornell, and had three children, Mabel, Clara, and Louise, who died October 27, 1907. Lucy E., born June 29, 1850, died April 12, 1907. She was

the wife of Judge Henry B. Willis, of Elgin, and had two children, Oliver P. and Meribah Tallman. Clara Bennett, born December 25, 1857, died February 20, 1862. Cora May, who holds a position in the county treasurer's office at Geneva, Kane county.

The republican party found in Mr. Wait a staunch supporter of its principles and he was an honored member of the Masonic fraternity and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He possessed a charitable and benevolent disposition, giving liberally to all worthy causes, and his death, which occurred at Elgin, June 20, 1888, was widely and deeply mourned.

---

### ALBERT H. LEIMBROOK.

Alfred H. Leimbrook, general agent for the International Harvester Company, with offices at No. 12 North River street, in Aurora, was born in St. Charles, Missouri, September 12, 1869, and is the eldest in a family of three sons and a daughter whose parents were Frank H. and Catharine (Risk) Leimbrook, who were also natives of Missouri. The former was a son of Frederick Leimbrook, who was born in Pennsylvania, but became one of the pioneers of Missouri, where he located in 1838. By trade he was a cabinet-maker. Both he and his wife, Mrs. Catharine Leimbrook, died of cholera in St. Louis in 1854. They were parents of three children: Frank H.; Louise, the widow of J. H. Wilker, of Nevada, Missouri; and Clara, the deceased wife of Henry H. Schnare.

Frank H. Leimbrook was reared in St. Louis county, Missouri, and during the greater part of his manhood followed merchandising in St. Charles, that state. He served as a soldier of the Civil war for three years, was under General Lyons at Wilson's Creek, was in the battle of Pittsburg Landing, and in many other hotly contested engagements, continuing throughout the term of his enlistment as a private whose loyalty to duty was never questioned. After the war he carried on merchandising in St. Charles until 1888, but is now living retired, making his home with his daughter in Dodge City, Kansas. In early manhood he wedded Catharine Risk, a daughter of J. H. and Elsie (Sudbrock) Risk. Her father was a native of Missouri and a farmer by occupation, who spent his entire life in St. Charles county, where he passed away at an advanced age. His wife lived to be about fifty-six years of age. They were the parents of four daughters and one son: Carrie, the wife of Rev. J. M. Rhode, of Baldwin, Missouri; Minnie, the wife of Rev. H. H. Hackman, of Nebraska; Joseph H. Risk, of St. Louis, Missouri; and Lizzie, the wife of S. J. Kleinschmidt, of Higginsville, Missouri. Of this family Mrs. Leimbrook died in 1898 when about fifty-two years of age. She was a member of the Methodist church, to which her husband still belongs. He has always been a staunch republican and fraternally is a Master Mason, while he also belongs to Dodge City Post, G. A. R. Unto him and his wife were born four children: Alfred H., of Aurora; Oscar H., of Hig-



ginsville, Missouri; Ella the wife of Frank Crouch, of Dodge City, Kansas; and Howard H., who resides in Minneola, Kansas.

Alfred H. Leimbrook, whose name introduces this review, was reared in St. Charles, Missouri, and acquired a common-school education here, after which he entered the Wesleyan University at Warrentown and was graduated with the class of 1887. He afterward began traveling as representative of the agricultural implement business and for several years remained upon the road, his territory covering several different states. He was first with the Altman-Miller Company, of Akron, Ohio, and later with the Warder-Bushnell & Glessner Company, of Springfield, Ohio, acting as general agent for that house from 1896 until 1903. At the organization of the International Harvester Company, which took over the business of many agricultural implement houses in the country, Mr. Leimbrook became general agent and has so continued to the present time. He established headquarters in Aurora in February, 1905, and has since remained here. His long connection with the agricultural implement business well qualifies him for the position of administrative director which he now fills. He displays excellent executive ability, keen foresight and the unfaltering energy which enables him to overcome all difficulties and obstacles and work his way steadily upward.

On the 26th of December, 1896, Mr. Leimbrook was married to Miss Clodien Albert, a daughter of Sebastian and Rose (Miles) Albert, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri. They have three children: Marie, Irvin and Lillie. The parents are devoted and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church and the hospitality of many of Aurora's best homes is extended to them, for they have made many warm friends in the city since locating here. Mr. Leimbrook is a member of Jerusalem Temple, No. 90, A. F. & A. M.; of Aurora Chapter, No. 22, R. A. M.; the Orient Consistory, of Des Moines, Iowa; Aurora Commandery, No. 22, K. T.; and Tebala Temple of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. His political endorsement is given to the republican party but the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him, as he has preferred to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs, in which he has met with signal and gratifying success.

---

#### CHARLES J. JOHNSON.

Charles J. Johnson, a well known farmer and ditch constructor of Campton township, was born in Jonkoping, Sweden, November 27, 1859, the son of Magnus and Marie (Hanson) Johnson. He is one of seven children, of whom Malcomb S. is a farmer residing in Oklahoma; Mary C. is the wife of Andrew Johnson, a farmer, also residing in Oklahoma; Peter G., is a farmer residing in Campton township; Alma A., is the wife of Robert Shulta, a resident of Chicago; Oscar M., resides at Lily Lake, this county, where he is engaged in farming; and Albert N., resides with his brother, Charles J., of this review.

Charles J. Johnson was reared in Sweden, where he attended the district school until he was fifteen years of age, at which time he discontinued his studies in order to take up the active duties of farm life. He remained with his father for the next four years, but the profits of the business did not justify his spending his time and energies in this way and, resolutely determining to better his condition in life, he borrowed the money to pay the price of his passage to America. In company with his brother, Malcomb, he came directly to Campton township and secured employment as a farm hand. He remained here for six years and then went to Chicago, where he secured employment in a wholesale liquor house, a position which he occupied for ten years, in the meantime saving as much of his earnings as was possible preparatory to bettering his condition in life. He is now the manager of his mother's farm in this township, which, under his control is yielding a substantial and lucrative income. The mother makes her home with him and, surrounded by friends and comrades of their native land, they feel well pleased with the country of their adoption and ever hopeful that the progress they have already made will be realized in a fuller measure with the passage of the years.

---

#### CHARLES M. VANDERVOLGAN.

Charles M. Vandervolgan, owning and operating one hundred and fifty acres of rich and productive land in St. Charles township, was born in Root, Montgomery county, New York, May 6, 1838, his parents being Cornelius and Eliza (Champlain) Vandervolgan, also natives of Montgomery county, New York. The father, whose birth occurred in 1795, was a farmer by occupation and came to Illinois in 1855, settling near Warrenville, DuPage county. His demise occurred in 1860, and his remains were interred at Wheaton, Illinois. His wife, who was born in 1816, passed away in 1897, and also lies buried at Wheaton.

The record of the brothers and sisters of our subject is as follows: Sarah, who was born in New York in 1836, passed away in 1853 and was buried in the Empire state. Adreanna, a native of New York, married John Brook, a minister of the gospel, and died in 1880 at Tampico, Whiteside county, Illinois, her remains being interred there. Hallam C., who was born in New York, passed away in Bloomingdale, Illinois, in 1857 and lies buried at Wheaton, Illinois. Jay, whose birth occurred in New York in 1840, carries on agricultural pursuits in Batavia, Illinois. Mary, born in New York in 1846, died in Illinois in 1865 and was buried at Wheaton. John, who was born in New York in 1846, enlisted in the Fifty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry at the age of seventeen years and died while in the service at Marietta, Georgia, being buried at that place. Emma, whose birth occurred in New York in 1848, became the wife of Ben Howarth, a retired agriculturist, who passed away in March, 1908, at Batavia, where he was buried. His widow still resides at Batavia. Harriet, who was born in New York in 1850,

married David Smith, a farmer of Sugar Grove. Mr. Smith was a soldier in the Civil war and lost a hand while in the service. Amenzo W., born in New York in 1852, married Miss Belle Frydendall, of Batavia, Illinois. He engaged in well drilling throughout his active business career, and died in March, 1902, at Batavia, where he was buried.

Charles M. Vandervolgan attended school in his native state and also in Illinois, having resided in this state since the year 1855. For over thirty years he was engaged in well drilling, meeting with a well-merited measure of success in that line of activity. For seven years before purchasing his present farm he owned a tract of land east of Warrenville, and for the past seven years has resided on his present property, comprising one hundred and fifty acres of valuable land, located two and a half miles west of St. Charles on the old plank road. The farm is valued at \$20,000, being improved with good barns and outbuildings and all the accessories and conveniences of a model property of the twentieth century. Mr. Vandervolgan also owns some houses and lots in St. Charles, the value of his real-estate holdings being estimated at about \$10,000. He is widely recognized as one of the most prosperous and enterprising residents of the county and, moreover, has ever maintained an enviable reputation for business integrity and reliability.

On the 16th of August, 1863, in DuPage county, Illinois, Mr. Vandervolgan was united in marriage with Miss Helena Macauley, who was born in Albany, New York, August 8, 1847. They have one son, Frank K., whose birth occurred in DuPage county, Illinois, December 5, 1864, and who attended the high school in Batavia. He married Miss Hattie Clark, of Maple Park, and now resides in St. Charles, where he follows the plumbing business.

In his political views Mr. Vandervolgan is a staunch republican, and at all times he is ready to lend his aid and cooperation to any movement calculated to benefit this section of the country or advance its wonderful development.

---

### JOHN FREDERICK SCHNEIDER.

Belonging to one of the very earliest of the pioneer families of Kane county and inheriting from his vigorous and aggressive ancestry a love of conquest, incident and adventure, John F. Schneider, of Aurora township, has had a career of unusual interest and variety. He saw this part of the country in its state of primitive nature and helped to prune away its luxuriance of growth and blaze the way for the approaching host of occupation and development; and he sees it now in its state of high advancement and improvement, rich in the products of systematic industry and glowing with the promise of a still more glorious future. He also saw other parts of the country in their untamed condition and lent a hand to bring them also under subjection and fruitful cultivation.

Mr. Schneider was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 22, 1828, and is a son of John Peter and Christina (Wohrer) Schneider, natives



JOHN F. SCHNEIDER





of Germany, where the father was born in April, 1801. The number of children born to the parents was five, Mr. Schneider's brothers and sisters being: Henry L., who was born in 1836 on the homestead now occupied by his brother John, and who now lives in Tipton, Iowa; Mary Ann, born in 1838, now the wife of Elias Hughes and a resident of Elburn in Kane county; Charles, born in 1842 and now also a resident of Elburn, and Caroline, born in 1845 and now the wife of Charles Angell, of Aurora.

In 1832, when he was but four years old, John F. Schneider, the first born of the family, came with his parents to Naperville, Illinois, and one year later to Bristol, in Kendall county. In 1834 the father preempted a claim of three hundred acres of government land in Aurora township, Kane county, on a part of which the village of North Aurora has since been built. Here he settled his family and proceeded to break up and reduce to subjection the wild land that had so long been waiting for the persuasive hand of systematic cultivation. Ten years later the little log schoolhouse, that served the community for nearly two generations as its only seat of learning, was built on this land, and in it John F. Schneider and the other children of the family and the neighborhood for miles around obtained what education they were able to secure in an academic way.

In 1862 Mr. Schneider aided his father, who was a farmer, millwright and carpenter, to build a mill at what is now North Aurora on the Fox river. For a long time this was the largest and busiest mill on the river, being patronized by farmers and others throughout a very large extent of the surrounding country. The Schneiders operated it twelve years with profit to themselves and great benefit to the community. The mill has fallen in the march of progress and improvement and disappeared from the face of the earth, but the little old schoolhouse is still standing, a suggestive monument of the enterprise and breadth of view of the pioneers, although it has dropped from its high estate and is now used as a wagon shed on the Schneider farm.

It has been noted that Mr. Schneider, the immediate subject of this sketch, inherited from his parentage an adventurous disposition. In 1852, in company with George Regan, he determined to join the argonauts then flocking to California in search of gold. Having fitted up a prairie schooner, as the big wagons of the transcontinental voyagers were called, these two courageous and determined men set out to cross the trackless wilds and brave the countless perils that lay between them and their hopes. With their moving household drawn by one yoke of oxen, two yoke of steers and two yoke of cows, they joined a caravan of gold-seekers, and after a journey of many weeks and much adventure reached Salt Lake City. Here they exchanged their oxen for two span of mules, with which they continued their journey to Spanish camp in Nevada, where they arrived in October, after nearly six months of weary wandering in the wilderness, during the greater part of which they were in a party of twenty-five persons with about ten teams.

Mr. Schneider remained on the Pacific slope five years, then returned in 1857 to his former home, making the trip by way of the isthmus of Panama and the city of New York, but the longing for the mines and the taste for wild western life which it had ministered to, abode with him, and in

1879 he again started on a prospecting tour and passed one year in the Black Hills of South Dakota. He left his family behind him, however, and soon found that there was more enjoyment in domestic comfort than in expatriation from all he held dear, whatever the promise of speedy reward for endurance and privation. So he once more returned to Illinois and here he has passed the remainder of his days to this time.

On November 17, 1858, he married Miss Charlotte Denham, a daughter of Robert and Jane (Plucknett) Denham, natives of the Isle of Wight, England, where Mrs. Schneider was born on June 1, 1840, and where her father came into the world on February 14, 1816, and her mother on March 6, 1818. The mother came with her parents to Illinois when she was quite young and the family located near Batavia, Dupage county, where the future Mrs. Denham met Mr. Denham, their parents being neighboring farmers. The brothers and sisters of Mrs. Schneider, who was the second child of her parents, were John, who was born March 6, 1838, and lives in Abilene, Kansas; George, who was born February 16, 1844, and lives in Lincoln, Nebraska; Robert, who was born December 23, 1846, and lives at Turret, Colorado; Elizabeth J., who was born August 31, 1847, and lives in Elgin, Illinois, with her husband, Josiah Harris; Mary A., who was born January 27, 1852, and became the wife of A. Horton, now deceased; Martha, wife of Emory Linn, who was born January 15, 1854, and died some years ago; Ella, wife of Edwin Jones, born May 15, 1859, and now living in Lawrence, Nebraska, and William, the sixth child in order of birth, who came into the world April 14, 1850, and has passed away.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Schneider number nine: George W., who was born September 24, 1859, and is now farming in Aurora township; Emma Louise, who was born June 24, 1862, and died in September, 1903; Celia Ann, who was born June 9, 1865, and died June 20, 1873; William Henry, who was born February 14, 1867, and died March 29, 1868; Eva Jane, the wife of Irwin Winter, who lives in Aurora township; Nellie Angeline, who was born October 17, 1871, and is now a stenographer in the First National Bank of Los Angeles, California; Isaac Edwin, who was born July 14, 1874, and is a professor of music at Fort Smith, Arkansas; Fanny Estelle, who was born April 6, 1877, and died April 5, 1883, and Harry Jason, who was born October 19, 1878, and died May 8, 1880.

In recent years, to lessen his cares and the burden of his toil and responsibility, Mr. Schneider has sold the greater part of the original homestead to his son, George, who has erected on his part of the farm some of the finest farm buildings in the county. The father still retains about seventy acres of fine land adjoining the village of North Aurora, where he and his wife are enjoying the fruits of their well-spent lives in a serene, cheerful and dignified old age, surrounded with the evidences of their industry and enterprise, attended by their dutiful children and grandchildren, and firmly established in the good will and veneration of the people of the whole township. Two of their daughters, Eva and Nellie, are graduates of the Aurora high school and also of a higher institution located at Valparaiso, Indiana. Their son, Isaac Edwin, is also a graduate of the Northern Indiana School of

Music at the same place. They have four grandchildren: Emeline, the daughter of their son, George, and Victor, Sidney and Eveline, the children of their daughter, Mrs. Irwin Winter. Mr. Schneider has been a republican from the foundation of the party, and his wife has been a member of the Congregational church at Batavia for forty years.

---

#### PETER PETIT.

Peter Petit, president of the North Aurora Creamery Company of North Aurora, Illinois, was born August 14, 1862, in the city of Aurora, unto the marriage of Michael and Catharine (De Villie) Petit, the former a native of Luxemburg, Germany, and the latter of Belgium. The paternal grandfather, Peter Petit, always wrote his name Pety, for it was originally French and that spelling indicated the French pronunciation. He married Catharine Molitor, and died in 1856, at the age of fifty-six years.

The family numbered seven children, including Michael Petit, who through his entire life followed the occupation of farming. He came to America in the summer of 1851, and established his home in what was known as "the big wood" in Aurora township. He was at that time seventeen years of age and had made the voyage to the United States in company with his parents, who purchased sixty acres of land and improved a farm there. Michael Petit remained at home until after his father's death. He was married in 1860, and then took charge of his father's farm. At that time he began buying land, adding to the original tract until it comprised ninety-five acres. He lived upon the farm from 1851 until 1894, after which he put aside the active and arduous work of the fields and took up his abode in Aurora, where both he and his wife are now living retired. They are members of the Catholic church and Mr. Petit gives his political support to the democratic party. Mrs. Petit was a daughter of Nicholas DeVille, a native of Luxemburg, Belgium, who on coming to America in 1854 settled at or near Osceola, Wisconsin, and about fourteen miles from Fond du Lac. Mrs. DeVille died very suddenly there in 1869, while Mr. DeVille passed away a number of years later at an old age. Their family numbered seven daughters.

Peter Petit, whose name introduces this record, has spent his entire life in Kane county, where he was reared as a farmer boy. He attended both the district and parochial schools and continued to assist his father in the work of the fields until twenty-four years of age, when he began farming on his own account. He now owns the old homestead, which comprises one hundred acres of rich and productive land, and it is still his place of residence. Throughout the greater part of his life he has paid considerable attention to dairying and in 1894 he became superintendent for the North Aurora Creamery Company which was organized that year, and of which he has since been manager. This company has conducted an extensive business under the direction of Mr. Petit, and the enterprise has proven not only valuable to the stockholders but also a concern of importance to the farming community as



well. On the 1st of April, 1908, the Kee & Chapell Dairy Company of Chicago bought out the North Aurora Creamery Company and continued the business here. The creamery uses daily seventeen thousand pounds of milk, and in the control of the business Mr. Petit displays keen discernment and excellent executive ability.

On the 10th of February, 1885, occurred the marriage of Mr. Petit and Miss Susan Lies, a daughter of John and Anna (Neu) Lies. There are three children of this marriage: Michael J., John F., and Catharine T. Both parents are members of the Catholic church and Mr. Petit belongs to the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Order of Foresters and the Western Catholic Union. Politically he is a democrat, and has served as school trustee of Aurora township; but the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him, as he has found that his business affairs have made constant demand upon his time and attention.

---

#### LLEWELLYN SMITH RICHMOND.

Llewellyn Smith Richmond, who for the past twenty-three years has resided on his present farm which is pleasantly located on the St. Charles and Sycamore road, is a native of this county, having been born in Campton township, September 25, 1847, the son of Almon D. and Annie (Smith) Richmond. Both parents were natives of Vermont, the father having been born in Grafton, December 24, 1814. He came to Illinois in 1844 and located in Campton township, where he purchased land and engaged in farming. Here he remained until the time of his death. He was a consistent and faithful member of the Methodist church. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Smith were born five children, three sons and two daughters, namely: Llewellyn, of this review; Luthera, Elizabeth and Ernest, all of whom reside in Campton township; and Elsie, the wife of Edgar Bartlett, who also resides in Campton township.

Llewellyn Smith Richmond attended the district school in what is known as the "red schoolhouse" until he was twenty-one years of age, at which time he discontinued his studies to engage in the practical work of farming on his father's place. He broadened his education by a trip through the eastern states and later made a trip to Nebraska, where he purchased a farm, but he only remained there a short time when he returned to Illinois and purchased his present place, where he has since continued to reside. He formerly owned extensive dairy interests, but these he has disposed of and is now engaged in the buying and selling of stock. The farm yields generous returns, not only in hay and grain, but in a variety of small fruits, for which there is always a ready market at good prices. Mr. Richmond also makes a specialty of pure blooded Plymouth Rock and White Wyandotte chickens, upon which he is considered an authority.

In 1883 was celebrated the marriage of Llewellyn Smith Richmond and Miss Ella Flower, who was born in Pennsylvania. Unto this union have been born five children, two sons and three daughters: Pearl, Frank, Helen, Albert

and Maud. They all reside at home with their parents. As a staunch republican Mr. Richmond takes quite an interest in political affairs, and has held the office of commissioner of highways, the duties of which he most capably discharged.

---

### JOHN LOSER.

The history of a community or city in succeeding generations centers about a few names which stand prominently forth on its annals because they who have borne the names have been the active factors in public progress as exemplified by fidelity and industry in office and by unfaltering energy and progressiveness in business circles. Such has been the record of John Loser, whose life constitutes one of the valuable assets in Aurora's development and upbuilding. He is among those adopted sons of America that the fatherland has furnished to the new world. His birth occurred in Luxemburg, Germany, June 24, 1846.

His father, Peter Loser, was a native of that country and in the year 1864 he brought his family to the United States, continuing his journey from the seaboard across the country to Aurora. Here he followed the stonemason's trade, which he had learned in his native country and which had there provided him with the means of livelihood. For a number of years prior to his death, however, he lived retired, having accumulated a capital that enabled him to supply the necessities and comforts of life for his family without further recourse to industrial interests. He was a good citizen and a loyal champion of all that he deemed would prove of benefit to his community. After a residence of about forty years in Aurora he passed away in 1904. His wife, Angeline Wengler Loser, was also a native of Germany.

John Loser spent the first eighteen years of his life in the fatherland, and then came with the family to the United States. Here he worked at the stonemason's trade for a number of years, but in 1874 turned his attention to the grocery and liquor business as senior partner of the firm of Loser & Eggerman. For a number of years the firm has been Loser & Dooling, his partner and associate being John Dooling, his son-in-law. Mr. Loser, however, has not confined his attention alone to mercantile interests, but has figured prominently in connection with other business concerns. He is now a director of the Merchants National Bank and was a member of the building committee which erected the magnificent new bank structure that is a most creditable example of Aurora's architecture.

Moreover, Mr. Loser has long figured prominently in community affairs, although the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him. His qualifications, however, were recognized as fitting him for a place on the board of public works, of which he has been a member for eight years, while for some years of this term he has been chairman, acting in that capacity at the present time. During his term the reservoir has been built, also the air compressor, while at the present writing the board is building a more extensive

one at a cost of sixteen thousand dollars. The construction work is being done by a local concern, for Mr. Loser believes in patronizing home industries. He has shown talent for supervising and carrying out public works, is a practical man who labors while others theorize and who accomplishes results while others are formulating plans.

On the 6th of April, 1869, Mr. Loser was married to Miss Jennie Melchart, a native of Prussia. They have become the parents of four children: Mary, now the wife of Dr. France; Angeline, the wife of John Dooling; C. C. and L. L., at home.

Mr. Loser belongs to the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks. His friends know him as a modest, unassuming man who takes little credit for what he has accomplished either in business or public lines, but the consensus of opinion establishes his worth and his place in the community.

---

### JACKSON A. MAPES.

All the possessions and achievements of this enterprising farmer of Plato township are the results of his own efforts and ability. He was thrown on his own resources early in life by the death of his mother, which broke up the parental home in a measure, and drove all the children who were old enough out to work for themselves.

He is a son of Peter and Felinda (Holden) Mapes, and one of the two survivors of their five children, the others being his twin brother Perry, who is dead, Nellie and William, also deceased, and Jennie, who is the wife of Bert Wilcox. The father was born in the state of New York and became a resident of Kane county when a young man, coming hither from his native state with his parents. The family located on Rock River, where the parents became acquainted and were married, the mother being a native of Burlington in this county.

Jackson A. Mapes obtained his education in the district school of Camp-ton, which he attended until he reached the age of sixteen, meanwhile earning his own living as a hired hand on a farm much of the time. After the death of their mother, he and his brother, mere boys, erected out of their meager earnings a memorial stone to her memory because of the love they bore her.

On November 24, 1887, Mr. Mapes was married to Miss Ada Shaver, who was born in Plato township, this county, August 3, 1872. They have four children, Harold N., Ernest R., William H., and Marion G., all of whom are still dwelling with them, and those that are old enough assist in the work of the farm and the dairy, Mr. Mapes keeping twenty-seven fine cows on the farm for dairy purposes.

Politically Mr. Mapes is a republican; fraternally is a Modern Woodman of America, and in church connection is a Methodist Episcopalian. He farms one hundred and eleven acres of land, and cultivates it with vigor and good judgment. His cattle are mainly of the Holstein breed, and his other live-stock is also of superior strains, for he is a great believer in keeping up the

standard of stock. He raises a variety of crops, including all that are suited to the land and latitude, and alternates them from year to year in a way to keep the land in order and secure the best results. He has himself earned every dollar he has in money and property, and his career furnishes a gratifying illustration of the power of industry, thrift and capacity in a country so wide and varied in its interests and so abundant in opportunities as this. His friends and neighbors esteem him highly and all classes of the people hold him in respect for his worth and the excellence of his citizenship.

---

#### EDWARD U. BANKER, M.D.

Dr. E. U. Banker, whose liberal practice is indicative of the confidence reposed in his professional skill by the general public, has been located in Aurora since 1905. He was born February 20, 1877. His father, Conrad Banker, first opened his eyes to the light of day on a farm in Sugar Grove township, this county. He was a son of Frank Banker, who was born in Germany, but when a young man came to the United States and resided for a time in the state of New York. He came to the middle west in pioneer days, however, and lived in a log cabin in Sugar Grove township when this was a frontier region. Much of the surrounding land was wild and uncultivated and the prairies had not been transformed into rich fields bringing forth large crops. For many years he developed his farm, being numbered among the energetic agriculturists of the community. He died in 1901 at the age of seventy-eight years.

Conrad Banker was born in the log cabin home, was reared to the occupation of farming and always followed that pursuit as a life work. He continued to operate the old home farm until 1881, when he went to Kansas, where he remained for seven years. He then returned to Aurora, where he is now living, being employed as car inspector in the shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. Conrad Banker was married to Miss Eva M. Slaker, a native of North Aurora and the daughter of Joseph and Mary Slaker, who were natives of Germany, whence they came to North Aurora in pioneer days, the father following the occupation of farming.

Dr. Banker, born in North Aurora, was educated in the public schools of his native city, passing through successive grades until he was graduated from the high school with the class of 1895. He afterward learned the drug business in the employ of Staudt Brothers and in due time was graduated in pharmacy. He had determined, however, to become a member of the medical fraternity and for four years studied medicine, after which he was graduated from the Rush Medical College in 1904. He added practical training to his theoretical knowledge by fifteen months' experience as interne in the St. Charles hospital and then entered upon the private practice of medicine, in which he has since engaged, meeting with good success. He is a member of the Fox River Valley, the Illinois State and the American Medical Associations, and by



constant research and study he keeps in close touch with the progress that is continually being made in the profession.

In 1907 Dr. Banker was married to Miss Lucile Donaldson, a daughter of Swan Donaldson, a native of Norway and one of the early settlers of Aurora, who served as a veteran of the Civil war and was held as a prisoner at Libertyville.

Dr. Banker is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Jerusalem Temple Lodge, No. 90, A. F. & A. M.; and Aurora Chapter, No. 22, R. A. M. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Episcopal church. Although a young man he is meeting with good success in his practice, as he demonstrates his power to successfully cope with the intricate questions that continually confront the physician. He is a young man of strong intellectual force and keen discernment and fate seems to hold in store for him a bright future.

---

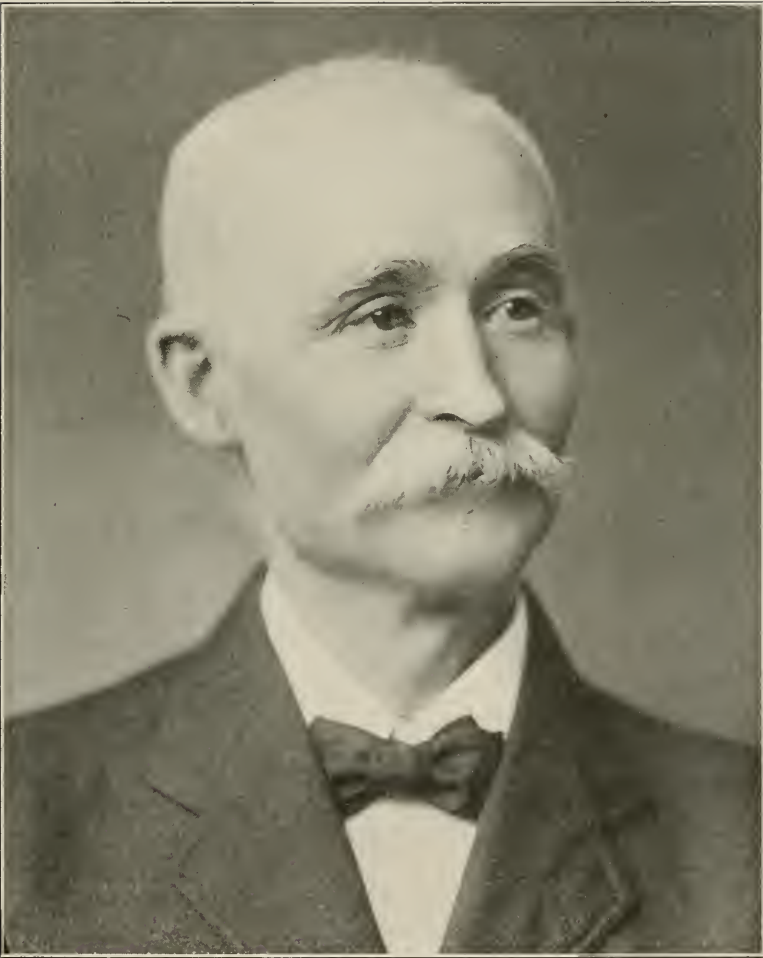
### JOHN ASHE.

Descended from good Irish ancestry but themselves natives of this country, John Ashe and his wife, prominent farming people of Sugar Grove township, have exhibited in their productive and homemaking industry and thrift the sturdy attributes of their forefathers and the enterprise and progressiveness of America.

Mr. Ashe was born at Geneva, Wisconsin, June 26, 1858. His father, Gregory Ashe, came from his native Ireland to the United States in boyhood, and as he was reared and educated in this country, and here achieved the success that distinguished him, he may be said to have been almost wholly a product of our land and its institutions. His early life in America was passed in the state of Ohio, where he met and married his wife, who emigrated also from Ireland and settled in Ohio with her parents when she was a girl. Her maiden name was Mary Leary. Soon after his marriage, about fifty-five years ago, the elder Ashe took up his residence in Wisconsin. There he and his wife reared a family of four sons: Thomas, of Geneva Lake, Wisconsin; John; James, deceased, and Michael, of Geneva Lake, Wisconsin.

At the age of twenty John Ashe moved from his native state to Illinois and took up his residence in Sugar Grove township, Kane county, where he has since continuously resided. He worked as a farm hand for three years and during the next nineteen farmed for himself on rented land. By rigid economy he saved enough money to buy the farm of one hundred and twenty acres on which he now lives in section 31, Sugar Grove township. This place has been well developed and greatly improved under his energetic and skillful management and is now one of the choice farms in the township.

Mr. Ashe was married, May 10, 1881, at DeKalb, Illinois, to Miss Catharine Finley, who was born in Corning, New York, in 1855, and whose parents were natives of Ireland. One child has been born unto them, their daughter, Kathryn A., whose birth occurred February 9, 1882, and who was



JOHN ASHE



graduated from the Sugar Grove Normal and Industrial school in 1901. She is living at home with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Ashe have won a substantial success in life wholly through their own efforts and proper living. Fortune has never smiled on them with any of her special benefactions but has left them to work out their own advancement in their own way. They are comfortably fixed on a good farm with all the elements of material enjoyment around them, and they stand well in the esteem of all who know them, being regarded as upright and true in all the relations of life and worthy of commendation for the sterling qualities of manhood and womanhood which they have displayed in all conditions and under all circumstances.

---

### JOHN H. KELLY.

John H. Kelly, a retired agriculturist residing on section 15, Elgin township, was born in Rutland, Illinois, his parents being John and Eliza (Mansfield) Kelly, natives of Schenectady county, New York. They removed to Illinois in 1845, settling in Rutland township, Kane county, where the father purchased and entered land. He paid but a dollar and a quarter per acre for the land which he entered from the government, but the purchased land cost from eight to ten dollars per acre more. He was one of the early agriculturists of this county and was also a pioneer justice of the peace here. The Indians had left this part of the country, but there were still evidences of their former habitation in the trails which they left through the prairies. John Kelly departed this life in 1891 at the age of eighty-five years, while his wife passed away in 1884. Of the ten children born unto them, six grew to years of maturity: Alford, who makes his home in St. Charles; Sarah, the widow of Stiles Mansfield, residing in New Haven, Connecticut; Elizabeth, the widow of O. B. Weld, of Elgin; Leverett M., who is in the pension department at Washington, D. C.; Linn A., a practicing physician of Winona, Minnesota; and John H., of this review.

The last named acquired his preliminary education in the country schools and afterward attended Beloit College for two terms. After putting aside his text-books he returned home and engaged in farming under the direction of his father, which was the occupation to which he had been reared. The management of the home farm, however, devolved almost entirely upon him, for his father was a carpenter by trade and gave much of his time to that pursuit. John H. Kelly therefore successfully conducted the work of the place until his father's death, when he became the owner of the old homestead, purchasing the interest of the other heirs therein. The place comprises three hundred and sixty-one acres, originally purchased for the prices above mentioned, but owing to the improvements which had been placed upon it, was worth sixty-five dollars per acre at the time our subject bought it. He gained a creditable and gratifying measure of success in its cultivation and in addition to the work of tilling the soil also made a specialty of raising fine Hol-



stein cattle for many years. He likewise raised horses, and at one time made a specialty of thoroughbreds, besides other fine stock. In 1892 he retired from the farm and removed to Elgin, purchasing a lot of two acres, on which he and his wife erected a commodious and substantial residence. Here they are now enjoying the fruits of their former toil in well earned ease, being enabled to enjoy all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. They are widely known and highly respected throughout the community and have gained the warm esteem and regard of an extensive circle of friends. Besides the property mentioned, Mr. Kelly owns two lots in Pingree Grove and a blacksmith shop there, three lots in Columbia Park, and two lots in Franklin Park, Chicago.

On the 18th of October, 1871, John H. Kelly was united in marriage to Miss Mary J. McLean, of Kane county, and a daughter of J. R. and Caroline (Hurd) McLean, natives of Dresden, New York. They came to this county in 1846, settling in Elgin township on the edge of the town of Elgin, the father being one of the earliest settlers here. He purchased one hundred acres from a Mr. Kimball at a dollar and a quarter per acre, and most of this land is still in the possession of the family. He served for many years as justice of the peace and highway commissioner and was also one of the founders of the board of trade of Elgin. He was likewise one of the originators of the Elgin butter industry and to his zeal the city of Elgin is much indebted for the development of its butter and milk industry, to which it owes a great deal of its wealth and prosperity. He was the first secretary of the Dairymen's Convention, the secretary of the first Elgin fair, and in many other ways contributed to the substantial upbuilding of the community, being one of the most public-spirited and enterprising citizens of this section of Kane county. He passed away in 1882 at the age of seventy-nine years, while his wife survived him until 1892, her demise occurring when she had attained the age of eighty-one. Their family numbered three children: Jennie, the widow of Darius Hewitt, who makes her home in Elgin; Mrs. Kelly; and John T., of Elgin township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Kelly have been born five children, namely: Howard, Lynn, Maud J. and Dwight, all residing in this county; and Mabel J., the wife of William Anderson, of Freeport.

Mr. Kelly is a member of the Mystic Workers of Elgin. His interests are thoroughly identified with those of Kane county, and at all times he is ready to lend his aid and cooperation to any movement calculated to benefit this section of the country or advance its wonderful development.

---

#### ALBERT SCHMITZ.

Albert Schmitz, deceased, was one of the worthy citizens that Germany has furnished to Elgin. He was born on the 6th of October, 1854, and was a boy of nine years when he came to America with his parents, Charles and Carolina (Weiscotten) Schmitz. Deciding to locate in the middle west, the father settled on a farm near Evansville, Indiana, where he made his home

throughout the remainder of his life, dying in 1869, at the age of sixty-one years. The mother passed away in 1888 at Germantown, seven miles from Evansville, at the age of seventy-two.

Upon the home farm in Indiana, Albert Schmitz grew to manhood and he continued to make his home in that state until his removal to Elgin in 1893. During the first year of his residence in this city he lost most of his capital in an air-brake manufacturing company, and was afterward employed in Ackerman's department store until his death, which occurred on the 7th of December, 1898.

Mr. Schmitz was married February 26, 1877, to Miss Louise Baeke, a daughter of Henry and Caroline (Sauerlinder) Baeke, of Germantown, Indiana. Of the eight children born of this union two died in infancy and Lizzie died August 10, 1897, at the age of twelve years and three months. Those still living are Caroline, now the wife of Julius Heyn, of Chicago; Herman, who married Ellen Moynat, and resides in Elgin; Martha, who is a graduate of the Elgin high school and is now at Milton College, Wisconsin; Albert, who is now employed in the tin shop of the Borden Condensed Milk Company; and Esther.

By his ballot Mr. Schmitz supported the men and measures of the republican party, and he took a very active and prominent part in church work as a member of the German Baptist denomination. He did much toward establishing that church in Elgin, now known as the First German Baptist, and while a resident of Indiana, his home was always the stopping place for the visiting ministers. Upright and honorable in all the relations of life he had the confidence and respect of the entire community in which he lived and he was a man honored and esteemed wherever known.

---

#### AUGUST RABE.

August Rabe, beginning to work out his own destiny at an early age, and fighting for every step of his advancement against odds but with persistent and determined spirit, is one of the prosperous and progressive farmers and dairymen of Plato township, Kane county. He has earned every dollar he has accumulated and all his achievements are the results of his own industry, frugality and ability.

He was born in Hanover, Germany, November 7, 1868, and is the son of Chris and Anna (Frecking) Rabe, also of German nativity, but now deceased. They died in Germany and never came to the United States. The other children born in the family are all living. They are: Frederick, Henry and William, farmers in Germany; Charles, a farmer in the state of New York; Louis, a farmer in DuPage county, Illinois; Herman, a farmer in Virgil township, this county; and Louisa, who married and lived in Germany but is now deceased.

August Rabe attended the state schools in Germany until he was fifteen years of age, then came alone to this country. His first Illinois residence was

in DuPage county, where he worked on a farm until he attained his majority. Soon after this he was married to Anna Weise, who was born in Germany and came to this country with her parents when she was twelve years old. They located in Kane county, where she has ever since lived. She and her husband have had seven children: Emma, Freddie, Herman, Huldah, Rosa and Walter, who are living and still at home; and Arthur, who has died. The father farms one hundred and sixty acres of land in mixed crops and keeps thirty cows to supply his active dairy business. He is a member of the Lutheran church, and a republican in politics. All who know him appreciate his industry and respect his character.

---

#### A. A. WILMARTH.

A. A. Wilmarth is the secretary of the Home Building & Loan Association, of Aurora, in which connection he has developed a business of large proportions, bringing to the stockholders gratifying dividends annually. He was born in Linden, Vermont, August 26, 1852, his parents being George H. and Rosline (Green) Wilmarth. He represents an old family of the Green Mountain state. His grandfather was a prominent citizen there and at one time served as a member of the Vermont legislature. He married Florinda Meigs and died in middle life, while his wife passed away when more than sixty years of age, her death occurring in Batavia. Their family numbered four children, including George H. Wilmarth, who was born in Linden, Vermont, and became a farmer by occupation. In 1854 he removed west to Wisconsin, settling in Janesville, where he engaged in the grain business at a time when grain was taken by wagon over the old plank road to the city market. After the outbreak of the Civil war he became a private of the Twelfth Wisconsin Battery and served until the close of hostilities, participating in many important engagements and also going with Sherman on his celebrated march to the sea. After the war he settled in Aurora and was engaged in merchandising until 1870, when he removed to Batavia, where he also owned and conducted a store. He made good use of his opportunities and carefully directed his business affairs, while the qualities which he displayed in other relations of life were also such as gained for him the respect and confidence of those with whom he was associated. In early manhood he married Rosline Green, also a native of Linden, Vermont, and a daughter of Orrin Green, who was likewise born in that state. He was twice married and has five children by his first wife, who died in early womanhood. She was the grandmother of our subject. His death occurred when he had reached an advanced age. Unto Mr. and Mrs. George H. Wilmarth were born five sons and a daughter, but only two are now living, the younger son being Frank C. Wilmarth, of St. Paul, Minnesota. The father died in Batavia and the mother survived him three or four years, passing away at the home of her son in Aurora. In religious faith they were Methodists and their lives were in harmony with their professions.

A. A. Wilmarth, whose name introduces this review, was about two years of age when the family removed to Wisconsin, and was a young man of eighteen when the family home was established in Batavia. He lived there for three years, but had largely acquired his education in the schools of Aurora while the family were residents of this city. He afterwards learned the machinist's trade, which he followed until 1890. In 1875 he removed from Kane county, Illinois, to Jackson county, Michigan, where he lived until 1881, when he returned to Kane county and settled in Aurora. He there worked in the locomotive works of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company until 1890, when he became connected with the Home Building & Loan Association as assistant secretary, and since 1896 has been its secretary. This change proved a most profitable one, for his business has been attended with a gratifying measure of success since he has entered his present field. He is careful in formulating plans, is determined in their execution, and displays keen foresight in managing the interests of the company.

In 1875 Mr. Wilmarth was united in marriage to Miss Nellie Winslow, a daughter of Robert Hoyt and Mercy (McDole) Winslow, who were early settlers of Kane county. Her father was born in Massachusetts and her mother in the state of New York. They had six children, four sons and two daughters, and all are now living except Jesse. Mrs. Wilmarth was born in Sugar Grove township, this county, November 21, 1853, and by her marriage has become the mother of five children: George Henry, an electrical engineer of Bloomington, Illinois, who married Miss Alma Warrick, by whom he has two children, Jeannie and Marion; Raymond Hoyt, Alice H. and Rosaline L., who are at home; and one that died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilmarth hold membership in the Congregational church and are highly esteemed for their many good qualities, which have gained for them the regard and sincere friendship of many with whom they have come in contact. Mr. Wilmarth belongs to Ben Hur Lodge, I. O. O. F., and has been identified with the order for a quarter of a century. Much of his life has been spent in Aurora, and his fellow townsmen have learned to appreciate and value him as a citizen of genuine worth whose business record has at all times been creditable. Embracing his opportunities for judicious investment, he is now the owner of several pieces of city property.

---

#### MRS. HATTIE (MARSHALL) McINTYRE.

This lady occupies the unusual if not unique position for a woman of station agent at one of the busy stations of a railroad that crosses this county, the station of Bowes in Plato township, and that she performs the duties of the position well and wisely is attested by all who have knowledge of the facts in the case.

Mrs. McIntyre was born in Elgin, Illinois, April 6, 1887. Her father, William E. Marshall, was born in Kane county and is now sixty-one years old. He obtained his education in the public schools of Elgin. His wife,



whose maiden name was Agnes McKinnell, was born in Elgin. They are now residents of South Dakota, where they are engaged in farming, and where all of their six children, with the exception of Mrs. McIntyre, live. The five who have their homes in that state are: Charles H., who is a farmer; Jessie M., Lucy E., Mary and Willie C.

Mrs. McIntyre attended the district schools until she reached the age of fifteen. On March 22, 1904, when she was but seventeen, she was married to Ralph A. McIntyre, who was born in Canada and came with his parents to Illinois when he was six years old. He also obtained his education in the district schools, attending them until he was seventeen. The next year he started out in life for himself and some time afterward located at East Plato, where he has general charge of the railroad station and the interests of the road to which it belongs. Two children have been born in the McIntyre household: Hazel W. and Howard A. Mrs. McIntyre has resided in the neighborhood of her present home all her life. She is a resolute and resourceful woman, thoroughly self-reliant and capable of performing any duty or discharging any responsibility within the range of her faculties with credit to herself and benefit to the service in which she is occupied. She has so demeaned herself in her semi-public capacity and attended to her work therein as to win the approval and commendation of all who had business at the railroad station and the respect and high consideration of all classes of the people. They know that their interests are well cared for when she has charge of them, and would regret to see any change in the control of the office over which she presides with so much ability, diligence and fidelity.

---

#### WILLIAM T. NEEDHAM.

William T. Needham, a successful blacksmith and wagon manufacturer of Kaneville, was born at Lanark, Ontario, Canada, July 4, 1839. His parents, George and Mary (Tanner) Needham, were both natives of Ireland and emigrated to Canada about the year 1810. Their children were as follows: William T., of this review; Samuel J., who follows farming in Bruce, Ontario; James, an agriculturist of North Dakota; Richard, who is also engaged in farming in Bruce, Ontario; and Henry, a farmer of Lanark, Ontario.

William T. Needham attended the public schools until fifteen years of age and subsequently served an apprenticeship at the blacksmith's trade. In 1870 he came to Illinois, locating in Kaneville, where in connection with the conduct of his blacksmith shop he is also engaged in the manufacture of wagons. His building is equipped with all the modern machinery and appliances necessary for the successful conduct of a wagon manufactory, including drills, etc., operated by a ten horsepower gasoline engine. He has met with a gratifying measure of prosperity in his undertakings and is widely recognized as one of the substantial and enterprising business men of the county.

In 1874 occurred the marriage of William T. Needham and Miss Martha Benton, whose demise occurred October 24, 1905. By this union there were born the following children: George H., a foreman blacksmith residing near Memphis, Tennessee; Frank W., who is a barber located at Sugar Grove; Warren J., who follows blacksmithing at Aurora, Illinois; Penn T., a blacksmith at Maple Park, Illinois; Mary B., at home; Charles S., who assists his father in business; Electa Belle, at home; and Fred B., Albert E. and Alice E., all of whom are attending school.

Politically Mr. Needham is a democrat and has served for two terms as collector of Kaneville township. His fraternal relations connect him with the Masons and the Modern Woodmen of America. Having for thirty-eight years been successfully connected with the industrial interests of Kane county, he is well known and highly esteemed among his business associates, and in social circles has also become popular by reason of his unfailing courtesy and genial disposition.

---

### BENJAMIN F. CARNES.

Benjamin F. Carnes, well known as a representative of industrial interests in Aurora, being foreman of the American Woodworking Machinery Company, is a native of Massachusetts, his birth having occurred at Charlestown, December 27, 1845. His parents were Nathaniel W. and Nancy M. (Fry) Carnes, both of whom were natives of the old Bay State. The father was a cabinetmaker when a young man and in 1849 he went to California by way of New York, prospecting for gold on the Pacific coast. In 1857 he became a resident of Illinois, settling in Chicago and conducting a large sawmill on the Chicago river near Bridgeport. In 1858 he removed to Geneva and after the great flood he removed to Oswego, Illinois, where he again conducted a sawmill. In 1864 he became a resident of Aurora, where he conducted a cabinet shop, and about 1866 he secured a position as carpenter in the car shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company. That he was most faithful and capable is indicated by the fact that he remained in that employ for about twenty-five years, or until he was taken ill. For two years he was in an invalid condition and in 1903 he passed away at the age of eighty-three years. His wife survived him for a short time and was about seventy-five years of age at the time of her demise. Their family numbered four children, two of whom reached manhood, the younger being Morris Washington Carnes, of Aurora.

Benjamin F. Carnes was a youth of eleven years when he came to this city with his parents. He was reared to manhood in Aurora and at the age of eighteen years enlisted in the Fourth Illinois Cavalry as a member of Company C, from Oswego. He served for a little more than two years and held the rank of corporal. He was wounded in the right hand in the battle of Granada, Tennessee, and he participated in a scouting expedition near Natchez. He was also in numerous skirmishes but in no regular pitched battles. After

the war he returned home and for a time was in the employ of his father, while subsequently he went to work at car-building in the shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, where he remained for about seven years and during much of the time was engaged on coach work. On leaving that service he entered the grocery business, in which he continued for two years, and subsequently he devoted four years to carpenter work. On the expiration of that period he entered the employ of the Hoyt & Brother Company, a branch of the American Woodworking Machinery Company, has been the millwright there for twenty-seven years and is foreman of the carpenter department. He is an excellent mechanic, thoroughly familiar with all lines of woodwork, and is thus well qualified to take charge of the varied interests which come under his control.

On the 20th of May, 1869, Mr. Carnes was married to Miss Emma F. Messinger, a daughter of Fisher and Rebecca (Maxey) Messinger, who were natives of Massachusetts and came west to Illinois in 1858, in which year Mr. Messinger built the house that is now occupied by Mrs. Carnes. He was engaged in making carpets in the east and when he came to Aurora manufactured baskets, establishing one of the leading productive industries of the city and furnishing employment at one time to twenty-seven men. He died in 1881, at the age of seventy-three years, while his wife survived him until 1906 and was eighty-nine years of age at the time of her death. Their daughter, Mrs. Carnes, was born at Wrantham, Massachusetts, January 5, 1852, and by her marriage has become the mother of five sons and four daughters, but only three are now living: Charles Frederick, a manufacturer of Aurora of the Fowler-Carnes Company; Albert, who is engaged in mining at Rawhide, Nevada; and Caroline Marion, living at home.

Mr. Carnes belongs to Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R., and is a charter member of the Modern Woodmen Camp of that city. His wife is connected with the Woman's Relief Corps and they reside in a fine home at No. 505 Spring street. In politics Mr. Carnes is a republican, but while he has always kept well informed on the questions and the issues of the day and is thus able to support his position by intelligent argument, he has never sought nor desired office as a reward for party fealty, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs, in which capable management have brought to him good success, as his ability has always enabled him to command lucrative positions.

---

#### ABEL D. GIFFORD.

On the list of Elgin's honored dead appears the name of Abel D. Gifford, a man whose intense and well directed activity won him success, while the honorable, straightforward business methods that he followed gained him the entire confidence, good will and respect of all with whom he was brought in contact. He left to his family not only a comfortable competence, but also the priceless heritage of an untarnished name, while his activity in community affairs proved so beneficial in lines of public progress that Elgin felt a distinct



A. D. GIFFORD





loss when he was called from this life. Mr. Gifford was born in Sherburne, New York, August 9, 1818, a son of Asa and Dinah (Talcott) Gifford, both of whom were natives of the Empire state, where they spent their entire lives.

Abel D. Gifford was reared under the parental roof and in 1837 came west to Illinois, settling on a farm. His entire life was devoted to general agricultural pursuits and in Cook county he owned about three hundred acres of rich and productive land, which he brought under a high state of cultivation, transforming the tract into a splendid farm, which was provided with all of the equipments and accessories of a model farm property. Here, in addition to tilling the soil, he engaged in dairying and made a specialty of sheep-raising, in which connection he became very widely known, having at one time one thousand head of sheep upon his place. He made a close study of the best breeds of stock for this climate and he was quite successful in all departments of his farm work, although his sheep-raising interests perhaps made him most widely known. He was also a director of the Home National Bank of Elgin for a number of years and his name was one which carried weight on commercial paper. He certainly deserved much credit for what he accomplished, for he was a largely self-educated as well as self-made man. He never went to school after he was fourteen years of age, but he realized the necessity and value of education and was always interested in providing good school facilities for the children of this part of the state.

Mr. Gifford was married in 1837 to Miss Harriett Root, a daughter of Dr. Anson Root, and they became the parents of one son, Frank, who died in infancy. The wife and mother passed away after fifteen years of happy married life and in August, 1855, Mr. Gifford was again married, his second union being with Julia Chappell, a daughter of Harvey M. and Mary Chappell of Elgin. There were three children born of this marriage, but the eldest died in infancy. Clara Louise became the wife of Charles L. Holden, a resident of Elgin, who engaged in business in St. Charles. They have two children: Hazel Harriett and Gifford Merrill. Charles Abel, the surviving son, was living upon the old homestead two and a half miles east of Elgin and is mentioned elsewhere in this work. Mr. Gifford also reared an adopted son, Edward Gifford, who became a member of his household soon after his first marriage, and he died about 1870, leaving a widow, Mrs. Cora (Ottoway) Gifford and two children. Fred E. and Ada. C.; the daughter is not married, but the son married Della Ward, of St. Charles, and they have three children: Vera, Ruth and Edwin. On the 10th of July, 1893, Mr. Gifford was called upon to mourn the loss of his second wife. His third marriage was with Mrs. Clara F. Whitten, of Atlanta, Georgia, who now survives him.

Mr. Gifford long occupied a very prominent position in Elgin and left the impress of his individuality upon public progress and improvement here. His political support was given to the republican party, and while living upon his farm in Cook county he served as assessor and as sheriff one term. He also filled the positions of county judge and justice of the peace. He belonged to the Baptist church, was most generous in its support and on one occasion gave two thousand dollars to the church in Elgin in which he held membership. He was also in the early days a most helpful friend of the

Chicago University and established a scholarship in connection with that institution, which benefited many young men in the acquirement of an education and qualified them for starting in business. It was a great blow to him when the University ceased to exist, but he lived to see it regain its standing and become one of the greatest educational centers of the entire country. He not only assisted young men in gaining an education, but also liberally aided several in starting in the business world. Few men have realized so fully the duty and obligation which one owes to his fellowmen, or have more fully performed that duty. Whenever he felt that his services could benefit those with whom he came in contact, that service was cheerfully rendered, and with the strongest desire to aid in the promotion of Elgin's interests and the up-building of this part of the state he did everything in his power to further public progress. He lived on his farm for a long period, but in 1889 took up his abode in Elgin, where his remaining days were spent in the enjoyment of well earned rest, until he was called to his final home on the 5th of October, 1905. His public service was largely of a nature that brought to him no pecuniary reward, but he was rich in the respect and good will of his fellowmen and he always valued his own self-respect and the esteem of those with whom he was associated as infinitely more preferable than wealth, fame or position.

---

#### LEWIS SYLVESTER.

Lewis Sylvester is numbered among the veterans of the Civil war and in days of peace has been loyal in his citizenship, giving to Aurora a faithful support in upholding those interests which are a matter of civic virtue and civic pride. He is and has been for many years engaged in contracting here and has contributed in substantial measure to the improvement of the city along architectural lines. He was born in Whitehall, Washington county, New York, June 12, 1847.

His father, Frank Sylvester, was a native of Quebec, Canada, and of French descent. He came to the United States when twenty-one years of age and settled in Whitehall, New York, where he engaged in business along mechanical lines. In 1849 he removed westward to Chicago, where he remained until 1851, when he returned to Whitehall, but in 1852 became a resident of Rockford, which was then a country village, giving little promise of rapid development and progress. There he followed his trade of cabinet making for two years, after which he removed to Iowa, where he resided until 1857. He then came to Aurora, where he lived for a short time, after which he went to the South, leaving his son Lewis in Aurora with an uncle, Samuel Lavoy, who had taken up his abode in this city in 1853. After the war the father, Frank Sylvester, returned to the North, settling in Chicago, and in 1872 he came to Aurora. Here he died in 1891 at the age of seventy-eight years. His wife bore the maiden name of Margaret Lavoy and was a native of Montreal. They were married in the Empire state and Mrs. Sylvester passed away in Chicago.

Lewis Sylvester attended the public schools of Aurora and afterward learned the wagon and carriage making trade in Tazewell county, where he continued until 1868. He went to work when little more than eleven years of age and whatever success he has achieved in life is attributable entirely to his own efforts. He early learned that there is no royal road to wealth but found that persistency of purpose and unwearied industry constitute an excellent foundation for the acquirement of a competence. He was but fifteen years of age when on the 13th of August, 1862, he responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting in the One Hundred and Fifth Illinois Infantry as a member of Company G at Sycamore. He served in Kentucky, Tennessee and Georgia and was in all of the engagements with his command, numbering thirteen. These included the battles of Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Burnt Hickory, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Averysboro and others. He was mustered out at Chicago in 1865 and returned home with a most creditable military record, having gone through all of the experiences which are usually meted out to a soldier, taking part in the long, hard marches, the weary waiting at winter quarters and in the hotly contested battles where he faced the enemy's fire.

Returning to Aurora, Mr. Sylvester afterward spent several years on a farm in DeKalb county but in 1868 commenced the building and general contracting business. In 1874 he took up his abode in Aurora and has since been identified with building interests here. He commenced contracting on his own account in 1882 and has been very successful, the firm of L. Sylvester & Son being well and favorably known here. Many substantial structures of the city are proof of the skill and handiwork and the business ability and capable management of Mr. Sylvester. These include the smelting works and the building of the corset company. He also rebuilt and remodeled the Coulter building and put up the electric power building of the Challenge Manufacturing plant at Batavia and the Kane county poor farm buildings. He has had much work even outside of the state. He was an associate contractor for the Missouri Pacific car shops at Little Rock, Arkansas, with Israel Doan, of Aurora. Thoroughly familiar with all of the scientific principles that underlie building operations, as well as the practical work, he stands today as one of the successful contractors of the city and a liberal patronage is accorded him.

In 1869 Mr. Sylvester was married to Miss Celinda Moreau, a native of Plattsburg, New York, and a daughter of Peter Moreau, a native of Canada. He came to America in 1849 and engaged in the shoe business. His death occurred October 2, 1907, when he had reached the venerable age of eighty-three years, while his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth (Defoe) Moreau, is still living. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester have been born six children: Edmund L., Archie G., Frank M., and three died in infancy. The eldest son is now junior partner of the firm of L. Sylvester & Son. He is a graduate of the Aurora public schools of the class of 1890 and pursued a course in civil engineering at the state university. He then followed his profession in various places, being for some time with the Armour Company on refrigerator work. In 1896 he commenced business with his father and in 1901 he became a member of the firm. On the 21st of March, 1906, he wedded Gretchen C. Roderich, a



daughter of Theodore Roderich, a trusted employe of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad for many years.

Mr. Sylvester is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and both he and his son are members of the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks, while Edmund Sylvester is associated with the Sons of Veterans. The firm is a strong one in Aurora and their business methods are such as will always bear close investigation and scrutiny. Mr. Sylvester early learned that there is no excellence without labor and he has put forth strenuous effort, not only to win success but to give to his patrons full value in good workmanship and reliable materials.

---

### GEORGE LAWSON.

George Lawson, a successful farmer and dairyman of Campton township, is a native of Denmark. He was born July 23, 1859, the son of Peter J. and Mary (Peterson) Lawson, both natives of Denmark and both now deceased. The father served three years in the Danish army. He was a member of the Lutheran church. Unto this union were born four children, namely: Christina, the wife of Jorgen Mortensen, a farmer of Denmark; Anna, the wife of Ford Nelson, the captain of a sailing vessel; Hans C., a farmer residing in Denmark; and George.

George Lawson attended the district schools of Denmark until he was fifteen years of age, receiving the rudiments of a good education. He then became a wage earner, working as a farm hand, with the exception of two years spent in the German army, until he was twenty-five years of age, when he came to America. He first located in Blackberry township, Kane county, where he secured work as a farm hand. He continued working by the month for two years, by which time he had saved enough of his earnings to rent a farm and operate it in his own interests. His progress from this time on has been steadily upward, and he now owns about three thousand dollars worth of personal property. In addition to his dairy interests, he raises hogs quite extensively, shipping on an average two carloads per year. His thrift, industry and good judgment insure that in the course of time he will be possessed of a competence that will enable him to spend his declining years in ease and comfort.

On June 17, 1884, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Lawson and Miss Helena Rasmussen, who had been his sweetheart from childhood. They came to America on the same boat and were married in Chicago immediately after their arrival in this country. Her father was Rasmus Rasmussen, a laborer, who was born in Denmark. Mrs. Lawson had five brothers and three sisters, namely: Nils, Andrew and Hans, who are engaged in farming in Kane county; Christina, the wife of Nels Christensen, a shoemaker of Elburn; George, a merchant of Elburn; Catrina, Rasmus and Mary, deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lawson have been born four sons and two daughters, of whom George J., Ellen and Hans C. reside at home with their parents; Peter J. is a farmer residing near Elburn; Lizzie is the wife of Jonathan C. Johnson, who resides near Bald Mound; and Robert is a farm hand of Virgil township.

Fraternally Mr. Lawson is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Court of Honor. He is recognized as an industrious, valuable member of the community and commands the respect of all with whom he has dealings.

---

### FRANK S. MORRILL.

Among the men of Blackberry township who have contributed to the substantial upbuilding and development of this section of the state is numbered Frank S. Morrill, who has here lived for more than half a century. He now resides in Blackberry township, where he owns and cultivates a tract of land of sixty acres. He was born in Kaneville township, Kane county, Illinois, January 28, 1853.

His father, Frederick Stephen Morrill, was born in 1825 at Strafford, Vermont, and at an early period in the development of this part of the state he purchased five hundred acres of land from the government. Not a furrow had been turned, nor an improvement made upon the place when it came into his possession. He removed to Blackberry township in 1860 and became a prominent and influential resident of the community, not only by reason of his activity and success in agricultural lines, but also owing to the fact that he was a helper, doing valuable service in public lines. He served as justice of the peace and town clerk a number of years and filled the position of postmaster at Blackberry for forty years. During the period of the Civil war when a draft was issued, Mr. Morrill raised sixteen hundred dollars within a few days, with which he hired substitutes. This sum was raised by selling town bonds. He married Miss Lucinda Cleveland, a native of Pike, Allegany county, New York. She came to Illinois with her parents at the age of sixteen years, the family home being established in Kaneville township, Kane county. The death of Frederick S. Morrill occurred in 1897, but his widow still survives and is now living in Blackberry township at the age of eighty years.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Morrill were born the following children: Stephen, deceased; Bessie B., who became the wife of E. M. Butler and after his death married H. N. Ross; Lucy A., the wife of Robert Ross, a resident of Bartlett, Illinois; Dell B., deceased; Blanche M., the wife of J. G. Norton, a resident of Crome, Illinois; and Frank S.

The last named attended the district schools until the age of eighteen years, and thinking to find another pursuit more profitable and congenial than that of farming, he began reading law with the firm of White & Garfield, attorneys. While living in the west he saw many buffaloes and also has seen wild pigeons in such droves that the sun was obscured. In the early days of his residence in this county there were still many evidences of pioneer life, but he has lived to see the county transformed into one of the leading counties of this great state. While in Nebraska Mr. Morrill engaged in the practice of law with Judge Lucas, but after three years spent in the west he returned to Illinois in 1876 and afterward began business as a contractor.

In 1875 Mr. Morrill was married to Miss Cora L. Shaw, who was born in Webster City, Iowa. Her parents now reside in Oklahoma, where her father is a retired capitalist. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Morrill have been born a daughter and son, Della E., wife of Jesse Omick, a resident of Denver, Colorado; and Ross R., at home.

In his political views Mr. Morrill has always been a staunch democrat. He is a liberal independent in his religious beliefs and has made practically a lifelong study of the subject. While Mr. Morrill is now numbered among the men of affluence, he did not reach his present financial condition without much hard work and persistent effort. Indeed he has labored most persistently, overcoming difficulties and obstacles by his diligence and perseverance, and at all times has followed those rules which govern strict and unswerving business integrity.

---

#### JOHN A. FREELAND.

With the farming and dairy interests of Kane county John A. Freeland has been closely identified for over forty years and is now the owner of a well improved and productive farm of eighty acres on section 25, Virgil township. His early home was on the other side of the Atlantic, for he was born in Jonkoping, Sweden, September 26, 1841, and in that country he spent the days of his boyhood and youth. His father, Carl Freeland, was a soldier in the regular army of Sweden for a number of years, but finally tiring of that monotonous life in times of peace, he resolved to try his fortune in America, having heard most favorable accounts of the resources of this country. Accordingly he crossed the Atlantic in 1869 and on the broad fertile prairies of Illinois he resolved to make his future home. For some time after locating here he worked by the day but was at length able to purchase a farm near Batavia, to the improvement and cultivation of which he devoted his energies throughout the remainder of his life. He died in 1903 in the faith of the Lutheran church, of which he was long a member, and he also held membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His wife bore the maiden name of Christina Anderson and was born in Sweden, on the 24th of March, 1839. They were the parents of six children, namely: John A., of this review; Swin, now a resident of DeKalb, Illinois, being foreman of a barbwire factory in that city; and Christina, Gust, Eva and Justus, all deceased.

At the usual age John A. Freeland entered the district schools of his native land, where he continued his studies until thirteen, when he started to make his own way in the world by working as a farm hand, receiving for an entire year's service only a pair of boots and twenty crowns, a crown being worth about twenty-seven cents in our money. At the age of twenty-seven years he had saved enough of his earnings to pay his passage to America and he came to this country to see if he could better his financial condition. Coming to Kane county, Illinois, he soon found employment on a farm near Kaneville, and after working for one year he was able to send for his brothers and sisters, who joined him here. He next rented a farm and so satisfactory

were his relations with the owner that he remained thereon for thirty years. With the capital he managed to save in that time he purchased his present farm in 1905, and now owns a good farm of eighty acres, on which he has placed improvements to the value of six thousand dollars. His beautiful little home is situated three miles and a half northwest of Elburn on section 25, Virgil township, and the place is well supplied with fruit, including apples, peaches and pears, besides much small fruit. Here Mr. Freeland carries on general farming and is also extensively interested in the dairy business, keeping some thirty cows for that purpose. He is a very wide-awake, energetic business man and the success that has come to him is but the merited reward of unremitting labor.

At the age of twenty-nine years Mr. Freeland was married to Miss Augusta Nelson, who was also born in Sweden, May 7, 1847, and came to Illinois in 1869, and they became the parents of five daughters, namely: Edna, Mary and Clara, all now deceased; Annie, the wife of Myrt Weston, a farmer living near Elburn; and Mannie, the wife of Charles Johnson, who is employed in the electric power house at Elgin. They lost four daughters in three years, all dying of tuberculosis. Mr. Freeland traveled extensively with the last two who died recently in the hope of benefiting their health, spending much time in the west and south, but the change did not produce the desired results. He has always been a staunch supporter of the republican party and is an earnest and consistent member of the Lutheran church.

---

#### BARNEY HEISTEN.

Barney Heisten, who owns farming and dairy interests in Campton township, is of French descent, having been born in Sedan, France, October 23, 1868, the son of Michael and Maggie M. (Welbes) Heisten. His father was born in Luxemburg, Germany, to which place he returned from France when our subject was quite small, and engaged in farming. Here he passed the remainder of his days and is now resting by the side of his devoted wife in the Catholic cemetery. They were both communicants of the Catholic faith. They were the parents of four children, namely: Lewis, a merchant of Luxemburg; Lizzie, the wife of John Meder, a school teacher of Luxemburg; Anna, who married Nick Mangan, a farmer; and Barney.

Barney Heisten is indebted to the public schools of Luxemburg for his education. He attended regularly to the time he was thirteen years of age when, through force of circumstances, he was compelled to leave school and aid his father in the work of the farm. He remained under the parental roof until he was twenty-four years of age, when he emigrated to America, locating in Virgil township, Kane county. Here he secured employment as a farm hand and remained in the position for five years, saving his earnings with the ultimate object of engaging in farming for himself. This he was eventually enabled to do and his progress from that time on was much more rapid than it had been hitherto. He now keeps fifty cows for dairying purposes and owns



personal property to the value of not less than four thousand dollars—a record of which he may well be proud in consideration of the fact that at the outset of life he had no capital with which to begin excepting the innate forces that were bound up in his own nature, while adversity and hardship but served to develop and bring forth the strong qualities within him.

In 1895 occurred the marriage of Mr. Heisten and Miss Matilda Giger, who was born in Switzerland in 1870. Unto this union have been born nine children, namely: Ben J., Mary, Willie, John, Paul, Helen, Leonard, George and Nick, all of whom reside at home with their parents. In politics Mr. Heisten is a republican. Religiously he is a member of the Catholic church.

---

### PHILIP JOHNS.

Coming to America at the age of seventeen years with life's opportunities before him, Philip Johns has made good use of the advantages with which he has been surrounded and through successive stages of development has worked his way upward until he is now manager of the Johns & Brown Company, manufacturers of sash, doors and blinds, and interior finish and fixture work. He was born in Bettendorf, Luxemburg, January 1, 1865. His paternal grandparents were Philip and Elizabeth Johns, the former a stonecutter, who died in Germany when about seventy years of age. Their son, John Johns, also became a stonecutter of Luxemburg and was married there to Miss Susan Hermes, a daughter of Anton Hermes, who died in Prussia when about sixty-four years of age. He was a tailor by trade. His wife was nearly ninety years of age at the time of her demise. Their family numbered four children: Nicholas, of Aurora; Michael, of Ottawa; Susan, of Aurora; and one who is living at Wallendorf in the Rhine province of Prussia. While Mrs. Johns still survives, her husband died in Luxemburg in 1876 at the age of forty-one years. She then came to America in 1882 and makes her home with her daughter, Margaret, in Aurora. She is a communicant of the Roman Catholic church, of which John Johns was also a member. Their family numbered three children: Philip, now living in Aurora; Susan, the wife of Anton Zimmermann; and Margaret, the wife of Lawrence Kartheiser, of this city.

Philip Johns, whose name introduces this review, lived in Luxemburg until seventeen years of age, attended the common schools and also spent two years in college and one year in a normal school. In 1882 he came to America, settling in Aurora, where he worked for Hartsburg & Hawksley, remaining in their factory for eleven years, during which time he gained a comprehensive knowledge of the business and that broad practical experience which well qualified him for carrying on a similar undertaking on his own account. In 1893 he formed a partnership with Frank R. Braun and others and began the manufacture of sash, doors, blinds and interior finish of all kinds. They employ from twenty-five to thirty people, manufacture goods of a superior order and are enjoying constantly increasing business. Their plant is well equipped with the latest improved machinery and everything about the factory



PHILIP JOHNS



indicates a careful systematization and unflinching energy on the part of those in charge.

On the 11th of January, 1894, Mr. Johns was married to Miss Margaret Kirsch, a daughter of Nicholas and Eva Kirsch. They have four children: Margaret Eva, Edith Cecelia, Marion and Anna. The parents are both members of the St. Nicholas Catholic church and Mr. Johns belongs to the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Order of Foresters and other societies. His membership relations also connect him with St. Vincent's Society, the Knights and Ladies of Honor, the Elks Lodge, No. 705, the Germania Society and the Luxemburger Bruderbund. He speaks the French language fluently, as well as the German and English. He resides at No. 635 Indian avenue, and is well known in the city, where he has now lived for twenty-six years, and where his business enterprise and activity have brought him gratifying success.

---

#### LYSANDER HORD.

Lysander Hord, a leading and well known representative of the industrial interests of Kane county, is engaged in the grain and milling business at Montgomery and is also president of the Hord, Brodhead Company. He maintains his residence in Aurora and is well known in various sections of the county as a man whose enterprise will brook no obstacles that can be overcome by determination and energetic effort. He was born in Frankfort, Kentucky, August 21, 1847, a son of Lysander and Hannah A. (Price) Hord, both of whom were natives of Kentucky and lived at Frankfort, where Mrs. Hord was born and made her home until her death at the age of eighty-four years. Mr. Hord survived her until 1905 and died at the venerable age of eighty-seven years. His father was a native of Virginia and became one of the early settlers of Maysville, Kentucky, where he followed the occupation of farming. He served his country as a soldier in the war of 1812 and in early manhood he married Rebecca Benson. His death occurred when he was in middle life, but his wife reached the age of eighty-two years. The maternal grandfather of our subject was John Price, a native of Virginia and a large slave owner. Responding to the country's call for troops he enlisted as a captain in the war of 1812. He married Elizabeth La Faun and they became early settlers of Kentucky, living at Frankfort, where they spent their remaining days. Captain Price there died at the age of sixty, while his wife passed away at the age of eighty-four years. They were the parents of two sons and two daughters, including Hannah A. Price, who gave her hand in marriage to Lysander Hord, Sr. He was a graduate of Yale College and had studied law under the direction of Governor Morehead, of Kentucky. He then practiced law at the Frankfort bar for sixty years and gained distinction as one of the leading lawyers of Kentucky at a bar which has numbered many eminent representatives of the profession. He was also judge of the county court for fifteen or twenty years and was likewise chosen to aid in framing the laws of the commonwealth, twice representing Franklin county in the state legislature. His



last public service was as delegate to Washington under the Hayes' administration to secure an appropriation for the improvement of the Kentucky river, and it was through his efforts there that an appropriation was made whereby the river was made navigable to the Cumberland mountains. His public service was also of a character to promote general improvement and progress, looking beyond the exigencies of the moment to the opportunities and possibilities of the future. Unto him and his wife were born ten children, five sons and five daughters, of whom five are still living, namely: Bettie H., of Frankfort, Kentucky, who is the wife of Colonel Orlando Brown, who commanded a regiment in the Union army; Upshaw P., of Aurora; Lysander, of this review; Blandina, the wife of Thomas B. Monroe, now of Paris, Texas; and Hanna H., wife of David C. Hardin, of Bardstown, Kentucky.

Lysander Hord was born at Frankfort, Kentucky, and there lived to the age of nineteen years, acquiring his education largely in the public schools of the community. He came to Aurora on the 22d of February, 1867, and began clerking in the Montgomery mill, which he has owned for a number of years. He operated the mill for thirty-five years and is the oldest miller today on the Fox river. The flour mill has a capacity of two hundred and fifty barrels of flour per day and the feed mill a capacity of twenty tons per day. He has been a director of the Merchants National Bank for nine or ten years and is now a director in the Aurora Trust & Savings Bank. His attention, however, has chiefly been given to his milling interests, and his broad, practical experience has gained him a knowledge that has made him a most successful miller. His business interests, too, have been of a character that have contributed in a large measure to the development and prosperity of the community, and he certainly deserves much credit for the success which he has achieved.

On the 14th of October, 1874, Mr. Hord was united in marriage to Miss Bessie Gillispie, of Oswego, Kendall county, Illinois, a daughter of David and Letitia (Cooke) Gillispie. Mrs. Hord was born in Chicago and her father was a native of Ohio, while her mother was a native of England. They were married in Cleveland and her father belonged to that branch of the Gillispie family of Berks county, of which James G. Blaine and Judge Ewing were also members. David, who had traveled for many years, made his home in Cleveland the greater part of his life. There he died in 1857, leaving three children: Newton; Letitia, the wife of F. O. Hawley, of Aurora; and Mrs. Lysander Hord. The mother of these children long survived her first husband, passing away in 1888, at the age of sixty-six years. She had married again, her second husband being M. J. Richards, one of the old settlers of Kendall county, Illinois. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Hord was Richard E. Cooke, who was born in Worcestershire, England, and on coming to America settled in Cleveland, being noted among the capitalists of that city. He afterwards went to Chicago at an early day and was the owner of considerable property there. He died in Oswego, Illinois, at the age of seventy-six years, while his wife, Mrs. Esther (Bird) Cooke, was about seventy-four years of age at the time of her death. They were the parents of three children, Richard, Edward and Letitia. The mother of Richard E. Cooke was, prior to her marriage, a Miss

Hill and was a member of the eminent family of Sir Roland Hill, while the celebrated poetess, Eliza Cooke, was an own cousin of Richard E. Cooke.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Hord was blessed with one child, Hardin G., who married Miss Edith Lawrence, and is a salesman of Chicago. Mr. Hord belongs to Aurora Lodge, No. 254, A. F. & A. M. In politics he is a democrat, somewhat prominent in the local ranks of his party, and he served as treasurer of the city of Aurora for two years, while at one time he was assistant supervisor. For forty-one years he has been continuously engaged in the grain, flour and feed business in Kane county and has dealt with many of the pioneers of this locality, as well as with the more recent arrivals. Through his business associations he has become widely known and his many good qualities have gained for him the friendship of the majority of those with whom he has been brought in contact. He now owns several properties in Montgomery in addition to his mill, but he makes his home in Aurora.

---

#### CLARK C. BURR.

Clark C. Burr, a retired farmer residing in St. Charles township, was born March 1, 1842, his parents being James O. and Mary (Lee) Burr, the former born in Cazenovia, New York, May 20, 1818, and the latter in Binghamton, New York, October 20, 1822. The father came to Illinois in 1836, purchasing three hundred and forty-two acres of land from the government at a dollar and a quarter per acre. In 1850 he offered to sell one hundred acres of this farm to J. W. Wilcox for seven and a half dollars per acre, but the latter declined to make the purchase. Thirty-six years later Mr. Wilcox bought this same one hundred acre tract at fifty dollars per acre. James O. Burr passed away at Dansville, New York, June 17, 1872, and his remains were interred in the Garfield cemetery at Campton. His wife, who had celebrated her marriage in 1841, died February 14, 1869, at St. Charles, Illinois, and was also buried in the Garfield cemetery at Campton. The record of their children, in addition to the subject of this review, is as follows: Grace I., who was born in St. Charles, August 18, 1844, was married in 1882 to Mr. Avery, a salesman of Minnesota. The latter passed away in 1884, and his widow now resides in Elgin. Algernon A., born in St. Charles, August 11, 1846, wedded Miss Cornelia L. Bartlett, of Connecticut, on the 30th of October, 1872. He was a farmer by occupation, and died April 23, 1903, at his home in St. Charles township, being buried in Campton cemetery. His widow still resides on the farm. Elma I., whose birth occurred in St. Charles township, April 9, 1848, became the wife of J. K. Lowry, of Aurora, Illinois. She makes her home at La Crosse, Wisconsin, where her husband is a painter foreman in the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy shops.

With the exception of about two years spent on the Atwell Burr farm in Campton, Clark C. Burr has resided continuously on the place where he was born. The property consists of two hundred and forty acres of rich land which is beautifully located and well watered by two running streams, and

there is also plenty of timber. On the 17th of August, 1893, his barns were burned down and his hay destroyed, but he has since erected another commodious and substantial structure for the shelter of grain and stock. He keeps a fine herd of forty-five cows, also some young cattle and about one hundred and twenty-five Buff Rock chickens. His property is valued at thirty thousand dollars, and he is widely recognized as one of the prosperous and progressive residents of the county, whose success has come to him as the well merited reward of his indefatigable industry and excellent business ability.

On the 11th of January, 1871, in St. Charles township, Mr. Burr was united in marriage to Miss Ellen L. Bartlett, of Connecticut, whose birth occurred November 4, 1842. They have become the parents of two children, one of whom is deceased: James Henry, whose birth occurred in St. Charles township, January 31, 1874, is a graduate of the Elgin Academy and of the law school at Dixon, Illinois. On the 1st of January, 1908, he wedded Miss Nettie Kittell, of Chicago, and is now engaged in the practice of law in that city. Charles Clark, who was born in St. Charles, June 24, 1876, passed away January 6, 1894.

In his political views Mr. Burr is independent, supporting the best man regardless of party affiliation. His wife is a member of the Congregational church at St. Charles. Having resided in this county throughout his entire life, or for a period of sixty-six years, Mr. Burr is well and favorably known here, and has witnessed the remarkable transformation that has taken place in this part of the country as pioneer conditions and environments have given way before the onward march of civilization.

---

#### EBEN F. BEAUPRÉ.

Eben F. Beaupré, one of the leading citizens of Aurora, was born in Ottawa, Illinois, on the 12th of November, 1857, and is a son of Mathias Beaupré, of whom more extended mention is made in the sketch of W. S. Beaupré on another page of this volume. Our subject was educated in the public schools of Aurora and De Kalb. Returning to Aurora in 1875, he entered the office of the collector of internal revenue, where he remained until 1877. He then became chief clerk under D. C. Cooley, of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, and when that gentleman left the service Mr. Beaupré entered the office of the auditor of expenditure of the same road at Chicago, which position he held until 1884. He then purchased the Aurora Daily News, which he sold in 1887, having won distinction through his editorial writing. In 1887 he became deputy county clerk at Geneva, holding that position until 1895, when he entered the employ of the Aurora Cotton Mills Company, of which he is now secretary.

On the 22d of March, 1887, Mr. Beaupré married Miss Ruth C. Shepard, a daughter of Jeremiah and Ellen Theodosia Shepard. He was admitted to the bar in June, 1896, and he had the distinction of being the first person in the second district appellate court to pass a perfect examination, having one hundred points to his credit. One of the Aurora papers said of him at the

time: "The unusual distinction won by Mr. Beaupré was not by accident. He has a gifted mind and is a close student and observer. In addition to his legal attainments, Mr. Beaupré is an expert accountant, is one of the best read men in the city, is an amateur horticulturist, with a rose garden which is the admiration of the entire neighborhood, and has won some success in literature. He probably has other accomplishments but he is a quiet man and keeps them to himself." The Chicago Inter Ocean also made some comment on his high standing.

Mr. Beaupré has served very efficiently for several years as a member of the park board in Aurora, and is still a member of the same. He has written many poems and bright sketches, and after one of the latter had been published, the following appeared in the Geneva Patrol:

"Eben F. Beaupré is known to the people of this county as deputy county clerk, and as competent, faithful and courteous a deputy as this or any other county ever had, but the time will come, we believe, when he will be widely known as one of the brightest sketch writers of Illinois. Some time ago the writer of this paragraph read an unpublished sketch from Mr. Beaupré's pen and showed the manuscript to the editor of the largest literary syndicate in the west, who immediately paid handsomely for it, notwithstanding the fact that the syndicate was full of manuscripts and accepting almost nothing. The sketch has since been published and has drawn the following appreciative notice from the pen of Illinois' greatest novelist, Mrs. Catherwood, author of 'The Romance of Dollard,' 'The Story of Tonti,' 'Stephen Guthrie' and other stories, which have made her an international reputation. She writes: 'Your little sketch of Lazarus, "The story of a yellow dog," is natural and human and full of nice appreciation. Some people affect an indiscriminate sympathy with animals bordering on untruthful sentimentality, but your sketch seemed a clear, nice little picture by a sensitive hand. Sincerely yours, Mary H. Catherwood.' It is but fair to Mr. Beaupré to say that he is entirely ignorant that Mrs. Catherwood's letter will go beyond the writer, but we know his other friends will be equally glad to know of his literary success, therefore we take the liberty to publish without his knowledge. We hope he will do much more writing."

---

#### FREDERICK E. WESTOVER.

Frederick E. Westover, engaged in business as a brick-mason of Aurora, is also numbered the veterans of the Civil war, and that he is prominent and popular with his old army comrades is indicated by the fact that he is now commander of the Grand Army Post at this city. A native of New York, he was born in Jefferson county, March 31, 1848, his parents being Stephen and Harriet (French) Westover, natives of Massachusetts and Vermont respectively. The former was a son of Abijah Westover, also a native of Massachusetts, who removed to Jefferson county, New York, in 1822 and died soon afterward in middle age. His wife lived to an advanced age and reared their



family of four sons and three daughters. The Westover family is of Holland Dutch descent and traces the ancestry back to 1640. The maternal grandfather of our subject was a native of Vermont and a blacksmith by trade.

Stephen Westover came to Illinois from Jefferson county, New York, in 1854, taking up his abode in Aurora, and in 1856 he brought his family to this city. He was a brick-mason by trade and became a contractor here, but in the spring of 1869 went to Fort Scott, Kansas, where he worked at masonry for a time. Later he engaged in the grocery business in the west, but eventually returned to Aurora, where he died in 1894 at the age of seventy-six years. His wife survived him until the summer of 1907 and died when about eighty-seven years of age. Their family numbered seven children, four sons and three daughters, but only three are now living: Frederick E.; Frank C., of Aurora; and Henry B., who makes his home in Chicago. The others of the family were: Albert E., the eldest; Emma J., the second, who was the wife of J. H. Long; Sarah, who was the wife of Fred Long and was the fourth in order of birth; and Ida, the youngest, who was the wife of Charles Barker.

The first named was but eight years of age when the family came to Aurora, and here he has since made his home. He attended the public schools of this city and afterward worked on a farm by the month. In his youth he also worked at the mason's trade for a time. In 1865 at the last call for volunteers he enlisted as a member of Company B, One Hundred and Fifty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Although but seventeen years of age, he did not hesitate in the performance of any duty, his valor and loyalty being equal to that of any man of twice his years. When the war was over he returned to Aurora and took up the mason's trade, which he has since followed, thus becoming closely identified with the building operations of the city.

On the 11th of August, 1869, Mr. Westover was married to Miss Margaret Kennedy, who was born in Oswego, Kane county, Illinois, February 21, 1848, and is the daughter of Damon and Maria (Ireland) Kennedy. Her father was a son of Elihu Kennedy, a native of New York and a farmer by occupation. He became one of the early settlers of Kendall county, Illinois, but was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, for his death occurred soon after his arrival. His wife, Mrs. Ruth (Babcock) Kennedy, died when well advanced in years. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Westover was John Ireland, who lived and died in the state of New York and was buried near Troy. His wife, Mrs. Margaret (Traver) Ireland, also lived to an advanced age. Their family numbered three daughters. The parents of Mrs. Westover were natives of the Empire state and came from Albany county, New York, to Illinois early in the '40s, and took up government land. The father was a carpenter by trade and followed that business in the west. He lived in Oswego until a year prior to his death, when he removed to Aurora, where he died in 1894, when more than eighty years of age. He was a veteran of the Mexican war. His wife died in 1860 at the age of forty-one years. They had a family of five children: Lewis, who is living at Tecumseh, Oklahoma; Mary, the widow of George Hopkins and a resident of Chicago; Ruth, the wife of William Dunn, of Omaha, Nebraska; George, also living in Omaha; and Mrs. Westover. Of this family, Lewis Kennedy was a captain

of the Fifty-third Illinois Regiment during the Civil war, while George enlisted at the age of seventeen years and served throughout the period of hostilities. Later he joined the regular army, so that his military experience covered thirty years.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Westover has been blessed with five children: Fred S., who is married and is engaged in the newspaper business at Billings, Montana; Edna, the wife of Jesse M. Cockle, of Aurora, by whom she has three children, Clover, Lawrence and Margaret; Agnes Adele, the wife of C. L. Ludlow of Chicago; Ida, who is living in New York city; and Ella, who occupies a clerical position in the old Second National Bank.

Mr. and Mrs. Westover are well known in Aurora, where they have an extensive circle of friends. Politically he is a republican, unfaltering in support of the principles of the party, and he is now a member of the Grand Army Post, No. 20, of which he has served as commander. He has been faithful and reliable in business and as a citizen is a champion of every measure which promises to prove of benefit in promoting public progress and improvement.

---

### JAMES POWELL, JR.

James Powell, Jr., member of the real-estate, loans and insurance firm of Powell & Reid, of Aurora, his native city, was born in 1875, being the fourth in order of birth among the five children of James and Melissa (Dent) Powell, who were natives of New York. The father was reared in the Empire state and lived in Roxbury, Delaware county, upon a farm. In 1865 he came to Illinois, settling in Aurora, where he engaged in the lumber business, but for the past twenty years he has been a representative of the insurance business and has enjoyed a liberal clientage in this connection. Both he and his wife are Congregationalists in religious faith and both are representatives of old families of New York. They became the parents of two sons and three daughters: George A., Ella M., Grace, James, Jr., and Mina.

James Powell, Jr., spending his boyhood days under the parental roof in the city of his nativity, was educated in the public schools, passing through consecutive grades to his graduation from the East Aurora high school in 1894. He then engaged in clerking in a clothing store, where he remained for four years, after which he embarked in the real-estate business. In 1901 he retired from that field and for five years was manager of the Kane County Title & Trust Company, at Geneva. In 1903, however, he formed a partnership with Joseph Reid and they have since been together under the firm style of Powell & Reid, although Mr. Powell retained his position with the Kane County Title & Trust Company until 1906. He has made it his purpose to inform himself thoroughly concerning the property that is upon the market and is thus enabled to make judicious investments or purchases for his clients and to place loans so that they will be of advantage to all parties. He also writes considerable insurance each year and is rapidly forging to the front

in business circles, being now widely recognized as a young man of sound judgment, whose ability seems to promise increased success in the future. His political allegiance is given to the republican party. Admirable social qualities render him personally popular and he has an extensive circle of warm friends in this city.

---

#### ROBERT SPENCER HADLEY.

Although Robert Spencer Hadley's dwelling is in Kendall county, just over the boundary line, the greater part of his fine and well-improved farm of seventy-three acres is in this county, in section 31 of Aurora township. The place is known as Pleasant View farm, and both in a material and a social way it well deserves the name. It is the seat of a refined and bounteous hospitality and a social life embodying every grace of advanced cultivation, the domestic atmosphere within the residence being in full accord with the beauties of nature without.

The proprietor is a native of Dutchess county, New York, where he was born November 14, 1849. His parents, Chauncey Dewey and Mary Elizabeth (Mead) Hadley, were also natives of Dutchess county, New York, and came to Kane county, Illinois, in 1854. The father was born November 20, 1812, and died in 1874. The mother's life began October 12, 1821, and ended August 17, 1899. When they came with their children to this county they located on Big Rock creek between the towns of Big Rock and Sugar Grove, where the father operated a sawmill for a number of years. Many of the buildings erected in Sugar Grove and Big Rock townships in the '50s were built of lumber sawed at his mill, which was an important industry during those early years and of great service to the people in the undeveloped state of the country at the time.

The father was also a farmer, and the son, as he approached the dawn of manhood, helped to break up the prairie with a plow specially designed for the purpose and drawn by two yoke of oxen. The farming operations were carried on in both Big Rock and Kaneville townships. It was a strenuous life the pioneers lived, and one that developed both strength of muscle and flexibility of function. It has oft been told in song and story but its interest is perpetual for it is a phase of American history and experience that has passed away forever. The days were full of arduous toil and the nights were frequently beset with peril. Wild beasts were still prowling in the forests and often threatened the home of the settlers, making night horrible with their howling and intended violence to the inmates, whose utmost watchfulness was required for safety.

Mr. Hadley's three sisters shared this life of labor and privation with him and their parents. They were: Susan Ann, the late wife of Myron Brackett, of Big Rock township, who died in December, 1906; Mary Elizabeth, the wife of Ira Jacobs, of Kaneville; and Lorinda, now the wife of Hanson Murphy, of Big Rock township. While the life was hard and laborious, it had its compensations in the self-reliance it begot in those who had to endure it,



MR. AND MRS. ROBERT S. HADLEY





in the resourcefulness and independence it gave them, and in the sense of conquest and progress it engendered.

In his boyhood Mr. Hadley attended the country school near his home and those in Big Rock and Kaneville, and he made such use of his opportunities that he obtained a good common-school education. The exigencies of his situation did not, however, give him a chance for the more advanced courses, and the exactions of his later life have left him no leisure to pursue at greater length the studies in which he found entertainment and profit.

On March 11, 1874, he celebrated his first marriage, in which he was united with Miss Margaret Way, a native of Baden, Germany, born October 14, 1850. She died April 12, 1883, and on July 4, 1887, he was married to Miss Mary Dyer, who was born January 12, 1861, in New Jersey, and died May 2, 1895. On June 10, 1896, he took unto himself his third and present wife, Mrs. Mary Eliza Bailey, a daughter of Lysander C. and Susan K. (Wormley) Breese, and a sister-in-law of George Christopher Yates, in a sketch of whom on another page will be found the history of her family. She was born in Kane county, March 25, 1855, and married Mr. Bailey, a native of Steuben county, New York, who came to Kane county at the age of sixteen with his parents and grew to manhood on a farm adjoining that of Mr. Breese. He was born November 18, 1852, and died March 10, 1890.

With the exception of five years, during which he was farming in Iowa, Mr. Hadley has passed his life in Kane county. He has retired from the active management of his farm, having rented the greater part of it. But he still cares for a few fine Jersey cows and cultivates a few acres of ground in garden products, fruit and pasturage. He has a wide reputation as an excellent judge of horses and deals in them extensively, handling many superior draft horses which he sells in Chicago at fancy prices. He is a valued member of the order of Knights of the Globe, and Mrs. Hadley has deserved prominence in that of the Eminent Ladies of the Knights of the Globe. She is also a member of the Methodist Episcopal church in Montgomery. Both are constant in good works for the benefit of the community in general and their neighbors, friends and acquaintances in particular. Their lives have been upright and serviceable, and the firm hold they have on the regard and good will of their community is not only fixed and lasting but well founded on demonstrated merit.

---

#### IDA MATILDA HENDRICKS.

Ida Matilda Hendricks, a resident of Elburn, is a representative of one of the early families of Kane county. She was born September 14, 1871, in Batavia, Illinois. Her father, John Henry Hendricks, was a native of Sweden, born November 10, 1850. He came to America in the early '40s and, as his financial resources were very limited, for some years he had a hard struggle to gain a place of substantial benefit in the business world.

As the years passed, however, he prospered in his undertakings until there came to him a gratifying measure of success as the reward of his persistent, earnest labor. He married Anna Johnson, who was born January 14, 1841, also a native of Sweden. She arrived in Batavia in 1869 and the following year gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Hendricks. Unto them were born four children: Edward, who is now a mail carrier in Chicago; Julia Augusta, the wife of William West, a farmer residing in Ontario, Canada; Emma L., the wife of Albin Johnson, of Wasco, Illinois, now deceased; and Ida M., of this review. The death of the father occurred in December, 1901, and was the cause of deep and widespread regret, for he had come to be known as one of the respected and representative citizens of Kane county, where for long years he had successfully followed the occupation of farming.

Reared in her father's home, Ida M. Hendricks pursued her education in the schools of Kaneville until sixteen years of age, when she returned to the paternal roof. She takes an active and helpful interest in all work for the progress of the community, and has been especially helpful in the various lines of church and temperance work. A stanch advocate of the cause of prohibition, she has labored earnestly and effectively to make Elburn a strictly temperance town. She belongs to the Methodist church and to the Epworth League, of which she was the first vice president. She is likewise a worker in the Ladies' Aid Society of the church and of the Royal Neighbors, of which she was a charter member. She is well known socially in Elburn, having many warm friends here.

---

#### FRED HENNINGSON.

Fred Henningson, who owns and operates a farm of one hundred and forty-seven acres in Campton township, was born in Sweden, July 4, 1868, the son of Henning and Johannah (Anderson) Johnson. Both of his parents are natives of Sweden, the father having been born at Fallshiping in 1833, while the mother's birth occurred in 1829. They now reside in America, having come to this country in 1906. They are the parents of five children, namely: Albert L., residing in St. Charles, Illinois, where he is employed in a milk condensing factory; Frank N., a farmer; Helya E., residing in Chicago; Fred; and Mary E., residing at home.

Fred Henningson attended the district schools of Sweden until he was fifteen years of age, when he discontinued his school life in order to aid his father in the work of the farm. He remained under the parental roof until he was nineteen years of age, and in 1887 he set forth to seek his fortune in the new world. The hope that led him to leave his native land has been more than realized, as he now not only owns a valuable farm but also has a dairy of seventy-two Holstein cows, which yields him a steady and substantial income. He possesses the energy, resolution and perseverance so characteristic of his nation and his activity in his chosen line of work has not only contributed to his

individual success, but has also been a factor in the industrial life of the community.

The maiden name of Mr. Henningson's wife was Hulda G. Carlson. She was born in Sweden in 1876. Five children have been born to their union, namely: Edward E., born August 6, 1892; Arthur E., born May 24, 1898; Ernest W., February 3, 1901; Gunner A., December 22, 1904; and Bertha W., March 26, 1906.

Politically Mr. Henningson is a republican but he has never made politics the ruling spirit of his life, preferring to give his entire time to his farming and dairy interests. Religiously he is a member of the Lutheran church.

---

### WILLIAM H. GOETTING.

In a history of business enterprise and progress whereby the interests of Elgin have been promoted along substantial lines, mention should be made of William H. Goetting, the president of the Elgin Steam Laundry Company. He was born in Cook county, Illinois, October 9, 1859, and since starting out in life on his own account he has manifested those sterling traits of industry and perseverance which constitutes the basis of all industrial, commercial or professional success. His parents were both natives of Germany, and on coming to America they settled in Addison, DuPage county, Illinois. The father, Charles Goetting, was a mason by trade, and from DuPage county removed to Cook county, this state, where both he and his wife passed away.

In the rural schools William H. Goetting acquired his education, and to the age of twenty years was engaged in farming, assisting largely in the work of the fields from the time that he was old enough to handle the plow. Starting out in life on his own account, he learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed until he turned his attention to the laundry business in 1886. For four years he was employed in what is now the Improved Method Steam Laundry, owned by L. M. Rose, and during that period his diligence and careful expenditure brought him capital sufficient to enable him in 1889 to purchase the laundry outright. He continued to manage this in the original plant until 1895, when he erected his present laundry, a large two story brick building, which he equipped with all of the latest and most improved methods and machinery, outfitting it at great expense and making one of the best laundry plants in this part of the state. In 1902 the business was incorporated as the Elgin Steam Laundry Company, with Mr. Goetting as president and manager. He also holds the majority of the stock, and the business is returning him a substantial annual income. He employs about forty men and women, and has met with gratifying prosperity in the undertaking. The work which he turns out is equal to that of any of the laundries in the larger cities, and his patronage is steadily increasing. He recently purchased a lot adjoining his laundry and is now sinking a well, so that he will have his own water plant as well as power, making it one of the finest laundries in the United States.



In June, 1886, occurred the marriage of Mr. Goetting and Miss Mary Borchert, of Elgin, and they have one child, Ida. They also lost two children. The parents are members of St. Paul's church, take an active and helpful interest in its work and contribute generously to its support. Mr. Goetting is now serving as superintendent of the Sunday school and does all in his power to promote its interests. He is a self-made man in every sense of the word, having worked his way upward to a position of prosperity, although he started out in life as a poor farmer boy. He has been energetic, determined and diligent, and has carried forward to successful completion whatever he has undertaken. He has never figured prominently in political circles, preferring to devote his time outside of business hours to the enjoyment of the companionship in his own home.

---

### SAMUEL BEALES.

Samuel Beales, a well known member of the police force of Aurora, was born in Lockport, Orleans county, New York, on the 4th of September, 1847, a son of James and Mary (Burk) Beales. His father was a native of Suffolk county, England, where he resided at Hegritt Hall, twenty-two miles from the city of London. His father was John Beales, who ran a tavern in England and who died there at an advanced age. His wife, Elizabeth Beales, lived to the advanced age of ninety-three years. Of this union there were born eight daughters and two sons.

James Beales, the father of our subject, was a miller by occupation and, seeking the larger opportunities which the new world afforded, came to America in 1836, settling in Troy, New York, for a time, after which he went to Canada, being attracted to that section through the fact of its being a province of his native land. There he met Miss Mary Burk, a recent arrival from Limerick, Ireland, to whom he was shortly after married, and he took his bride to Lockport, New York, where they lived continuously until 1860. In April, 1860, Mr. Beales brought his family to Rockford, Illinois, where his practical knowledge of the milling business easily gained him a position in the mill of Mr. Rodd, with whom he remained some years. In 1864 he bought a flour and grist mill in Ogle county, known as the Shirley Mills, which he sold in 1867, and then went to Oswego, Kane county, and ran a mill for Switzer Brothers for one year. He then came to Aurora, where he conducted the Black Hawk mill for Mr. Jameson, being there when the mill burned down, after which he secured a position at Montgomery, with Hord Brothers, and later conducted a mill at Plano, where he remained until the time of his death, which occurred October 9, 1887, when he was seventy years of age. His wife survived him, dying on the 21st of November, 1906, aged eighty-five years. Both were members of the Catholic church.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. James Beales were born twelve children, as follows: Ann, who died in infancy; Mary Ann, formerly the wife of William H. Tripp, now deceased, and at present the wife of Seymour Barker, of Rockford,

Illinois; Henry J., deceased; John, of Rock Falls, Illinois; Samuel, of this review; Elizabeth, deceased wife of Daniel Kipp, who was killed on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad; Adelaide, wife of William Clancy, of Aurora; Alice, who died at the age of twelve years; Caroline, wife of John Doran, of Chicago; William, now a resident of Aurora; Jane Ann, wife of John Saxton, of Aurora; and Jeremiah, also a resident of Aurora. The maternal grandfather of our subject was John Burk, who died in Lockport, New York, in 1847, where he was a farm overseer for many years. His wife, Ann (O'Brien) Burk, was ninety-seven years of age at the time of her death.

Samuel Beales was but twelve years of age when his parents removed to Rockford, Illinois, and when a lad of only fourteen years he enlisted in Company C, Sixty-seventh Illinois Infantry, afterward reenlisting in Company M, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, known as the "Abolition Regiment," the name being given it, it is said, by Abraham Lincoln. He continued in the service for three years and four months, during which period he sustained severe injuries by a tree falling on him at Fairfax Court House, Virginia, while in winter quarters there. He was in many of the hard-fought battles of the Civil war, his regiment opening the battle of Gettysburg, the first shot being fired by Captain Jones, of Wheaton, Illinois, who belonged to Company E.

Following in his father's footsteps, Mr. Beales on his return home went into the milling business, and as the occupation was one in which a person who understood it need never be idle, he did not confine his labors to any one locality, but investigated various sections of the country in search of a suitable home. This he ultimately found in Aurora, settling there in 1868, since which time he has made it his permanent residence.

On the 5th day of July, 1873, was celebrated the marriage of Samuel Beales and Miss Mary D. Robbins, of Rock Falls, Illinois. Unto them were born four children, three of whom died young. The only surviving child, Idella May, is now the wife of Richard Wood, of Aurora. Mrs. Beales was born in Wyanet, Bureau county, Illinois. Her parents were natives of Ohio, and her father, William E. Robbins, was a carpenter by trade. He came to Illinois about 1834 and settled in La Salle, going thence to Wyanet, where he engaged in farming. There he met and married Miss Chlora M. Hunt, whose father, Elisha Hunt, a veteran of the war of 1812, moved to Bureau county, Illinois, from Ohio, and was one of the pioneer settlers of that section. There he prospered and became quite wealthy, acquiring some seven hundred acres of land. At the time of his death, which occurred in Rock Falls when he was eighty-seven years of age, he bequeathed to each of his heirs—eight children and thirty-one grand-children—the sum of five thousand dollars. His wife died in 1880, several years prior to his death, at the age of fifty-nine years. Mrs. Beales' brothers and sisters were as follows: Helen, deceased, who was the wife of John Hall; Susan, the deceased wife of William Butcher, who died in Tama, Iowa; Charles and Henry, both deceased; Joanna, the wife of Joseph Applegate, of Pike county, Illinois; Samuel, a resident of McPherson, Kansas; and Ambrose, of Hannibal, Missouri.

Mr. Beales' political support is given to the republican party. He maintains pleasant relations with his former army comrades through his member-

ship in Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R., and he is also a member of the Knights of Pythias. Mr. Beales has ever taken an active interest in the civic affairs of the city of his adoption, and for the past fifteen years has been a member of the police force, discharging his duties in a faithful and acceptable manner.

---

### JOSEPH BENNEY WALTER.

For a number of years Joseph B. Walter was identified with the business interests of Elgin, in which city he departed this life on the 7th of August, 1889. He was a native of Canada, born in Quebec, February 17, 1826, and was a son of Joseph Walter, who was interested in the Walter factory in Elgin, but practically lived retired during his residence here. The father died in August, 1873, at the ripe old age of eighty-one years, and his wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Benney, passed away in January, 1873, at the same age.

Joseph B. Walker, of this review, was only two years old when the family removed to Albany, New York, and he acquired a good practical education in the Albany Academy. On leaving that city in 1845 he accompanied his parents on their removal to Elgin, and here began work in the employ of S. Newton Dexter in the woolen mills business, with which he was connected for eight years. He next conducted a tannery for B. W. Raymond for about ten years, at the end of which time the plant was sold to the Elgin National Watch Company and the site where it stood is now occupied by the Borden Condensed Milk Company. Mr. Walter then embarked in the butcher business on his own account in partnership with Benjamin Stanforth, under the firm name of Walter & Stanforth, located on the southeast corner of Douglas avenue and Milwaukee streets. This connection was continued for three years and was followed by the firm of Miller & Walter, which carried on business at the same location for four years. Mr. Walter was next employed by the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company as bookkeeper at the east side depot and held that position until he retired from active business, to spend his last days in ease and quiet.

On the 24th of January, 1862, he married Miss Jane Smith, a daughter of Richard E. and Sarah (Small) Smith, and they became the parents of eleven children, as follows: Carrie L.; Edwin Forrest, who married Minnie Buxton and had one child, Carrie L., now deceased; Frank S., who is connected with the Elgin National Watch Company; Joseph E., a cooper of Elgin; Harry, also with the Elgin National Watch Company, who married Minnie Went and has three children, Harold John, Ruth Adeline and Lester Louis; Richard Walter, a lather of Elgin; George Benney, bookkeeper in a furniture store in Elgin, who married Elizabeth Anderson and has three children, Oliver Kenneth, Robert Edmund and George Edwin; Alice May, the wife of Edmund Glos, who is bookkeeper in the home savings department of the First National Bank of Elgin and by whom she has two children, Beatrice Irene and Harriet Eleanor; Spencer, who was graduated in July, 1908, from Barnes

School of Embalming, Chicago, and is now in Elgin; Harry, who was born in December, 1866, and died March 5, 1868; and Stella Maud, who was born July 21, 1883, and died March 23, 1885. Mr. Walter was twice married, his first wife being Amanda Fursman, who died in 1861, and there were three children born of that union: Louis Eck, who married Anna Lewis and is a salesman for Swift & Company; Charles Fursman, who was drowned in Fox river at the age of eight years; and Edwin, also deceased.

In politics Mr. Walter was first a republican but later endorsed the principles of the democracy, with which he continued to vote throughout the remainder of his life, taking a very active and prominent part in local politics. He served as alderman of the first ward, as constable of Elgin and as tax collector, discharging the various duties of these offices in a most commendable and satisfactory manner. He was an honored member of the Masonic order and was a popular, pleasing gentleman who had a host of warm friends.

---

#### AIE A. MARVIN.

Aie A. Marvin, who is prominent in the business circles of Kane county as a farmer and real-estate dealer, is a native son of the county, born on a farm in Virgil township, May 27, 1867. His father, George W. Marvin, was born in Madison county, New York, December 1, 1832, and came to Illinois with his parents in 1844, the family home being established at St. Charles, where the father worked as a blacksmith. George W. Marvin acquired his education in a select school at St. Charles, which he attended to the age of seventeen years, when he entered his father's blacksmith shop, learning the trades of a blacksmith and wagon maker. There he continued to work until he had reached the age of twenty-eight years, when he removed to Iowa, where he worked at his trade for four years. He then returned to his home city and engaged in business with his father. About that time he was united in marriage to Miss Robena Parker, who was born in Scotland. Following his marriage Mr. Marvin purchased a farm of three hundred and twenty acres situated in Virgil township, on which he took up his abode. He is still engaged in farming and also conducts an apiary, having one hundred and fifty stands of bees of the Italian variety and marketing from seven to ten tons of honey annually. Mr. Marvin has placed most of the improvements on his farm and it is now a valuable property, situated on the Maple Park and St. Charles road. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Marvin was blessed with one son and five daughters, as follows: Aie A., whose name introduces this review; Ella, the wife of L. O. Kilmer, a resident of DeKalb; Jennie J., the wife of O. M. Blood, also of DeKalb; Nettie N., the wife of W. F. Austin, who makes his home in that city; and Virginia and Minnie M., who have passed away.

Aie A. Marvin, whose name introduces this record, is the eldest child and only son of his father's family. He was reared on the home farm in Virgil township and attended the district schools until he had reached the age



of seventeen years, when he entered the Sycamore high school, where he continued his studies for two years. Upon the completion of his education he returned to the home farm, where he has since continued, assisting his father in its management and care. He is also engaged in the real-estate business, having made a close study of land values, so that he is able to make judicious purchases and profitable sales for his patrons. In this connection he has traveled extensively, visiting Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, Indiana, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas, accompanying land seekers on these trips. At the present time he is associated with the Moody Land Company, who own two hundred thousand acres of land in western Texas. He is a lover of good horses and is part owner and keeper of a fine Percheron stallion, Keefer, which won first prize at the International Stock Show held in Minnesota and won second premium in the stock show of Iowa.

Mr. Marvin chose as a companion and helpmate on the journey of life Miss Lillian Davis, who was born in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, and this union has been blessed with two children, Lawrence and Laurel. Mr. Marvin gives his political support to the men and measures of the republican party, while his fraternal relations are with the Masons, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of the Globe, in all of which he is popular with the brethren of these various orders. He possesses untiring energy, is quick of perception, forms his plans readily and is determined in their execution, and his close application to business and his excellent management have brought to him the high degree of prosperity which is today his.

---

### MARVIN QUACKENBUSH.

Marvin Quackenbush, who for many years was prominently associated with the educational interests of this section of the state and for five terms was elected county superintendent of schools, left the impress of his individuality upon the public-school system in that he instituted many improvements and held to a high standard of efficiency in the work done in the different grades. He was widely recognized as a man of scholarly attainments and one whose clear insight and sound judgment made his work of the utmost benefit to his fellow citizens along the specific lines of his labor. He was born at Hartwick, Otsego county, New York, November 25, 1842. His father, Abram Quackenbush, was also a native of the same county, born in 1801, and the grandfather, James Quackenbush, was likewise a native of the Empire state. The family, however, is of Holland descent and was established in New York in the seventeenth century. At that time two brothers came from Holland, one settling at Fort Orange, now Albany, New York, and the other in New York city. Professor Marvin Quackenbush of this review is a direct descendant of the Albany branch. The name, however, was originally Quackenbos.

James Quackenbush served his country as a soldier of the war of 1812 and afterward settled at Otsego, New York, where he followed the occupa-



MARVIN QUACKENBUSH



tion of farming. His son, Abram Quackenbush, was there reared and educated and after arriving to years of maturity he married Miss Delancy Wolf, a native of New York. He then took up agricultural pursuits in Otsego county, where he carried on business until 1850, when he came to Illinois, settling first in Kane county near St. Charles. There he purchased a tract of land and devoted a few years to its cultivation and improvement, but afterward removed to Laporte City, Iowa, where he spent his remaining days dying at the advanced age of eighty-four in the year 1885. His wife died in 1882.

Professor Marvin Quackenbush was but a lad of seven summers when brought to Kane county. Here he acquired his education in the public schools and in Jennings Seminary at Aurora. He also pursued a course in Bryant & Stratton's Commercial College at Chicago and at the outbreak of the Civil war he offered his services as a member of a regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry, but was rejected on account of an injury which he had sustained in his foot. In November, 1864, however, he raised a company of forty men and joined the One Hundred and Fifty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he went to the front. He served in the paymaster's department until July 21, 1865, when he was discharged on account of disability. He proved a capable and loyal soldier and it was his deepest regret that he could not be with the army throughout the period of hostilities.

Mr. Quackenbush had taught three terms of school prior to the outbreak of hostilities between the north and the south and upon his return from the war he resumed teaching, being first employed in the country schools, while afterward he was connected with the St. Charles schools for six years. Later he spent a year as a teacher at Geneva, this county, and eleven years in Dundee. He proved an excellent disciplinarian and had the ability to impart clearly and readily to others the knowledge that he had acquired. He became recognized as one of the able educators of this part of the state and was eventually elected superintendent of the county schools, wherein he discharged his duties so capably and satisfactorily that he was at once reelected without opposition. He did much to raise the standard of the schools and to promote the cause of public education in this part of the state and the work which he did still continues as a lasting monument to his memory in the public-school system of Kane county.

Mr. Quackenbush was married at Clintonville (now South Elgin), Illinois, in August, 1870, to Miss Eleanor Boynton, a native of Dundee, and they have one son, Edward, who is a practicing lawyer of the Aurora bar and is mentioned elsewhere in this work. Her grandfather was Brigadier General McClure, a soldier of the war of 1812 and one of the honored pioneers of the county, who died in Elgin in 1850.

Professor Quackenbush was a stalwart republican, inflexible in his allegiance to the party. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity and also took the degrees of chapter, the commandery and the consistory. That he was one of the prominent representatives of the order is indicated by the fact that he filled all of the chairs in the local lodge and represented the organization in the grand lodge of the state and also the commandery and the grand



commandery of Illinois. His religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Congregational church, with which he remained identified up to the time of his death on the 18th of April, 1903. Almost his entire life was spent in this part of the state and his fellow townsmen find in him a man whose devotion to the public good was ever above question, whose loyalty in citizenship was most marked and who ever held friendship inviolable.

---

### JOHN PLAIN.

Among the men whose depth of character, fidelity to principle and stalwart purpose in carrying out well defined plans have commanded for them the respect of their colleagues and the admiration of their contemporaries is numbered John Plain, the president of the German-American National Bank. In manner he is modest and unostentatious but the specific and distinctive province of biography is not to give voice to a man's estimate of himself and his accomplishments but rather to leave the record establishing his position through the consensus of public opinion.

Mr. Plain was born in Germany, January 17, 1830, and his parents, Peter and Elizabeth (Haubert) Plain, were also natives of that country. The father followed agricultural pursuits and John Plain was reared upon the home farm, his labors in the field being alternated with study in the public schools. In 1852 he determined to emigrate to the new world and, bidding adieu to friends and native land, he sailed for America, being at that time a young man of twenty-two years. After one year spent in Canada he removed to Aurora and worked for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company for six months, laying track from Aurora to Mendota. Early in life he manifested traits of character which have molded his destiny, chief among which were industry and adaptability. He was not only diligent but also economical and has never been afraid of work. At the end of six months in the railroad service he and his brother Jacob, who in the meantime had come from Germany and joined him in Aurora, purchased twenty-five acres of timber land in Big Woods and with youthful energy and unfaltering purpose began to clear away the trees and cultivate the fields. They sold the timber, burned the brush and grubbed up the stumps. As the result of hard work and exposure to inclement weather, John Plain contracted fever and ague, which was very prevalent in the county before the days of drainage. He then determined to remove to town and selling his interest in the land to his brother Jacob, he came to Aurora, where he invested his small capital in a stock of groceries and began business as a merchant on the west side. There he remained until 1857, when he sold out and came to the east side. At the new location he conducted a store for twenty years, carrying it on most successfully. He not only built up a reputation for an excellent line of goods and reasonable prices but also for irreproachable commercial integrity. As the years passed he advanced in business lines and his labors brought to him a very gratifying remuneration. After twenty years spent in the grocery trade on the east side

he turned his attention to the real-estate business, as he felt that he was entitled to at least a period of partial rest and desired to get away from the close confinement and strenuous labor necessary in mercantile lines. He had accumulated considerable money and in 1890 became associated with a number of other substantial citizens in organizing the German-American National Bank, of which he was the first vice-president. In 1893 he was elected to the presidency, which office he has since filled. The bank has had a most successful existence and is regarded as one of the solid financial institutions of this part of the state. Its prosperity is due in no small degree to the personal popularity, the good management, the executive ability and the administrative direction of Mr. Plain.

While always a public-spirited man, Mr. Plain has never been an office seeker but has done what he could for the welfare of the community and its development along substantial lines. Many instances of his active interest in the city might be mentioned but perhaps one will suffice. In early days he, with a number of others, realizing the need of a cemetery, found a suitable place, bought the land and improved it and remained in control until it was placed on a paying basis, when they turned it over to the city. It is today a beautiful cemetery, handsomely adorned with trees and flowers and well kept grass, and Mr. Plain is still serving on the board of directors. As his financial resources have increased he has invested from time to time in real-estate and now owns considerable property, but devotes most of his time to banking interests.

In 1857, in Aurora, occurred the marriage of Mr. Plain and Miss Susanna Lies, a native of Germany and a daughter of Nicholas Lies, who came from that country and purchased two hundred and ten acres of land in what is now the heart of Aurora, paying for the property with German gold. The tract is bounded by Claim, Ohio and Union streets and First avenue. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Plain were born twelve children.

Mr. Plain belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is a man of charitable spirit and kindly disposition, whose loyalty to his friends is one of his strong characteristics, while in his life he also manifests many of the sterling traits of his German ancestry. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to seek a home in America, for here he has found and improved good opportunities and has made steady progress in business lines, while he has constantly advanced in the respect and esteem entertained for him by those who know him.

---

#### ROY WILLIAM YOUNGS.

Living on a well improved and highly productive farm of two hundred and five acres at the edge of East Plato, which belongs to his father, and cultivating that and two hundred and thirty-five acres of additional land in partnership with one of his brothers, Roy William Youngs, has plenty to occupy his

time, engage all his energies and furnish him opportunity to contribute essentially to the development and improvement of the country around him.

He was born in Elgin township, Kane county, December 1, 1879. His father, William Henry Youngs, is a native of the state of New York, where he was educated and reared to the age of fifteen years, when he came with his parents to this county, and here he has ever since resided. He married Miss E. A. Webster, a native of New York, who came to Illinois with her parents. William H. Youngs is a cattle dealer in Elgin. Their son Roy has two brothers and one sister: Walter Charles, who is living on this farm; Grace, who is the wife of Mert Wahl; and Eddie W., who is also still a member of the parental household.

Roy William Youngs attended the district school near his home until he was sixteen, then returned to the farm and became for some years one of its regular workers. Since taking charge of it in connection with his brother, he has enlarged his operations by the addition of an active and enterprising dairy business which is supplied by the yield of his forty-five excellent Holstein cows. The brothers have seventy-five acres in corn, the same quantity in oats, and the rest of their land is devoted to hay and pasturage. The farm is in fine condition, with plenty of water and fruit, and under the skillful management of these brothers has become one of high value.

---

#### ALFRED JOHNSON.

Alfred Johnson, an enterprising farmer and dairyman of Campton township, where he owns and operates fifty-three acres of land, was born in Sweden, December 23, 1865, the son of John and Mary (Hanson) Anderson. Both parents were natives of Sweden, where the father served two years in the regular army and afterwards followed agricultural pursuits. He is now deceased. Religiously he was a member of the Lutheran church. Mr. Johnson has one sister, Josephine, the wife of John Anderson, a carpenter, residing in Sweden.

Alfred Johnson attended the district schools of Sweden until he was fourteen years of age, receiving the rudiments of a good education. He then left school to aid his father in the work of gaining a livelihood from the farm, remaining under the parental roof until he was twenty-two years of age, when he emigrated to America, where he secured work as a farm hand near Elburn. He followed this line of work for fourteen years, or up to the time of his marriage, when he rented a farm near Lily Lake, which he operated for eight years in succession. From his profits he was then able to purchase his present place, which is ideally situated only a few rods from Lily Lake and is one of the most attractive places in Kane county. It is well watered, and Mr. Johnson has set out a splendid young orchard, which will doubtless yield him a substantial income in the course of a few years. Mr. Johnson is now adding to the improvements a modern, nine-room cottage with cement basement and furnace heat which will greatly add to the attractiveness and utility of the place. The

success which has come to him has been well merited, resulting from his thrift and industry. In 1904 he visited his native land, remaining with his parents three months.

In 1901 Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Hulda Hansen, who was born in Sweden, April 12, 1863, and came to America with her brother. Her parents still reside in Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have become the parents of two children, of whom Ruth is deceased. Leonard was born May 15, 1899. In politics Mr. Johnson is a republican. Religiously he is a faithful and consistent member of the Lutheran church.

---

### HENRY B. DOUGLAS.

Henry B. Douglas, as the name would indicate, is of Scotch descent, his father having emigrated to this country from Dumfrees, Scotland, in 1834, as did six of his brothers and their father, who came to America and settled on a farm in Jackson county, Wisconsin, where he lived to be nearly ninety years of age. His wife, whose maiden name was Dalrymple, died in Scotland. His son John, the father of our subject, was educated for a physician in London, England. On coming to America he first settled at Constantine, Michigan, whence he came to Aurora in 1836. Quick to discern the resources of the fertile soil of this section he engaged in farming in Aurora township, two miles south of the city, where he acquired four hundred acres of land, which he improved and brought to a high state of cultivation. Here he remained until the time of his death, which occurred in 1852, when he was but forty-two years of age. In 1836 he wedded Caroline M. Bryan, of Geneseo county, New York, and two children were born of this union: Charles T., who died in 1890 from the effects of wounds received in the Civil war; and Henry B., of this review. Their mother died in 1887 at the age of sixty-eight years. Both parents were members of the Congregational church and the father was supervisor and highway commissioner in the early days. John Bryan, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was a contractor and builder. While living at Ypsilanti, Michigan, he secured the contract for building the old state house in Detroit. He finally settled in Michigan, and died there at an advanced age.

Henry B. Douglas was born in Aurora, Illinois, February 16, 1840. Deprived of the advantages of an early education, he was fourteen years of age when he first entered the public schools of Aurora, but that he then made up for lost time is evidenced by the fact that at the age of nineteen he successfully passed an examination for a teacher's certificate and entered upon the work of teaching school, having previously spent two years in Oberlin College. On leaving school he spent one summer in the office of a newspaper at Detroit, known as the Michigan Farmer, his duties being that of proof-reader and mailing clerk. He taught school the following winter at Big Rock, Illinois.

The year 1861 witnessed the outbreak of hostilities between the north and south and Mr. Douglas was among the first to rush to the defense of



the Union, enlisting in Company A Cavalry, attached to the Thirty-sixth Illinois Infantry. He served in the Union army for two years and three months, attaining to the rank of sergeant. He was in the Missouri campaign, including the battle of Pea Ridge, and made the famous march of over a thousand miles through Arkansas and Missouri and then went by boat up to the Tennessee river to Hamburg Landing, thence to Corinth, Tennessee. On the 19th of September, 1862, he participated in the battle of Iuka and was left in charge of the battlefield by General Rosencrans with instructions to bury the dead and gather up the government property. In October he engaged in the battle of Corinth, where he was on duty with the medical director of General Rosencrans' army and wrote up the official records of both battles. He was then detailed on duty at General Grant's headquarters in the engineering department. While at General Grant's headquarters he was captured and made a prisoner of war, but was paroled the same day—December 2, 1862—being sent by General Grant to Chicago, there to await an exchange of prisoners, the order written and signed by General Grant reading as follows:

“Headquarters Dept. of the Tennessee,

“Holly Springs, Miss., Dec. 2, 1862.

“Sgt. Douglas of Independent Cavalry attached to the 36th Regiment of Ill. Vols., a paroled prisoner of war, is authorized to go to Chicago to await his exchange, reporting by letter to the commanding officer at Benton Barracks, Missouri.

“U.S. Grant,

“Maj. Gen.”

In February, 1863, he was ordered by General Stanton, secretary of war, to go to Benton Barracks, Missouri, where he was made postmaster of the barracks and later made sergeant major of the barracks under Colonel B. L. E. Bonneville, one of the famous generals of the Indian wars. In August 1863, he rejoined his company at Port Hudson, Louisiana, and thence to New Orleans, where he was discharged for disability caused by injury from the fall of his horse. Early in 1864 he reentered the employ of the government in the engineering forces in New York harbor and was engaged in rebuilding the forts at Sandy Hook until the fall of 1866. Throughout the whole of his active career at this period of his life his thoughts ever recurred to the peace and tranquillity of his father's old homestead, and here he returned in the fall of 1866 and took up his permanent abode, dividing his time between his old home and the city of Aurora, but a short distance away.

His marriage occurred on the 11th day of March, 1873, when he wedded Miss Mary L. Brockway, daughter of Luri and Harriet (Stewart) Brockway, who died in 1900. In 1903 Mr. Douglas was united in marriage to Miss Lucinda Brockway. Both are members of the People's church.

Mr. Douglas has ever taken an active interest in civic affairs, having served one term as highway commissioner and for fifteen consecutive years was township assessor. In 1896 he removed from his country place to Aurora, his business interests being such as to require his presence there.

Here he was elected president of the Aurora Silver Plate Manufacturing Company, which office he still retains. The political support of Mr. Douglas has ever been given to the republican party, he having cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln for his second term as president of the United States. In 1905 he was elected mayor of Aurora, serving in this capacity for the regular term of two years. That his judgment has ever been well balanced has been proven by the success of his business ventures, and while naturally reserved, he is thoroughly appreciated by those who have been intimately associated with him as a warm hearted, dependable friend and one whose counsel is well worth heeding.

---

#### ARCHER BYRON PHELPS.

Throughout his active business life Archer B. Phelps has been identified with agricultural pursuits and now owns and operates a fine farm in Kaneville township. He is a native of the Empire state, born on the 11th of February, 1845, in Chenango county, New York, which was also the birthplace of his father, Pliny M. Phelps. In 1861 the latter brought his family to Illinois and located near Kaneville in Kane county, where he purchased two hundred and eighty acres of land, making his home thereon until his death, which occurred in 1868. He made farming his life occupation. In early manhood he married Miss Almira White, who was born and reared in the same locality as her husband, and she still survives him, living with a son in Geneva, Illinois, at the advanced age of ninety years. To this worthy couple were born eight children, namely: Arthur B., of this review; Herbert, Lyman and Estella, all deceased; Agnes, the wife of Charles Dodd, who is engaged in farming in Kaneville township; George P., a resident of Chicago, where he is employed in a machine shop; John G., who holds a government position in Geneva, Illinois; and Ella, the wife of F. W. Godding, who is American consul at Australia.

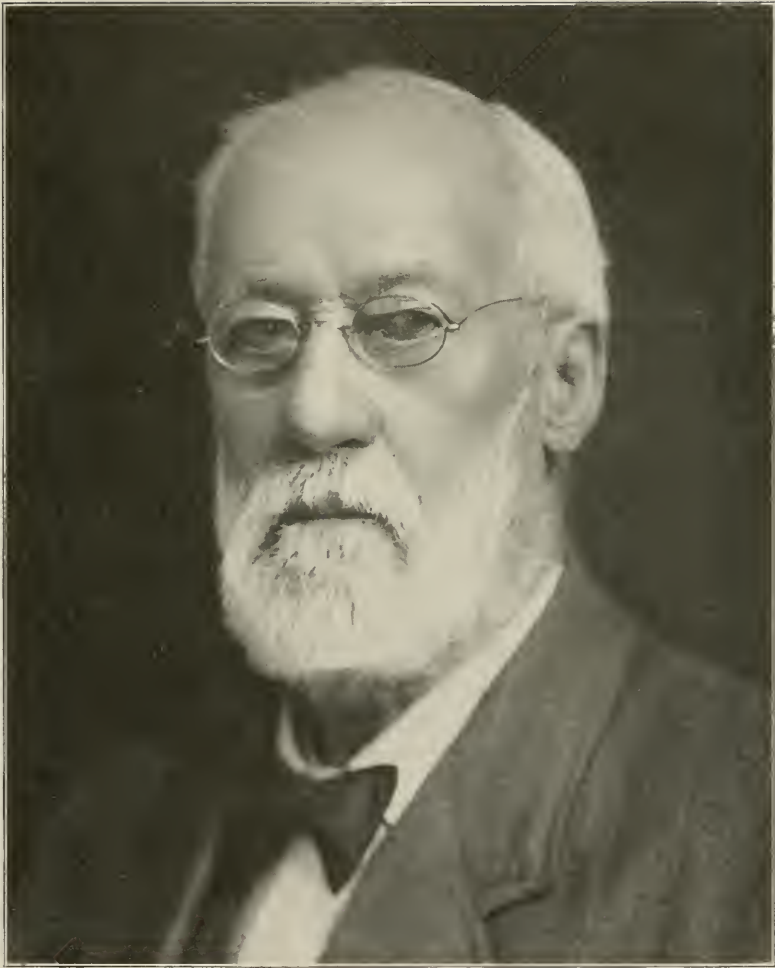
Arthur B. Phelps began his education in the district schools of New York and after the removal of the family to this state he continued his studies in the schools of Kane county until twenty years of age. In the meantime he also became familiar with all the duties and labors which fall to the lot of the farmer, so that on starting out in life for himself he was well qualified to engage in agricultural pursuits. At the age of twenty-four years he assumed the management of the home farm and successfully engaged in its operation for a few years. He is now the owner of an excellent farm of two hundred and thirty acres, which he has converted into an ideal stock farm, well equipped with all the accessories needed for that business. It has an abundance of shade trees, is well watered and improved with good and substantial buildings. Everything about the place denotes the thrift and enterprise of the owner, who is recognized as one of the leading farmers and stock raisers of his community. He is interested in dairying and also fattens two carloads of steers and three carloads of hogs for market annually.

In 1869 Mr. Phelps married Miss Maria E. Hartwell, who was also born in New York and came to Illinois in the early '40s, settling near Kaneville, and they have become the parents of the following children: P. L., who follows farming in Kaneville township; A. Lee, deceased; Jennie, the wife of George Dauberman, a farmer living near Kaneville; Alice, the wife of Irvin Wickizer, who is also a farmer of Kaneville township; Earl W., at home with his parents, and Clinton, who is a farmer of Sugar Grove township. The family is one of prominence in the community where they reside, and in politics Mr. Phelps is an ardent republican, taking a commendable interest in public affairs.

---

### JOHN HENRY PEASE.

There are a few names which constitute a centralizing point, around which are gathered the facts that form the early history of Kane county. In those days when the county was in the period of its formative development Anson Pease and his family became residents of this section of the state. His son, John H. Pease, was born in Ohio, August 8, 1834, but during his infancy was taken to Herkimer county, New York, by his parents, Anson and Sarah Ann (Johnson) Pease. Their sojourn in New York was of very brief duration, and thence they came to Illinois, making the journey from Detroit by wagon. The pioneer home of the family was a log cabin, situated between Aurora and North Aurora. The father operated a sawmill at what was called Schneyders Den, and later the family lived in a frame house where the American Wells Works now stand. The site of the Burlington shops was then a marsh, and Mr. Pease, of this review, often shot ducks from a boat where is now seen the Spring street viaduct. The father continued a resident of Kane county until his death, which occurred some years ago, when he had reached the age of fifty years. His wife survived him and died at the age of ninety-six. When the Pease family arrived, the McCartys were, perhaps, the only family living here. The Indians, however, were numerous and among them was old Shabbona, the chief for whom settlers frequently took up collections, thus giving him considerable sums of money. The old Indian burying-ground was located at the west side of the river near the Bishop farm. Early visitors to the town patronized a hotel conducted by Mr. Huntoon. Dr. Eastman administered to the sick, Mr. Plum supplied the townsmen with merchandise, and Mr. Day was among the first to try law cases here. At one time in the early '40s the county was infested with horse thieves, but the law-abiding citizens took matters into their own hands and soon the district was rid of its lawbreakers. The old Frink & Walker stage coaches made trips from Chicago to Galena, and at Aurora forded the river near Benton street. It was sometime afterward that the first bridge was built at Main street. When the Pease family wished to go to Chicago they drove to the town and it required an entire day to make the journey. In his boyhood John H. Pease frequently skated over districts that are now



JOHN H. PEASE





built up with fine homes. His education was acquired in the public schools. The first school was situated on the Lincoln Park site, and the school teacher was Mrs. Fay. When he had mastered the branches of learning taught in the district schools he entered upon his business career, being employed as clerk in a grocery store. Later he served the same employer in a dry goods store, and finally became his partner, investing a capital of six hundred dollars. This business was conducted in an old wooden building, which stood where the Aurora National Bank is now seen, at the corner of Broadway and Main streets. Later Mr. Pease became vice-president of the First National bank, and for twenty years was one of its stockholders. In the early days of his merchandising experience he carried a general line of goods but afterward confined his attention exclusively to dry goods. The partnership continued for twenty years and the store was situated at No. 24 South Broadway. Mr. Pease long figured as one of the most prominent, enterprising and progressive merchants of the city, and has always been a business man in whom the general public has manifested the utmost confidence. He was connected with the first electric light works in the world and he is still a large stockholder in the Richards Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of house and barn door hangers, and small devices made of iron. In business affairs he has always had keen judgment and excellent executive ability, and the success that he has accomplished is well merited.

On the 1st of January, 1866, Mr. Pease was married to Miss Helen Mar Forsyth. They became the parents of three children: Charles Henry, who was born September, 1867, but is now deceased; Grace P., born December 3, 1871; and Edwin A., who married Clara Dunlap, of Galesburg, Illinois, and is now a resident of Aurora.

Mr. Pease belongs to Jerusalem Temple Lodge, No. 90, A. F. & A. M., with which he has been connected from the age of twenty-one years. He has also taken the degree in the chapter and commandery, and throughout his entire life has been loyal to the teachings of Masonry. Though not a member of any church he has been a large contributor thereto and is a man of most charitable and philanthropical purpose. Spending practically his entire life in Kane county, his history is as an open book which all may read. His life has been most honorable and upright in its varied relations, and his fellow citizens instinctively pay deference to him because of what he has accomplished and the principles which have governed his conduct in every relation.

---

#### LEWIS WILDER.

Lewis Wilder was born August 28, 1843, on what has since been known as the Wilder homestead, situated on North Lake street in Aurora. The father, Clark Wilder, was a native of St. Lawrence county, New York, where his birth occurred October 4, 1801. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Hannah Spencer Lord, was born in Lynn, New London county, Connecticut, October 17, 1810, and in 1830 removed to New York, where she gave her

hand in marriage to Clark Wilder in February, 1833. The parents came west in 1837, bringing with them their two sons and a daughter, George, Bert and Mary, and making the journey from New York to Kane county, Illinois, in a covered wagon. Mrs. Clark Wilder had lived near the banks of the Connecticut river and saw the first steamboat that ever went up that stream. In order to make their westward journey, she and her husband and three children first crossed the St. Lawrence river to Brockville, Canada, traveled through that country by wagon and crossed by boat to Michigan. Thence they came by wagon to Chicago and on to Aurora, the trip consuming four weeks. Their furniture had been shipped by boat around the lakes and was two weeks longer in reaching the destination than they were. At that time there were only three families on the west side of the river—those of 'Squire King, a blacksmith, Theodore Lake and Mr. Palmer. Lake and Galena streets were then country roads leading from the village. There were twelve or fifteen families on the east side of the river, among whom were those of Isaac Marlett, who conducted a hotel near where the Burlington depot now stands; Samuel McCarty, who then conducted a flour and sawmill, and Mr. Stolp, who was running a carding machine. The families of George McCollum and R. W. Gates came in the following August, and the next year the town grew considerably. The claim to the land was sold several times before Clark Wilder purchased one hundred and ninety acres at a cost of \$2,000. The Indians had just at that time been removed by the government to Iowa, old Chief Shabbona and his family, who were permitted to remain on account of their friendliness to the whites, being about the only redskins left. Missionaries occasionally held service and preached in a shanty on the east side of the river. After a few years the Methodists and Congregationalists built small churches, and several years later the Episcopalians built the first church on the west side. For a few years Mr. Wilder did his trading in Chicago, going to the city with a load of grain or pork or sometimes both, and bringing back provisions. The trip usually took three days. The railroad to Aurora was not finished until 1850 and the following year it was extended southwest, which was the first evidence that the town had experienced an active and permanent growth. On arriving in this county, Clark Wilder purchased from Isaac Marlett a farm of one hundred and sixty acres located on the west bank of the Fox river, where he built a log cabin and, possessing the sturdy characteristics of the pioneer, resolutely took up his farming interests. Subsequently he bought an additional tract of thirty acres on the opposite side of the river and in 1848 erected a fine stone house, into which he moved his family. This residence has eleven rooms and was built of stone quarried on his farm, the lime used in laying the stone being made from cobblestones which he gathered and burned. At the time of the erection of this house it was considered to be the finest in Kane county. Clark Wilder was a man of much force of character and an honored citizen of the community in which he lived, being highly esteemed by his neighbors for his great benevolence and many other excellent traits of heart and mind. His wife passed away on the 12th of March, 1901, just six days before the demise of her daughter, Emeline. Hers had been a long and useful career and, like

her husband, she had won the regard and friendship of all with whom she was associated.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Clark Wilder were born the following children: George, born December 14, 1833, who is now county surveyor of Kane county, making his home in Aurora; Bert, who was born July 26, 1835, and now lives in Perry, Iowa; Mary, whose birth occurred March 3, 1837, and who is now the widow of Peter Lossing, occupying the old stone mansion which was so long the home of her parents; Joel, who passed away when but eleven months old; Emeline, born March 29, 1840, who became the wife of Fred Hotz and passed away March 8, 1901; Wallace, born October 21, 1841, who served in the Civil war for three years and died in Baltimore in 1865, from the effects of disease contracted in Andersonville prison; Lewis, of this review: Joel M., whose natal day was March 7, 1846, and who is an agriculturist of Yates Center, Kansas; Amelia, whose demise occurred when she was eighteen months old, and Frank C., born May 23, 1850, who was killed in a runaway accident when in his twentieth year. These children attended school in a little frame building on North Lake street, where Mrs. Allaire now resides, and later became students in the Oak street school.

Lewis Wilder enlisted for service in the Union army as a member of Company B, One Hundred and Fifty-sixth Regiment, and was honorably discharged on the 21st of September, 1865. He was formerly actively and successfully connected with agricultural interests but is now living retired in a commodious and attractive residence at the intersection of North Lake street and Illinois avenue, standing upon a part of the old Wilder homestead. Here he owns ten acres of very desirable residence property, valued at \$1,500 per acre. It has a large frontage on the Aurora & Elgin electric line. He also owns another tract of very valuable land of seventeen and a half acres, a portion of which is located in the West Aurora Driving Park.

On the 21st of December, 1870, Mr. Wilder was united in marriage to Miss Flora M. Slater, whose birth occurred in Sugar Grove township, Kane county, July 5, 1852. Her parents were Isaac B. and Harriet (Horton) Slater. The father was born in Slaterville, Tompkins county, New York, October 15, 1820, and when sixteen years of age came from Cortland, New York, to Kane county. The mother, whose birth occurred in Pennsylvania, February 25, 1828, came to Kane county when quite young, and on the 28th of January, 1847, gave her hand in marriage to Isaac B. Slater. The latter was a carpenter by occupation and also carried on farming for a few years prior to his death, which occurred December 28, 1889, his wife having passed away April 26, 1865. Their children, in addition to Mrs. Wilder, were Arthur B., Edgar L. and Arthur, all of whom are now deceased. The wife of our subject was educated in the Sugar Grove Normal and Industrial School. By her marriage she has become the mother of two daughters, namely: May E., born January 1, 1875, who is a graduate of the West Aurora high school; and Edith, whose birth occurred May 11, 1883, and who is the wife of George Chalker of Aurora.

In his political views Mr. Wilder is a republican, but is not actively interested in politics, being of a retiring disposition and preferring a quiet



home life to the glamor of publicity. He and his wife are highly esteemed throughout the county in which they have spent their entire lives and are numbered among its most prosperous and best known residents.

---

#### GRANBY S. CASE.

Granby S. Case is a native of New York, having been born at Delhi, Delaware county, on the 20th day of March, 1842, and was sixteen years of age when his parents removed to Illinois. His father, David B. Case, was a merchant in Delhi, New York, for a number of years. In 1850 he moved to Stamford, New York, where he engaged in the hotel business. In 1858 he came to Illinois and settled on a farm in Oswego township, Kendall county, where he lived for several years, removing thence to Chebanse, Iroquois county, where he died in 1873, aged nearly seventy years. His wife was Anzolette (Frisbee) Case. Seven children were born of this union, six sons and one daughter, Anzolette, who was named after her mother and who is now the wife of G. H. Teller, of Denver, Colorado. The parents were members of the Congregational church. The paternal grandfather of our subject was Roger Case, who served in the Revolutionary war and was a native of Connecticut. He removed to New York and lived retired most of the time, being at one time sheriff of Delaware county. He lived to a ripe old age and was the father of a number of children. The Frisbee family trace their ancestry back to the first settlers of the new world, the name of Edward Frisbee (who spelled his name Frisbie) being on the list of names entered for lots at Branford, Connecticut, under date of December 15, 1645. Gideon Frisbee, the maternal grandfather of our subject and a direct descendant of Edward Frisbie, was born December 3, 1783, and died April 25, 1857, aged over seventy-three years. He married Freelove Fisk, who was born in 1780, and died October 26, 1857. They had six children: Angeline Marilla; Anzolette Emeline, the mother of our subject; George Milton; Milton; Porter, and Philip.

Granby S. Case derived his early education from the public schools of Delhi. He came west with his parents in 1858 and lived on the farm in Oswego township, Kendall county, Illinois, until in August, 1862, when he enlisted in Company A, One Hundred Twenty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served as private for a little over two years. He was in the first attack on Vicksburg, in the battles of Arkansas Post, the siege and assault of Vicksburg, the battles of Missionary Ridge, Resaca, Dallas and many smaller engagements. On the 27th day of June, 1864, while participating in the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, he was severely wounded, a ball striking him in the left arm and passing through his body. Because of this wound he was honorably discharged from the service and returned to Aurora, where he has lived ever since. For many years, and indeed until quite recently, he was employed in the building department of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad shops.

On the 2d day of November, 1865, was celebrated the marriage of Granby S. Case and Miss Lida E. Thomas, daughter of Josiah S. and Miriam M. (Randall) Thomas. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Case was Samuel Thomas, a native of Sandgate, Vermont, where he resided on a farm. Mr. Thomas was of Welsh descent. His wife was Miriam (Sherman) Thomas. The maternal grandfather was Walter Randall, also a native of Vermont, and his wife was Eunice (Sherman) Randall. They had six children, namely: Flora Sophia, Evi Sherman, Miriam Maria, Rhoda Ann, Murray Nichols and Walter Beach. Josiah S. Thomas, the father of Mrs. Case, brought his family from Manchester, Vermont, to Illinois in 1861, and settled in Aurora, the present home having been in the family for nearly fifty years. In December, 1861, he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died shortly after his arrival here. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Thomas were born four daughters: Rosalie, who died at the age of thirteen years; Lida E., wife of our subject; Clarissa A., wife of William B. Wilson, of Vallejo, California; and Nettie, who died at the age of four years.

Mr. and Mrs. Granby S. Case have become the parents of five children, namely: Nettie M., Clara A., Charles F., J. Sherman and George S. Nettie M. died at the age of fifteen years, seven months and twenty-six days. Clara A. became the wife of B. J. Watkins, a resident of Malone, New York, and they have three children, Ortensia S., Clara and Bert. Charles F., employed in the shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, married Etta M. Cornell, who died May 5, 1907. There were four children born to this union, Harry S., Etta M., Nettie A. and Charles G. On the 10th day of June, 1908, Charles F. married for his second wife Miss Mabel E. Wade. J. Sherman died at the age of fourteen months and seventeen days. George S. is also an employe in the shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. His wife was Miss May Gable.

The political support of Granby S. Case has ever been given to the republican party, the principles of which have found in him a strong advocate. Fraternally he belongs to the Grand Army Post, No. 20, over which organization he presided as commander in 1907.

---

#### ERNEST HANSON.

Ernest Hanson, a successful farmer and stock-raiser of Kaneville township, was born in Smoland, Sweden, July 12, 1873, the son of Hans and Alice (Carlson) Hanson. He is one of five children, of whom Selma is married; Albert resides in Sweden, and Jennie and Ellen reside at home with their parents. Both parents are natives of Sweden, where the father served the prescribed time in the regular army. After his retirement from army service he engaged in farming. The mother came to America in 1878 and remained three years, then returned to Sweden, where she and her husband still reside. The father is a member of the Lutheran church.

Ernest Hanson attended the district schools in Sweden until he was thirteen years of age, after which time he aided his father in the work of the farm until he was twenty. In 1893 he came to America and located at Sugar Grove, where he secured a position as farm hand. Here he remained for ten years, then located in Chicago, where he secured employment in the machine shops for a time but his inclinations ever favored the country and he again returned to the farm near Kaneville and resumed his former duties as farm hand. He saved his earnings with the ultimate object of engaging in farming in his own interests, and this he was eventually enabled to do. In addition to general farming he also raises stock and ships on an average about three carloads of hogs annually.

In 1904 was celebrated the marriage of Ernest Hanson and Miss Anna Johnson, who was born in Sweden, September 9, 1881, and came to America when she was twenty years of age. They have become the parents of one daughter, Thelma E.

In politics Mr. Hanson is a republican. Socially he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. Religiously he is a member of the Lutheran church. Mr. Hanson has never regretted his emigration to America, as he appreciates the fact that the opportunities for advancement here are almost unlimited, and the excellent start he has already attained in life bids fair to place him in a position of independence and comfort in the course of a few years' time.

---

#### E. W. THOMPSON.

The history of a country is no longer a record of wars and conquests, for its annals contain the story of conquest over mind and matter and not over man. Those who figure prominently in the community are the men who control its business affairs and in this connection E. W. Thompson is well known, being president of the Thompson Transfer & Storage Company, which he organized in 1896.

Mr. Thompson was born in Dorset, Vermont, June 7, 1845, a son of John and Julia Ann (Colson) Thompson, both of whom were natives of the Green Mountain state. The mother was born in Dorset, but the father's birth occurred in Grafton in 1814. He remained in Vermont through the period of his youth and until after his marriage and in 1845 he brought his family to the Middle West, settling in Kane county, Illinois, upon a farm in Sugar Grove township. There he purchased one hundred and twenty-five acres of land, to which he added until the place comprised one hundred and fifty-five acres. Year after year he cultivated the property, bringing it under a high state of development and thus his time passed in the active and honorable pursuits of the farm until he was called to his final rest in 1892. His political allegiance was given to the republican party and he rendered to it stalwart aid and unflinching allegiance. For twenty-five years he was justice of the peace and his decisions were strictly fair and impartial. He was also highway

commissioner, township collector and assessor, serving in the different positions for several terms and at all times proving most loyal to the trust reposed in him. He was a delegate to various county conventions and his efforts in behalf of his party were far-reaching and effective. His life was in harmony with his professions as a member of the Methodist church and at all times he enjoyed and merited the confidence and good will of those with whom he was associated. Unto him and his wife were born five sons and one daughter, but three of the number died in infancy. The brother of our subject is B. H. Thompson, who is now a resident of Aurora.

E. W. Thompson was educated in the common schools of Sugar Grove township and in Bryant & Stratton Business College, where he pursued a commercial course. During the summer months and other periods of vacation Mr. Thompson worked upon the home farm and early became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. After completing his education he operated the home farm for his father on shares, living at that time in the town of Sugar Grove, where he resided for several years, conducting a coal and lumber business there. In 1890 he removed to Aurora, where he engaged in the livery business and in 1892 his success was so great as to justify his branching out in other lines. He therefore took up the drayage business and it was but a logical step to the storage business, with which he became associated in 1894. He, at that time, secured a vacant blacksmith shop and started out in the line designated but he did not receive the patronage he had hoped to secure and was obliged to give it up. He afterward rented another building, tried again and was successful and his present extensive storage business is the result. In 1896 he organized the Thompson Transfer & Storage Company, which has since conducted an extensive business. They have erected large buildings on the west side and the enterprise is proving quite profitable. Mr. Thompson is a very active and energetic business man, who is constantly watchful of opportunities pointing to success, while the methods he has followed in all of his business transactions have commended him to the confidence and support of the general public. His son, Clarence, and his brother, B. H. Thompson, are associated with him in business.

In 1866 Mr. Thompson was married to Miss Mary E. Paull, a daughter of Stephen G. Paull, who came from Ohio and settled in Sugar Grove township, Kane county, Illinois, in 1842. That the country was then largely wild and undeveloped is indicated by the fact that he purchased his home farm of four hundred acres from the government. Not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made upon the place, but with characteristic energy he began its development and soon transformed it into rich fields that annually brought forth bounteous harvests.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have been born two children: Clarence S., who is now associated with his father in business; and John Paull, who was born in 1874 and died in 1895. He was a very popular and promising young man and his death was the occasion of the deepest regret to all who knew him.



Mr. Thompson is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, with the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Yeomen of America. He also belongs to the People's church and is interested in all that pertains to the material, intellectual, political and moral welfare of the community. He has never been an office seeker and, in fact, has always refused to accept positions of political preferment, desiring rather to concentrate his energies in undivided manner upon his business pursuits, whereby he is rapidly forging his way to the front as one of the prosperous residents of Aurora.

---

### STEWART G. WILKINSON.

This gentleman, who is now a prosperous tiller of the soil, with a well-improved farm of fifty-eight acres in section 10, Sugar Grove township, is an apt illustration of the versatility of the American mind and the adaptability to various occupations of the American citizen. He passed the early years of his manhood as a mechanic, making a good record and winning a high reputation in that capacity, and he is now equally successful and prosperous as a farmer.

Mr. Wilkinson was born on a farm near Yankton, South Dakota, January 30, 1871, a son of Josiah and Josephine (Goodroad) Wilkinson, the former a native of Kane county, Illinois, born near Elburn in 1842, and the latter a native of Michigan. They were married in 1869 and immediately moved to the vicinity of Yankton, South Dakota, where they took up a government claim of one hundred and sixty acres. The father died in Aurora in 1894, leaving his widow with a family of eleven children to rear and educate. She entered upon her duty in this respect with fortitude and resolute determination, and she performed it with great credit to herself and benefit to her children. Those who are living are: Sherman A., a resident of Aurora, Illinois; Stewart G., the subject of this sketch; Malinda, wife of Robert Briggs, who is also a resident of Aurora; Nettie, the wife of Edward Newton, of Madison, South Dakota; Eva M., the wife of John Ellis, of Madison, South Dakota; and Lewis S.; Clara, the wife of Bert Cole; and Floyd, all residents of Madison, South Dakota. Another daughter named Clara died at the age of three years, and one named Adeline died when she was twelve. Their mother is still living on the South Dakota farm and has her daughter and son-in-law, Mrs. and Mr. Newton, living with her.

The paternal grandfather of these children, Robert Wilkinson, was born and reared in Newcastle, Pennsylvania, and came to Kane county, Illinois, in the early '50s. Here he passed the remainder of his days, dying in 1897. He was an esteemed pioneer in this county and wrought with earnestness and zeal in helping to conquer the wilderness and lay the foundations of the future in the early days of trial and privation.

When Stewart G. Wilkinson was three years old his parents moved to Boonville, Iowa, where his father was a section boss for four years on the



STEWART G. WILKINSON



Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. At the end of the period named the family moved to Bald Mound in this county, where the father worked three years in a cheese factory. He then secured employment as a machinist in the shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad at Aurora, and the family found a home in that city, the father continuing in the employ of the railroad company until his death in 1894. He was a soldier during three years and a half of the Civil war, being enrolled as a member of the Sixty-fifth Illinois Volunteers.

The son began his education in the public schools and finished it at the Brady school in Aurora, which he attended six years. After leaving school he learned the tinner's trade and passed three years in journeyman work for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, then two years in the same capacity in the shop of Henry Ryan, a hardware dealer, and the next eight in a similar employment under F. B. Rice, who had a hardware store on the island. In the autumn of 1894 he bought the farm of fifty-eight acres on which he now lives.

On June 29, 1893, Mr. Wilkinson was married to Miss Clara Matter, of Aurora, where her father, Isaac Matter, is still living. They have one child, Lester Ray, who was born January 1, 1898, and now attends school and assists his father on the farm. His mother died February 14, 1901, and on January 3, 1902, the father married Miss Jennie Cole, of Petersburg, Michigan, who died January 14, 1905. Politically Mr. Wilkinson is a republican. In religious faith he is a Methodist, being a member and regular attendant of the Galena street Methodist church in Aurora. He has had many troubles, trials and bereavements, but he has met them all with a manly spirit and a courage that knows no defeat. He is a good citizen and well worthy of the high esteem in which he is held.

---

#### EDMUND W. THATCHER.

Throughout his entire life Edmund W. Thatcher was closely identified with agricultural pursuits and for many years owned and operated a fine farm of two hundred acres in Virgil township, Kane county. His early home was in the east, for he was born near Ithaca, in Enfield, Tompkins county, New York, April 1, 1818, being of the third generation born in the same house. There occurred the birth of his grandfather, Edmund Thatcher, on the 3d of April, 1762, and his father, Daniel Thatcher, was born there September 26, 1797. All made farming their occupation. The grandfather married Gertrude Hull, who was born in June, 1767, and they became the parents of Daniel Thatcher, who spent his entire life in New York. His wife bore the maiden name of Eunice Mellen and was born on the 29th of March, 1800. They had a family of nine children.

Of this number our subject was the only one to come west. It was about 1854 that he became a resident of Kane county, Illinois, and purchased a farm in Virgil township, on which he continued to make his home through-



out the remainder of his life. He carried on general farming with marked success.

On the 17th of January, 1843, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Thatcher and Miss Adelia Van Vlack, of Ithaca, Tompkins county, New York, and to them were born the following children: Delphine, who is now the wife of Charles Coburn, of Elgin, and has four children, Lois May, Roy, Jennie and Golda Lucy; Mary Helen, who was born January 17, 1846, and died September 4, 1848; Frank, a resident of Virgil township, who married Anna Snook and has three children, Ada Winnifred, Edmund L. and Clara L.; Elbert, who wedded Mary E. Wright and lives in Elgin; Jennie, now the wife of Frank Downing, of Maple Park; Almon Homer, who was born July 11, 1855, and died at the age of fourteen months; Daniel Homer, of Elgin, who married Minnie McCarthy and has one child, Helen; Cora Irene, a resident of Elgin; and Dewitt, of St. Charles, who married Mabel Powers and has one child, Dewitt W. The family now have a pleasant home on Ryerson avenue, Elgin.

Mr. Thatcher died on the old home farm in Virgil township, August 26, 1890, and thus passed away one of the honored and highly esteemed citizens of the community, for he was widely and favorably known, and those who knew him best were numbered among his warmest friends. He was called upon to fill many offices of trust in his locality, and as school trustee and director did much to advance the educational interests. The republican party found in him a staunch supporter of its principles, and he ever took a deep interest in public affairs.

---

#### JOHN C. NELSON.

John C. Nelson, who owns extensive farming and dairy interests in Campton township, was born in Denmark, September 20, 1873, the son of Nels Christian and Johanna M. (Christensen) Nelson, both of whom were born in his native land, where the mother still resides, the father having been called to his eternal rest. He was a farmer by occupation, and religiously was a member of the Lutheran church. Three children were born to their union, namely: Nels, a carpenter, residing in Denmark; Christian, who resides in the fatherland; and John C., of this review.

John C. Nelson attended the district school of Denmark until fourteen years of age, at which time he quit school in order to devote his entire time to the work of his father's farm. He remained under the parental roof until nineteen years of age, when he came to America, locating first in Chicago, where he obtained employment in a cement factory. Leaving Chicago he located in Elburn, where he secured a position as a farm hand, an occupation which he continued to follow for the next three years, during which time he had saved a sufficient amount to engage in farming in his own interests. He at first rented a place which he operated for some time with marked success, and later realized his ambition in securing title to his present beautiful

home, consisting of one hundred seventy-eight and a half acres, located two miles north of Lily Lake. The farm is splendidly arranged for the conduct of the dairy business, fifty-three and a half acres of it being devoted to pasturage, while this year Mr. Nelson planted eighty acres of it in corn; thirty in oats, and fifteen in hay. The estimated value of the improvements on the place is about six thousand dollars. The dairy herd consists of forty cows.

On the 23d of February, 1896, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Nelson and Miss Mary Oleson, who was born in Denmark, June 21, 1878. They have become the parents of five children, namely: Johanna Mary, born May 24, 1897; Jensen Christina, born August 18, 1899; Nels C., born January 9, 1902; Jens M., born November 28, 1905; and Demi V., born February 4, 1908.

Politically Mr. Nelson is a republican but he has never made politics the ruling spirit of his life, preferring to give his entire time and attention to his farming interests. The cause of education finds in him a warm champion, and he is now school director in his district, serving in the capacity of president of the board. The school is located about half a mile from his residence. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Lutheran church.

---

### JOHN ALBERT VOLSTORFF.

John Albert Volstorff, a retired agriculturist residing in Elburn, was born in the province of Pommern, Germany, December 1, 1849. When sixteen years of age he made his way to the new world, locating at Elgin, Illinois, where for five years he was employed as a farm hand. He subsequently removed to Edwards county, Kansas, but in December, 1888, returned to Elburn. By dint of close economy and careful expenditure he was at length enabled to purchase two hundred and eighty acres of land, which he brought under a high state of cultivation and improvement and which still returns to him a gratifying annual income. He bought the place from L. R. Reed and has in his possession the deed which was issued to that gentleman by James K. Polk and J. Knox Walker. The prosperity that now enables him to live retired is entirely the result of his own well-directed labor and unremitting diligence, for he had no outside aid when he began the struggle for a livelihood in a new country amid strange surroundings.

Mr. Volstorff was united in marriage to Miss Johanna Holtz, also a native of the province of Pommern. The record of their children is as follows: Marie, deceased; August, a tea and coffee salesman of Aurora; Anna, the wife of George Bartlett, an agriculturist of Elburn; John, who is proprietor of a grocery and meat market in Elburn; Heinrich, who follows farming in Elburn; Wilhelmina, who resides with her brother on a farm near Elburn; Henrietta, who likewise makes her home at Elburn, Illinois; and Carl, who has passed away.

In his political views Mr. Volstorff is a republican, and is a very prominent and active member of the Lutheran church, in the work of which he is helpfully interested. He is thoroughly honest and it is a widely recognized fact that his word is as good as any bond ever solemnized by signature or seal. The hope that led him to leave his native land and seek a home in America has been more than realized. He found the opportunities he sought—which, by the way, are always open to the ambitious, energetic man—and making the best of these he has steadily worked his way upward. He possesses the resolution, perseverance and reliability so characteristic of his nation, and his name is now enrolled among the best citizens of Kane county.

---

### JACOB SALFISBERG.

Jacob Salfisberg, a retired business man of Aurora, was born in Canton Berne, Switzerland, March 25, 1834, the son of Johannes and Mary (Salfisberg) Salfisberg. His paternal grandfather was John Salfisberg, a farmer in Switzerland, who died there at an advanced age. He was the father of three sons. His maternal grandfather was Hans Salfisberg, also a farmer of Switzerland, who lived to be over seventy years of age. Johannes Salfisberg, the father of our subject, was a soldier in Switzerland in 1845. In 1854 he brought his family to America and settled at Oswego, Kendall county, Illinois, where he died, at the age of fifty years. His wife survived him, living to be seventy-six years of age. Both were members of the Presbyterian church. They were the parents of ten children, seven sons and three daughters, six of whom are now living, namely: Jacob, of this review; Anna, wife of Thomas Hunt, of DuPage county, Illinois; Samuel and Rudolph, of Aurora; Adam, of Kendall county; and Mary, widow of Hugh Kennedy, now living in Montgomery.

Jacob Salfisberg was reared in Switzerland and received his education there. At the age of seventeen years he began learning the miller's trade, and, coming to America with his father at the age of twenty years, he continued to follow this trade at Oswego, Illinois, for the succeeding five years. In 1860 he removed to Aurora and went into the lime business, remaining here for eight years, when he removed to Naperville and bought a stone quarry, which he ran for nearly twenty-three years. He then sold out and returned to Aurora in 1890, since which time he has lived retired.

In 1859 was celebrated the marriage of Jacob Salfisberg and Miss Anna Salfisberg, daughter of Jacob and Anna (Ramon) Salfisberg. Mrs. Salfisberg was born in Canton Berne, Switzerland, and came to America with her mother in 1852, her father having come to this country about 1850. They first settled in Oswego, Illinois, but afterward removed to Long Grove, near Yorkville, where they spent the remainder of their days. Mrs. Salfisberg's paternal grandfather was John Salfisberg, and her maternal grandfather was John Ramon. They died at an old age.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Salfsberg were born ten children, five sons and five daughters, namely: Emma, Amanda, Charles A., Eda, Anna, Jacob E., Edwin A., Frank O., Maude M., and Frederick, who was the first born and died in early childhood. Emma married John Nicholas and is deceased. They had two sons, John and Frank. Amanda married William C. Daniels, a resident of Oak Park, Chicago, and they have one daughter, Viola May. Charles A., a resident of Aurora, married Clara Bell Hair and they have six children living, Le Roy, Grace, Nellie, Robert, Philip and Clara. Eda married Thomas H. Harding, of Aurora, and they have one son, Donald J. Anna married Richard W. Hair, and two children were born of this union, Ralph and Flossie Fern. Anna's second husband is Frank Miles. Jacob E. is a contractor, married Evalyn Callinan, and they have one son, Jack Elmer. He belongs to Aurora Lodge, No. 254, A. F. & A. M.; Aurora Chapter 22, R. A. M.; Aurora Commandery, No. 22, K. T., and Medinah Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He also belongs to the Odd Fellows, the Elks, the Eagles and the T. P. A.

While never a politician in the sense of office seeking, Mr. Salfsberg has ever taken an active interest in local affairs wherever he has been a resident, and at one time was an alderman in Naperville. He is at the present time a stockholder in the Aurora National Bank and can always be relied upon to sanction any movement that is designed for the public welfare and public safety. Fraternally he belongs to Jerusalem Temple Lodge, No. 90, A. F. & A. M., and also the chapter and is a member of Aurora Commandery, No. 22, K. T.

---

#### GEORGE A. BROPHY.

George A. Brophy, who is pleasantly located on a well improved, productive farm situated two miles north from Lily Lake and twelve miles southwest from Elgin, is a native of Kane county, having been born in Elgin, October 17, 1851, the son of William and Amelia (Cleveland) Brophy. The paternal grandfather emigrated from Ireland to Canada, where the father of our subject, William Brophy, was born in 1818. He learned the carpenter trade, and in 1843 went to Chicago, where he worked at his trade for three years. Discontinuing this work he then engaged in operating boats on the Illinois canal, putting in two years at this work. He was then seized with the gold fever and in 1852 he went to California, where he followed gold mining for four years, meeting with unusual success in this venture, so that on his return to the "states" he was able to purchase the farm in Kane county now occupied by our subject, consisting of one hundred and seventy-six acres of Kane county's choicest land. He continued to operate this farm until 1882 when he purchased a farm of six hundred and twenty acres in Minnesota and located on same, remaining there for eight years. He then settled in Chicago, where he lived retired, but later removed to Fox Lake, Illinois, where he resided until the time of his death, in 1891. Mrs. Brophy was born



in Henningford, Canada, where her father was engaged in the manufacture of lumber, sash and doors. She was a third cousin of ex-President Grover Cleveland. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Brophy were born six children, four sons and two daughters, namely: Charles A., residing in Hinsdale, Illinois, and engaged in the manufacture of cotton belt; Truman W., a dentist, of Chicago; R. Cleveland, who has his residence in Elgin, while his business is located in Chicago; Emeretta A., the wife of Charles Snell, treasurer of Becker county (Detroit) Minnesota; and Harriett A., who resides with her brother, George A., of this review. The mother now lies at rest by the side of her husband in Rosehill cemetery, Chicago.

George A. Brophy received his early education in the district schools of Campton township, afterward entering the Elgin Academy where he remained for three years. He then entered the employ of the McCormick Company, of Chicago, with whom he was employed as an expert on improvements in machinery for the following four years. He next engaged in the sale of agricultural implements, Minnesota being the field of operations which he chose. He continued in this line of work for ten years, when he returned to Chicago and accepted a position as traveling salesman, which he filled most successfully for two years, but tiring of being on the road so much, he eventually discontinued this work and removed to Fox Lake, where he was engaged as superintendent of a large stock farm, raising and breeding trotting horses. From this occupation he returned to Elgin, where he engaged in the manufacture of dental supplies, which business he ultimately sold and removed to his present farm, where he now enjoys peace and prosperity. The farm is highly cultivated and improved, the residence being strictly modern in its construction and situated on a hill where it commands a view of the surrounding country.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Brophy has voted the republican ticket, as did his father before him. He is not connected with any fraternal organizations, although his father was a thirty-second degree Mason. It will be seen from the foregoing sketch that Mr. Brophy has broad ideas in regard to business matters, having adapted himself with ease to various industrial lines, each one of which he has carried forward to successful completion.

---

#### IRA C. COPLEY.

The spirit of enterprise which enables one to grasp and utilize opportunities finds notable exemplification in the life of Ira C. Copley, one of the foremost business men of Kane county and northern Illinois, and now the president of the Western Gas & Electric Company, which is operating in many of the towns and cities of this part of the state. Ira C. Copley was born at Walnut Grove, Knox county, Illinois, October 25, 1864, and was three years of age when brought by his parents to Aurora. Passing through consecutive grades in the public schools he eventually completed his education in Jennings Seminary and in Yale College, being graduated from the latter with the class

of 1887. In preparation for the bar he then attended the Union College at Law, in Chicago, completing the course by graduation with the class of 1889. Throughout his entire business career he has manifested executive force and ability for administrative direction. In the year in which he completed his law course he became manager of the Aurora Gaslight Company, and began to develop the property. He has noted with remarkable clearness and correctness the opportunities for advancement in the business, and has constantly broadened the scope of his activity. In 1890 the same interest controlling the Aurora Gaslight Company purchased the property and franchises of the Aurora Electric & Power Company, and in 1902 the interests were consolidated. With the expansion of the business Mr. Copley secured franchises for gas in Batavia, Geneva and St. Charles and laid the mains in those towns. The business of the company was reorganized under the name of the Fox River Light, Heat & Power Company, which also incorporated the gas and electric light interests. In 1894, with others, Mr. Copley purchased the Joliet Gaslight Company and has rapidly developed the business until it has reached extensive and important proportions. In 1900 he built a gas plant at La Grange, Illinois, under the name of the La Grange Gas Company, and extended its mains to La Grange Park, the Grossdales, Western Springs and Hinsdale. The business is now being conducted under the name of the Western Gas & Electric Company, of which Mr. Copley is the president.

While he has become widely recognized as a man of clear business discernment, unflinching enterprise and ready adaptation, he has also gained more than local distinction in political circles, and from 1894 to 1898 was a member of the executive committee of the republican state central committee and was chairman of the finance committee from 1896 to 1898. He has also been president of the Illinois State League of Republican Clubs and has been a prominent factor in organizing and controlling the working forces of the republican party in the state.

Equally efficient in his efforts in behalf of community interests, Mr. Copley has been a member of the library board and the park board of Aurora, and a trustee of the Jennings Seminary for a number of years. In 1892 he married Miss Edith Strohm, of Los Angeles, California.

---

#### WILLARD S. WHITE.

Willard S. White, engaged in the real-estate and insurance business in Aurora, claims New York as the state of his nativity, his birth having occurred in Rushford, Allegany county, New York, July 21, 1860. His father, Washington White, was a representative of an old New England family. His birth occurred in Vermont and on arriving at years of maturity he married Abigail Willard, who was born at Brattleboro, Vermont. When a young man Washington White removed to the Empire state, where he conducted mercantile interests throughout his entire business career, making his home for some time at Rushford. He died in 1889 at the age of sixty-nine

years, while his widow still survives and has reached the very advanced age of ninety years.

Willard S. White was educated in the public and high schools of New York, spending his boyhood days under the parental roof, where he was also early trained to habits of industry and economy. He was then engaged in merchandising for a number of years and in 1883 sought a home in the middle west. He devoted several years to traveling as representative of various lines of business, but at length determined to give up his position as commercial traveler and turn his attention to the real-estate and insurance business. He then located in Aurora where he has remained for a number of years. He has negotiated many important realty transactions, has written considerable insurance and has gained a good clientage in both departments of his business. He now occupies fine offices in the Merchants' National Bank building and is well qualified to take care of the interests of his patrons. He keeps thoroughly informed concerning realty values and the property that is on the market, and is always anxious to do the best possible for his clients, while at the same time he is gaining substantial benefits as the reward of his unwearied industry.

---

#### ARTHUR GRANT WORMWOOD.

Arthur Grant Wormwood, whose history is that of orderly progression in the business world, brought about by constantly expanding powers resulting from the faithful performance of each day's duty, which brings strength and inspiration for the labors of the succeeding day, is now senior partner of the firm of Wormwood & Pease, book and job printers of Aurora. He was born in Sandwich, Illinois, January 20, 1862, the youngest of three children born unto Orlando and Harriet (Bartlett) Wormwood. His paternal grandfather, Samuel Wormwood, was a native of Vermont and in 1849 made a trip to California by boat, attracted by the discoveries of gold on the Pacific slope. After mining there for a time, he started on the return voyage, but died from the administration of poison by one who wanted his money. His widow long survived him, living to an old age. The maternal grandfather of our subject was a native farmer of Vermont and both he and his wife died in the east when well advanced in years.

Orlando Wormwood was a native of Waterbury, Vermont, and in early life learned the millwright's trade, which he followed for a number of years. About 1853 he came to Illinois, settling in Sandwich, where he embarked in the grain business, which he followed until he was burned out in 1864. Then he removed to Aurora, where he engaged in the millwright's trade for a time, and subsequently was employed for a number of years as finisher in the Pullman shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. For the past quarter of a century he has been a traveling salesman and is well known and popular among his many patrons on the road. His wife died in March, 1904, at the age of seventy-four years. They were formerly Presbyterian in relig-



A. G. WORMWOOD





ious faith, but some years ago united with the Methodist church. The elder son of the family is Willis A. Wormwood, now living in Berwyn, a suburb of Chicago, while the daughter, Ina M., is the wife of L. D. Barney, a resident of Chicago.

Arthur G. Wormwood has lived in Aurora from the age of two years and acquired his education in the public schools, but at the age of fourteen put aside his text-books and began learning the printer's trade with the firm of Burton & Shaw, in the office of the Aurora Herald. He was thus engaged for eight years, during which time he gained comprehensive knowledge of the printing business in all its departments. He was afterward employed in various offices, including that of the Aurora Blade, under C. W. Putnam, and about 1890 he established a job printing business of his own at No. 27 North Broadway, conducting the business until 1898, when he admitted Herbert G. Berry to a partnership. This association was maintained until Mr. Berry's death in 1905, after which Mr. Wormwood was alone in business for a year and then admitted a Mr. LaSuer. After a brief period he was succeeded by W. H. Pease and the business has since been conducted under the firm name of Wormwood & Pease. They have a large plant, splendidly equipped, and are conducting an extensive job printing business.

On the 20th of September, 1897, Mr. Wormwood was married to Miss Nannie L. Miller, and they occupy a pleasant home at No. 423 Galena street, which he erected in 1902. Fraternally he is connected with Jerusalem Temple, No. 90, A. F. & A. M.; with Ben Hur Lodge, No. 870, I. O. O. F., and with the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks. His political allegiance is given to the republican party but the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him. At least, they have never been strong enough to lure him from the field of business wherein he has elected to direct his energies. He has made constant progress in this line, keeping in touch with the modern methods which are revolutionizing the old processes of printing, and promoting many styles of work which show that he is thoroughly conversant with the trade and its demands.

---

#### ERNEST HOMUTH.

This prosperous and progressive farmer and dairyman of Plato township, Kane county, is a native of Germany, where he was born June 28, 1857. His parents were Fred and Anna (Schluter) Homuth, both born and reared in Germany, where they were engaged in farming. The mother died when her son, Ernest, was a very young man, and the father has also been dead a number of years, both passing away in their native land. Their children were: Louise, the wife of Louis Huneka, of Germany; Mary, the wife of B. Ruppert, of Germany; Minnie and Lena, of Brooklyn, New York; and Ernest. Another son named Fred has died.

Ernest Homuth attended the public schools in his native land until he reached the age of fourteen. He served three years in the German army and

was honorably discharged. He came to the United States in 1886, and after a short residence in Brooklyn, New York, moved to Chicago. From there he came to Kane county, twenty-one years ago, and located at Plato Center. He was a mason by trade and five years ago became a farmer. He has been on this farm four years. He is actively engaged in farming and has a dairy comprising fifty good cows, the yield from which enables him to carry on a brisk and thriving dairying business and adds to both his duties and his revenues in a substantial manner.

On October 26, 1887, he was married to Miss Anna Oetikir, who was born in Switzerland and came to this country when she was a young woman, locating in Illinois. They have had five children, William, Frederick, Charles and Walter, who are living and at home, and Ernest, the oldest, who died some years ago. They are also rearing as a child of their own, Mr. Homuth's nephew, Edward H. Homuth, who has his home with them. Mr. Homuth is a republican and belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. He stands well in the community.

---

#### REV. GEORGE L. S. STUFF.

Rev. George L. S. Stuff, deceased, devoted his whole life to the work of the ministry as a member of the Rock River conference of the Methodist Episcopal church and the results of his teaching will go on forever. He was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, on the 21st of April, 1822, the only child of poor parents, and was left an orphan in infancy. In early life he united with the Methodist Episcopal church and on coming to Illinois, in May, 1840, began preaching. The following year he was admitted on trial to the Rock River conference and was stationed at Savanna, Illinois, for one year, after which he was at Green Bay, Wisconsin, for two years.

In 1843 Rev. Stuff was ordained a deacon at Dubuque, Iowa, by Bishop Andrews, and two years later was ordained an elder at Peoria, Illinois, by Bishop Morris. In 1844 he had charge of a church at Racine, Wisconsin; was at Elgin in 1845 and 1846; at Mt. Morris in 1847 and 1848; at Elizabeth in 1849; at Rock Island in 1850 and 1851; at Ottawa in 1852; La Salle in 1853; and filled other pastorates, including the Court Street church at Rockford and churches at Elgin and Kankakee. During the Civil war he served as a chaplain for three years with the Forty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, receiving his appointment from Governor Yates, and after his return home in 1864 was assigned to the church at Dixon. On account of ill health he was then given supernumerary relations but in 1866 resumed his ministerial duties as pastor of the church at Woodstock, where he remained for two years. He was next at Roscoe, Warren and Palatine and was later in charge of the Fulton Street Methodist Episcopal church of Chicago. This was followed by one year of superannuated relations and he was subsequently pastor of churches at Poplar Grove, Capron, Round Prairie, Cherry Valley, Blackberry, Albany, Ashton and Franklin Grove, his last charge being the Broadway church of

Sterling. For five years prior to his death he was quite helpless from a stroke of paralysis, during which time the family lived in a home given to the church by Mrs. Henry Sherman, of Elgin, and in this city he died on the 11th of May, 1893. Thus passed away one who for half a century had been connected with the Rock River conference and during that time had been the loved pastor of many a church, where he worked earnestly and untiringly to spread the gospel of Christ and bring the wanderers into the fold. He was widely known and universally respected and esteemed, not only by his own congregations but by other denominations as well.

Mr. Stuff left six children, one of whom is Rev. F. A. Stuff, a professor in the University of Nebraska, and his last wife, Miss Addie Bowman, also survived him. They were married October 8, 1878, Mrs. Stuff being a daughter of Elijah and Hannah (Emery) Bowman, of Blaine, Boone county, Illinois. All were life-long Methodists.

---

#### EARL RAY MINER.

Earl Ray Miner, successfully engaged in farming in Blackberry township, was born in Kaneville township, Kane county, July 3, 1884, his parents being Wesley and Mary (Hartnest) Miner, likewise natives of this county. The father is a farmer by occupation and now follows that pursuit in Wayne, Nebraska. He is an active and helpful member of the Methodist Episcopal church. The members of his family, in addition to our subject, are as follows: Amanda R., the wife of Lewis Owens, an agriculturist of Wayne, Nebraska; Elmer, who is a physician of Independence, Kansas; and Harvey, who likewise carries on agricultural pursuits at Wayne, Nebraska.

Earl Ray Miner attended school in the place of his nativity until fourteen years of age and then entered St. Albin's Academy at Knoxville, Illinois, leaving that institution at the age of sixteen years. He then returned to the home farm and in connection with his brother, Harvey, carried on the work of the fields for five years. On the expiration of that period he was married and subsequently took up his abode on his present farm in Blackberry township, where he has now made his home for a year and a half. In connection with the work of general farming he operates a dairy, owning thirty-three cows. The herd is well graded and includes many Jerseys. He likewise has a few registered hogs, having just begun activities in this line.

Mr. Miner was united in marriage to Miss Myrtie May Gaunt, whose birth occurred March 29, 1883, at Kaneville township, near Elburn, Illinois. Her parents, Frank and Louisa Grace (Tupper) Gaunt, are likewise natives of Kane county and now reside at Elburn, Illinois. Mrs. Miner had one sister and one brother: Millie G., of Elburn, Illinois; and Henry W., who has passed away, his remains being interred in the Elburn cemetery. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Miner has been born one son, Marcus Wesley Gaunt, his natal day being January 19, 1908.



Fraternally Mr. Miner is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, and is highly esteemed throughout the community as a prosperous and enterprising citizen and business man. Although young in years, he has already attained a gratifying measure of success and, moreover, has won the regard of all with whom he has come in contact by reason of his upright and honorable methods in all the varied relations of life.

---

#### WALTER S. FRAZIER.

No history of Aurora and its development would be complete without specific and somewhat extended mention of Walter S. Frazier, who was prominent among the business men of the city as a representative of one of its most important productive industries. He was born in Fabius, Onondaga county, New York, August 31, 1835, a son of William J. and Matilda (Winegar) Frazier, both of whom were natives of the Empire state. The father conducted business there for many years as a clothing merchant and on coming to the west with his family settled in Batavia, Kane county.

Walter S. Frazier spent his boyhood and youth in the place of his nativity and was educated in the public schools of Onondaga county and in Homer Academy. At the age of eighteen years he made his initial step in the business world by becoming a salesman in a dry goods store in Syracuse, New York, where he remained for five years and then accepted a position as bookkeeper. The year 1857 witnessed his arrival in the middle west, in which year he made his way to Chicago, where he entered the office of the city comptroller. He was soon made chief clerk, and acted in that capacity for five years, after which he was appointed by the city board of public works as clerk of special assessments. In the meantime his labors and activity in political circles were winning him recognition as a valued member of the party, and in 1863 he received the republican nomination for the office of clerk of the recorder's court. He thus served for about two years, and in 1865 went to Springfield, having been elected clerk of the house of representatives. He proved most capable in his new office, being recognized as the most efficient clerk that had ever held the position. Such was the regard entertained for his ability and fidelity that at the close of the session he was presented with a gold watch and chain by the members of the house and the presentation speech by Judge Platt, of Jo Daviess county, appears in the house journal of that session.

In 1866, being apprehensive of his health, Mr. Frazier determined to try the benefits of outdoor life, and to this end purchased a farm in Kane county between Geneva and Batavia, and after making improvements upon the house he removed his family to the new location. There he remained for about four years, when in 1870 he sold the property and took up his abode in Aurora. There he was elected and served for one term as a member of the board of education. In his public career he always manifested the sentiment expressed by Grover Cleveland that "a public office is a public trust"—and no trust reposed in Mr. Frazier was ever betrayed in the slightest degree.

For several years he was in no active business save that he bred and raised fine roadsters and trotting horses, for he was always a lover of fine stock. He sold one of his horses, the noted Brother Jonathan, with a record of 2:20, for twelve thousand dollars.

While thus engaged in raising fine trotting stock, one of his drivers represented to him the necessity of a cart to be used in breaking and driving young maturing stock, and suggested where one could be purchased. On investigating this Mr. Frazier believed that he could build a better one, and after experimenting produced rather a heavy two-wheeled vehicle. Imperfect as it was, it was destined to go into history as the forerunner of the afterward famous "Frazier road cart." It created a great interest among horsemen everywhere, being superior to anything previously produced. This impressed Mr. Frazier with the importance of his invention and he began developing and improving it, and so perfected it that he secured letters patent and named the new vehicle the Road Cart. In 1881 he began the manufacture of this cart on a small scale in a building on Water street in Aurora between Fox and Main streets. The business grew rapidly, however, and in 1881 he leased the large four-story stone building on Downer Place which had formerly been used as a wagon shop but had been idle for years. Still the business kept increasing beyond its productive power, and when the lease on the stone building expired Mr. Frazier purchased the extensive grounds and the buildings and added a story to the principal building. Still the demand grew, and as the business further developed other styles of vehicles were added, and the enterprise became one of the most important manufacturing interests of Aurora. Mr. Frazier demanded that perfection should be attained in every department, secured first class materials and excellent workmanship, and the Frazier company became noted throughout the country for its output. In 1885 he admitted his two sons, Walter S. and Edward S., to a partnership under the firm style of W. S. Frazier & Company. In recent years the factory has been greatly enlarged and is equipped with the most modern machinery for the conduct of the business.

While every successful business adds to the development of a city, Mr. Frazier, aside from his manufacture of vehicles, did much to promote the substantial interests of Aurora. In 1885 he erected a three-story store and office building at the corner of Downer Place and River street, and in 1886 he built a block of stores on Downer Place. He was also a director of the Merchants National Bank of Aurora, and he assisted in many movements from which he derived no personal benefit but in which the public was a large direct beneficiary.

In 1855 Mr. Frazier was married in Syracuse, New York, to Miss Mary Stevens, a daughter of J. V. Stevens. Her death occurred in 1880, and Mr. Frazier passed away in 1904. For several years he was chairman of the republican congressional district committee for the district comprising Kane, De Kalb, Lake, McHenry and Boone counties, and he was always a helpful adviser of his party but never an office seeker. He was a man of keen discrimination and sound judgment and his executive ability and excellent management brought to the concern which he instituted and conducted a large

degree of success. He possessed the characteristics of an unbending integrity, unabating energy, and industry that never flags, and, moreover, he was a representative of that class of American citizens who promote the general prosperity while advancing individual interests.

---

#### FREDERICK W. HARTSBURG.

Frederick W. Hartsburg is numbered among the native sons of Kane county and has made a creditable name in business and professional circles. He is now successfully practicing law, with office in the Siegmund building at Aurora. He is a representative of one of the old families of this part of the state and was born in North Aurora, June 19, 1877. His parents, William A. and Helena (Simons) Hartsburg, are mentioned elsewhere in this volume. His grandfather, William Hartsburg, a native of Germany, came to America about 1845, settling at Roxbury, Massachusetts, a suburb of Boston. He was a very skilled machine and tool maker and received as much as twenty dollars per day for his services. He came to Kane county in 1846, settling in Aurora, where he followed his trade for a time, and then made the overland trip to California in 1849 in search of gold. He often walked as much as sixty miles in a day and even in his old age was noted as a pedestrian. Following his return to Illinois he resided in Aurora, Batavia and other points, and died at North Aurora, at the age of seventy-four years. His wife, Mrs. Christina Hartsburg, is still living, and is now about eighty-four years of age.

William A. Hartsburg, father of our subject, was born in Massachusetts, and when nine or ten years of age became a resident of Montgomery, Kane county, Illinois, where he was reared. Through many years, first as an employe and later as a manufacturer, he has been connected with the business of manufacturing sash, doors and blinds, doing general mill work. In 1890 the business was incorporated under the style of the Hartsburg & Hawksley Company. William A. Hartsburg wedded Helena Simons, an estimable lady and a devoted member of the Congregational church. They became parents of five children: Mamie, the wife of J. E. Lowell, of Seattle, Washington; Daisy A.; Frederick W., of this review; Florence Maude, attending the State University of Colorado; and Frances M., of North Aurora.

Frederick W. Hartsburg was reared in North Aurora and attended the public schools there, while later he was graduated from the West Aurora high school in 1897, completing a four years' course in three years. He then entered the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and was graduated from the law department of that institution with the degree of Bachelor of Law in 1900. The same year he was admitted to the bar. He then entered the firm of Bangs, Wood & Bangs in Chicago, and was with them for a year and a half, after which he formed a partnership with Fred R. Reid, the present states attorney of Kane county. They practiced at De Kalb for a short time and then removed to Aurora, where Mr. Hartsburg has since continued in

the general practice of law. He was also secretary of the Hartsburg & Hawksley Company until a few years ago, but his attention is now fully occupied by the demands of a professional career and he has a large and growing clientage.

On the 15th of November, 1905, Frederick W. Hartsburg was married to Miss Grace Reynolds Owens, a daughter of Evan and Minnie (Reynolds) Owens. Mr. Hartsburg is a member of Aurora Lodge, No. 254, A. F. & A. M.; and Aurora Chapter, No. 22, R. A. M. When in college he became a member of a Greek letter fraternity called the Phi Delta Theta. He is also a member of Aurora Lodge, No. 705, B. P. O. E., the Knights of Pythias, and the Modern Woodmen of America. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and his loyalty thereto is never called into question. His native intellectual force has been developed through study and research along professional lines and through wide reading embracing all topics of general interest. What he has accomplished in his profession and the characteristics he has displayed in social relations have made him an esteemed and representative citizen of the county.

---

#### ARTHUR M. HAINES.

Arthur M. Haines of Plato Center is engaged in managing a creamery, one of those useful modern institutions which minister in substantial measure to the comfort and well being of the communities around them and add greatly to the prosperity of the people. He was born at Charter Grove, DeKalb county, Illinois, March 23, 1882, and is a son of John and Mary E. (Hoskins) Haines, the former of whom was born in Ohio and came to Illinois with his parents when he was six years old. He has been engaged in farming during the greater part of his life. The mother was born at Charter Grove. Her parents have been dead a number of years.

Mr. and Mrs. Haines have had eight children: Arthur M.; May, who is the wife of William Barker; Cora, who is the wife of Frank Read; Vernon H., who is living at home; Harry D., who is in the United States Army; and Flora, who is also living at home. John and Emma, the other two children, have died. The father was a soldier in the Civil war and saw active service in the great contest. His company was commanded by Captain Wilcox, and the department of the army to which it was assigned by General Grant. Mr. Haines took part in the battle of Shiloh, the operations connected with the siege and capture of Vicksburg, and many other important engagements. He is a republican in politics, and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Arthur M. Haines was educated at the graded school in Hampshire, which he attended eleven years. He returned to the farm in 1903, and during the last three years has been the manager of the creamery. This is one of the best in this part of the country in its equipment. It is provided with



modern machinery of the most approved pattern, and has capacity to handle twenty-one thousand pounds of milk a day.

On May 2, 1903, Mr. Haines was united in marriage with Miss Sadie Hunt, who was born at Sycamore, Illinois, June 27, 1887. Her parents still live at Sycamore, where his father is a well borer. They have one other child, a daughter Ada, who is the wife of Cecil Wyman. Mrs. Haines was educated in a country school and at the Sycamore high school, and both she and Mr. Haines are firm advocates of public education. They have lived acceptably among the people around them and enjoy, in a high degree, the esteem that comes to modest merit and faithful performance of duty.

---

### IRVING J. BUDLONG.

Irving J. Budlong is manager for the Hoyt & Brother Company, at Aurora, a branch of the American Woodworking Machinery Company, in which connection his mechanical ingenuity, his business enterprise and his keen foresight are continually brought into play. He was born in Oswego, Kane county, Illinois, September 7, 1868, his parents being Joseph Jerome and Kezia (Babcock) Budlong, both of whom were natives of Oneida county, New York. The former was a son of Joseph Budlong, also a native of the Empire state. He followed farming much of his life, but also engaged in merchandising, and died in Oneida county, New York, at a venerable age. He was a son of a Revolutionary soldier. The maternal grandfather of our subject was also a farmer, a native son of the state of New York, and lived at Babcock Hill, Oneida county. Both he and his wife lived to an advanced age and reared a family of two sons and three daughters, one of whom, Kezia Babcock, became the wife of Joseph J. Budlong. He was a farmer by occupation and in 1867 came to Illinois, settling in Oswego township, Kane county, where he purchased a little more than three hundred acres of land. This he improved, bringing his farm under a high state of cultivation, and upon the place made his home until 1880, when he removed to Aurora, where he engaged in the manufacture of the Budlong disc pulverizers and disc corn cultivators. He continued in that business until his health failed and he died in 1889, at the age of fifty-nine years. His wife died November 5, 1906, at the age of seventy-two years. They were the parents of four children, a son and three daughters: Jennie L., the wife of Willis Hoyt, of New York city; Florence, the wife of Charles A. Doud, of Winona, Minnesota; Elizabeth, the wife of Dr. F. W. Lester, whose home is in Aurora, Illinois; and Irving J., of this review.

The last named lived on the home farm until twelve years of age and attended the district schools. He then came to Aurora with his parents and was reared to manhood here, passing through consecutive grades in the public schools until he became a student in the West Aurora high school. When eighteen years of age he entered upon his business career as an employe of Hoyt & Brother, learning draughting and designing of machinery for wood



IRVING J. BUDLONG



work. He served a four years' apprenticeship, and at the end of that time entered the railway mail service, with which he was connected for about three years. He afterwards spent three years in mining in the San Juan country in Colorado, and then returned to Aurora to again enter the employ of the American Woodworking Machinery Company, at its branch in this city, for in the fall of 1897 that company had purchased the business of Hoyt & Brother Company and tendered Mr. Budlong the position of superintendent. In 1903 he was appointed manager, which position he still retains. The Aurora branch makes a specialty of planing mill machinery and is the largest producer of hardwood flooring machinery in the world. This branch was established in Aurora by the Hoyt brothers in 1864 and employs from two hundred to two hundred and fifty men, so that Mr. Budlong's position as manager is one of large responsibility. The American Woodworking Machinery Company owns and operates six large plants in important cities of the United States. Mr. Budlong is well qualified by his comprehensive knowledge and long experience for the responsible duties that devolve upon him, and it was in recognition of his marked ability that his present position was offered him.

On the 18th of September, 1890, Mr. Budlong was married to Miss Ada N. Titus, a daughter of Haven and Ann (Denney) Titus. Three daughters have been born of this union, but they lost their second child, Anna, who died at the age of seven years. The surviving daughters are Irene M. and Doris A. Mr. Budlong is a member of Aurora Lodge, No. 254, A. F. & A. M.; Aurora Chapter, No. 22, R. A. M., and Commandery, No. 22, K. T. He is also connected through membership relations with the Elks, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Hoo Hoos, an association of lumbermen and machinery men. Politically, Mr. Budlong is a republican, giving stalwart support to the party. He now lives at No. 232 Walnut street, where he owns a good home, which is one of the visible evidences of his life of thrift, enterprise and success.

---

#### WILLIAM INGALS LYE.

William Ingals Lye, who is one of the most enterprising citizens of Kaneville township, his time and attention being now devoted to agricultural pursuits, was born in Plano, Kendall county, Illinois, on the 19th of October, 1871. His father, Alva Lewis Lye, was a native of the same county, his birth occurring in Little Rock township, where he engaged in farming after reaching man's estate. He married Miss Frances Robbins, who was also born in Kendall county and is now deceased, dying in April, 1898. Their children besides our subject were Mattie, the wife of E. C. Kinney, a farmer of Sugar Grove township; George, also a farmer of Sugar Grove township; Carrie, who makes her home in the same township; and Nellie, the wife of William Johnson, who is engaged in the coal and lumber business in Sugar Grove.



William Ingals Lye received his first instruction in the district school, which he attended until nine years of age, and then entered the graded schools of Plano, where he spent the following two years. He was next a student at the academy at Sugar Grove for six years, and after graduating from that institution he entered the Valparaiso Normal School, pursuing the teachers' and scientific course. He then engaged in teaching school, being principal at Kaneville for three years, and as an educator he met with splendid success, being able to readily impart the knowledge that he had acquired to his pupils, so that the school advanced rapidly under his management. On his retirement from that position he made an extended tour throughout the east, visiting most of the principal cities on the Atlantic coast. For the past seven years he has followed farming and, being thoroughly up-to-date and progressive in his methods, he has met with success in this occupation. In 1907 he purchased his present well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Kaneville township, lying a mile and a half south of the village of Kaneville.

In 1902 Mr. Lye married Miss Bertha Dauberman, a native of Kaneville, who is a representative of one of the oldest and best known families of this county. Three children bless this union, namely: Francis M., Mabel I. and Everett D.

---

### JOHN JOHNSON.

John Johnson, a prominent farmer and stock raiser of Plato township, was born in Sweden, February 24, 1859, a son of J. A. and Christine (Anderson) Johnson, also natives of Sweden, whence the father brought his family to this country in 1871. His first location in America was at Elgin, Illinois, where he remained until 1888. In that year he removed to Iowa and bought a farm, on which he is still living. He and his wife became the parents of three sons, Frank, Andrew and John. Frank and Andrew are farmers in Iowa. The father is a republican in political allegiance and a member of the Swedish Lutheran church in religious affiliation. He also has prospered in this country and is well esteemed.

The son, John Johnson, attended school in his native land until he left it for America at the age of twelve years, and after his arrival in this country completed his education in one of the public schools of Elgin. From the time he left school until he attained his majority he was employed as a hired hand on a farm. At that age he was married to Miss Christine Larson, who is, like himself, a native of Sweden, and who came to America with her parents when she was but five years old, the family locating in Elgin, this state.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have five children: Albert E., Mabel, John W., and Amanda, who are living at home; and Victor M., who is the second in the order of birth, and is employed on a street car line in Elgin. The parents are great believers in education and have given each of their children a thorough high school training.

Mr. Johnson was engaged in farming in Kane county until 1889, when he moved to Nebraska, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land. This tract he improved and reduced to cultivation, living on it several years. He then sold it and returned to Kane county. Taking up his residence in Plato township, he rented two hundred and thirty-seven acres of as fine land as can be found in the county, and on this he has since been diligently and extensively occupied in farming and raising livestock for the market. He ships on an average of four carloads of cattle and one of hogs every year, and as his stock is well cared for and properly prepared for sale, it has a high rank in the market and is always sold at a good price. His preference in cattle for feeding is the Hereford breed.

Mr. Johnson's children, except one, are all living with him and assisting him in his work on the farm. Through his own good management and their aid and that of his wife, he has been very prosperous and is now reckoned among the substantial and well-to-do men of his township. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and his religious affiliation with the Congregational church. In fraternal relations he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In his church he is a trustee and deacon, and in his lodge he has occupied all the principal offices. Occupying a place among the leading citizens of the township, with a voice of influence in behalf of every worthy project for the improvement of the community, he is justly entitled to the high respect he enjoys.

---

#### MRS. MARY A. HUGHES.

Mrs. Mary A. Hughes, one of the highly esteemed ladies of Elburn, was born in Aurora, Illinois, April 15, 1838, and is a representative of an old and honored family of this county, being a daughter of John P. and Sophia Christina (Wohrer) Snyder, both natives of Germany. The father was born July 27, 1781, and was reared and educated in his native land. Believing that the new world offered better opportunities for advancement, he crossed the broad Atlantic and landed in Philadelphia, where he was married in 1826. At an early day in the development of Kane county they came west and took up their residence in Aurora. In their family were the following children: John F., a farmer residing in Aurora; Henry, a farmer of Tipton, Iowa; Charles, a farmer of Elburn, Illinois; Carolina, the wife of Charles Angell, who is also a farmer of Aurora; Elizabeth, deceased; and Mary A., of this review.

Reared in this county, Mrs. Hughes is indebted to its public schools for the educational advantages she enjoyed in her youth, and after leaving school at the age of seventeen years she remained under the parental roof until her marriage. It was in 1868 that she became the wife of Elias Hughes, and four children blessed their union: Emerit E., a farmer residing near Elburn; Ernest D., who is a mail carrier of Chicago; Caroline S., a resident of Elburn; and Mary A., who is teaching school in Grundy county, Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Hughes began their married life in De Kalb county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming, but subsequently removed to a farm in Kaneville township, this county, and later still he purchased three hundred and forty acres in Blackberry township. He was a soldier of the Civil war from 1861 to 1865, being a member of the One Hundred and Fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He participated in many important engagements, was under General Sherman in the Atlanta campaign, but during the last two years of his service was connected with the commissary department. He was a faithful soldier, always found at his post of duty and when hostilities ceased and his services were no longer required he was honorably discharged and returned north. He died July 6, 1877, in Kaneville. Mrs. Hughes now has in her possession a piece of the flagstaff taken from Fort Sumter, bearing date December 25, 1863. She remembers when this region was but sparsely settled and can relate many interesting incidents of early days. During the great flood of 1857 she saw the wagon bridge which spanned Fox river swept away. Her long residence in this county has gained her many friends and she is held in the highest regard by all who know her.

---

#### EDWARD C. COOLEY.

Edward C. Cooley, who has extensive farming and dairy interests one-half mile east of Lily Lake, where he owns and operates a farm of one hundred and ninety-seven acres, and conducts a dairy of forty cows, principally of the Holstein breed, is a native of Kane county, having been born at Elburn. May 24, 1862, the son of Calvin C. and Charlotte (Ruple) Cooley. His father was born December 27, 1830, in Chautauqua county, New York, whence he came to Illinois in 1856, locating in Elburn. Here he engaged in the boot and shoe business, following this line of work for the succeeding eight years. He then purchased a farm near Elburn, known as the "Old Hacket" farm, which he operated for the next sixteen years, when he sold it and returned to Elburn and resided for seven years. His inclinations ever drew him towards the farm, however, with the result that in 1887 he purchased the beautiful farm on which our subject now resides, located on the Lily Lake and St. Charles road. Here he resided the remainder of his days, passing away July 9, 1907, as the result of a paralytic stroke. He lies at rest in the Elburn cemetery. In politics he was ever an ardent republican, and fraternally was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The mother was born in the Allegheny mountains, in Pennsylvania, April 9, 1829. Four sons were born to this union, of whom Charles H. and James are deceased; Francis A., in the coal business in Aurora; and Edward C.

Edward C. Cooley is indebted to the district school of Campton township for his education, regularly attending through the winter months what is known as the "old red schoolhouse," and assisting his father in the work of the farm during the farming period. He was ever his fathers' mainstay in the conduct of the place, residing with him on the farm to the time of his

death. The place has prospered under his able management, and he now owns one of the finest dairy herds in Kane county. He engages in diversified farming, in 1908 having seventy-seven acres of the place seeded to corn, thirty-seven acres in oats, thirty-seven in meadow, and the balance, with the exception of the ground occupied by the feed lots, orchard and garden, in pasturage.

On October 2, 1888, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Cooley and Miss Cora E. Westgarth, who was born in Campton township, May 8, 1863. Her father was a stonemason by trade. Both of her parents are now deceased and lie buried in the cemetery at Geneva. Mr. and Mrs. Cooley have become the parents of two daughters, Maud C., born January 27, 1890, and Madeline C., born July 20, 1892. Both of these young ladies led their classes last year, Miss Maud at the Wheaton high school, and Miss Madeline at the St. Charles high school. Both, too, are accomplished pianists.

Mr. Cooley casts his ballot with the republican party and has been elected to minor offices. He served as highway commissioner, and held the office of school director for twelve years. He takes an active interest in educational affairs and during his directorship built up a splendid school, and was mainly responsible for the district's engaging two teachers, instead of one, as formerly. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of the Globe.

---

### JOHN J. SCHMITZ.

Although of German parentage, John J. Schmitz, one of the active and energetic farmers of Plato township, is a native of Kane county, and was born almost in sight of where he now lives. His life began at Plato Center, February 8, 1877. His father, Joseph Schmitz, was born in Prussia, Germany, in 1836, and came to the United States in 1857, at the age of twenty-one. His parents died when he was a small child. His first location in this country was in Chicago, where he was employed in the Kirk soap factory, and afterward he carried brick for seventy-five cents a day. Later he worked in a rolling mill at one dollar a day, and, leaving Chicago, was for a short time at Beloit, Wisconsin. After coming to Plato Center he worked as a farm hand for eight dollars per month through the summer months, working for his board in the winter. When the war began he enlisted in 1861, and was a faithful soldier. He cooked for eighty soldiers for seven months, and at the close of the war in 1865 he returned to Plato Center and bought eighty acres of land. In 1866 he was married to Elizabeth Riebel, a native of Hesse, Germany, being then twenty-four years of age. They became the parents of five children, four daughters and one son, John J. Marie, the first child, was born in a log cabin and is the wife of Adolph G. Schreim, a steward of the Elgin National House, employed by the Elgin Watch Factory Company; Elizabeth, the wife of G. A. Leiseberg, a druggist at Dundee; Katherine, the wife of G. C. Fischer, a farmer at Pingree Grove; Huldah, the wife of Adolph G. Muller, a farmer at Plato Center. John J., the son, is a prosperous



farmer living at the old homestead. He took possession of the farm in 1900, and the father, Joseph Schmitz, retired and built a home for himself and wife at Plato Center, one mile west of the old homestead, and resided there until March 19, 1905, when death claimed him, and he was buried at Plato Center. In 1890 he had bought another eighty acres, making a farm of one hundred and sixty acres.

John J. Schmitz, who was the only son born to his parents, attended a district school until he was fourteen years old, and was employed by his father until he was married. December 7, 1899, he was joined in marriage with Miss Mamie Behrens, who was born in Cook county, Illinois, October 20, 1881. They have two daughters, Erma D. E., and Velda C., both of whom still abide with them.

Mr. Schmitz carries on an active and energetic farming industry, cultivating his land with skill and judgment and securing good results. He is also engaged in the livestock business on an increasing scale, feeding at this time (1908) twenty-five cattle and some eighty hogs. He has forty acres of land in corn, forty in oats, and the rest in meadow for hay and pasturage. Politically he is a republican and in church membership a Lutheran. He is regarded as a valued citizen, with progressive ideas of public improvement, and earnest interest in all that tends to elevate and advance his township or its people; and he stands well in the respect and good will of the whole community in which he lives and wherever else he is known.

---

### JOHN FRANCIS THOMAS.

John Francis Thomas, a well known farmer and dairyman of Kaneville township, was born in Wales on the 14th of May, 1874, and was only six months old when brought to America by his parents, George and Annie J. (Davis) Thomas, who were also natives of Wales, in which country they were reared and married. In early life the father followed the sea for thirteen years prior to his emigration to the United States, but in this country he made farming his occupation, the family home being at Big Rock in Kane county, Illinois. He was a faithful and consistent member of the Congregational church and was also connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. In his family were the following children: David H. and Joel G., both farmers of Big Rock; Jane, the wife of John Willis, a farmer of Blackberry township; William M. and James, both at home; Eva M., the wife of Ralph Boyce, a farmer of Sugar Grove township; Maud W., Venus B., and Alma R., all at home; and John F., of this review.

Brought to this county in infancy, John F. Thomas was here reared and his education was mainly acquired in the Bracket school house at Big Rock, where he continued his studies until eighteen years of age. Prior to this time he began to assist his father in the labors of the farm, and after completing his education devoted his entire time to its cultivation and improvement for three years. At the age of twenty-one he started out in life for nim-

self, working by the month on a farm until twenty-four years of age, and then commenced operating land on his own account. He is now engaged in farming on quite an extensive scale and also keeps twenty cows for dairy purposes.

Mr. Thomas married on the 22d of February, 1899, Miss Blanche I. Wells, who was born in Kaneville township, February 26, 1879, and three children blessed their union, namely: Dorothy W., Edith M. and Francis H. Mrs. Thomas' father is Horace A. Wells, who was born in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, and came with his parents to Illinois, the family locating near Kaneville, where he grew to manhood and married Miss Elna Graves. The children born to them were Harlow R., deceased; Emma L., the wife of Charley Dreese; Penn, an engineer; Martha, deceased; Lettie H., the wife of David H. Thomas, a brother of our subject; Nellie M., deceased; Elna M., the wife of Charles Harshberger; Pearl K., and H. Adelbert, both deceased; and Blanche I., wife of our subject.

Fraternally Mr. Thomas is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and he is one of the honored and highly esteemed citizens of his community. In business affairs he is upright and reliable, and the success that has come to him is but the just reward of honorable labor.

---

### JAMES WILBUR SNOOK.

James Wilbur Snook, deceased, was for many years prominently identified with the agricultural interests of Blackberry township, his home being on section 26, where his widow now resides. He was born in Ontario county, New York, September 20, 1829, and was a son of John and Matilda (Bosley) Snook. He was sixteen years of age when, in company with his brother Sela Snook he came to Illinois, the journey to this state being made by wagon. They located on the present farm of Mrs. Snook, which place is conveniently situated one mile south of Bald Mound and four miles south of LaFox. Two years later the brother died and our subject was thus left with the entire management of the farm, owning it conjointly with his brother's widow, whose share he purchased at the end of two years. It is now one of the finest places in Kane county, consisting of one hundred and seventy-one acres of rich and arable land, on which is a fine grove of maple trees, and improvements valued at ten thousand dollars, all put there by Mr. Snook, who was regarded as one of the most progressive and successful farmers of Blackberry township.

On the 8th of April, 1860, Mr. Snook was united in marriage to Miss Mary Elizabeth George, and they began their domestic life on the farm, where she still continues to reside. Her father was Milo George, who was born in Strafford, Vermont, and on leaving the east came to Illinois in 1853, locating on a farm of ninety-eight acres of land one mile south of Bald Mound in Blackberry township, Kane county. He is now deceased, but Mrs. Snook's mother is still living, and, although eighty-six years of age, her mind is still very active and she readily recalls all the important events in the early

history of this county. While age is creeping on her, she yet possesses a constitution which enables her to perform various household tasks, putting to shame many girls of today in the art of bread-baking, sewing and other domestic duties. She is still very energetic and industrious and carries well her load of four score years and six. She has many heirlooms which have been in the family for several generations. Her father, Adam Boyle, served with distinction and honor in the war of 1812. Mrs. Snook has two sisters living: Caroline, the wife of George Catlin, who is engaged in the real-estate business in Creston, Iowa; and Alice May, the wife of Fred Humiston, who follows farming near Big Rock, Kane county.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Snook was born one daughter, Mattie C., who was married December 2, 1886, to Frank W. Seavey, who was born in Sugar Grove township, and was educated in the Sugar Grove high school. They have a daughter, Ruth Elizabeth Seavey, who was born June 9, 1891, and was graduated in 1907 from the Sugar Grove high school. She is now a member of the junior class at the State Normal of De Kalb, Illinois, where she is taking the teacher's course and is carrying off the honors of her class.

Mr. Snook assisted materially in rebuilding the county almshouse, and was prominently identified with the early development and upbuilding of this section of the state. He and his wife experienced many of the hardships and trials which fall to the lot of the pioneer. As a prominent and influential citizen, Mr. Snook took a very active part in public affairs and held the office of county supervisor for eighteen years. In politics he was a republican. He was an honored member of the Masonic fraternity, and also held membership in the Universalist church. After a useful and well spent life, he passed away on the 6th of May, 1898, and was laid to rest in the Sugar Grove cemetery.

---

#### LYSANDER BEVERLY.

Lysander Beverly, whose demise on the 1st of February, 1874, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret throughout the community in which he resided, was for many years a successful agriculturist of Kane county. He was born in New York, December 4, 1818, his parents being Asa and Sally (Curtis) Beverly. He made his way westward to this county in the year 1840 and from that time until his death was prominently connected with farming interests here. He owned a valuable tract of land of several hundred acres near Elgin, meeting with a large and well merited measure of prosperity in the cultivation of his fields. He was a well educated man and his opinions, which were often sought, were an influencing factor on all matters of general interest in the community.

On the 12th of March, 1865, Mr. Beverly was united in marriage to Miss Anna M. Tracy, a daughter of Ira and Cornelia (Chase) Tracy, the former of York state and the latter a native of Massachusetts. The members of the Chase family were very pious and devoted church members in Elgin.



LYSANDER BEVERLY





Unto Mr. and Mrs. Beverly were born five children, namely: Charles E., Louie L., Alice J., Amy D. and Tracy B.

In his political views Mr. Beverly was a democrat and served as school trustee for a number of years. Fraternally he was a Mason and in his life exemplified the teachings of that craft. During his residence here of more than a third of a century he gained an extensive circle of admiring friends and when he was called to his final rest the county mourned the loss of one of its prominent, progressive and most highly respected citizens.

---

### JONATHAN TEFFT.

Jonathan Tefft won for himself a place among the prominent farmers and stock raisers of Kane county and his opinions upon any matter relating to the farm were largely received as authority. He was born in Lebanon, Madison county, New York, January 23, 1817, his parents being Jonathan and Elizabeth (Collins) Tefft. The family came to Illinois in 1835, before the land was surveyed, and a log cabin was erected east of Elgin in what is now Hanover township, Cook county. Three years before the white race had contested for the supremacy of this state with the red men, and only here and there had a little clearing been made to show that the former were victorious and were planting the seeds of civilization in Illinois soil. The home of the Tefft family comprised a claim of two hundred and ten acres, on which they resided until 1837, when they removed to what has since been designated as the old homestead farm, comprising two hundred and sixty acres. For more than thirty years Mr. Tefft remained a resident of the county and passed away January 26, 1866, in the city of Elgin, while his wife died August 24, 1856, on their farm in Elgin township.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for Jonathan Tefft in his boyhood and youth. He was a lad of eighteen years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to the west, and here he became familiar with all of the incidents of pioneer life. His educational privileges were limited to the opportunities offered by the district schools. After coming to the west he assisted his father in farm work until 1839, when he and his brother purchased a claim of two hundred and fifty acres from their father and after dividing this with his brother Jonathan Tefft sold his portion—one hundred and eight acres—to Smith Harford in about 1844. He and his brother afterward carried on a meat market in Elgin from 1846 until 1850, and in the latter year Jonathan Tefft purchased one hundred and fifty acres of land, a part of which was across the boundary line of Cook county. To this he added thirty-six acres on the 14th of January, 1865. Soon afterward he sold the property to his brother, and on the 2d of March, 1865, purchased his father's homestead of two hundred and sixty acres, of which two hundred and eight acres lie in Cook county and fifty-two on section 36, Elgin township. He afterward added forty-seven acres to the tract and upon the farm made his home, being engaged extensively and

successfully in sheep raising, having at one time over six hundred head. In later years he turned his attention to dairying, milking sixty cows, his herd consisting of nearly one hundred head of full blooded and high grade Holsteins. He brought his farm under a high state of cultivation, equipped it with the best improvements and made it a model property. It is well drained and watered and Mr. Tefft added to it every modern accessory. In its midst he erected a large brick residence in attractive, modern style of architecture; also put up four barns, including a dairy barn thirty-six by ninety-eight feet, with eighteen-foot posts and basement. He also built another barn forty feet square, and a third one for hay, and likewise built a large tool house. He also built a carriage house, twenty-two by thirty feet, and everything was constructed in good style. The many improvements upon the place indicate clearly the thrift, enterprise and progressive spirit of the owner, who stood as one of the most progressive and prominent farmers of the county.

Mr. Tefft was married on the 8th of April, 1841, to Miss Delinda West, a native of New York and a daughter of Isaac West, of Kane county. They became the parents of five children, but three of the number died in infancy, while the others are Jennie and Frank, the latter a well known veterinary surgeon and business man of Elgin.

In community affairs Mr. Tefft took an active and helpful part, withholding his support from no movement or measure that he believed would prove of public benefit. He was for three years assistant supervisor, and for fifteen years occupied the position of highway commissioner. For a long period he was connected with the Masonic fraternity, holding membership in Clintonville Lodge, No. 511, while later he affiliated with Elgin Lodge, No. 117, A. F. & A. M.; Monitor Chapter, R. A. M.; and Bethel Commandery, K. T. He was a member of the Board of Trade and of the Illinois Holstein Breeders' Association. Politically he was a stalwart republican, unswerving in his allegiance to the party. The success which he achieved in the business world was attributable to no fortunate combination of circumstances but resulted from energy and industry carefully directed. His investments were judiciously placed and he knew when and where and how to act, so that his labors resulted in bringing to him gratifying success. When he passed away, May 26, 1903, the county mourned the loss of one of its respected and honored citizens. Viewed thus, the work of Jonathan Tefft is not yet done, for out of the past his memory rises and stands as an example and incentive to the youth of the generations that are yet to come.

---

#### JAMES W. COLE.

James W. Cole, who began life for himself with nothing but his clear head, strong arm and determined spirit as weapons for the battle, has risen through his own efforts and capacity to a position of esteem in his community, of substantial comfort in a worldly way, and of influence in the

public affairs of his township. He is a native of Illinois, and was born at Winfield, DuPage county, September 21, 1879.

His father, James H. Cole, is a farmer and butter-maker, and lives at Plato Center. He was born in the state of New York and became a resident of Kane county when he was twenty-five. Here he was married to Miss May Etta Harvey, a native of the county and the daughter of one of its enterprising tillers of the soil. They became the parents of six children: James W.; Mabel, who married Frank McConnel, a farmer of Burlington township; Eldora, who is dead; Helen, who married James McEwan, also a Burlington township farmer; Ellen, who is living at home; and Myrtle, who is also deceased.

James H. Cole was educated in a country school which he attended until he was fifteen. He then secured work as a hired hand on a farm, and stuck to this engagement until he was married to Miss M. E. Martin, whose mother is dead and whose father is living in Batavia, where the remains of his wife rest. Mr. Cole's farming operations are vigorous and successful. He has this year (1908) thirty-five acres of his farm in corn, thirty in oats, eight in barley, and the rest of the one hundred and forty he farms is devoted to pasturage and hay. He keeps twenty-two cows and has other livestock in abundance for his needs. He belongs to the republican party and the Methodist Episcopal church.

---

#### MERTON H. BOWNE.

Merton H. Bowne, residing on his valuable farm of two hundred and ten acres, situated two miles east of Lily Lake on the Sycamore and St. Charles road, has demonstrated to his entire satisfaction that no vocation in life is so certain in its results, nor warrants such freedom and independence of action as does farm life. He was born in Campton township, May 17, 1876, the son of David and Nancy V. (Murphy) Bowne. He is of Holland Dutch descent through his paternal grandmother. His father was born in Tompkins county, New York, February 12, 1820. He was a blacksmith by trade, and hearing of advantageous openings for this line of work in the middle west, in 1840 he came to Illinois to personally investigate the matter, with the result that after a few months' residence here he located near St. Charles and opened up a blacksmith shop, conducting an extensive and prosperous business. His work was of a nature to bring him in contact with farmers principally and doubtless it was by reason of the friendships thus formed, as well as a recognition on his part of the value of the farming land of the community, that he was ultimately led to dispose of his blacksmith business and invest in the farm upon which our subject now resides. That he never regretted the change is evidenced by the fact that he remained on this farm throughout the remainder of his life. He was twice married, his first wife being Cynthia Emery. After her death he was again married, his second union being with Miss Nancy V. Murphy, whose father came to Illinois from Virginia. Unto



this union were born four children, three sons and one daughter, namely: William D., a farmer residing at Lily Lake; Leo H., who lives in St. Charles; Edna A., residing in Elgin; and Merton H., of this review. The father now lies buried in the Whitney cemetery, at Wasco.

Merton H. Browne is indebted to the district school in Campton township for his early education. He attended school regularly up to the time he was sixteen years of age, at which time he discontinued his studies to aid his father in the work of the farm, remaining under the parental roof up to the time of his marriage. On starting out for himself he first tried farming, which he later discontinued to accept a position as motorman on an electric car, and it is safe to assume that he then received his first lesson in the value of the independence of farm life, inasmuch as he gave up his position to return to agricultural pursuits, which he has followed diligently up to the present time, with the exception of one lengthened vacation he has allowed himself during which time he took an extensive trip through the eastern states.

On January 24, 1900, was celebrated the marriage of Merton H. Bowne and Miss Rosemonde Secombe, who was born in Norwalk, Connecticut, February 26, 1879. Her father was employed in a shoe factory there. Mr. and Mrs. Bowne have become the parents of four sons, namely: David, born September 6, 1902; Lauraine W., born December 21, 1903; Leroy H., born December 12, 1904, and Robert S., born May 12, 1906. In politics Mr. Bowne is a staunch republican; fraternally is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and religiously is a consistent and faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

---

### JEREMIAH SHEPARD.

Jeremiah Shepard, deceased, was for many years one of the prominent and honored citizens of Aurora and at his home here on Fox street, he passed away May 30, 1898. He was born in Salem, Massachusetts, on the 1st of January, 1817, and was a son of Jeremiah and Ruth (Chever) Shepard. He was descended from a good old New England family, tracing his paternal ancestry back through Jeremiah, Jeremiah, Thomas, Nathaniel, Jeremiah and Thomas Shepard. The last named, a clergyman, was born in Towcester, England, November 5, 1605, and died in Cambridge, Massachusetts, August 25, 1649. He was graduated, with a high reputation for scholarship, from Emanuel College, Cambridge University, Cambridge, England, in 1625, and received his degree of Master of Arts in 1627. He was ordained in the established church, and in 1630 silenced for non-conformity. He was a vigorous and popular writer. In 1632 he married a cousin of Sir Richard Darley, Knight, and in company with his wife and child, came to America on the ship Defence, landing October 3, 1635, after an eleven weeks' passage. The following February the first parish was formed and he was ordained as pastor at Cambridge, Massachusetts. One writer calls him:

"That gracious, sweete, Havenly minded and soule-ravishing minister, Mr. Thomas Shepard, in whose soule the Lord shed abroad his love so abundantly." Cotton Mather says: "Let the reader go with me and I will show him one of the happiest men that ever we saw; as great a converter of souls as has ordinarily been known in our days." And once more he says: "It was with a respect unto the enlightening and powerful ministry of Mr. Shepard that when the foundation of a college was laid, Cambridge, rather than any other place was pitched upon to be the seat of that happy seminary." Thomas Shepard's son, Jeremiah, was educated at Harvard College and thoroughly prepared for the ministry. He is spoken of as having "native gifts and superior talents." Further reference is made to the ancestry of our subject in Edward Johnson's Massachusetts Historical Collection, XVII, 27; Cotton Mather's Magnalia and his lives of Chief Fathers of New England; Appleton's American Encyclopedia of Biography, and the History of Rowley and Lynn, Massachusetts.

Our subject's father, who also bore the name of Jeremiah Shepard, was commander of a privateer during the war of 1812, and his uncle, James Chever, Jr., commanded the famous and successful private armed ship, America, of Salem, Massachusetts. His grandfather, James Chever, "won distinction on both land and sea" during the Revolutionary war. (Washington War Records.)

Jeremiah Shephard, of this review, received his education in the historic old town of Salem, Massachusetts, and after a course in navigation made three trips on merchant vessels, twice around Cape Good Hope to Calcutta, Bombay and the East Indies and once to Antwerp. In 1835 he came west and joined his brother-in-law, John L. Clarke, who had located in Kendall county, Illinois. He bought a farm and soon his other brothers and sisters followed him, each purchasing farms in that vicinity. He was always active in all good works, being one of the first to establish and maintain good schools and always acting as school director. He was postmaster of Aurora for nine years, having removed to this city December 14, 1867, to educate his children. He held many other offices of trust and always capably and satisfactorily performed any duty that devolved upon him.

On the 20th of April, 1841, Mr. Shepard married Miss Ellen Theodosia Browne, a daughter of John and Cecilia (Le Sturgeon) Browne. She was born in Liverpool, England, January 15, 1820, and her parents dying before she was six years old she spent part of her early life in London with her aunt and part in Cambridge with her grandfather Le Sturgeon, with whom she came to America in 1838 and settled on a farm near Bristol, Illinois. Her grandfather passed away a few months after arriving in this country. She is now a woman of eighty-eight years, with a keen intellect, high spiritual attainments and a charm of manner which draws everyone to her.

Mr. and Mrs. Shepard had six children, three of whom survive:

Cecilia Shepard, born May 18, 1842, married Edmund S. Satterly, a prominent farmer of Kendall county, Illinois, who died in 1905. She now resides in Aurora with her two daughters, Cecilia May and Theodosia Ellen.

Charles Clarke Shepard, born in Kendall county, December 14, 1858, removed to Aurora in 1867, was educated in the East Aurora schools, entered the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, holding the positions of chief clerk of Master Mechanic Chalander, chief clerk of General Manager T. J. Potter, and secretary to the superintendent of locomotive power. He went to Buda, Illinois, about 1880 to take charge of the Buda Foundry & Manufacturing Company. This plant was moved to Harvey, a suburb of Chicago, about 1890, and greatly enlarged under Mr. Shepard's skillful management, until it included the manufacture of all kinds of structural iron work and all railroad supplies. Mr. Shepard sold his interest in 1904 and retired from active business. He makes his home at the Chicago Beach Hotel in winter and Alexandria, Minnesota, in summer. He and his family have traveled extensively, and he has large interests in Arizona, Florida and the island of Cuba. He was married in November, 1882, to Virginia Hard, a daughter of Dr. Abner Hard, of Aurora, and has one son, Charles Clarke, Jr., born in July, 1894, who is now a student in the University high school, Chicago. Ruth Chever Shepard, born August 28, 1861, in Kendall county, was educated in the East Aurora schools. She married Eben F. Beaupré, March 22, 1887. She is a prominent member of the Aurora Woman's Club, has been its president and has represented the club in the county and state federations.

Jeremiah Shepard, born in Kendall county, May 27, 1865, died in Helena, Montana, December 4, 1891, and was buried in Spring Lake Cemetery, Aurora. He was educated in East Aurora schools, entered the master mechanic's office of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad; was transferred to auditor of expenditure's office in Chicago and became traveling auditor, with headquarters at St. Paul. He was married in that city in 1890, his wife dying February 13, 1900. He had one son, Charles Frederic (Fred), who makes his home in Aurora with Mr. and Mrs. Beaupré. Fred graduated in 1908 from the East Aurora schools with high honors, being chosen orator and valedictorian of his class. He entered Dartmouth College in the fall of 1908.

---

#### LEWIS PARQUETTE.

Lewis Parquette, who is successfully engaged in farming in St. Charles township, was born in Keeseville, New York, February 10, 1856, his parents being Nelson and Mary Parquette, who were born in 1815 and 1812 respectively. They came from Keeseville to St. Charles, Illinois, where the father passed away June 5, 1892. He had been a mason by trade. His wife died September 11, 1883, her remains being interred at Kankakee, Illinois. The record of the brothers and sisters of our subject is as follows: Mitchell, who was born in Canada, wedded Miss Carrie Perkins, of St. Charles, where he now carries on agricultural pursuits. Peter, a native of Canada, is a retired soldier residing in St. Charles, having married Miss Kate Daily,

of this place. Matilda and Alice, who were also born in Canada, are both now deceased. Nancy, also a native of Canada, married Frank Wickins, of Kankakee, Illinois, where she makes her home. Joe, whose birth likewise occurred in Canada, passed away on the 7th of July, 1895.

Lewis Parquette was but an infant when brought by his parents from Keeseville, New York, to St. Charles. Subsequently he went to Kankakee, but in 1884 returned to St. Charles, purchasing the farm of fifty-one acres on which he has since made his home. In addition to the work of general farming he conducts a dairy, having eleven head of cows, and takes his milk to Wasco. In the conduct of his agricultural interests he is meeting with a gratifying and well merited measure of prosperity and is well known as one of the progressive and enterprising residents of the community.

On the 10th of November, 1892, in St. Charles, occurred the marriage of Mr. Parquette and Miss Elvira Eaton, who was born in Burlington, Illinois, March 28, 1873. They have one daughter, Bessie Edna, whose birth occurred in St. Charles township, February 27, 1894, and who now attends school in Wasco, Illinois.

Mr. Parquette is independent in his political views, taking into consideration the capability and general fitness of the candidate for office rather than his party affiliation. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Catholic church of St. Charles, and he is a public-spirited citizen, giving his cooperation to every movement which tends to promote the moral, intellectual and material welfare of the community.

---

### JOHN C. MOCK.

During all the years of his youth and manhood that have passed John C. Mock, an energetic and successful farmer of Plato township, has been engaged in the cultivation of the soil in the section which is now the scene of his enterprising and fruitful labors. He was born in Plato township, December 27, 1867, and is the son of James and Mary (Pickering) Mock, natives of England, but long residents of Kane county.

The father became a resident of Kane county, Illinois, immediately after his arrival in this country in 1853, and remained in the county until his death, September 2, 1905. His remains rest at Plato Center. The mother was brought to America by her parents in her childhood, and they came direct to this county, where they, also, passed the remainder of their lives. For seven years after his arrival in this part of the world the father worked as a hired hand on a farm. He then bought a farm of eighty acres, which he increased by subsequent purchases to one hundred and ninety. His political alliance was with the republican party and his church connection with the Anglican, or Protestant Episcopal, sect. He and his wife became the parents of five children, John's sisters and one brother being: Minnie, who is the wife of William Mock, a South Dakota grain merchant; Agnes,



who lives at Plato Center; J. William, who is a farmer and dwells near Plato Center, and Annie, who passed away a number of years ago.

John C. Mock obtained his education in a district school, attending as he could until he reached the age of seventeen. After leaving school he became his father's regular assistant on the farm, remaining at home until his marriage June 15, 1896, to Miss Mabel Walker, of Campton township, when he bought his present farm and started farming on his own account. He and his wife have two children, Lulu and Charles, both still under the parental roof-tree.

Mr. Mock's farm comprises one hundred and thirty-five acres. It is well watered, abundantly supplied with fruit, yields generously to the skillful husbandry he bestows upon it, and is enriched with good improvements. It is one mile from a schoolhouse and three-fourths of a mile from the railroad station. Mr. Mock cultivates it with vigor and good judgment and secures excellent returns for his industry. He also carries on a brisk and profitable dairy business, keeping fourteen good cows for the purpose. His political attachment is to the republican party, but in local affairs he looks mainly to the good of the township and seeks to promote its best interests, as he does in every other way, being a progressive and public-spirited man. He enjoys the confidence and esteem of the people, whom he has served for years as school director, and is regarded as one of the township's most useful and representative citizens.

---

### JACOB EUGENE FISHER.

Among the enterprises which constitute an element in the commercial prosperity and progress of Aurora is the wholesale and retail confectionery and bakery establishment owned by Jacob E. Fisher, an enterprising business man whose labors have made him one of the leading representatives of trade interests in this city. He was born in Seneca Falls, New York, March 15, 1861, and is a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Schneck) Fisher, who were natives of Pennsylvania. The paternal grandfather, John Fisher, was also born in the Keystone state and became a farmer, devoting his entire life to agricultural pursuits. He married Anna Hinterleiter and died at Seneca, New York, at an advanced age, while his wife was about eighty-eight years of age at the time of her death. They had five sons and four daughters, John, Jacob, Daniel, Isaac, Joshua, Esther, Mary, Sarah and Frances. Of this family Jacob Fisher was the father of our subject. He was born in Pennsylvania, was reared to the occupation of farming and in early manhood wedded Elizabeth Schneck. She was a native of Pennsylvania, as were her parents. Jacob Fisher died at a comparatively early age, passing away in February, 1861, when about thirty-five years of age. His wife survived him for only two years. They were members of the German Reformed church and were worthy people, who enjoyed the high regard of all who knew them. Their family numbered three sons and two daughters, namely: Nellie, the deceased wife of



J. E. FISHER



Fred Jones; Susie, the wife of Edward C. Spencer, of Aurora; Adam H. and William F., both deceased; and Jacob Eugene.

The youngest of the family, Jacob Eugene Fisher, was left an orphan at a very early age, for his father died before the son was born and he was only two years old when his mother passed away. His boyhood days were spent near Geneva, New York, and he attended the district schools, after which he started in life on his own account, securing a clerkship in a general store, where he was employed for two years. He then attended the public schools of Geneva, eight miles away, going on the train in the morning but walking back in the evening. Few people would have attempted to obtain an education under such circumstances, but realizing the value of intellectual training and discipline as a preparation for life's work Mr. Fisher was willing to make this sacrifice. At length he received a regent's certificate entitling him to teach school and he followed the profession for three terms. In 1883 Mr. Fisher came to Illinois and settled at Aurora, accepting a position in Mason Brothers bakery, where he remained for seventeen years. He then bought his present business in 1900, his previous long experience in this line well qualifying him for the work that devolved upon him when he took charge of an enterprise of his own. He started in business on a small scale, but his trade rapidly increased and enabled him to establish a wholesale branch. In addition to the wholesale and retail confectionery and bakery business he also added a restaurant and ice cream parlor, and all branches of his business are now proving successful.

On the 13th of July, 1886, Mr. Fisher was married to Miss Charlotte Clute, a daughter of Jacob and Clarissa (Myers) Clute. They have now become parents of three sons, Paul Paisley, Edward Eugene and Wilfred Balliet. The parents are members of the First Congregational church, and Mr. Fisher belongs to Ben Hur Lodge, I. O. O. F., the Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks and other fraternal societies, while his political allegiance is given to the republican party. He certainly deserves great credit for what he has accomplished, for he is a self-educated as well as a self-made man. Starting out in life empty-handed he has gradually worked his way upward, achieving that success which comes from well developed powers and from ability intelligently applied. He now receives the respect of his associates and the admiration of his colleagues in the business circles of Aurora.

---

### JOHN JACOB NIER.

John Jacob Nier is busily engaged in general agricultural pursuits in Kaneville township, operating a well-improved farm of eighty acres. He was born at Burr Oak, Indiana, October 1, 1876. His father, Henry Nier, was born in Ohio, and was taken to Indiana by his parents when quite young and there he engaged in truck farming after he had reached mature years. He was united in marriage to Miss Salome Friley, who was born near Ply-



mouth, Indiana, and their union was blessed with four children, three sons and one daughter, John Jacob being one of the number. The others are: Jeanette, who is the wife of Frank Smith, a mail carrier of South Bend, Indiana; Harry, an engineer in the employ of the Santa Fe Railroad Company, with headquarters in Los Angeles, California, and George, who is engaged in farming at Burr Oak, Indiana.

John Jacob Nier, whose name introduces this review, was reared on the farm in Indiana, assisting his father during the summer months, while in the winter seasons he pursued his studies in the schools of Marshall county. At the early age of fifteen he laid aside his text-books and sought and secured employment as a farm hand, being thus engaged for some time, while later he made his way to Illinois, where he was employed in a similar manner for five years. He then returned to the old home in Indiana, remaining in that state during the succeeding three years, after which he once more came to Kane county, where he has since made his home. He is now operating a tract of land comprising eighty acres, forty acres of which he has planted to corn and eighteen acres to oats, while the balance of the acreage is in grass.

Mr. Nier was married on the 25th of February, 1908, to Miss Abbey M. Miner, who was born in Kaneville, Illinois, and comes of one of the prominent pioneer families of that section of the state. Her mother still lives on a farm near that city. The brothers and sisters of Mrs. Nier are as follows: Glen E., who is engaged in farming; Amos and George L., who have charge of the homestead property for their mother; Ava D., the wife of Clarence Gusler, who follows farming near Kaneville; Roy and Rose, who are at home. Her father, Malcom A. Miner, passed away February 12, 1907, his remains being interred in the Kaneville cemetery.

Mr. Nier gives his political support to the men and measures of the republican party, but has never been active as an office seeker. He is working his way up to success and he and his estimable wife are prominent among a large circle of friends.

---

#### CARL MILLER.

Being left fatherless when he was but eight years old, and one of five children left by this bereavement for the mother to support, rear and educate, Carl Miller, of Plato township, was obliged to begin the battle of life for himself at an early age, and has ever since made his way by his own unassisted efforts. But he has never faltered in the fight, and can now feel the gratification of having won a substantial competence for himself and his family which places all beyond the reach of want except through some calamity or disaster.

Mr. Miller was born March 24, 1851, at New Lonschfütz, Germany, and is the son of Carl and Mollie (Miller) Miller, also natives of that country. The father served three years in the German army, as is the custom of

young men there, and as the law requires. He was married to Miss Mollie Miller of the same part of the fatherland as himself, and they had four children: Carl; Lena, who is the wife of Fred Krohn; Mollie, who is dead; and Morris, who is a farmer in Kane county. There was also in the family a half-brother of these children, Frank Bolwahan, a son of the mother by a former marriage. The father died in 1859, and in 1886 the mother came to the United States and found a new home in Kane county, taking up her residence in Plato township. She died in 1905.

Carl Miller was reared and educated in his native land, where he was married to Miss Emma Halm, also a native of Germany. He then worked seven years in a brush and broom factory in Germany, and at the end of that period emigrated to the United States. He hastened immediately to the rapidly growing interior and became a resident of Kane county, locating first at Plato Center. Here he worked as a day laborer for eighteen years, but he was frugal and economical, and out of his small wages managed to save enough to start his present home, which he has steadily made more comfortable and enjoyable.

Mr. Miller farms a considerable body of land and keeps twenty-five cows, from the product of which he conducts a flourishing dairy business, from which he realizes good returns. His farming is general and includes all the crops usual in the neighborhood, and the land is handled with vigor and skill. Four of his seven children are still living with him and assist in the labors of the farm and the dairy. They are Henry, May, Lena and Albertine. The older children, who are no longer members of the parental household, are: Minnie, the wife of R. Daviss; Louie L., who lives in Wayne, Illinois; and Lizzie, the wife of Arthur Hill.

Mr. Miller is prosperous and he well deserves his prosperity, for it is the result of his own assiduous and continued labor and frugal living. Fortune never smiled on him with her favors and he never courted her smiles except through the channel of honest, determined and continuous industry. As he has known how to care for his own interests, so he has been diligent and serviceable in helping to care for those of the community, giving his support to every worthy enterprise, and declaring always, by voice and assistance, for every undertaking in which he thought the welfare of his township was involved. His fellow citizens know his worth and appreciate it.

---

#### JOHN THOMAS MCGOWAN.

John Thomas McGowan, who has extensive farming and dairy interests in Campton township, was born here January 20, 1866, the son of Lawrence and Sarah H. (Hyre) McGowan. His father was a native of Syracuse, New York, but in early manhood he left that section and came to Illinois, locating in Campton township, where he made his home for the remainder of his days. He was a veteran of the Civil war, being a member of the Fifty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was with Sherman on his

celebrated march to the sea. Politically he was identified with the republican party. He was an active worker for his party's interests and held the office of school director for a number of years, also served as township collector. Religiously he was a faithful and consistent member of the Methodist church. He wedded Sarah H. Hyre, a native of Kane county, whose father was a noted and prosperous farmer. Four children were born to this union, of whom Charley and Anna are deceased. Hattie is the wife of Elmer Heath, a resident of South Elgin, who is in the employ of a large packing company of that place.

John Thomas McGowan received his education in the old stone school-house of his home district, which he attended regularly throughout the winter months up to the time he was eighteen years of age when, ambitious to make a start in life for himself, he secured employment as a farm hand. He followed this line of work for seven years, ever keeping in mind the end which he desired, that of having a farm of his own. Following his marriage he rented a place, from which time on his progress was more rapid, and the experience he had gained in working for others was turned to good account for himself. He has resided on his present place the last ten years, and has it systematically divided into various tracts in order to utilize it to the best advantage for his farming and dairy interests. Eighteen acres he has established in meadow and in 1908 he seeded twelve acres to barley, fifty to corn, eighteen to oats, and the balance, with the exception of the grounds occupied by the residence, orchard, garden and feed lots, is devoted to pasturage. His dairy herd consists of thirty-eight cows.

On March 22, 1893, occurred the marriage of Mr. McGowan and Miss Lena Hummel, who is a native of Chicago. Her father was a file cutter by trade, and removed with his family to California while she was an infant. Mr. and Mrs. McGowan have become the parents of four children, two sons and two daughters, namely: Harriet Josephine, born June 5, 1896; Lawrence John, born August 2, 1898; Harold Edward, born November 8, 1901, and Marion, born July 6, 1906.

Mr. McGowan is yet a young man and the advancement he has already made in life bids fair to continue under the same good management, thrift and industry which he has displayed in the past. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

---

#### MRS. EMMA J. RAYMOND.

Mrs. Emma J. Raymond, who is now successfully engaged in the millinery business in Elburn, has spent her life in Kane county, St. Charles being her birthplace and her natal day October 25, 1867. Her father, Richard Cook, was a native of England, born December 26, 1836, and he was, therefore, about fourteen years of age when, in 1850, he came to the United States and located in St. Charles, where he secured employment in the construction of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. By living economically he was at

length able to purchase a farm and throughout the remainder of his life devoted his time and attention to agricultural pursuits. In 1861 he was united in marriage to Miss Jane Marshall, who was also born in England, March 5, 1844, and came to America in 1848, settling in St. Charles, Illinois, where their wedding was celebrated. Their children were Adella, who is the wife of H. C. Reed, a farmer of Elburn; Charles, deceased; Franklin, a farmer of Elburn; Addie, also a resident of Elburn; Fletcher, deceased; May S., the wife of W. C. Gee, a contractor and builder residing in Elburn; Walter M.; and Emma J., whose name introduces this sketch.

During the first seventeen years of her life, Mrs. Raymond attended school the greater part of the time, and she remained with her parents until she was married at Lily Lake, October 17, 1894, to George A. Raymond. He was born in Erie, Pennsylvania, August 11, 1857, and on coming to Elburn, Illinois, made his home with M. C. Gates for fifteen years. While residing at that place he served as city marshal for a time and later conducted a meat market, but on account of ill health he returned to Pennsylvania, where he passed away on the 9th of June, 1895.

After the death of her husband, Mrs. Raymond again became a resident of Elburn. Feeling the need of a business education, she subsequently entered a commercial college at Elgin, where she pursued her studies in the evenings, while during the day she worked in the watch factory, thus earning the money to pay her expenses. On completing the course there, she took charge of her millinery establishment in Elburn and today has a well-equipped store and enjoys a good trade which is constantly increasing. She is a woman of good business and executive ability and usually carries forward to successful completion whatever she undertakes. She is a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church and is held in the highest regard by all who know her.

---

#### ALBERT FAYETTE WADE.

Aurora was the home of Albert Fayette Wade for many years and he was recognized as one of the leading citizens, being prominently identified with public affairs. He was a native of New York, born in Newark Valley, Tioga county, on the 20th of July, 1834, and a son of Lewis and Harriet (Bowen) Wade, who were from Rhode Island and of English descent. The father, who was a soldier of the war of 1812, died in Newark Valley, Tioga county, New York, in 1862.

In the county of his nativity Albert F. Wade was reared and educated and he remained in the east until coming to Aurora, Illinois, in 1857. Later he went to Janesville, Wisconsin, where he was located when the Civil war broke out, and he enlisted in Company D, Second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He entered the service as orderly sergeant but was later promoted to first lieutenant of his company. On account of disability he was discharged March 19, 1862, and returned to Aurora, which city continued to



be his home throughout the remainder of his life. In 1873 he was elected superintendent of streets and so acceptably did he fill that position that each year he was reelected and continued to serve in that capacity until 1890. The following year he was made highway commissioner and was reelected to that office in 1894, serving as such at the time of his death, which occurred at Aurora, February 20, 1896.

Mr. Wade was married on the 29th of March, 1864, to Miss Elizabeth Postle, a daughter of William and Sarah (Gandy) Postle, of DeKalb county, Illinois. Of the six children born of this union, two died in infancy, those still living being Nellie E., now the wife of Oscar Gustason, of Elgin, by whom she has one son, Charles Wade, born September 8, 1908; Asa V., of Elgin, who married Hannah Helgeson and has three children, Albert F., Bernice and Ruth; Myrtle E., who married Edward Manning, living on a farm between Willow Hill and Newton, Illinois, and by whom she has three children, Lewis Fayette, Nellie E., and Mabel E.; and Mabel E., the wife of Charles Case, who is in the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad at Aurora. In 1900 Mrs. Wade removed to Elgin, where she now makes her home, surrounded by many friends.

In his social relations Mr. Wade was an honored member of Aurora Lodge, No. 254, A. F. & A. M.; Royal Arch Chapter, No. 22, and Aurora Post, No. 20, G. A. R. He served as president of the benevolent society connected with the last named organization and was commander of the Aurora branch of the Legion of Honor. He was very popular in social as well as business circles, exerting a wide and beneficial influence among his associates, and his circle of friends was almost coextensive with his circle of acquaintances. Religiously he was a member of the People's church.

---

#### BENJAMIN F. LAKE.

Benjamin F. Lake has ever been identified with the agricultural interests of Kane county, where he was born in Campton township March 21, 1846, the son of Ansel and Christine (Bonham) Lake. His father was a native of Orleans county, New York, and in his early days, long before the government surveys were run, he came to Illinois and entered one hundred and sixty acres of public land, on which he resided throughout the remainder of his life. He now lies at rest in the Wasco cemetery. He wedded Christine Bonham, who was a native of Canada. Seven children were born to this union, three sons and four daughters, namely: Aurela, the wife of George G. Hawley; Zylpha, the widow of Jefferson Garfield; David and George Luke, both of whom are deceased; Elizabeth, the wife of Walter Phelps, a resident of Malta, Illinois; Alvira, the wife of F. Elliott, a farmer of Nevada, Iowa; and Benjamin F., of this review.

Benjamin F. Lake received his education in the Gray Willow school, which he attended regularly throughout the school year while in the pri-

mary grades, but later when he reached an age to be of assistance to his father on the farm his attendance was necessarily somewhat irregular, being confined to those months of the year when farming operations were suspended. He made the most of his opportunities, however, and persisted in his school attendance until nineteen years of age, during which time he received a good, practical education which served as a ground-work for his success in later years. At the age of nineteen he began renting farms and operating them in his own interest and the spirit of independence and self-reliance which he displayed at that early age have been manifested throughout his busy life and have been the prime elements of his success. He now conducts a dairy of eighty-six cows and in addition to his farming and dairy interests he also makes a specialty of dealing in milk cows, buying and selling them for the market and dairy purposes. He is recognized as an authority on the quality and grade of dairy stock.

Mr. Lake wedded Phylantha Vanderhoof and three children have been born to their union, namely: Frank B., who resides at home; Fred B., who married Jane Crystal; and Zylpha, the wife of B. Brown, a prosperous farmer residing near Wasco.

Politically Mr. Lake is identified with the republican party. He has held the office of school trustee for a number of years and is at present supervisor of his township, an office which he is most creditably and satisfactorily filling. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

---

#### IRBIN R. GRAMLy.

With the farming and dairy interests of Kaneville township Irbin R. Gramly has been identified since reaching man's estate. He was born in Center county, Pennsylvania, on the 12th of May, 1871, a son of B. F. and Margaret (Spangler) Gramly. The mother is now deceased. Their other children were: Abner, also deceased; Uriah, who is now engaged in the fruit business in California; Charles, a farmer of Kaneville township; Ira, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Kansas; Dinah, the wife of Jerry Lutz, a farmer of Kaneville township; and Katy, the wife of Thomas Fuller, of the same township.

Irbin R. Gramly was quite young when brought by his parents to this county and he obtained his education in the Flanders district school, in which district he still resides. He attended school during the winter months until twenty years of age, while throughout the summer he assisted in the work of the home farm.

In 1891 Mr. Gramly was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Coryell, a native of Illinois, whose mother is now deceased, but her father is still living and makes his home in Kaneville township. Mr. and Mrs. Gramly have two children: Howard U. and Merritt M., both at home.

After his marriage Mr. Gramly entered a farm of one hundred and ninety-six acres from his father. This farm consists of some of the best land

found in this section of the state, is well watered and highly improved, and is pleasantly located two and a quarter miles west of the village of Kaneville. Mr. Granly makes a specialty of stock raising. He annually ships two or three carloads of stock to Chicago and keeps twenty cows for dairy purposes. He is a very energetic and enterprising farmer and is meeting with well-deserved success in his labors as he thoroughly understands the occupation he has chosen as a life work. He is an honored member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Mystic Workers and his religious connection is with the Methodist Episcopal church, while his political support is given the democratic party.

---

#### FRANK R. BRAUN.

Frank R. Braun, president of the Johns & Braun Company, manufacturers of sash, doors and blinds, is a self-made man who has gained his present standing in the business world by his close application and unfaltering diligence. He was born in Luxemburg, Germany, November 10th, 1857, the son of Nicholas and Elizabeth (Reinhardt) Braun. The father was engaged in garden farming and was also a veterinary in Germany. He came to America with his family in 1871 and settled in Aurora, where for many years he lived retired. He continued a resident of this city until his death, which occurred when he was seventy-two years of age. His wife survived him and died in the '90s, when she was seventy-three years of age. Both were members of the German Catholic church. Their family numbered ten children, six sons and four daughters, of whom six are yet living, namely: Anna, the wife of Joseph Kellar, of Liebern, Belgium; Susan, the wife of Martin Schleater, a lumber merchant of Chicago; Elizabeth, the wife of Barney Welter, a tobacco merchant of Chicago; Frank, who is living in Aurora, Illinois; Frank R., of this review; and Harry, of Aurora.

Frank R. Braun was fourteen years of age when he came with his parents to the United States. He acquired a common-school education in Germany and worked in the furniture store of Bevier & Eggermann, with whom he learned the cabinet-maker's trade, which he followed until they sold out. He then went to house building for a time and afterwards worked in the coach and building department of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad shops for twelve years, but ambitious to engage in business on his own account, he eagerly availed himself of the opportunity that offered for advancement in the business world and each successive forward step brought him a broader outlook and wider opportunity. In 1893 he formed a partnership with Philip Johns, W. N. Schuler and others, under the name of the Johns & Braun Company, for the manufacture of sash, doors and blinds, store and bank fixtures and interior finishings of all kinds. The enterprise proved profitable from the beginning, and they now employ from twenty-five to thirty men in the conduct of the business, which is bringing to them a good return.



FRANK R. BRAUN





Mr. Braun was married in 1880 to Miss Susan Dillenburg, a daughter of Frank and Margaret (Knivler) Dillenburg. Mr. and Mrs. Braun became the parents of three children, who are yet living: Frank M., John N. and William F. The parents are members of St. Nicholas Catholic church and Mr. Braun belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters, to the Knights and Ladies of Honor and to the Luxemburg Club. Politically he is independent, voting for men and measures rather than for party. For several years he has served as judge of elections. He lives at No. 275 Jefferson avenue, where he has erected a substantial home. As the architect of his own fortunes he has also built up a substantial structure and is now numbered among the representative residents of Aurora, controlling a business that is constantly growing in volume and importance.

---

#### MR. AND MRS. J. D. DUNNING.

Josiah D. Dunning, who died March 1, 1889, was of old New England stock. On the ancient records of what is now the First Church of Bridgeport, Connecticut, may still be read the entry of the baptism, in 1703, of Benjamin and John Dunning, who were themselves probably grandsons of a Jonathan Dunning who was living in Killingworth, Connecticut, as early as 1664. The subject of this sketch was descended from the above Benjamin Dunning, who was one of the first settlers of Newton, Fairfield county, Connecticut, about 1710. His sixth son, Michael, born in 1730, moved with his family in 1762 to Pownal, the southwest corner town of Vermont, and during the Revolution was an active patriot and one of the organizers of the force of militia with which Ethan Allen took Ticonderoga. His second son, Josiah, born in 1755, was a member of that command and was in the service after this force was disbanded, at Bennington and Saratoga, and later received a pension for his services, an interesting record of which is now on file in Washington.

The first son of the above Josiah, was Allen, born in 1778, who married at the age of nineteen and a little later settled in what was then a wilderness, near Ticonderoga, New York, where he raised fifteen sons and daughters, the eldest son being Josiah D. Dunning, late of this place, who was born in Ticonderoga, February 25, 1803. The great family growing up about him made the lot of the eldest brother a hard one, and if necessity had not prevented, there were in the vicinity only the rudest facilities for education. When nearly arrived at manhood, however, Josiah D. Dunning, by his own exertion, succeeded in getting a few months' schooling at Castleton Academy, Vermont, a school then of some reputation, where, besides the elementary branches, he seems to have received little instruction except in the elements of surveying. He had an acute mind, however, and his knowledge of what he had studied was more thorough than most men of his opportunities ever attain, and for some time he was a teacher of schools, chiefly in western

New York, and a successful one. He also became much interested in the work of education and impressed with its value.

In 1832 he married Eudoxea Smith, of Orwell, Vermont, and about that time engaged in business in Sodus, Wayne county, New York, thirty miles east of Rochester, where he soon became a prominent man in the community, serving as postmaster under Jackson's or Van Buren's administration, and as lieutenant and captain in the New York state militia. In the early days of the Washingtonian temperance movement he was one of its active followers. He was prosperous in business until some time after the panic of 1837, but was finally brought down with the rest, and in 1843 began life anew with his wife and four little children on a prairie farm in Big Rock, thirteen miles west of Aurora, where, for years, the struggle for existence was most severe. The labors of a pioneer, however, did not absorb all his energies. He was always interested in public affairs. The public school in his district being miles away from his house, he instituted a regular system of home instruction for his children, who recited regular lessons to him throughout the winter for many years. To help in giving instruction in geography he drew on the kitchen wall of the house (now occupied by Mr. William Hodgman) a large outline map of the United States, with the states colored. The house was on a great thoroughfare, over which, for one hundred and fifty miles, farmers hauled their wheat to Chicago and hundreds of them stopped there for water, etc., and among them the house became known as "the house with the map on the wall." There probably still survives here and there an old pioneer between Princeton or Dixon, and Chicago, who will remember this map. This is mentioned to show the great interest which he took in the education of his children who, until they were grown, was truly his first care. It must be nearly forty years ago, as he was pitching hay in the field that he said to a neighbor: "I would rather leave my children an education than money. They might lose the money; the education can't be taken from them." During one winter, when nearly fifty, he served as teacher of the schools in this district and had among his pupils John J. Davis, now of Aurora; Zachariah Squires, Jr., and Charles Squires, of Chicago, and D. M. Shonts, of Plano, besides his own children.

Having some knowledge of legal methods, and there being no lawyer near by, while living at Big Rock he was often called in by his neighbors to act as counsel for them in justice courts and to draw up legal papers and had very considerable success even when opposed to regular members of the bar. The acuteness of his intellect would doubtless have made him a great lawyer if he had had the requisite training, but under the circumstances it is probable that this practice and his success in it were really a misfortune for him.

When township organization was first adopted in Kane county, Mr. Dunning took very great interest in town affairs. He was the first supervisor of Big Rock, and though a democrat in a whig town, was reelected year after year nearly until his removal to Aurora in 1856, and he was one of the most active and useful members of the board. At that time, though only fifty-three, the severe labors in his first years of farming had worn away

his strength and vigor. The only considerable occupation he had after this time was the building of the block of stores at the foot of Galena street and the unsuccessful struggles to free himself from the debts incurred in this enterprise, which swallowed up the little capital he had brought from his farm. He indeed lived to a good old age, but for many years he had been very feeble. He came of a long-lived race. His father was eighty-three when he died, his grandfather eighty-seven and his great-grandfather eighty-one.

Eudoxea Smith, for fifty-five years the wife of the above J. D. Dunning, and who survived him only three hours, was the daughter of a well-to-do farmer of Orwell, Vermont. She had been the mother of ten children, only four of whom survived infancy. Before marriage she was a teacher and from about 1838 to 1853 she was an invalid, often dangerously ill, and no one supposed that she would live long enough to be called old, notwithstanding which she lacked less than two months of the age of eighty-four when she died, and for thirty years, though always feeble, she enjoyed as good health as most people of her age and preserved her mental faculties unimpaired to the end. Her ill health in middle life made her life more quiet even than that of most domestic women. She rarely left her home and consequently her circle of acquaintances was small. This was a misfortune for the community in which she lived, for hers was a nature gentle and refined, whose simple presence checked coarseness and made the rough tender and courteous. She was a most faithful wife, a devoted mother and an earnest Christian of deeply religious nature, and she has gone to her reward.

---

#### WALLACE E. MUNDY.

Among the prosperous farmers of Kaneville township who owe their success in life entirely to their own unaided efforts is numbered Wallace E. Mundy, who has been dependent upon his own resources for a livelihood since the age of eleven years. He is a native of Illinois, born in Champaign county, September 15, 1862, and is a son of Stephen Mundy, whose birth occurred in Ontario county, New York. He was attacked with the gold fever which broke out on the discovery of the precious metal in California in 1848, and going to the Pacific slope he spent nine years in mining. On his return to New York he married Miss Jane Burrell, who was born near Dansville, that state, and later they removed to Illinois, locating near Champaign. He was an ardent republican in politics and was a prominent Mason, having taken the thirty-second degree in the Scottish Rite. In his family were six children, namely: Frank M., a farmer of South Dakota; Thomas M., who was killed in a railroad accident while serving as conductor on a passenger train; Samuel B., who was also killed in a railroad wreck; Stephen E., now a farmer of Oklahoma; William P., a cigarmaker of St. Louis; and Wallace E., whose name heads this sketch.



Wallace E. Mundy was only eleven years of age when his father died and he was forced to begin the battle of life for himself. He attended the district schools a part of the time until fifteen and since then has devoted his entire time and attention to the acquirement of a home and competence. He first secured employment as a farm hand, working by the month until twenty years of age, and the following year worked with his brother.

Mr. Mundy was then married to Miss Stella Young, who was born in Bristol, Illinois, and they became the parents of five children, namely: Lottie A., now the wife of Rolland Bateman; Thomas B., who is employed in a cement factory in Kaneville; and Napoleon B., Eva M. and Ivan, all three at home.

After his marriage Mr. Mundy rented a farm, being able to engage in agricultural pursuits on his own account. He had received only \$125 from his father's estate, but managed to save some money from his wages while working as a farm hand. He continued to operate rented land until thirty-two years of age and by untiring industry and careful management he was then able to purchase eighty-acres of land near Little Rock, on which he lived for five years. In the meantime he prospered as the time went by and then bought the farm in Kaneville township, where he now resides. Here he owns two hundred and seven acres of rich and arable land, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation and improved with good and substantial buildings. The place is well watered and supplied with a fine variety of fruit. It is conveniently situated two miles west of Kaneville on the Kaneville and Hinckley road and the air of thrift which pervades the place indicates the owner to be one of the most progressive and enterprising farmers of this county. He is quite a chicken fancier, preferring the Rhode Island Reds, and he also gives considerable attention to the raising of stock, shipping about three carloads of cattle and hogs yearly to Chicago. Politically he proudly follows the footsteps of his father, unswerving in his support of the republican party. He attends the Methodist Episcopal church and socially is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. He stands foremost in his community as one of its leading and influential citizens and is a man honored and esteemed wherever known.

---

### C. EUGENE MORRILL.

C. Eugene Morrill, the efficient city clerk of Elbura, was born in Kaneville township, Kane county, Illinois, on the 18th of May, 1850, his parents being Samuel M. and Emily (Stearns) Morrill. The father made his way to Illinois in 1845, taking up his abode near Elburn. The record of his children is as follows: George S., who is employed as an engineer in Chicago; J. S., an employe of the Bowman Dairy Company, in Elburn; Mabel M., who is the wife of Andrew Peterson and resides in Elburn; and Emma D., who has passed away.

C. Eugene Morrill, the other member of the family, attended school until eighteen years of age and subsequently followed the profession of teaching for a period of eight years. In 1879 he was elected cashier of the Bank of Elburn, continuously remaining in that position until the institution sold out in 1898. He was then elected city clerk of Elburn and has capably filled the office to the present time. In addition to his official duties he has been employed as bookkeeper by the Crown Electric Company, of St. Charles, since 1903, and is widely recognized as a most public-spirited and enterprising citizen.

On the 7th of April, 1883, Mr. Morrill was united in marriage to Miss Anna S. Hughes, whose birth occurred in Lemon, Pennsylvania, September 5, 1861. Their children are: Miranda M., the wife of Robert L. Perry, an electrician of Chicago; William S., at home; and Bernice C., who is engaged in teaching in Kaneville township, having graduated from the Elburn high school in 1906.

Politically Mr. Morrill is a staunch republican and takes an active and helpful interest in the local work of the organization, having served as clerk of Blackberry township for twenty-five years and as justice of the peace for two terms. Fraternally he is a Knight Templar Mason and is likewise connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, of which he is acting clerk. Having lived in Kane county throughout his entire life, he has witnessed much of its growth and development and has become widely known as one of its most progressive and esteemed residents.

---

#### KARL DANNER.

Landing in Elgin, Illinois, sixteen years ago with but fifty cents as the sum of his worldly wealth, and now one of the substantial and successful farmers of Kane county, Karl Danner is a striking type of the resourceful and self-reliant man of thrifty habits, who only needs the opportunities this country affords to forge ahead in the race of life and win his way over all obstacles.

Mr. Danner was born in Germany, July 20, 1866, and is a son of L. and Barbara (Deitz) Danner, also natives of that great country. The father was a soldier in the German army four years, and afterward a farmer, and also connected with the wine industry. Three children were born to him and his wife: Jacob, who is a wine merchant in Germany; Caroline, who is the wife of Mr. Fischer and lives in Germany, where her husband is engaged in farming; and Karl.

Karl Danner went to school in his native land until he reached the age of fifteen, then, after working some years in the wine trade, turned his attention to farming. He came to the United States in 1892 and located in Elgin, Illinois. For a time after his arrival in this county he farmed for others on shares, then began the same occupation on his own account. He has prospered in all his undertakings, and it is due to himself that he has. For

he has been industrious, knowing and economical, making every day of his time and every dollar of capital, as he acquired it, tell to his advantage.

His first marriage was with Miss Carrie Wiess, who was born in Germany and is now dead. Her remains were buried in Elgin. They had five children: Richard, who is working by month away from home; Charles, who is farming in Kane county; Lena, who is also at home; Hazel, who is a resident of South Dakota; and Fanny, who is a resident of Elgin. Mr. Danner's second marriage was with Miss Lena Baulinger, also a native of Germany, who came to this country when she was a small girl, and settled with her parents in Elgin. By the second marriage Mr. Danner has four children: Emma, Carrie, Frankie and Mary, all of whom are at home.

In addition to his general farming operations, which are extensive and carried on with vigor and good judgment, Mr. Danner has a flourishing dairy business with twenty to thirty cows as its basis of supplies. While pushing his own interests with unflinching diligence and energy, he has not been unmindful of those of the community around him, but has given his aid willingly and readily to every worthy cause for the promotion of the welfare of his township and its people. He is devoted to the institutions of his adopted country and cheerfully bears his portion of the burden of supporting them and augmenting their usefulness.

---

#### HERMAN J. WIESE.

Herman J. Wiese, a successful farmer and dairyman of Plato township, where he operates a farm of one hundred and ten acres and conducts a dairy, was born in Kentucky, November 24, 1882, the son of Fred J. and Dora (Frebbeine) Wiese. His father is a native of Germany, where he was educated in the common schools. He came to America in 1882, accompanied by his wife and located in Kentucky, where, however, he only remained for a short time, going from there to Chicago and later removed to Hampshire, where he engaged in farming operations, an occupation in which he has continued to the present time. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wiese have been born nine children, six sons and three daughters, namely: Anna, the wife of August Rabe; Henry, a motorman of Elgin, Illinois; Minnie, the wife of Herman Rabe; William, deceased; Alvina, the wife of George Lasemann; Fred, at home; August, who resides in Hampshire township; Johnnie, residing with his parents; and Herman J., of this review.

Herman J. Wiese received his education in the district school of Plato township, which he attended regularly throughout the school year while in the primary grades, but when he reached an age to be of assistance to his father on the farm his attendance was necessarily somewhat irregular, being confined to those months of the year when farming operations were suspended. He received, however, a good practical education. He learned to be a butter-maker, and followed this occupation for three years. His ambition, however, was to conduct a farm of his own, and he did not cease in

his efforts in this direction until his aim was accomplished. He is now well established with all the necessary farm animals and implements for the conduct of his business and feels that the road to success and prosperity stretches straight before him, and that in the future he has only to continue on the same lines that he has followed in the past in order to attain a competency.

On April 6, 1904, in Elgin, occurred the marriage of Mr. Wiese and Miss Emma Werrbach, whose parents, Andrew and Catherine Werrbach, are living in Plato Center. They were born in Germany and were brought to America when three and four years of age, respectively. The brothers and sisters of Mrs. Wiese are: John and Frank, both of whom are carpenters, the former residing in Elgin, and the latter in Plato; Samuel and Edward, both of whom are farmers of this township; Annie, who resides at Plato Center; Minnie, the wife of Bert Rash; Lydia, who is a clerk in Elgin, and George, who resides at home with his parents; two died in childhood.

Politically Mr. Wiese is identified with the republican party, in whose interests he is an active worker. Religiously he is a faithful and consistent member of the Lutheran church.

---

#### COLONEL EDWARD S. JOSLYN.

Colonel Edward S. Joslyn was born in New York state in 1827, and came to Illinois with his father about 1837. In the '50s he came to Elgin and by 1860 was well established as a rising lawyer and public speaker. When the war of the Rebellion arose he was captain of a militia company known as the Washington Continentals because of the Revolutionary uniforms they had adopted. Northern Illinois possessed no other company as well equipped and drilled at that time. Colonel Ellsworth, then of Chicago, frequently visited the Continentals and drilled them. When hostilities began in 1861 this company was the first to enlist on the call for troops and was enrolled as Company A of the Seventh Regiment. It was enlisted for three months and did valiant service. At the end of that period most of the company reenlisted in the Thirty-sixth Illinois Volunteers, of which Colonel Joslyn was made lieutenant colonel, in which position he continued until his retirement on account of sickness induced by the southern climate.

During his large experience at the Kane county bar, no man was held in higher esteem for eloquence, legal ability and integrity. His word once given was inviolate. He was elected states attorney in the early '70s, and few deserving punishment escaped. As a criminal lawyer he was widely known and was employed to prosecute or defend nearly every important case during his activity. The celebrated Bailey case tried at Wheaton is still recalled, and the speech made by Colonel Joslyn in defense of the man who shot the invader of his home is mentioned as an eloquent and powerful appeal as its auditors ever listened to. It acquitted the prisoner.



In 1871-73 Colonel Joslyn was employed by the Chisholm family to try the celebrated Emma mine case. This mine was located in Utah and Colonel Joslyn went to that state and lived there nearly three years preparing for the case, which involved property worth several million dollars. He lived the life of a miner in order to gather evidence and made speeches to the Mormons on the Fourth of July and other occasions to become acquainted with the people. The case came to trial, and after a speech occupying four days, during which the sympathizers on both sides sat in the courtroom with pistols at hand, he won the verdict.

As an orator Colonel Joslyn was known throughout Illinois, which he "stumped" during every campaign until the '80s. He was twice mayor of Elgin, and from 1855 to 1878 was continuously a member of the common council and as much as any citizen then active, aided in giving direction to the development of the then new city. It is said of him that frequently while seeking office, when the papers were opposed to him, he would get on a dry-goods box on Fountain Square and proclaim to the people his policy and the fallibility of all newspapers.

He was a man of great intelligence and independence of character. He died October 5, 1885, at the age of fifty-nine years. A monument was placed at his grave in the cemetery in Elgin by the Kane County Bar Association as a token of the esteem in which he was held by his associates.

His widow, Jane (Padelford) Joslyn, is still living and resides with her daughter, Mrs. H. L. Goodrow, at Oak Park, Illinois. Their children were: Edward F., Fred M., Frank Wilber, Mary G., now Mrs. H. L. Goodrow, of Oak Park, Illinois; George, who died in childhood; Rodolphus Waite; Lorenzo D., now of Oklahoma; Florence and Isadore, who died in youth; and Harriet L., now Mrs. M. D. Hendrickson, of Elgin, Illinois.

---

#### REV. FATHER JOHN F. SCHMITT.

Rev. Father John F. Schmitt, pastor of St. Joseph's parish in Aurora, was born in McHenry county, Illinois, July 18, 1865. He was one of the eleven children of John F. and Maria (Schmitt) Schmitt and worked on the farm until nineteen years of age, when he went to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He spent nine years in St. Francis Seminary of that place, pursuing classical and special courses, and in 1894 was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Katzer of Milwaukee.

He was then assistant at Rochelle, Illinois, for three years and subsequently was assistant in St. Nicholas church of Aurora for a similar period. On the 17th of July, 1898, the first meeting for the purpose of founding St. Joseph's parish was held in a schoolhouse, and St. Joseph's church was temporarily placed under Father Schmitt's charge. They purchased ten lots, fifty by one hundred and fifty feet, and funds were collected with which to commence building in the fall of 1898. Negotiations were also begun for the opening up of High and Root streets to the city limits. On the 1st of February, 1899,



REV. J. F. SCHMITT



Father Schmitt was appointed pastor of St. Joseph's parish by Archbishop Feehan, and on the 1st of October, 1899, the first mass was celebrated in the new church edifice. The school opened with two hundred and twenty-five pupils and this number has been increased until two hundred and eighty-two students are now enrolled on its membership list. There are three hundred and twenty-five families under Father Schmitt's charge and, although all of them are working people with limited financial resources, he has accomplished a great and good work in the upbuilding of the parish, which is located in one of the poorest districts of the city. He likewise lectures for the different societies affiliated with the church. From February 13, 1906, until October 12, 1906, he was assisted by Father Edward Berthold, afterward by Francis Cichozki and now by Charles Nix. He has worked zealously and earnestly for the advancement of Catholicism here and his labors have been an important element in the moral development of Aurora.

---

#### OSCAR A. NELSON, G.D.

Oscar A. Nelson, G. D., is the proprietor of the Nelson Institute of Elgin, and the Norman Institute in Chicago, and although a resident of America for but a brief period, has already gained wide reputation in the treatment of disease through Swedish massage, medical gymnastics, physical culture and electrical, mineral water and incandescent light baths. He came to America well equipped for the work which he proposed to undertake.

He was born in Stockholm, Sweden, June 24, 1882, attended the public schools of that city and was graduated in Wegart Medico Gymnastic Institute at Stockholm in 1894. He had come to America prior to his graduation and after the completion of his course in his native land he located in Elgin, Illinois, where he has built up a very extensive practice. His place in Chicago is the largest of its kind in the city and in his work he is assisted only by Swedish graduate masseuses, giving Swedish massage, medical and orthapatic gymnastics, physical culture and electrical, mineral water and incandescent light baths. There is a special department for ladies and the institute has received a liberal patronage. The medical profession is thoroughly in sympathy with Mr. Nelson's system and almost daily patients are sent to his institute by medical practitioners. Both his institutes are equipped with the most modern appliances and there are new, clean and sanitary rooms for private treatment, with gymnasium and medical bath departments, private dressing rooms and rest rooms. Although Mr. Nelson has only been established in this country for a little more than four years he has become very widely and favorably known and his system is rapidly winning its way to public favor.

In his art Mr. Nelson follows the methods of Peter Henry Ling, the Swedish originator of the gymnastic system. This form of treatment, however, is almost as old as civilization. It was used by the ancient Greeks and Romans long before the Christian era, being employed in connection with



their famous baths. Men whose names have come down to us as those of prominent representatives of their time are known to have taken such treatments for headaches, fevers and other disorders. However, it remained to Ling to put the work into a system and bring it before the public. Although the system has been in practice for many years in Sweden it is comparatively new in America, but the beneficial results to be derived therefrom are securing for it many patrons in the new world.

Dr. Nelson was married on the 13th of July, 1907, to Miss E. G. Stiles, of Elgin, and they make their home in this city. He is meeting with a measure of success that proves the wisdom of his choice of a location and makes him well content with his sojourn in America.

---

#### CHARLES ALLAN PRATT.

Charles Allan Pratt, a well-known Illinois journalist, who is at present editor and publisher of the Elburn Herald, is a native of Pennsylvania. His ancestors were of English origin, coming to this country in the early part of the seventeenth century, and settling originally in New York. One branch of the family moved to western Pennsylvania in pioneer days, and an uncle now owns the original homestead in Greene county, Pennsylvania, on which a military post was situated during the Revolutionary war. This place has been in possession of the family continuously for one hundred and forty years. The members of another branch of the family were pioneers of Kentucky and one of them, James Garard, served as governor of the state from 1802 to 1804.

Charles Allan Pratt came to Illinois with his grandparents when a little lad of eight years, and was educated in the public schools of Princeville, Peoria county. He early developed a taste for literature and newspaper work and published his first paper at Princeville when nineteen years of age. At the age of twenty-one years he became associate editor of the Peoria Daily Democrat, later the Transcript, and with the exception of four years' service as postmaster of Buda, Illinois, has been continuously engaged in the newspaper business to the present time. He has devoted much time to literary work aside from his newspaper duties, has been a frequent contributor to the metropolitan press and magazines and is the author of the political novel, "John Rutledge, Jr." which attracted much attention at the time of its publication. He early developed marked ability as an orator and public speaker and his services have been in popular demand on such occasions as the 4th of July and Decoration Day. His Memorial Day address, delivered at Waukegan, Illinois, was published in pamphlet form and met with an extensive sale. After one of his lectures, entitled "Patriotism; or What We Owe to the Soldier," the Nunda Herald published the following: "Mr. Pratt is a classical and finished orator and held his audience almost breathless, as with the skill of a master he painted word scenes that entranced every hearer with their beauty. Taking as his illustrious example the sacred man

of Galilee, whose voice centuries ago stilled the waves of the sea, he rapidly touched upon the great events of history down to the present time, leading to the certain conclusion that patriotism and love of country is the only sure and safe salvation of a nation. Few speakers ever heard in Nunda have condensed more thought or beauty of language in so short a time." Mr. Pratt is at present editor and publisher of the Elburn Herald, which he established in March, 1908, and which is meeting with gratifying success.

Mr. Pratt has always taken an active interest in political and public affairs, using his influence for the betterment of the community in which he lives. At the age of twenty-two he began delivering temperance lectures throughout central Illinois, and his labors in this cause have been far-reaching and beneficial. At this point it would be almost tautological to enter into any series of statements as showing him to be a man of broad intelligence and genuine public spirit, for these have been shadowed forth between the lines of this review. Strong in his individuality, he never lacks the courage of his convictions but there are as dominating elements in this individuality a lively human sympathy and an abiding charity, which, as taken in connection with the sterling integrity and honor of his character, have naturally gained to him the respect and confidence of men.

---

#### JUDGE MARCUS O. SOUTHWORTH.

Judge Marcus O. Southworth, a prominent and successful lawyer of Aurora, was born on his father's farm at Mission Point, La Salle county, Illinois, April 1, 1841, his parents being George A. and Cornelia (Bowen) Southworth. The former was born at Bridgewater, Oneida county, New York, April 14, 1808, and in the spring of 1835 came to Illinois, settling near Aurora. He afterward removed to Chicago, and, being a well-educated man, taught school in the metropolis. Subsequently, however, he located on a farm in La Salle county, residing there until 1870, when he came to Aurora, his demise there occurring July 2, 1871. He had been a stalwart republican since the organization of the party and was a political leader, prominent in his district. His wife, who was a daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Cole) Bowen, of New York, died in July, 1906, when ninety-two years of age. Unto this worthy couple were born two children: Marcus O., of this review, and Mary J., whose demise occurred in March, 1908. The latter had been the wife of A. D. Southworth, a banker of Wabasha and Northfield, Minnesota.

Marcus O. Southworth acquired his preliminary education in the district schools of his native county and subsequently spent a year at Batavia Institute, studying Latin and Greek. Afterward he entered a preparatory school at Beloit and was graduated from Beloit College in 1863. Determining upon the practice of law as a life work, he entered the office of DeWolf & Pinkney, at Dixon, Illinois, where he remained about a year. During the succeeding four years, however, he assisted in the work of the home farm, owing to

his father's ill health. Subsequently becoming a student in the University of Michigan, he was graduated from the law department of that institution in 1871, and from that time to the present has successfully followed his profession in Aurora. He served for three terms as city attorney, and in 1894 was elected judge of the county court of Kane county, serving for twelve years. The legal profession demands not only a high order of ability but a rare combination of talent, learning, tact, patience and industry. The successful lawyer and the competent judge must be a man of well-balanced intellect, thoroughly familiar with the law and practice, of comprehensive general information, possessed of an analytical mind and a self-control that will enable him to lose his individuality, his personal feelings, his prejudices and his peculiarities of disposition in the dignity, impartiality and equity of the office to which life, property, right and liberty must look for protection. Possessing these qualities, Judge Southworth justly merited the high honor which was conferred upon him by his election to the bench. Since retiring from that office he has given his attention to his law practice and has an extensive and profitable clientage. He is likewise the vice president and was one of the organizers of the Aurora National Bank, and is widely known as an influential and representative citizen.

On the 26th of September, 1866, Judge Southworth was united in marriage to Miss Gabrielle Mills, of Lockport, Illinois, and a daughter of Joel and Eliza (Hale) Mills, of Genesee county, New York.

Like his father, Judge Southworth is a supporter of the republican party and has served on the Aurora school board for twenty-five years, acting as its president for eight years. He is active in the work of the Congregational church, and resides at No. 34 South Fourth street. For more than a third of a century he has now been identified with the legal interests of this county and has gained an enviable reputation in the line of his chosen calling.

---

#### GUY PHILLIPS.

Although actually born in another state, this leading farmer and influential citizen is practically wholly a product of Kane county. His father, Albert Phillips, was born on a farm in this county in 1841. His paternal great-grandfather, John Phillips, was a soldier in the Revolution, an officer in one of the most active divisions of the Continental army, and displayed his valor on many a hard-fought field in that momentous contest.

Guy Phillips attended the district schools until he was about sixteen years of age, then took a two-years' course of study at Jennings Seminary in Aurora. In 1888 he was married to Miss Gertrude L. Boyce, who was born in Boston, Massachusetts, in 1865, and came to Illinois with her parents in 1868. Five children have brightened and cheered the Phillips household, all of them sons. They are Roy, Albert, Floyd, Arthur and Charles. These are the particular care of their parents, who are deeply interested in their growth and development, and are sparing no effort to make of them

the best men they can. It is their purpose to have each of the sons pursue a full course of study at the State Agricultural College, and secure thereby the best practical education available to him.

The father has advanced ideas on the centralization of schools and is a strong advocate of the graded-school system. He is also deeply interested in agriculture in both theory and practice. He is treasurer of the Kane County Farmers' Institute, of which he served as secretary two years, and has for years been active in the maintenance of farmers' clubs, making addresses to them on all desired subjects connected with farming at suitable times, and helping them along in many and various ways. He owns one hundred and ninety acres of excellent land, which he has in a high state of cultivation, and he is considered one of the best farmers in the county. Dwelling in peace and comfort on the farm, with all the elements of prosperity and happiness around them, he and his estimable wife thoroughly enjoy country life. Mrs. Phillips has an ancestral record worthy of the just pride she feels in it. She is descended from a valiant soldier of the war for independence, making her eligible to membership in the Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and her grandfather was a soldier in the war of 1812.

Mr. Phillips is a republican in political affiliation, and in fraternal relations he belongs to the Modern Woodmen. He is highly esteemed as a citizen and fully deserves the respect and good will in which he is held. His life has been useful, clean and inspiring, a credit to himself and his community, and an incitement to others through the force of a worthy example. He has prospered in a worldly way, has faithfully served his community according to his opportunities, has won the respect of all who know him, and during the years of productive activity which are yet apparently before him will go on expanding his usefulness and employing his powers for still more extended good to his fellowmen.

---

#### FRANK F. WASHBURN.

Frank F. Washburn, of the firm of Washburn Brothers, is closely identified with the farming interests of Kane county, owning and cultivating two hundred and forty-one acres of rich and productive land about two miles from Lafox. He is a native of the state of New York, his birth having there occurred in 1861. His parents were Prosper P. and Eliza (Wood) Washburn. The former was a native of New York and a farmer by occupation. He gave his political allegiance to the republican party and was elected to the office of road commissioner. Both he and his wife are now deceased. Their family numbered the following named: S. H., who resides at Lafox, where he is engaged in general merchandising; Julia, the wife of Truman Eldred, whose home is near Elburn, Illinois; James M., a farmer living near Geneva, Illinois; Frank F., of this review; and Frederick, who also follows farming in this county with our subject.



Frank F. Washburn spent his boyhood and youth in his parents' home and early learned lessons concerning industry, perseverance and economy that he has never forgotten and which have proved of much value to him in his business career. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Anna Corrigan, a native of Ireland, and they now have one daughter, Eliza Belle, who at the age of seventeen years, is attending school. Mrs. Washburn is a daughter of Patrick and Anna (Wall) Corrigan, both of whom are now residing in Queen county, Ireland, the former at the age of eighty-six years and the latter at the age of seventy-five. Mrs. Washburn came to America in early girlhood, arriving in this country in 1884, at which time she took up her abode at Lafox.

Mr. Washburn has devoted his entire life to farming. He completed his education at the age of eighteen years and then returned to the old homestead, where he has continued to reside, giving his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits. He is now busily employed with his brother in the cultivation of a tract of land of two hundred and forty-one acres about two miles from Lafox and its neat and well-kept appearance indicates their careful supervision. His labor is bringing to him its merited reward in large crops, for which he finds a ready sale on the market. His political support is given to the republican party, but the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him.

---

#### WILSON HYATT DOE.

Wilson Hyatt Doe has for many years been prominently identified with the banking interests of Elgin and is now cashier of both the Home National Bank and the Home Savings Bank of this city. He was born just across the line in Janesville, Wisconsin, February 2, 1858, a son of Joseph Bodwell and Anna (Marcher) Doe. It was in 1841 that his father located in Janesville and soon afterward established a private bank there, which was later converted into the First National Bank, he acting as cashier of the same until his death in 1890.

Wilson H. Doe attended Church school at Janesville and at the age of fourteen years was prepared to enter the sophomore class in college except for Greek, but a position in the First National Bank of Janesville being offered him he gave up all thoughts of further education and entered upon his business career. He remained with that bank until April, 1881, when, not being satisfied with his prospects there, he resigned and accepted a position in the ticket office of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway at Milwaukee, which he held until February, 1882. He then became bookkeeper in the Home National Bank of Elgin, was made assistant cashier in 1886 and cashier in 1891, serving in the latter capacity up to the present time. In 1892 when the Home Savings Bank was organized he was chosen cashier of that corporation and has since served it as such. He has also served as president of the Elgin Loan & Homestead Association since 1897 and

has become a recognized leader in banking circles in this city. He is a man of keen discernment and sound judgment and his executive ability and excellent management have brought to the institutions with which he is connected a large degree of success.

On the 2d of September, 1882, Mr. Doe was married in Chicago to Miss Maude Palmer, of that city, and to them have been born two daughters: Ethelyn Anna, now attending the University of Wisconsin, at Madison; and Doris, a pupil in the public schools of Elgin.

For five years Mr. Doe was a member of the Wisconsin National Guard and has always been very fond of athletics, formerly taking an active part in baseball, cricket, handball and tenpins, but golf is now the outdoor sport in which he is principally interested. He also plays billiards and whist and is very fond of those games. The democratic party always found in him a staunch supporter of its principles until the question of free silver became the dominant issue, since which time he has affiliated with the republicans, thinking it preferable to voting for Bryan and his doctrines. He has never cared for political honors, preferring to devote his entire time, energy and talents to his business interests. In 1882 he became a charter member of Lochiel Lodge, No. 105, K. P., and has served as master of exchequer continuously for nearly twenty-five years. For many years he has held membership in the church of the Redeemer. He has always been found loyal and faithful to his friends, who recognize his true worth, and he is held in high regard by his social as well as his business associates.

---

#### NIELS ANDRESSEN.

Niels Andressen, successfully engaged in farming and dairying in Virgil township, was born in Denmark, on the 20th of August, 1857. His brothers and sisters are as follows: John, deceased; Peter, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Wisconsin; Anne, the wife of John Matson; Christina, who is the wife of Nels Olsen; and Elsie, who makes her home in Utah.

It was in the year 1880 that Niels Andressen emigrated to the United States, taking up his abode near Plano, Illinois, where he secured employment in the Plano Manufacturing Company. Subsequently he made his way to Chicago, thence to West Pullman and afterward to Elburn, Illinois, where he has since been engaged in farming and in the dairy business. He has a model dairy of twenty-five cows, which he has operated for three years with good success. Both branches of his business return to him a gratifying annual income and he is well known as one of the prosperous and enterprising residents of the community.

Mr. Andressen was united in marriage to Miss Antonia Johnson, likewise a native of Denmark, and unto them have been born the following children; Niels, who met death through an accident; Chris; Tillie; Carl; and Johnie and Marie, both of whom have passed away.

Politically Mr. Andressen is a republican and he holds membership in the Church of Christ. Realizing that the new world offered better opportunities for business advancement than could be obtained in the land of his nativity, he came to the United States as a young man, and by unremitting labor and unwearied diligence has worked his way steadily upward until he is now numbered among the substantial citizens of his locality.

---

### THE JOSLYN FAMILY.

The Joslyn family is one of the oldest of which record has been kept. A castle in the north of France, the "Chateau de Josceline," marks the original seat of the family. It is surmised that the early French kings invited Saxon chieftains to settle in France, among whom was the ancestor of the Joscelines, the names being originally of Angle-Saxon origin. The Joscelines were prominent in the time of Charlemagne, 800. A. D., the earliest member of the family to come into public notice having married the great-granddaughter of Charlemagne. It is asserted by the genealogists that the Josceline family is more directly descended from Charlemagne than were the Bourbons of the family of Orleans, who still lay claim to the throne of France.

When William the Conqueror in 1066 A. D., overcame the English at the battle of Hastings, Geoffrey de Josceline commanded one branch of his army, being then a nobleman of France. He was afterward given a large tract of land near what afterward became Lincolnshire and remained in England. This was the origin of the family in England, where it has since continuously resided and held prominent position,—the present Earl of Roden being a descendant of this family. The wife of King Henry II was a Josceline, as was Gilbert de Josceline, prominent in the early English Catholic church, who after his death became St. Gilbert.

The Joslyns in America are all descended from one of two individuals who came from England to New England in 1634-35. Thomas Josselyn, who landed at Hingham, Massachusetts (about ten miles south of what is now Boston) in 1635; and Henry Josselyn, who came to America in 1634, as the first governor of what was then the territory of Massachusetts and Maine, and dwelt at Scituate. A controversy exists as to which one of these men was the father of a certain Henry Joslyn, who was the father of twenty children, from whom a large portion of the family descended. Evidence seems to indicate that these two men may have been half-brothers, sons of Sir Thomas Josselyn. The later opinion seems to be that Thomas Josselyn was the original ancestor of the American family, and that Henry Josselyn, Esq., had no children. This Thomas Josselyn had a son, Abraham, who had a son named Henry, who, among twenty children, had a son named Jabez, who moved to Berkshire county, Massachusetts. This Joslyn had a son, Jabez, who had a son named Lindsey, who was a soldier in the Revolutionary army and after the war moved to Poultney, Vermont. He had a son named Lindsey, who was born at Sheffield, Berkshire county, Massachusetts,

who as a young man, moved to New York state, settling in Cayuga county, and in 1837 came west to McHenry county, Illinois, and settled near what is now Nunda. From this Lindsey Joslyn, the Joslyns of Kane and McHenry counties were descended. He reared a large family of children, eight boys and one girl. He, himself, removed to Elgin in the '50s, and died there, October 10, 1862. His monument may be seen in the new Bluff City cemetery, where his remains were removed about 1905. He married Polly Waite, of Granville, New York, who died in 1854, and is buried at Elgin, Illinois. Her mother was Ann Waldo and her father Benjamin Waite, of New York state. The children were Waite, Zara, Chauncey, Adoniram Judson, Frederick Daniel, Merritt L., Edward S., Mary and Waity Brinkerhoff.

---

### WALTER J. BAKER.

Walter J. Baker, of Burlington township, is a native of this county, having been born in Virgil township, August 29, 1867; and, having passed the whole of his life here, engaged in the productive activities which employ and distinguish the people, he is fitly taken as a representative man and a useful citizen of the county. He and his wife were also educated in the schools of the state, and they are, therefore, direct products of its soil and its institutions.

Mr. Baker is the son of George William and Carrie (Lawrence) Baker, both born in England, whence the father came to this country before the war of 1812. When that contest began he cast his lot with the country of his adoption and joined its army. In one of the severe battles of the strife he was wounded in the hand, and so carried the mark of his service until his death, which occurred when he was ninety-six years old.

The son was one of eleven children born to his parents, his brothers and sisters being: William, Mary, Jane, Elizabeth, Anna, Eliza and Thomas, all deceased; Sarah, the wife of John Cobb, of England; Charlotte, the wife of J. Johnson; and George, a retired farmer living in Kane county. The two last named live within easy reach of him and are able to restore in some small measure, on convenient occasions, the shattered family circle.

On February 5, 1902, Mr. Baker was married to Miss Carrie Stringfellow, who was born at Sycamore, DeKalb county, October 21, 1875. Mrs. Baker is a daughter of Berry F. and May H. (Barton) Stringfellow, the former of whom was a farmer in Pennsylvania and came to Illinois at the age of twenty-eight, locating in DeKalb county. He was also an ardent republican. The remains of himself and his wife were buried at Charter Grove in DeKalb county. Their offspring numbered eight, all of whom are living. Benjamin, Elizabeth and John A. live in Sycamore, where the last named is employed as a dairyman; Harry is a farmer in Iowa; Annie is the wife of H. B. Morrison, who is a blacksmith and resides in California; May married John O'Brien, a farmer; Mabel is the wife of C. B. Anderson, a molder; and Carrie is the wife of Mr. Baker.



Mr. and Mrs. Baker have three children: Mary E., who was born December 23, 1902; George E., who was born July 1, 1905; and Harold D., who was born January 28, 1908. Their mother had good school advantages, attending the high school in Sycamore until she was seventeen years of age. She has borne her part well in the domestic duties of the household and is a great help to her husband in his extensive operations, which includes the cultivation of his farm of one hundred and seventy acres, and the management of his dairy of thirty-five cows.

In his farming operations Mr. Baker alternates his crops and puts in a variety each year. At the time of this writing (1908) he has thirty-five acres in corn, fifteen in oats, five in barley, ten in wheat and ten in good meadow bottom. In political allegiance he is an unyielding republican, and in church affiliation a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Conducting the affairs of a large and productive farm, carrying on an active dairy business, and giving attention to the progress and development of the township, Mr. Baker has been of signal service to the section of the county in which he lives, and is well worthy of the general regard of the people, which he enjoys, and the respect of all classes, which is freely bestowed on him and his family.

---

#### THOMAS McBRIDE.

Among those who have been factors in the business circles of Elgin but have been called from their labors is numbered Thomas McBride, who for some years was connected with the coal and wood trade in this city. A native of Ireland, he was born in the year 1861, and in early boyhood was brought to the new world by his parents, Henry and Margaret (Adams) McBride, who on crossing the Atlantic to the United States established their home in Elgin, where Henry McBride engaged in business as a dealer in coal and wood.

Thomas McBride spent his early boyhood under the parental roof and at the usual age began his education in the public schools, passing through consecutive grades as he mastered the work assigned him year after year. His life was quietly passed, but in the faithful performance of each day's duty he won the respect and confidence of those with whom he was associated. After leaving school he joined his father in business as a dealer in coal and wood and continued in that line of merchandise up to the time of his demise. He never sought to take advantage of the interests of another in a business transaction, but gained his success through the legitimate channels of trade and secured his patrons by honorable dealing and prompt and efficient service.

On the 8th of November, 1888, Mr. McBride was united in marriage to Miss Martha Heath, a daughter of Aaron and Mary (Fisher) Heath, of Elgin. The marriage was blessed with three children: Waneta Margaret, who died December 2, 1903, at the age of fourteen years, only a few months after the demise of her father; Walter Henry, who was born August 22,



MR. AND MRS. THOMAS McBRIDE



1896; and Stanley Edmund, born July 21, 1899. The death of the husband and father occurred July 8, 1903, and thus was terminated a happy married life covering about fifteen years. He was devoted to the welfare and comfort of his wife and children and counted no personal sacrifice on his part too great that would promote their happiness.

His political support was given to the republican party and his life was in harmony with his professions as a member of the Congregational church. His associates prized his friendship, while those who knew him well entertained for him the respect which is everywhere accorded honorable, upright manhood.

---

### JERRY D. PUTNAM.

Although he was the only child of his parents, Jerry D. Putnam, a prominent dairy farmer of Aurora township, did not experience the favors of fortune which are supposed to be the lot of such children. He lost his father by death when he, the son, was but five years old. His birth occurred June 10, 1867, on a farm about two miles west of Aurora, on which his parents, Jeremiah Page and Nancy (Downes) Putnam, were then living. His recollections of his father are not vivid or extensive, for he died when the son was very young, as has been stated. But he knows that Claremont, New Hampshire, was the place of nativity of the parent, and that his mother was born and reared near Montreal, Canada, coming into the world on June 9, 1823, and was a daughter of Abel G. and Lucinda (Loomer) Downer. She was educated in the common schools of her native land and came with her parents to Kane county, Illinois, when she was seventeen years old. The family located on a farm near Aurora, where she lived until her marriage to Mr. Putnam.

After that event they took up their residence on a farm about two miles north of Aurora, which they occupied for four years. They then moved to another farm two miles west of the city, which the father cultivated until his death, five years later, in August, 1872. The mother continued to live in the neighborhood until her death. This was the father's second marriage, his first wife having died many years previously. She also was the mother of one child, Mrs. Lucretia Angell, who now lives in Aurora and is the widow of the late David Angell of that city.

Jerry D. Putnam, notwithstanding his early orphanage, obtained a good common-school education and also attended the Oak street school in Aurora two years. He has been a tiller of the soil all his life and is now settled on a farm of sixty-one acres two miles west of Aurora on the Galena road. Here he carries on dairy farming extensively, keeping usually about twenty cows, and making the business profitable by giving it close and critical attention and taking every precaution to prevent every kind of loss or trouble. He has good and completely-equipped buildings for his enterprise, erected and furnished according to the most exacting sanitary requirements, and he overlooks with careful inspection every feature of the work he has laid out



for himself. With plenty of grain and hay growing annually on his farm and extensive silos for the preservation of green food, he is well prepared to care well for his cattle and thereby secure the largest returns for his outlay in connection with them.

Mr. Putnam also makes a specialty of breeding superior Holstein cattle and has some of the finest specimens of the breed to be found anywhere. That he is an enterprising and skillful farmer and stock breeder will be manifest to any one who may have the pleasure of a visit to his farm and a sight of his stock, with the produce of both and the manner in which it is handled and disposed of.

On July 15, 1891, Mr. Putnam was married to Miss Ida May Barnes, a daughter of Ira Crowell Barnes, who is now a resident of Aurora. She was born on her father's farm in Sugar Grove township and has passed the whole of her life so far in Kane county. She and her husband have one child, Ira J. Putnam, who was born on August 1, 1892, and lives at home, assisting his father in the farm work in the intervals between the sessions of the West Aurora high school, at which he is a student.

Mr. Putnam is a republican, but not an active partisan, although he has taken an active and extended part in the official life of the township, having served as school director during the last fifteen years. He and his wife are members of the West Aurora Farmers Club, of which he is vice president and she is secretary. They are also members of the Twentieth Century and the Sugar Grove Farmers Club; and he is a member and one of the board of managers of the Aurora Horse Protective Association. This organization has for its object the protection of farmers against horse-stealing, and pays for every horse that is stolen from a member two-thirds of the value of the animal up to a maximum of \$150. The association has a large membership and is in a flourishing condition, doing an extensive business and giving great satisfaction to its beneficiaries and those who have dealings with it.

Grandfather Downer, as he was familiarly called, owned at the time of his death two hundred and fifty acres of land in small parcels around the town of Aurora, as it was then. The city has grown over much of this land and made it very valuable. Twenty acres of what belonged to him is now the finest residence portion of the expanding municipality, and Downer Place, which was named in his honor, is conceded to be its finest residence street.

---

#### DELL BLANCHARD MORRILL.

Dell Blanchard Morrill is identified with both agricultural and industrial interests in Kane county, where he is now engaged in carpentering and farming. He was born in this county, July 18, 1857, and has spent much of his life here, now making his home in Blackberry township. His father, Frederick Stephen Morrill, was born in Strafford, Vermont, in 1825, and became one of the pioneer settlers of the northern portion of the state, purchasing five hundred acres of land from the government when this district

was largely an unimproved and unsettled region. His land was entirely destitute of improvements when it came into his possession, but with characteristic energy he began converting it into rich and productive fields. In 1862 he removed to Blackberry township and became a prominent and influential resident of the community, not only by reason of his activity and success in agricultural lines, but also owing to the fact that he did valuable service for the public. He filled the offices of justice of the peace and town clerk for a number of years, and for forty years acted as postmaster at Blackberry. When the draft was proclaimed at the time of the Civil war Mr. Morrill within a few days raised sixteen hundred dollars, with which he hired substitutes, securing the money by selling town bonds.

In early manhood he wedded Miss Lucinda Cleveland, who was born in Pike, Allegany county, New York, and at the age of sixteen years was brought to Illinois by her parents, who settled in Kaneville township, Kane county. Mr. and Mrs. Morrill became the parents of six children: Stephen, deceased; Bessie B., who married E. M. Butler, and after his death became the wife of H. N. Ross; Lucy A., the wife of Robert Ross, of Bartlett, Illinois; Dell B., of this review; Blanche M., the wife of J. G. Norton, a resident of Macomb, Illinois; and Frank S., who is well known as a farmer of Blackberry township. The father died in 1897, but the mother still survives at the age of eighty years and is yet living in Blackberry township.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for Dell B. Morrill in his boyhood and youth. He attended the graded schools until eighteen years of age, and thus acquired a good, practical English education. He then went to the west, where he remained for three years as a cowboy. He learned much of that section of the country, met many thrilling experiences and did much hard labor. He also secured many Indian relics and, indeed, has quite a valuable collection, which he has gathered from various fields on his travels. Since his return he has taken up the trade of carpentering and is showing good ability in industrial lines, being a capable artisan, whose work is proving highly satisfactory to those who employ him. He is well known as a representative of one of the old pioneer families of the county and has for half a century been a witness of its development and improvement.

---

### JONATHAN FOWLER.

Jonathan Fowler, attorney-at-law, although he is not engaged actively in practice at the present time, was born in Mission township, La Salle county, Illinois, July 2, 1850, his birthplace being at Mission Point. He is one of the five children of Jonathan and Sarah E. (Phillips) Fowler and is of English lineage. The ancestry of the family in America is traced back to Philip Fowler, an early resident of New England, who was probably born in Marlborough, Wiltshire, England, about 1590. He embarked with his family on the *Mary and John*, of London, Robert Sayers, master, and ar-

rived in New England in May, 1634. He received a grant of land at Ipswich, Essex county, Massachusetts, the same year, settled thereon and made the place his home until his death. It has since remained in possession of the family and is still occupied by one of his descendants.

Thomas Fowler, grandfather of Jonathan Fowler, was a native of New Hampshire and became a farmer and Baptist minister, though not regularly ordained. Removing westward to Illinois about 1845, he settled in La Salle county, where he purchased a tract of land and followed farming until old age prevented his further efforts in that direction. He died March 16, 1872, at the very venerable age of eighty-six years, having long survived his wife, Mrs. Olive (Hale) Fowler, who was born July 14, 1790, and died April 19, 1850. They were the parents of three children: Olive B., born in 1812; Thomas Milton, in 1814, and Jonathan, in 1817.

The last named was born and reared in New Hampshire and followed agricultural pursuits as a life work. He arrived in this state in the '40s and purchased government land in Mission township, La Salle county. Not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made upon the place but with characteristic energy he began its development and transformed it into a productive farm. He wedded Sarah E. Phillips, a native of New Hampshire, where also occurred the birth of her parents, Ebenezer and Hannah (Eager) Phillips. Both of her parents died in the east, her father at the age of seventy-five years and her mother when eighty-one years of age. His birth occurring August 11, 1766, and his death on the 14th of April, 1851, while Mrs. Phillips was born June 9, 1778, and died December 16, 1859. They were the parents of seven children, all now deceased. Mr. Phillips devoted his life to farming and served his country as a soldier of the war of 1812. He, too, was of English lineage.

The married life of Jonathan Fowler and Sarah E. Phillips was of comparatively short duration, for the former died in 1850 when about thirty-three years of age. He was a man of considerable local prominence and influence and held various township offices, including that of justice of the peace, in which position he served for several years. His decisions were strictly fair and impartial and he won the respect and honor of all with whom he came in contact. His widow survived him, remaining upon the old home farm, and later she became the wife of Edmund S. Fowler, who, though of the same family name, was not a relative of her first husband. She died November 4, 1896, at the age of seventy-nine years and two months. Her second husband passed away in Florida. There were no children by that union, but by her first marriage she had five children, all sons, of whom three are now living: Chase N., a lawyer of Ottawa, Illinois; Albert J., a farmer residing near Sheridan; and Jonathan, of Aurora.

The last named was reared upon the old homestead farm in La Salle county and after acquainting himself with the primary branches of learning he attended the Fowler Institute at Newark, Illinois, and subsequently was graduated from the old Battle Ground Collegiate Institute, of Battle Ground, Indiana. Later he engaged in teaching in various places for about eight years and in the meantime was devoting his leisure hours to the study of law,

finishing his reading in Ottawa. He was then admitted to the bar there in 1880 and practiced for a short time in that city, whence he removed to Nebraska, becoming a member of the bar of Dakota county. There he continued in active practice until 1899, when he returned to Illinois and made his home in Aurora, although he had no office here, for a few years. He afterward engaged in practice at Ottawa until 1906, when he returned to Aurora, but on account of ill health did not open an office.

On the 24th of March, 1891, Mr. Fowler was married to Miss Mary E. Barnard, a daughter of Joseph and Maria (Gerrish) Barnard and a native of Hopkinton, New Hampshire. Her parents were also natives of that state. Her paternal grandfather was born at Hopkinton, May 6, 1795, and always resided there. He became noted for his enterprise in the cultivation of improved cattle and sheep and was also an extensive owner of real estate. In community affairs he took an active and helpful part, serving as selectman of his town in 1837-38, while in 1839 and 1840 he was a representative to the general court. In June, 1816, he married Miss Miriam Jackman, a daughter of William Eastman and Phoebe (Elliot) Jackman, of Concord. Mr. and Mrs. Barnard had five children. The father died March 15, 1870, while his wife passed away September 17, 1869.

In the maternal line Mrs. Fowler traces her ancestry back to Hon. Abiel Foster, who was her great-great-grandfather. He was a resident of Canterbury, New Hampshire, and represented his district in the first, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh congresses of the United States, being a member of the national law-making body for the greater part of the time during twenty-one years. He died in 1806. Abiel Foster Gerrish, the grandfather of Mrs. Fowler, was born at Boscawen, New Hampshire, March 7, 1806, and died at West Creek, Indiana, June 10, 1884. He was married January 18, 1830, to Eliza Dodge, who was born in Boscawen, January 12, 1806, and passed away in Salina, Illinois, September 19, 1881. He lived at West Creek, Lake county, Indiana, from 1856 until the time of his death. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Gerrish were born five children, all of whom came to the West to live except Mrs. Maria Barnard, who remained in the East. She traced her ancestry back to John Rogers, the first Christian martyr, who was burned at the stake at Smithfield, England, February 14, 1555, in Queen Mary's reign.

Joseph Barnard, the father of Mrs. Fowler, was born at Hopkinton, New Hampshire, and always resided there with the exception of a period of three years spent in Massachusetts. He learned the stone cutter's trade there, after which he returned to his old home and engaged in clerking in a store for several years. He afterward turned his attention to the lumber business, which he followed in Hopkinton and also carried on farming for a number of years. For a considerable period he resided in Contoocook, where he was for a time associated in business with Abram Brown and John Burnham. After the death of his father he resided on the old Barnard homestead, which he greatly improved. As an agriculturist he was much interested in raising cattle, keeping a herd of Guernsey cattle that had been bred upon the place for more than forty years. He was also building agent of the Contoocook Valley Railroad from Contoocook to Hillsboro. During the open-



ing year of the Civil war he served as enrolling officer of the twentieth district of New Hampshire and in 1870-71 was representative to the general court, in 1882 was appointed commissioner of forestry of Merrimack county and in 1889 was elected a member of the constitutional convention of his state. On the 26th of October, 1849, he married Maria Gerrish, of Bosca-wen, and unto them were born nine children. His death occurred upon a farm in Hopkinton. Both his father and his grandfather bore the name of Joseph Barnard and the latter married the widow of Captain John Hale, who fought throughout the Revolutionary war.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Fowler has been blessed with one daughter, Marion Edna. The mother is a member of the First Congregational church, while Mr. Fowler believes more strongly in the Methodist faith. His political allegiance is given the democracy but he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. He is well known in Aurora, where he now makes his home and has an extensive circle of warm friends here.

---

#### ASHEL T. JUDD.

Ashel T. Judd, one of the progressive and successful farmers of Kane county, was born March 21, 1844, in Warren county, New York, on the shore of the most beautiful sheet of water in this country—historic Lake George—on which and around which have waged some of "the big wars that make ambition virtue." And although he left the region in his childhood, it is by no means too remote an inference that what he saw of it while he was under the witchery of its beauty and suggestiveness, and what he read of it afterward, made a deep and lasting impression on his mind, and did something to determine his subsequent course in life. He came to Illinois with his parents in 1850, when he was six years of age, and grew to manhood in this state, obtaining his education in its public schools. He is the son of Dexter C. and Eliza (Brown) Judd, also natives of the state of New York. In 1851 the father settled on land in section 21, Sugar Grove township, Kane county, building a house which is still standing, although since remodeled and improved.

When Ashel T. Judd grew to manhood, or near it, he yielded to the call of President Lincoln for volunteers to save the Union from armed resistance which threatened its continuance, and enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Illinois Infantry. He went through the great civil conflict without injury, and was mustered out of the service on September 11, 1865, having been on active duty more than three years, and faced death on many a hard-fought and gory field. He was in the siege of Vicksburg and many other important engagements, and bore himself ever, even in the front of unrolling columns, with a gallantry consistent with his lineage and the lessons of his birthplace. The memories of the war have abided with him, and he has kept them alive by active membership in the Grand Army of the Republic, belonging to Post No. 20 at Aurora. He has also

been a member of the Masonic order since 1865, and in politics has been a lifelong and zealous republican. He has acceptably served as school commissioner.

In 1868 Mr. Judd was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Reynolds, who was born in a log cabin which her father built when he settled in this county in 1835. They have one child, Ira Judd, who is now a resident of Aurora. Ever since the Civil war Mr. Judd has been a successful farmer, and for a number of years he was an extensive feeder of live stock. In all his undertakings he has prospered, now owning a fine farm of five hundred and twenty-five acres and by his upright life, elevated citizenship and fair dealing with all men, as well as by his earnest and serviceable interest in public affairs and intelligent cooperation in every undertaking for the improvement of his community, he has firmly established himself in the regard and good will of his fellowmen. The evening of life is approaching for him and his estimable wife, and it is their good fortune to welcome it amid the scenes and the people which have surrounded them from childhood, and where they have not only all the material comforts of existence, but are universally respected and esteemed.

---

#### E. H. ABBOTT, M.D.

In a profession where advancement depends entirely upon individual merit Dr. E. H. Abbott is making consecutive progress, and the liberal patronage accorded him is indicative of the confidence reposed in him by the general public. A resident of Elgin, he was here born on the 6th of November, 1866, and through the period of his boyhood attended the public schools, while during the vacations he worked in the Elgin watch factory, beginning there when about ten years of age, at which time he was the youngest employe of the company. Before he reached his fifteenth year he left the high school to take his father's place in the factory. His determination to secure an education, however, led him to devote his evenings to study, and he not only completed the high-school course, but also pursued several additional branches. Throughout his entire life he has remained a student, constantly broadening his knowledge in general as well as professional lines. In the meantime he acted as correspondent for the Elgin Every Saturday, a society and local paper, but having determined to engage in the practice of medicine and surgery as a life work, he labored toward this end and in the spring of 1892 entered the Rush Medical College of Chicago, from which he received his degree in 1895. Dr. Abbott then located for practice in his native city and the subsequent years have proven that his choice of a profession was a wise one. His record stands in contradistinction to the old adage that a prophet is never without honor save in his own country, for in the city which has always been his home Dr. Abbott has gained recognition as an able physician of wide and accurate learning and of skill and ability in practice. At the outbreak of the Spanish-American war he was largely instrumental

in organizing a provisional regiment, which, however, was not called to the front. In recognition of his service he now holds a complimentary commission as surgeon from the state legislature, as well as a letter from the governor, stating that he probably did more than any other Illinois physician toward raising troops. He also holds a commission in the Illinois National Guard as major and surgeon unassigned.

Dr. Abbott, since his graduation, has kept in touch with the advance of the profession and through investigation and research is continually broadening his knowledge and promoting his efficiency. He is a member of the American Medical Association, of the Illinois State Medical Society, the Fox River Valley Medical Society and the Elgin Physicians' Club. In more specifically social and fraternal lines he is connected with the Royal Arch Masons, the Odd Fellows, the Maccabees, the Mystic Workers, the Sons of Veterans, the Sons of the Revolution, and the Archæan Union, of which he has been and still holds the office of supreme medical director.

Pleasantly situated in his home life, Dr. Abbott was married in 1901 to Miss Ethelyn M. Wells, of Corning, Arkansas, and they have two sons and one daughter, namely: Cyril Edward, Gordon Wells, and Eunice. The Doctor has just moved into an elegant and thoroughly modern home at No. 24 South Liberty street. It is one of Elgin's finest residences, being a pressed-brick structure, located in a most select neighborhood. For the past six years he has been a member of Elgin's school board, and for the past two years has been president of the building and grounds committee.

---

#### TERENCE E. RYAN.

One of the most prominent lawyers practicing at the bar of Kane county is Terence E. Ryan, of St. Charles, who was born on a farm near the city of Limerick, Ireland, June 22, 1846, a son of Terence and Honora (McCarthy) Ryan, also natives of the Emerald isle. Deciding to try his fortune in the United States, the father, in company with his family, crossed the Atlantic in 1848 and came at once to Kane county, Illinois, locating on a farm two and a half miles northeast of Elgin. In 1852 he became a resident of Elgin, but a year later removed to Virgil township, where he carried on agricultural pursuits until his removal to St. Charles in 1856. The latter city continued to be his home throughout the remainder of his life, and he passed away there in 1887 in the eighty-third year of his age. His wife survived him until 1895, dying at the age of eighty-four years.

Terence E. Ryan of this review acquired his early education in the public schools of Kane county and was graduated from the west side school of St. Charles in 1866. Later he attended the Elgin Academy for two years, graduating in 1868. In the meantime, however, he had served his country during the Civil war, enlisting in 1864, when only seventeen years of age, as a member of Company E, One Hundred and Forty-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served as corporal until the close of the war. Returning home



T. E. RYAN





he resumed his education and after his graduation from the Elgin Academy he taught school on the east side of South Elgin for two years, resigning that position to enter the law office of Hon. William D. Barry at St. Charles. Passing the required examination, he was admitted to the bar in October, 1871, and has since engaged in the practice of his chosen profession and has met with marked success.

On the 14th of May, 1874, Mr. Ryan was united in marriage to Miss Emily Millington, who was born in St. Charles in 1853, and is the second daughter of Darwin and Miranda (Boardman) Millington, early settlers of St. Charles. Her father was born in 1815 and died in 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Ryan became the parents of six children, but two are now deceased: George S., who was born July 23, 1877, and died October 16, 1886; and Mary Ella, who was born October 28, 1878, and died April 28, 1879. Those still living are Minerva, who was married November 5, 1902, to Dr. James H. Dalbey, of Elgin; Harriette Frances, who after graduating from the St. Charles high school attended Oberlin (Ohio) College, where she was graduated June 25, 1908; Frank Millington, now a junior at Harvard College; and Terence E., a senior at St. Charles high school. Mrs. Ryan and the children are all members of the Congregational church.

Fraternally Mr. Ryan is a Knight Templar Mason, a member of Bethel Commandery, No. 36, at Elgin, and he also belongs to St. Charles Lodge, No. 14, I. O. O. F., and to the Modern Woodmen of America, and to the Grand Army of the Republic. At the breaking out of the Rebellion the four sons in the Ryan family were among the first to join the Union army. One was killed at Kenesaw Mountain, another was wounded at Gettysburg; but the two others returned home uninjured. Since attaining his majority T. E. Ryan has always affiliated with the republican party, and has taken quite an influential part in local politics. He was a member of the county central committee for sixteen years, and for a great portion of the time was its secretary. He is chairman of the advisory council of the Legislative Voters' League of the State of Illinois for the fourteenth senatorial district. In November, 1880, he was elected states attorney and most acceptably filled that office for four years, but has never cared for political honors outside of his profession, though he served as alderman for five years. In the spring of 1908 he took charge of the campaign under the local option law, and it was largely through his efforts that the town voted all saloons out. He has been the local attorney for the Chicago Great Western Railway since 1886. His reputation as a lawyer has been won through earnest, honest labor, and his standing at the bar is a merited tribute to his ability.

The St. Charles Chronicle of March 2, 1900, paid the following tribute to Mr. Ryan: "It is a fact that all will be willing to concede that this man is and has been a leader ever since his name first became associated with the business interests of St. Charles. A hard worker, a close student, of indomitable courage and perseverance in everything he undertook, it is but natural that he should have made a high place for himself in the business and professional world. He has never tired in his efforts to promote public enterprises, and his property investments in St. Charles are many, representing thousands of

dollars. He was president of the St. Charles Land Association, formed in 1893, and the principal owner of it. He was the man that brought the Moline Malleable Iron Works to St. Charles, which cost him over thirty thousand dollars—but for the panic of 1893 other large plants would have been located in St. Charles at that time. Mr. Ryan owns one of the most beautiful homes in the city, built in 1891, and also owns the store building occupied by the post-office and the two buildings adjoining it on the east. He platted the Ryan addition, which has proved valuable to the city. These numerous property holdings prove the interest that Mr. Ryan feels in St. Charles and its future. He has spent much money here and expects to spend a great deal more."

---

#### IRA CROWELL BARNES.

This highly esteemed citizen of Kane county, who for thirty-seven years was one of its most successful farmers and is now living retired from active pursuits in Aurora, was born in Jefferson county, New York, May 3, 1835, and when he was ten years of age accompanied his parents and the rest of the family to Illinois, locating with them in Kane county. He completed in the public schools of this county the education he had begun in those of his birthplace, and, in the intervals between the sessions, helped to break the virgin soil of the farm on which the family lived and render it fruitful in the products of civilized life.

The long and trying journey from the county of his nativity to that of his present residence was an event of great interest in the early life of Mr. Barnes, and he has a vivid recollection of all its incidents. It occupied three weeks, owing to delays in making boat connections and other mishaps, and led him through regions which were, in the main, just awakening to new life and productiveness under the impulse of advancing civilization. The family started at Goose Bay on Lake Ontario and came over the lakes to Chicago, then a crude and straggling town floundering in the mud and quicksands of the lake shore, and giving no sign of the marvelous vitality that was to make it what it is today. It had as yet no railroad and but few of even the comforts of modern days.

From Chicago the trip was continued overland by teams through an almost trackless wilderness until Kane county was reached, and here a home was made of the farm in Sugar Grove township on which now lives Mr. Barnes' brother Ethelbert, in the sketch of whom, found on another page of this history, will be seen a full record of the family in detail. On this farm Ira Barnes grew to manhood, acquiring stature and strength in its useful labors and completing his education at the nearby district school.

In 1864, on August 11, he was married to Miss Henrietta M. Simmons, a daughter of Charles and Janette (Winton) Simmons, also natives of New York state. The father came to Kane county in 1835 and took up a farm in Sugar Grove township, which is a part of section 24. Two years later he returned to his native state and brought his wife to this county, and on the

farm which they had previously selected they lived together until 1855, when Mrs. Simmons died. In 1864 her husband moved to Humboldt county, Iowa, and located in Dakotah City. He died in Sugar Grove.

Mr. and Mrs. Barnes became the parents of four children: Della, the wife of James Nance, of Aurora; Ida May, also a resident of Aurora and the wife of Jerry D. Putnam of that city, whose life story is recorded elsewhere in this volume; Eliza J., who married Portus P. Benton and lives in Sugar Grove township; and Edward Andrew, who was born June 17, 1872, and died October 3, 1905. He married Anna May Benjamin, March 14, 1904, and she now makes her home with Mr. Barnes. She was born at Big Rock in this county, the daughter of James and Marguerite Benjamin.

Mrs. Ira Barnes was born April 6, 1845, and lived with her parents until her marriage. She was one of eleven children, the others being: Ruth, the wife of Edward Snook, who lives at Dakotah City, Iowa; Rachel A., whose residence is the same, and who is the wife of William C. Rowley; Solomon, who lives at Forest City, Iowa; Sarah, the wife of David Thomas of Humboldt, Iowa; Frank, also a resident of Humboldt, Iowa; Mrs. Adeline Brooks, now deceased; Charles G., whose home is at Humboldt, Iowa; Julia E., the wife of John M. Thomas, of Humboldt, Iowa; and twins who died in infancy. The family lived for a time in Sangamon county, Illinois, before settling on the Kane county farm, and the father was intimately acquainted with Abraham Lincoln. He was fond of repeating stories and anecdotes told by that illustrious man and martyred president.

Mr. Barnes is a republican in politics, but he has never had any taste or desire for public office. Although often solicited to become a candidate for important places, he has nearly always declined. To one appeal of this kind, however, he yielded, consenting to serve Sugar Grove township as collector for one year, and making an excellent record in the office by his fidelity to duty and the breadth of view with which he performed it. He and his wife are members of the West Aurora Farmers Club and give it the benefit of their intelligent activity in its behalf and their valued contributions to its proceedings. All who know them respect them highly and their influence for good is everywhere felt throughout the townships in which they have lived.

---

#### CLARENCE S. GREEN.

A resident of Kane county from the time when he was sixteen years of age, and having grown to manhood and begun the battle of life for himself here, Clarence S. Green, of Blackberry township, is almost wholly a product of the county, as he is a typical representative of its people. He was born in Dutchess county, New York, May 27, 1857, one of three children of Duncan C. and Cynthia A. (Pierce) Green, both natives of Dutchess county. The father was a man of celebrity in his native county, where he served sixteen years as a justice of the peace. He brought his family to Kane county, this state, in 1869, and located on a farm in Blackberry township. He was a



Methodist in religious faith and a staunch republican in politics. Believing fully in the principles and tenets of his party, he fortified his convictions by a special study of the protective tariff theory in all its bearings. He served the township two years faithfully and wisely as supervisor, but after the death of his wife he went back to the state of New York and took up his residence in Brooklyn. In 1905 he returned to this county, where he passed the remainder of his days, and at his death was laid to rest by the side of his wife in Sugar Grove cemetery. Mrs. Green, the mother of our subject, died at five o'clock in the morning, just three hours before completing the forty-ninth year of married life. She was a member of the celebrated Pierce family which has won distinction in many parts of the country and in various lines of useful and dignified activity, and could trace her ancestry back in an unbroken line to 1600. Their offspring numbered two besides their son Clarence, another son, Pierce, a prosperous farmer of Blackberry township in this county, and a daughter named Stasia, who died a number of years ago.

The advantages of education in the schools were not available to Clarence S. Green. It was necessary for him to help in supporting the family, and he was able to go to school but three months of each year until he came to Illinois. The rest of his education was secured from that hard but impressive task master, experience, and that he profited by the lessons is proven by his record. When he reached man's estate he joined a cousin in the purchase of a farm, which for three years the two worked in partnership. At the end of that period he bought the farm on which he now lives and on which he has made his home from the time of his purchase. It was the first claim taken up in Blackberry township and the house and barn were built in 1839, being the first erected in this township. When Mr. Green acquired the ownership of this property there was scarcely any improvement on it, but he has since developed it into an excellent and productive farm and enriched and adorned it with imposing buildings and all the necessary additions required for a country home of good quality in this land and age of the world. He has expended over six thousand dollars in these improvements, and they are well worth the money, as well as creditable to his taste and judgment in their structure and arrangement. He owns one hundred and ninety acres in one tract and six acres of woodland in addition. The home farm has been a thing of pride with him, and in addition to his commodious dwelling, barns and outhouses, he has well arranged grounds and accessories for pleasure, among them a fine croquet park. The farm is four miles south of Elburn on Rural Free Delivery route No. 1, four miles from Lafox and seven miles from Batavia.

Mr. Green is a firm and active republican in political faith. He takes a leading part in public affairs, has served many years as school director, and is now in his third term and fourth year as assessor. In 1884 he was united in marriage with Miss Augusta Gorham, whose parents live at St. Charles. Her father is a retired farmer. Mrs. Green has many pieces of fine needlework which had been handed down in the family as souvenirs through several generations. One made in 1791 and one in 1809. Mr. and Mrs. Green have one child, Stanley, who is living at home. Mr. Green is a self-made man and

the job was well done. He is a sterling, upright and conscientious citizen, true to a lofty ideal of manhood in all the relations of life and eminently worthy of the high esteem in which he is held.

---

#### ROBERT ALFRED WINDETT, M.D.

Aurora with its pulsing industrial and commercial interests is continually drawing to her men who are capable and successful in the professions. This number includes Dr. Robert Alfred Windett, now a well known physician and surgeon. He was born in Bristol, Illinois, October 5, 1860, his parents being Alfred and Electa (Ford) Windett, the former a native of England, and the latter of Fort Miller, New York. The paternal grandparents were John and Eliza (Austin) Windett, natives of England. They came to America in 1836, and the same year settled in Kendall county, Illinois, where John Windett continued to make his home until called to his final rest at an advanced age. His wife reached the very venerable age of eighty-four years, and her death was then occasioned by a broken hip. Previous to that accident she would walk three or four miles on visits to her children.

This number included Alfred Windett, who throughout his entire life followed the occupation of farming. He came to Illinois when a young man in 1836 with his parents, and the family home was established on Rob Roy creek in Kendall county. There the grandfather took up government land and owned a considerable tract, which he improved and developed. His son Alfred grew to manhood on that farm and later bought land of his own, having two hundred and fifty acres, which he cultivated throughout his remaining days. He wedded Miss Electa A. Ford, a daughter of Lyman Ford, who was a native of New York and was of Holland Dutch descent. He became steamboat captain on the Hudson, but in pioneer days removed to the west and for a time lived in Kendall county. Later he took up his abode in Missouri and eventually went to Omaha, where he died at an advanced age. In the west he followed farming. His wife also reached an old age. They reared a large family, including Mrs. Alfred Windett who, surviving her husband, died in 1904, at the age of sixty-three years. Both were Methodists in religious faith. Their family numbered three children: Robert Alfred; John F., of Bristol; and James F., of Montgomery, Illinois.

Dr. Windett was reared in Kendall county on his father's farm, and after attending the district school continued his education in the Sugar Grove Normal and in Jennings Seminary at Aurora. When he had decided upon the practice of medicine as a life work he entered Rush Medical College of Chicago and was graduated in 1887, after which he located for practice in Aurora, where he has remained continuously since, or for a period of twenty-one years. The public have learned to know and recognize him as one of the capable representatives of the medical fraternity here. His ability has been such as to enable him to cope with many intricate problems that have been presented in various phases of diseases and he is always careful in the

diagnosis of a case, while his judgment is rarely if ever at fault in foreseeing the outcome of disease.

In 1886 Dr. Windett was married to Miss Evelyn S. West, a daughter of Elijah West. They traveled life's journey together for about nineteen years and were then separated by the death of Mrs. Windett in 1905, when she was forty-five years of age. On the 29th of June, 1907, Dr. Windett wedded Miss Cora A. Hester, daughter of George Hester.

They are both consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and Dr. Windett is a prominent Mason, belonging to Aurora Lodge, No. 254, A. F. & A. M.; Aurora Chapter, No. 22, R. A. M.; Aurora Commandery, No. 22, K. T.; and the Medinah Temple of the Mystic Shrine in Chicago. He is likewise connected with the Oriental Consistory of Chicago, in which he has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite, and he belongs likewise to Waubonsie Lodge, I. O. O. F.; to the Elks and the Modern Woodmen of America. Politically he is a republican.

His residence is at No. 111 View street, where he owns a good home, and he also has several city lots in Aurora, and one hundred and sixty acres of land in Alberta county, Canada. He has thus made investments of his income which has been derived from a good practice, and which has constantly grown as the years have passed by and he has demonstrated his power to check the ravages of disease and promote the restoration of health. He belongs to the Fox River Valley Medical Association, to the Illinois State Medical Society and the American Medical Association, and thus keeps in touch with the advanced thought of the profession in its continuous onward march toward that perfection which is the goal of all conscientious physicians. He is a man of strong individuality and keen discernment, bringing these forces to bear in the discharge of his professional duties, while those who know him socially find him a genial gentleman, always courteous and manifesting that deference for the opinions of others which ever wins good will and regard in any land or clime.

---

#### QUINCY G. SHELDON.

Quincy G. Sheldon, engaged in the livery business at Elburn, was born June 12, 1863, in this county, where his father, Samuel R. Sheldon, located in pioneer times, arriving in the year 1848. He was a millwright by trade, and constructed a large sawmill near the present site of the Campton town house. He formed a company for the purpose of constructing a plank road from this point to Chicago. They began work and built a piece of road east of Lily Lake, Illinois, when because of a financial stringency they were forced to abandon the project. Mr. Sheldon afterward purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, for which he paid five hundred dollars, earning the money to pay for it in one year by working at the carpenter's trade. This tract of land lies two and one-half miles southwest of Elburn. When he made

the purchase there were indications of Indian wigwams on the place, and not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made that indicated the civilization of the white race. Mr. Sheldon continued to reside on the farm until 1868, brought the land under a high state of cultivation and carried on the work of improvement until the property yielded him a very gratifying financial income. He met all of the trials of the frontier in his efforts to make a home on the border of civilization, when it was difficult to obtain supplies owing to the distance from town and to the condition of the roads, as well as the financial resources of the individual. Mr. Sheldon, however, came to be known as a prosperous farmer and enjoyed the full respect of all with whom he came in contact. He married Miss Malintha M. Churchill in Vermont, both riding the same horse to the parsonage. They were devoted members of the Christian church, and when he was called to his final rest his remains were interred in the Elburn cemetery. He had a brother, Joseph Sheldon, who at one time was a partner of Jay Gould in his railroad projects. He was afterward one of the main promoters of the Erie canal, and it was largely through his genius that the work was carried forward to successful completion.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Samuel R. Sheldon were born the following named: Eber I., who for twenty years practiced medicine in Kansas City, but is now deceased; Amelia, who became the wife of Warren Bebee, with whom she removed to Hamilton, Iowa, in 1865, and now boasts of thirty living grandchildren; Sarah M., the widow of A. S. Wilkerson; Emma J., who was a school teacher and was killed in a cyclone in Irving, Kansas; and Celia I., wife of Charles Markle, who was once a partner of Quincy G. Sheldon in the livery business.

In the graded schools of Elburn, Q. G. Sheldon pursued his education, putting aside his text-books at the age of seventeen years, after which he engaged in the manufacture of cooperage products. He followed that business for a number of years, making considerable money in the undertaking, after which he engaged in general merchandise at Rockford, Freeport and Elburn, Illinois. He has added much to the value of cement by a certain patent which he has perfected for a fence post. At the present time he is engaged in the livery business, his being the only barn in Elburn. He has a number of fine carriages and other vehicles, good horses and enjoys a profitable patronage.

In 1885 occurred the marriage of Mr. Sheldon and Miss Catherine M. Schilts, a daughter of John P. Schilts, a Civil war veteran, who died in Chicago in 1898. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon have been born six children: Josephine Ella, a school teacher and instructor in music, who is a graduate of the Elburn high school; Eber M., who was graduated from the high school with the valedictorian honors of his class and afterward entered the bank at Elburn, later accepting a position with the Continental National Bank of Chicago, and is now associated with the Swan Creek Mining Company of Centerville, Tennessee; Ida Irene, a graduate of Elburn high school, who died in 1907 and is buried in the Elburn cemetery; Hazel P. and Mary L., both attending school; June Belle, who is two years of age and completes the family.



Mr. Sheldon is one of the old-time citizens of this part of the county, having spent his entire life here, so that he has witnessed much of its growth and development; but he went to Salem, Oregon, in September, 1908, in company with some other men expecting to make a home for himself and family in the land of sunshine and flowers.

---

### JOHN HERMAN JOHNSON.

John Herman Johnson, who owns and operates a valuable farm in Virgil township, was born in Sweden on the 22d of August, 1851, his parents being Andrew and Johanna (Valentine) Johnson. The father's birth occurred in Sweden, September 21, 1821, and in 1852 he emigrated to the United States, locating near Elburn, Illinois, where he purchased sixty-two acres of land. This farm remained his place of residence until the time of his demise, and it is also still the home of our subject. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Johnson were born the following children: John Herman, of this review; Matilda Charlotte, whose natal day was September 17, 1853; Augusta Josephine, born November 24, 1855, who resides with her brother, John H.; Charles August, who has passed away; Anna, who is also deceased; Frank, born December 28, 1861, who is now studying the Chinese language at New Orleans preparatory to becoming a missionary in China; Emma Louisa, whose birth occurred September 18, 1863, and who makes her home in Chicago; and Albert, deceased. The mother of these children died when they were still young and the duties of the household therefore devolved upon the daughters of the family.

John Herman Johnson now resides with his sister Augusta on the old homestead farm, which is situated two and a half miles from Elburn. The improvements on the place are worth about five thousand dollars, and in the cultivation of the fields Mr. Johnson is meeting with a gratifying measure of success, being well known as an enterprising and progressive agriculturist.

Politically Mr. Johnson is a staunch republican. He has lived in this county for more than a half century and has gained an extensive circle of warm friends who esteem him for his genuine personal worth and upright, honorable career.

---

### PRESTON B. SWANEY.

Preston B. Swaney, successfully carrying on agricultural pursuits in Kaneville township, was born in Putnam county, Illinois, February 26, 1857, his parents being Barnett and Albertine Swaney. The father, a farmer by occupation, now resides in La Salle county, Illinois. He served throughout the Civil war as a member of the Fourteenth Illinois Cavalry, and was imprisoned at Andersonville and in Libby. He was one of only two men that

survived out of a company of sixty. The brothers and sisters of our subject are as follows: Alice, the wife of John Jakes; Edward, who is a painter and makes his home in Washington; Etta, the wife of John Jakes, foreman of the De Kalb Cooper Works of De Kalb, Illinois; Jennie, the wife of Harry Turner, an agriculturist of Oregon; John and William, both of whom follow farming in La Salle county, Illinois; Grant, who is engaged in farming in Nebraska; and Ruth, at home.

Preston B. Swaney attended a graded school in Putnam county until he had attained his majority. Subsequently he followed farming for two years in connection with his father, and afterward removed to Kane county, where he rented a farm and has continually since resided here. In the conduct of his agricultural interests he is meeting with a gratifying measure of prosperity and is recognized as an enterprising and progressive citizen of his community.

Mr. Swaney was united in marriage to Miss Mattie Smith, a native of Kane county, her father being now the oldest settler in the county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Swaney have been born two children, namely: Edna Ethel, whose birth occurred February 27, 1890; and Edith Albertine, born August 26, 1893.

A republican in his political views, Mr. Swaney gives stanch allegiance to the party and his support can always be counted upon in any movement or measure instituted for the general welfare.

---

#### FRANCIS J. KEEGAN.

The subject of this brief memoir, who is one of the enterprising farmers and dairymen of Burlington township, was born September 24, 1879. He is the son of Patrick and Mary Keegan, whose maiden name was O'Bryan, both of whom were born in Ireland. The father came to America at the age of twenty-one and located in Bureau county, Illinois, where he was employed as a hired man on a farm during the next eight years. He then married and began farming for himself.

He and his wife became the parents of eight children, the brothers and sisters of Francis J. being: Maggie, who was married to John Ryan; James, who is dead; John, who resides in Rockford, Illinois; Lizzie, who is the wife of M. J. Dugan, a resident of Chicago, where he is employed as a shipping clerk for the Illinois Central Railroad Company; Allie, the wife of N. Harry, a locomotive engineer; Thomas, a retired farmer now living in Chicago; and Eddie, who left home in 1905 and was last heard of as a resident of Nebraska.

Francis J. Keegan obtained his education in the Ellithorpe school in Burlington township, which he attended during the winter months until he was seventeen, meanwhile assisting his father on the farm. At the age mentioned he left school finally and turned his attention to farming, the occupation which he has followed ever since. He now owns a farm of one hundred and fifty acres, which is well improved and stocked with a dairy of thirty cows,

nearly all Holsteins, nine horses of superior breeds and other livestock, including hogs and poultry in abundance. It is also provided with all the necessary farming implements of modern types and kept in good condition.

Mr. Keegan's marriage, which occurred November 19, 1907, was with Miss Mary Rudenger, who was born in Burlington township, this county, March 2, 1888, and whose father, George Rudenger, was a prosperous farmer in that township for a period of thirty years or more. He was well known in all parts of the township as an enterprising man and good citizen.

Mr. Keegan is a Catholic in religion and always votes the democratic ticket. He enjoys the confidence and respect of the people and has served them as school director for many years. In reference to all matters of public improvement he is wide-awake and progressive, always giving his voice, influence and aid in behalf of worthy objects and undertakings in which the welfare of the township and its citizens is involved. He is a good farmer and his dairy business is active and up-to-date in every respect.

---

#### ADONIRAM JUDSON JOSLYN.

Adoniram Judson Joslyn died October 9, 1868, at the age of forty-nine years, at Elgin, Illinois, to which place he came from his father's farm at Nunda, McHenry county, as early as 1840, and during his residence in the then growing city was an active factor in religion, politics, journalism, and the general advancement of the village. Until his early death he was continuously active in promoting the good of the community. He is remembered by the few still living who knew him as a man of remarkable intellectual force, infinite patience and perseverance, rare tact and judgment of men and of untiring energy.

In association with Dr. Joseph Tefft and others he aided in the establishment of the Elgin Academy in 1855 and was one of its first directors. He was appointed to raise the funds necessary, and the building of the school in 1855 proves the efficiency of his efforts. In 1865 he was one of the prime movers in securing the location here of the Elgin Watch Works, and in 1867 was one of the committee who succeeded in having the Insane Asylum built here. He was the second pastor of the First Baptist church, then located on the northeast corner of DuPage and Geneva streets. His sermons are still remembered as of great power and thought. He was early an abolitionist and lost no opportunity in pronouncing his convictions. He was named as secretary of the first meeting to organize the republican party held at Geneva, August 4, 1854, and is credited with having been a large influence in changing Kane county from the democratic to the republican party.

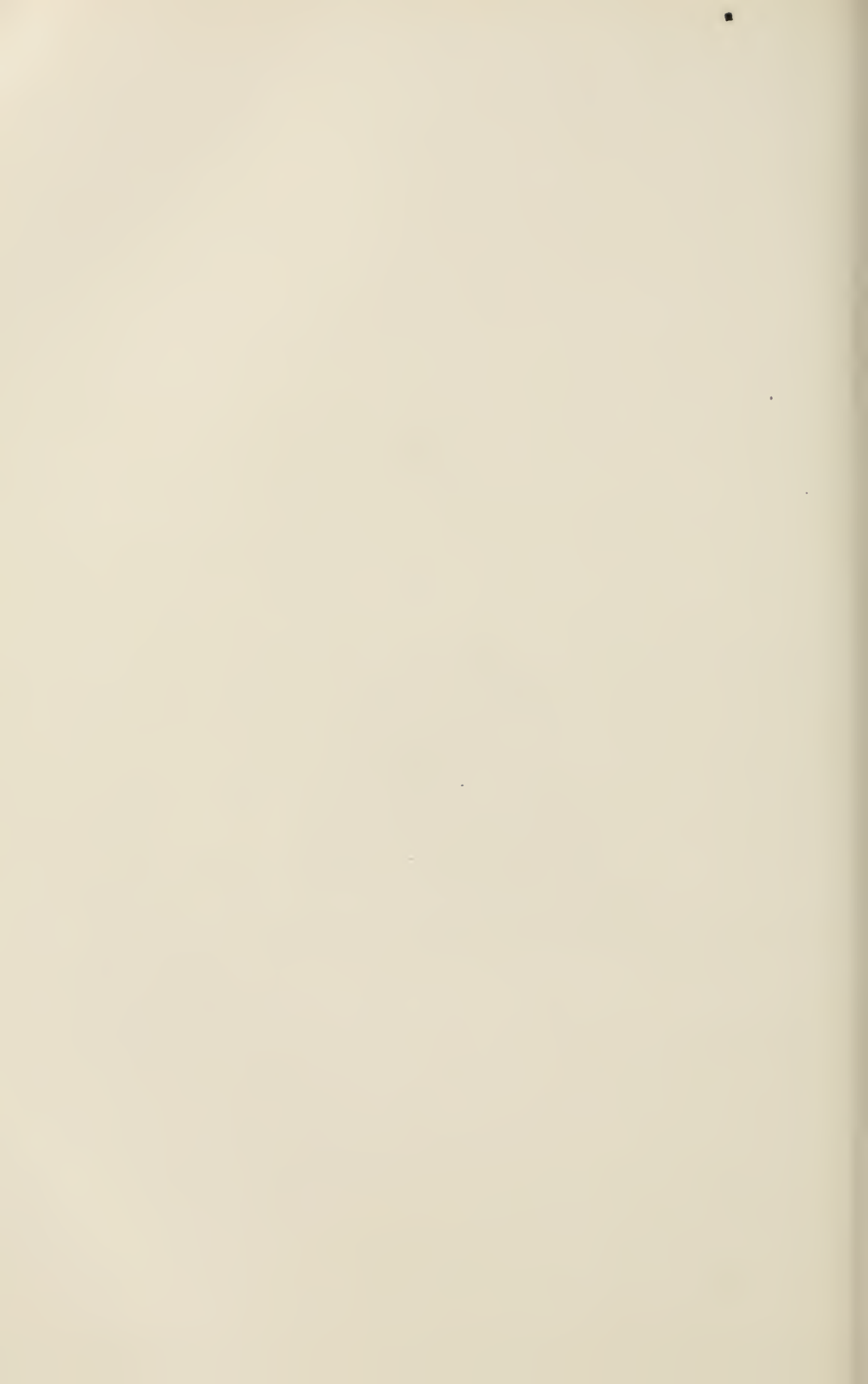
He established the Western Christian, the first newspaper published in Elgin, and was afterward associated with the Gazette. He was postmaster of Elgin for a time.

He afterward became pastor of the Union Park church, Chicago, where he continued many years. During that period he aided in the establishment



REV. A. J. JOSLYN





of the first Chicago University, which became the present University of Chicago.

His children were Ada and Gertrude. Ada Joslyn was a teacher in the public schools before her death in the '60s. Gertrude is now Mrs. John W. Farnum, of Elgin, Illinois.

---

### FRED C. KOTHE.

Fred C. Kothe belongs to that class of American citizens who, though of foreign birth, are most loyal to the interests of their adopted land, recognizing the fact that through its opportunities and business conditions they have been enabled to secure success by the exercise of perseverance and diligence. He is now well known in Elgin, where he has long resided.

His birth occurred in the city of Kassel, Prussia, on the 8th of December, 1834, and he was twenty years of age when, in 1854, he crossed the Atlantic to New York. He had heard of America as a land of promise and possibilities and therefore embarked in a sailing vessel, which after a voyage of six weeks reached the eastern metropolis. There were at that time some steamboats upon the water, but only comparatively few, and travel was yet largely done in sailing vessels. In his native land he had attended school to the age of fourteen years and was well educated in music. After ceasing to be a public-school student, he took up the study of bookkeeping and was employed as a bookkeeper in his native country. He had been in New York three weeks when he saw an advertisement, "Laborers wanted," and, applying to this agency for work, he was sent to Albany by boat, by train to Buffalo, by way of the lakes to Detroit, and thence to Chicago. He remained in the latter city for six weeks, when, hearing from a piano manufacturer that a piano teacher was wanted at Lord's Seminary at the corner of Center and Chicago streets in Elgin, he made his way to this city.

In April, 1855, Mr. Kothe became an employe of L. H. Yarwood & Company, druggists. Thus he took his place on Chicago street as a merchant when its business establishments were very few. He continued in that employ for two years and then went to St. Louis. This was the beginning of a successful career in the drug business. In course of time he became proprietor of an establishment of this character and built up a good trade, his success being attributable to his unfaltering perseverance, his unabating industry and energy that never flags. The name of Kothe has long stood as a synonym for activity and progressiveness in business circles in Elgin.

On the 21st of August, 1861, Mr. Kothe was united in marriage to Miss Barbara Straussel, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Straussel. She was born in Chicago, November 16, 1841, and came to Elgin in 1850. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Kothe, namely: Katharine, the wife of George Hoelscher, of the Elgin watch factory; Emil C., who is mentioned below; Louise, the wife of John O'Connar, agent for the Chicago & North-

western Railway Company at Harvard, Illinois; and John F., of the Elgin watch factory.

Mr. Kothe has taken a prominent part in public affairs, serving as constable from 1861 to 1865; city marshal and tax collector in 1862; justice of the peace in 1903 and 1904; and notary public since 1885. He was a member of the old volunteer fire department, belonging to Ed Joselyn Hose Company, and was also a member of the Elgin Union Band and the Third Illinois Infantry Band.

In 1855 Mr. Kothe helped to organize what became known as the Elgin Brass Band, having seven pieces, an E flat clarinet, two B flat cornets, two altos, one tenor and one tuba; and after three months a bass drum was added. The band was first engaged to play at a sleight of hand performance at the Sherman Hall. In the early days Mr. Kothe was closely associated with the musical interests of the city, and did not a little to promote a taste in this direction. That band was then the only one in Elgin, and it was composed of men who, busily employed in the days in various lines of activity, were glad to give expression to their love of music in this manner.

---

#### EMIL C. KOTHE.

Emil C. Kothe, a pharmacist of Elgin, is one of the oldest representatives of the drug trade here, having from his boyhood days been associated therewith. He was born in this city, September 2, 1864, was educated in the public schools and pursued the junior course in pharmacy in 1887. He has, however, been continuously connected with the drug business since 1883.

Mr. Kothe is a member of the Knights of Columbus and of the Catholic Order of Foresters. He was married in 1893 to Miss Ella V. Keenan, of Elburn, Illinois. His father was one of the pioneer druggists of the city and, following in his footsteps, Emil C. Kothe has gained an enviable reputation and place in business circles, his course at all times being actuated by principles that are in close conformity to a high standard of mercantile ethics.

---

#### WILLIAM OWEN.

William Owen, of Elgin, Illinois, is remembered as one of the ablest and fairest justices of the peace Elgin ever had. He held the office many years and, while the guilty seldom escaped, the unfortunate were dealt with leniently and the innocent dismissed. In 1859, five years after the organization of the city, William Owen was elected as a member of the city council. A. J. Waldron was then mayor and the city had but four wards and eight aldermen.

William Owen was born at Whitesborough, Oswego county, New York, July 17, 1815, and died in Elgin, Illinois, August 31, 1887, at the age of seventy-two years. He came to Elgin in February, 1853, and until 1860 con-

ducted a jewelry store in connection with Henry Sherman's drug store, which stood where the Schultz drug store now is. He was of Welsh-Huguenot stock.

October 9, 1845, he married Elizabeth M. Campbell, of Cherry Valley, New York. He left four children: Ella, who is now Mrs. W. J. S. Hyde, of Chicago; Walter, who died September 25, 1888; Hattie, now Mrs. Frederick P. Campbell, of Elgin, Illinois; and Frank, who died October 29, 1903.

---

#### ADOLPH G. MILLER.

Enterprising and successful as a farmer and stock-feeder and prominent in the school affairs of his township, in which connection he has done able and faithful service as school treasurer for a number of years, Adolph G. Miller is now comfortably situated in life and represents a sturdy and progressive type of American citizenship. He was born in Cook county, Illinois, August 29, 1863, and has passed the greater part of his life to this time in or near the locality of his nativity.

Mr. Miller is a son of Gustav and Augusta (Brehm) Miller, natives of Saxony, Germany, but married in this country. The father was born December 16, 1828, and remained a resident of his native land until the age of twenty-three years, acquiring his education in the common schools while, in accordance with the custom of the country, he also rendered military service to the nation and was for two months a soldier in the Revolution of 1848. Attracted by the broader business opportunities of the new world, he crossed the Atlantic in 1851 and spent two months at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, near which point he worked in the hay and harvest fields for six dollars per month. He also worked for a time on the plank road which was then being built, receiving seventy-five cents a day for his labor. He was for a brief period a resident of St. Louis, Missouri, where for four months he drove a four-horse coal wagon. For six months he was employed on a steamboat on the Mississippi river, and for a short time occupied a similar position on an Ohio river boat. Necessity with him rendered employment imperative, and he gladly availed himself of every opportunity that would place him in a position that would bring him an honorable living. He worked at haying for six weeks in Iowa for one dollar per day and then, longing to see his native country, returned to Germany. He had, however, become imbued with a love for the new world and in 1855 he returned to the United States, securing a position in a hotel in Chicago. He afterwards bought a half interest in a hotel, and, as his cash capital consisted of but fifty dollars, he borrowed two hundred dollars to consummate the purchase. For three years he conducted this hotel, meeting with fair success, and during that time his father came to the United States with his youngest son, wishing to visit the country and note its possibilities and advantages. That he was pleased with the prospects here offered is indicated by the fact that he returned to Germany, disposed of his property there, and the same year bought a farm near Rodenburg,



in Cook county, Illinois. There his sons assisted him in carrying on general agricultural interests, but in 1864 they sold out, and Gustav F. Miller purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Plato township, Kane county, on which his son, Adolph G., now resides. It is still, however, the property of the father and is a visible evidence of his life of well directed effort and industry. It is a well improved farm, all of the buildings having been erected by the Miller family, while various modern improvements are there seen. Year after year Gustav F. Miller carried on the work of tilling the soil, meeting with success in his undertakings, and eventually, in 1896, retired to private life and took up his abode in Elgin, where he now has a beautiful home in which to enjoy the comforts and luxuries of life that have been secured to him through his former diligence and capable business management. He certainly merits the prosperity which is now his, for in all business affairs he has been honorable and upright, as well as energetic and industrious. A life-long member of the German Lutheran church, he is now a communicant of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran church, in Elgin. Since becoming a naturalized American citizen he has given loyal and unfaltering support to the republican party, for he believes that it best conserves good government. His fellow townsmen have several times called him to local office, and for two years he filled the position of supervisor, for nine years was school director, and for nine years road commissioner. In those positions he labored effectively for the welfare and progress of the community, and that his friends appreciated his services is indicated by the fact that he was long continued in office.

In 1857, in Chicago, Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Augusta Brehm, who was born in Germany, March 19, 1835. They traveled life's journey happily together for about forty-five years, and were then separated by the death of the wife March 1, 1902. They were the parents of nine children: Anna, who died in infancy; Hulda, the wife of Chris Fischer, a retired farmer living in Elgin; Matilda, the wife of F. E. Lemon, also a retired farmer residing in Elgin; Adolph G., who is residing on the home farm; Gustav, who died at the age of twenty-five years; Ida, the wife of James LeGate, an employe of the Elgin watch factory; Frances, the wife of Henry E. McBride, a coal merchant of Elgin; Emma K., who is now a teacher in the Elgin high school and lives with her father; and one who died in infancy.

Adolph G. Miller attended the district schools at such times as opportunity afforded until he was fifteen years of age, when he took his place on his father's farm as one of the regular farm hands, and has since been engaged in general agricultural pursuits. He made one trip to Texas, where he spent the winter, but with the exception of that brief period has continuously remained in this locality. The farm which he now occupies and cultivates is the property of his father, and contains one hundred and sixty acres. It is well improved and well watered, and the best machinery is used in its systematic cultivation. In addition to raising cereals best adapted to the soil and climate, Adolph G. Miller is now also engaged in buying and shipping

stock, and for the past two years has shipped at least one carload of cattle and one of hogs annually.

Mr. Miller's marriage occurred October 23, 1895, Miss Hulda Schmitz, a native of Kane county, becoming his wife. They are the parents of three daughters and a son: Jeannette, Bernice, Adolph and Elizabeth. The parents are members of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran church, and Adolph G. Miller supports the republican party and enjoys the confidence of its electorate. He has been township school treasurer of Plato township, Kane county, for six years, and is looked upon as an excellent official, a wise and progressive citizen, and an important factor in the public life of the township.

---

#### CHARLES LESTER BOLSTER.

Born, reared and educated in Kane county and having passed all his days here, Charles L. Bolster is devoted to the county and the welfare of its people, and is fully imbued with the spirit of enterprise and elevated citizenship which characterizes them. His life began October 3, 1855, on the farm on which he now lives, on section 18, Sugar Grove township. The farm originally belonged to his grandfather, Artemus Bolster, who secured a portion of it by patent from the government, the patent being signed by Thompson Campbell, then governor of the state.

Mr. Bolster's parents were Albert S. and Rhoda A. (Rounds) Bolster. The father was born in the state of New York, January 8, 1829, and the mother in the village of Sempronius in the same state, February 25, 1832. At the age of seven she accompanied her parents from their New York home to the wilds of Wisconsin, locating in the town of Eureka, where her father engaged in merchandising. In this frontier settlement, then a struggling hamlet, crude in appearance and surrounded with all the dangers, as well as the picturesqueness of the wilderness, she grew to womanhood, assisting her father in his store when she was not in school. Her recollection of those early and trying days are vivid, and her narratives of the incidents and adventures they brought her sparkle with interest. The Indians, from the reservation across the river, were frequent customers at the store, and she very often waited on them. While they were in the main peaceful, they sometimes showed signs of violence, but, inured to the life of the pioneers and accustomed to look peril in the face, she seldom feared them and never showed that she did. On January 8, 1851, she was united in marriage to Mr. Bolster, theirs being the first wedding in Winnebago county, Wisconsin. It excited universal interest and was dignified with all the pomp and circumstance the frontier could furnish. In 1858, with her husband, she moved to this state and took up her residence on the farm owned by her father-in-law. Here her husband died, June 20, 1899, and here she is still living in company with one of her daughters. In the family were three daughters: Florence, the wife of George Edmunds, of Aurora, who died in June, 1908; Effie, the wife of Bert

Gould, also a resident of Aurora; and Ina, the wife of Ira Calkins, who is living with her mother on the old homestead.

Charles L. Bolster, the immediate subject of this writing, obtained his early education in the district school near his home, supplementing its training with a four-years' course at the Oak street school in Aurora, and subsequently pursuing a course of special instruction at Jennings' Seminary in that city, at that time the pride of northern Illinois as an educational institution and renowned in many of the neighboring states for the excellence of its discipline and teaching. After leaving that school he went to work on the farm and in time acquired the ownership of a portion of it. He now owns one hundred and forty-seven acres of superior land, well improved with good buildings and provided with all the necessary equipment of a first-class farm in this day of progress and rapid development.

Mr. Bolster was married January 2, 1890, to Miss Margaret Potter, of La Salle county, this state. She was born near Hennepin in Putnam county, and at the age of ten years moved with her parents to the neighborhood of Peru, where her father labored industriously and prospered as a farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Bolster have had two children: Ralph, who was born in 1892 and died in infancy; and Clarence Lyle, who was born February 3, 1896, and is now the joy and hope of the household.

Mr. Bolster has been very successful in general farming and has also been for years an extensive breeder of choice strains of hogs. He is a genial, diligent and obliging gentleman, performing his whole duty in service to his fellowmen and doing all he can to aid in making everybody around him happy. He is now filling the office of justice of the peace in a most creditable manner.

---

#### WILLIAM A. TREADWELL.

William A. Treadwell, engaged in the milling business at Elburn, represents one of the pioneer families of Kane county. His grandfather, William Treadwell, was a native of Almyr, Ontario, Canada, born July 22, 1823. He came to the west in 1840 and afterward purchased land on section 10, Elgin township, where he carried on farming for many years. His parents were Anson and Nancy (Somers) Treadwell, natives of Canada and New York respectively. William Treadwell married Miss Martha A. Adams, a daughter of Edward and Abigail (Padelford) Adams. There were three children born of this marriage.

William E. Treadwell, the eldest of the three children and the father of our subject, was born in Elgin, Illinois, March 15, 1851, and there lived during his boyhood, attending the common schools. He was afterward graduated from the Bryant & Stratton Commercial School, in Chicago, and when he had devoted a brief time to merchandizing he began a course of reading under the direction of Dr. H. K. Whitford, of Chicago. For three years he was a student of the Bennett Medical College of that city, from which institution he was graduated. He further supplemented his study by the

broad experience gained in work in Cook County Hospital and in the Bennett Hospital. Following his graduation he practiced in Chicago for a time, and then removed to Maple Park, in 1872. He married Miss Ida May, daughter of B. F. Webster, of Chicago. They became parents of three children: William A., of this review; George B., and John E.

William A. Treadwell spent his boyhood and youth in his father's home. He was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1874, and attended the public schools of Maple Park until seventeen years of age, when he left home and went to Dixon, Illinois, where he attended the School of Telegraphy. After completing this course, he served as station agent with the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company, and on leaving that employ went to DeKalb, Illinois. There he was engaged in the coal business, and subsequently he was located in Chicago in the employ of the Grand Trunk Railway for four years. He next came to Elburn, Illinois, where he is now engaged in the milling business, having a plant which was erected at the approximate cost of ten thousand dollars. It is the only grist and feed mill in the city and is well equipped, while the output is most satisfactory and finds a ready sale on the market.

Mr. Treadwell was married in 1898 to Miss Pearle Kennedy, whose parents are now deceased. Her father was at one time a practitioner of law at Maple Park. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Treadwell have been born two children: W. Hale, who is now attending school; and Gerald K., who is in his second year. Both Mr. and Mrs. Treadwell are widely known in Elburn and have many friends here. His political support is given the republican party, and in fraternal relations he is a Mason. He represents one of the old families of this part of the state—a family widely and favorably known because of the helpful parts which its members have taken in the work of general development and progress.

---

#### FRANK LORANG.

This well known farmer and esteemed citizen of Blackberry township was born in Germany, in the province of Luxemburg, August 9, 1876, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Lenert) Lorang, natives of the same country as himself, and descended from long lines of ancestors native to the soil there. The family emigrated to the United States in 1890 and took up its residence in Kane county, Illinois, locating at Aurora. There the father died in 1896. He was a stone-cutter and worked industriously at his trade during the whole of his mature life. In church membership he was a Catholic, but as he was never naturalized in this country, he belonged to no political party here. He and his wife were the parents of seven children, the six brothers and sisters of Frank being: Joseph, a well-to-do farmer in South Dakota; Annie, the wife of J. Binsfield, who is in the employ of the McCormick Harvester Company; Nicholas, who lives in Aurora and is employed in the shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad; Matthew, an enterprising Minnesota farmer; and Elizabeth, the wife of Matthew Weber, who is a painter in Chicago.



Frank Lorang passed six years in school in his native land, and after his arrival in this country attended a graded school in Aurora. After leaving school he worked for some years by the month on a farm. Believing that he could do better if working for himself, he rented a farm for four years, and found his venture profitable, bringing him in good returns for his labor and enabling him to accumulate some \$3,500 worth of personal property, which he now owns.

In 1903 Mr. Lorang was married to Miss Rose R. Bertrang. They have two children: John P., who was born February 19, 1904, and Nicholas M., whose life began June 16, 1906. Mr. Lorang has lived in Kane county continuously since he first located here with his parents and has endeared himself to his friends and neighbors, and won the esteem of the people in general by his sterling integrity, enterprising spirit and fidelity to every duty. No undertaking involving the improvement or advancement of the community, or the welfare, comfort and convenience of its people, fails to command his ready and helpful support, and no claim that may justly rest on a good citizen is ever unrecognized or undischarged by him. He is a Catholic in religion and an active member of St. Joseph's Society in his church. His political faith is with the republican party, in whose campaigns he stands loyally by his convictions although never seeking honor or place for himself.

---

#### MRS. ANTOINETTE E. HARDY.

When the husband of this resolute and resourceful lady died October 18, 1896, leaving her with a family of children to rear and educate and a farm that required active and vigorous management to look after, she accepted her responsibilities with resignation and fortitude, and that she has met them with courage and capacity all who know her and the circumstances will cheerfully bear witness.

Mrs. Hardy was born at Honeoye Falls, near Rochester, New York, May 7, 1843, a daughter of Rev. Oliver and Melinda (Griffin) Barr, the former born in Connecticut, July 13, 1800, and the latter in Seneca county, New York, April 6, 1803. They were married about 1822, and in the fall of 1844 came to Kane county and bought a farm three and one-half miles southeast of Aurora, on which they lived for one year. The father was an ordained clergyman of the Christian church and preached many years in the state of New York. He was widely known to the early residents of Kane county as a forceful and earnest preacher of the gospel and a good man who practiced what he preached. When he became a resident of this county the settlement of this part of the state was sparse and the places for religious worship were few and widely separated. He was obliged to travel long distances to meet his appointments and was therefore not only absent from his home a large portion of the time, but also much exposed to the rigor of the seasons. But he never faltered in the discharge of his duty and rendered great service to the people in his ministrations.



SANFORD HARDY



In 1848, in obedience to the commands of the church authorities, he took charge of an appointment in the city of New York and moved his family there, remaining three years actively engaged in the work of the ministry. In 1851 he returned to Aurora with his family, but soon afterward took up the work of the Biblical School of Antioch, Ohio, of which Horace Mann was then president. In the interest of this institution he traveled far and wide and displayed great energy and zeal, but the duties brought him to an untimely death in the midst of his usefulness. He was killed in a railroad accident at Norwalk, Connecticut, May 6, 1853, the train in which he was riding plunging off a bridge into the river. His remains were brought to this county and buried in the West Aurora cemetery. His widow died May 6, 1871, and all that was mortal of her was laid to rest in a grave by the side of his. Rev. Mr. Barr's parents were John and Mary Barr, the father a native of Scotland and the mother of Connecticut, where both passed to their final rest after long years of usefulness.

Mrs. Hardy had three sisters and one brother. The sisters were: Mary V., who became the wife of Marshall Sherwin, both of whom have been dead a number of years; Adaline, who married James Miller, and they also have died; and Abbie, now the widow of George Lindsey and living in Aurora. Her husband was a valiant soldier in the Civil war. The one son born in the family was James Griffin Barr, for many years one of the leading lawyers of Kane county. He was born in New York state, July 8, 1825, and died in Aurora, January 30, 1871. •

Mrs. Hardy acquired a good education in the East Aurora schools. On May 7, 1868, she was married to Sanford Hardy, who was then a teacher at Montgomery, this county. In 1870 he embarked in the coal business in Aurora, but seven years later he sought a more congenial occupation and, selling his business, he bought the farm of fifty acres in section 25, Sugar Grove township, on which his widow now resides. He was born at Contoocook, New Hampshire, July 13, 1836, and became a resident of Kane county in 1857. School teaching was his profession, and he devoted nearly all his time to it until the beginning of the Civil war. He then enlisted in defense of the Union as a member of the Sixty-fifth Illinois Volunteers. Mr. Hardy was a devout Christian, holding active membership in the Methodist Episcopal church in Aurora. In company with Charles Douglas he founded and started on its career of usefulness the Aurora branch of the Young Men's Christian Association. His parents were Ozias and Lavina Hardy, natives of New Hampshire.

Mr. and Mrs. Hardy became the parents of six children: Edna E., now the wife of H. J. Goodale, of Aurora; Bertha, who died at the age of one year; Louis E., who is now managing the home farm; Anna M., the wife of Charles Voss, of Ekalaka, Montana; Elwyn B., who is living in Aurora; and Charles, who is engaged in farming near that city.

The mother is a member of the First Methodist Episcopal church of Aurora. She and those of her sons who are living at home are members of the Twentieth Century Farmers Club, and she also belongs to the Neighborly Improvement Circle, which she, with six other ladies, organized twelve years



ago for purposes of social and literary entertainment. The circle holds fortnightly meetings and at the close of every year gives an elaborate banquet, to which the husbands, sons and brothers of the members are invited. Mr. Hardy was a republican in politics, and a member of Aurora Post No. 20, Grand Army of the Republic.

---

### JOHN C. MURPHY.

In the history of the legal profession in Aurora it is imperative that specific consideration be paid John C. Murphy, because of the prominence which he has attained as a member of the Kane county bar, and also by reason of his activity in public affairs bearing upon the welfare and upbuilding of the city. He was born in Grundy county, Illinois, February 27, 1858. His father, James Murphy, was a native of Ireland and when eleven years of age accompanied his parents on their emigration to the United States, the family home being established in Utica, New York. He arrived in Illinois in 1849, settling first in Grundy county, where he lived for about fifteen years, and then in 1864 came to Aurora, where his remaining days were passed, his death occurring in 1900, when he was seventy-seven years of age. He was a most highly respected man and an active republican, unfaltering in his allegiance to the party and its interests. He married Anne Corlett, who was born on the Isle of Man and came to the United States during her girlhood days. She was married to Mr. Murphy in Utica, New York.

John C. Murphy pursued his education in the public schools of Aurora and was graduated from the high school. He afterward took up the study of law with M. O. Southworth as his preceptor and in 1882, after passing the required examination, was admitted to the bar and commenced practice in this city. Two years later he was appointed assistant United States attorney in Dakota and shortly afterward was appointed United States attorney, remaining in Dakota in that capacity until 1890. He then returned to Aurora and here entered into partnership with Samuel Alschuler, under the firm style of Alschuler & Murphy. In 1900 the senior member of the firm removed to Chicago and was succeeded by his brother, B. P. Alschuler, the firm now being Murphy & Alschuler. Mr. Murphy has continued in the practice of law in Aurora since 1890 and is recognized as an attorney of brilliant mind, of keen perception and logical deductions. He is careful and thorough in the preparation of his cases, and in the presentation of his cause presents his points with due relative importance.

Mr. Murphy is not alone known in legal circles, for he has gained wide recognition as a progressive and public-spirited citizen. He was elected mayor of the city in 1893 and served for a term of two years, during which period much work of the nature of public improvements was carried on. His administration was altogether businesslike, practical and progressive. He

put in seventy-three miles of sewers in that time at a cost of \$360,000 and he made other necessary improvements which have benefited the city.

In 1891 occurred the marriage of Mr. Murphy and Miss Jessie McArthur, a daughter of Dr. Robert M. McArthur, of Ottawa, Illinois. Mr. Murphy belongs to the Masonic fraternity, having attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite and the Knight Templar degree of the York Rite. He is also connected with the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks and the Modern Woodmen. He is a past master of Aurora Lodge, No. 254, A. F. & A. M., and a past commander of Aurora Commandery, No. 22, K. T. Such, in brief, is the life history of one of the ablest lawyers of the Kane county bar, a man who is true to his ideals, firm in support of his honest convictions and stalwart in his championship in all that he believes to be right or for the interests of the community at large.

---

#### H. A. BOWLES.

H. A. Bowles, a prominent farmer and dairyman of Elgin township, was born in Dewitt county, Illinois, October 5, 1870, his parents being Robert and Martha (Welch) Bowles, of English and Irish parentage respectively. Representatives of the Bowles family emigrated from England to Virginia at a very early day, afterward located in Kentucky and subsequently settled in Dewitt county, Illinois, among its earliest residents. Anderson Bowles, the grandfather of H. A. Bowles, was the first of the name who took up his abode in this state, making the journey from Kentucky with ox-teams. During the trip the family carried fire with them from one camping place to another until they finally located in Dewitt county and for thirty years this fire was kept going, as it was prior to the time when matches came into general use. Anderson Bowles reared a family of fourteen children, including the father of our subject, Robert Bowles, who, in his younger days, was also a farmer and stockdealer. In 1888 he located in Chicago, where he is still engaged in the live stock commission business under the firm name of Clark, Bowles & Company. He and his wife reared a family of six children, namely: Ethel; Stella, the wife of Rev. J. H. Odgers, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church at Joliet; Herman A.; Enid; Charles, who wedded Etta Barnes of Chicago; and Bertie, who has passed away. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bowles reside in the metropolis, the former having for a long period been actively connected with its business interests.

H. A. Bowles attended the common schools of Clinton and Bloomington, Illinois, until the age of fourteen or fifteen years, and then pursued a course in a business college at Bloomington. At the age of eighteen years he started out in life for himself, and remained in Montana and Wyoming between the years 1892 and 1899, working each year during a season of nine months. In 1899, however, he returned to Chicago and thence came almost immediately to Elgin, settling on the farm of two hundred and fifty-

four acres, on which he has since resided and which he has brought under a high state of cultivation. He is a lover of fine stock and makes a specialty of breeding high grade cows and horses. He is recognized as a substantial and enterprising agriculturist and dairyman of the county and has met with a creditable and gratifying measure of success in the conduct of his business interests.

In 1899 Mr. Bowles was united in marriage to Miss Bessie Kirby, of Chicago, a daughter of T. B. and Annie E. (Anderson) Kirby. Her father is engaged in the railway supply business, and she is one of a family of three children, the others being: Daisy, the wife of W. W. Teal, of Oak Park; and Charlotte. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bowles has been born one son, Thomas K. They are people of genuine personal worth and sterling traits of character and have gained an extensive circle of friends during the period of their residence in this county.

---

#### CHARLES B. ATKYNS.

A market gardener of pronounced skill and success and a musician of eminent capacity and merit, Charles B. Atkyns, of Aurora township, has at his command two sources of high enjoyment not given to many men, and he makes good use of both. He is successful in his gardening because to his natural taste and bent for the business he adds the information gained from a reflective study of the thoughts of others and that acquired in his own careful and intelligent investigations, and he is eminent in his musical abilities largely for the same reasons.

Mr. Atkyns was born at Salt Lake City, Utah, on January 12, 1868, the son of Reuben and Eliza (Polton) Atkyns, both natives of England, the former of Coventry and the latter of Lenington. The mother came to the United States in 1857 and the father in 1858. The mother crossed the plains to the new Zion with an emigrant train in 1858, while the father was following in her wake with all his worldly goods bestowed in a push-cart, which, with heroic patience and prodigious labor, he urged through the trackless wilds of that day toward the altar of his glowing faith. They met in Salt Lake City and were married there on Christmas day, 1859. Later, making their way east as far as Illinois, they located at Plano, Kendall county, where the father plied his trade as a shoemaker and the mother kept his house and made his home. She had early in life learned the trade of a milliner in London and acquired great skill in it. She knew every step of the craft, from weaving the hat or bonnet from the straw to trimming it in the most tasteful and artistic style. To aid her husband in providing for the needs of the family she worked at her trade in this state, and with such success that she became known far and wide as the "London milliner," and to have a head covered from her shop was the ambition of every lady in the communities in which she worked. She died at Sandwich, DeKalb county, at the age of sixty-three years. The father, who was born December 20, 1832, now makes

his home with his son Charles. The grandfather of Charles Atkyns was also named Charles, and his great-grandfather was known as "Cocker" Atkyns, so called of his extensive breeding of fighting cocks. Mr. Atkyns has two brothers: Reuben, who lives at Independence, Missouri; and Henry J., who is a photographer in Aurora.

At the age of eight years Charles Atkyns removed with his parents to Sandwich, Illinois, where he obtained a good education. When he was twenty-two he took up his residence in Aurora and there worked as a machinist for three years. Impressed by the rapidity of Aurora's growth, he conceived the idea of starting a market garden in the neighborhood, and to this end purchased six acres of land south of the city. This tract he has improved with the necessary equipment for the enterprise, enriching the soil with good fertilizing material and cultivating it with studious care, until he now has the best garden and fruit farm in Kane county. Being both a practical and a scientific gardener he has achieved unusual success. He studies the needs of the soil and supplies it with what it requires for his purposes, and having a good knowledge of chemistry, he knows just what chemicals to use to make the ground responsive to his utmost wishes. He has also made a scientific study of the injuries wrought upon fruits and vegetables by various insects and found many preparations to prevent or remedy the damage done in this way. Many years' experience in the use of hand tools has given him great control of them and skill in working with them. Through this capacity he has been able to make a number of unusual implements for use in his gardening and thus acquire an advantage of moment over other persons in the business who do not possess this facility. This enabled him also to do most of the work in building his own house, whereby he was able to construct it exactly as he wished. His farm is in section 33, Aurora township, one mile and three-quarters from the city.

On New Year's day, 1894, Mr. Atkyns was married to Miss Alma J. Larson, who was born in Chicago, September 16, 1870. Her father, Lars Larson, was born and reared in Norway, and her mother, whose maiden name was Mary Hansen, was a native of Sweden. They were married in the old country and came to the United States in 1869. The father was killed in a well in 1878. The mother is still living and has her home in Aurora.

Mr. and Mrs. Atkyns have two children: May M., who was born July 30, 1895, and Alfred C., who was born February 5, 1897. Both are now students at a school in Montgomery. The father is a republican and takes an active part in public affairs. He is also wide-awake and resourceful with reference to anything that he thinks will benefit the township. In 1904 he made successful efforts to have Rural Free Delivery Route No. 4 established, and found his activity in this regard justified in 1908 when it was disclosed that this route was handling more mail matter than any other out of Aurora. For a number of years he solicited subscriptions for the Aurora Daily Beacon. In this work he was successful, as he has been in everything else he has turned his hand to, largely increasing the circulation of the paper. Mr. Atkyns is also an accomplished musician, playing the double bass violin with great skill and expression. His services in this line are in continual demand, and he is



always connected with some good orchestra. In his religious affiliation he is connected with the Reorganized Church of the Latter Day Saints. The sect has a church edifice at Plano. Mr. Atkyns is a regular attendant of the services and is prominent in the work of the church. He is faithful in all his duties as a citizen and wields a forceful influence in his community, in all parts of which he is highly respected.

---

#### EDWARD VOGLE.

Successful and prosperous as a farmer and energetic and progressive as a dairyman, Edward Vogle, of Burlington township, Kane county, has demonstrated and is demonstrating the worth of thrift, energy and attention to business in this country of great possibilities and swiftly advancing development. He is of French nativity, having been born in June, 1870, in Alsace, before that unhappy province was torn from his native land by Germany as a part of the spoils of war.

His parents, George and Adaline (Derrick) Vogle, were also Alsatians by birth. The father served a number of years in the French army, but after the Franco-German war, which changed the allegiance of his native province to the German empire, he determined to seek a new home in the new world and came to the United States, arriving in Illinois with his family in 1873. He had been a very prosperous farmer in his old home, and turned to the same occupation soon after coming to this country, for which his wife also had a longing, as she was a farmer's daughter. For one year after coming to this state he was employed in railroad construction work. At the end of that period he moved to the vicinity of Burlington in this county, and again became a farmer.

He and his wife were the parents of seven children, those besides Edward being: Clara, now the wife of Clarence Haskins, a retired farmer of Madison county, Nebraska; George, a carpenter living in Burlington; Ernest, who died some years ago; May, the wife of E. R. Allen, a resident of Burlington; Frank, who is employed on a cattle farm; and Josephine, who is the wife of L. W. Allen and resides on a farm in Virgil township. The father died on his farm in Burlington township in 1905, and since then the mother has been living in Burlington. She, like her late husband, was reared in the Catholic faith and still holds to that church.

Edward Vogle was but three years old when he came with his parents to this country. His education was begun in the district school kept in Smith's schoolhouse in Burlington township. He worked during the summer and attended school in winter until he reached the age of eighteen, then returned to the paternal homestead and assisted his father on the farm for ten years.

At the age of twenty-eight Mr. Vogle was married to Miss Fannie Solomon, who is a native of Kane county, born in Virgil township. Her father, who was a farmer, is now deceased. The mother survives and makes her home in Burlington. After his marriage Mr. Vogle began farming on

his own account, renting land for the purpose. He is still living on a rented farm; but has a dairy of twenty-five cows which reward the care and attention he bestows on them with good returns. His farming operations are also profitable, for he is a prudent and judicious farmer and conducts the business with great industry and enterprise. Unto him and his wife have been born three children: Earl, who is living at home; Gracia, now deceased; and Irene, who is also still a member of the household.

In religion Mr. Vogle is a Catholic and in politics a democrat. Although born abroad he may almost be said to be wholly an American. He grew from childhood to manhood under the benign institutions of this country and is devoted to them. He drew his stature and his strength from American soil, his mental pabulum from American schools, and his domestic environment from American social life. And he is generally respected as a worthy representative of American citizenship of the sturdy class.

---

#### RANDALL CASSEM.

Randall Cassem, member of the Kane county bar with offices in Aurora and also one of the most extensive landowners of this part of the state, was born on his father's farm in Fox township, Kendall county, Illinois, January 2, 1852, his parents being Nels O. and Margaret (Fritz) Cassem, of Kendall county. The paternal grandfather, Ole Cassem, was a native of Norway, where he died when about seventy-seven years of age, having devoted his life to fishing and tilling the soil. Unto him and his wife Rachel was born a son June 29, 1829, his birth occurring about seven miles east of the city of Stavanger, Norway. He was called Nels O. Cassem, and in his native land he was reared to the age of about twenty years when, on the 22d of April, 1849, he sailed for America, reaching his destination nine weeks later, on the 24th of June. Soon afterward he became a resident of Fox township, Kendall county, Illinois, and on the 15th of March, 1851, he married Margaret Fritz, of that county. Her father was known in Norway as Aslek Fritz, but after coming to America changed his given name to Oscar. He took up his abode in Kendall county, Illinois, in 1870, and there spent his remaining days. He was a painter and decorator, and died at the age of seventy-five years, while his wife reached the advanced age of ninety-two years. They had a large family, including Margaret Fritz, who, as stated, became the wife of Nels O. Cassem.

When Nels O. Cassem first came to this state he worked on the old tow-path of the Illinois & Michigan canal at fifty cents per day. He always made it his purpose to save something of his earnings, and this resolve formed in early life constituted the foundation for his success. By safe and wise investments, fortunate loans and other profitable business transactions, and also through integrity, application and ability, his fortune steadily increased. He early realized that there is no royal road to wealth, but that industry and

common-sense application are elements in prosperity. He never entered the field of speculation, but as opportunity offered he made judicious investments in property and became the owner of extensive realty holdings. He regarded Illinois as the best state in the Union and Kendall county as the best part of the state, and he believed that he might win success through his farming operations and his investments, owing to his favorable location. He managed and directed his farming and other business enterprises within fifty-five miles of the greatest and best grain and stock market in the world—Chicago. His success may well be attributed to about five causes: He always had a strong body and possessed great power of physical endurance; secondly, as assistant to his father in Norway he formed industrious habits, knew how to work, was ambitious and earnest in his undertakings and his life was full of action. He stood for the life of effort and not for the life of ease. As money came to him slowly in his childhood and only by hard work, he learned the value of a dollar, and this constituted another element in his success. Then, too, he was always courageous. His ambition and firm self-reliance were apparent in his business transactions. He dared to attempt in the business world what others were afraid to take up, and though his gains were small, they were properly managed and when the time was ripe were invested in such a prudent manner as to produce a still greater yield. He gave minute attention to the most trivial things which could affect his business, and he also settled his bills as he went along, saying, "Thus I have always kept my business before me instead of allowing it to drive me." The fifth reason of his success was that he practiced self-denial and rigid economy. It took perseverance and tenacity of purpose, combined with honesty, good principle and a clean character for him to succeed. One principle that demanded notice was the one which guided him in never striving after extravagant profits in any of his undertakings. Moreover, he was unquestionably honest, and viewed in any light his character affords one of the most perfect models. He was a firm believer in the Bible, and his life was largely in harmony with the teachings of Him who came to the world to present to mankind the Christian religion. He died Saturday afternoon, August 20, 1904, about 3:30 o'clock, when driving home. Through an accident he was thrown from the buggy upon the road and death resulted immediately. His funeral services were held at the old homestead in a large tent on a bright, sunny Wednesday, August 24, 1904, and were conducted by the Rev. William H. Buss, of Aurora, Illinois, and Rev. A. O. Mortvedt, of Newark, Illinois, the former preaching in English and the latter in Norwegian. His pallbearers were his farm tenants, and the funeral was one of the largest ever held in Kendall county, for he was followed to the grave by a host of friends when his remains were laid to rest in the old cemetery west of Helmar. His was indeed a most active, useful and honorable life. Few men without better advantages at the outset of their careers attain the measure of prosperity which came to Mr. Cassem, nor through it all enjoy the unassailable reputation for business honesty and integrity.

His wife was a most devoted companion to him on life's journey, and was a most faithful and loving mother. She possessed all the womanly vir-

tues, and these endeared her to those with whom she came in contact. She died August 28, 1872, aged forty-five years, eight months and five days. As she lay upon her deathbed she quoted the words :

“Exalt with me mightily,  
Praise ye the Lord,  
Our God and Master’s  
Holy name!  
I sought Him in prayer,  
He heard my petition.  
His almighty power  
The danger averted,  
And brought from the tempest  
To haven secure.  
O glorious salvation  
From gravest oppression!  
My heart nor my tongue  
Shall never forget.”

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cassem were born two sons and three daughters who are yet living : Randall, who resides in Aurora ; Mrs. Olive J. Osmondson, of Seward township, Kendall county ; Oscar E., of Mitchell, South Dakota ; Mrs. Margaret Olson, of Aurora ; and Mrs. Anna O. Rood, of Chicago. One daughter, Emily, was born in 1855 and died in 1877.

The eldest, Randall Cassem, was reared to manhood on his father’s farm and attended the public schools of Kendall county. He was a country school teacher for a time, and later he acquired a good academic education at Newark, Illinois. He then pursued a professional career and was graduated from the law department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in the spring of 1874. In the fall of that year he was admitted to the bar and began practice at Yorkville, where he remained until 1887, when he removed to Aurora and has since been connected with the local courts in the conduct of much important litigation. He is an able lawyer who prepares his cases with great thoroughness and care, and is very accurate in his application of legal principles to the points at issue. He also buys and sells real estate and is the owner of large farms of valuable land in Kendall county and valuable lands in the states of Iowa, Minnesota and South Dakota, all of which is well improved. He likewise has a number of store buildings and business blocks in Aurora and Chicago, from which he derives a gratifying annual income.

On the 11th of April, 1882, Mr. Cassem was married to Miss Maggie Casler, a daughter of Robert and Jeannette (Eldridge) Casler. Both Mr. and Mrs. Cassem are members of the People’s church. Politically he is a republican, and for two terms served as city attorney of Yorkville, but otherwise he has never sought nor desired office. He is a man of strong intellectual force and of marked individuality, who has been a worthy exemplar of his father’s teachings in that he has made good use of his opportunities and has gained advancement in business circles through his close application and well



directed energy. His business methods, too, are such as will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny, and the work of his life has been crowned with success owing to the strong purpose and keen discernment which he has always displayed.

---

### J. J. LUCK.

J. J. Luck is well known as a representative of real-estate and insurance interests in Aurora and furthermore is numbered among the valued citizens here because of the active and helpful part which he has taken in securing the location of factories here and in otherwise promoting the growth and development of the city. A native of Germany, he was born in Brandenburg on the 8th of June, 1850. His paternal grandfather was a Von Vadel—a noble German family. His paternal great-grandfather was a noted soldier of the Prussian army who distinguished himself at Waterloo and on many other occasions. He was reputed to be one of the most accomplished swordsmen of his day and taught the art of fencing to Emperor William First. Many honors were conferred upon him, and he received the iron cross for distinguished bravery, together with other decorations.

August Luck, father of J. J. Luck, was a native of Pommern, Germany, and came to the United States in 1866, settling at Buffalo, New York, where he engaged in business as a contractor and builder. After a few years he removed westward to Wisconsin, where he remained until his death. He married Wilhelmina Felt, a daughter of the burgomaster of the town in which she was born.

J. J. Luck was educated in public and private schools of his native land, and was a youth of sixteen years when he accompanied his parents to the new world. In Wisconsin he learned the tanner's trade, and then established a factory for the manufacture of leather goods of all kinds. He was meeting with well merited and gratifying prosperity when a destructive fire robbed him of all his possessions. At that time the Northern Pacific Railroad was being built and he entered the employ of the company as land agent, having charge of land west of the Missouri river. In 1880 he organized the Northwestern colony, which settled Park City, Montana, on that road. In 1882 he extended his efforts to other fields of activity by organizing a German colony of eighty-one families, founding the town of New Salem, North Dakota. In the sale of land and the development of the place he won success, and left as a monument to his enterprise and ability one of the flourishing towns of the new West. He was also a prominent and influential factor in political circles there, being a recognized leader in republican ranks. He was connected with the state central committee, and his opinions carried weight in party councils and constituted an element in shaping the party policy. For three years he was chairman of the county commissioners of Morton county, and during his term of office he saved the county thousands of dollars. In 1886, after that part of the country had had three successive crop failures and every farmer



J. J. LUCK