

HISTORY
OF
Kane County, Ill.

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William George

BIOGRAPHICAL

WILLIAM GEORGE.

William George, a capitalist of Aurora, forceful and resourceful and strong in his ability to plan and to perform, was born in Sugar Grove, Kane county, Illinois, September 23, 1861. His paternal grandfather was Ebenezer George, a native of Keene, New Hampshire, and a son of a soldier of the Revolution. Hon. Alonzo George, father of William George, was for many years one of the most prominent and honored residents of Aurora. He was born at Strafford, Vermont. The mother, who bore the maiden name of Lydia May, was a daughter of Colonel Elisha May, of Fairlee, Vermont.

Excellent educational opportunities were afforded William George, who pursued his preliminary studies in the West Aurora schools, mastering the branches of consecutive grades until he became a high school student in West Aurora and was graduated there with the class of 1879. He afterward matriculated in the state university of Iowa at Iowa City and upon the completion of his course there he became a student in the Union College of Law at Chicago and was graduated with honor in the class of 1885 and admitted to the bar of Illinois. Returning to Aurora, Mr. George put his theoretical training to the practical test in the law office of Hopkins, Aldrich & Thatcher, where he remained until October, 1887. He then entered upon an independent professional career, continuing alone in practice until the 1st of January, 1894, when he formed a partnership with F. D. Winslow, which continued until September 16, 1895. In that year the law firm of Hopkins, Aldrich & Thatcher was dissolved and Nathan J. Aldrich joined Winslow & George as senior partner of the firm of Aldrich, Winslow & George. Later Mr. George retired from that firm. His business has been of a most important character, especially in the line of corporation law, but outside business interests have in recent years largely claimed the attention of Mr. George, precluding to some extent his active participation in his chosen profession.

He is a man of resourceful ability, who has not only successfully controlled a single line of activity but has displayed that power of adjustment and even balance which has enabled him to capably manage varied interests. He seems to possess an almost intuitive perception as to the value of a business situation and his judgment in commercial and financial matters is rarely, if ever, at fault. In 1892 he largely assumed the management of the Old Second National Bank in the capacity of vice president, and upon the death of his father, Alonzo George, in 1895, he succeeded to the presidency and has since been at the head of this institution. The bank is one of the strongest financial concerns in this part of the state, with a large clientage and extensive connections. A general banking business is carried on and in the control of the house Mr. George manifests keen discrimination as well as the power of executive control. Many other business interests which have had direct bearing upon the upbuilding and welfare of this part of the state have received the benefit of his cooperation and direction. He is a director of the Aurora Cotton Mills, and many of Aurora's manufacturing institutions. He is also prominently known as an importer and breeder of Hereford and other cattle and his landed possessions comprise about fifteen hundred acres of valuable farm lands in the vicinity of Aurora. His investments have been judiciously placed and from them he derives a substantial annual revenue.

On the 11th of October, 1887, occurred the marriage of Mr. George and Miss Alice Maude Lounsbury, a daughter of the Rev. E. W. Lounsbury, D. D., and Alice (Carson) Lounsbury, of Jordan, New York. They have two children: Alice May, fifteen years of age; and Elizabeth Marcia, four years of age.

Mr. George gives his political allegiance to the republican party on questions of national importance but is a representative of the independent movement which is one of the hopeful signs of the times, showing that business men and those who are forceful factors in the community are alive to the political situation and are no longer content to accept machine-made politics but feel free to exercise their right of franchise as their judgment dictates. That Mr. George is keenly interested in the subject of cattle breeding and is recognized as one of the prominent authorities on the subject is indicated in the fact that he was honored with the presidency of the American Hereford Cattle Breeders' Association. He was also at one time president of the Illinois Bankers' Association; is now a member of the executive committee of the American Bankers' Association and formerly its vice president for Illinois. He is national treasurer of the Yeomen of America. While his advantages at the outset of his career were perhaps superior to those which fall to the lot of the majority of boys, he has always worthily used the talents entrusted to him and has made steady progress in lines that have proved beneficial to the community at large. His life has been so varied in its activity, so honorable in its purposes and so far-reaching in its effects as to become an integral part of the history of Aurora and northern Illinois. While a successful business man, he looks at life from a broad and liberal standpoint and is one in whom business enterprise and humanitarianism are well balanced forces.



Alvin George

ALBERT L. HALL.

Albert L. Hall, editor and general manager of the Elgin Daily and Weekly Courier of Elgin, has for fifteen years been identified with newspaper interests in this section of Illinois. A native son of Kane county, his life record began upon a farm about six miles south of Elgin, December 28, 1870. His paternal grandfather, Wesley Hall, removed to Illinois from Churchville, Ontario, Canada, in 1839, and established his home upon a farm in St. Charles township. He was accompanied by his family, including Gustavus Hall, who was reared amid the scenes and environments of pioneer life and eventually began farming on his own account in this locality. For many years he was closely and prominently associated with agricultural interests but was called to his final rest in 1901. His widow survives and now resides at Santa Paula, California. The sons and daughters of this family are: Frank, a resident of Ventura, California; Edwin, living in Elgin; Mrs. H. C. Blanchard and Mrs. James Whalen, of Santa Paula, California; and Albert L., who is the youngest.

The last named spent his boyhood days upon the home farm to the age of twelve years, when he accompanied his parents upon their removal to Elgin, the family home being established on Highland avenue. There he continued his education in the public schools until 1889, when he put aside his text-books to become a factor in business circles. He was first employed as a clerk in a drug store at Hampshire, Kane county, where he remained for three years. Since that time, however, his attention has been given to journalistic interests. He made his first venture in the newspaper field at Leland, La Salle county, Illinois, in 1893, and when he had spent two years at that place he purchased the Gazette at Earlville, Illinois, six miles west of Leland, both towns being on the main line of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. The two papers were then consolidated and published under the name of the La Salle County Gazette-Express. In 1896 Mr. Hall was joined by M. L. Griffith, a well known newspaper man of long experience, who became an equal partner in the business, and the firm of Hall & Griffith maintained a continuous existence until 1899, when Mr. Hall sold his interest to his partner and returned to Kane county.

Settling in St. Charles, he acquired the St. Charles Chronicle by purchase from John F. Dewey, then circuit clerk of Kane county, and remained as its publisher until January 1, 1903, when he sold the paper and again became a resident of Elgin. In January of that year the Courier Publishing Company was organized and the business and plant of the Elgin Daily and Weekly Courier was purchased. Mr. Hall was elected editor and general manager and has since continued in that position. The success of the Courier has become a feature in the newspaper history of Kane county. It is now recognized as an excellent advertising medium because of its large circulation and the business of the company has been carefully systematized, so that substantial financial results are obtained.

On the 18th of August, 1897, Mr. Hall was married to Miss Frances Rice, of Mediapolis, Iowa, and to them has been born a daughter, Harriet.

The family residence is at No. 119 Tennyson court and Mr. and Mrs. Hall hold membership with the First Methodist Episcopal church of this city, in the work of which he is deeply and helpfully interested. He is also serving as a member of the board of directors of the Young Men's Christian Association and as a trustee of the Elgin Old People's Home—associations which indicate the nature of his interests and his broad humanitarianism. His fraternal relations are with Monitor Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and the local lodge of the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks. A glance at his business career will indicate the consecutive progress which has characterized his life work.

JOHN M. BLACKBURN.

In a history of commercial activity in Elgin it is imperative that mention be made of John M. Blackburn, else the record would be incomplete, for he today occupies a position of executive control in connection with one of the leading industries of the city, being secretary, treasurer and general manager of the Elgin Silver Plate Company. He started on the journey of life in Cleveland, Ohio, on the 29th of January, 1858, his parents being Joseph Martin and Elizabeth Ann (Walls) Blackburn. The father was born at Barnsley, Yorkshire, England, while the mother's birth occurred in Leeds. They were married in the land of their nativity but soon afterward sailed for the new world and became residents of Cleveland, Ohio, about 1848. There they spent their remaining days, the father engaging in business as an architect and builder, erecting many buildings there. Unto him and his wife were born five children: Elizabeth Ann, the wife of George G. Roe, who is living at Westport, New York; Mary Bennett, who is the widow of Charles B. Clough and a resident of New York city; Jessie Bennett, who is the widow of Dr. John Gilbert, of Cleveland; Henrietta, the deceased wife of J. H. Deckand; and John M.

The last named spent the first twenty years of his life in the city of his nativity, where he pursued his education in the public and preparatory schools. He afterward went to Meriden, Connecticut, and entered the silver plate works, being first employed in the office of the Meriden Britannia Company, with whom he was connected at intervals until 1890. He went from Connecticut to Toronto, Canada, where from 1884 until 1888 he conducted a factory which he established for the Meriden Silver Plate Company. In 1890 he made his way westward to Chicago and organized the present company, although it was then conducted under the style of the Griffin Silver Plate Company of Chicago. In 1892 the present factory was built and the firm name was changed to the Elgin Silver Plate Company. Mr. Blackburn is the secretary, treasurer and general manager and therefore the chief executive officer. The industry is an important one, employing from one hundred and fifty to two hundred workmen in the manufacture of casket and coffin hardware and trimmings. The house has become well known to the trade and

the sales have increased annually until the business is today a very extensive and profitable one. It has been built up along safe, conservative lines and yet has been characterized by the most progressive spirit.

In 1880 Mr. Blackburn was married to Miss Bessie Sharp, who was born in Milford, Delaware, April 6, 1860, and is a daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Watson) Sharp. Four children have been born of this marriage: Joseph Samuel, now in California; Guy W., who is connected with the International Nickel Company, of Copper Cliff, Ontario; Paul and Ralph, twins, who are now students in the engineering department of the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

In politics Mr. Blackburn has been a stalwart republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. In community affairs he has been active, influential and helpful. He has served on the board of education in Elgin for six years and was one of the board of trustees of the Elgin Academy. The cause of education finds in him a stalwart champion. He has served on the public library board for three years and was president part of the time, and he has also done effective work during three years' service as park commissioner. He is a member of the Country Club and of the Century Club, while fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of the Globe and the American Legion of Honor. There has been nothing sensational in his career, every step has been thoughtfully and deliberately made and every advance has been at the cost of earnest and self-denying labor. In manner he is kind, unaffected and approachable, and every comer has a claim upon his courteous attention.

THOMAS E. ROCHE.

Among the young men who are rapidly pushing their way to the front by reason of qualities which are always recognized as forceful factors in the business world, is numbered Thomas E. Roche, funeral director and embalmer of Elgin. He was born August 14, 1882, in South Elgin, and is a son of Michael and Ellen (Jordan) Roche. The father was born in Ireland in 1837 and when about eighteen years of age came to the United States, finally establishing his home at South Elgin in 1862. There he remained continuously until his death, which occurred in 1906, while his widow, who bore the maiden name of Ellen Jordan and was born in 1841, is still living in South Elgin.

At the usual age Thomas E. Roche was sent as a pupil to the public schools of his native city and later attended St. Mary's Academy of Elgin, from which he was graduated in the class of 1902. He also attended Barnes' School of Anatomy, Sanitary Science & Embalming, pursuing his studies in Chicago, where he was graduated in 1905. Under the same management there is conducted a similar institution in New York city. Mr. Roche pursued his course, however, in the western city and before his graduation entered business as an undertaker, embalmer and funeral director of Elgin in

1904. He obtained a certificate from the board of health in 1905 and has annually thereafter been thus qualified for his chosen work. He now commands a fine business and is meeting with success in his chosen field of labor.

On the 9th of February, 1906, Mr. Roche was married to Miss Gertrude Buel, a daughter of Conrad N. and Lydia (Collins) Buel, of Elgin. This marriage has been blessed with one son, James M., who was born on the 16th of December, 1906. Mr. Roche votes with the republican party but is not active as a worker in its ranks. He belongs to the Roman Catholic church, is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters and of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Court of Honor. He is well known in the city which is still his home, having always resided in this locality, and the fact that many of his staunchest friends are numbered among those who have known him from his boyhood to the present is an indication that his has been an honorable and straightforward career.

GEORGE S. BOWEN.

Few men pass from life amid such a uniform feeling of deep regret as was manifest in Elgin when George Stephen Bowen was called from this life. For seventy-five years he had been an active factor in the world and though he never gained national prominence or distinction in the community where he lived, he exerted a widely felt influence in behalf of all those things which tend to uplift mankind and bring the individual nearer to an ideal in citizenship and in his relations with his fellow men. Both Chicago and Elgin are indebted to Mr. Bowen for his initiative spirit and active cooperation in promoting many works of public improvement.

A native of New York, Mr. Bowen was born at Ingham Mills, Manheim, Herkimer county, November 30, 1829. He pursued his education in the public schools to the age of fourteen years and then started out to make his own way in the world. Whatever success he achieved was attributable to his own efforts, and while he succeeded in gaining a comfortable competence, he was still richer in the trust and respect of those with whom he was associated. After gaining valuable business information in the store and office at Little Falls, New York, he left that place in 1849 and made his way westward to Chicago. The western metropolis was then just emerging from villagehood and giving some promise of the future growth and development which was to make it one of the wonders of the world. As the city expanded he kept pace with its marvelous growth in his business undertakings and was associated most of the time with his brothers in business pursuits until the great conflagration of 1871, when the firm lost several millions of dollars. In the meantime Mr. Bowen had been very active in promoting interests of public benefit, realizing the fact that the city was making rapid strides and that it was destined to still greater growth, he labored to meet the demands that would come upon it as a city.

In 1861 he was chosen president of the Young Men's Library Association of Chicago, the forerunner of the great public library of the city. It was largely through his efforts that the latter institution was developed from the former, yet he has never been given due credit for his labors in this behalf. After his removal to Elgin the question arose as to making the Young Men's Christian Association the custodian and manager of the Chicago library. Mr. Bowen fought this move successfully. He believed that all the taxpayers should be represented and that the public library should be a perfectly free institution to all who desire the benefit of the opportunities it affords. His name should certainly have been inscribed upon the tablet in the Chicago library, which was placed there to honor the early founders and promoters. Mr. Bowen was also one of the first to promote the Chicago park system, and in fact it was he who called a meeting to discuss the matter of establishing a park—a meeting that resulted in securing a tract of land that has since been converted into South Park. In 1867 he was also instrumental in organizing the Woolen Manufacturers' Association of the Northwest, being its first and only president.

In 1873 Mr. Bowen took the lead in raising the money with which to build the Chicago Exposition, and in 1879 he organized an Industrial Exposition of ninety-three ladies and gentlemen, who visited Mexico in the interest of reciprocity. Through his invitation the previous year, Sr. Manuel de Zamacona, the Mexican minister, visited Chicago and Elgin, paying especial attention to the Elgin National Watch factory, with whose operations he was greatly delighted. This visit, and also the visit of the Americans to Mexico, resulted in much benefit to trade interests. At a banquet held in Chicago, in 1878, given by Mr. Bowen at the Palmer House the 23d of May, the foundation was laid for the organization of the Manufacturers' Association of Chicago.

Following the great fire of 1871, Mr. Bowen established his residence in Elgin, where he continued to make his home until his demise. While closely associated with the interests of Chicago, he also labored untiringly and effectively for the advancement of Elgin's welfare and in 1872 and 1873 represented the city as its mayor. Ten years later the Elgin Electric Light Company, of which he was the president, installed the electric light plant of this city and on the 24th of November of that year, at a banquet held in the Nolting House, Elgin was declared to be the best lighted city on this continent. The city, at the termination of his contract, purchased the plant.

The Elgin Board of Trade owes its existence to Mr. Bowen, who in association with Dr. Joseph Tefft, Dr. R. R. Stone and others organized the board. He made the opening address. As the result of a call which he issued, representatives of electric light interests of the United States met in Chicago on the 18th of February, 1885, and organized the National Electric Light Association, of which he was made an honorary member in 1890. He was one of the principal organizers and builders of the Chicago & Pacific Railway, now a part of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul system. Not long prior to his death he was chosen president of the North Pacific Trading Company, with offices in Chicago and Tokio, Japan. The Elgin public library

found in him one of its warmest friends and he also served as president of the Elgin Scientific Society.

Pleasantly situated in his home life, Mr. Bowen was married in Salisbury Center, Herkimer county, New York, to Julia Emma Byington and they had a son and daughter, George E. Bowen and Mrs. Anna C. Byington, both residents of Elgin. A happy married life of more than forty years was terminated in the death of Mr. Bowen in Elgin in January, 1905. He had passed the seventy-fifth milestone on life's journey. His entire career was one of intense and well directed activity. Free from selfish motives and actuated at all times by a spirit of unflinching devotion to the public good. He labored while others discussed the situation and accomplished results while they were still formulating plans. He looked upon life with a full understanding of its obligations and responsibilities and he met every trust reposed in him with a singleness of purpose that none questioned. His fellow townsmen, aside from his public work, had the highest regard for his personal character, for wherever he was known he commanded the unqualified confidence and respect of those with whom he was associated. Elgin has reason to honor his name and in this city his memory is sacredly cherished.

PIERCE BURTON.

Pierce Burton was born in Norwich, Vermont, December 24, 1834. His father was William Smith Burton, who was a merchant. He was born in Norwich, April 7, 1795, the son of Pierce and Phebe (Stoddard) Burton. Pierce, the grandfather, was the son of Stephen and Hannah (Pierce) Burton, born November 1, 1761. Hannah Pierce was from Canterbury, Connecticut. Stephen was the son of Isaac, who was the son of Jacob, who was the son of Isaac, who was the son of John Burton, who was granted land in Salem, Massachusetts, in 1638. The mother of Pierce, the subject of this sketch, was Nancy Russell, born in Northampton, Massachusetts, July 29, 1796. Her father's name was Seth Russell, the son of Hezekiah Russell, who was a lieutenant in the American army during the Revolutionary war. His line runs through several generations to a John Russell, who came from England in 1635. Nancy Russell's mother was Mary Emerson. Her genealogical record is given in a large book entitled "Emerson Genealogy," from which it appears that her ancestry is the same as that of the father of Ralph Waldo Emerson. One has only to go back a little in his ancestral record to find that in the sixth generation back he has one hundred and twenty-eight ancestors, not to mention those intervening. As far as known all of Mr. Burton's early ancestors were of English origin and came over to this country between 1620 and 1640, and were Puritans or Pilgrims, including several clergymen.

For his first wife Mr. Burton married Ellen G. Lapham, of Adams, Massachusetts, January 11, 1860. Her ancestry extends back to Governor Bradford, of Massachusetts, and several other passengers in the Mayflower, and includes John Alden and Priscilla. They had one child, Charles Pierce, born



Yours truly
Pierce Burton

at Anderson, Indiana, March 7, 1862, whose mother died January 13, 1863. For his second wife he married, December 25, 1873, Maria Alice Sibley, daughter of Gideon and Martha (Carpenter) Sibley, of Athol, Massachusetts. Her ancestors on both sides were of old Revolutionary stock. Thirteen of the Sibley family were in the battle of Bunker Hill. One of her mother's ancestors was with Ethan Allen at the surrender of Ticonderoga; two others were in the battle of Saratoga, and tradition tells of others in other battles. Two children, Claribel Daisy and Ralph William, were born in Aurora, Illinois, to Mr. and Mrs. Burton. Mr. Burton has three grandchildren, children of his oldest son, Charles Pierce Burton and Cora (Vreeland) Burton. Charles Pierce Burton, the son, is author of "The Bashful Man and Others," a collection of light essays, and of "The Boys of Bob's Hill," "The Bob's Cave Boys," and other stories.

Pierce Burton was one of the prominent men of Alabama during the reconstruction period. Among other public positions he served with distinction in the constitutional convention of 1867 and in the legislature of that state, and he was the choice of his party for the office of lieutenant governor in 1870. As chairman of the committee on ways and means he wrote the revenue laws, some of which are on the statutes today. He established and published *The Southern Republican*, a weekly paper, at Demopolis, Alabama, for nearly three years, but sold out in 1871 and moved to Aurora, where he bought the *Aurora Herald*, a weekly paper, and in 1882 established the *Daily Express*, which he conducted successfully until 1899, when he sold both papers to his son, Charles Pierce Burton, and has had no active business since.

CORNELL H. BROWN.

Cornell H. Brown is now filling the position of postmaster at Batavia and is giving a public-spirited and progressive administration in discharging the duties of the office. He was born May 24, 1853, in the city which is still his home. His father, Rufus J. Brown, who was born in New York in 1826, died in 1897. For twenty-five years prior to his death he engaged in farming in Nebraska, to which state he removed in 1875. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Aurelia McDaniel, was born in New York in 1835 and died in Nebraska in 1902. They were married in Batavia in 1852, and became the parents of four sons. The brothers of our subject are: William O., who is residing in Nebraska; Edward A., who also lives in that city; and Rufus J., a resident of Iowa. All were born in Batavia.

Cornell H. Brown is indebted to the public-school system of his native city for the educational privileges he enjoyed. At the age of fifteen years he put aside his text-books and in 1868 entered the postoffice as clerk under E. S. Smith. He there remained for ten years and much of that time served as assistant postmaster. In 1878 he accepted a position as bookkeeper with the firm of D. R. Sperry & Company, with whom he continued for a year, after which he returned to the postoffice as assistant postmaster for one year.

He then entered the railway mail service, in which he continued until October, 1882, when he became bookkeeper for the Van Nortwick Paper Company of Batavia, continuing in that connection until 1900, when he was appointed postmaster by President McKinley. Four years later he was reappointed by President Roosevelt and still continues in this position, his eight years' service being characteristic of the utmost fidelity to duty. In 1898, together with five others, he organized the Citizens Bank, which was a partnership concern, and in 1901 this institution was consolidated with the First National Bank of Batavia.

On the 12th of January, 1879, Mr. Brown was married to Miss Florence S. Starkey, a daughter of Warren and Mary (Hunter) Starkey. As has been indicated through his official appointments Mr. Brown is a stalwart republican and in the community has held various local offices, all of which have found in him a faithful and competent incumbent. He has been tax collector for Batavia, has been a member of the board of supervisors, was alderman, and was mayor of the city for two terms, being elected in 1897 and again in 1899. He was also a member of the West Side Board of Education for twelve years. In his fraternal relations he is an Odd Fellow and is also connected with the Knights of Pythias and the Elks, while of the Modern Woodmen camp he is a charter member. He enjoys the full confidence and respect of his fellow townsmen, else he would not have been so many times honored with public office. Abraham Lincoln said, "You can fool some of the people all of the time and all of the people some of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time." This is continually manifested in connection with public offices, where one is continuously subjected to the criticism of the public, and that Mr. Brown has been again and again called to office is indicative of the trust which is reposed in him. Over the record of his official career there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil.

DAVID C. COOK.

There are many men in Elgin and northern Illinois—leaders in professional and commercial circles—who have acquired wide reputation by their success in their chosen field of labor and are known to business men throughout the country, but in the homes of this land the name of David C. Cook is familiar. Amid life's busy cares he has recognized the brotherhood of mankind and has labored for the advancement of the human race, especially devoting himself to the work of educating and preparing children for a higher moral life through the publication of an attractive and instructive Sunday-school literature, realizing the truth and wisdom which Solomon expressed in the well known words, "Train a child up in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it." Mr. Cook has devoted the greater part of the years of his manhood to Sunday school and kindred work and to the publication of literature for use in the moral instruction of the young.

Mr. Cook was born at East Worcester, New York, in 1850 and was reared amid the refining influences of a good Christian home, his father being a minister of the Methodist church. As a child he was greatly interested in Sunday school, attending not only that of his own church, but one, and part of the time two others, meeting at different hours. From his boyhood days he has been a most active and helpful worker in the church, the Sunday school and the temperance cause, becoming a church member at an early age. When a youth of seventeen he became a teacher in Ward's Rolling Mills Sunday school in Chicago, to which place he had removed with his parents, and soon afterward he offered his services as a teacher in the Milwaukee Avenue Mission and the Wicker Park Sunday schools. During the succeeding four years he taught most of the time in two or three schools each Sunday, while his evenings were largely spent in visiting the members of his different classes. He devoted his Saturday afternoons to a search for new scholars, going from house to house and inviting the children whom he saw on the streets, while on Sunday afternoons he would gather the boys and the girls from the streets in the neighborhood of his home in his father's front yard or the yard or some of his scholars, and sing with them the Sunday school songs. It presented the Sunday school in a new light to many children and awakened their first real interest in the work.

Immediately following the great fire of 1871, Mr. Cook took up the Sunday school work on the north side of the city. Seeing the distress and the pressing needs, he entered most heartily into relief and mission work in one of the poorest sections of the burned district and in the fall of that year, in order to better pursue the work, he left home and with three other young men, whom he had persuaded to cooperate with him, he rented rooms in this field and gave all his hours, such as are usually devoted to rest or recreation, to visitation, relief and mission work. Every Sunday was spent in this way and all possible time which was not occupied by the demands of his business position. He conducted neighborhood prayer meetings, provided for the sick and distressed, and wherever help was needed there he was found. Perhaps no better account of the great work that he has done can be given than in the words of the Rev. Charles A. Blanchard, president of Wheaton College, who wrote of him: "In the winter of 1872 Mr. Cook organized and superintended his first Sunday school, 'Everybody's Mission.' This school was opened in a German theater and beer hall, on North avenue, in what was then one of the poorest and roughest neighborhoods of the burned district. Afterward a lot was leased and a building erected for the school on an adjacent street. With an attendance of three hundred and fifty to four hundred and fifty, and without aid from any church or society, he maintained this school for a period of five years and until the churches were able largely to occupy the field. The teachers whom he rallied came, for the most part, from long distances; some of them two or three miles away. Their faithfulness will be appreciated when it is understood that the school was held at nine o'clock in the morning, and that the scholars were of the poorest, roughest and least inviting class, the larger portion of them being of foreign parentage. Besides 'Everybody's Mission' he started and superintended the North Avenue Mis-

sion, Lake View Mission and Lake View Union Sunday school in Chicago, and Grace Sunday school in Elgin, besides several small schools. Much of the time for ten years he superintended two schools, and some of the time three schools, each Sabbath.

"It is to the members of his schools that he is indebted for whatever he has done to improve Sunday-school literature, for his education in that line was gained there. His first paper, called 'Our Sunday-School Paper,' was published for his own schools. His first lesson help, called 'Our Lesson Book,' was prepared for use alone in the two schools which he managed at that time. His first thought in offering his publications to other schools was to divide the expense of setting the type and making the plates. The rapidity with which his publications gained a market when once known, showed how carefully he had studied the needs of pupils and teachers in his own schools. Afterward everything new was first tried in one or more of his own schools before it was offered to schools in general. Many a new thing was tested which the public never saw, while others appeared in an improved form. As a publisher he has relied entirely upon the merits of his publications to secure for them a market; unlike most other publishers in this line, who work under the auspices of some church or society and depend on this constituency to secure patronage. When he commenced publishing, Sunday-school literature was very much higher than now, and perhaps the most startling thing he did was to put his prices much lower than others were then asking. As circulation warranted, he made it a rule to reduce prices still lower or to improve the publications, or both. While this pleased his patrons as well as others who felt that prices were exorbitant, it greatly annoyed other publishers, some of whom are said to have resented this cutting in on their trade and cutting off of their profits in a manner hardly justifiable among religious business houses.

"It is thirty-three years since he issued his first publication for the Sunday school, and they are now the widest known, if not the most generally used, of any having a large circulation among schools of all evangelical denominations. He employs regularly twelve associate editors, all of whom are able, earnest Christian men and women, and connected with various evangelical churches; besides several hundred writers, representing some of the best talent in the land. He does not claim that his are the only good Sunday-school helps, but he does claim that his helps are carefully prepared, are well adapted to their purpose and are sold at reasonable prices. The test of use for years in thousands of schools seems to make this claim good. As one interested in the great Sunday-school movement it is a pleasure to write these lines of introduction for one who has been a personal friend for many years, and who has, as I believe, accomplished a great and blessed work for the Sunday-school work."

It is certainly a matter of gratification to Mr. Cook to see the work to which he is devoting his life accepted by the public. He has received letters of endorsement from some of the most prominent ministers and Sunday-school workers of the country, who speak of his efforts in terms of high praise and commendation. There is in commercial, industrial or professional circles

no busier man or one who is more carefully systematizing his work so as to produce the largest results in a given space of time, and furthermore, in all of his labors he is actuated by the spirit of Him who came not to be ministered unto but to minister.

While no adequate memorial of Mr. Cook can be written until many of the enterprises with which he has been connected have completed their full measure of good in the world and until his personal influence and example shall have ceased their fruitage in the lives of those with whom he has been brought in contact, yet there is much concerning him that can with profit be set down here as an illustration of what can be done if a man with a clear brain and willing hands but sets himself seriously to the real labors and responsibilities of life. His benevolence is unostentatious and genuine and there is nothing in the story of his life to show that he has ever for a moment sought to compass a given end for the purpose of exalting himself. He is a man of the broadest sympathy, who has always endeavored to follow closely in the steps of the lowly Teacher of Nazarene. Not by any standard of profit or loss can his work be judged, for there is no measure for the influence that he has exerted nor for the seeds of truth which he has sown.

A. H. LOWRIE.

While A. H. Lowrie has been a prominent factor in the public interests of Elgin and is also widely known because of his able service in many directions, there has been nothing spectacular in his career. On the contrary, it is the history of a man who has used the innate talents which are his, while his position of leadership in various lines has come as the outcome of his resourceful ability. He is now senior member of the firm of Lowrie & Black, owners of the Elgin Daily News, and his labors have been instrumental in making this one of the strongest representatives of journalism in northern Illinois.

Mr. Lowrie was born in Berwickshire, Scotland, October 29, 1836, and comes of a family noted for military prowess and skill. In early youth he was brought to the United States by his parents, who established their home in Cleveland, Ohio, where the son acquired his early education through the medium of the public schools, passing through consecutive grades to graduation from the high school. Later he matriculated in the University of Michigan but in his senior year left that institution and received his diploma from the Adrian (Mich.) College. Being offered a tutorship in that college, he remained as a member of its faculty for a short time and continued his work as an educator in the schools of Cleveland, Ohio. After two years thus spent, however, he resigned to become superintendent of the schools in Bellefontaine, Ohio, where he continued for three years. He was then offered and accepted the superintendency of the schools of Marion, Ohio, and resigned that place to become professor of English literature and political economy in Adrian College, Michigan. For fifteen years he was a member of its faculty and for two years acting president. He was regarded as one of the distin-

guished educators of the state and under his instruction were many men who have attained to prominent positions in the business and political affairs of the country.

Entering the field of journalism, Mr. Lowrie became senior proprietor of the *Adrian Times and Expositor*, which under his capable direction entered upon a very successful era in its history. Before his removal to Elgin in 1882, he purchased the *Daily and Weekly Advocate* and a year later bought the *Elgin News*, consolidating the two papers. The firm of Lowrie & Black has had continuous existence since 1886 and their paper is recognized as one of the leading journals of northern Illinois. While they stand for progressive journalism, they have never utilized the methods which characterize the yellow sheet but have upheld the dignity of their profession, while at the same time they have given to the public the result of enterprising methods in a search for news of general interest. Their paper has also been the champion of republican politics and the advocate of substantial development and improvement in municipal and community affairs.

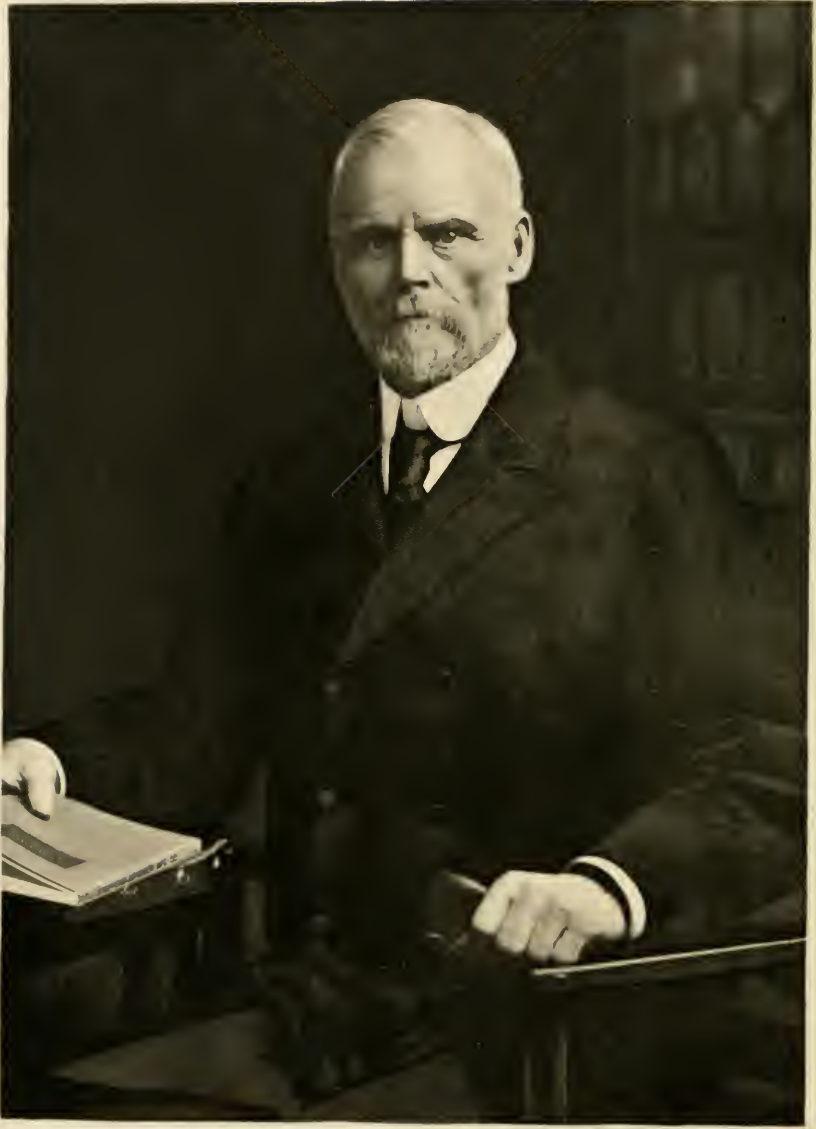
On the 11th of September, 1859, Mr. Lowrie was married to Miss Mattie B. Pease, a daughter of Henry and Oraline (Waldo) Pease. They have two sons, Will L. and Alfred R. Mr. Lowrie was appointed by President Benjamin Harrison to the position of United States consul to Freiburg, Germany, where he ably represented the interests of the country, and while abroad, in company with his wife, he visited the many points of historic, modern and scenic interest on the European continent. He has long been recognized as a most stalwart champion of the republican party and has studied closely the questions which are to the statesman and the man of affairs of vital interest. With a national reputation as a speaker, he has done active work in every presidential campaign since the republican party came into existence and his opinions, clearly and forcefully enunciated from the lecture platform, have been of valuable assistance in turning the tide in many a doubtful state. He is, moreover, widely known as a teacher and editor and the result of his labors in these connections has been of no restricted order, while at all times he has kept abreast with the best thinking men of the age.

HON. JOHN STEWART.

The life records of few men indicate so clearly the possibilities for successful accomplishment as does the history of John Stewart. With few advantages in his youth he early came to a realization of the value of industry and perseverance as factors in the achievement of success, and it has been along these lines that he has gained a position of marked distinction in business circles and extensive interests that make him one of the most prominent residents of Kane county.

As the name indicates, the Stewart family is of Scotch lineage. The father, Thomas Stewart, was born December 22, 1797, near Ayre, Scotland, and followed the shoemaker's trade. Attracted by the opportunities of the





John Stewart A



Martha A. Stewart.

new world he left home at the age of twenty-five years and, bidding adieu to friends and native land, sailed for America. He landed at New Brunswick, where for a time he followed the shoemaker's trade, while later he became a resident of Elburn, where he engaged in farming. His political allegiance was given to the republican party, which found in him a stalwart champion, and he was equally loyal in his adherence to the Presbyterian church, in which he held membership. He married Jane Moody, who was born in Larggs, Scotland, and was the daughter of a ship's captain. A history of the Moody family, tracing the ancestry back to 1620, is in possession of our subject. The death of Thomas Stewart occurred in Campton and his remains were interred in the cemetery of this place. His family numbered the following children: John, Jeannette, Alexander, Thomas, Samuel and Jane. All are now dead with the exception of John Stewart, of this review, and his brother Alexander, who resides in Washington, D. C., but maintains a summer home at Warsaw, Wisconsin. He was elected to congress from the Ninth Wisconsin district, which he represented in the national halls of legislation for eight years.

John Stewart belongs to a class of men who have found that the road to public usefulness and public honor is open to all, by reason of the fact that they have traveled its pathway. Without especial advantages at the outset of his career and, in fact, deprived of many of the opportunities which most boys enjoy, he has made gradual and steady advance until he is today classed with the most prosperous residents of northern Illinois. He attended school for only one year, that being when about twelve years of age, but he eagerly embraced his opportunities and pursued his studies each day in the entire year excepting Christmas and Sundays. Possessing an observant eye and a retentive memory, he gradually added to his knowledge, and in the school of experience has learned many valuable lessons, while through extensive travel he has gained that culture and information which can be acquired in no other way. He was but ten years of age when he was bound out to a millwright for a period of ten years. The papers had been properly signed but owing to the failure of the miller the contract was never executed. In 1848 Mr. Stewart arrived in Illinois and secured employment with a lawyer, S. S. Jones, at St. Charles, at a salary of ten dollars per month. He thus worked for two months and with his twenty dollars for capital he traveled a distance of three hundred miles into the lumber region of Wisconsin, where he made his initial step in connection with the lumber trade, engaging in the manufacture of lumber and by means of rafts floating it down the Mississippi river to St. Louis, where he found a market for his product. The year following his brother Alexander joined him and he thus continued to raft lumber down the river until 1874, when the railroad was built into the lumber region. Throughout the intervening years he had been connected with the lumber industry his business interests were constantly expanding until he is today one of the best known representatives of the trade in the middle west.

Mr. Stewart gained a companion and helpmate for life's journey by his marriage to Miss Martha Thomas, who was born in Cambridge, Crawford county, Pennsylvania, August 31, 1833. Her father was a tanner by trade.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Stewart's marriage are as follows: Thomas D., who was born September 28, 1858, resides in Aurora and is president of the First National Bank of that city, while of the Bank of St. Charles he is general manager; Eliza is the wife of Dr. Watson, of Aurora; Mary is deceased; Martha, born June 4, 1867, is the wife of Burton Nichols, who is engaged in the real-estate business in Chicago; Nellie, born May 22, 1873, is the wife of John Alexander, president of the Alexander Lumber Company, of Chicago, with extensive interests in the South.

While Mr. Stewart was continually developing his business interests until they reached mammoth proportions, bringing him most gratifying and well merited returns for his labors, he was also figuring as an influential factor in public life. He was elected and served for six years as supervisor in this county, and in 1884 was chosen to represent his district in the state legislature, where he served continuously until 1889. He was again elected in 1898 for another term of two years and in all his legislative services his course was characterized by a most faithful care over the interests of his constituents and unflinching efforts for the interests of the community at large. He cast his first presidential ballot for General Winfield Scott, but since the organization of the republican party has been one of its staunch supporters. He was a national delegate to the convention that nominated James A. Garfield, although on that occasion he supported the candidacy of James G. Blaine. He was again a delegate to the national convention which nominated William McKinley for the second term. His allegiance to the party is unflinching and his opinions carry weight in party ranks. His cooperation can always be counted upon to further progressive measures for the benefit of his home community. He constructed and gave to the county a model stone road which is two and a quarter miles long and was built at a cost of twelve thousand dollars. Fraternally he is a thirty-second degree Mason and has been active in Masonic circles for forty years.

In more recent years, since wealth has made it possible for him to relegate to others the business cares and duties which he formerly assumed, he has traveled extensively, having crossed the Atlantic nine times and the Pacific once. In company with his son-in-law, Dr. Watson, of Aurora, he left San Francisco in October, 1904, and after a brief visit at the Hawaiian Islands proceeded to Yokohama, Japan, where he spent two months seeing much of interest. A matter of great surprise to him was that there are no animals in Japan, especially horses, and he made his journey through the empire in jinrikshas, traveling at the rate of five miles an hour and securing Japanese coolies for fifteen cents per day to draw the same. He next visited Shanghai, Hong Kong, Canton and Macao, China, a port controlled by the Portuguese. He also went to Singapore, the largest and strongest British post in the east, and then to Pensay, where is found the greatest zinc mines in the world. He afterward proceeded to Colombo, on the island of Ceylon, thence to Calcutta and afterward to the Himalayan mountains. He visited Darjeling, the home of the British officers who control India, and thence proceeded up the Ganges by ship, stopping at Agra, celebrated for its fine carpet manufactories. Proceeding on to the celebrated city of Lucknow he was there guided over the



RESIDENCE OF JOHN STEWART

place by soldiers who participated in the ever memorable siege. Continuing on his way to Delhi he afterward went to Jaypore, to Allihambad and on to Bombay, where he saw the world's celebrated temple, which is made of solid marble, covers twenty acres of land and was twenty-five years in the course of construction, it requiring the continuous efforts of twenty-five thousand men to erect it, while the stone was drawn from a quarry seventy miles away. Leaving Bombay, Mr. Stewart proceeded to the Red Sea, passed through the Suez canal, thence to Cairo and on to France, landing at Marseilles. He visited Paris, went to Dover and, after visiting London, sailed from Southampton to New York, the complete trip covering six months. Several years before, in 1890, Mr. Stewart, in company with his wife and daughters, sailed for Liverpool, went thence to London and on to Paris, also visited Lyons, Monte Carlo, Pissgah, Geneva, Florence, Naples, Sicily and on to Alexandria, on which voyage they came very near being shipwrecked. They took the trip on the Nile, spending six weeks in that way, and afterward proceeded to Joppa and on to Jerusalem by stage, visiting Bethlehem and the contiguous territory. Returning to Joppa, they then went to Damascus, where Mr. Stewart says that nature has made her most beautiful city. In all his travels he has never found a more ideal place for a city. At Balbaak he viewed the massive ruins which antedate the flood. After visiting Athens he went to Smyrna and to Constantinople, thence by the Black Sea to Russia, on to Buda Pesth, Vienna, Italy, Switzerland and the Black Forest, in Germany, where he saw the emperor of Germany in company with Queen Victoria, of England, reviewing forty-five thousand soldiers. Proceeding down the Rhine to Cologne, the party afterward went to Amsterdam, where they remained two weeks, and thence to Belgium and by stage to the battlefield of Waterloo, Mr. Stewart being much impressed with the English lion of St. Mark, which is supposed to keep vigil over the field. This lion is a work of huge brass, mounted upon a great hummock of earth. In the early days when Belgium and England were at war some enthusiastic Frenchman cut off the tail of the brass lion and England compelled the French government to supply the missing member. Mr. Stewart and his family also visited England, Scotland and Ireland on this trip and they returned with many interesting mementoes of their journey in the shape of fine rugs, tapestry and works of art.

EUGENE F. ROGERS.

Kane county has been singularly fortunate in the class of men who have occupied its offices, for they have been usually citizens of high official honor and loyal purpose. Such a one is Eugene F. Rogers, who is now serving as circuit clerk. He was born in Plato township, this county, December 19, 1859, his parents being Nelson and Sarah (Pruden) Rogers, both of whom were natives of the state of New York. His paternal grandfather, Jonathan Rogers, was a native of Massachusetts and when a small boy went to New York with his parents, being reared to manhood in Lewis county. There he

resided to the age of sixty years, when he came westward to Illinois and purchased land in Plato township, Kane county, where he spent his remaining days, passing away at the age of eighty-seven years. He was a soldier in the war of 1812 and a man who in every relation of life commanded the confidence and good will of those who knew him. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Herring, was seventy-eight years of age at the time of her demise. The Rogers family came originally from English ancestry. Unto Jonathan Rogers and his wife were born seven children, four of whom came to the middle west, but only one is now living.

The maternal grandfather of Eugene F. Rogers was John Pruden, a native of Seneca county, New York, and of Holland Dutch descent. He was a farmer and, removing to the west with his family in 1843, settled in Plato township, this county, where he lived for many years. He afterward took up his abode in Elgin and subsequently removed to St. Charles, Illinois, where he died when about eighty years of age. His wife, who in her maidenhood was Sarah Ransom, lived to be about sixty-five years of age. They were the parents of four children.

Nelson Rogers, father of our subject, followed the occupation of farming in early life and later turned his attention to merchandising. He came to Illinois in 1855 and took up his abode in Plato township, where he purchased a farm of four hundred and eighty acres, which he improved, making his home thereon for many years. As time passed he brought the fields under a high state of cultivation and added to the place many modern equipments and accessories. In the early '70s, putting aside the work of the farm, he removed to Elgin, where he engaged in the hardware business for a number of years, but eventually retired from active life and removed to Oak Park, a suburb of Chicago, where he now resides. His wife was brought to Illinois by her parents in 1843, when a child of seven years, and was reared to womanhood and married in Kane county. She held membership in the Congregational church and lived an earnest, consistent Christian life until called to her final rest in June, 1902, at the age of sixty-six years. Nelson Rogers is now serving as superintendent of streets in Oak Park. Unto him and his wife were born three sons: Eugene F.; Sherman, deceased; and Fred N., of Oak Park.

Eugene F. Rogers was reared upon the home farm in Kane county to the age of fifteen years and early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He attended the district schools and afterward pursued his studies in the Elgin public schools and Elgin Academy. He then became a reporter on an Elgin newspaper, called the Daily Bluff City, with which he was connected for several years. He was likewise connected with the reportorial staff of other papers in Chicago, Dubuque, St. Paul and elsewhere. He was first called to public office by his appointment as deputy circuit clerk, in which capacity he served for three years under Major Ben Gould, who lost his life in the ever memorable Iroquois theater fire in Chicago, as did his wife. At that time Mr. Rogers was appointed circuit clerk to fill out the unexpired term of Major Gould and in 1904 was elected to the office for a term of four years, which expires December 1, 1908.

His previous experience as deputy well qualified him for the position and his record in office is altogether creditable and commendable, having won for him high encomiums.

On the 27th of February, 1895, occurred the marriage of Mr. Rogers and Miss Josephine Mulroney, a daughter of Patrick and Ellen (Lawless) Mulroney. They now have one child, Nadia. Mrs. Rogers is a member of the Catholic church, while Mr. Rogers belongs to Monitor Lodge, No. 522, A. F. & A. M., of Elgin; Althea Lodge, No. 519, I. O. O. F., the Modern Woodmen camp, the Maccabees tent and the Elks lodge. Politically he is a republican and is recognized as one of the most stalwart champions of the party, while in citizenship he has made a record for fidelity and loyalty that is most commendable.

CHARLES L. ABBOTT.

In no profession is there a career more open to talent than in that of the law, and in no field of endeavor is there demanded a more thorough preparation and more thorough appreciation of the absolute ethics of life, of all of the underlined principles which form the basis of all human rights and privileges. Unflinching application, intuitive wisdom, and a determination to fully utilize the means at hand are the concomitants which insure personal success and prestige in the legal profession, and possessing the requisite qualities of the able lawyer, Charles L. Abbott has become known as a prominent and representative member of the Kane county bar.

A native of Elgin, the city of his present residence, he was born April 7, 1865, and the public schools afforded him his educational privileges. At the age of fourteen years, however, he left school and was employed by the Elgin Watch Company, with which he was connected for about eighteen months. He then began learning the painter's trade, which he followed for nine years, after which he again spent three years in the service of the watch company. It was while thus engaged that he conceived the idea of becoming a member of the bar, and to this end he borrowed law books from his friends, devoting his evening hours to the study of Blackstone, Kent and other authorities. In April, 1893, leaving the watch factory, he soon afterward secured a position with the fire department of Elgin. This plan was induced by his idea that it would give him more leisure in which to pursue his law studies, and on the 1st of May, 1895, he was appointed assistant chief by Mayor Charles H. Wayne. Thus he was afforded the opportunity to be away from fire department headquarters, and in further preparation for the legal profession he entered the office of Frank W. Joslyn, who for one year acted as his preceptor.

On the 20th of May, 1896, Mr. Abbott took an examination before the United States supreme court at Ottawa and was admitted to the bar. In his professional career he has made rapid advancement, for he early demonstrated in the courts his ability to successfully solve the intricate problems of jurisprudence. In April, 1897, he was elected city attorney and served for one

term of two years. In December, 1900, he was appointed assistant states attorney for Kane county and acceptably filled that position for four years, during which period he had charge of all the criminal work in the northern half of Kane county and was prominent in the prosecution of several important cases, including two murder cases—that of Antonio Romano, who was sentenced to hang, and Julius Padelford, who was acquitted. There have been but two men hanged in the history of Kane county, one capital punishment being executed in the '50s, while it was through the efforts of Mr. Abbott that the other occurred in August, 1903.

Not only in the trial of his cases before the courts has Mr. Abbott gained recognition and distinction, but also as an active factor in political circles. In 1901 he was elected alderman from the sixth ward and after serving for a term of two years refused to become a candidate for reelection. However, during his connection with the council he exercised his official prerogatives in support of many progressive measures and stood loyally in defense of the best interests of the community. On the 1st of January, 1906, he was appointed referee in bankruptcy by Solomon Bethea, United States district judge, in which position he continued until April, 1908, when he resigned to accept the appointment of assistant United States district attorney for the northern district of Illinois under Edwin W. Simms. In politics he has always been a stalwart republican and for a number of years has been a member of the central county committee.

On the 1st of May, 1890, Mr. Abbott was married to Miss Mary Schmidt, of Elgin, and they became the parents of two children: Lionel Smith, born January 19, 1898; and Ethel Francenia, born February 2, 1906. The parents attend the Universalist church, and in his fraternal relations Mr. Abbott is connected with the Masons, the Knights of Pythias, the Elks, the Woodmen, the Knights & Ladies of Honor, the Court of Honor, and Archan Union. He stands as a splendid representative of that type of American manhood that recognizes and utilizes opportunities. Prompted by laudable ambition, he directed his energies in those channels demanding strong intellectuality, close application and unwearied industry, and has gained for himself a most creditable and honored position at the Elgin bar.

HARRY D. BARNES.

Among the important productive industries of Elgin, constituting an element in the business life and consequent prosperity of the city, is numbered the Elgin Packing Company, of which Harry D. Barnes is the president. He has known how to coordinate forces so as to produce concerted action and win the best possible result, and thus the enterprise of which he is at the head is carefully systematized so that time, labor and outlay have been reduced to the minimum in keeping with the accomplishment of desired results.

Mr. Barnes is a native of Bloomingdale, Illinois, born November 29, 1863, upon a farm about a mile west of the village. This place was a tract

of land which was entered from the government by his grandfather, Jonathan Barnes, in 1838, a fact which indicates that the family were residents here in pioneer days. His parents were George W. and Susan (Dudley) Barnes. The father was born in Plattsburg, New York, in 1831, while the mother's birth occurred in Hannibal, Oswego county, New York. He was a lad of seven years when he came with his parents to Illinois in 1838. They drove across the country from their old home in the Empire state, starting on the first day of April and arriving in November. George W. Barnes remained for many years upon the farm where the birth of his son Harry occurred, but since 1883 has made his home in Elgin, where his wife is also living. She, too, came here in her childhood days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Asa Dudley. Unto George W. Barnes and his wife were born nine children: Jessie, now the wife of John Bateman, of Elgin; Eva M., at home; Harry D.; Mabel, the wife of Leon D. Nish, of Elgin; Newton G., who is a salesman in Chicago; Maude, a teacher in the public schools of Elgin, and living at home; Robert M., who is a mechanic with the General Electric Company of Chicago; Ella M., at home; and G. Alson, an expressman of Elgin.

Harry D. Barnes spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon the home farm, where he remained until about 1883. In the summer months he worked in the fields and in the winter seasons attended the public schools. He came to Elgin in 1883 and during the two succeeding winters was a student in the Elgin Academy, while the summer months were spent as an employe in a grocery store. He afterward entered upon an apprenticeship in January, 1886, with the Elgin Packing Company, being first employed in the tinshop and worked as a canmaker for several years. Little did he dream on the day that he entered the establishment that he would at one time become president of the company, but his fidelity, capability and unfaltering industry won him promotion from time to time. He acted as assistant in the management for a number of years and when F. L. McClure resigned Mr. Barnes was appointed assistant manager, so continuing until 1898. When E. K. Cornell resigned he was made manager on the 1st of January, 1899, and acted in that capacity until 1905, when he purchased the interest of William Grote and became president of the company. He is now president and manager of a business that is capitalized for fifty thousand dollars and he is the majority stockholder in the company. Employment is furnished to about two hundred and fifty hands during the busy season.

The plant was established in 1867 at Geneva and was incorporated in Elgin in 1869 and located on its present site. Today the plant covers about sixty-four thousand square feet floor space. The company has about one thousand acres planted in corn, which is raised for the factory, and about one million, two hundred and fifty thousand cans of corn are annually put up. Their product also includes beans and pumpkins and the output of the Elgin Packing Company is known throughout the country. The house has ever sustained a high standard for the excellence of its product as well as the character of its service to the public. The business is conducted along most methodical lines and has been so carefully managed that there is no waste of time or effort. The greatest cleanliness and orderliness characterizes the

house and the business is one of the most extensive and important interests of Elgin. It has long since become an excellent income paying property and its high standard is continued under the direction of Mr. Barnes. The factory is situated at the corner of West Chicago and Union streets. In addition to his interest in this property Mr. Barnes owns a large dairy farm of one hundred and fifty acres near McQueen station, about six miles west of Elgin, and also a city residence at No. 225 Hamilton avenue.

In 1898 Mr. Barnes was married to Miss Ida Merrifield, who was born in Brookline, Vermont, in 1876, a daughter of Oscar C. and Marcia A. (Cudworth) Merrifield, both of whom died in Ottawa, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Barnes have three children, Katharine M., Phyllis J. and George Cudworth.

In his political views Mr. Barnes is a stalwart republican and was a member of the board of education, on which he served for six years, or two terms. He is now serving for the first term as a member of the city council as representative from the seventh ward. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the First Baptist church, in which he is now serving as a deacon and he is equally loyal to the beneficent and humanitarian principles of the Masonic fraternity and Althea Lodge, I. O. O. F. The place which he has won in commercial circles is accorded him in recognition of his skill and ability, and the place which he occupies in the social world is a tribute to that genuine worth and true nobleness of character which are universally recognized and honored.

PROFESSOR FRANK HAVEN HALL.

Professor Frank Haven Hall, state superintendent of the Farmers' Institutes for Illinois, is also one of the best known educators, not only of the middle west but of the entire country, because of what he has done in connection with the education of the blind, having instituted several new methods and devices for the improvement of instruction of that unfortunate class. His work has been of a character as to make him worthy of the gratitude of all who are suffering from blindness and to win for him the admiration of all who appreciate humanitarian effort.

Professor Hall was born at Mechanic Falls, Maine, February 9, 1841. His father, Joseph H. Hall, a native of the Pine Tree state, was a son of Haven Hall, who was likewise born in Maine and was of English lineage. He followed the occupation of farming and married Miss Shurtleff, by whom he had four children: Joseph, Jason, Loria and Newell. The death of Haven Hall occurred at Mechanic Falls, Maine, when he was sixty-eight years of age.

His son, Joseph H. Hall, became a shoe manufacturer of Mechanic Falls and remained in New England until about 1870, when he came west to Earlville, Illinois, to look after some land which was there owned by his son. He took up his abode at Serena, where he resided for several years and in 1903



Frank A. Hall.

came to Aurora, where his death occurred in August, 1906, when he had reached the very venerable age of ninety-three years, seven months and seventeen days. His wife survived him until November 3, 1907, and lacked but a few days of being ninety-three years of age at the time of her demise. Both were members of the Congregational church. Up to the time of Mr. Hall's death there had not been a death in the family among parents, children nor grandchildren. His wife bore the maiden name of Sophia Valentine and was also a native of Maine. By her marriage she became the mother of a son and daughter. The latter, Charlotte, became the wife of A. T. Armstrong and died in Aurora in July, 1907. Mrs. Joseph H. Hall was a daughter of John Valentine, who was born in Maine and was a nailmaker in early manhood. Later, however, he followed the occupation of farming. He served his country as a soldier in the war of 1812 and died well advanced in years in 1863, while the Civil war was in progress. He had married Miss Brett, who lived to a very old age and their family numbered six children: Sophia; Lowell; Nelson; Elizabeth; Lydia, deceased; and John Valentine, of Denver, Colorado. John Valentine, Sr., was one of a family of thirteen children, all of whom were teachers with the exception of himself, and the family history records the fact that one hundred and twenty-eight of its members have been teachers.

Professor Frank H. Hall acquired his preliminary education in the village school at Mechanic Falls and was early trained to habits of industry and diligence. Desirous for larger intellectual progress, he entered the Maine State Seminary at Lewiston, from which he was graduated in 1862. The Civil war was then being waged and with patriotic ardor he offered his services to the government, becoming a private of Company D, Twenty-third Maine Infantry. During his term of service he was detailed as acting hospital steward in the Army of the Potomac and on the 15th of July, 1863, he was mustered out at Portland, Maine, and received an honorable discharge.

Professor Hall was then admitted as a member of the first class at Bates College, where he remained for less than a year. His entire life has been devoted to teaching. Inherited tendency and natural predilections probably both bore an influence in the choice of his profession, but at all events his choice was a wise one, for time has demonstrated his power and marked ability in this direction. He taught a winter school in 1859 and 1860 at Center Minot, Maine, after which he became principal of the Towle Academy at Winthrop, Maine, where he continued from 1864 until 1866. In that year he came to Illinois, arriving at Earlville about noon on Saturday and the following Monday he began his labors as principal of the public schools, remaining in charge until 1868. In the latter year he came to Aurora and was principal of the West Aurora public schools until 1875, when he established a farm school in Sugar Grove township known as the Normal and Industrial School, of which he was principal until 1887 or for a period of twelve years. During that same time he was engaged in merchandising, conducted a creamery, carried on a lumber business and capably filled the offices of township treasurer, town clerk and postmaster. That he is a man of intense energy is plainly indicated and that his energy is most intelligently directed is proven by the

fact that he could successfully perform so many varied tasks. His experience developed a knowledge along practical lines that he has brought into use in his lectures in every county in the state of Illinois in connection with the farmers' institute work, of which he is now state superintendent.

Professor Hall, however, did not cease his efforts in connection with the public schools, for in 1887-88 he was principal of the Petersburg public schools, when he returned to Aurora and was superintendent of schools there for two years, after which he received a call to the superintendency of the School for the Blind at Jacksonville. There he remained for eight years under the administration of two governors, serving from 1890 until 1893 and again from 1897 until 1902. In the interim between his two periods of service at Jacksonville he was principal of the public schools of Waukegan, Illinois. In 1868 he had received from Dr. Newton Bateman a life state teacher's certificate and for long years he has been regarded as one of the most able and progressive educators representing the public-school work of the state. When Professor Hall became identified with the School for the Blind he took up the subject of improving the apparatus for teaching the blind. He is the inventor of the Hall-Braille writer and coinventor with Messrs. Harrison and Seifried of the stereotype-maker. These machines are now in use in more than one-half of the schools for the blind in this country, as well as in Australia and many parts of Europe and Asia. The work which Professor Hall has done in this connection is most commendable and the results are most practical. He is the author of many school books, and has devoted much time and thought to mathematics and is the author of a number of works upon this subject, especially an arithmetic, of which there are a million now in use in the schools.

On the 23d of July, 1866, was celebrated the marriage of Professor Hall and Miss Sybil Norton, a daughter of William G. and Elmira Norton. There are three children of this marriage. Clyde Haven, the eldest, is operating a farm of two hundred acres in Aurora township in partnership with his father. They milk thirty-four cows with a gasoline engine and do scientific farming and dairying, their property being one of the finest equipped farms in the state. The son married Anna Darnell and they have two children, Cylan Haven and Sybil Norton Hall. Nina M. is the wife of Ralph T. Dodge, a resident of Chicago. Sybil Verne, the youngest member of the family, is the wife of Professor Harry R. Detweiler, one of the proprietors of the Columbia Conservatory of Music in Aurora, and they have two children, Dorothy and Frank Hall Detweiler.

Professor Hall and his wife are members of the People's church and he is serving as president of its board of managers. He also owns a beautiful home at 487 North Lake street and is also a stockholder in the old Second National Bank and one of its directors. Politically he is a republican with warm admiration for Theodore Roosevelt. He cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1864 and has since continued to uphold republican principles. He is a man of clear insight, ever loyal to his convictions and actuated in all of his life by high and honorable motives. If physiognomy counts for anything as indicative of character, balance, harmony and sound

judgment are his native traits. Any one meeting Professor Hall would regard him as a dependable man in any relation and any emergency. His quietude of deportment, his easy dignity, his frankness and cordiality of address, with the total absence of anything sinister or anything to conceal, foretold a man who is ready to meet any obligation of life with the confidence and courage that come of conscious personal ability, right conception of things and an habitual regard for what is best in the exercise of human activities.

JUDGE ROSWELL WILDER GATES.

Judge Roswell Wilder Gates, who presiding over the justice court, has "won golden opinions from all sorts of people" by his integrity in office and the impartiality of his decisions, is well known as a representative of legal circles in Aurora. He was born in Antwerp, Jefferson county, New York, August 29, 1834. His parents were America and Caroline (Wilder) Gates, the latter a native of Brockville, Canada. The father was one of six sons and four of them were named for the four continents, Europe, Asia, Africa and America, while the other two were called Jonathan and Bonaparte. Their father was a soldier of the Revolutionary war and lived to be well advanced in years.

America Gates was a blacksmith in Antwerp, New York, and made drills and tempered tools for the workmen while they were building the Erie canal. He arrived in Aurora in 1838—the days of its villagehood—and followed farming near the city at a period before the land came into market. He was thus early associated with the development and progress of this part of the state and he continued a resident of Aurora until his death, which occurred about 1852. His wife survived him for several years. She was a daughter of Roswell Wilder, a native of one of the New England states, was a farmer by occupation and in 1837 came to Illinois. Deciding to locate in Aurora he returned to the east and then brought his family here in 1838. He preempted a claim near the city and lived in Kane county until his life's labors were ended in death. In his later years he conducted a hotel and entertained "Long" John Wentworth and other notable men of that day. He was about seventy-six years of age at the time of his demise. His wife bore the maiden name of Sallie Belknap and lived to be quite old. They had four daughters, all now deceased, namely: Caroline, who became the wife of America Gates; Angeline, the wife of William T. Barnes; Emeline, the wife of Decolia Towle, and after his death Ronald McLeod; and Bethiah, who married Charles T. P. Buck. Mrs. Gates survived her husband for several years. By her marriage she had three sons: Judge Gates of this review; Oscar B.; and Robert Bruce, but the last named is now deceased.

Judge Gates was reared in Aurora and acquired his education in the public schools here. He lived at home until he had attained adult age and

then engaged in clerking for several years. He afterward filled the position of city clerk for a number of years and for a long period has been justice of the peace. It would not seem the proper thing to have any other one in the office in Aurora than Judge Gates, whose long and valued service seems to have made the right to the office preeminently his. His decisions are strictly fair and impartial and nothing can swerve him from a course which he believes to be the right one.

In 1872 Judge Gates was married to Miss Hermione Hill, and they reside at No. 187 Downer place, where he owns a good home. He also has several vacant lots in various parts of the city. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and has attained the Knights Templar degree in Aurora Commandery, No. 22. In politics he has always been a republican, but not a politician. He has lived in Aurora from the days of its villagehood, and has witnessed its development as it has taken on commercial and industrial growth, becoming one of the leading trade centers of this part of the state. He is well informed on the early history of Kane county and his word is largely received as authority upon any matter relating to the early days. He is much esteemed for his honesty and integrity of character and is one of Aurora's most respected and worthy citizens.

GEORGE E. ALLEN.

George E. Allen, who is now filling the position of health officer in Elgin, having served continuously since 1901 with the exception of a period of two years, was born in Hampshire, Illinois, February 3, 1863. When five years of age he was brought to this city by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edson K. Allen, who are mentioned elsewhere in this work. While spending his boyhood days under the parental roof he pursued a public-school course, passing through successive grades and attending the high school to within a month of his graduation, when he was taken ill with rheumatism and could not complete the course. He afterward became a student in the Elgin Academy and after leaving that institution he entered the employ of T. W. Plant, a grocer, with whom he was connected for five years, being a most trusted, faithful and competent employe. On the expiration of that period he went to Chicago, and with his father was engaged in building and contract work, but in 1889 he returned to Elgin, because of his father's ill health. He has since lived in this city and for three years was bookkeeper in the employ of Alexander Robertson. Suffering again from rheumatism, he was then unable to do any work for a time, but in 1901 he was appointed health officer of the city of Elgin and has since continued in the position save for the period of two years, being the present incumbent. He is also chairman of the board of examiners for plumbers in Elgin.

On the 18th of December, 1884, Mr. Allen was married to Miss Kate Westveer, a daughter of John and Hattie (Walters) Westveer. They have one child, Hattie M., now the wife of Ralph H. Judkins, of Elgin. Mr. Allen

votes with the republican party. The only office he has ever held is the one which he is now filling. In mercantile and other business connections he has proved reliable and the same spirit of fidelity and progressiveness characterizes him in his present office. He is well known here and unfeigned cordiality makes him popular with many friends.

HAMILTON BROWNE.

Hamilton Browne is well known in the middle west as a railroad organizer and builder, and as an extensive operator in Iowa coal mines. His name is best known in Iowa, where he has been conspicuous for many years in developing the natural resources of that state. In more recent years he has extended his operations to Illinois and districts east of the Mississippi. He was born in New York Mills, New York, August 14, 1844. He is the son of John Browne, of Des Moines, Iowa, who for many years prior to his death, in 1882, was one of the most respected and widely known citizens of Iowa. John Browne was born in Wrexham, Wales, and his wife, whose maiden name was Jane B. Swale, was born in Yorkshire, England. She died at Ottumwa, Iowa, in 1855. Both parents are buried at Des Moines.

Hamilton Browne received his education at Algier Institute, Cornwall, Connecticut, where he was a student from his eighth to his fifteenth year, when he left school and entered upon his business life in Iowa, beginning as a store clerk and later employed in a Des Moines bank up to 1862, when he went south and was employed in the quartermaster's department of the Union army until July 1863. At this time he became a clerk on steamboats running between St. Louis and New Orleans. He followed this employment until 1867, when he was appointed local agent at New Orleans for the Atlantic & Mississippi Steamship Company, and acted in that capacity until 1872 when he returned to Iowa and began his career in railroad and coal mining in that state. He developed mines at Eldon, Van Meter, Angus, Lehigh, Milford and Fraser, and remained active in their operation from 1872 until 1904. In 1886 he built, in association with Mr. James J. Hill, of St. Paul, Minnesota, the Fort Dodge & Mason City Railroad, now a part of the Chicago Great Western Railroad system. In 1888 he organized a company and built the line from Laurel, Montana, across the Crow Indian Reservation to the Rocky Ford coal fields. In 1893 he began the development of the Fraser (Iowa) coal fields and operated the mines until 1904, in the meantime building the Newton & Northwestern Railroad from Newton to Rockwell City, Iowa—102 miles of road. In connection with his railroad construction in Iowa he laid out some twenty-five new towns, of which several are now prosperous communities.

Since 1904 he has been engaged in railroad building in Illinois. He organized the Elgin & Belvidere Electric Company, now operating a line between Elgin and Belvidere. He is president of the company and at the present writing is engaged in constructing another line from Marengo by way

of Lake Geneva and Delavan Lake to Elkhorn, Wisconsin, to be known as the Marengo, Lake Geneva & Northern Railway Company. In 1900 Mr. Browne purchased the Calumet Stock Farm between Batavia and Geneva, which is one of the finest properties in Kane county, and here he has since made his home, although he has his business headquarters in Chicago.

In December, 1866, Mr. Browne was married to Miss Mary Louise Napier, a daughter of Judge Thomas Hughes and Amy (Martin) Napier, of Des Moines, Iowa. They became the parents of five children, one of whom died in infancy. The others are: Arthur T., born October 7, 1867, who married Clara Louise Holmdale, by whom he has one child—Hamilton, Jr.; Helen Swale; Louise N., the wife of Edwin DeHaven Caldwell, by whom he has one child, John Bigelow; and Laurence, who was born September 6, 1877, and who died July 10, 1907, leaving a wife, Florence (Hargraves) Browne.

ELWOOD E. KENYON.

Elwood E. Kenyon, attorney at law, was born in Coldwater, Michigan, January 2, 1862, a son of Elias S. and Prudence R. (Kenyon) Kenyon, both of whom were natives of the Empire state. The father, a farmer by occupation, put aside business interests and personal considerations at the time of the Civil war and enlisted for service in the navy, but was never called out, as the number of enlistments exceeded the number needed for active duty. In 1864 he removed to Kane county, settling in Elgin, where he resided for many years. Both he and his wife, however, are now deceased, the death of Mr. Kenyon occurring in February, 1873, while Mrs. Kenyon passed away in May, 1904.

Elwood E. Kenyon acquired his education in the public schools of Elgin, and like many of the youths of this country, entered upon his business career as an employe in the watch factory, where he remained for several years. His interests, however, extended to a wider horizon than was offered in that field of labor, and when about thirty-one years of age he took up the study of law, and in 1895 was admitted to the bar. He has since been engaged in general practice in the state courts and the United States courts in Chicago. He has won for himself very favorable criticism for the careful and systematic methods which he has followed. He has remarkable powers of concentration and application and his retentive mind has often excited the surprise of his professional colleagues. His preparation of cases is thorough and exhaustive. No detail seems to escape him, and every point is given its due relative prominence. He is now serving as attorney for several corporations and his clientage is large and of a distinctively representative character.

Mr. Kenyon was married in Elgin April 30, 1891, to Miss Lillie P. Sherwood, of this city, but his wife died October 15, 1903. He is connected in social relations with the Masonic fraternity and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, being one of the prominent members of the latter organization. For six consecutive terms he has represented Kane Lodge, No. 47, in the

Grand Lodge and at the same time has been a delegate from the encampment to the Grand Encampment held at Springfield. In politics a stalwart republican, he has been a member of the Elgin city council for six years, or three consecutive terms. He took a bold stand in opposing the transfer of the electric light plant to the traction company, was instrumental in having the city ordinances revised, and in many ways displayed a deep and public-spirited interest in the welfare of the city.

HENRY I. BOSWORTH.

Henry I. Bosworth is well known in business and financial circles in Elgin, and is a representative of a prominent old family of the county. He was for many years vice president of the First National Bank and is fully sustaining the honored reputation which has ever been connected with the name of Bosworth in this part of the state. He was born at Dundee, Illinois, September 10, 1854, and is the youngest son of the late Increase C. Bosworth.

His father was a merchant and banker of Elgin, who was born in Saratoga county, New York, on the 2d of April, 1812. He became one of the pioneer residents of northern Illinois, establishing his home in Chicago, the year following the incorporation of the city—1838. There he remained for only a brief period, however, for the city gave little promise of the rapid growth and development which was soon to transform it into one of the metropolitan centers of the world. After a brief period there passed Increase Bosworth removed to Dundee, where he established and conducted a general store, carrying on the business at that point until 1867, when he removed to Elgin. Here he owned a store and prospered in its conduct until 1875, when he withdrew from commercial pursuits and turned his attention to the banking business. The following year he purchased an interest in the First National Bank of Elgin and became its president, remaining at the head of the institution in the executive capacity throughout the remainder of his life. His investments were extensive in and around Elgin and he was largely interested in a number of important business concerns. In all this he displayed keen discernment and an aptitude for successful management, carrying forward to successful completion whatever he undertook. Prior to 1875 he was vice president of the Home National Bank. Many public measures received his endorsement and support and profited by his labors. For years he was a member of the board of trustees of the Northern Hospital for the Insane and was on the board of trustees of the University of Chicago. He was also alderman and supervisor in Elgin and his activity in public affairs proved helpful in many lines.

In 1844 Increase Bosworth was married to Miss Mary Ann Root, of Elgin. He continued for many years a most valuable and respected citizen here, and passed away January 12, 1888.

His son, Henry I. Bosworth, was a pupil in the public schools of this city, where he has resided since 1867. He also attended the Elgin Academy

and later matriculated in the University of Chicago, from which in due course of time he was graduated. Throughout his business career he has been connected with the First National Bank of Elgin, of which he was until lately vice president. He became thoroughly familiar with the banking business in every department and in this and in other connections is making for himself a creditable reputation as a trustworthy and progressive man of business. He has extensive interests in other lines, and is also the owner of much valuable farm property.

Like his father he is interested in community affairs, and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have called him to a number of offices. He was the city treasurer of Elgin for several terms, and has been a member of the board of supervisors and is also a member of the library board. He has proved himself in all the relations of life an earnest, upright man, alert and energetic in business and a citizen of whom any community might justly be proud.

WILLIAM C. LANGHORST, M.D.

Dr. William C. Langhorst, a member of the medical profession of Aurora, who is specializing in the treatment of the diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, was born in Palatine, Illinois, May 22, 1869. His grandfather was Henry Langhorst, who died in Germany at an advanced age. His entire life was devoted to general agricultural pursuits.

Frederick Langhorst, the doctor's father, was a native of Germany, spending his youth in the little hamlet of Lindthorst, not far from Hanover. He came to America when about eighteen years of age and was employed at farm labor in DuPage county, Illinois. Subsequently he bought a farm in Palatine township, Cook county, which he improved. Later he removed to Chicago, where he engaged in the flour and feed business, but is now living retired in Aurora, his activity in former years resulting in the success that now enables him to enjoy life's comforts without further recourse to labor. At one time he owned and conducted a lumber and coal yard and a grain elevator at Roselle, and was also proprietor of a grain elevator at Harper, Iowa. He was also a veterinary surgeon and had an extensive practice in that direction. He is considered one of the strongest men physically in the United States and his mental powers are also splendidly developed. He is noted for his good judgment, his mind being naturally of a legal trend, and while not a lawyer he has keen powers of analysis combined with ready discrimination. In early manhood he wedded Hannah Meyer, who was born in the same locality where he first opened his eyes to the light of day. Her father, Carl Meyer, came to America and took up his abode in Palatine, Illinois, where he engaged in farming. After a number of years he removed to the West but a few years prior to his death he returned to Illinois and died at Roselle, this state, at the age of seventy-six years, while his wife passed away in middle life. Their daughter Hannah became the wife of Frederick



W. C. Langhousr M.D.

Langhorst and unto them were born eight children, five sons and three daughters: Mary, the wife of John C. Bagge, of Aurora; William C., whose name introduces this record; Fred, of El Paso, Illinois, where he is engaged in the practice of medicine; Sophie, the wife of Al Biever, of Aurora; Henry, who makes his home in Elmhurst, Illinois, where he is a practicing physician; Clara; Edward; and Arthur.

Dr. Langhorst was reared in DuPage county, Illinois, and attended the public schools of Roselle and Chicago. Subsequently he entered the Jennings Seminary at Aurora and later was graduated from the medical department of the Northwestern University at Chicago, with the class of 1897. He then located for practice in this city but after a brief period went to Steele, North Dakota, where he engaged in the general practice of medicine for four years. On the expiration of that period he pursued a special course of study in Chicago for a year and spent the succeeding year in Europe, where his studies brought him nearer that perfection toward which he is always striving. Since his return to his native country he has practiced in Aurora, giving his attention to the treatment of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat. He has a liberal and growing practice and his ability is widely acknowledged, for he has done excellent work in the treatment of patients suffering from diseases which are his specialty.

On the 18th of June, 1896, Dr. Langhorst was married to Miss Waleska Hoffman, a daughter of Fred Hoffman, and they now have one child, Jeanette. The parents are members of the St. John's Evangelical Lutheran church. Politically Dr. Langhorst is independent, preferring to devote his time and attention to his professional duties. He belongs to the Fox River Valley Medical Association. He holds to high ideals in his profession, has constantly promoted his efficiency by investigation and research, and that he enjoys the full confidence of the public is indicated by the liberal patronage accorded him.

JOHN MICHOLSON.

Kane county is to be congratulated upon securing the services of John Micholson, who is now filling the position of superintendent of the county almshouse. He is a man of good business ability, so that he capably controls the business affairs in connection therewith, but moreover, he possesses that broad humanitarianism which prompts him to put forth the most earnest effort in behalf of the unfortunate ones who came under his care. He was born in Halland, Sweden, November 27, 1860. His father, also a native of that locality, was born December 19, 1828, and died January 13, 1905. He was a laborer and came direct to Batavia in 1868, when he crossed the Atlantic to America. His wife and family joined him a year later and the father remained a resident of Batavia until his death. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Anna Christianson, was born December 25, 1826, and passed away October 19, 1901. They were the parents of four children:

John, of this review; Charles, who was born in 1863; Martin, born in 1865; and Karl, whose birth occurred in 1868, but who died in infancy.

In the public schools John Micholson acquired his education and commenced work at the age of eleven years. He is therefore largely a self-educated as well as self-made man, and that he has gradually worked his way upward is attributable to his own ability and close application. In early life he worked for five years as a molder, and in 1877 he learned the meat business, working for others until his close economy and unwearied industry had brought him sufficient capital to engage in business on his own account when he was twenty years of age. He became proprietor of a meat market and also began dealing in ice, both retail and wholesale. He continued in that line of business for fourteen years, and built up an extensive trade, dealing in ice at Geneva and St. Charles as well as Batavia, although he confined his meat business to the last named city.

On the 1st of January, 1884, Mr. Micholson was married to Miss Emma Lindholm, a daughter of John and Annastina (Johanson) Lindholm, of Geneva, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Micholson have one living child, Ethel, who is now a student in the high school at Wheaton.

In the spring of 1905 Mr. Micholson was appointed superintendent of the Kane county almshouse and has efficiently served in that capacity to the present time. This institution is conducted in an ideal manner. Not only is everything scrupulously neat and clean, but every possible comfort is afforded the inmates. Mr. Micholson is ably assisted by his estimable wife, who makes the women of the institution her special care, treating them with every consideration and kindness. Both Mr. and Mrs. Micholson have the love and respect of every person in the institution and well do they deserve this, for they leave undone nothing that can be done to make those under their care comfortable, contented and happy. On the 6th of November, 1907, at five o'clock in the afternoon, a fire was discovered in the attic of the almshouse, caused by the crossing of electric wires. Through the efficient work and cool-headed judgment of Mrs. Micholson, all of the inmates were removed while Mr. Micholson fought the fire. Each did remarkable work in this connection. In the main building the attic and second and third floors were gutted before the fire could be extinguished, but everything was done in the best possible way, not only during the fire, but after the flames were in check, in the care which was given to the inmates. All were kept comfortable and beds were arranged in other buildings on the premises, so that all were able to retire as usual by nine o'clock that night. Mr. Micholson displays excellent business ability in the management of the farm and the financial interests of the institution.

In his political views Mr. Micholson is a republican, recognized as one of the active workers of the party in this locality. For thirteen years he has been the chairman of the Kane County Swedish-American Republican Club, and has been honored with a number of local offices, the duties of which he has discharged with promptness and fidelity. He was alderman of Batavia for four terms, or eight years, and while serving as a member of the city council did effective work on many important committees. He was also the

county supervisor for nine years, and resigned that position to accept the superintendency of the almshouse. His administration of the duties of this office has won for him high encomiums, as all are thoroughly satisfied with his labors in this connection.

EDSON K. ALLEN.

The name of Edson K. Allen was well known both in Elgin and Chicago, where as a prominent contractor he was closely identified with building interests, but it was not alone his ability nor his success that entitles him to representation in this volume, but the fact that he was honored by his fellow townsmen as a man of business integrity and as a representative citizen. He was born in Rutland, Vermont, on the 19th of May, 1834, and had almost reached the sixty-seventh milestone on life's journey when, on the 5th of May, 1901, he passed away. His father, Zenus Allen, also a native of the Green Mountain state, journeyed westward when his son Edson was but four years of age, settling first in Chicago, where he lived for a brief time, and then, in 1839, took up his abode upon a farm at Hampshire, Illinois.

Edson K. Allen was reared under the parental roof and in his boyhood days assisted in the work of the farm when not busy with his text-books in the effort to acquire a good practical English education as afforded by the public schools. Not desiring to follow agricultural pursuits as a life work, when about sixteen or seventeen years of age he learned the mason's trade, becoming quite proficient in that line and following the calling for some time or until after his marriage. He then returned to the farm and devoted his energies to the work of cultivating the crops best adapted to soil and climate until after the outbreak of the Civil war when, feeling that his supreme duty was to his country, he offered his services to the Union and on the 4th of February, 1863, became a private in the cavalry. He served for a time in Company H, of the Tenth Illinois, and afterward was promoted first sergeant. He continued at the front for two years, participating in a number of hotly contested engagements and passing through all of the experiences which are meted out to the soldier.

When the war was over Mr. Allen returned to his home and family in the north. On the 1st of November, 1855, he had married Miss Mary Jane Brydia, a daughter of Thomas and Nancy (Wilson) Brydia, of Burlington, Illinois. They became the parents of a daughter and two sons. Nancy Lueretia, who was the wife of Royal L. Dodge, and died in 1901 at the age of forty-four years; William E., who died at the age of four years; and George E., who married Kate Westveer, a daughter of John and Hattie (Walters) Westveer. Mr. and Mrs. George E. Allen now have one daughter, Hattie M., the wife of Ralph H. Judkins, of Elgin.

Following the close of the war Mr. Allen became well known as a mason, contractor and builder in brick and stone, both in Elgin and Chicago. In addition to the substantial structures, which he erected in this city, he built

many large buildings in Chicago, and his son, George E. Allen, was associated with him under the firm style of E. K. Allen & Son. He took a large contract on the Auditorium Hotel in Chicago, was also the builder of the Rosalie apartments at Fifty-seventh street and Lake avenue, seventeen three-story blocks on Berkeley avenue in Chicago and six stores at the corner of Sixty-ninth and Wentworth avenue. He also did an immense amount of work for "Buck" McCarthy, a well known alderman of Chicago. He erected the addition to the Sherman House and was a subcontractor on a number of the World's Fair buildings. He thus became well known as a prominent representative of building operations in the west, the character and nature of his operations gaining for him a foremost place as a leading contractor.

In politics Mr. Allen was a staunch republican, unfaltering in his loyalty to the party and its principles, and at one time served as deputy sheriff of Kane county. His religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Baptist church. He stood prominent as a man among men, his pleasant, genial manner winning him friends wherever he went, while haughtiness and ostentation found no part in his composition. He was a typical representative of the age and the district in which he lived, being an alert, enterprising, progressive man, whose death was mourned far beyond his immediate family circle, for he was esteemed and honored wherever he was known, and most of all, where he was best known.

REV. JAMES S. KIRTLEY, D.D.

Rev. James S. Kirtley, recognized as one of the ablest divines of the Baptist clergy and also widely known as a lecturer, has been a resident of Elgin since the 1st of June, 1903. He was born November 9, 1855, in Saline county, Missouri, and traces his ancestry back to Francis Kirtley, who came from Wales to the new world in 1710, settling in Virginia. His great-grandfather, Jeremiah Kirtley, was a Baptist clergyman, having begun to preach in middle life, after he removed from Virginia to Kentucky. The grandfather, Robert Kirtley, was also a minister of the Baptist church, while two uncles of our subject, Robert E. and James A. Kirtley, were likewise preachers of this same denomination, while three cousins, Eusebius, Lyeurgus and James A., likewise devoted their life to the work of the Baptist ministry. The first two are now deceased.

The father of Dr. Kirtley was Major George R. Kirtley, a native of Boone county, Kentucky, born in 1824. He was reared in the place of nativity and in early manhood went to Missouri. He became a surveyor of Saline county and afterward served as an officer under General Price in the Confederate army until he laid down his life on the altar of his convictions, being killed at the battle of Hartville, Missouri, January 11, 1863.

Dr. James S. Kirtley was but seven years of age when his widowed mother returned to Kentucky, and there he was reared upon a farm in Boone county. He completed his more specifically literary education by graduation

from Georgetown College in June, 1883, at which time the Bachelor of Arts degree was conferred upon him. He also studied for two years in the Louisville Seminary and spent a portion of a year in the University of Chicago. Determining to devote his life to the ministry, his first pastorate was in the Baptist church at Versailles, Kentucky, while later he occupied pulpits in St. Louis, Missouri, in Little Rock, Arkansas, and in Kansas City, Missouri. On the 1st of June, 1903, he accepted a call from the Baptist church of Elgin, where he has since remained, and in the intervening years his labors have been crowned with large success. His influence has been of no restricted order and he has not been denied the generous harvest nor the aftermath. While well versed in the doctrines of the church, Dr. Kirtley is not a theologian in that he preaches doctrinal sermons or expounds a church creed to the exclusion of a discussion of those subjects which are of vital interest to man in his relations to his fellowmen and his Maker. On the contrary he looks at life from a practical standpoint and yet holds to high ideals. His liberal scholarship and success in his chosen field of labor won official recognition when in 1894 Georgetown College conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Dr. Kirtley has by no means confined his attention simply to his local church and pastoral duties. For eleven years he has prepared each week a treatise on the Sunday-school lesson for various daily papers. He is the author of a book sold by subscription, entitled "The Young Man and Himself, or The Royal Path." His publications also include "Twenty-six Days With Jesus." He is in demand as a lecturer and has declined many propositions to go upon the lecture platform. He is known as a fluent, forcible writer, an earnest and entertaining speaker, ever clear in the expression of his thought, while his utterances show comprehensive familiarity with the subject under discussion. He is one of the lecturers in connection with the Chicago University Extension work, delivering a series of lectures on the life of Christ. He has also delivered a popular lecture entitled, "In the Barefoot Kingdom," another upon "Music and Folks," and still another on "The Yellowstone Wonderland." He has traveled extensively throughout the United States and is familiar with its many points of scenic beauty and grandeur.

Throughout his life a deep thinker and an earnest student, he has given close attention to questions of an ethical nature and stands with the progressive leaders of the church at the present time, who are preaching Christianity rather than doctrine, and bring into the lives of their parishioners the influence of that Perfect Life which had its beginning in Bethlehem more than nineteen hundred years ago. He has striven to secure the adoption of higher ideals and has exerted much influence in putting a check upon gambling, including raffling. That he is in hearty sympathy with the organized efforts for charity and benevolence is indicated by the fact that he is now vice president of the Baptist Old People's Home and also of the Central Baptist Orphanage, both located at Maywood, Illinois.

Dr. Kirtley was married March 2, 1897, to Miss Mary Louise Kniffin, a native of Sedalia, Missouri, and a daughter of the late Captain S. W.

Kniffin, of Kansas City, who was an officer of the Union army. The marriage of Dr. and Mrs. Kirtley was celebrated in St. Louis and has been blessed with three children, George, Adelaide and Bess Kirtley.

GEORGE ALBERT JAMES.

George Albert James, who in his official record has given evidence of his loyalty as well as capability, regarding a public office as a public trust, is now filling the position of county treasurer. He maintains his residence at Aurora, although his official duties call him to the beautiful little county seat of Geneva. His birth occurred in Wooster, Ohio, February 28, 1858, his parents being James C. and Amelia (Seeley) James, natives of England, the former born in Bath and the latter in Somersetshire. The paternal grandfather, Charles John James, was a native of England and became a wealthy owner of coal mines. He made his home at Bristol, England, and died at the age of about seventy-two years, while his wife, Mrs. Ann James, died in early womanhood, leaving four children. He afterward married again, but there were no children of the second union.

James C. James was a lad of thirteen years when he came to America, landing at New York city in 1823. Soon afterward, however, he returned to his native country and enlisted in the navy, in which he served for more than five years, during which period he visited nearly every important port of the world. In 1832 he returned to the United States and settled in Wooster, Ohio, where in 1833 he was married to Miss Amelia Seeley, whose parents had come to this country a year and a half before. Her father was George Albert, a native of Somersetshire, England, while her mother bore the maiden name of Ann Seeley. They crossed the Atlantic with their family of three sons and a daughter and settled on a farm in Wayne county, Ohio, about two miles from Wooster, Mr. Seeley purchasing over a thousand acres of land there. He was about seventy-three years of age at the time of his death, in 1858, while his wife survived him for nearly eleven years, and was eighty years of age at the time of her demise.

James C. James embarked in business as a grocer following his return to the new world, and later also engaged in the ice trade, carrying on his interests at Wooster, Ohio, from 1834 until 1865. In the latter year he removed to Aurora, Illinois, and established a store for the sale of musical instruments and wallpaper, which he conducted until about a year prior to his death. He became one of the representative and enterprising merchants of the city, belonging to that class of men, who in promoting individual success, also contribute to the general prosperity. He died June 13, 1879, at the age of sixty-nine years, while his wife, who was born in 1818, passed away November 8, 1888, at the age of seventy years. Both were members of the Episcopal church and their lives were characterized by fidelity to their belief and the teachings of their denomination. Mr. James was a stalwart republican and was quite prominent, especially among his fellow townsmen of

English birth. In all of his business dealings he was strictly honorable and straightforward, commanding the full confidence and respect of those with whom he was associated. His family numbered three sons and five daughters. The eldest, Fred Douglas, served for four years and eight months as a soldier of the Civil war, enlisting as a private in the Fifty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Later he was promoted to the rank of captain and participated in many of the most hotly contested engagements of the war. He is now deceased. The others are: Adaline, the wife of W. N. Jones, of Galva, Illinois; Amanda, of Chicago; Frank W., who died in October, 1907, when more than fifty-nine years of age; Ella, the wife of L. J. Warner, of Chicago; Tillie, who became the wife of George E. Simpson and resides in Edgebrook, Illinois; George Albert, of this review; and Eva, the wife of Charles Gregg.

George Albert James, whose name introduces this review, was only seven years of age when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Aurora in the spring of 1865. As a pupil in the public schools he pursued his education, and in that city was reared to manhood, entering upon his business career at the age of eighteen as an employe in the shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company. He continued with that company for twenty-nine years and three months, and for twenty-two years of the time was foreman or acting foreman—a fact which stands in incontrovertible proof of his fidelity, capability and the trust reposed in him by the corporation which he represented. In recent years, however, he has been active in public service, wherein he has made an equally creditable record. In 1893 he was first elected alderman from the first ward of Aurora and in that office served for three terms, exercising his official prerogatives in support of many progressive and helpful public measures. He was chairman of the finance committee for three years, and did much to promote the interests of the city from the standpoint of funds. In the spring of 1899 he was appointed a member of the board of public works and thus served for seven years. In the spring of 1903 he was elected a member of the board of supervisors of Kane county and capably filled that position for three years, after which he resigned. In the fall of 1906 he was elected county treasurer and took the office on the 1st of December, being the present incumbent. He has already proved a capable custodian of the public money and his official record in this, as in other positions, has won for him high encomiums.

On the 3d of June, 1881, Mr. James was married to Miss Mollie Rooney, a daughter of John and Catharine (Williams) Rooney. One son has been born unto them, James C. James, who is now a practicing attorney of Aurora. He is a graduate of the west side high school of Aurora of the class of 1899, and was graduated with high honors on the completion of the scientific course in the State University of Wisconsin at Madison. Later he attended the Columbia Law School of Washington (D. C.) and was admitted to practice at the bar of Illinois in October, 1906, having for the past two years been connected with the legal profession in Aurora. The parents of Mrs. James were natives of Ireland and came to America from County Kerry early in the '50s. They first landed at Canada and thence removed to Illinois

in 1852. They have three daughters, who are now living: Maggie, Catharine and Mary.

Mr. James is connected with the Yeoman of America, a fraternal insurance society. He is also connected with the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks, and in politics is a stalwart republican. He owns a fine flat building on Galena street in Aurora, and a beautiful home at No. 260 Downer Place. In an analyzation of his life record it will be seen that trustworthiness is one of his salient characteristics, combined with thoroughness in everything that he has undertaken. His record in these respects is most exemplary and over his official career there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil.

REV. CARL SCHNUECKEL.

Rev. Carl Schnueckel, whose labors splendidly conserved the Catholic interests of Aurora, was serving as pastor of St. Nicholas church at the time of his death, which occurred October 15, 1908. He was born in Westphalia, Germany, March 16, 1846, the place of his nativity being the city of Warburg. In due course of time he became a public-school student and, determining to devote his life to the church, he then studied for the priesthood, being ordained in 1872. Owing to the unsettled relations between the church and state in Germany, Father Schnueckel and a number of young Catholic clergymen came to the United States in August, 1872, there being a demand for further workers in the church in this country. He was first assigned to duty at St. Francis church in Chicago and afterward was given charge of St. Anthony's for a time, owing to the illness of the regular pastor there.

In 1880 Father Schnueckel came to Aurora, where he remained continuously from July of that year until his death. He took charge of St. Nicholas parish, which was established in 1862, the first pastor being Father John Miller, C. S. S. R., who came at intervals from Chicago to minister to the spiritual needs of the Catholics of this locality. After a time a small wooden church was built. The first resident pastor was Father John Westkamp, who came in 1863 and was succeeded by Father H. Liermann in 1865. He was followed by Father Schnueckel in 1880 and he labored effectively, zealously and untiringly for the upbuilding of Catholicism here. When he took charge the parish was worshipping in a frame building. With characteristic energy he began providing the buildings which he felt the parish demanded, erecting a school building the year in which he took charge. He also set on foot plans for the erection of a new house of worship, which was completed in 1883, and the rectory was built in 1889, while a fine hall was built in 1900. All these structures are the finest of the kind in the city and are a credit to Aurora, while standing as a monument to the indefatigable efforts and splendid executive ability of Father Schnueckel. Under his guidance the church greatly increased in membership. In 1880 there were two hundred and eighteen members and today there are six hundred, notwithstanding the fact that St. Joseph's parish was cut off from St. Nicholas' parish in 1902, as the terri-



C - Schmidt -

Pastor of St. Nicholas -

tory and the membership was too great to be supervised by St. Nicholas church. Father Schnueckel possessed splendid powers of organization. He was a man of liberal mind and broad views, who looked at life from a practical standpoint and brought to the people a religion which he believed would prove helpful to them in their everyday contacts and experiences as well as in their relations to the church.

CHARLES ABEL GIFFORD.

The name of Gifford has long figured prominently in the history of Elgin in this part of the state, and the life record of him whose name introduces this review is in harmony with the record which was made by his honored father, Abel D. Gifford, who was one of the prominent pioneers of this part of the state. The year which witnessed the Black Hawk war, also witnessed the arrival of Abel D. Gifford in Illinois. He found a district here which claimed few white settlers. Ft. Dearborn stood on the banks of Lake Michigan to protect the settlers from the red men. Here and there some venturesome, progressive citizen had bravely faced the dangers and trials of pioneer life and had begun the task of opening up a farm or establishing other business on the frontier. Mr. Gifford became a factor in this life and from the year of his arrival until his death, figured prominently in the community in connection with the promotion of its business, social and political interests. He bore an unassailable reputation among his fellowmen for his enterprise and his reliability. He was for years connected with general farming and also engaged in dairying and sheep-raising. He likewise became connected with the Home National Bank of Elgin and his success made him one of the prosperous citizens of this part of the state. He was also particularly active in the support of the Baptist church, in which he held membership, and in the cause of education, giving a scholarship to the Chicago University, while in other ways he contributed to the work of the schools in this part of the state. His own lack of education in his youth, enabled him to understand how valuable was the instruction and mental discipline which one receives in the schools. Extended mention of Abel D. Gifford is made on another page of this work, for no history of this part of the state would be complete without the record of his life.

Charles Abel Gifford, his only son, is now residing upon the farm not far from Elgin. He was educated in the common schools of Cook county, his father's farm being situated on the border of Kane county. Later he attended the Elgin Academy and also Drew's Business College in Elgin. Throughout his entire life he has been identified with general agricultural pursuits and is numbered today among the most progressive and energetic farmers of the locality. He has an excellent property of two hundred and seventy acres, and the farm is splendidly improved, while none of the accessories of a model farm are here lacking. He likewise has other business connections, for he is interested in the Borden Condensed Milk Company and the Home National Bank of Elgin.

Mr. Gifford has been married twice. On the 22d of January, 1888, he wedded Miss Florence B. Stickney, who died in 1897, leaving four children: Frank Abel; Stanley C., who died November 24, 1897, at the age of seven years; Walter C., and Flossie, who died May 12, 1898, when but fifteen months old. Mr. Gifford was again married on the 4th of March, 1898, his second union being with Eva M. Gilbert, a daughter of Captain Gilbert, of Elgin. They have six interesting children: Olive E., James T., Julia A., Arleigh D., Ruby and Marguerite C.

Mr. Gifford gives his political support to the republican party, but while he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, so that he is able to support his position by intelligent argument, he has never sought nor desired office. Reared in the Baptist faith, he is a loyal and devoted member of the church and has been most generous in his contributions to its support. He is also public spirited and gives hearty endorsement to many movements for the general good. His home is pleasantly located, two and one-half miles east of Elgin, and is one of the attractive farm properties of the community, indicating in its well kept appearance the careful supervision and progressive methods of the owner.

W. C. BRIDGE, M. D.

The close application, constant study and broad sympathy which are so essential as factors in the success of the physician and surgeon are all manifest in the life work of Dr. W. C. Bridge, of Elgin, who since 1887 has practiced continuously in this city. He was born in Hanover, Cook county, Illinois, January 18, 1856, and is a son of George and Mary Ann (Chacksfield) Bridge, both of whom were natives of Kent, England, and came to the United States about 1850. They were married in Elgin, at No. 166 Kimball street, in a house that is still standing. After residing for a time in New York, Mr. Bridge had removed westward to Chicago and became a farmer of Hanover. In 1861 he came to Kane county, and after identification with its agricultural interests, covering a number of years, became a resident of Elgin, where both he and his wife still reside.

Dr. Bridge acquired his education in the public schools and in the Elgin Academy, being graduated therefrom with the class of 1878. In early manhood his time and energies were devoted to teaching, which profession he followed in Kane, DeWitt and Cook counties with good success, imparting clearly and readily to others the knowledge that he had acquired. He then took up the study of medicine and was graduated in 1886. His high standing is indicated by the fact that he was appointed interne in Cook County Hospital, where he served through the succeeding year, and in the fall of 1887 came to Elgin. Here for twenty-one years he has been engaged in the practice of his profession. He is in touch with modern methods as closely as is the recently graduated physician. He has always been a student of his profession and his reading and research are continually augmenting his

knowledge and advancing his proficiency. He holds membership with the American Medical Association, the state and county medical societies and the Chicago Medical Society, and has been examiner for various fraternal insurance orders. His private practice has developed to extensive and profitable proportions and he numbers among his patrons many of the prominent families of the city. He is most conscientious in the performance of his professional duties and adheres closely to a high standard of professional ethics, so that he enjoys to the full extent the regard of his brethren of the medical fraternity.

In January, 1888, Dr. Bridge was married to Miss Clara M. Barrows, the eldest daughter of M. T. Barrows, of Dundee. They became the parents of two children, but the elder, Liniti, born in May, 1889, died in August, 1892. The younger, Clarita, born in September, 1894, is at home.

Dr. Bridge is a broad-minded man, liberal in his religious and political views, yet usually voting with the republican party. He served as a trustee of Elgin Academy for one term and the cause of education has always found in him a stalwart champion. He has ever been a student and lover of good books, and much of his leisure is devoted to reading, while manly outdoor sports also make strong appeal to him, he being particularly interested in golf.

GILES EMMETT STRONG.

Giles Emmett Strong is a retired farmer living in Aurora. He has made his home in Illinois continuously since 1834, and has witnessed the remarkable changes which have transformed the northern part of the state from a wild and unimproved district, inhabited mostly by Indians, to a region of rich fertility, constituting one of the finest agricultural districts of the world, while its commercial and industrial interests now reach out to every part of the globe. Mr. Strong was but six years of age when he arrived in this state.

He was born in Tompkins county, New York, October 25, 1827, a son of William J. and Caroline (Blodgett) Strong, the former a native of New York and the latter of Massachusetts. The father was born November 18, 1800, and was a son of Salmon Strong and a grandson of Benajah Strong, who was a captain of the Revolutionary war. His father settled in Tompkins county, New York, where he owned considerable land. The founder of the family in this country was John Strong, who came from England in 1630, taking up his abode in Massachusetts, and was one of the founders of the town of Dorchester. Salmon Strong was reared in the state of New York and was a farmer by occupation. He married a Miss Jager, and both died when well advanced in years, while Benajah Strong lived to the very venerable age of ninety-six years.

William J. Strong, the father of our subject, was a farmer by occupation. He remained a resident of the east until 1834, when he came with his family to Illinois and settled three miles east of Aurora, just one half mile from the Kane county line in Dupage county. He entered his claim from the

government before the land was surveyed. It was one of the first prairie farms settled in that county, for previous to this time the settlers had made their homes in the edge of the timber, and did not regard the open clearing as a fit place for a home. William Strong became a thrifty and prosperous farmer and lived upon his first claim until 1858, when he sold his property to his son, Giles E., and removed to Aurora, where he practically spent his entire life. A year or two prior to his death he removed to Chicago and there he passed away in 1889, lacking but one month of being eighty-nine years of age. He had married Caroline Blodgett, whose father was a native of Massachusetts and a sea captain. Both he and his wife died in the east. Their family consisted of two daughters, one of whom was Mrs. William Strong. She was born in 1807 and died in 1878. They were charter members of the First Presbyterian church of Aurora, now the Congregational church, and he was known as Deacon Strong, a fact which indicates that he was an officer in the church and took an active and helpful part in its work.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. William Strong were born seven children, of whom three are now living: Giles E.; Schuyler, of Los Angeles, California; and Charles F., of Texas.

Giles E. Strong came from New York to Illinois with his parents when he was six years of age. They made the journey in a schooner from Buffalo, landing in Chicago on the 4th of July, 1834. Giles E. Strong was reared on his father's farm in Dupage county, near Aurora, and left home when twenty-one years of age. He attended the old-fashioned subscription schools, where the methods of teaching were very primitive, while the teacher "boarded 'round" among the scholars. Thus he pursued his studies in the winter seasons, while in summer he worked upon the home farm. In 1847, however, he was afforded better educational opportunities and entered the Collegiate Institute at Rochester, New York, where he studied arithmetic, algebra, philosophy and chemistry. In 1848 he attended school in Chicago, the school being conducted by Benjamin F. Taylor, the poet and author, in the old Trinity Episcopal church. In 1849 he left school with the intention of going to California to mine gold and purchased three yoke of oxen in this part of the state and another yoke in Iowa. Thus he made an overland trip to California, but not meeting with the success that he had anticipated among the gold fields of the far west, he returned to Aurora by way of the Isthmus of Panama and New York, arriving again in Kane county in January, 1855.

Not long after his return Mr. Strong married and later operated his father's farm on shares for a year. In 1857 he made a second trip to California to settle up some business which he had left there, but in the spring of 1858 returned to Dupage county and bought his father's farm of three hundred acres. He then carried on general agricultural pursuits with excellent success until 1902, when he sold or divided among his sons all of the farm save fifty acres of land. He has since lived retired in Aurora, where he now owns a good home at No. 337 South Avenue. He deserves much credit for what he has accomplished in the business world, as he has worked diligently and perseveringly to achieve prosperity, nor has he ever been known to take advantage of the necessities of another in a business transaction.

On the 1st of October, 1855, Mr. Strong was married to Miss Frances Crane, a daughter of David and Catharine (Stolp) Crane. She was the first girl born in Dupage county, her birth occurring September, 1855. Mr. and Mrs. Strong have a family of three sons and one daughter. Edward C., the eldest, owns and operates a part of the old homestead in Dupage county. He married Addie Ferry and they have four children: Maud, Ethel, Alice and Charles. Wilbur, the second of the family, died when ten years of age. Nettie is the wife of Edward Jenkins, a resident of Naperville township, and they have three children: Bertha, Roy and Frances. Marvin is also a farmer of Dupage county, living on a part of the old homestead. He married Florence Crampton and they have a daughter, Genevieve. Maud Strong, the granddaughter, is now the wife of George Igo and they have a daughter, Grace.

Politically Mr. Strong is a republican and cast his vote for president for Fremont in 1856. He then supported Abraham Lincoln in 1860, and has since been a stalwart republican. For many years he was engaged in tilling the soil and his labors were attended with a measure of success that has made him a man of affluence. He is able now to live in retirement without further recourse to labor, and yet able to enjoy the comforts and some of the luxuries of life.

EDWARD J. RAYMOND.

On the roster of officials in Aurora appears the name of Edward J. Raymond, who is now filling the office of city clerk. He was born in this city September 1, 1873, his parents being Charles and Julia (Villeneuve) Raymond. The mother was a native of Canada and came to Aurora with her parents in 1847. The father was also born in Canada and arrived in Aurora in 1858. He has now been in the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad in the shops at this place for over forty years, being one of the most trusted and faithful representatives here, his capability and loyalty being indicated most clearly by his long retention in the shops.

Edward J. Raymond at the usual age entered the public schools, and after therein mastering the elemental branches of learning, he attended the Sacred Heart school of this city. He made his intital step in the business world when fourteen years of age, entering the office of the Beacon, where he learned the printer's trade. For ten years he was connected with that office and filled every position in connection therewith from that of devil to foreman. Gradually he worked his way upward as he mastered every department of the business. For some years he was foreman for the Wormwood & Berry Printing Company, and later embarked in the job printing business on his own account. In 1903 he was called to public office, being elected city clerk, and is now serving for the third term—a fact which stands in incontrovertible evidence of his trustworthiness, ability and fidelity. In 1902 he was a candidate for probate clerk on the democratic ticket.

In October, 1899, Mr. Raymond was married to Miss Julia Holslag, a native of Buffalo, New York, and they have one son, Charles Edward, who

was born September 6, 1904. Mr. Raymond is a member of the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Columbus and the Eagles, and of the last named he is worthy president. He has also been active in labor organizations, being a member of the Typographical Union, which he represents in the central body, and of which organization he was secretary for three years. He is very widely known in the city of his nativity and of his residence, having many warm friends here who entertain for him the highest regard, while the confidence of the public is plainly indicated by the fact that he has been elected for the third term to the office of city clerk.

H. C. WADDLE, M.D.

Dr. H. C. Waddle, city physician of Elgin, and an able representative of the profession, was born in Randolph county, Illinois, June 24, 1867, his parents being Samuel and Jane Caroline (Morris) Waddle, both of whom were natives of Illinois. The father was a farmer by occupation and lived at Normal, Illinois, for a number of years, where, somewhat prominent in public life, he served as a member of the city council and also as a member of the board of education. He was likewise a leading member of the Masonic fraternity there. He is now residing on the Pacific coast, making his home at Eugene, Oregon.

Dr. Waddle spent the first seven years of his life upon the home farm and afterward became a student in the public schools of Normal, continuing his studies through consecutive grades and later attending the Illinois State University, from which he was graduated in 1893. In the interim, however, between his public school and university course he engaged in teaching for four years and proved a capable instructor and disciplinarian. He was superintendent of schools at Marseilles, Illinois, for two years and for four years was school superintendent at Vinton, Iowa. He regarded this, however, as an initial step to other professional labor, for it was his desire to become a member of the medical fraternity, and to this end he began preparation for practice. After some private preliminary reading he matriculated in the College of Physicians and Surgeons at the Chicago medical department of the University of Illinois and was graduated in 1903. During the entire four years of his college course he was editor of its paper, *The Plexus*. He then practiced for a year in Chicago and in October, 1904, located in Elgin, where he has built up a lucrative business. He has demonstrated his power to successfully cope with the complex problems that continually confront the physician, is most careful in the diagnosis of a case and correct in his application of remedial agencies. In May, 1907, he was appointed city physician by Mayor Price, and is now filling that office, at the same time carefully discharging the duties of his private practice.

On the 16th of August, 1894, Dr. Waddle was married to Miss Alchee Amaret Case, of Cherry Valley, Illinois. They have two daughters: Mary Charlotte, who was born May 21, 1898; and Alchee Caroline, born January

30, 1904. The parents are members of the First Methodist church of Elgin, and are well known socially in the city, where they have already gained many warm friends. Dr. Waddle is a member of the Physicians' Club and Chicago Medical Society, and is examining physician for several local fraternal orders. He is likewise a member of the board of education and is interested in all that pertains to the city's progress and improvement along lines of material, social, intellectual and moral development.

FRANK J. C. KRAHN.

Frank J. C. Krahn, city attorney of Elgin, was born in Dundee township, Kane county, May 21, 1872, his parents being Charles F. and Albertina (Ebert) Krahn, both of whom were natives of Germany, whence they came to America in 1849, settling in Kane county. The father devoted the greater part of his life to general agricultural pursuits, but is now living retired in the enjoyment of well earned ease. During the period of the Civil war he went to the front in defense of the Union.

Frank J. C. Krahn was reared upon the home farm, early becoming familiar with the work incident to the development of the fields. Liberal educational privileges were afforded him, and after attending the country schools, he pursued a course in the Dundee high school, up to the age of seventeen years. He then entered the Northern Illinois Normal School and Dixon Business College, where he continued for two years, and in preparation for his profession he matriculated in the law school of the Michigan University at Ann Arbor, from which he was graduated in 1895 with the degree of LL.B. He was then admitted to practice in Michigan and Illinois, successfully passing the examination before the supreme courts of each state.

Mr. Krahn did not at once enter upon practice, but, locating at Elgin, worked in the assembling room of the Elgin National Watch factory as inspector for several years. Within that period he established an office in the business district and practiced as he found opportunity. In the election of 1907 he became a candidate for city attorney of Elgin and was elected by a large majority over an opponent that was considered very popular personally. He is now engaging in the general practice of law, and also is conducting an insurance and real-estate business, and is notary public. He has made an excellent reputation as a collector of accounts and is building up a good clientage in the law, with offices in the Hubbard block.

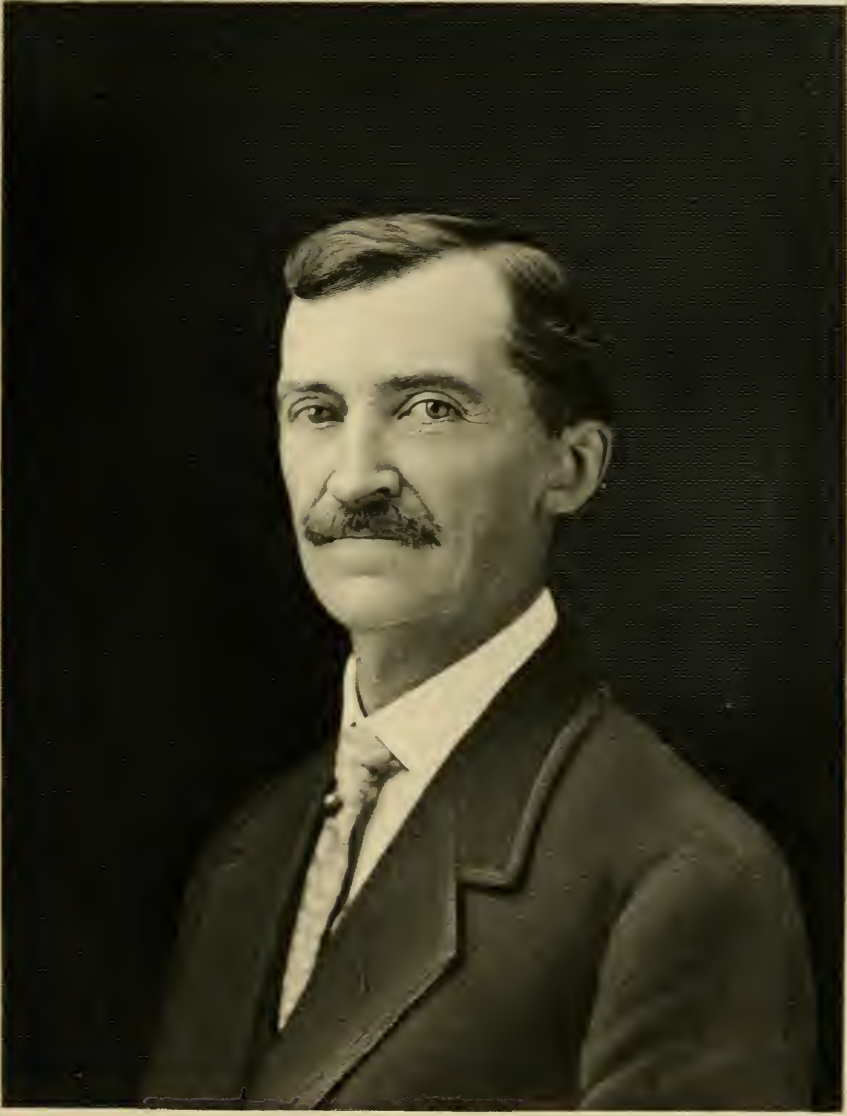
On the 22d of June, 1898, Mr. Krahn was married to Miss Cora M. Hovey, of Aurora, Illinois, and to them have been born two children: Hazel A. and Frances C. In his fraternal relations Mr. Krahn is connected with Monitor Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and with both the subordinate lodge and the encampment of the Odd Fellows. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp, the Modern Brotherhood of America, the Woodmen of the World, the Improved Order of Red Men, and the Royal League. He is now serving as collector of the last named, and clerk of the Woodmen of the

World. A resident of Kane county throughout his entire life, Mr. Krahn is widely known here and has many warm friends. In his business career he is making substantial progress, having already gained a good clientage in the law, and in his real estate and fire insurance business.

FRANK O. HAWLEY.

Frank O. Hawley, now living retired in Aurora, is a representative of one of the old pioneer families of this part of the state. His grandfather, Nathaniel Hawley, a native of New York, came to Illinois early in the '40s, and was closely associated with the frontier development and progress of Kendall county. He was a farmer by occupation and aided in the reclamation of wild land for the uses of civilization. He married Patience Greene, a niece of General Greene of Revolutionary war fame. Both lived to an advanced age and reared a family of five children, which number included Paul G. Hawley, the father of our subject, who arrived in Kendall county in 1837. His birth occurred in Chenango county, New York, and when he had arrived at years of maturity he married Miss Emily Hubbard, who was born in Lewis county, New York. She was a daughter of Daniel Hubbard, likewise a native of the Empire state and a farmer by occupation. He came with his family to Illinois in 1837 and took up land from the government in Oswego township, Kendall county. Both lived to be well advanced in years. Their family numbered six children. The marriage of Paul G. Hawley and Emily Hubbard was celebrated in Illinois. He traveled by wagon across the country and eventually reached his destination, which was Oswego, Kendall county. Mr. Hawley was an attorney by profession and continued in the practice of law until his death. He died in 1898, at the age of seventy-seven years, while his wife passed away in 1899, at the age of seventy-five years. Both were Baptist in religious faith and lived earnest, consistent Christian lives. In their family were seven children, two of whom survive. Four, however, reached years of maturity, as follows: Frank O., whose name introduces this review; Clara, the deceased wife of John Billings; Charles J., who has departed this life; and Carlton M., a resident of Aurora.

In taking up the personal history of Frank O. Hawley, we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known in this part of the state. He was reared at Oswego, Kendall county, spending his boyhood days under the parental roof, and at the usual age he became a student in the public schools. When he had mastered the branches of learning therein taught he continued his education in the Northwestern University at Evanston, and at Knox College, in Galesburg, Illinois. After putting aside his text-books he engaged in the storage and loan business in Chicago for seven years, after which he returned to Oswego and took up farming. He is today one of the most extensive landowners of this part of the state, having made judicious investments in property from time to time until he now owns eighteen hundred acres of fine farming land in Kendall county. It is comprised within



Frank O. Hanley

several farms and returns a splendid annual income to the owner, who, in former years, made many substantial improvements upon the property and yet gives supervision to it in its further development and improvement. In 1890, however, he ceased active connection with the farm work and removed to Aurora, where he engaged in the real-estate business, in which he still continues. He owns one of the most beautiful homes in the city, situated at No. 227 South Lake street.

On the 14th of October, 1875, Mr. Hawley was married to Miss Letitia Gillespie, a daughter of David and Letitia (Cooke) Gillespie. Four children have been born of this marriage: Emily L., at home; Bessie May, the wife of Edwin Faber, general manager of the electric railway lines of Elgin and Aurora, with headquarters at Wheaton, by whom she has a son, Edwin Hawley Faber; Paul G., operating one of his father's farms in Kendall county and making his home with his parents; and Lysander F., still under the parental roof.

Mr. and Mrs. Hawley are communicants of the Episcopal church and Mr. Hawley belongs to the Masonic fraternity, having taken the degrees in Jerusalem Lodge, No. 90, A. F. & A. M., and in Aurora Chapter, No. 22, R. A. M. His position on political questions is never an equivocal one. He is a stalwart advocate of democracy, and has held various offices, serving as mayor of Oswego for fourteen years, also as highway commissioner for sixteen years, and as president of the board of education for twelve years. He has likewise been president of the Kendall County Agricultural Society for two terms, and in all these different official positions has labored earnestly and effectively for the public welfare. His fellow townsmen have recognized his excellent qualifications for responsible duties. His unbending integrity of character, his fearlessness in the discharge of his duties and his understanding of the obligations that have rested upon him are such as to make him a most acceptable incumbent in the offices which he has held. In official life, as in business, he has shown excellent ability as an organizer, forming his plans readily and carrying them forward to successful completion. He represents old and prominent families of this part of the state and the work instituted by his forefathers in pioneer times has been continued by him to the benefit of the county and city in which he has resided.

REV. JOHN J. McCANN.

Rev. John J. McCann, the present priest of St. Mary's Catholic church at Elgin, was appointed to this position at a competitive examination held at the cathedral residence in Chicago in 1899, and assumed charge of the parish on the 24th of December of that year. Father McCann was born at Providence, Rhode Island, October 25, 1862, and attended the public schools of Aurora, to which city his parents removed in 1866, when he was but four years of age. In 1877 he entered St. Viateur's College at Bourbonnais, Illinois, where he remained for five years. He was also a student in St.

Mary's Seminary at Baltimore, where he completed his theological course on the 6th of January, 1888, on which date he was ordained by His Eminence, Cardinal Gibbons.

Father McCann organized the Catholic congregation and built the first Catholic church at Byron, Illinois, in 1895. He was also instrumental in erecting the handsome brick church edifice at Polo, Illinois, and both churches were paid for within a year. He greatly improved the churches at Oregon and Ashton and also purchased a cemetery in Byron. St. Mary's parish in Elgin is one of the irremovable rectorships of the Chicago archdiocese. Its rector is appointed for life and has a vote in the selection of candidates for the archbishopric. To secure the position a competitive examination is held. The examination for Elgin was held in the Cathedral residence in Chicago, December 15, 1899, and there Father McCann received his appointment. His first public service here was held on the following Sunday. Since assuming his charge he has finished the church and made various improvements. He has recently purchased St. Mary's Academy and a nineteen-acre cemetery. No man has labored more diligently for the upbuilding and the interests of the parish and he is a zealous, earnest priest, whose life occupation is in the line of the strict discharge of every duty which falls upon him in his priestly capacity.

JOHN ALTHEN.

Among the men of foreign birth in Kane county, who, coming to America, readily adapted themselves to the changed conditions of the new world and through the improvement of the opportunities offered won success, was numbered John Althen, who figured for a considerable period as a carpenter and contractor of Elgin. He was born in Prussia, Germany, August 29, 1842, and the years of his boyhood, youth and early manhood were spent in the land of his nativity, where he acquired his education and learned the builder's trade. Attracted by the business conditions of the new world, he came to the United States in 1872, when thirty years of age. Landing at New York, he did not tarry on the eastern coast, but made his way at once to Manitowoc, Wisconsin, where he resided for a year. On the expiration of that period he came to Elgin, where he began work at the carpenter's trade, and as a contractor figured for many years in the business life of this city. His residence here covered almost a third of a century and his activity, his diligence and his commercial honor were the qualities which gained for him the prominent place which he occupied in public regard.

On the 11th of June, 1873, Mr. Althen was married to Miss Mary M. Leickheim, a daughter of John and Elizabeth Leickheim, of Orrville, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Althen became the parents of four sons and a daughter: Henry L., the eldest, now living in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where he is connected with the Pittsburg Rubber Company, married Miss Jennie Nelson and has one daughter, Hazel; David C., who is with the Morgan & Wright Company,

of New York city, wedded Anna Dowling, and has one son, John; John W., who was a Spanish-American war veteran of Company D, Third Regiment of Illinois Infantry, died August 28, 1903, at the age of twenty-six years, from heart trouble brought on by typhoid fever contracted in the war; Mollie B. and Louis A., the younger members of the family, are now living in Elgin. The death of the husband and father occurred October 12, 1905, and his wife, surviving him for only about two years, passed away October 6, 1907. They were people of the highest respectability, who enjoyed to the fullest extent the confidence and good will of all with whom business or social relations brought them in contact. Mr. Althen was a Baptist in religious faith, and was very active in church work, doing all in his power to promote the growth and extend the influence of the church. His political allegiance was given to the republican party, but he did not seek nor desire office. He was one of Elgin's solid men, who did much for his adopted city and home. He was most genial and his life record in its various phases might well serve as a lesson to the young. Dependent upon his own resources from an early age, his success illustrates most forcibly the power of patient and persistent effort and self-reliance. He so conducted all affairs, whether of a public or private nature, as to merit the esteem of all classes of citizens and no word of reproach was ever uttered against him.

LOUIS J. ALTHEN.

Louis J. Althen is the president of the Elgin Eagle Brewing Company, and a gentleman of wide business activities and interests. He was born in Sycamore, Illinois, November 3, 1862, and came to Elgin when six years of age with his parents. His father was Casper Althen, who was born in Hackenheim, Germany, in 1840, and came to the United States in 1855 with his parents, settling at Two Rivers, Wisconsin. In 1861 he removed with his family to Sycamore, Illinois, and came to Elgin in 1868, in which year he purchased the brewery which is now carried on under the firm name of the Elgin Eagle Brewing Company. This is one of the oldest enterprises of the kind in the state, having been established in 1849. The original plant was erected by Charles Tazewell, a native of Somersetshire, England, and was conducted by him, with the exception of the period of his service in the Union army, until 1868, when it became the property of Casper Althen, who conducted the business alone until 1894, when he admitted his sons to a partnership and the present Elgin Eagle Brewing Company was thus organized. The father remained in active connection therewith until his death, which occurred April 18, 1896. He was survived by his widow, Mrs. Louisa Althen, whom he wedded in Sycamore in 1861. They were the parents of three sons and three daughters and the sons are now the present officers of the company.

Louis J. Althen pursued his education in the public schools of Elgin until he became a high-school student. He started in the brewery as bookkeeper and collector for his father and in 1894, when the business was incorporated

under the name of the Elgin Eagle Brewing Company, he and his two brothers were admitted to an interest in the enterprise. The father remained as its president on the incorporation, with Louis J. Althen as vice president and treasurer. Upon the father's death in 1896 Louis J. Althen succeeded him as president and treasurer, while Edward C. Althen became secretary and Emil Althen superintendent and brew master. All of the brothers continue active in the business, which has become one of the most important enterprises of Elgin. The Elgin brewery has no superior and its product is most favorably received wherever sold. For more than thirty years this was the only brewery in Elgin and a large trade has developed not only in the city but in the surrounding towns and is still steadily growing. The plant is now equipped with the latest and most improved machinery and the principles used in the manufacture of the product insures the very highest quality. The Elgin Brew is put up in kegs as well as the Adler Brau Export in bottles. The latter has become most widely known and appreciated for its purity and health-giving qualities and the sale is now extensive. The stockhouse was erected in 1892, the brewhouse in 1896 and the bottling establishment in 1898. A visit to this institution is always of interest in noting the cleanliness and sanitary conditions which are followed and in the careful systematizing of the work. The capacity is fifty thousand barrels and they employ about twenty workmen in the manufacture, selling about twenty-five thousand barrels.

In addition to his business interests in connection with the brewery Louis J. Althen is a stockholder of the Elgin National Bank and of the Union National Bank of this city. He is recognized as a man of excellent business discernment and enterprise and has the determination that enables him to carry forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

In 1885 occurred the marriage of Mr. Althen and Miss Elizabeth Albert, a native of Chicago and a daughter of John Albert of that city. They have two children: Casper, who has spent two years as a student in Notre Dame; and Irene, who is attending Elgin Academy.

In his fraternal relations Mr. Althen is an Elk. He is also treasurer of the Eagles Lodge and belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, the Riverside Club, the Iroquois Club and the Commercial Travelers. He is a splendid type of the German-American element in our citizenship and has an extensive and favorable acquaintance in the city where the greater part of his life has been passed.

THOMAS P. MATTERS.

Thomas P. Matters is leading a most busy life in connection with the windmill and well-drilling business and also handles gas engines, his business covering a radius of twenty miles around Elgin. He has been engaged in this line here since 1888 and has become well known in this connection.

A native of England, he was born on the 23d of March, 1856, a son of John and Harriet Matters. The father was a farmer by occupation and dur-

ing the early boyhood of his son, Thomas, crossed the Atlantic to America with his family and established his home in Bloomingdale, Dupage county. The boy was reared in the usual manner of farm lads, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist as he assisted his father in the work of the fields from the time of early spring planting until the crops were harvested in the late autumn. He was thus busily employed until twenty-one years of age, after which he entered the employ of Josiah Stevens, who was engaged in putting up windmills and in drilling wells. For two years he remained with Mr. Stevens and gained a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of the business. He then started out in life on his own account and in 1888 came to Elgin, where he has since conducted business in the same line. He is well known in this connection, and in addition to drilling wells and putting up windmills, he likewise handles gas engines. His trade calls him to many surrounding points, covering a radius of twenty miles in each direction.

On the 19th of March, 1882, Mr. Matters was married to Miss Emma Hennings, a daughter of Henry J. and Frederica Hennings, who were natives of Hanover, Germany. In October, 1899, Mrs. Matters passed away, leaving four children: Irvin, Arthur, Dell and Grace. On the 14th of January, 1908, Mr. Matters was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Hattie L. Hills, the widow of Edward Hills and a daughter of Josiah Stevens, his early employer. Mr. Matters gives his political support to the republican party, and though he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, he has never sought office as a reward for his allegiance to party principles. He and his wife attend the Baptist church and are well known in this locality, Mr. Matters being respected as an enterprising, busy man and therefore a useful citizen.

CHARLES BARTELT, JR.

Charles Bartelt, Jr., well known in Batavia and this section of the county, was born February 1, 1872, on the old homestead farm, which is still his place of residence and which he is carefully conducting. His father, Charles Bartelt, a native of Germany, was born January 31, 1833, and in 1858 came to the United States, making his way direct to Batavia after landing on the Atlantic coast. He was a farmer and throughout his entire life followed that occupation in support of his family until 1897, when with a handsome competence, acquired through his labors in former years, he retired from business life and now makes his home on the east side of Batavia. He married Caroline Schimmelfennig, who was born in Germany, February 25, 1843.

Charles Bartelt, Jr., spending his boyhood days under the parental roof, acquired his education in the public schools of Batavia and when not busy with his text-books assisted in the labors of the home farm. After permanently leaving school he gave his undivided attention to general agricultural pursuits and when his father retired from the farm Mr. Bartelt became its

manager and now continues on the old homestead, where he is cultivating one hundred and forty-one acres of rich land that responds readily to the labors he bestows upon his fields. Annually he gathers rich crops and now has an excellent property. He has for a long time been studying and experimenting on a door hanger, which he has now perfected and a patent has been applied for. It is called the Bartelt Combination Door Hanger and is for use on sliding doors and gates of all descriptions. It is a contrivance so arranged that the door cannot get off the track nor out of order and is the easiest running device of the kind on the market. It is very simple in construction but most effective in accomplishing its purpose and it will soon be placed on the market for general sale. Mr. Bartelt deserves to make a success of his invention, for it is certainly worthy of a liberal patronage.

On the 9th of June, 1897, was celebrated the marriage of Charles Bartelt and Miss Lizzie Iheriss, a daughter of John and Barbara (Schlagal) Iheriss, of Batavia. Unto them have been born four children: Oliver, whose birth occurred May 1, 1900; Violet, born April 5, 1903; Wendle, born September 25, 1904; and Norma, October 31, 1906.

In his political views Mr. Bartelt is a staunch republican, keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day and thus is always able to support his position by intelligent argument. Fraternally he is connected with the Mystic Workers and the Woodmen, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist church. All who know him, and he has many friends, esteem him as a representative agriculturist and worthy citizen of the locality in which his entire life has been passed.

CHARLES FOWLER PEASE.

Death often removes from our midst those whom we are loath to spare, because of the place they occupied in the public life of the community and in the regard of their many friends. A feeling of uniform sorrow pervaded Elgin when the news of the death of Charles Fowler Pease was received. His life record covered a comparatively brief period of forty-seven years, for he was born in Belvidere, Illinois, June 26, 1856, and passed away on the 31st of July, 1903.

A son of Walter L. Pease, he pursued his early education in the public schools of Elgin and afterward attended college at Racine and at Watertown, Wisconsin. Entering upon his business career, he was for eight years employed in the First National Bank of Chicago. Prior to this time, however, he had learned the machinist trade. His inclination, however, seemed in that direction, for he was ever fond of machinery and enjoyed studying out the workings of an intricate piece of machinery and possessed much natural ability and ingenuity in that direction. He never followed the machinist's trade, except at occasional intervals when he worked in the machine shop of the Elgin National Watch Company. After leaving the bank in Chicago, he became connected with the tile and mantle business in Elgin and as proprietor

of this establishment continued a factor in the trade circles of the city until his death. He built up a large business, having practically all of the patronage in this line from Elgin and the surrounding towns. He carried a good line of tiles and mantles and, moreover, the business policy which he pursued was such as to commend him to the patronage of the public, for he was straightforward in all his dealings, never being known to overreach another in a business transaction.

On the 11th of December, 1883, Mr. Pease was married to Miss Mary Salisbury, a daughter of Oliver H. P. and Julia (Aldrich) Salisbury, of Elgin. Unto this marriage was born one daughter, Claudia Harriett, who was graduated from the high school of Elgin in the class of 1902, and like her mother is well known in social circles of the city.

Mr. Pease exercised his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the democracy, but otherwise was not active in party ranks. He was a communicant of the Episcopal church and a member of the Masonic fraternity. He never ceased to feel the deepest interest in machinery and the great scientific principles which underlie all mechanical construction and operation. He preferred the quiet of home life to the interests of the club, finding his greatest happiness with the members of his own household. Of kindly nature he had the rare gift of making friends, was always genial and courteous and was an entertaining companion, ever having an apt story or anecdote to illustrate his point. He continued his residence in Elgin from the age of one year, was most widely known here and occupied a position in public regard that made him a representative resident of the city.

HON. ARTHUR M. BEAUPRE.

Among Illinois' native sons who have gained distinction in diplomatic circles is numbered Hon. Arthur M. Beaupre, now minister to the Netherlands and Luxemburg, and also a prominent representative of this country at The Hague. He was born in Oswego, Kendall county, Illinois, in 1853, and is a son of Mathias and Sarah J. (Patrick) Beaupre and a brother of William S. Beaupre, president of the Aurora National Bank. His boyhood days were spent in the place of his nativity to the age of twelve years, when, in 1865, he accompanied his parents on their removal to De Kalb, Illinois. There he entered upon his business career, at the age of sixteen years, as an employe in the office of the De Kalb County News, where he learned the printer's trade. In 1874 he came to Aurora and a few months later was elected clerk of the city court, to which position he was reelected for a second term. Shortly afterward, however, he resigned to accept the position of deputy clerk of Kane county. In 1886 he was elected county clerk by a large majority and held the position for eight years, proving a very popular as well as capable and trustworthy official.

His prominence in republican circles, combined with his recognized ability, led to his appointment in October, 1897, by President McKinley to the

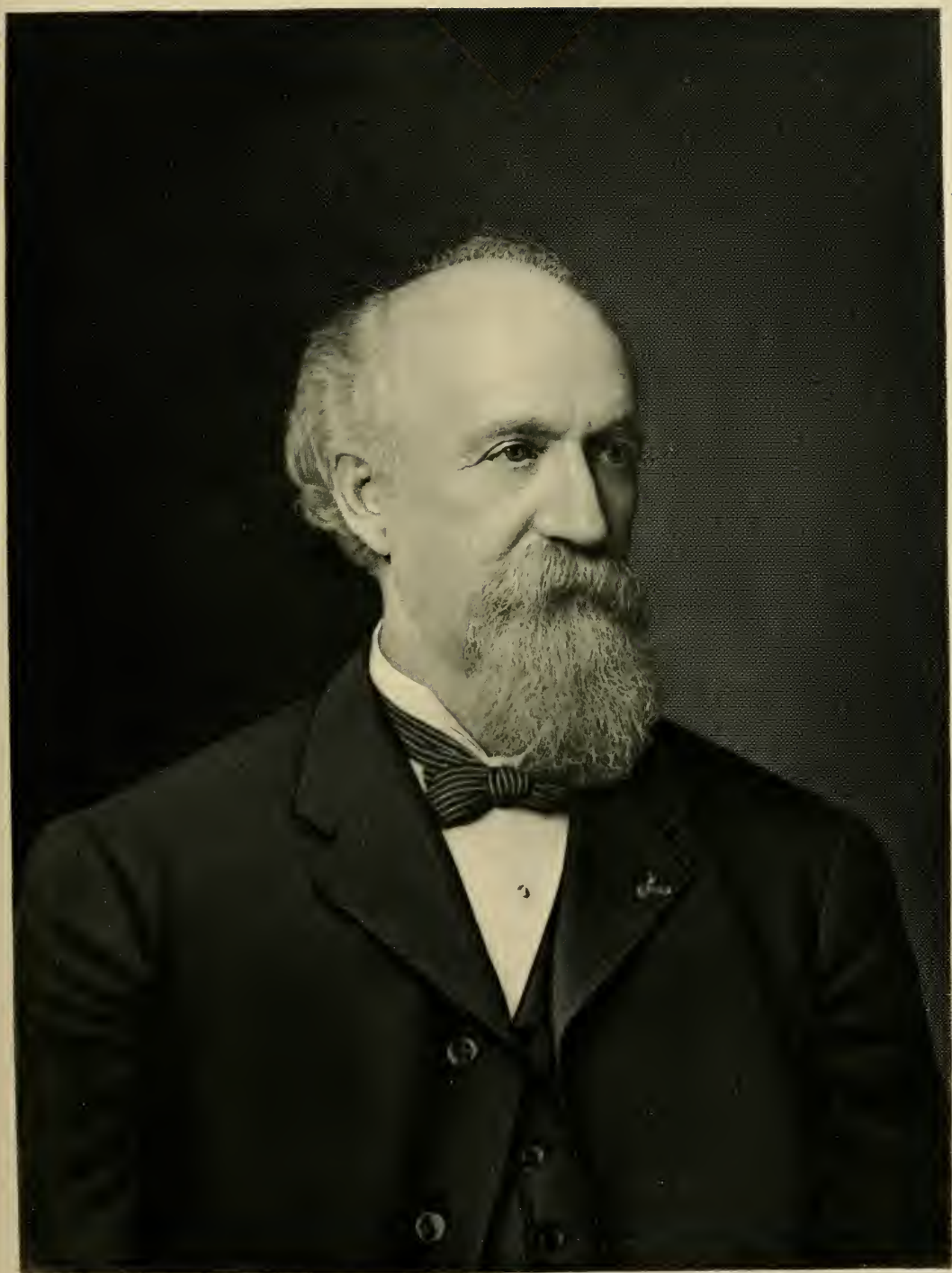
position of secretary of legation and consul general at Guatemala, where he remained for three years. He was then transferred to Bogota, Colombia, South America, and in 1903 he was appointed by President Roosevelt minister plenipotentiary and envoy extraordinary for the United States to Colombia, this being one of only two cases where a consul of the United States has been promoted to minister. In March, 1904, he was appointed minister to the Argentine Republic, the mission being the most important in South America, and in 1908 he was appointed transferred to the Netherlands, where he now resides. He is a prominent representative of this country at The Hague and possesses those diplomatic qualities which enable him to efficiently represent American interests abroad and at the same time keep friendly the relations of this country in the land in which he is now serving as minister.

Mr. Beaupre was married October 20, 1880, to Miss Mary F. Marsh, a daughter of Hon. C. W. Marsh, long representative in the legislature. Mr. Beaupre is widely known in political circles, having many friends among the distinguished representatives of the nation, while his own ability in handling the intricate questions of diplomatic service is widely acknowledged.

HON. HENRY H. EVANS.

Distinguished honors have come to Hon. Henry H. Evans, who wears them, however, with becoming modesty. Among the prominent men of the state few are better known and his life record constitutes an important chapter in the history of Aurora, where he has made his home from early boyhood days. His birth occurred in Toronto, Canada, on the 9th of March, 1836, his parents being Griffith and Elizabeth (Weldon) Evans, both of whom were natives of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The Evans family is of Welsh lineage and was founded in America by one who came from the little rock-ribbed country of Wales many years prior to the Revolutionary war. Griffith Evans was reared to manhood in Pennsylvania and learned the millwright's trade, which business took him to various parts of the United States and Canada. Following his marriage he removed with his family to Aurora, Illinois, arriving in this city in June, 1841. Here he aided in the construction of the Black Hawk, Montgomery and Eagle mills, and, subsequently, he was for many years foreman in the shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad at Aurora. He died suddenly of heart disease on the 28th of September, 1882, at the age of seventy-three years, while his wife passed away in January of the same year at the age of sixty-nine.

Henry H. Evans, one of a family of ten children, was reared in Aurora, and acquired his education in the public schools. When a young man he engaged in the restaurant and ice cream business, but in 1862 put aside all mercantile and personal considerations that he might do duty at the front in defense of the Union cause. He, therefore, enlisted in the Civil War as a member of the One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Regiment of Illinois Volunteers, with which he served until the close of hostilities, making an excellent



Yours Truly
N. H. Evans

record by reason of his valorous and fearless defense of the old flag and the cause it represented.

When the war was over Mr. Evans returned to Aurora and again became proprietor of a restaurant, which he conducted until 1873, when he purchased the old Fitch House, afterward known as Hotel Evans, conducting it for a number of years. He then leased the property, and, giving his attention to real-estate operations, purchased and sold real estate extensively, during which time he has embraced his opportunities for becoming owner of much valuable property. He has always taken an active interest in the welfare and development of Aurora and has been the promoter of many movements which have been of direct public good. He organized and put into operation the first street railway here and induced the Aurora, Joliet & Northwestern Railway Company to extend its line to this city. He has also secured the establishment of several factories here and has been, and is at the present time, connected with a number of the important industrial and commercial institutions of Aurora. He was for some years the president of the German-American National Bank, in which he is a heavy stockholder; is the president of the Interstate Independent Telephone & Telegraph Company; and in other ways has contributed in large measure to the substantial improvement and growth of the city.

Mr. Evans has been equally helpful in his efforts in political lines. He has long been recognized as a prominent worker of the party and a stalwart champion of its principles. In 1876 he was elected to the Illinois legislature by the republican party and in the same year was elected to the Aurora city council from the ninth ward. In 1880 he was made state senator and was reelected in 1884, which position he has filled to the present time—a period of twenty-eight years, in which he has been an efficient public servant, recognized throughout the state as one of the leading members of the senate. Much important legislation is credited largely to his efforts. He was instrumental in securing the passage of the militia bill, whereby the Soldiers' Home at Quincy was established and he was appointed by Governor Cullom as a member of his staff in recognition of his ability. He was reappointed by Governor Oglesby, serving in all sixteen years. He possesses a statesman's grasp of public affairs and in all of his public service has been actuated by a loyalty to the general good that is attested in the liberal support which he receives at the polls. Lincoln has said, "You may fool some of the people all of the time and all of the people some of the time, but you can not fool all of the people all of the time." This statement finds verification in political more than in any other department of life. Occupying a position where all eyes are turned upon him, the political leader must be faithful to his trust or public opinion turns against him and takes from him the honors which his fellow townsmen have conferred.

In 1858 Senator Evans was united in marriage to Miss Alice M. Rhodes, a native of Lancaster, England, and they have one son, Arthur R. Evans. The Senator is a man of fine personal appearance, tall and commanding, dignified in manner—a splendid type of that class of men known as the old-school gentlemen. He is never too busy to be courteous nor too engrossed with

private interests to find time and opportunity for cooperation in movements of public moment. His many good qualities, aside from those traits which he displays in his business and political career, have gained him the warm friendship of those with whom he comes in contact, and he has, perhaps, as many warm personal friends among democratic leaders as in the ranks of the republican party. That he is a man of broad capabilities is indicated by the extent of his business interests and his public service. He has moral courage fit for any emergency, and although he has always been a pronounced republican he is without partisan prejudice and in his candidacy has been supported with enthusiasm by many leaders of the opposition. His tastes are simple but refined and delicate, and conspicuous among his many good traits of character is his fearless devotion to whatever he thinks comes within the pale of public or private duty.

VACLAV H. PODSTATA, M. D.

There is perhaps no better indication of an advancing civilization than is manifest by the Caucasian peoples in their treatment of their physically and mentally incompetent. The work has been placed upon a broad humanitarian basis and the most advanced science has been brought to bear in the treatment of those who are wards of the state. Men of broad learning are continually studying out plans and methods whereby the interests of the insane may be promoted, while men of marked ability are at the head of such institutions and are securing wonderful results in their treatment. Dr. Podstata, now the head of the Illinois Northern Hospital for the Insane at Elgin, has made a close and comprehensive study of mental and nervous disorders and entered upon his present position well fitted by education, temperament and experience to administer his important office.

A native of Austria, Dr. Podstata was born in Hohenbruck, April 24, 1870. His literary education was acquired through attendance at the common and high schools and colleges in his native country and when a young man of nineteen years he crossed the Atlantic to America, establishing his home in Chicago. There he was assistant editor of the *Pravda*, a missionary paper published in that city by the Rev. E. A. Adams, D.D. Three years were devoted to that work and he then entered upon the study of medicine and surgery in the Chicago Homeopathic College, from which he was graduated in 1895. The same year he took the competitive examination for internes in the State Hospitals for the Insane and received an appointment to Kankakee, entering upon his work there on the 1st of June. In September, 1895, he was promoted to the position of assistant physician in the institution and four years later he secured a seven months' leave of absence, during which period he pursued the senior year course of the medical department of the University of Illinois, graduating from this institution. Returning to Kankakee, he was advanced through successive promotions until he became acting chief of staff.

Resigning at Kankakee, Dr. Podstata became physician in charge of the Oakwood Sanitarium at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, in 1902, and a year later, in June, 1903, on the recommendation of the men and women engaged in the regeneration of the Cook county institutions at Dunning, he was appointed superintendent there by the Hon. Henry G. Foreman, president of the board of commissioners of Cook county. With untiring zeal and energy Dr. Podstata took up his work in that connection. His task included the reconstructing of the medical service and the superintendence of large physical improvements along modern hospital lines. He, however, was well qualified for the duties that thus devolved upon him. Although a young man, he had already had broad experience and his comprehensive learning and ready adaptability enabled him to meet the needs of the institution and to put it upon a basis for future successful work. In the three years of his stay at Dunning, the entire medical service was reorganized with senior physicians and internes to carry it out; a training school for the nurses and attendants was established and there were erected three new cottages, a pavilion, a special ward building for farm workers, a new morgue and pathological laboratory and a group of modern buildings for consumptive patients, while a large modern building, erected for tubercular patients, was converted into an up-to-date hospital for the physically sick insane, with a capacity for three hundred and sixty patients.

The ability which Dr. Podstata displayed in that connection led to his selection as the head of the Northern Illinois Hospital for the Insane at Elgin by its board of trustees. He has already accomplished excellent work here and is moving forward along modern scientific and humanitarian lines, his labors receiving the endorsement of all who recognize the value of superior work of this character.

Dr. Podstata was married January 12, 1903, to Miss Mary Graham Porter. Socially he is a pleasant and genial gentleman and has many friends. He has little time, however, for social pleasures, his attention being given in undivided manner to his professional duties as the head of the Elgin institution.

EDWARD C. ALTHEN.

The name of Althen has figured in connection with the productive industries of Elgin for forty years and Edward C. Althen is now a factor in the industrial life as secretary of the Elgin Eagle Brewing Company. He was born here April 13, 1874, and has always made his home in this city, where he attended the public schools, passing through consecutive grades until he became a high-school student. He afterward attended Bryant & Stratton Business College in Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1897, and, like his elder brothers, he entered the brewing business, which his father had conducted from 1868. The industry was incorporated in 1894 under the name of the Elgin Eagle Brewing Company and since 1896 Edward Althen has been its secretary and active in a position of executive management and control.

On the 1st of September, 1902, was celebrated the marriage of Edward C. Althen and Miss Hannah L. Strandt, a native of Elgin, and a daughter of Carl Strandt. In his social relations Mr. Althen is connected with the Elks, the Eagles and Moose and the Masons, having attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and while he has never sought nor desired office, he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day.

JAMES ANDERSON CARLISLE.

James Anderson Carlisle for almost forty years was a resident of Elgin. His life was varied in its experiences and interests. Born in the Empire state, he was among those who went to California at the time of the excitement attending the discovery of gold and later he came to the middle west to become a factor in the upbuilding and substantial development of Kane county. He was born in Charleston, Montgomery county, New York, June 3, 1827. His parents were Dr. William and Lydia (Schuler) Carlisle, the former of Scotch lineage and the latter of German descent, while both were representatives of old families of the Empire state. In the family were four sons and two daughters, but the younger daughter is the only one now living. One son, Lewis Carlisle, lost his life while on the way to California in 1849.

James A. Carlisle spent his childhood in the place of his nativity, learning the value of hard labor and constant economy. He was a young man at the time of the discovery of gold in California and attracted by the opportunities of rapidly acquiring wealth there in the mines, he sailed for the Pacific, making the journey by way of the Isthmus route. He spent six years in the Golden state and during the greater part of that time conducted a general mercantile store. In 1858, however, he returned to the east and then resolved to establish his home in the middle west. Accordingly he came to Illinois, settling at Elgin. Here he began reading law and entered upon the practice of his profession, in which he continued for some time, but later he withdrew from legal circles and embarked in the hardware business. The next change in his business career made him proprietor of a creamery and cheese factory at South Elgin and later he established other enterprises of a similar character. At one time he was owner of three factories, one at South Elgin, one at Woodstock, Illinois, and one at Elkhorn, Wisconsin. In this undertaking he made creditable success and continued in the creamery business up to the time of his death. He also did some commercial law work and administered several estates. Such was his known integrity and reliability that positions of trust were thus given to him from time to time and he was evermost loyal thereto. In fact, wherever he was known his word was considered as good as any bond secured by signature or seal and his business integrity stood as an unquestioned fact in his career. He became a stockholder of the Elgin Academy and was active in the promotion of the Elgin Watch factory, in which he was also a stockholder. He displayed sound

business judgment and enterprise and in his career brooked no obstacles that could be overcome by persistent, honorable effort.

On the 1st of January, 1863, Mr. Carlisle was married to Miss Alida Sprague, a native of Pike, New York. She removed in her girlhood to Dansville, New York, in 1856 went to Wisconsin with her parents, and came to Elgin as a bride, since which time she has made her home in this city, arriving on the 2d of January, 1863. Since 1866 she has lived continuously in the residence which she now occupies. She is a daughter of James G. and Susan Dewey (Paddock) Sprague, in whose family were four sons and two daughters, including James P. Sprague, who was chief engineer of the United States navy. He died in Rochester, New York. He had been married about fifteen years prior to his death to Miss Libbie A. Dewey, a daughter of the late John B. Dewey, of Rochester. Mr. Sprague and his wife resided in Annapolis. He was a native of New York and entered the navy, with which he was connected for more than twenty years, entering it as an engineer under competitive examination. He served in the Civil war under Admiral Farragut and was present at the passage of the forts at the mouth of the Mississippi river and at the engagement at Vicksburg and other points, being under fire for one year and six days. He also assisted in the attack on Mobile and in all the principal battles where Farragut commanded. At the close of the war he went on a cruise to China and around the world in the Iroquois. He was serving on the Wateree, a United States battleship, at Arica, Peru, in 1868, when that city was destroyed by an earthquake and tidal wave. Every other vessel in the harbor was destroyed and the Wateree was carried inland by a tidal wave and left three-fourths of a mile from the sea on dry land. Mr. Sprague was at the head of the engineering department of the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis for three years. Before that time, however, he was on special duty in the service of the government at Washington and was for four years engaged in important experimental work in iron and wire rope, the results of which were published by the government. He invented a valuable machine for testing the strength of iron, which is now used in the Washington navy yard. He was a man of charming personality, unfeigned cordiality and a most entertaining conversationalist.

As stated, his sister became the wife of James A. Carlisle and has resided continuously in Elgin since 1863. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Carlisle were born six children: Susan Adaline, the wife of David T. Sharpless, of Westchester, Pennsylvania; Guy Sprague, who was drowned in the ferry disaster in Elgin in 1881; John Anderson, who is in the west; Francis Perry, who died in infancy; Charles Sylvanus, of Austin, Illinois; Henry Burton, who is in the employ of his brother-in-law, Mr. Sharpless.

In his political views Mr. Carlisle was a staunch democrat and was elected to office in a republican district, a fact which indicated his personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him. He served as township supervisor for seventeen years and a part of the time had no opposition. He was also alderman of the city and served on the building committee of the board of supervisors when the present courthouse was erected. His official duties were discharged with the utmost capability and fidelity and his record was at all

times most commendable. He was a generous supporter of the Episcopal church, of which Mrs. Carlisle is a member, and he felt the deepest interest in matters of public welfare, doing all in his power to promote the plans and measures calculated to prove of public benefit. He died October 4, 1898, after a long residence in Elgin, during which time he enjoyed to the fullest extent the confidence and good will of his fellowmen. He was one of the early promoters of the dairy industry here and in all his business affairs was most reliable and trustworthy. His demise was the occasion of deep regret, for Elgin lost a representative citizen, his associates a faithful friend and his family a devoted husband and father.

FREDERICK CONRAD SCHURMEIER, M.D.

The medical fraternity is represented by a class of men who on the whole are devoted to the profession and to high ideals in connection therewith. No other department of business activity is as little commercialized as this and while the physician may well be prompted by a laudable ambition to attain success, the successful practitioner must necessarily also possess that humanitarian spirit which enables him to understand his patients and not only to administer the necessary remedial agency but also to speak the word of cheer or encouragement that is necessary in each particular instance. Possessing all of the requisite requirements of the able physician, Dr. Frederick C. Schurmeier is successfully practicing in Elgin.

His life record began in Gibson county, Indiana, March 18, 1872. His parents were Henry and Carolina (Carley) Schurmeier, both of whom were natives of Germany. In the year 1851 the father came to America, making his way to Gibson county, Indiana, where he purchased government land that was all covered with timber, it being necessary that he cut away the trees in order to have space enough upon which to erect his log cabin. In the course of time he cleared one hundred and sixty acres, which he brought under a high state of cultivation and for many years successfully carried on general farming there. He was one of the pioneers of that section and experienced many of the hardships and privations incident to frontier life, but bore his full share in the work of general improvement and progress. He is still living but has lost his wife.

Dr. Schurmeier, who is the youngest of their family of four sons and one daughter, all of whom survive, was reared upon the home farm and acquired his education in the public schools, passing through consecutive grades until he left the high school at the age of eighteen years. In 1895 he matriculated in the Northwestern College at Naperville, Illinois, and completed a scientific course by graduation with the class of 1899, the degree of M.S. being conferred upon him in 1902. With broad general knowledge to serve as the foundation upon which to rear the superstructure of professional learning, he entered Rush Medical College of Chicago, mastered the regular course and was graduated in 1902. He then put his theoretical knowledge to the practical test as assistant interne in the Chicago Lying-In

Hospital and he also did statistical work with Professor Ingalls in Cook County Hospital for some time.

In the fall of 1902 Dr. Schurmeier located in Elgin, where he has since practiced his profession and has built up an extensive business. He is constantly overburdened by the demands made upon him in professional lines and gives his time and energies unstintedly to his profession, with a sense of conscientious obligation regarding the responsibility that devolves upon him in this connection. He is now medical examiner for the Union Central Life Insurance Company of Cincinnati, the Court of Honor and the Northern Star. His membership relations extend to the American Medical Association, the State Medical Society, the Fox River Valley Medical Society and the Physicians' Club, and he served as city physician of Elgin under Mayor Carl E. Botsford. Aside from his professional duties already designated he is now an instructor in rhinology and laryngology in the Chicago College of Medicine and Surgery, which position he has occupied since 1905. At the same time he was made associate in medicine of the Evangelical Hospital in Chicago and surgeon to the Sherman and to the St. Joseph Hospital of Elgin.

In June, 1902, was celebrated the marriage of Dr. Schurmeier and Miss Marie Catharine Hatz, of Prairie du Sac, Wisconsin. They have one son, Le Roy Hatz. The parents are members of the First Evangelical Association and are well and widely known socially. With a nature that could never be content with mediocrity, Dr. Schurmeier has steadily advanced in his chosen calling until he today occupies a prominent place in the ranks of the medical fraternity. Industry and enterprise are as essential in winning success in this direction as in any other department of business and those qualities have contributed in large measure to his advancement.

EMIL ALTHEN.

Emil Althen, superintendent of the Elgin Eagle Brewing Company, is thus connected with one of the oldest enterprises of the city. The business was founded in 1849, twenty years before he entered upon the journey of life, for he was born July 2, 1869, in the city which is yet his home. He is a son of Casper Althen, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume in connection with the sketch of Louis J. Althen. He pursued his education in the public schools, in Elgin Academy and in Drew's Business College.

He began to learn the brewing business after completing his education, spending three years in the employ of the Peter Schoenhofen Brewing Company of Chicago. He was also for three years in New York city and gained a most thorough and comprehensive knowledge of the brewing business through his experience in Chicago and in the eastern metropolis. He then returned home, but after a short time again went to New York city and studied in the United States Brewing Academy of New York city, becoming an expert in his chosen field of labor, thoroughly understanding the great sci-

entific principles which underlie the manufacture of beer as well as the practical work connected therewith. In 1891 he returned to Elgin and took active management of the brewery here, which position he has since filled. Under his guidance the product of the brewery has been brought up to a high standard, which insures it a ready and profitable sale.

On the 3d of December, 1893, occurred the marriage of Emil Althen and Miss Minnie Strandt, a native of Germany, who came to Elgin when three years of age with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Strandt. Two children grace this marriage, Emil Casper and Louise Matilda.

Mr. Althen is active in several fraternal organizations and societies. He belongs to the Elks and the Eagle lodges and has been vice president and trustee of the Germany Society of Elgin. He is also a member of the Blatt-duetch Gilde and served as a trustee for several terms. He also belongs to the United States Brewmasters' Association and is a member of the Chicago League. He is an alert, enterprising and energetic business man, whose close application and thorough understanding of his business are bringing him success.

WILL A. JOHNSON.

A man's tastes and inclinations have much to do with fixing his choice of an occupation for life, notwithstanding his circumstances and the opportunities in other lines of activity which present themselves to him. Will A. Johnson's love of horses, doubtless, was a potential influence in leading him into the livery business and his extensive dealings in this line. He has always been fond of horses and never better pleased than when he had plenty of them around him. In his present business enterprise he is able to gratify his taste in this respect, and, at the same time, carry on a profitable business.

Mr. Johnson's life began at Jericho Corners, in Sugar Grove township, July 12, 1876. His parents are Rufus F. and Harriet (King) Johnson, the latter, at the time of her marriage to Mr. Johnson, being the widow of John Edmonds, who laid his life on the altar of his country in the Civil war, being killed at the battle of Chickamauga, September 12, 1862.

Rufus F. Johnson was born August 2, 1831, and is now living retired from active pursuits at Fulton, Illinois. His wife, whose maiden name was Harriet Jones King, was born at Bergen, New York, October 24, 1834, and was married to John Edmonds at Lodi, now Maple Park, Illinois, January 7, 1856. The children born in the Johnson household numbered four, of whom Will was the fourth. The others are: Alpha J., a sketch of whom will be found on another page of this work; Elora, born September 30, 1875, the wife of Burton Mighell, a resident of Holstein, Iowa; and George A., who died at the age of twenty-six.

Mr. Johnson's grandfather, Reuben Bingham Johnson, was a native of Ashville, Chautauqua county, New York. He married Miss Sophronia Sophia



Will A. Johnson

Fitch and came to Kane county March 6, 1836. He passed the remainder of his days in farming and was one of the prominent and well-known pioneers of this part of the state. After thirty-six years of useful and productive energy in the county, he died here December 31, 1872. His wife's father, Mr. King, came west about the same time, making the trip with a fine team of black horses, which he drove overland from the state of New York. This team later became the property of his son-in-law, Rufus F. Johnson, who traded it for the farm in Sugar Grove township on which Will Johnson was born, and which, from the time it came into the family, has ever been known as the Johnson homestead.

Reuben Bingham Johnson was a man of strong religious principles and Jerico Methodist Episcopal church still stands as a monument to the generosity of his character. He gave the land belonging to it and was one of the founders of the congregation which worshiped in it for many years. It was one of the finest churches in the Fox River valley and was known far and wide in the early days. This church stands on the line between Kane and Kendall counties, in the southwestern corner of Sugar Grove township, on a commanding elevation in the midst of a rich agricultural region, and was long the place of worship and the scene of literary and social entertainments for the pioneers who blazed the way for the advance of civilization into this part of the country. It is no longer used, but nothing can rob it of its high and interesting place in the history of the county. The cemetery is the last resting place of many of the first residents of the county.

Will A. Johnson received his early education at the district school near his home. He continued his studies at the Sugar Grove Normal and Industrial School, which he attended several years, and supplemented his training there with a course at the Valparaiso (Ind.) Business College. On May 30, 1903, he was united in marriage with Miss Nellie M. Lye, a daughter of Alva and Frances (Robbins) Lye, the former now living at Plano, Kendall county. Mrs. Johnson was born near that town May 30, 1881, and came with her parents to Sugar Grove township in her childhood. Her education was obtained in the Sugar Grove Normal and Industrial School. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have two children: Lucile, born April 26, 1904; and Kenneth William, October 4, 1906.

Mr. Johnson is engaged in the livery business at Sugar Grove, in connection with which he is an extensive dealer in lumber, coal and farm implements. His livery barn is one of the finest and most completely equipped in Kane county, and the proprietor is accounted one of the most progressive young men in his township. He has been very successful in his business and is universally respected for his integrity and his application of the golden rule to all in his business transactions. His early life, however, was not wholly free from care and privations. He well recollects yet the first money he earned, when, as a boy aged seven, he covered corn with a hoe and received for his work twenty-five cents a day. For many years he worked as a farm hand, but in 1903 concluded to set up for himself and rented a farm which he controlled one year. At the end of that time he bought the business in which he is now engaged. As has been stated, he is very fond of good horses and he

deals in them extensively, buying large numbers of them from farmers every year and selling them to all classes of purchasers but mainly to dealers.

The life history here briefly told, comparatively few as are the years it covers, is full of suggestiveness. It chronicles the simple, modest and plain but useful career of a leading business man, an influential citizen and an earnest worker, whose energies have ever been employed in efforts to promote the improvement of his township and county and the best interests of all its people, and whose dealings with his fellowmen have always been strictly on the square. In politics he is a republican and in fraternal life a Knight of Pythias, holding his membership in the order in the lodge at Aurora. But in business and social relations he is simply a man and holds every other man who is worthy as his brother, without regard to race or creed, or political or fraternal relations.

ALEXANDER TYLER, D.V.S.

Dr. Alexander Tyler, successfully engaged in the practice of veterinary surgery at Elgin, was born in Pierpont, Pennsylvania, on the 11th of October, 1852. His father, Joseph Tyler, who devoted his life to general farming, died in the town of Hampshire, Kane county, Illinois, in 1860, while his wife, Mary DeWolf, passed away three days before. Thus at the early age of eight years Dr. Tyler was left an orphan. He had been brought west by his parents when two years of age and the family home had been established in Hampshire. He was educated in the public schools and in the Chicago Veterinary College and was graduated in 1889. Having prepared for practice, he remained for a year in Hampshire and then sought a broader field of labor in Elgin, to which city he removed on the 18th of November, 1890. He has now remained here for eighteen years in the practice of veterinary surgery and because of his skill and ability a liberal patronage has been accorded him.

Dr. Tyler was married in 1877 to Miss Jeannette McCornack, a daughter of John and Martha McCornack, who were residents of Rutland township, this county. Dr. and Mrs. Tyler now have two sons and a daughter: Merton L., Ralph Dewitt and Jessie May. The first named is employed in Chicago and married Bertha Studemann. Ralph Dewitt, a graduate of the high school of Elgin, married Mamie Savage and is now living in South Dakota. They had twin sons, Kenneth Ralph and Harry William, born December 18, 1906, but the latter died March 11, 1908, and the former on the 17th of the same month. Jessie May Tyler is now with the Brethren Publishing House of Elgin.

Dr. Tyler keeps in close touch with the progress of the profession and in 1904 pursued a post-graduate course in the Chicago Veterinary College. He enjoys a good practice and in fact is recognized as a leader in his line in this part of the state. He prepared and read a paper before the Veterinary Medical Association and the State Veterinary Medical Association on "reports of cases of anthrax," which was well received and awakened much comment.

The disease is supposed to be fatal, but through experimenting Dr. Tyler has prepared a medicine that has been very successful in checking the ravages of the disease. His report therefore was received with intense interest by the members of the profession. In this connection he has done excellent work and his record is altogether creditable.

PATRICK DONOGHUE.

Patrick Donoghue was among those who first made Elgin a center for dairy interests, for he was among the pioneers in this line of business in northern Illinois. A native of Ireland, he was born in September, 1829, and his life record covered the intervening years to the 18th of February, 1875. His father, Michael Donoghue, spent his entire life on the Emerald Isle and after his death Patrick Donoghue came to the United States with his mother, Mrs. Mary (O'Hearn) Donoghue, while the other members of the family arrived at a later date.

Patrick Donoghue was twenty-two years of age when he bade adieu to friends and native land and sailed for the new world, coming direct to Chicago after landing at the American port. He was engaged in the milk business in Chicago, but at the time of the ever memorable fire in that city in the fall of 1871 he lost his business and his residence there and soon afterward removed to Elgin. In the vicinity of this city he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, the place being pleasantly located about two miles east of the town. He was one of the pioneers in the milk business in this locality, being among the first to ship milk to Chicago. His dairy interests were always conducted along progressive lines and the utmost neatness and cleanliness was observed in the care of the milk, so that the product of his dairy found a ready sale on the market.

Mr. Donoghue was married twice. He first wedded Julia Driscoll, who died about thirteen years later. They were the parents of four children: Margaret, Michael, Dennis and John. On the 3d of July, 1872, Mr. Donoghue was again married, his second union being with Mary Dwyer, a daughter of Richard and Ellen (Barry) Dwyer, of Rutland, Kane county. They had one child, Mary Ellen, who is a graduate of the Elgin high school and is now principal of the Oak street school of this city, having occupied that responsible position for six years. The board of education at Elgin desired to make her supervising principal, but this would have necessitated a change of schools and the parents of children in the district where she is now principal petitioned so strongly that she should not be removed that the board at length had to rescind. While it cost her something in the line of financial promotion, it indicated most clearly the great esteem in which she is held in the community and also proves the excellent work that she is doing in connection with the schools. She has seven teachers under her and is a most excellent teacher, proving a capable disciplinarian as well as instructor, and one who is con-

stantly alert for new methods that will improve the interests of the schools and promote their efficiency.

Mr. Donoghue was an active democrat and was a most loyal Catholic, in which faith he reared his family. He was related to the Dooleys, the great shipbuilders of New York, and the Donoghue family is a noted one in Ireland, being well connected. When Mrs. Donoghue came to Elgin with her parents there were but seven houses in the town. Her father was a farmer and took up a school section of land. As the years passed he prospered in his undertakings and became the owner of three large farms at the time of his death, which occurred in 1888. Her mother passed away in 1891. They had come to Elgin, December 12, 1842, being among the first residents of this part of the county, and from that time to the present representatives of the family have been well known here and have taken an active and helpful part in the work of public improvement and upbuilding. Mr. Donoghue, too, was known as a citizen of value and though in his later years he did not enjoy good health, he yet gave his aid and his influence to many movements for the public good.

BEEBY E. RICHARDSON.

Beeby E. Richardson is a resident of the beautiful little city of Geneva, the county seat of Kane county, and at the present writing, in 1908, is filling the office of county sheriff. A native of Aurora, he was born March 14, 1866, and comes of Scotch ancestry, both his paternal and maternal grandparents spending their entire lives in the land of hills and heather. It was there that his parents, John and Isabella (Ackerly) Richardson, were also born and reared. The father was a cabinetmaker by trade and followed that pursuit for many years. On coming to the United States he settled in New York, but later removed to Michigan and afterward became one of the early residents of Kane county, Illinois, taking up his abode in Aurora, where he was employed in the shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company until 1872. In that year he removed to Goldfield, Iowa. Unto him and his wife were born seven sons: John, of Ottertail, Minnesota; Thomas, deceased; Jeremiah, who has also passed away; Clark, who resides in Knierim, Iowa; Frank, deceased; Beeby E., of this review; and Henry, who is also deceased.

Beeby E. Richardson was reared in the city of his nativity and at the usual age began his education in the public schools, continuing his studies to the age of thirteen years, when he began providing for his own support by working as a farm hand. He was thus employed for five years and at the expiration of that period entered the shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, where he learned the trade of a wood machinist. For seven years he was thus employed and later spent several years in the Pullman shop, at Pullman, Illinois. In 1894 he became a resident of Geneva, where for three terms he served as chief deputy sheriff. His long experience in that office well qualified him for the duties of sheriff, to which position he was elected in

1906. He discharges his duties without fear or favor and is an excellent custodian of the public interests in maintaining law and order.

On the 26th of December, 1889, Mr. Richardson was married to Miss Agnes Burke, a daughter of William and Elizabeth Burke and a member of the Catholic church. Mr. Richardson belongs to Rock City Lodge, No. 718, I. O. O. F., Mystic Trial Lodge, No. 419, K. P., Rock Springs Camp, No. 662, M. W. A., and is likewise connected with the Elks of Aurora and the Eagles of Elgin. In these different organizations he has many friends and is found as a worthy exemplar of the beneficent spirit upon which they are founded. Since attaining his majority his political allegiance has been unflinching given to the republican party and he is recognized as one of the leaders in its local ranks.

ELIAS J. VAILL, M.D.

Since 1900 Elias J. Vaill, physician and surgeon, has practiced at Elgin, his native city. He was born August 25, 1868, a son of John and Frances (Shaw) Vaill, the former a native of New Brunswick and the latter of Scotland. Both came to the United States in early life. The father, a watchmaker by trade, was for a long period associated with the Elgin National Watch Company.

Reared in the city of his nativity, Dr. Vaill at the usual age became a public-school student, pursuing his studies to the age of sixteen years, when he started out in life on his own account as an employe in the watch factory. He sought the situation in order that he might earn money enough to enable him to pursue a course in a medical college and, carefully saving his wages, at the age of eighteen he entered the Bennett Medical College of Chicago, from which he was graduated in March, 1894. He then took the competitive examination for an internship in the Cook County Hospital and, winning second place, served for twenty-two months as house physician there. On the expiration of that period he located for practice in Chicago and was assistant professor of health surgical clinics for one year and also assistant professor of obstetrics for one year in the Bennett Medical College.

Dr. Vaill continued in practice in the metropolis until 1900, when he removed to Elgin. By reason of his previous training and experience he was not unknown here and gradually has worked his way into a large and lucrative practice, which indicates clearly that his ability is of superior order, while his devotion to the interests of his patients is proverbial. Not content to rest with the knowledge acquired in his collegiate course, he has constantly broadened his learning by investigation and through his association with the American Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society and the Fox River Valley Medical Society. He is also a member of the Physicians' Club of Elgin and of the alumni of the Cook County Society.

Dr. Vaill in his fraternal relations is connected with the Elks and the Knights of Pythias, while his political views are in harmony with the princi-

ples of the republican party. He has gained recognition as one of the able and successful physicians of the city and by his labors, his high professional attainments and his sterling characteristics has justified the respect and confidence in which he is held by the medical fraternity and the local public.

THOMAS BISHOP.

Among those who, once active factors in the business life of Kane county, have now passed away is numbered Thomas Bishop, who for a long period was a leading farmer and stock-raiser here. He was born in Devonshire, England, on the 16th of September, 1826, and in early childhood accompanied his parents on their emigration across the Atlantic to New Brunswick, being at that time eleven years of age. His parents were Nathaniel and Mary Ann Bishop, who had a family of four sons and five daughters, including Thomas Bishop. He arrived in Illinois in July, 1850, settling in Elgin township upon a farm, where he continued to make his home for a long period. He invested in two hundred and forty acres of land, which increased in value as the years passed by and he placed upon it modern improvements and transformed it into a rich and productive property. His life was one of untiring activity and enterprise and he worked diligently to acquire success and make a good living for his family.

In May, 1869, Mr. Bishop was united in marriage to Miss Emma J. Stringer, a daughter of John A. and Mary Ann Stringer. Her father was born in Yorkshire, England, July 20, 1808, and in 1819 accompanied his parents on their removal to Canada. The year 1845 witnessed his arrival in Illinois. He reached the state in September and located on a farm on section 30, Elgin township. Here he became the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land, which he brought under a high state of cultivation, converting it into arable fields that annually brought forth rich and abundant harvests. In politics he was a republican, but was somewhat liberal in his views. In October, 1835, he married Miss Mary Ann Sterriker, who was born in Yorkshire, England, June 7, 1818. In 1831 the father was engaged in the manufacture of wheelbarrows, which were used on the construction of the Mohawk & Hudson River Railroad, which was the first railroad built in this country. He spent his last days in the home of his daughter, Mrs. Bishop, passing away on the farm June 17, 1895. His widow survived for some years and died in California, March 18, 1902. Their children were: Judge T., now living in Hampshire, this state; Justice J., of Iowa; Melvin H., who is now deceased; Clarence R., who enlisted at Elgin for service in the Civil war and died in Libby Prison, thus laying down his life on the altar of his country; Mrs. Bishop; and Edith F., the wife of Percy Bishop, of California.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bishop were born four children: Clarence T., a traveling salesman living in Elgin; Flora P., the wife of M. Smythe, of Elgin; L. W., of Elgin; and Walter H., at home.

Aside from his farming interests Mr. Bishop became a director of the Home National Bank of Elgin. He continued in active connection with general agricultural pursuits up to the time of his death and developed a model property, which indicated in its neat and thrifty appearance his careful supervision. In his political views he was independent and was also liberal in his religious opinions. He belonged to the Universalist church and in all relations he was a tolerant man, never judging harshly the acts or the motives of others. He held the office of road commissioner for three terms and filled other local positions, the duties of which he discharged in a prompt and able manner. He died October 5, 1891, and his many good traits of heart and mind caused his demise to be deeply regretted not only by his immediate family but also by many friends. Since her husband's death Mrs. Bishop has removed to Elgin, where she has now lived for twelve years. She here purchased a dwelling, but she also retains the old homestead.

MRS. ANNIE WHITNEY SPENCER, M.D.

Dr. Annie Whitney Spencer is accorded a prominent place in the ranks of the medical fraternity in Kane county, by reason of the ability which she displays in her practice at Batavia. She is a native of Wayne, Dupage county, Illinois.

Her father, William M. Whitney, was born in Ontario, New York, and is now practically living retired, save that he owns and cares for a small apiary. He arrived in Dupage county, Illinois, in 1858, and was soon recognized as a prominent and influential citizen there. His fellow townsmen in 1860 elected him clerk of the circuit court of Dupage county and ex officio county recorder. The capability which he displayed in discharging his duties led to his reelection four years later and his incumbency, therefore, covered eight years. In 1868 he was admitted to the bar, but never practiced law. In 1870 he was elected to the general assembly from Dupage county and proved an able working member of the House of Representatives. In 1872 he was a member of the State Board of Equalization and in 1879 he became connected with the Eastern Illinois Asylum for the Insane, having charge of the accounts for that institution for eight years. All this time while in the public service he was also engaged in the real-estate business, for he began handling property in 1860. He made his home in Dupage county, but his real-estate operations were in Chicago and he is now living retired at Evanston, enjoying a well earned rest after many years of active and faithful public service and a business career that has at all times been honorable and straightforward. He married Sarah Lavilla Clark, who was born at Evans' Mills, Jefferson county, New York, in 1831 and died in 1880.

Dr. Spencer of this review acquired her primary education in the public schools of Dupage county and afterward attended the high school at Hinsdale. Determining to engage in the practice of medicine because of her deep interest in science and the work of the profession, she began study at the Hahnemann

Medical College in Chicago and was graduated from there in 1896, with the degree of M.D. In the meantime, however, she had been married and had lost her husband. On the 14th of September, 1882, she became the wife of Dr. E. Stillman B. Spencer, of New York, who engaged in the practice of his profession in West Winfield, New York, until his death, which occurred on the 3d of February, 1892. At that time Dr. Annie Spencer removed to Chicago, where she practiced medicine for a year.

Following her graduation in 1896, she located in Batavia, where she has since engaged in general practice, although she makes a specialty of diseases of women and children. She is accorded a liberal patronage and the profession in the public acknowledge her worth and merit. She belongs to the American Institute of Homeopathy and was elected second vice president on the 2d of June, 1903. She is also a member of the Illinois State Homeopathic Association, of the Women's Medical Club of Chicago and the Chicago Homeopathic Medical Society. At the meetings of these organizations she has read many papers which have attracted wide attention by their value, originality and capable handling of the subjects under discussion. She has served on various important committees of the associations and has been chairman of a number. From 1886 until 1900 she was assistant physician at the Bellevue Place Sanitarium at Batavia, but resigned on account of the growth of her private practice.

A lady of strong intellectuality, of broad humanitarianism and kindly spirit, these qualities have contributed to her splendid success in her chosen calling. She feels the keenest interest in her cases and neglects nothing that may contribute to winning a successful outcome in every instance. Her reading has been broad and extensive, for she carried her investigations far and wide into the realms of scientific knowledge, where she has gleaned many valuable truths.

FRANK WILBER JOSLYN.

Frank Wilber Joslyn was born April 27, 1860, and received his early education in the public schools of Elgin and graduated from the Elgin Academy in 1881. He at once entered his father's office and studied law, being admitted in 1883. In 1884 he was elected city attorney and again in 1886. In 1892 he was elected state's attorney of Kane county and again for a second term in 1896, being the only occupant of that office to hold for two consecutive terms.

Mr. Joslyn has been politically and professionally active during the past twenty years and has held many offices of trust. He is still one of the supervisors from Elgin and also holds the office of assistant attorney general of Illinois under Attorney General William H. Stead.

As a public speaker Mr. Joslyn early acquired a place of note and he has been continuously before the public in that capacity for twenty years. He possesses great power of eloquence and thought, whether before a public



Frank W. Joslyn

audience or a jury, and is recognized as one of the leading, if not the leading, criminal lawyer of Kane county. He is an opponent few care to meet in an important case. He married Carrie Colby Mead in 1886 and has one child, Paul Mead Joslyn, now thirteen years of age.

CAPTAIN JOSEPH HUDSON.

In a history of the soldiers who made creditable records on the southern battlefields in defense of the Union appears the name of Captain Joseph Hudson, who throughout the entire period of hostilities fought in defense of the old flag. He was well known as a respected and worthy resident of Elgin, where he lived for many years. He was born in England, September 23, 1837, and was a son of William Hudson, who on crossing the Atlantic to the United States established his home in this county. He located here at a very early day, settling on a farm near Dundee when the Indians were still numerous in the locality. Much of the land was still unclaimed and uncultivated and there was comparatively little evidence of civilization or little promise that work of development and improvement was being carried steadily forward and would transform this into one of the most populous and prosperous districts of the state. Mr. Hudson aided in the early improvement of the county and later his son, Joseph Hudson, bore his share in the work of general improvement.

At the time of the Civil war Captain Hudson responded to the country's call for aid and joined the Union army, with which he served until 1866. He went to the front as a member of Company K, Forty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He enlisted as a private but was promoted through successive grades in the line to the rank of captain and thus commanded his company, inspiring his men with much of his own valor and loyalty. He was wounded in the battle of Chickamauga, being shot through the leg, after which he was granted a furlough and returned home, but as soon as able he rejoined his command at the front. The date of his enlistment was July 30, 1861, and after serving successively as corporal, sergeant, second and first lieutenant, he was commissioned captain on the 8th of September, 1865. He was then honorably discharged on the 16th of December following, but he continued in the employ of the government until the following spring. He took part in many important engagements, including the battles of Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, siege of Atlanta, Jonesboro, Lovejoy Station, all in Georgia; Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville, Tennessee, and others. Before those named he was also at Farmington, at Columbia, Tennessee, Stone River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Rocky Face Ridge, Resaca, Adairsville, New Hope Church and Pine Mountain. He was likewise present at the battle of Island No. 10, New Madrid, the siege of Corinth and the battles of Hoover's Gap and Dandridge. He never faltered in the performance of his duty, even though it stationed him in the thickest of the fight or left him to act as guard on the lonely picket line.

In his political views Captain Hudson was a strong republican, giving unfaltering allegiance to the party which stood as the defense of the Union in the dark days of the Civil war. Immediately after the war he formed a partnership with Mr. Roberts and conducted a brewery in Elgin. Later, however, he turned his attention to mining and was engaged in prospecting at the time of his death, which occurred on the 22d of February, 1879, being occasioned by a snowslide in Colorado. Weeks passed, but his body was not found until the 1st of May and he was then laid to rest in a cemetery at Alpine, Colorado. His military and mining experiences brought into his life many incidents of thrilling interest and also many hardships such as are incident to life on the battlefield or in the mining camps of the west. He was a man of resolute purpose, however, and did not falter in the performance of any task to which he set himself. He possessed a genial manner that rendered him very popular and he is yet remembered by many who knew and esteemed him in this county.

At his death Captain Hudson left a widow and one child. He had married Angelina Margaret, the only child of Andrew and Christiana (Nelson) Anderson, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. Captain and Mrs. Hudson had two children, but one of them, Henry William, passed away prior to the father's death, dying on the 23d of March, 1867, at the age of five months. The other son, Alfred W., who married Anna Fletcher and has one child, Earl Joseph, is now serving on the police force of Elgin.

ARTHUR B. STURM, M.D.

In a history of the medical profession in Elgin mention should be made of Dr. Arthur B. Sturm, who as a physician and surgeon has gained public recognition in a large and growing practice. Born in Chicago, Illinois, on the 8th of July, 1874, he is a son of Adolph and Johanna (Schoth) Sturm, the former a native of Vienna, Austria, and the latter of Germany. Coming to Chicago in 1869, the father has since been engaged in the fancy wood and veneer business. He is also well known in public life, having been superintendent of the House of Correction of Chicago for three years under the Harrison administration, while for some time he was also assistant deputy commissioner of public works. He is a prominent member of all of the German clubs of the city and many charitable associations, to which he has been a most liberal and constant contributor. He was one of the commissioners of labor under Governor Altgeld and was one of the founders of the Turn-Gemeinde. He has a very wide acquaintance among the German-American citizens of Chicago and is influential in their ranks, being well qualified by his understanding of important public questions for the position of leadership which is accorded him.

Dr. Sturm is indebted to the public-school system of Chicago for his early educational privileges, while later he attended Northwestern University and was graduated on the completion of a course in pharmacy in 1893 and as a

pharmaceutical chemist in 1895. He then took up the study of medicine and completed a course in Rush Medical College by graduation in 1899. He entered upon his professional career equipped as few men are, by reason of the fact that he studied pharmacy and chemistry, as well as medicine and surgery.

Dr. Sturm served for one year as an interne of the German Hospital in Chicago and in the fall of 1900 came to Elgin, where he has since been located in practice of his profession. He served as city physician for two years under Mayor Hubbard and in private practice has met with very desirable success, the number of his patrons constantly increasing, for the public recognizes his worth and ability. He is most careful in the diagnosis of a case and thoroughly understands the power of remedial agencies and their effect upon the component parts of the human body.

On the 25th of April, 1898, occurred the marriage of Dr. Sturm and Miss Leola Thompson, of Oconto, Wisconsin, and they now have two sons and three daughters: Johan, George, Charlotte, Adele and John. The family are well known socially, the hospitality of many of the best homes being freely accorded them. Dr. Sturm is a member of the Skull and Serpent Society and two fraternities, the Phi Chi and the Phi Rho Sigma. In manner he is very genial in deportment, courteous and in spirit kindly and to these qualities are attributable his well known popularity.

WALTER LYMAN PEASE.

No compendium such as the province of this work defines in its essential limitations will serve to offer fit memorial to the life and accomplishments of Walter L. Pease, who was a man remarkable in the breadth of his wisdom, his native sagacity and his business enterprise. A native of Connecticut, he was born in Hartford, April 18, 1825, his parents being Walter and Olive (Denslow) Pease. He was a representative of one of the old New England families, mention of whom is made in the early records of the country. The father, Walter Pease, Sr., was born in Windsor, Connecticut, March 22, 1799, and was a son of Walter and Ruby (Bissell) Pease, who were married in Connecticut. The former was born about 1772.

The father of Mrs. Ruby Pease established the first ferry on the Connecticut river and it has been known to the present time as Bissell's Ferry. Walter Pease, Sr., was a nephew of Captain Levi Pease, a blacksmith by trade, who became prominent as a soldier of the American army in the Revolutionary war. He served throughout the period of hostilities under the command of General Thomas and was with the regiment when he died of small-pox. While on active duty he won the favorable attention of General Washington and became his confidential guide and trusted messenger in carrying secret instructions. He did this service on many an occasion when the attempt was fraught with the greatest danger but he never faltered in the performance of his duty and displayed fearlessness and remarkable bravery

as well as ingenuity in outwitting the enemy. The ability, keen discernment and sound judgment which he displayed made him a favorite not only of General Washington but of other officers of the army.

Levi Pease established the first stage line in New England under Postmaster General Franklin and secured the first contract for carrying the United States mail. He most successfully organized the work and for some years was the only large mail contractor in the United States. He instituted the fundamental principles upon which the present great mail service of the country is founded and he also established the first express company of the country.

It will thus be seen that Walter L. Pease is descended from an ancestry honorable and distinguished. Walter Pease, Sr., had a family of three sons and two daughters. Lester, a hatter by trade; Walter, Jr.; Eliza; George; and Ruby. The second named, Walter Pease, Jr., who was the father of our subject, became a hat manufacturer and in 1830 removed to Hartford, Connecticut, where he succeeded in building up an extensive trade in the hat, cap and fur business. In fact he was known as one of the most prominent manufacturers and representatives of commercial interests in that city. He was also active in political affairs and wielded a wide influence in molding public policy. He was elected to serve as a member of the city council and in other positions of trust and responsibility, thereby leaving the impress of his individuality upon the general welfare. He also figured in financial circles as a bank director.

Attracted by the opportunities of the middle west, Walter Pease, Jr., removed his family to Watertown, Wisconsin, where he purchased a tract of land, a part of which lay within the corporation limits of the city. His native force of character, his ability and his progressive spirit soon led to his selection for important duties in the public service there. He was recognized as a leading and influential citizen of Watertown and was elected to various municipal offices and was called to other positions of public trust. He served for some time on the board of supervisors.

Walter Pease, Jr., was married three times and had four sons and two daughters. His first wife was Olive Denslow, the mother of Walter L. Pease. His daughter Ruby became the wife of Professor Jabez Brook, professor of languages in the State University of Minnesota. His son, Joseph G. Pease, married Eliza Turner, of Watertown, Wisconsin, and is now a resident of Denver, Colorado. Another daughter, Olive A., became the wife of George L. Chapin, of Jefferson, Wisconsin. Oliver Pease lived to become a soldier of the Civil war, going to the front as a captain in the Sixteenth Wisconsin Regiment. In the battle of Shiloh he was severely wounded and died a short time afterward. The other children of the family passed away in infancy.

Walter Lyman Pease spent his boyhood in his native city and pursued his education in the public schools, in Clark's Academy and in the Ellington Academy near Hartford, being well trained in literary and scientific branches. From early manhood he displayed an aptitude in business affairs, readily solving intricate business problems, while he also displayed the ability that

enabled him to recognize and utilize opportunities that others passed by heedlessly. In 1848, having accumulated a small capital, he organized the firm of Pease, Bourne & Company, his brother Joseph being one of the partners. They established a small store in Watertown, Wisconsin, and Walter L. Pease continued active in its management until 1852, when he sold his interest to his partner, Mr. Bourne, and removed to Illinois. He first settled in Belvidere, where he joined B. F. Lawrence and Ezra May in a distillery business. He had entered the heart of the corn belt in Illinois and his keen insight into conditions and possibilities showed him that it was necessary to place corn on the market other than in its natural state if it should be a profitable source of revenue. At that time it was selling in the east for a dollar per bushel, while in the west it was worth only the price of common fuel. The fact presented itself to his mind that the question of transportation was the most important one involved and he saw that a practical way of solving the problem was to manufacture the corn, reduce the bulk and increase the value. Thus he became interested in the distillery business. Later, however, the railroads were built, affording transportation whereby the corn product could be sent to the markets.

After successfully conducting his interests at Belvidere for some time Mr. Pease closed out his business there and came to Elgin. Here he became a member of the private banking firm of Lawrence, Pease & Town, which was the predecessor of the First National Bank of Elgin, being converted into the latter institution in 1864. Mr. Pease not only figured prominently in financial circles but was a cooperant factor in many movements that have resulted in the material development and substantial upbuilding of the city. He and his partner, Mr. Lawrence, were the largest Elgin subscribers to and the chief promoters of the Elgin watch factory. When efforts were being made to organize this industry Mr. Pease offered to donate thirty-five acres of land in addition to his subscription. Afterward, in association with Mr. Lawrence, Henry Sherman and Judge Wilcox, he purchased one hundred and eighty acres of land and gave thirty-five acres of it to the watch factory. When the plant was built and the concern was yet in a doubtful position as to whether it would thrive or meet failure many of those who had subscribed for stock became fearful and sold out, but Mr. Pease remained a steadfast friend of the enterprise and his belief in its ultimate successful outcome led others to follow his example and continue as supporters of the new undertaking. The years justified his wisdom, for the watch factory has been one of the most important sources of revenue to the city. He was also one of the organizers and chief promoters of the Illinois Iron & Bolt Company of Carpentersville, which had but a small beginning yet is today one of the chief productive industries of this part of the state. This result was achieved greatly through the executive management and support of Mr. Pease. In positions of administrative control he has shown the keenest insight into possibilities, looking always beyond the exigencies of the moment to the opportunities of the future. He also seemed to know intuitively how to combine forces and to shape seemingly adverse conditions into a unified and harmonious whole. In 1894 he was elected president of the company and con-

tinued in that position until shortly prior to his death. He always displayed unflinching energy and had that strong purpose that enabled him to carry forward to successful completion whatever he undertook. His clearly defined plans inspired confidence in others and thereby gained cooperation.

On the 6th of November, 1848, Mr. Pease was united in marriage to Miss Sarah W. Fowler, a native of Hartford, Connecticut, born November 2, 1827. They long traveled life's journey together, their mutual love and confidence increasing as the years passed by. They became the parents of three children: Sarah K., the wife of Daniel Innes, of Pasadena, California; Charles F., who died in July, 1903, leaving a widow and one daughter, now living in Elgin; and Hattie, who is the wife of Walter P. Hemmens, living with her mother in Elgin. Mrs. Pease has crossed the Rocky Mountains forty times, spending the winters in Old Mexico and in California, and has several times made trips abroad. All of the original stockholders and organizers of the Elgin National Watch Factory have now passed away and Mrs. Pease is the only widow of those who were connected with the enterprise at the outset. She is a most remarkably well preserved woman and yet travels extensively, although now eighty years of age.

In politics Mr. Pease was always a stalwart democrat, was prominent in the ranks of the party and in his candidacy for office frequently received the support at the polls of those who held opposite political views. This was indicative of his personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him by his fellowmen. He was elected to the position of alderman and twice served as mayor of the city. His interest in public affairs was prompted by the utmost devotion to the general good and his labors in behalf of the city were at all times of a most practical, beneficial nature. His life was an upright, honorable one, in harmony with the teachings of the Masonic fraternity, in which he attained the Knight Templar degree. His wife and daughters are members of the Episcopal church. For a number of years prior to his death Mr. Pease spent the winter months in California and passed away in Los Angeles, June 28, 1890, his remains being interred there. No history of Elgin, however, would be complete without the record of his life, for his history is closely interwoven with the annals of the city in its material development, political progress and social advancement. His salient characteristics were such as contribute to a sterling manhood and he enjoyed in full measure the respect and honor of his fellowmen.

ANDREW ANDERSON.

Among the men who have come to Kane county from the land of the midnight sun and whose life record is a credit to the country of their nativity and of their adoption, was numbered Andrew Anderson, who became well known in Elgin. He was born in Christiana, Norway, August 30, 1824, and for a considerable period followed farming in Illinois. He accompanied his parents to Canada in his youth and in 1854 became a resident of Elgin.

Although a miller by trade, he here turned his attention to farming and carried on general agricultural pursuits at Udina for twenty-one years. He had a farm of eighty-unree acres, which he brought under a high state of cultivation, converting the land into rich and productive fields, from which he annually gathered good harvests. At length he put aside the active work of the farm and retired to Udina, where his last days were passed. He was one of the pioneers of this locality. Elgin was but a small town at the time of his arrival and several of the enterprising villages of the present had not yet sprung into existence. As the years passed his business activity contributed to the substantial growth of the community. Aside from his farming interests he was well known as an engineer, becoming the first engineer for the Borden's Condensed Milk Company and acting in that capacity for sixteen years.

In 1845 Mr. Anderson was united in marriage to Miss Christiana Nelson, who was born in Norway, April 25, 1822, and still survives at the advanced age of eighty-six years. They had one child, Angelina Margaret, the wife of Captain Joseph Hudson, deceased, who is mentioned on another page of this volume, and they had two children: Henry William, who died March 23, 1867, at the age of five months; and Alfred W., who is serving on the police force of Elgin. He married Anna Fletcher and has one child, Earl Joseph.

Mr. Anderson never had occasion to regret his determination to come to the United States, for he found here the business opportunities which he sought and which led him to success. He lived a busy, active and useful life and reached the age of eighty-one years, passing away on the 10th of September, 1905.

ALBIN NELSON.

Albin Nelson, a farmer and stockman, successfully engaged in the operation of a fine farm of two hundred and twenty acres in Elgin township, was born in Sweden. On his emigration to the new world in 1885 he located in Kane county, Illinois, and first worked as a farm hand, subsequently renting a tract of land for ten years. In 1907 he became manager and superintendent of Mr. Yarwood's farm of two hundred and twenty acres in Elgin township, in which capacity he still continues. Under his capable direction the work of the place has been carried forward along progressive and profitable lines and the neat and thrifty appearance of the farm is indicative of his enterprise and practical methods in its supervision. Since Albin Nelson's arrival in this country the other members of the family, with the exception of his mother and one sister, who died in Sweden, have also come to America.

In 1891 Mr. Nelson was united in marriage to Miss Matilda Johnson, likewise a native of Sweden, who came to the United States in company with a number of other immigrants, making their way from Boston directly to Kane county in 1890. With the exception of her father and one brother,

who still reside in Sweden, the other members of her family have also made their home in this country. Of the nine children that have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Nelson seven still survive, namely: Mabel, Carl, Edward, Arthur, Walter, Elmer and Mildred.

In his political views Mr. Nelson is a staunch republican, and both he and his wife are faithful members of the Lutheran church. 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 the community.

REV. FRANCIS LAWRENCE REYNOLDS.

Rev. Francis Lawrence Reynolds, pastor of the Holy Angels parish in Aurora, was born in County Leitrim, Ireland, March 27, 1864. His parents were Michael and Delia (Donnelly) Reynolds, in whose home he spent his boyhood days, acquiring his preliminary education in the public schools. He afterward obtained his academic and classical education in England, and, coming to America, in 1880, when a young man of sixteen years, he entered upon a course of study at St. Mary's University in Baltimore, preparatory to joining the priesthood. There he pursued courses in theology and philosophy and on the 22d of December, 1888, he was ordained to the priesthood in Holy Name cathedral of Chicago by the late Archbishop Feehan.

Father Reynolds then took up the active work of the church, in which he has been most zealous and earnest. His first charge was at Galena, Illinois, where he remained for one year, after which he was assistant at Ste. Ann's in Chicago for thirteen years. In 1901 he came to Aurora to take charge of the Holy Angels parish and has here continued to the present time. The church was established in 1892 with Father W. J. McNamee as the first pastor, and he was succeeded by Father Dennis P. O'Brien. The parish has been very flourishing under Father Reynolds' ministry and he has accomplished much good work for the church and the parishioners. He now has plans under way for the erection of a new house of worship, which will be a handsome structure and a credit to the city and its Catholic population. Father Reynolds is a scholarly and courteous gentleman who endeavors to make religion of practical help in the lives of his people, and he enjoys the respect of all denominations and the sincere regard and friendship of his parishioners. He was called upon to preach the funeral oration of Colonel John F. Finerty in Holy Angels church, and as a popular lecturer he has become widely known, having spoken in the famous Faneuil Hall of Boston, the Academy of Music in Philadelphia, and Central Music Hall and Steinway Hall in Chicago. Being an orator of splendid ability, he is constantly being invited to speak at conventions both in and out of the church. On the 15th



J. L. Reynolds

of August, 1903, he was chairman of the meeting held at Sunnyside Park, Chicago, and introduced William Jennings Bryan and other speakers. He is also the author of many literary works and wrote the preface of that great production: "The Crown of Thorns and Roses."

S. NEWELL NEEDHAM.

S. Newell Needham is well remembered by many of those who were his associates while he was yet an active factor in the affairs of life connected with the agricultural interests of this part of the state. He was born in Addison county, Vermont, September 15, 1829, and his parents, Arnold and Lucinda (Hutchinson) Needham, were also natives of the Green Mountain state. The father followed the occupation of farming in order to provide for his family and died in Addison county, Vermont, when about seventy years of age, his birth having occurred in 1797. He was twice married, his first wife being the mother of our subject. Their family numbered four sons and four daughters, of whom four are now living: Mary, the wife of Nelson Hubbard; William; Jane, the wife of Charles Seymour; and Lucinda, the wife of Cornelius Rockwell.

S. Newell Needham lived in Vermont during the days of his boyhood and youth, working on the home farm and thus early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. Believing that the broad prairies of Illinois would furnish better opportunities to one who wished to engage in farming, he came to this state in 1853 and settled in Kendall county, where he purchased land and carried on general farming in Fox township. He there became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres which he brought under a high state of cultivation, transforming the tract into rich fields that annually returned to him golden harvests.

On the 29th of March, 1855, Mr. Needham was married to Miss Mary Lewis, a daughter of Michael and Eunice (Gould) Lewis, who were natives of the Empire state, while the birth of Mrs. Needham occurred in Jefferson county, New York, September 8, 1829. The family came to Illinois in 1853, settling in Kendall township, Kendall county, where Mr. Lewis purchased more than two hundred acres of land, which he developed and improved. He and his wife lived in Kendall county for many years and then removed to Ford county, where they resided for a few years, after which they returned to Kendall county, where they continued to make their home until their death. Mr. Lewis died in 1886 at the age of eighty-six years, while his wife passed away in 1894 at the extreme old age of ninety-two years. They had ten children, of whom four are living: Sylvia, the widow of Jacob Folts, who makes her home in Denver; Mrs. Needham; Anna, the widow of George Sherman, of Salina, Kansas; and Nelson T. Lewis, of Grant City, Missouri. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Needham was Caleb Lewis, a native of New York and of Welsh descent. He wedded Mary Overocre, was a farmer by occupation and lived to old age in New York. The maternal grandfather was James

Gould, who was also born in the Empire state and followed farming as a life work. He wedded Mary Overocre, who later became the wife of Caleb Lewis.

Two children graced the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. S. Newell Needham: Della E., who is living with her mother in Aurora; and George L., who is a hardware merchant of Yorkville. He wedded Mary A. Mason and they have three children: Roy M., Jennie D. and Earl M.

The death of Mr. Needham occurred in November, 1883, when he was fifty-four years of age. Two years later, in 1885, Mrs. Needham and her daughter removed to Aurora, where they have since made their home. Both Mr. and Mrs. Needham were members of the Methodist church and were people of the highest respectability. His life was at all times characterized by his religious faith, by earnest effort to be just in his relations to his fellow-men and to aid a fellow-traveler on life's journey whenever it was possible for him to do so. While he prospered in his business undertakings, he never employed a single underhanded method, nor was he ever known to take advantage of the necessities of another in a business transaction. He owed his prosperity to his untiring diligence and his judicious investment. At the time of his death he was the owner of several farms, embracing more than a thousand acres of land lying in Kendall, Ford and Livingston counties of Illinois and in the states of Iowa and Nebraska. Beside this large property he also left to his family the priceless heritage of an untarnished name and a memory that is enshrined in the hearts of all who knew him.

JOHN R. TOBIN, M.D.

There is no profession in which the demands are of a more exacting nature than those which are made upon the physician and surgeon. It is expected that his power is little less than the marvelous, that he should never succumb to fatigue but should always be ready with a cordial greeting and a cheering word, listening attentively and sympathetically to the woes of those to whom he ministers. In many respects Dr. John R. Tobin possesses the qualities of what the public regards as the ideal physician and, although yet a young man, is making for himself a creditable place as a member of the medical fraternity at Elgin. He is moreover entitled to representation in this volume as one of Kane county's native sons, his birth having occurred in Gilbert, January 26, 1877. His parents were William and Margaret (Egan) Tobin, both of whom were natives of Kane county. The grandfather, John Tobin, came to this county in 1838 and cast in his lot with the pioneers who laid the foundation for the present progress and prosperity of the county. His occupation was that of the farm and his son William followed in his business footsteps.

Dr. Tobin, however, has sought activity in other fields. In his boyhood he attended the district schools and afterward the public schools at Elgin and the Elgin Academy. When not occupied with his text-books he aided in the work of the farm until twenty years of age, when thinking to find other pur-

suits more congenial, he took up the study of medicine, which he pursued in Rush Medical College until his graduation with the class of 1901. He afterward had the benefit of a broad experience as interne and house physician in St. Joseph's Hospital of Chicago, where he continued for two years. He then came to Elgin, where he has since been engaged in practice and is now a partner of Dr. James A. Rutledge. He is also assistant head physician for the Illinois Modern Woodmen of America, is examiner for the New York Life and the Prudential Life insurance companies, assistant surgeon for the Aurora, Elgin & Chicago Railroad Company and surgeon for the Elgin & Belvidere Railroad Company. He is thus rapidly winning recognition for his professional qualities and skill and has met with most creditable success for one of his years.

On the 22d of June, 1902, Dr. Tobin was married to Miss Theresa Zimmerman, of Elgin, and they have two children, Paul and James. The Doctor holds membership relations with the Elks, the Knights of Columbus, the Modern Woodmen and other fraternal organizations, while in more specifically professional lines he is connected with the Illinois State Medical Society, the Fox River Valley Medical Society and the American Medical Association.

PROFESSOR ROBERT I. WHITE.

Professor Robert I. White, superintendent of the schools of Elgin, has made consecutive progress in a profession wherein he is now accorded prominence as a most able representative of the interests of public education in the middle west. He was born in Lowell, Michigan, in 1874, and his interests and environments in boyhood and youth were those of the farm. He attended the district rural school and afterward the village high school and, taking up the profession of teaching as a life work, was for three years thus connected with the rural schools, beginning in this way when seventeen years of age. It was subsequent to this time that he spent two years as a student in Albion College and, then resuming his professional labors, he was for four years superintendent of the schools of Grandville, Michigan. He was also county school examiner for Kent county, Michigan, and, returning to Albion College, he completed his course, winning the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Entering the University of Michigan in the graduate school, he eventually won the degree of Master of Arts. While a student at Albion College he became a member of the Sigma Nu fraternity. His special field of work in college and university was constitutional law and modern history. His study, research and investigation, however, have covered a wide range, making him a man of broad and scholarly attainments.

Continuing in the field of educational labor, Professor White served as superintendent of the schools at Caro, Michigan, and later was called to the superintendency of public instruction in Coldwater, Michigan. From that place he came to Elgin in 1907 and has since been identified with the schools of this city. He is working toward high ideals in his profession and is con-

stantly seeking new plans and methods whereby he may advance the interests of the schools and promote their efficiency as a preparation for life's practical and responsible duties. Professor White has served both as conductor and instructor in teachers' institutes and is constantly striving to inspire fellow teachers and pupils with his own zeal for and intense interest in his work.

Professor White was united in marriage to Miss Fannie Goodenow, whose acquaintance he formed while she was a student of music in Albion College while he was there pursuing his classical course. They have one daughter, Alice Irene, now nine years of age. Professor White is a Mason and Methodist—associations which indicate much of his nature and the character of his interests. He is rapidly becoming widely known in professional circles, nor is he without more than local fame as a public speaker.

HUGO CARL KRENGEL.

Hugo Carl Kregel is numbered among those whom death has called from Kane county but who in his life was a respected and capable representative of industrial interests, being an expert machinist and foreman for the Elgin National Watch Company. A native of Germany, he was born near Cologne on the river Rhine, on the 29th of March, 1857, and died on the 10th of February, 1905. He was brought to the United States at the age of seven years by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Frederick Kregel. The father was a soldier of the Civil war, espousing the cause of his country when the Union was threatened. He enlisted from New York soon after the outbreak of hostilities between the north and the south and continued all through the war until victory perched upon the Union banners. His wife bore the maiden name of Julia Ollager.

Soon after the close of the war the parents removed with their family to Bridgeport, Connecticut, and Hugo Carl Kregel, then a young lad, pursued his education in the public schools of that state. In 1872, when a youth of fifteen, he accompanied his parents to New Haven. He entered upon his business career at Bridgeport, Connecticut, being first employed by the Wheeler & Wilson Company at that place. He afterward entered the service of the Martin Arms Company at New Haven, where he learned the machinist's trade. In 1879 he went to Cleveland, Ohio, where he was employed by the Brush Electric Company, but thinking that the west furnished better business opportunities, he made his way to Illinois, arriving in Elgin in August, 1881. Here he became connected with the Elgin National Watch Company and that he was retained in their service from that time until his death is an indication of the trust reposed in him and of his fidelity to duty, which was numbered among his salient characteristics. In 1885 he was transferred to the escapement department and was assistant foreman in 1890. In May of the following year he was made foreman and so continued until his death, or for a period of about fourteen years. From the time he started out in the business world he had made constant progress in that efficiency which in time gained

him recognition as an expert machinist. He was with the company altogether for twenty-two years and served them so faithfully and well that uniform regret was felt on the part of employers and those who served under him when he was no longer able to fill his place in the factory.

On the 2d of October, 1889, Mr. Krengel was united in marriage to Miss Mary Elizabeth Hubner, a daughter of Henry and Margaret (Hoereth) Hubner, of Elgin. They became the parents of a son and daughter: Irving Hubner, who is now a senior in the high school at Elgin; and Marion Marguerite, who is a member of the freshman class in the high school.

Mr. Krengel gave his political allegiance to the republican party. He was a member of the Century Club, a social organization of Elgin, but he preferred home associations to club life. He attended the Congregational church and stood high among his associates, enjoying to the fullest extent the good will and trust of those whom he met day after day and who knew his life to be most upright and honorable in its varied relations.

GEORGE S. CHISHOLM.

George S. Chisholm, formerly identified with Elgin mercantile interests, is now numbered among the capitalists and is deriving his income largely from mining property, having extensive and profitable investments in Utah and the west. He was born in Menominee, Wisconsin, February 13, 1845, a son of Robert Bruce and Sarah (Vanvalkenburgh) Chisholm. The father's birth occurred near Kettle Creek, New York, in 1812, and he died at Oakland, California, when seventy-five years of age. His remains, however, were brought back to Elgin for interment. His wife passed away at the age of fifty-two years.

The life record of Robert Bruce was eventful in many ways. When a boy he went with his parents to St. Thomas, Ontario, where he was reared, and in London, Ontario, he was married, his wife being a native of that place. They afterward removed to Wisconsin, where he was identified with lead mining interests, and later went to Minnesota. There he purchased seven hundred acres of farm land, which he eventually sold prior to his removal to Elgin. It was about 1855 that he went with his family to Winona, Minnesota, and in 1866 he came to this city, settling on a farm about a mile south of Elgin, where now stands the state insane asylum. Later he went to Missouri with Captain Day and worked in the lead and zinc mines, and subsequently went to Salt Lake City and were the discoverers of the Emma mine. The first ore taken from that mine was shipped to England, being sent as ballast. After the mine was well developed they became involved in a law suit over it with a man that had staked and abandoned it. Edward Joslyn, a lawyer of Elgin, then went to Salt Lake City to act as defense in the case and Mr. Chisholm of this review speaks of his address as the greatest piece of oratory he ever heard. The mine was named in honor of a sister of our subject. It produced gold and silver, although the latter predominated. It

has proved one of the best mines in the Little Cottonwood district, about twenty-seven miles southeast of Salt Lake City in the midst of the mountains. Mr. Chisholm worked the mine with the proceeds which he had received from the farm. At length the property was sold to Park & Baxter, of New York city. The original owners were Mr. Chisholm, Captain J. M. Day, J. F. Woodman and Captain J. Smith, and when the mine was sold Mr. Chisholm received about five hundred thousand dollars. The firm of Park & Baxter afterward disposed of the mine to English capitalists for eleven million dollars. It was then left to lie idle a time but it is now being worked and is proving more profitable than before.

In the family of Robert Bruce and Sarah Chisholm there were five children: William Wallace, a miner now of Salt Lake City; Oliver Perry, who is connected with mining interests at Bozeman, Montana; George S., of this review; Robert B., of Los Angeles, California, with whom his brother George is interested in the ownership of twelve mining claims; and Emma, the widow of George H. Bennett, of Geneva, Illinois.

George S. Chisholm was about ten years of age when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Winona, Minnesota, and was a young man of twenty-one when he arrived in Elgin, the family locating upon a farm about a mile south of the city. He continued upon this place with his parents until the farm was sold to the state for seventy-five dollars per acre. With the proceeds of the farm the father, as previously stated, went to Salt Lake City and invested in what was called the Emma mine. While the father was identified with its development George S. Chisholm made various trips back and forth between the two places but maintained his residence in Elgin. At Lisle, Illinois, and a daughter of James and Charlotte Hatch. She has an one time he was proprietor of a grocery store in the Home Bank building, conducting it for six or seven years. He is now interested in mines in Utah and, while practically living retired from active business, still gives his supervision to his investments. His affairs have been capably managed and in his investments he has met with a goodly measure of prosperity. He holds valuable mining stock and derives therefrom a gratifying annual income.

In 1875 Mr. Chisholm was married to Miss Angie K. Hatch, a native of uncle, Rev. Reuben A. Hatch, who is a professor at Oberlin (Ohio) College and who at the age of ninety-five years is preparing a history of the Hatch family. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Chisholm have been born five children: Marie Louise, the wife of Leonard Hawkins, a hardware merchant of Elgin; Archibald S., of this city; Harold James, at home; William Wallace; and George Stewart.

Mr. Chisholm manifests only a citizen's interests in politics, having never been an office seeker. He voted for Lincoln, Grant and Garfield and in more recent elections has supported Bryan. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias and the Masons and has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite in the Chicago Consistory and is also a member of Medina Temple of the Mystic Shrine. With his family he occupies a nice home at No. 306 North Spring street, where he has resided for a quarter of a century. Forty-two years have passed since he became a resident of Elgin and through-

out this period the circle of his acquaintance has steadily widened and the circle of his friends has correspondingly increased, for his many sterling traits of character have gained him the confidence and good will of those with whom he has been associated.

HARRY E. STEPHENS.

New conditions of life are continually producing new fields of labor and the capable man is he who sees and utilizes his opportunity. In recent years the public amusement park has become a feature of every city of any size and Mr. Stephens is meeting a demand for public entertainment in the manufacture of miniature railway trains under the name of the International Miniature Railway Company at Elgin. He began this business on a small scale but under his capable control it has rapidly grown to large proportions and he is now sole proprietor.

He was born in Ithaca, New York, November 4, 1863, his parents being Henry W. and Julia A. (Carey) Stephens. His father was division superintendent of the Lackawanna Railroad for a number of years and also capably filled the positions of city treasurer and collector at Ithaca for a number of terms. He became there a man of considerable local prominence and after long association with railroad interests is now living retired.

From early boyhood the talk of the railroad in its complex interests was more or less familiar to Harry E. Stephens and yet in his early manhood he had no idea that such interests should eventually lead him to a successful business career. He was reared and educated in Ithaca and there learned the machinist's trade with Reynolds & Lang. On leaving the employ of that February, 1887, came to Elgin, Illinois, where he worked in the machine firm he removed westward to Peru, Indiana, to work at his trade, and in department of the Elgin National Watch Company for nine years. His long service was indicative of his capability and faithfulness and when he left that company he was employed in all the eastern factories engaged in the manufacture of watches. At length, however, he returned to Elgin and was again for two years with the Elgin Watch Company. It was during this period that he built his first miniature locomotive, which he constructed in his dining room at home after the work of the day was over. This engine he put in the White City Amusement Park of Chicago, November 22, 1904, and it proved so successful that in the fall of the same year he formed a partnership with Ashley J. Abel, established a shop and began the manufacture of miniature engines. The business, however, was established on a small scale and continued under the firm style of Abel & Stephens until January 1, 1908, when Mr. Stephens purchased his partner's interest and has since conducted the business alone. To the present time he has built twenty-one of these engines, which have been sold throughout the country to different amusement parks. They are the most perfect that can be built in every particular, constructed of the very best material and workmanship and are of six horse

power. The company also manufactures the cars, which will hold four people, and each engine can haul six cars. Mr. Stephens now has a large factory, employing a number of mechanics and other workmen, and has a number of concessions himself. There is but one other concern in the United States that builds these engines—Cagney Brothers of New York city—but their engines are rapidly being replaced by those of Mr. Stephens' manufacture, which have proven much better and more satisfactory.

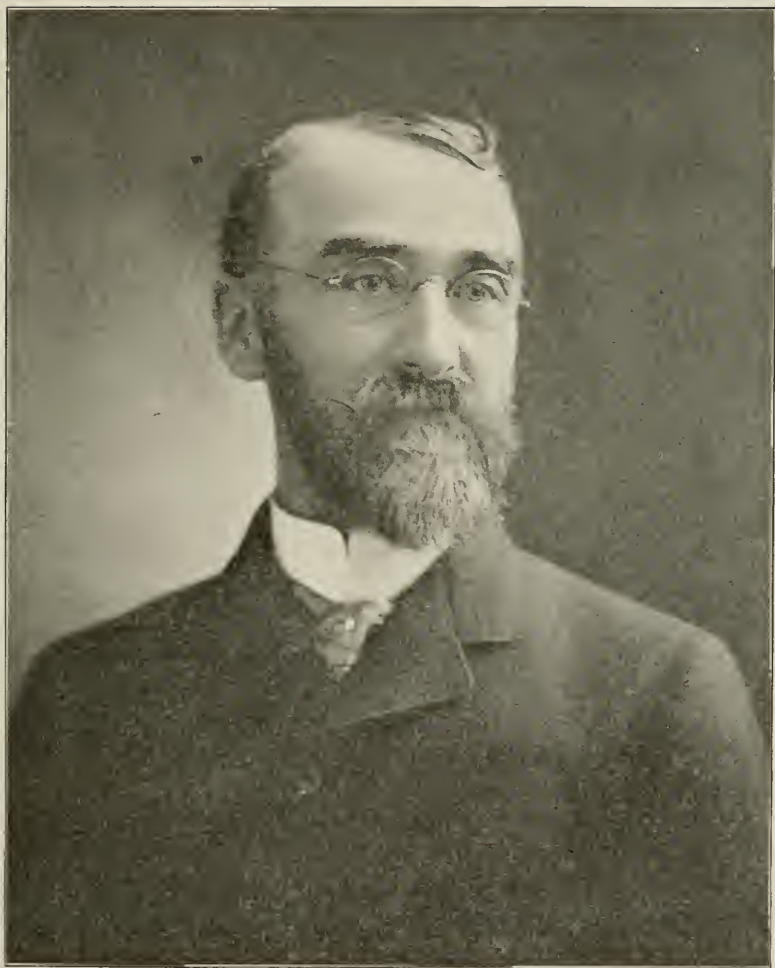
On Christmas day of 1903 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Stephens and Miss Ella Schoonhoven, of Elgin. They are both well known in this city and have an extensive circle of friends. Mr. Stephens' fellow townsmen rejoice in his success, knowing that it has been worthily won and is well merited. He started in business on borrowed capital but today has over sixteen thousand dollars invested in his business and his patronage is steadily increasing and he will no doubt in time control the trade in his line in the country.

EDWARD S. ENO.

No history of Elgin would be complete without extensive mention of Edward S. Eno. He has been the prime mover in the development and up-building of the great Borden milk industry, not only of this city, but of the state as well. Nor is he known alone for his activity and success in this undertaking. He is also a prominent factor in affairs of public moment which have had direct bearing upon the welfare of the city.

He was born in Honesdale, Wayne county, Pennsylvania, May 26, 1848, and there resided until he had attained his majority, spending his boyhood days in the home of his parents, Daniel Mills and Eunice (Sage) Eno, who were natives of Connecticut, and were reared and married there. They afterward removed to Pennsylvania and spent their remaining days upon the home farm in Wayne county. The father reached the age of nearly four score years, while the mother attained the very venerable old age of ninety years. They were the parents of ten children, four sons and six daughters, of whom two died in infancy, while eight are now living.

During the period of his boyhood and youth Edward S. Eno engaged in farming and also attended school, supplementing his district-school course by study through two winters in a normal school. He entered upon his business career as a clerk in a hardware store in Honesdale, where he remained for fifteen months and later removed to Brewster, New York, where he entered the employ of the Borden Condensed Milk Company, on the 20th of November, 1870. That was his initial step in a business career, which has led him into a position of large responsibility in the conduct of an enterprise that is proving not only a source of individual success but also of benefit to the community. He continued at Brewster until July 4, 1871, beginning at that place as a general laborer. On the date mentioned he came to Elgin and here took up the work of operator or condenser, which he learned under the



EDWARD S. ENO

personal instruction of the late Gail Borden, the originator and founder of the business. He acted in that capacity until 1882, when he became superintendent of the Elgin factory, which at that time was the only Borden factory in the west. He has been in charge continuously since, covering a period of twenty-six years, and the growth and extension of the business is indicated by the fact that when he arrived the factory handled about sixteen thousand pounds of milk per day, while at a subsequent period it has handled as high as one hundred and fifty thousand pounds, an increase of almost tenfold. All of the buildings which now constitute the plant were remodeled and built under his personal supervision. No man in Illinois has had more to do with the development of the milk industry than has Edward S. Eno. He has had much to do with aiding the farmers concerning sanitary conditions in connection with the care of milk and his record is one which indeed reflects credit upon him. In 1892 he put up the first bottle of milk with his own hands for the Chicago market. The first shipment was four cases of twenty-four bottles each. At the present time the business has grown to such proportions that twenty carloads are shipped daily. Mr. Eno has had much to do with the general supervision of the building and planning of most of the Gail Borden plants in the west, sixteen in number, and, in fact, has been the promoter of the business throughout this section of the country to a large extent. The enterprise in Elgin is one of its most important industrial and productive concerns and the success of the business is attributable in very large measure to the sound business judgment, thorough understanding and unfaltering diligence of the present manager.

In 1873 Mr. Eno was married to Miss Helen Conyne, who was born in Wayne county, Pennsylvania, a daughter of Alexander and Laura Conyne. Their children were Charles Herbert, Laura and Alfred, but the first named died in infancy. Having lost his first wife, Mr. Eno was again married, his second union being with Nellie W. Joslyn, a native of Rockton, Winnebago county, Illinois, and a daughter of A. C. Joslyn.

In politics Mr. Eno has been a life-long republican. He has been prominent in public interests and community affairs in many ways and his aid and influence are regarded as a valuable asset in matters relating to the public good. He became captain of the Gail Borden Hose Company, a volunteer fire company, and served for eight years, holding the rank of assistant fire marshal when he finally severed his connection with the company. He became a member of this organization three years after his arrival in Elgin. He also filled the office of alderman for one term of two years and during the second year was chairman of the finance committee, a member of the police commission and chairman of the special committee appointed by Mayor Willis, in which connection he did preliminary work for the present city water works. There has been a still more notable feature of his public service in that he was one of those to recommend the appointment of a water commission, which is now in existence. Later he became one of the members of the commission and served for eight years. He has every reason to be proud of what he did as a member of the water commission in its development to its present system of perfection and in this connection he has labored earnestly and effectively

in keeping it out of the franchise system. Mr. Eno has also been a member of the board of education, serving for one term, and for three or four years he has been a member of the police commission. He then resigned and was appointed by Governor Yates the resident trustee of the State Insane Asylum, in which capacity he served for about three years. He is, moreover, a business man of marked energy and determination and the extensive industry which he now controls at Elgin and which ranks second to none in the United States is as a monument to his ability, energy and foresight.

EARL COOLEY NEWTON.

The life of Earl Cooley Newton, now deceased, was one of distinct value to his fellowmen in that, through the exercise of his powers and talents, he gave to the world certain manufactures of his own inventions which have been of distinct use to those who have employed them. Mr. Newton was born October 24, 1838, in Wyoming county, New York. His parents were Levi and Rachel (Cooley) Newton and while spending his boyhood days in their home he pursued his education in the public schools of the Empire state.

In early life he learned the wagon manufacturing business and in 1854, when a youth of sixteen years, he came west with his parents and settled in Batavia. He was a partner in the Newton Wagon Company with his brother, becoming vice president of the company and so continuing up to the time of his death. A man of resourceful business ability, he did not limit his efforts to one line but extended them in other directions and became recognized as a man of force of character and strong purpose, whose labors were directly beneficial in the business development and upbuilding of his community. He was a director in the First National Bank of Batavia and was also extensively interested in the Redwood Lumber Company of California. In addition to the conduct of the wagon manufactory he also manufactured the new cow tie for tying cows in stalls. This is a great improvement on the old stanchions and is much more humane to the cattle. This device is still being manufactured by the family at their country home in Batavia.

On the 31st of January, 1871, Mr. Newton was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Wilson, a daughter of Samuel and Lydia (Shaw) Wilson, of Batavia. They became the parents of six children. Ed E. married Flora Peckham, who died leaving two children, Earl J. and Florence May. Following her demise Ed E. Newton wedded Nettie Wilkinson and with their son, LeRoy, they make their home in South Dakota. William W. Newton, the second son, now living in St. Joseph, Missouri, is married and has one daughter, Lou. Harry E. is married and has two children, Mary E. and Fay A. Nellie L. is the wife of William N. Selfridge, of Batavia. Katie May, born March 14, 1882, died June 13, 1895. Essie E., born March 17, 1885, died on the 13th of July of the same year.

Mr. Newton was a staunch republican in his political views but the honors and emoluments of office had no attraction for him. He did not desire a

reward for his party fealty but gave his allegiance to the republican principles because of a patriotic desire to conserve the best interests of the country. He was a most generous man, kindly in spirit but of quiet disposition. His sterling traits of character, however, won him wide respect and made him liked wherever he was known.

JOHN SEIDEL.

John Seidel, now deriving his income from judicious investments, is one of Elgin's native sons, who has led a life of activity and enterprise and has thereby won creditable prosperity. He was born on the 1st of March, 1860, his parents being Charles and Caroline (Luther) Seidel.

The mother was the last descendant of Martin Luther to bear the family name. Her birth occurred in 1823 at Kennitz, near Berlin, Germany, while Charles Seidel was born at Kolditz, in the province of Prussia. They were reared and married in their native country and came to America in 1849. After spending two years in Chicago they removed to Elgin in 1851 and Mr. Seidel established a bakery where the Seidel block now stands. It was the first business undertaking of this character in Elgin. He also handled the first lime sold here, conducting a good business as a dealer in that commodity, while at the same time he won success in his bakery business, which he conducted until the time of the Civil war, when he rented his place. He had in the meantime secured considerable real estate, making investments at an early day, and it still forms a part of the Seidel estate. As the years have passed it has greatly appreciated in value and the property today bears an excellent income.

In his political views Mr. Seidel was a staunch republican and in matters of citizenship was progressive and enterprising. He died in February, 1872, his wife surviving him only until September of the same year. They were the parents of twelve children: Charles, who served in the Civil war as a member of the One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry and died at the age of nineteen years while at the front; Emma, who has passed away; Fred, also deceased; Mary, who makes her home with her brother John; Newton, deceased; Natalie, the wife of William Wilson, of Elgin; William and Robert, both of whom have departed this life; John, of this review; Frank, deceased; Charles; and Robert, who died in infancy. The family possess the love of music and also the musical talent so common to the German race and Fred, Newton, Frank and William have all been members of the Elgin band. One of the sons, Robert Seidel, was a very prominent citizen of Elgin, who served as alderman for many years and left the impress of his individuality upon the upbuilding and progress of the city in many ways. In business he was connected with the furniture trade and undertaking and became prominent as a merchant as well as a political leader of the city.

John Seidel, whose name introduces this review, attended the public schools of Elgin, passing through consecutive grades until he became a high-school student. He afterward learned the baker's trade but in 1881, when a young man of twenty-one years, went to South Dakota with his brothers, Newton and Frank. Later their sister Natalie joined them and acted as their housekeeper. They each entered an adjoining quarter section on section 33, range 108, township 60, in Sanborn county, and had a central dwelling, all living together. They proved up their claims and secured titles thereto and were identified with the pioneer development of that section of the country.

John Seidel remained in South Dakota for ten years, after which he returned to Elgin and was agent for the Anheuser Busch Company of St. Louis at Elgin for about ten years. Since that time he has given his supervision to real-estate interests and the management of his property has brought him gratifying success. The family is an old and prominent one of Elgin and Mr. Seidel of this review has a wide acquaintance, while his many good qualities have gained for him a large circle of friends in the city of his nativity.

JOB LEROY HIGGINS.

Job LeRoy Higgins, deceased, was born in Wayne, Dupage county, Illinois, April 20, 1852, his parents being Orin and Betsy (Irish) Higgins. The former was born in Ohio, while the latter's birth occurred in the Empire state. Orin Higgins served as a soldier in the Civil war for three years, loyally defending the interests of the Union during that struggle.

Job LeRoy Higgins acquired his education in the public schools of his native county and later attended Elgin Academy. On putting aside his text-books he assisted his father in the operation of the home farm, but when he had attained the age of twenty-five years he purchased one hundred and fifteen acres of land in Lily Lake, Campton township, and was there successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits until he retired in 1893 on account of ill health. In connection with the work of general farming he had made a specialty of dairying and gained a very creditable and gratifying measure of success in both branches of his business. On his retirement he took up his abode in Elgin and here made his home until his demise on the 14th of May, 1895, his passing away being deeply regretted by many friends as well as his immediate family. For seven years prior to his death he had been in ill health.

On the 8th of January, 1876, Mr. Higgins was united in marriage to Miss Carrie E. Plane, a daughter of Charles and Sophia (Applebee) Plane, of Wayne, Dupage county, and to this union two children were born. Maude Lillian, whose birth occurred October 29, 1876, passed away June 7, 1894. She was a girl of a very sweet disposition and was much loved, so that her death came as a great blow to her parents as well as to her large circle of friends. Daisy Mabelle is the surviving daughter.

In his political views Mr. Higgins was a staunch republican, though not active in party ranks. He contributed to the support of various churches, and was a genial, pleasant gentleman, who made a host of friends.

FRED W. JENCKS.

Fred W. Jencks, prominent among the enterprising, energetic and successful business men of Elgin, has developed the largest insurance business in the county and is also well known as the manager of the Elgin Opera House. In all his acts he has displayed an aptitude for successful management, combined with keen discernment that renders each step in his career a successful one. His success is attributable entirely to his own efforts and has gained for him the respect and admiration of his contemporaries and his colleagues as well.

Mr. Jencks is a native of Kane county, his birth having occurred in Dundee, July 6, 1861. He is a son of Dennison Jencks, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. After attending the public schools he became a student in Elgin Academy and at the age of fifteen years he became connected with the insurance business, in which line he has since operated. Few men have more intimate knowledge of the insurance business in all its varied interests and branches than has Mr. Jencks, and in the course of years he has developed the largest insurance business in the county, representing twenty-two of the most prominent and substantial insurance companies of the world. In 1906 he bought out John W. Farnham and S. E. Weld, insurance agents, and consolidated their business interests. He writes about as much insurance annually as all the other companies in the county combined, nor has he limited his efforts alone to this line, for in April, 1886, he leased the Elgin Opera House and has managed it continuously since, procuring excellent talent here for the entertainment of the public in theatrical and musical lines. The same year he bought out the bill posting business of the city and has since conducted this, in which connection he has one of the best plants in the state outside of Chicago, using steel boards almost exclusively. From 1894 to 1900 he was president of the Illinois State Bill Posting Association and is still a director. He is determined and diligent and his vocabulary contains no such word as fail. He has been able to see and utilize opportunities that others have passed by heedlessly and has become one of the foremost representatives of business activity in Elgin.

That Mr. Jencks is well known and very popular in public life and in political circles of the city is indicated by the fact that when reelected alderman he was given the largest majority ever received by a candidate in his ward. He was president of the water board for two years and is still a member of the board. He has always taken an active part in support of republican principles and believes that the platform of that party contains the best elements of good government.

Mr. Jencks was married to Miss Mary R. Ryan, of Dundee, and they have a daughter and son: Mabel V., who is now a student in the Emerson College of Oratory in Boston; and Paul T., who is secretary of the city water

department of Elgin. The family home is one of the most beautiful residences of Elgin, situated at No. 273 Dundee avenue, and its warm-hearted hospitality is a most attractive feature there. In his fraternal relations Mr. Jencks is connected with the Century Club, the Elgin Country Club, Kane Lodge, I. O. O. F., with the Modern Woodmen and with the Elks, and of the last named served as trustee for three years from its organization. He likewise belongs to Arcane Union. He has a very wide acquaintance in this his native county, and is prominent among the business men, having for years been closely identified with Elgin as a representative of some of its most important business interests. He is a man of keen discrimination and sound judgment and his executive ability and excellent management have brought to the concern with which he is connected a large degree of success.

FRANK SEIDEL.

Frank Seidel, one of Elgin's native sons, passed away February 24, 1903, when in the forty-first year of his age. He was born April 10, 1862, and belonged to an old and prominent German-American family of this city. His parents, Charles and Caroline Seidel, coming to America in 1849, took up their abode here in 1851, and Frank Seidel pursued his education as a public-school student. He always continued to make his home here save for a period of ten years, beginning in 1881, which he spent in South Dakota. He was there with two of his brothers and all three entered claims, securing adjoining tracts of one hundred and sixty acres. They then erected a dwelling which stood on the three claims and their sister Natalie acted as their housekeeper. Frank Seidel went to South Dakota principally for the benefit of his health, hoping that a change of climate would prove beneficial, nor was he disappointed in this hope, for he was greatly improved by the outdoor life which he there lived. He had worked at the barber's trade in Elgin before his removal to the northwest. Following his return he was identified with real-estate interests here, owning considerable property in connection with his brothers. He displayed good business discernment in its care and made judicious investments of his capital.

In May, 1893, Mr. Seidel was married to Miss Carrie B. Gault, who was born in Monticello, Jones county, Iowa, September 15, 1866, a daughter of Oliver and Lorinda (Hitchcock) Gault. The father was born in Pennsylvania, December 8, 1826, and died in Iowa, February 13, 1908, at the age of eighty-two years. His wife, who was born in New York, May 24, 1826, passed away in Michigan, October 19, 1899. She was on a visit to that state but was a resident of Iowa. In their family were six children: Mrs. Retta Ives, who is living at Iowa Falls; Albert W., deceased; Mrs. Jane Stevens, of Twining, Michigan; Mrs. Lizzie Maddock, of South Dakota; Grant, deceased; and Mrs. Seidel. By the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Seidel there were born three sons: Charles G., Wilber F. and Newton W. In the city where most of his life was spent Frank Seidel passed his last days, his death

being occasioned by typhoid fever. It brought deep regret to many friends who knew him as an enterprising citizen, an upright business man, a faithful friend and a devoted husband and father.

ALBERT THEODORE LEWIS.

When Albert Theodore Lewis was called to his final rest on the 9th of August, 1904, Kane county mourned the loss of one of its most prominent and successful lawyers and public-spirited citizens. He was born in Binghamton, New York, May 26, 1843, a son of George W. and Lavinia (Bishop) Lewis. The father was a contractor and builder and in Chicago erected the first bridge which could be turned all the way around, the bridges prior to this time turning but half-way. About 1850 he removed westward with his family, locating on a farm in Kane county but still continuing his activities as a contractor. About 1860 he left the farm and took up his abode in Elgin.

Albert Theodore Lewis acquired a primary education in the schools of Binghamton, New York, and subsequently was sent to school at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, in order to prevent his enlistment in the Civil war, which was then in progress. His patriotic ardor was not to be dampened, however, and he enlisted from Prairie du Chien, thus becoming a Wisconsin soldier, although Illinois has also claimed him. He was but nineteen years of age when on the 5th of August, 1862, he entered the army as a private of Company A, Thirty-first Wisconsin Infantry, serving until the close of hostilities. He was with Sherman on his celebrated march to the sea, also participated in the siege of Atlanta and fought under General Robinson. He was promoted to the rank of corporal, and after taking part in the grand review at Washington, District of Columbia, he was mustered out at Madison, Wisconsin. His military record was a most creditable and honorable one and, whether in the heat of battle or on the lonely picket line, displayed loyalty and bravery equal to that of many a man of twice his years.

When the war was over Mr. Lewis returned to Elgin and became a law student in the office of Colonel J. S. Wilcox. After mastering the principles of jurisprudence he was admitted to the bar and was continuously connected with the legal interests of Elgin until the time of his demise. He went into partnership with his former preceptor under the firm style of Wilcox & Lewis, which throughout the entire period of its existence was recognized as one of the most prominent and successful law firms of the county. When the Chicago & Pacific Railway (now the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul) was built through Elgin he drew up every deed for hundreds of miles, having secured the right of way. He was likewise attorney for this railroad until after it was absorbed by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company. He was more of an office lawyer than a trial lawyer, his specialty being in the line of real estate and titles. From the time of its inception until his death he was attorney and an officer of the Loan & Homestead Association of Elgin, which organization has done great things for the people of this city in the way of erecting and paying for homes.

On the 3d of February, 1876, Mr. Lewis was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Wood, a daughter of William S. and Phylena (Smith) Wood, of Wataga, Knox county, Illinois, the former a merchant at that place. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lewis were born two children. Dunbar Wood, a student at Amherst College; and William Bishop, who is attending the Shattuck Military School at Faribault, Minnesota.

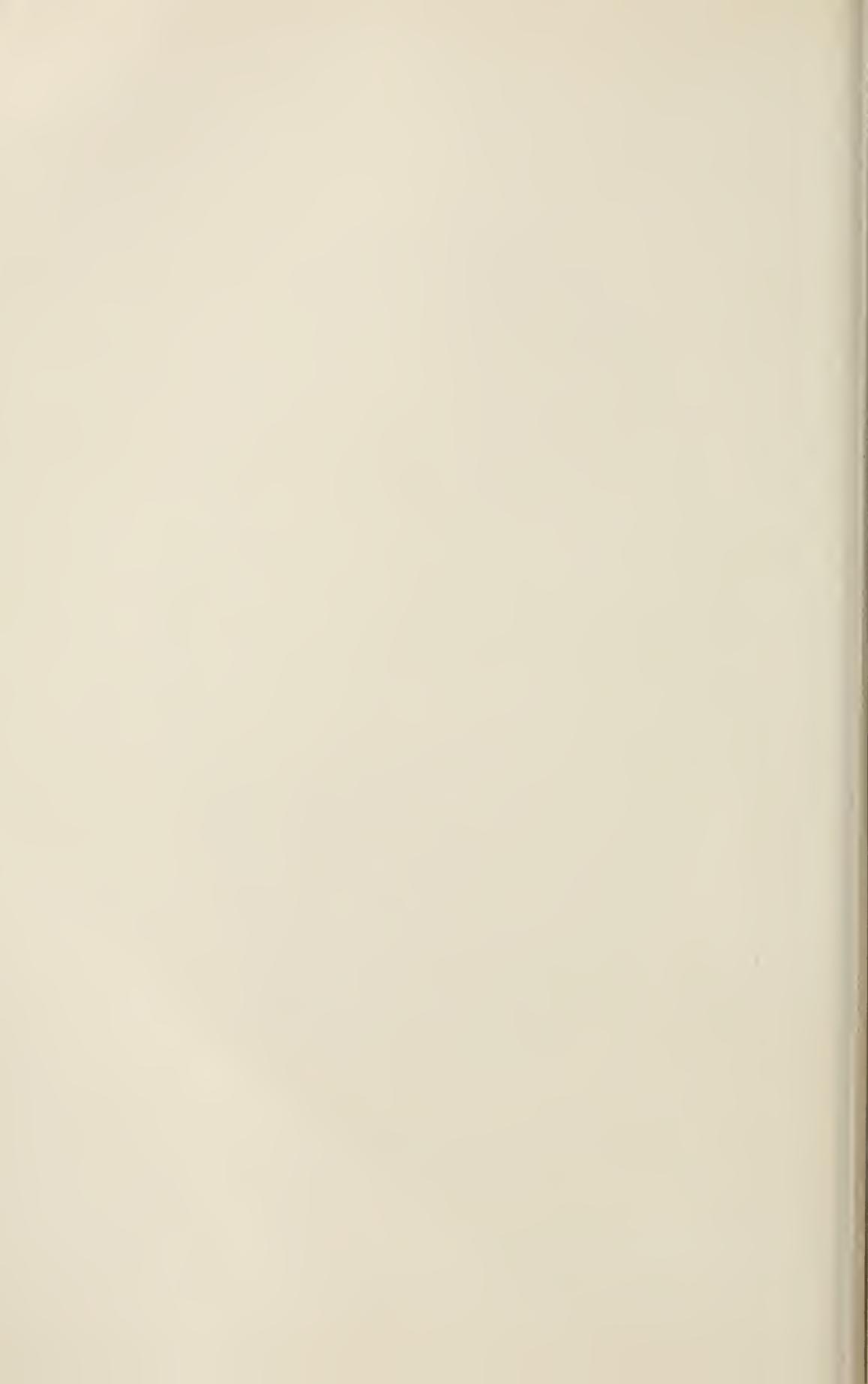
Mr. Lewis was a prominent factor in republican politics in Kane county and for twelve years served on the board of county supervisors, while he also held the office of justice of the peace for some time. While on the board of supervisors he was a member of the almshouse committee of Kane county for a number of years. He likewise took a leading and helpful part in the building up of the public library and it is largely owing to his efforts that the institution has reached its present high standard. A member of the Masonic fraternity, he served as marshal of Monitor lodge for many years, and was one of the first twelve commanders of the Grand Army of the Republic. At the time of his death very flattering resolutions of praise and condolence were passed by the Masons, the board of supervisors and the Elgin Loan & Homestead Association, while at the beginning of his illness the board of supervisors also passed resolutions of sympathy. His life was so varied in its activity, so honorable in its purposes, so far-reaching and beneficial in its effects that it has become an integral part of the history of the city and has also left an impress upon the annals of the state. He exerted an immeasurable influence on the city of his residence: in business life as a leading and successful lawyer; in social circles by reason of a charming personality and unfeigned cordiality; in politics by reason of his public spirit and devotion to the general good as well as his comprehensive understanding of the questions affecting state and national welfare; and in those departments of activity which ameliorate hard conditions of life for the unfortunate by his benevolence and his liberality.

HON. GEORGE MATHIAS HOLLENBACK.

Hon. George Mathias Hollenback is now living retired in Aurora, deriving his income from valuable farming property, comprising six hundred acres of land in this section of the state. He is one of the prominent and well known citizens of this portion of Illinois, bearing the distinction of having been the first white child born in Kendall county. He has been closely associated with the work of development and progress and has been an interested witness of what has been accomplished as northern Illinois has emerged from frontier conditions and taken on all of the evidences of a modern civilization. He has not only made for himself a creditable name and place in agricultural circles, but has also figured prominently in public life, filling the office of master in chancery for twenty-seven years, while in other positions he has been equally capable and loyal. He has represented his district in the state



Geo. M. Hollenback



legislature, and in fact his life record is closely interwoven with the progress and development of this portion of Illinois.

In tracing the ancestral history, the first of whom there was authentic record was George Hollenback, or Hollebaugh, as he was called by his neighbors, who died July 28, 1736, at Faulkner Schwamm, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. His son, John Hollenback, was born in the kingdom of Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1719, but prior to 1720 came to America with his parents. About the year 1740 he was living in Jonestown, Pennsylvania, where he married Eleanor Jones, of Welsh descent. He died in Martinsburg, West Virginia, in 1793. Of his sons, Mathias Hollenback became prominent in the history of the state and was one of the few who survived the massacre at Wyoming. For many years he served as associate judge of Luzerne county and was prominent in the public life of the community.

George Hollenback, the eldest son of John Hollenback, was born about 1744, and in his youth was apprenticed to the carpenter's trade, serving until twenty-one years of age. He was married in 1772 to Hannah Barton and subsequently removed to Martinsburg, West Virginia, where his family remained while he did valiant duty at the front in the Revolutionary war, being with General Charles Lee in the Jersey campaigns. Later he became a resident of Uniontown, Pennsylvania, and when General Washington visited that place in 1784 he left many relics he had gathered from the field of Braddock's defeat. About 1792 George Hollenback located near Prickett's Fort in what is now West Virginia, where he remained until 1807, and then removed to Muskingum county, Ohio. He died June 28, 1824. His son, George Hollenback II., was the ninth of eleven children. He was born in Marion county, West Virginia, in the year 1792, and was a very vigorous man physically, and of resolute will,—qualities which enabled him to cope with the vicissitudes of pioneer life. He served his country as a soldier of the war of 1812, and in recognition of his aid was granted a land warrant, where-with he secured one hundred and sixty acres in later life. On the 15th of June, 1817, he married Sophia Sidle, a daughter of John and Mary (Reid) Sidle. The mother was a sister of John Reid, the grandfather of General Q. A. Gillmore, a distinguished Union officer who conducted the bombardment of Fort Sumter and the city of Charleston. After his marriage Mr. Hollenback conducted his father-in-law's mill and also engaged in farming, but the west attracted him and with his wife and five children he started for the Mississippi valley in the fall of 1829, journeying in a covered wagon and bringing with him his household possessions and several cows. Their way lay through a wilderness in which the road was oftentimes little more than a trail, but eventually they reached Danville, Illinois, where friends had located some months before and where they passed the winter. In the spring of 1830 they again resumed their travels and located a few miles from Peru, on the south side of the Illinois river, but believing that the Fox river country offered better advantages, Mr. Hollenback spent the months of February and March, 1831, in investigating this district, journeying as far as Oswego. He made a claim in what is now Fox township, Kendall county, returned for his family and with them arrived at his future home April 18, 1831. The first

dwelling of the family was very primitive. They hastened to make a little clearing in order to put in some crops, and then began to build a more substantial log house to replace the first shanty, but before the new structure was completed the original dwelling was destroyed in a severe storm on the 20th of September, 1831, a falling tree being hurled against it. When his crop was harvested the grain was threshed by treading it out on the clay floor and then Mr. Hollenback and a young daughter took the grist to a mill, which was operated by horse power, it requiring six weeks to make the trip. On the 1st of December, 1831, the family circle was increased by the arrival of twins, George M. and Amelia, the former being the first white child born in Kendall county.

The Indian outbreak in May, 1832, caused much distress to the first settlers here. Mr. Hollenback took his family to Fort Beggs, which was named in honor of Elder Beggs, the pioneer preacher, and which stood on the site of the city of Plainfield. He had been warned of the approaching outbreak by an Indian to whom he and his family had shown some kindness. From Fort Beggs they went to Fort Dearborn, returning in the fall to Ohio, where the family spent a year, but Mr. Hollenback again returned to Illinois in the spring and put in a crop. In the summer he again went to Ohio and when he once more journeyed to Illinois he brought his family with him. Even then evidences of the onward march of progress were seen, in that new roads had been constructed and various settlements had been established. The Kendall county homestead consisted of seven hundred acres on sections 14, 15, 22 and 23, Fox township, and of the claim one hundred and twenty-five acres was covered with fine timber. The land was not surveyed north of the Indian boundary until 1837, in which year the commission was appointed to establish the state road from Ottawa to Naperville, the commissioners while thus engaged making their stay at the Hollenback home. It was located on a road where for nearly twenty years the daily stages passed. While Mr. Hollenback did not pretend to keep an inn and hotel he notwithstanding kept open house for all coming and going. His wife died February 26, 1861, and he passed away November 23, 1863. He was a man of unfaltering integrity, firm in support of his honest convictions, strong in the uprightness of his character and a generous friend to the poor and needy and helpless. His early political allegiance was given to the democracy but he supported Fremont in 1856 and thenceforward was a republican. Mrs. Hollenback possessed in an eminent degree all those good qualities that radiate from an amiable mind and heart. As wife, mother and friend, the remembrance of her will be fondly cherished to the last survivor of those who knew her in any of these sacred and hallowed relations. Mr. Hollenback survived his wife for more than two years: Their hospitality was unbounded and their home was always open for the reception of their friends, while any destitute boy or girl could always come to them with confidence for advice, certain to find sympathy and substantial help. Their children were: John S., now deceased; Clark; Mrs. Sarah A. Boyd; David S.; Mary and Philip, both deceased; George, and his twin sister, Mrs. Amelia Davis; William A.; Mrs. Mary J. Moulton; Nelson K.; and Mrs. Hannah Elizabeth LaSure.

The descendants of John Hollenback, who came from Wurtemberg, numbering those in the lineal and collateral branches with the living and the dead, number more than one thousand.

The boyhood days of George M. Hollenback were passed on the old homestead on the northeast quarter of section 22, Fox township. There he assisted in the work of the fields from the time of early spring planting until crops were harvested in the late autumn and he also engaged in teaching school in early manhood. It was his desire, however, to become a member of the bar, and to this end he devoted his leisure moments to study in that direction. He has in the course of an active, busy and useful career been again and again called to office. In November, 1856, he was elected clerk of the circuit court and entered upon eight years' service in that position, being reelected in 1860. On his retirement from the office he purchased a farm on section 21, Fox township, where he took up his abode in March, 1865. In 1873 he rebuilt the residence and conducted a model farm until his removal to Yorkville in 1888. In all of his agricultural interests he was progressive, practical and enterprising and he is today the owner of much valuable land, his holdings embracing over six hundred acres.

While active and successful in business he has also been recognized as a republican leader in this part of the state and has labored effectively to promote the interests of the party. In 1868 he was admitted to the bar and in the same year was appointed master in chancery, which office he filled continuously until 1896, with the exception of two years. During the war he was appointed enrolling officer by Governor Yates. In 1872 he was elected a member of the twenty-eighth general assembly, and for years he has served as justice of the peace, while for two terms he was supervisor. Whether in local or state office he has been equally loyal to the trust reposed in him and his official record is indeed commendable and worthy of emulation.

On the 5th of May, 1859, Mr. Hollenback was married to Julia A. Woodworth, a native of Ashtabula county, Ohio, and a daughter of Daniel and Roxanna (Heath) Woodworth, who were natives of New England and for many years resided in Lake county, Ohio, where their last days were passed. Mr. and Mrs. Hollenback had one daughter, Stella Louisa, who is a graduate of the West Aurora high school and the wife of Edward Welles, of Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania. In 1886 Mr. Hollenback was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 23d of August of that year, her death being regretted by a most extensive circle of warm friends. On the 24th of July, 1888, Mr. Hollenback wedded Frances F. Houghman, a daughter of William Henry Lewis and Amelia (Brooks) Lewis, who were of German extraction and were natives of the state of New York. They lived in the Empire state and in Pennsylvania for some years and about 1856 became residents of Kendall county, Illinois, settling near Oswego. Later they took up their abode in Madison, Wisconsin, where their daughter Frances met and married Dr. Charles E. Houghman, who was appointed by the governor state oculist and aurist of Wisconsin.

He has for many years been a prominent resident of this part of the state and his efforts in behalf of public progress have been effective and far-

reaching. He has stood for advancement in business lines and for upbuilding in all of the social, intellectual, political and moral interests of the county. He removed to Aurora November 18, 1892, and there owns a beautiful home at No. 44 North View street. He also has six hundred acres of valuable farm land in Kendall county, including two-fifths of the old family homestead, whereon he first opened his eyes to the light of day as the first white child born in the county. No history of this part of the state would be complete without mention of his honorable career, and it is therefore with pleasure that we present to our readers this record.

DENISON R. JENCKS.

Denison R. Jencks is widely known and respected as a retired merchant of Elgin, whose success in former years, attributable to intense and well directed activity, now enables him to enjoy a well earned rest. He was born October 13, 1837, in Adams, Massachusetts, and came to Illinois in his boyhood days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Jencks. His father purchased a farm near Barrington, Cook county, and thereon resided until 1855, when he sold out and removed with his family to Dundee, Kane county. There he engaged in the grocery business, in which he continued for a few years.

In his early business career Denison R. Jencks obtained employment as a clerk in a drug store, being at that time a youth of fifteen. That he was faithful, capable and reliable is indicated by the fact that he remained with the house for eight years and left it only to engage in the drug business on his own account as the junior member of the firm of Oatman & Jencks. This partnership was continued for six years, when Mr. Jencks sold out and became a partner with C. F. Hall in the dry-goods and grocery business. Two years later, however, he disposed of his interests in that enterprise to Mr. Hall and opened a clothing house and shoe store, conducting business in Dundee until 1873. In that year he came to Elgin and through the succeeding year was identified with mercantile interests in this city, after which he withdrew from the field of trade to turn his attention to the general insurance business, in which he was engaged until 1893. He then retired, being succeeded by his son, Fred W. Jencks.

On the 25th of October, 1859, Mr. Jencks was married to Miss Elizabeth A. Hollister, a daughter of Allen S. Hollister, of Dundee, who died in Elgin January 17, 1897. Their son, Fred W. Jencks, is mentioned on another page of this work. In community affairs Denison R. Jencks has been somewhat prominent and in official as in business life has always been found most loyal to the interests which he has represented. He was postmaster at Dundee for six years, was school treasurer of Dundee for four years, and for thirteen years was a member of the city council in Elgin, representing the second ward. He has ever exercised his official prerogatives in support of progressive public measures and his labors have constituted an important element in the

city's welfare. His business record, too, should serve as a source of inspiration and encouragement to others, showing what may be attained through persistent, untiring and well directed activity.

CHARLES H. POTTER.

Charles H. Potter is president and general manager of the Excelsior Creamery Company, and in connection with this line of business has been largely instrumental in winning for Elgin the reputation which it bears throughout the country in connection with its creamery products. While the city contains many and varied business concerns, the name of Elgin in remote districts has come to be synonymous with the production of butter and of watches, and that it has gained fame in these lines is due to the fact that its exported products are superior to those sent out by other manufactories of similar character. Unflinching industry, unabating energy and unbending integrity have long been recognized as salient features in the business career and success of Charles H. Potter, a native son of Kane county, of whom she has every reason to be proud.

His birth occurred in Plato township, September 14, 1851, his parents being the late Harry Eddy and Mary A. (Griggs) Potter. The latter was a daughter of John Griggs, who was born in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, in 1782, and he was married in Mount Washington in 1800. Leaving New England, he made his way westward to Greene county, New York, and afterward went to Black Rock, near Buffalo, New York, where he resided at the time of the war of 1812. He owned a sloop and contracted with the government for carrying supplies and ammunition of war and took part in the defense of Black Rock at the time of the British invasion. Subsequently he sent his wife to Ohio, where his wife's brother, John Dibelle, was living, while he followed in his sloop over the lakes. Off the coast of Ashtabula, however, he was shipwrecked and hung to the rigging for forty-eight hours before he was rescued. His sloop, however, was lost. Mr. Griggs settled on a farm at what was known as Griggs Station and is now known as Griggs. There he carried on general agricultural pursuits until 1834, when he sold his property and started for the Fox river country with his son, John Griggs, Jr., shipping from Ashtabula to Detroit by schooner and thence driving across the country to Chicago. With his family he spent the winter of 1834-35 at Warrenville, Dupage county, and in the spring of the latter year came to Kane county, where he took up land in what is now Plato township. There he built a log cabin and conducted a hotel on the stage line from Chicago to Galena. There were no railroads in this part of the country and travel was done by stage. In fact northern Illinois was a wild, pioneer district, in which comparatively few settlements had been made, while the work of civilization seemed scarcely begun. Mr. Griggs was not only well known in business connections but also in public life and was appointed one of the election commissioners by Governor Ford. He also laid out the territory

now included in several counties into election precincts and presided at the first election held in his home. Mr. Griggs was chosen the first treasurer of Kane county and continued a prominent and influential factor in shaping the early formative history of the county and also its later progress and development. In politics he was a staunch democrat and cast his last ballot in 1868 for Seymour and Blair. He died in 1869, having for about seven years survived his wife, who passed away in 1862. They had a family of nine children, all of whom have now passed away.

This number included Mary A. Griggs, who in 1840 gave her hand in marriage to Harry Eddy Potter. Mr. Potter was born in Brighton, western New York, in 1815, and like his wife was descended from Puritan ancestry. His ancestors were ever loyal in defense of their honest convictions and were among the founders of Providence and Warwick, Rhode Island. Harry E. Potter remained in the east until about twenty-one years of age, when he came to Kane county, Illinois, with his uncles, Harry and Spaulding Eddy, their destination being St. Charles. There he assisted in the erection of some of the first buildings of the town, following his trade of a carpenter and joiner. Following his marriage in 1840 he settled in Plato, where he resided until his death in February, 1865. He was a very particular and methodical man and his was one of the nicest and best improved farms of his section. His wife, long surviving him, died in 1891. They were the parents of six children, of whom three are living: Mrs. Ruth C. Wilcox, Mrs. Minnie P. Hawkins and Charles H.

The last named was only fourteen years of age at the time of his father's death. The care of a large family then devolved upon his mother and he took charge of the farm and successfully conducted the work of the fields, displaying the same excellent business ability that has characterized him throughout his entire life. Realizing the necessity of an education he managed to attend the district schools during a part of each winter and was afterward a student in Marengo Business College, while by reading and observation he has also largely added to his knowledge and in the schools of experience has learned many valuable lessons. He remained at home until he had attained his majority and in the meantime had learned to place a correct value upon the qualities of industry and perseverance. In 1872 in company with Abe Archibald, Mr. Potter purchased the grocery business of M. & J. McNeil. Soon afterward Mr. Archibald retired from the business and Mr. Potter continued alone until 1883, when he turned his attention to the manufacture of butter, in connection with the late W. H. Hintze. They also extended the scope of their business to include the purchase and sale of real estate, platting and selling Hintze and Potter addition to Elgin, comprising forty-five acres in the southwest part of the city.

As their business increased in the line of butter-making, Mr. Potter became one of the incorporators of the Elgin Butter Company and was its secretary. In that capacity he traveled over the greater part of the United States and in all sections of the country established a market for this famous brand until "Elgin creamery butter" has become a synonym throughout America for the best product in this line. In 1891 he resigned his position

as secretary and with Obadiah Sands completed the organization of the Elgin Creamery Company, of which he was made vice president and general manager, having full charge of the butter department. His business was developed until it came to be one of the best of the kind in the United States and then withdrawing in 1894 Mr. Potter became one of the organizers of the Excelsior Creamery Company and was chosen its president and manager. This company operates creameries in Illinois and Wisconsin, doing a large shipping business in all of the principal markets.

Mr. Potter was married in 1873 to Miss Elvira J. Mann, a daughter of the late Hon. S. S. Mann, and they now have one child, Alice. Politically, a republican, Mr. Potter is active in the ranks of the party and in public affairs has displayed the same keen business discernment, enterprise and activity that have characterized him in his business life. He was a member of the board of water commissioners for several years and is the originator of the artesian system for supplying the city. He possesses in large measure the enterprising spirit of the west, which has been the dominant factor in producing the wonderful development of this section of the country. Brooking no obstacles that honest effort can overcome, he has steadily worked his way upward until, having long since left the ranks of the many, he today stands among the successful few.

JOHN L. ROWCLIFFE.

John L. Rowcliffe, who during the course of an active, upright life was closely identified with the farming interests of Kane county, was born in Devonshire, England, in 1833, and his life record covered the intervening years to the 8th of March, 1895, when he was called to his final rest. The days of his boyhood and early youth were spent in England and the educational facilities which he enjoyed were those afforded by the public schools. He came to the United States about a half century ago and, making his way into the interior of the country, secured employment at farm labor in Illinois. He worked diligently and as the result of his unwearied industry and careful expenditure he at length secured the capital which enabled him about thirty-eight years ago to purchase a tract of land of eight acres three miles southwest of Batavia. To this he added from time to time as his financial resources increased until he had thirty-six acres. The land is rich and productive and responded readily to the care and cultivation which he bestowed upon the place.

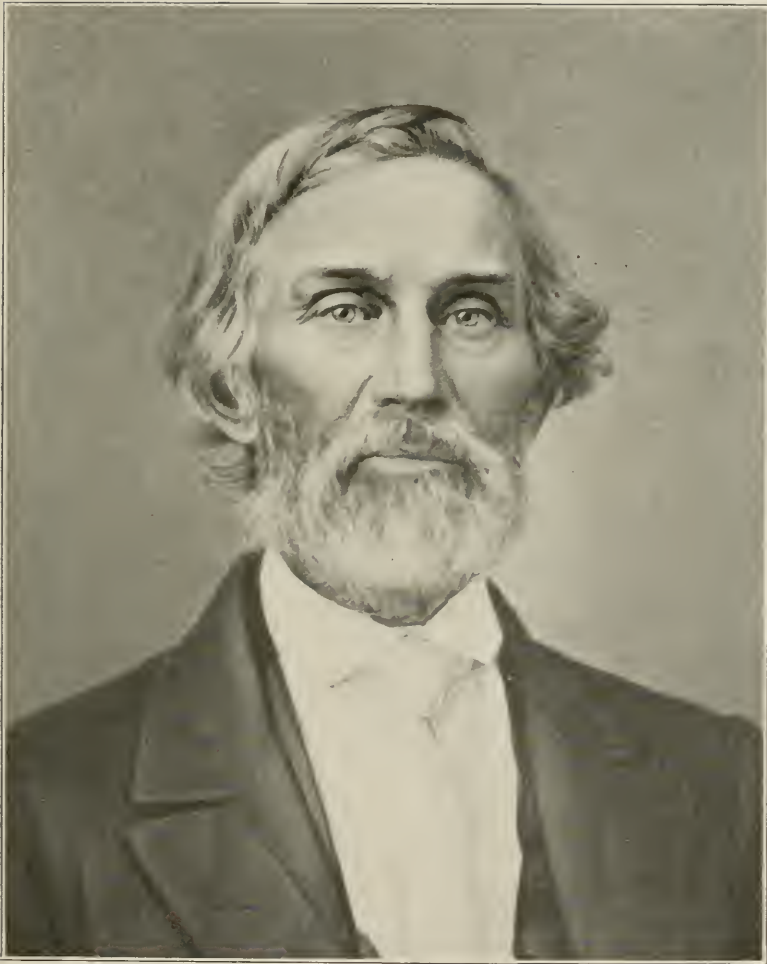
On the 6th of January, 1863, Mr. Rowcliffe was married to Miss Flora Sikes, a daughter of William and Lucretia (Cooley) Sikes, also of Batavia. Unto this marriage there were born five children. Cora G., the eldest, became the wife of Lauren Grimshaw and unto them was born a daughter, Ruth B. She is now the wife of John B. Ballard and has one daughter by the second marriage, Elva Florence. John Lester, the second member of the family, was born June 2, 1867, and married Matilda Swanson, a daughter of Gustave

and Hannah Johnson. The four children of this marriage are John H., Ernest H., Edith B. and George E. William George is the next member of the family. Flora May is the wife of Hiram Casner and unto them have been born five children: Mamie, John, Earl P., Fannie and Edna. Henry Lyman completes the family.

Mr. Rowcliffe voted with the republican party but was never a politician in the sense of office seeking. He was truly a self-made man and deserved great credit for what he accomplished. He realized the fact that diligence and perseverance are important elements in success and he worked along those lines to make for himself a creditable place in the business world. Whatever prosperity he enjoyed was attributable entirely to his own labors and in all of his dealings he was straightforward and honorable, enjoying the regard of his fellowmen by reason of an active and upright life.

TIMOTHY ADAMS WHEELER.

In the history of the early development of Kane county, mention should be made of Timothy Adams Wheeler, who, arriving here in pioneer times, bore an active and helpful part in the pioneer development and progress in this part of the state. He was born February 21, 1809, in Cavendish, Windsor county, Vermont, his parents being Amos and Lydia (Adams) Wheeler. He acquired his education in the common schools and was reared to farm life, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He arrived in Illinois in 1835. His parents and other members of the family had preceded him a short time and had settled on a tract of land four miles up the river from Charleston. In 1836 he returned to Vermont and was married in Cavendish in November of that year. With his bride he immediately started for Illinois, making the trip by way of Lake Champlain, the St. Lawrence river and the great lakes to Detroit, where he bought a horse and wagon and household goods, the latter amounting to fourteen hundred pounds in weight. The balance of the journey was thus made across the country and some days they traveled less than seven miles, owing to the poor condition of the roads. They settled on a part of the Wheeler tract, which had formerly been secured by other members of the family, and there lived for five or six years when they came to St. Charles. Here Mr. Wheeler engaged in the grain business with his brother and also in the lumber business. He became one of the enterprising and energetic merchants of the town, and in promoting his individual interests also contributed in substantial measure to the welfare of the community. While living here he built his home at the corner of Eighth and Main streets, on the site of the present residence of his daughter, Mrs. Reed. In the '60s Mr. Wheeler removed to the farm which he owned in DuPage county, and there he resided for a few years, after which he took up his abode upon a farm near St. Charles, which was owned by his son, Charles. There he continued to spend his remaining days, his death occurring June 2, 1867. He was a man of



T. A. WHEELER

quiet and modest disposition, a lover of home and at all times had the utmost regard for his domestic ties. His political support was given to the republican party but he never sought nor desired office.

His wife, Mrs. Abbie (Whitcomb) Wheeler, was born in Alstead, New Hampshire, in 1814. Her parents afterward removed to Cavendish, Vermont, where she was reared to womanhood. Her father, Thomas Whitcomb, was a descendant of John Whitcomb, who came to America in 1633 and settled in Dorchester, Massachusetts. In 1640 he removed to Scituate, Massachusetts, and in 1645 became a resident of Lancaster, that state. He and his son John were two of the original owners of the town. The father was born in 1588 and died in September, 1662, while his widow, Frances, died May 17, 1671, leaving eight children, the youngest of whom was Jonathan Whitcomb. He was married November 25, 1667, and his wife, Hannah, was massacred by the Indians July 18, 1692. Jonathan Whitcomb died in February, 1691. The youngest of their nine children was John Whitcomb, who was born May 12, 1684, and by his wife, Hannah, had four children: John, Abigail, Hannah and Asa, of which family John W. served as a brigadier general in the Revolutionary war, at Bunker Hill; Asa W., the younger brother, and the next in line of direct descent to Mrs. Wheeler, was born in 1719, and made his home in Lancaster, Massachusetts. For eight years he served the town in the "greate and generale corte," was justice of the peace and for years was a deacon in the church. In 1775 he raised a regiment and was commissioned colonel, commanding the troops at Prospect Hill during the siege of Boston. In 1776 he commanded a regiment at Ticonderoga and Crown Point. He lived for some years to enjoy the fruits of liberty and died at Princeton, Massachusetts, March 16, 1804. He was married December 26, 1744, to Eunice Sawyer, and following her death he was married, January 26, 1762, to Bettie Sawyer. They had eleven children. This number included Asa Whitcomb, who was born February 8, 1764, and died January 5, 1835. On the 9th of November, 1788, he married Rebecca Bass and they had ten children: Thomas Whitcomb, born November 7, 1789, a son of Asa Whitcomb, died April 13, 1869. He married Nabby Harding and had one child. Following the death of his first wife he wedded Anna Wentworth and had seven children, including Mrs. Wheeler.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler there were born seven children: Emeroy A., born September 3, 1837, became the wife of Stephen A. Pierce and died in St. Charles. The second child died in early life. Elizabeth, or Betty, was born July 21, 1844. Wentworth W. was born in 1846, married Luella Sherer and lives at Mount Morris, Illinois. Rhoda, born in 1849, became the wife of B. D. Dunning, and both died in Iowa. Flora A., born in 1852, became the wife of O. C. Joy and resides in California. Charles M. married Alexina Creyk and resides in California. Such, in brief, is the history of the Wheeler family, long well known and prominent in this part of the state. From pioneer times they had been residents of Kane county and had witnessed almost the entire growth and development of northern Illinois.

We are indebted for the history of this family to Mrs. Elizabeth (Wheeler) Reed. Her husband, Rodney H. Reed, was born in Cuyahoga

Falls, Ohio, September 6, 1833, and was a grandson of David Reed, who belonged to an old Vermont family. His parents were George W. and Julia (Ellingwood) Reed. In the public schools he acquired his early education, which was supplemented by study in Wheaton College. He followed farming for a considerable period and became one of the well-known agriculturists of this part of the state. He was also a town officer for many years and his duties were discharged with a promptness and fidelity that led to his retention in office and won for him the confidence and good will of all concerned.

In 1872, in St. Charles, Mr. Reed was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Wheeler, and after a happy married life of about eight years he was called to his final rest, his death occurring in Wayne, DuPage county, Illinois, June 4, 1880. Their children were Grace May and Rosella. Mrs. Reed now resides in St. Charles and is a most worthy representative of an honored pioneer family.

H. L. E. PETERSON.

H. L. E. Peterson, who is conducting a successful plumbing, heating and gasfitting establishment in Elgin, was born in this city on the 16th of May, 1876. His father, Fred Peterson, a native of Sweden, where his birth occurred in 1844, emigrated to the United States in the year 1867. On landing on the shores of this country he made his way direct to Elgin, being first employed by Andrew Magnus and subsequently by the Borden Condensed Milk Company, with which concern he has now been connected for over twenty years. He had been married in his native country to Miss Christina Larson, and unto them were born nine children, four of whom are deceased. The living are Julius G.; William T.; H. L. E., of this review; Ernest; and Amanda, the wife of Oscar Dedlow. All are residents of this country and all are married except Ernest.

H. L. E. Peterson was educated in the Elgin public schools, which he attended until nine years of age, when in 1885 he began working for the D. C. Cook Publishing Company of Elgin as messenger boy in the corresponding room, and subsequently was employed in various ways until he had attained the age of fourteen years. He then learned the plumber's trade and has since been successfully connected with this line of business. On the 1st of March, 1905, he began business for himself at the corner of Douglas avenue and Milwaukee street in Elgin, where he conducts a general plumbing, heating and gasfitting establishment. He has made improvements on different tools which have been patented and are now in use by the plumbing trade, and he has gained a large measure of prosperity in the conduct of his business interests.

On the 17th of June, 1903, Mr. Peterson was united in marriage to Miss Anna Hausberg, a daughter of Charles and Laura Hausberg, of Elgin.

Mr. Peterson is a staunch republican in his political views and takes an active interest in the local work of the party. His religious faith is indi-

cated by his membership in the Congregational church, while fraternally he is connected with the Masons, the Odd Fellows, the Elks, the Knights of Modern Maccabees and the Royal Arcanum. Having spent his entire life in Elgin, he has many friends here who esteem him highly for his genuine personal worth and sterling traits of character.

PAUL KEMLER, JR.

The name of Kemler has figured prominently in connection with hotel interests in Elgin for thirty-six years, and Paul Kemler, Jr., as proprietor of the new Washington Hotel, is a worthy successor of his father in this business. He was born August 26, 1869, on the site occupied by his present hotel, his father being at that time proprietor of one of the early hostelrys of the city. The parents are mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

The son was one of a family of eleven children and was reared under the parental roof, pursued his education in the public schools and also in the business college in Elgin. When he had put aside his text-books he began providing for his own support by working in a grocery store, where he was employed for a few years. He afterward worked in the Elgin watch factory and subsequently coming to Chicago he became bookkeeper for the Jefferson Ice Company, with which he was thus connected for two years. On the expiration of that period he returned to Elgin and conducted the Washington Hotel, which at that time occupied the old building which was long a landmark in this city. In 1907, however, his father erected the new Washington Hotel on the old site. This is a three-story brick building, of modern appointments, and contains thirty-two sleeping rooms. Special attention is paid to the cuisine and everything possible is done for the comfort of the guests. Commensurate with a progressive business policy, like his father Mr. Kemler has made a success in the management of the hotel and he also owns the stables which are connected with the hotel and which contain accommodations for about seventy teams.

Equally well known in municipal affairs, Mr. Kemler was elected alderman from the second ward in 1900 and his public-spirited service led to his reelection in 1903, so that he served for two terms. Reared in the faith of the republican party, he has never seen reason to change his allegiance but believes that its principles contain the best elements of good government. He was chairman of the republican town committee for about a year, has taken an active interest in local politics and has always been ready to further the interests of the city in every possible way.

Pleasantly situated in his home life Mr. Kemler was married to Miss Elizabeth Jane Welch, a native of Detroit, Michigan. He is prominent in fraternal circles, holding membership with the Eagles and the Elks, with the subordinate lodge and encampment of the Odd Fellows and with the Riverside, Wahalla, Elgin Gun, the Rod and Gun, the Cleveland, the Derby and other clubs. He is well known as a sportsman, being much interested in

hunting and fishing, and has held all of the offices in the Riverside Club, of which he is now a trustee. He was also the first president of the Eagles of Elgin and on leaving the chair was presented with a handsome solid gold eagle emblem. He is now president of the Derby Club and is most popular in social circles, possessing a genial, kindly spirit and manifesting at all times a deference for the opinions of others.

THOMAS FOLEY.

Thomas Foley, formerly identified with farming interests, is now living retired in the enjoyment of well earned rest. For a long period he was associated with agricultural interests and his labors were continuous and were directed by sound judgment. He was born on the seacoast in County Wexford, Ireland, December 23, 1828, and has therefore almost reached the eightieth milestone on life's journey. His parents were Mathew and Mary (Laughlin) Foley, who spent their entire lives in the old country, Thomas Foley returning in 1874 to make them a visit. They were the parents of ten children, of whom three sons came to the United States, while the brother and two sisters of our subject are still living in Ireland. The two brothers who came to America, however, are now deceased.

Thomas Foley was reared in his native country upon a farm, where he remained until twenty-four years of age. He was determined to seek his fortune in America, hoping that he might benefit his financial condition materially by this step. Accordingly he sailed alone for New York in 1853 and began providing for his own support here by working on the New York & Erie Railroad near Hornellsville. His brother Michael was a section boss there and Thomas Foley worked under him for two years. On the expiration of that period he made his way to Chicago and fired on a steam propeller. He spent the season of 1855 on the lakes and in 1856 made his way to California by way of the isthmus, and spent seven years in the mines, where he met with a fair degree of success, bringing back with him enough to buy a home. Upon his return to the middle west he settled at Fort Dodge, Iowa, and while there met the lady whom he afterward made his wife on the 7th of January, 1864. She bore the maiden name of Bridget C. Drennan, and was born in Queens county, Ireland, September 28, 1842. She was seven years of age when she accompanied her parents on their emigration across the Atlantic to Massachusetts. She was a daughter of William and Katharine Drennan, who, making their way from the Atlantic coast into the interior of the country, settled in St. Charles, this county. There the father purchased a farm and he and his wife spent their remaining days upon that property.

After his marriage Mr. Foley made his way to St. Charles, Illinois, and invested in one hundred and twenty-four acres of land. With characteristic energy he began its cultivation and development, brought the fields under a high state of improvement and won success through the production of crops. As his financial resources increased he added to the property and now owns

seven hundred and ten acres of farming land, comprised within four farms, all in St. Charles township. This returns him a gratifying rental annually and makes him independent of any necessity for further labor for an income. While in California he sent for his younger brother, Mat Foley, who joined him in the mountains of the Golden state in 1857 and worked in partnership with him until 1863. He remained in the mines after Thomas Foley left for the middle west and later went to Idaho, where he spent twelve years. Following his return to the Mississippi valley Thomas Foley continued to give his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits until he retired four years ago, when he purchased his present home and took up his abode in Elgin, leaving his sons on the farm. The improvements upon his farm were made by him and he transformed it into a valuable property. He made a specialty of dairy farming, milking about sixty cows, while his sons are now milking about one hundred and fifty cows. He has ever displayed keen discernment in his business affairs, combined with a spirit of unfaltering enterprise that has enabled him to overcome all difficulties and obstacles in his path and steadily work his way upward to success.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Foley have been born ten children: Mathew, who is the owner of four hundred acres of land in South Dakota; Mary, the wife of Thomas Hayes, of Chicago; William, who is living in South Elgin; Katharine, who is a sister in the Catholic convent in Davenport, Iowa; Peter, who is living on one of his father's farms in St. Charles township; Josephine, at home; Thomas J., who resides upon the old homestead; James and John, both of whom are upon farms in St. Charles township; and Frank, who is with his brother on the old homestead. They also lost a daughter, Margaret, who died at the age of two years.

Mr. Foley was school trustee for more than twenty years and the cause of education has found in him a stalwart champion. His political allegiance is given to the democracy and he is a member of St. Mary's Catholic church. He has made two trips to California since he first visited that state and on the second trip took his brother with him and kept him with him until he died on the home farm. Mr. Foley now in the evening of life can look back over the past without regret, for his life has been well spent. He has won a creditable measure of success and has gained the confidence and good will of many friends. Born on the green isle of Erin, his travels have taken him to various sections of this country, but for many years he was closely and actively associated with agricultural interests, being known as one of the representative farmers of this part of the state.

FRANK B. WOOD.

Frank B. Wood is well known in commercial circles in Elgin as a dealer in automobiles and supplies of all kinds. A young man, he is forging to the front in business lines, winning recognition and success by reason of his intense and well directed energy. He was born in Huntley, McHenry county,

Illinois, in July, 1877. His father, D. E. Wood, is a well known citizen of Elgin, removing here in 1881. Frank B. Wood was at that time four years of age. He entered the public schools and continued his studies later in the Elgin Academy and in the Pennsylvania Military College at Chester, Pennsylvania, with the class of 1898. Following the outbreak of the Spanish-American war in that year he enlisted as a private in Company B, Fourth Wisconsin Infantry, and following a competitive examination was elected first lieutenant. The regiment went into the southern camps and while in the south Lieutenant Wood served as aid-de-camp under General Mattocks and then under General Colby. The regiment was never called to active duty at the front, owing to the early close of the war, and with his command Lieutenant Wood was mustered out in 1899.

Returning home, he entered upon his business career in the Elgin National Bank, of which his father is the president. In 1907, however, he turned his attention to his present business, opening a garage at No. 60 and 62 River street, where he handles the Ford and Rambler cars and all kinds of supplies. He has built up a good business in this line and is thoroughly informed concerning the different makes of automobiles and believes that he has two of the best cars on the market for the price. He is a man of unflinching energy, brooking no obstacles that honest effort can overcome and is accounted one of the valued additions to Elgin's business circles.

In 1906 occurred the marriage of Frank B. Wood and Miss Florence Baker, of Austin, Illinois. He is well known in social circles, belonging to the Century Club, to the Elgin Country Club, to the Chicago Automobile Club, the Lake Geneva Yacht Club, the Columbia Yacht Club of Chicago and the Army and Navy Club. He is also connected with the Elks, the Knights of Pythias and the Archaean Union and also belongs to the Young Men's Christian Association. These connections indicate clearly the nature of his interests and also his personal popularity. In manner, courteous and genial, and in disposition, cordial and kindly, the circle of his friends is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

R. WAITE JOSLYN.

R. Waite Joslyn was born March 23, 1866, at Elgin, Illinois, and was educated in the schools of Elgin, being a graduate of the high school in 1886. He then studied at Michigan University three years, graduating there in 1891 with the degree of LL. M. He acted as assistant professor in the law school one year, when he went to Chicago and entered active practice. He continued there until 1904, when he returned to Elgin, where he has since practiced, being associated with his brother, Frank W. Joslyn. He is unmarried.

Mr. Joslyn has won the distinction of being the first Kane county lawyer to contribute a law book to the profession. In April, 1908, his work on the law of "Personal Injuries" was published by T. H. Flood & Company, of Chicago, and met with immediate success and promises to continue through

several editions. He is now engaged on another law treatise on the "Corporation Law of Illinois," to be published next year by the same publishers.

Mr. Joslyn has contributed to the magazines on political and philosophical subjects and is at present publishing a series of pamphlets upon "Normalism," a philosophy of happiness.

A. C. RINEHIMER.

A prominent representative of industrial interests in Elgin is A. C. Rinehimer, the president of the Rinehimer Brothers Manufacturing Company. This is an important enterprise, employing a large force of workmen in the manufacture of sash, doors and all kinds of interior fixtures. The business was established in 1891, and through the guidance of the members of the firm, has been developed to extensive and profitable proportions, the business standing as visible evidence of the capability and diligence of its owners and promoters.

A. C. Rinehimer is a native of California, his birth having occurred near Sacramento on the 6th of October, 1862. His parents were Emanuel and Eliza Jane (Clark) Rinehimer, the father a native of Pennsylvania, and the mother of the state of New York. They crossed the plains to California in 1860, Mr. Rinehimer being attracted by the gold discoveries on the Pacific coast, and there they remained for six years, or until 1866, when they returned by way of the isthmus of Panama. They made their way to Kane county, Illinois, where they had previously resided, having been early settlers of this part of the state. The father was a carpenter by trade and following his return from the far west continued his residence in Kane county until called to his final home.

A. C. Rinehimer was educated in the public schools and the Elgin Academy, but ere pursuing his academic course he spent two or three years in farm labor in Iowa. After completing his education he began working in the mills, gaining broad and comprehensive knowledge of industrial and mechanical pursuits and interests. In 1891 he established business on the water power in the manufacture of sash, doors and all kinds of interior fixtures and, remaining at their original location for seven years or until 1898, when they removed their plant to its present location at the east end of the Kimball street bridge. There they have a large factory, splendidly equipped with the latest improved machinery for carrying on the business in this line. They employ between thirty and forty workmen, and the excellence of their product insures for them a ready sale on the market, the output being shipped all over this section of the country. The senior member of the firm is Charles C. Rinehimer, elder brother of our subject and a resident of South Haven, Michigan. This makes Mr. Rinehimer, of this review, the manager of the business, to which he devotes his undivided attention.

In 1888 was celebrated the marriage of A. C. Rinehimer and Miss Ada Boyles, of Elgin. They have two children, Charles and Helen. The family

are members of the Episcopal church and the son is serving as secretary of the Sunday school. They take an active interest in the church work, and their influence is always on the side of progress and improvement, while socially they are widely and favorably known.

CHARLES H. BACKUS.

A review of the history of Hampshire in the past quarter of a century will indicate the fact that Charles H. Backus has been a prominent and influential factor in its business development, its municipal progress and its social and political interests. Few men so thoroughly command the respect of their fellow citizens, but throughout his entire life he has never deviated from the principles which constitute upright manhood in all individual and public relations. He has had his residence in Hampshire from the first of April, 1882, and in Illinois from 1879, coming to the middle west in early manhood. He was born in Chaplin, Windham county, Connecticut, June 9, 1856, and is a representative of old New England families established in America in colonial days. Among his ancestors were those who valiantly aided in the struggle for independence and the establishment of a republic. On the maternal side Ephraim Lyon, a descendant of Ponce de Leon, served a number of years during the struggle in various official capacities. For a time he was adjutant in the Twenty-first Massachusetts Regiment, was first lieutenant in Captain Obadiah Johnson's company, Third Regiment, Militia of Boston, was a member of Captain Bute's company of "Lexington Alarms," was first lieutenant in the Third Massachusetts Regiment under General Israel Putnam, and lieutenant in Captain Whiting's company, Fourth Regiment, commanded by Colonel John Ely. Ephraim Lyon's son James married Polly Trowbridge, daughter of James and Mary (Kendall) Trowbridge, the former being a son of Daniel and Hannah (Spring) Trowbridge. Daniel Trowbridge was a sergeant in the Eighth Company under Captain Ingalls, of the Eleventh Regiment from Pomfort, Connecticut. He was chairman of the committee to secure clothing for the Revolutionary soldiers, and was a member of the committee to suggest means to prevent depression of continental money. Mary Lyon, daughter of James and Mary (Trowbridge) Lyon, married Augustus Dodge, whose daughter, Susan, married Jirah L. Backus, father of our subject. He was the son of De Lucena and Olive (Simonds) Backus. The latter was a daughter of Elijah and Martha (Canada) Simonds, her father being a member of the Lexington Alarms from Windham, Connecticut, and was a participant in the battle of Bunker Hill.

After pursuing his education in the public schools to the age of seventeen years, Charles H. Backus engaged in teaching for two years, and with the realization of the value of thorough intellectual training as a preparation for life's responsible duties, entered the Eastman Business College, at Poughkeepsie, New York. Later he again engaged in teaching for two years, prior to his removal to Marengo, Illinois, in the spring of 1879. In his new



CHARLES H. BACKUS

location he was employed as clerk in a general store for a year, and afterward spent two years in the Farmers and Drovers Bank, of Marengo. Seeking broader opportunity and wider scope for his activities in the business world, he came to Hampshire on the 1st of April, 1882, and established the Kane County Bank, which has become one of the solid financial institutions of this part of the state. The safe, conservative policy which he inaugurated has always been maintained, and at the same time the affairs of the bank are conducted in harmony with the progressive spirit which is the feature of the age. On the 2d of April, 1906, the institution was converted into the state bank of Hampshire, of which he is the president. He has never confined his operations solely to banking, but has extended his efforts to various fields in which the public has been an indirect beneficiary. Forming a partnership with E. C. Sholes, he established the pressed brick and tile works of Hampshire, with a capacity of a half million brick and one hundred and fifty thousand tile per annum. He is still interested in this business, which, from the beginning, has proved a profitable investment. For some years prior to 1907 he was interested in the coal trade as the senior partner of the firm of Backus & Maynard. He was also connected with mercantile interests as senior partner of Backus & Sisley, dealers in clothing, boots and shoes, at DeKalb, Illinois. From the last two enterprises, however, he has now withdrawn. His business interests also included financial connection with the Genoa Issue, a weekly paper published at Genoa, Illinois. He is a representative of many insurance companies, and controls considerable business of that character. His investments in land and other properties have been extensive, and his sound judgment and keen discrimination enable him to make wise purchases and profitable sales.

Mr. Backus was married at Geneva, Illinois, January 1, 1884, to Miss Emma L. Sisley, a native of West Chicago, and a daughter of John and Anna Sisley. They have one son, Charles Sisley. In the fraternal relations Mr. Backus is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Masons, the Elks, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of the Globe, the Knights of the Maccabees and the Sons of the American Revolution. He stands today as one of the prominent representatives of the republican party in this district, active in the championship of its principles and unfaltering loyalty to the public good. He has served as village treasurer, as township supervisor, as clerk of the school board, and as a member of the village board, filling all these offices for a number of years. He has now for eight years represented his district in the state legislature, having been elected in 1900 and at each biennial election since that time. That he has been again and again the choice of the people of his district is a fact that stands in incontrovertible evidence of his loyalty to their interests. He is now serving as chairman of the committee of live stock and dairying, and is a member of the committees on county and township organizations, executive department, finance, license, public charities, railroads and state and municipal indebtedness. Never seeking that fleeting notoriety which results from brilliant oratory, he has done much important work along the lines of constructive legislation, and is regarded by his fellow members as one whose judgment is sound, whose

methods are rational and devotion to the general good unmistakable. In the various relations of life in which he has figured, he stands as a man among men, who is without ostentation and yet without the least shadow of mock modesty. The respect in which he is held is a free-will offering given in recognition of true worth.

INCREASE CHILD BOSWORTH.

Honored and respected by all, no man in Kane county has occupied a more enviable position in the public regard than did Increase Child Bosworth, who for many years was the president of the First National Bank of Elgin. His name was also associated with many works of public improvement, and he stood among those who occupied a place in the busy world that made his life a benefit to the community, a source of inspiration and encouragement to his associates and a cherished memory to those who were near and dear to him. He was born in Greenfield township, Saratoga county, New York, April 2, 1812, and was a representative of old American families.

His father, Alfred Bosworth, was a native of Bristol, Rhode Island, and his ancestors were identified with American interests from an early period in the colonization of the new world. He married Olive Child, a daughter of Increase and Olive (Pease) Child, whose progenitors were early settlers among the Knickerbockers of New York. Both the Bosworth and Child families were represented in the American army during the Revolutionary war, Captain Increase Child being a conspicuous officer, who was present at the surrender of General Burgoyne at Saratoga. The Bosworth family was equally noted for patriotism and loyalty and enthusiastic devotion to the Congregational church. The names of members of the family figure prominently on the old records of that denomination, and at the same time are equally common upon the military records of the country. They never swerved from the path of duty in their relations to their country or to their fellowmen and Increase Child Bosworth was fortunate in that he had back of him an ancestry honorable and distinguished. His lines of life were cast in harmony therewith and he was ever recognized as a man fearless in defense of his honest opinions and belief and straightforward in all of his dealings.

He was one of five children, the record of whom is as follows: Mary C., who was born in Saratoga county, New York, October 17, 1799, became the wife of Harry Weed and died in Rock county, Wisconsin, September 20, 1846, leaving two sons and a daughter; Benjamin F., born October 7, 1801, died in McHenry county, Illinois, September 8, 1843. He was married twice. After losing his first wife, who bore the maiden name of Miss Smith, he wedded Elizabeth Nixon. He was a graduate of Union College, read law, afterward studied medicine and eventually became a prosperous merchant. Oliver C., born December 30, 1803, died in Chautauqua county, New York, July 15, 1835. Lucinda S., who became Mrs. Alfred Edwards, was born March 29, 1806, and died July 12, 1849, in Dundee, Illinois. Abi-

gail M., who became the wife of Benjamin Simons, was born June 18, 1809, and died June 4, 1885. The other member of the family was Increase Child Bosworth of this review.

Increase C. Bosworth was reared upon the home farm, but was offered better advantages than fell to the lot of many boys. Back of him was an ancestry, who correctly valued the opportunities of an education, and the Bosworth children were all sent to the public schools, where, making good use of his opportunities, Increase C. Bosworth qualified for teaching, becoming equipped for the profession while still in his minority. He devoted two winters to teaching in his home neighborhood and though he proved a capable educator, imparting readily and clearly to others the knowledge he had acquired, he did not care to make the profession his life work. He was attracted by the opportunities of the west, believing that in the new but growing country a young man would have much better chance to work his way upward than in the older and more thickly settled states of the east.

Accordingly, in 1836, he bade adieu to home and friends and set his face toward the setting sun. On the 12th of November he arrived in Chicago, which had not then been incorporated as a city. It was a straggling town, having as yet but little industrial or commercial importance, and yet having the advantages for the building of a great city. Mr. Bosworth secured a clerkship in the store of Edwards & Bosworth, the former his brother-in-law and the latter his brother. There he soon learned how different were the ways of the west than the east, and he became imbued with the spirit of energy, determination and enterprise that was dominant in this section of the country, and which led to its rapid growth and substantial upbuilding. Two years' experience as a clerk brought him a comprehensive knowledge of merchandising and equipped him to carry on a successful business on his own account. Mr. Edwards had purchased his partner's interest when during one season he went to the east, leaving the store in charge of Increase C. Bosworth, who after a little while learned that one of the debtors on Fox river was about shipping away his goods without paying his liabilities. Mr. Bosworth then mounted his horse, rode to this part of the country, and was in time to save a little of the debt. Following his return to Chicago he learned that another man in debt to the house, and then located near Aurora, was also smuggling his goods out of the country. Again he made the trip on horseback, reached the party, and after some difficulty, secured the whole of this debt to his employer. This occurred at the beginning of what was known as the great financial panic of 1837. So promptly and efficiently had Mr. Bosworth acted that Mr. Edwards was greatly pleased and recognized in the young man one who could be trusted entirely.

Mr. Bosworth, however, had not only carefully looked after his employer's interests, but in so doing had taken a step which resulted most beneficially for Elgin and the Fox river valley. His visit to this district had convinced him that Dundee, where a large gristmill was just being completed, offered an eligible point for the sale of goods, and his employer then offered to furnish him all the goods he wanted and wait for his pay until the sales had been made. The offer was gladly accepted, and thus Mr. Bosworth became a

factor in the business life of Kane county, where he figured so prominently for over a half century. In January, 1838, he opened his store at Dundee, carrying a line of general merchandise. He had studied the wants of the people, knew their needs and equipped his store accordingly. His judgment concerning the advisability of establishing a store here was demonstrated in the passing of time. From the beginning the new enterprise prospered, the sales steadily increasing, and he extended his operations with the growth and demands of the rapidly advancing country about him. Soon after the close of the Civil war he disposed of his store in Dundee and in May, 1867, removed to Elgin, where he continued to reside until called to his final rest. Through the succeeding nine years he was engaged in merchandising in this city and again his establishment secured a liberal patronage, making his trade very profitable.

A man of resourceful ability and wide outlook, he extended his efforts into other lines and in 1876, after about ten years' residence and prosperous business in Elgin, he organized the private banking house of Bosworth, Carpenter & Company, which was equally successful with his mercantile efforts. From the start this became one of the leading moneyed institutions of this part of the state. It secured almost immediately a large and growing patronage, for the members of the firm were men of well known and tried business ability and integrity. They had conducted their bank for about eighteen months when they were asked to take a controlling interest in the First National Bank, and the purchase was made. A little later the private bank was discontinued and merged into the First National Bank. Mr. Bosworth was chosen to the presidency of the latter institution and filled the position up to the time of his demise. His business integrity was unassailable and his methods are of interest to the commercial world, for while starting out in life empty-handed, he attained a position of distinction and prominence among the representatives of commercial and financial interests in Kane county. He based his actions upon the rules which govern unfaltering industry and inflexible reliability. He was never known to take advantage of the necessities of another in a business transaction, but sought out methods which were fair and just alike to the purchaser and the seller, to the banker and to his patron. Men who knew him came to regard his word as good as any bond that was ever solemnized by signature or seal, and what higher encomium can be passed upon an individual than to say, "He was an honest man."

Mr. Bosworth was also connected with many interests of both a public and private nature which contributed in large measure to the progress and prosperity of the community. He was intensely public spirited and his devotion to the general good was manifest in many tangible ways. In an early day he foresaw the wants of this rich agricultural country for cheap and speedy transportation to the markets of the world, understanding perfectly that therein lay the secret of the future of the Prairie state. He was among the founders of the Chicago & Northwestern, the Chicago & Pacific and the Fox River Valley Railroads, becoming one of the chief promoters and a stockholder in all of those lines. He was likewise identified with the manu-

facturing mill at Dundee and later with a similar factory in Elgin. Many other business concerns which were of direct benefit to the community received his endorsement and cooperation. Whatever he undertook he carried forward to successful completion and used no means nor methods that would not bear the closest investigation and scrutiny. While he prospered as the years went by, he never resorted to speculation for his success, but won it along the legitimate lines of commerce.

In an active and useful business career he also found time to recognize the needs of his fellowmen and to aid in meeting them. The cause of education found in him a stalwart champion and he believed firmly in the public-school system. The poor and needy found in him a friend and without ostentation or show he gave generously to those who needed assistance, and, moreover, always had an encouraging word and a pleasant smile, thus shedding around him much of the sunshine of life. For a number of years he was one of the active and helpful trustees of the Illinois Northern Hospital for the Insane at Elgin. He also acted for some years as a trustee of the Chicago University, was a trustee of the Baptist Theological Seminary of Morgan Park, and was also thus connected with the Elgin Academy.

On the 24th of December, 1844, Mr. Bosworth was married to Miss Mary Ann Root, a daughter of Dr. Anson and Lucinda (Wilson) Root. Their family numbered eight children. Eliza, the eldest, became the wife of the Rev. Joshua E. Ambrose, a Baptist minister, and died in 1854. Mary Ann, who was born June 4, 1814, in Genesee county, New York, became the wife of Mr. Bosworth. Julia A. married Milo Kemp and in 1837 became a resident of Batavia. Orpha S. married Samuel Burdick and made her home in Elgin. Anson W. also became a resident of Elgin. Harriet G., who became the wife of A. D. Gifford, died about 1853. Martha was twice married, first becoming Mrs. Anderson and later Mrs. Loomis, and for some years she made her home in California. William went to California in 1850 and died in that state.

Mr. and Mrs. Bosworth had a family of three sons and one daughter. Alfred is mentioned elsewhere in this work. William Eugene, the second member of the Bosworth family, was born October 5, 1848, and was married May 12, 1874, to Ida L. Woodruff. They have two sons: Cyrus L., who was born March 20, 1875; and Ralph R., born December 13, 1882. Abbie L., born June 1, 1851, and Henry Increase, born September 10, 1854, are the younger members of the Bosworth family. The last named was for many years vice president of the First National Bank, Alfred is well known as a capitalist of Elgin and William Eugene was likewise prominent in business circles of the city. He died about four years ago.

The parents were both members of the Baptist church, were generous in its support, and took a most active and helpful part in its work. Mr. Bosworth served as treasurer and church trustee for years, and he also filled various civic offices, including that of supervisor, in which capacity he served for two terms. He was likewise alderman for two terms and for some years was president of the Elgin public library. During the Civil war he was one of the staunch advocates of the Union cause, his deep-seated patriotism being

strongly manifest. He contributed generously to sustain the men in arms at the front as well as their families at home. He lived and labored for the public good in many ways, and his life, honorable and upright, made his record one that was worthy of emulation. He attained the age of seventy-five years and passed away January 11, 1888. Few men have been the object of more genuine affection and he received that sincere respect which the world instinctively pays to the successful man whose course in life is in harmony with the strictest principles of integrity and fidelity. No history of Kane county would be complete without extended mention of Increase C. Bosworth, who for fifty years figured prominently here and wielded a wide influence on the side of improvement, progress, justice, truth and charity.

HENRY JAMES.

Henry James, who was born in Wales on the 5th of May, 1857, passed away in Elgin, March 7, 1897, his parents being William Henry and Elizabeth (Evans) James. The former was likewise a native of Wales and died in that country at the age of eighty years. In 1880 Henry James crossed the Atlantic to the new world and immediately made his way to Udina, Kane county, Illinois, where he carried on agricultural pursuits until 1888, when he took up his abode in Elgin. He then became an employee of the Elgin National Watch Company, entering the machine department, and remaining with the company until his demise. In Wales he had been a nurseryman, and also did something along this line in Elgin in the way of transplanting large trees, being very successful in this undertaking.

On the 20th of May, 1876, Mr. James was married in his native country to Miss Mary Jenkins, a daughter of John and Mary (Edwards) Jenkins. Seven children were born to this union: Elizabeth Jane, born April 13, 1878, married Delmer Dufield, by whom she had one child, Pearl A., and passed away November 20, 1901. Henry Johnson, born March 20, 1882, wedded Miss Chloe Pogue, by whom he has one son, Henry. David William, born April 21, 1884, resides in Elgin, being employed by the Elgin National Watch Company. Arthur Evans, whose birth occurred April 12, 1886, also resides in Elgin and is connected with the same concern. Albert Standey, whose natal day was July 30, 1888, is with the Elgin Silver Plate Company. George, born April 25, 1890, passed away August 5, 1892. Pearl Georgiana, born May 20, 1893, was called to the home beyond about July 29, 1895.

Mr. James was a republican in his political views, but took only a citizen's interest in the work of the party. His religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Congregational church, and he did everything in his power to promote its growth and extend its influence. He was possessed of considerable musical talent and was a good singer. He was popular and well liked by all with whom he came in contact, but was preeminently a man of domestic tastes and found his greatest happiness at his own fireside. Coming to this country when a young man, he here found the business opportunities

which he sought, and in their utilization gained a good measure of success, winning at the same time the warm friendship and esteem of his fellow citizens by reason of his well spent, upright and honorable life.

ALBRECHT IKERT.

Albrecht Ikert, general manager of the Elgin Rug Manufacturing Company, was born in the old historic town of Insterburg, in East Prussia, which was built in the twelfth century. His natal day was April 1, 1853. Spending his boyhood days in his father's home, he was provided with liberal educational advantages, devoting seven years to the study of Latin, five years to French and four years to English. He thus gained comprehensive knowledge of the different tongues and his education in these directions has been of the utmost benefit to him, for he has traveled extensively in foreign lands, where he has found ample use for his knowledge. He also speaks the German language, and his curriculum included geography, mathematics, science, chemistry and physics. As one's horizon is broadened by educational opportunities, so Mr. Ikert desired to see something of the world concerning which he had studied, and not being able to travel because of financial limitations, he resolved to accomplish his purpose in some other way. He, therefore, shipped on a sailing vessel when only sixteen years of age in the capacity of ship boy. He followed the sea for fourteen years, spending one year of that time in the Royal Navy and passing through consecutive grades until he became captain of a vessel. Twelve times he crossed the equator and sailed all of the seas, except the Mediterranean. He visited many ports in various lands and gained a knowledge of the country and the people which can only be gained through travel.

Mr. Ikert was married in 1878, in the city of Bremen, Germany, to Miss Catharine Ruther. He made but one voyage after his marriage, giving up the sea in order to come to America in 1881. He made his way direct to Elgin, and for some time was with the late C. J. Shults, a well known dealer in dry goods and carpets, with whom he continued for fourteen years, filling the responsible position of general manager of the house. In 1898 he organized the Elgin Rug Manufacturing Company, in which he was still associated with Mr. Shults, and, in fact, their relations continued until the death of the latter in 1901. Mr. Ikert then formed the present company, incorporated it and has since been general manager. The company manufactures all kinds of carpets and rugs and employs as many as twenty-five men. He has made the business a most successful enterprise, it becoming one of the leading productive industries of the city.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Ikert has been blessed with three children who are yet living: Carl, Charlotte and Bruno. His membership relations include the Bankers' Life Insurance Company of Des Moines, Iowa, the Archæan Union, the Modern Woodmen and the Masonic fraternity. Viewed in a personal light, Mr. Ikert is a strong man, strong in his ability to plan

and to perform, strong in his honor and his good name. Dependent upon his own resources from the age of sixteen years, he has made a creditable record for that steady progress and straightforward dealing which eventually reach their objective point. His fellowmen entertain for him the warmest respect and he is regarded as a valued addition to the business circles of Elgin, while in the matters of citizenship he is public spirited and progressive, advocating all that pertains to general advancement and improvement.

CHARLES W. LEHMANN.

Charles W. Lehmann, practicing at the Kane county bar as a member of the firm of Ranstead, Lehmann & Fuller, attorneys of Elgin, was born in Roxbury, Massachusetts, December 3, 1874, a son of Charles J. and Gertrude (Engmann) Lehmann, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father came to America about 1852 and the mother arrived in 1868. They became residents of Boston, Massachusetts, and after residing in the east for some years Charles W. Lehmann brought his family to Elgin, Illinois, in 1875, in order that he might accept a position as maker of main springs with the Elgin National Watch Company, with which he was continuously connected for twenty-eight years, being one of its oldest and most trusted employes. He is now living retired, enjoying a rest which he has truly earned and richly merits.

Charles W. Lehmann, brought to this city when less than a year old, completed his more specifically literary education in the high school and the Elgin Academy. He prepared for the practice of law in Chicago, entering the Kent College of Law, from which he was graduated with the class of 1895. He then went to Europe, where he attended the Heidelberg University for a year, and upon his return to his native land took up his abode in Chicago, where he entered the law office of Pam. Donnelly & Glennon, with whom he remained for three years, putting his theoretical knowledge to the practical test in the duties which were assigned him in that connection. During that period he earned a sufficient sum to enable him to prepare, as a student in the Lake Forest Academy, for entrance to Harvard College. He was graduated from the former in 1899 and later entered Harvard, but after three months spent in that university he returned home, was married and again went to Europe, spending about a year abroad in travel through foreign countries.

Upon his return to Elgin, Mr. Lehmann opened a law office and practiced alone for about four years, on the expiration of which period he entered into partnership with the Hon. J. W. Ranstead and P. B. Fuller under the style of Ranstead, Lehmann & Fuller. This firm is still in existence and is one of the strongest at the bar of northern Illinois, having an extensive clientage of an important character. They confine their attention largely to money loans, chancery and probate work and in this connection have gained a high reputation.



CHARLES W. LEHMANN

On the 14th of December, 1899, Mr. Lehmann was married to Miss Janet Mercy Ranstead, a daughter of Judge J. W. Ranstead, and they now have one son, Ranstead Siebert, born October 31, 1902. Interested in community affairs, Mr. Lehmann gives active and helpful cooperation to many measures of public benefit. He is the president of the board of water commissioners and is a member of a number of fraternal organizations, in which he is always received as a welcome visitor.

GEORGE SPENCER ADAMS.

The growth and development of a city is due not to a few, but to the enterprise and diligence of the many business men who conduct legitimate enterprises along progressive and honorable lines. In this connection, therefore, George Spencer Adams deserves mention, for he is a wide-awake and alert business man of the city, dealing in sporting goods and automobiles. His birth here occurred on the 27th of September, 1872, his parents being John S. and Fannie A. (Smith) Adams, who were pioneers of Kane county.

The father was foreman for the Elgin National Watch Company for a number of years and was a man of marked ability and enterprise in mechanical lines. He designed a model steel bridge at a period when such structures had not come into general use and it was his hope that his bridge would replace the old wooden structure across the Fox river in Elgin. He also designed the breech block system while in active military service under General Butler, and this was used on Sharpe's carbine cavalry rifle. It was a great sensation as an innovation in firearms at that time. He submitted the patent to President Lincoln, it was accepted and he was placed in charge of the work of manufacturing the rifles. He was also the inventor of the electric tower, which is now a popular feature in many cities. Indeed he possessed superior talent and ingenuity in the lines of invention and designed some of the most useful machinery that is today a feature of the watch factory. At the time of his death he was in charge of the designing department of the electric light system of New Orleans and he also made the plans for the present sewer and flushing system of that city. He died April 12, 1894, on the day when they made their first excavations in the Crescent city for the sewer system. His ability in mechanical lines won him wide reputation and prominence. He was prominent in politics during his residence in Elgin and was also one of the organizers of the Young Men's Christian Association here. All good works done in the name of charity and religion received his support and he did much to further their interests, for his entire life was actuated by broad humanitarian principles.

George Spencer Adams, whose name introduces this review, was educated in the public schools of Elgin and afterward learned the machinist's trade, which he followed in the employ of others until 1896, when he engaged in business for himself. He now deals in automobiles, handling the Buick car, and also has a large stock in sporting goods, talking machines, phono-

graphs and bicycles, at the same time conducting repairs of all kinds in these lines. He occupies a large store at No. 210 and 212 East Chicago street, where he employs about six men. He has met with creditable and gratifying success in his undertakings and ranks among the best business men of his native city.

On the 9th of January, 1895, Mr. Adams was married to Miss Alice E. Cannan, of Elgin, a daughter of Robert Cannan, of this city. Well known in fraternal organizations, Mr. Adams is connected with the Masonic lodge, Loyall L. Munn Chapter, R. A. M., the Elks and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His entire life has been passed in the city of his nativity, and he feels just pride in what has been accomplished here, always giving his support and allegiance to measures and movements calculated to prove of public benefit. In business circles and in social life he has gained a wide and favorable acquaintance and the success that he has achieved in commercial lines is proof of well directed activity and capable executive control.

PHILIP FREILER.

Philip Freiler, a distiller and wholesale liquor dealer, of Elgin, was born in Hartford, Connecticut, April 3, 1860. His parents were Joseph and Mary (Bachrach) Freiler, who in the year 1867 removed with their family to Chicago. In that city Philip Freiler acquired his education as a public-school student and in early life he became engaged in the liquor trade, with which his father and brother-in-law were connected in Chicago. After some years the father established a wholesale liquor business in Elgin, and in 1883 sold it to his son Philip, who has since remained at the head of the enterprise. He is also interested in one of the largest distilleries in Kentucky, where the famous brands of liquors which he handles are manufactured. He is a man of good business capacity and enterprise and he also owns stock in several banks in Elgin. His investments have been judiciously made and his success has resulted from his keen business discrimination and stalwart purpose.

Mr. Freiler is not unknown in political circles. In fact, he is recognized as a strong and able follower of the democracy, and one whose efforts have been effective in its ranks. During the administration of Governor Altgeld he was appointed and served as treasurer of the Illinois Hospital for the Insane. He is likewise well known in fraternal circles. In Masonry he has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite and is also a noble of the Mystic Shrine. He is likewise a director of the local Masonic Temple Association. He has been treasurer of the Elks' Lodge since its organization and is also a member of the Knights of Pythias. His brethren of these fraternities find him a genial, social gentleman of many good qualities, and entertain for him most kindly regard.

In 1883 Mr. Freiler was married to Miss Lizzie Ehrlich, of New York city, and they now have three children: Florence J., Hilda Valerie and Ruth Beatrice. A resident of the middle west from the age of seven years, Mr.

Freiler has been imbued with the spirit of enterprise and progress which have been the dominant factors in the upbuilding of this great section of the country. In his business career he has been watchful of opportunities and has improved many which others have passed by heedlessly. The years have brought him success, and he is now numbered among the prominent residents of Elgin.

FRANK WEBSTER.

Frank Webster, conducting a livery barn and dealing in horses in Elgin, is numbered among Kane county's native sons, his birth having occurred at Geneva, on the 12th of September, 1849. His parents were William G. and Margaret E. (Pierce) Webster.

The father was a native of Jefferson county, New York, born in 1811, and the mother's birth occurred in Vermont in the same year. She came with her parents and two brothers to Kane county, Illinois, in 1837, and was married in 1840, the wedding ceremony being performed by Charles Metcalf, in Geneva, Kane county. Mr. Webster had arrived in the county in 1838 and entered land from the government. This portion of the state was largely wild and unimproved. Here and there a few settlements had been made and some of the older towns had sprung into existence, but many of the new flourishing towns and villages of Illinois had not as yet been founded. Mr. Webster kept a tavern in Geneva for many years, or until it was destroyed by fire on the 29th of May, 1865. He also conducted a livery business and had the first contract to carry the mail from the depot to the postoffice. He served as deputy sheriff in 1871, and thus, as the years passed by, he was more or less active in public affairs, aided in the development of the county and lived to see it emerge from pioneer conditions and take on all of the evidences of a modern civilization. He died April 8, 1887, and his wife passed away on the 3d of the same month. They had traveled life's journey together for forty-seven years, were born in the same year and were separated by death for only three days. Mrs. Webster taught the first school in Geneva, Illinois, and like her husband, was closely associated with the pioneer life and interests of the community. They were the parents of two sons and two daughters: Elizabeth, born May 15, 1841, in Elgin; Mary E., born in Geneva, August 20, 1843; William H., born at Blackberry, Illinois, July 12, 1846; and Frank, of this review. Four cousins of our subject were soldiers of the Civil war, and one served as an officer of colored troops.

Frank Webster was educated in the public schools of his native county, and during war times was a newsboy on passenger trains of the North-Western Railroad. After leaving that service he went to Aurora, Illinois, and engaged in clerking in a grocery store until the spring of 1871. He then turned his attention to the livery business at Geneva and conducted it until 1883, after which he established a livery barn in Elgin, where he has since continued. He not only rents out horses and carriages but also deals in

horses and has built up a good business in both lines. He is known as one thoroughly reliable in all his trade transactions, and his earnest desire to please those who come to him has secured him a liberal and growing patronage.

On the 27th of September, 1882, Mr. Webster was married to Miss Marian W. Conkling, of St. Charles, Illinois. Fraternaly he is connected with the blue lodge, chapter and commandery in Masonry and he also belongs to the Modern Woodmen. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, and he has been three times elected to represent the fourth ward in the city council, thus serving for six years. He has exercised his official prerogatives in support of progressive, public measures, his labors proving an element in municipal advancement. He is interested in all those things which are a matter of civic virtue and civic pride, and is a worthy representative of a prominent old pioneer family.

HON. JOHN A. LOGAN.

Hon. John A. Logan, among the native sons of Elgin, whom the city has honored because of the public recognition of his worth, has left the impress of his individuality, both upon business and political circles. Native sagacity, far-seeing judgment and indefatigable energy have so entered into his makeup as to render him a natural leader of thought and a molders of public opinion.

He was born in Elgin, August 9, 1861, a son of John and Julia (Murphy) Logan. The father was born in County Galway, Ireland, January 24, 1820, and died in this city March 16, 1866. His wife was a native of Cork, and passed away in Elgin, January 20, 1874, at the age of forty-three years. They were married in Machias, Washington county, Maine, about 1848, and three of their children, Mary, Nellie and Julia, were born in Maine, while the younger members of the family, Thomas J., John A. and Margaret, were all born in Elgin. The subject of this review, however, is the only one now living. The family located in Elgin about 1855, and the father worked in the distillery here for Pease, Lawrence & Maloney. His father, Owen Logan, was born in County Galway, Ireland, June 24, 1790, and died in Elgin, February 22, 1873. In his native land he had engaged in school teaching.

At the usual age John A. Logan became a pupil in the public schools of this city but his opportunities were limited, owing to the fact that his father's financial circumstances did not permit of any luxuries and comparatively few of the comforts of life in the home. He died, too, when his son was but a small boy, and the mother passed away a few years later. As it was necessary for John A. Logan to provide for his own support he began working in the brickyards near the Fox river switch, being there employed for two years. He afterward became a brakeman on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, and in due time, in recognition of his ability and faithfulness, was made a conductor. He was also in charge of the yards in this city and eventually became a passenger conductor, which position he resigned

to engage in the real-estate business. He gave his attention alternately to business pursuits and official service for a considerable period. He was appointed deputy sheriff in 1888, filling the office until 1891, when he resigned.

In 1894 he was appointed United States deputy marshal and served for four years or during President Cleveland's second administration, for the northern district of Illinois. During that time he fully demonstrated his abilities as an officer and won distinction during the great strike at Chicago, being severely wounded in a desperate encounter with the rioters. While in that city, in his official capacity, he arrested Eugene V. Debs and his followers, who were causing so much of the disturbance. Soon after the expiration of his term as United States deputy marshal he was appointed chief of police of Elgin and remained as the leading executive officer in that department of the public service, proving most efficient. He was appointed by the mayor and again, by his capability and fidelity, showed that the trust reposed in him was well merited. In 1900 he was elected a member of the state legislature, succeeding Hon. Samuel Alschuler.

In the fall of 1901 he resigned as chief of police and organized the Northern Lakes Ice Company, of which he became the president and manager. In this connection he has established and erected immense ice houses at Pistaqua Bay, where he also has a pleasant summer home. He is vice president of the Walworth Condensed Milk Company, and was engaged in the wholesale ice and ice cream business in Chicago until 1905, when he sold out to the Knickerbocker Ice Company. In 1906 he incorporated the Elgin National Brewing Company; of which he was director and secretary until the 1st of January, 1908, when he resigned. He is now engaged in the sewer and street contracting business, and in this connection is securing a large patronage. Whether in business circles or in political office Mr. Logan has always been deeply interested in everything pertaining to the public welfare and has labored for those measures and movements which have proven of general good. He was but twenty-three years of age when he was elected alderman and for nine years served as a member of the city council. In all of his public life he has placed the general welfare before partisanship and has made personal aggrandizement subservient to the advancement of the public good. He is, however, a staunch advocate of democratic principles and for fifteen years has been chairman of the town democratic committee. At the present writing he is a member of the senatorial committee, with which he has been associated for ten or twelve years. Recently he was elected to succeed the Hon. D. J. Hogan as a member of the democratic state central committee for the eleventh congressional district. He has also been president of the civil service commission of Elgin.

Mr. Logan married Miss Mary A. Althen, a daughter of the late Casper Althen, one of the most prominent German-American citizens of Elgin. They have two children, John and Margaret. Mr. Logan is well known in fraternal circles, belonging to Elgin lodge, A. F. & A. M., to Oriental consistory, S. P. R. S., and to Medina Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of Chicago. He likewise is connected with Lochiel lodge, K. P., and the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks, while of the Hillside Club at Pistaqua Bay he has

been president. When we recognize the fact that he started out in life empty-handed, with no special advantages in his youth, and note the place of distinction to which he has attained, it seems that he has reached it by leaps and bounds, and his life record proves that positions of public honor are reached through the highway of public usefulness. Character growth and the development of his latent powers and energies have placed him where he stands today, among the most successful and best known residents of Elgin. He early learned to value people and opportunities at their true worth and to correctly judge life's contact and experiences, and thus with no untried standards and no false promises he has worked his way upward until he has gained success in business and also been accorded high honors by his fellowmen.

ALEXANDER C. LITTLE.

Alexander C. Little, an attorney of Aurora, was born at Rome, Oneida county, New York, in 1836, his parents being John and Nancy (Rae) Little, who were natives of Dumfriesshire, Scotland, and relatives of Thomas Carlyle and Edward Irving. They came to the United States in the '30s, settling in Oneida county, New York, where the father engaged in farming. He remained a resident of the Empire state for many years and then, in 1851, came to Kane county, Illinois, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits up to the time of his death, which occurred at Big Rock, in this county, in 1860. He was a Presbyterian in religious faith and a republican in his political belief, becoming connected with the party upon its organization. His wife, long surviving him, passed away in 1879.

Alexander C. Little, having pursued a public-school course of study, afterward began preparation for the practice of medicine at the age of eighteen years under the direction of Dr. W. Danforth, of Joliet. Later he was graduated from the medical department of the Iowa College at Keokuk in 1858, and during the year prior to his graduation he practiced in partnership with his former preceptor, Dr. Danforth. On the completion of his medical course he attended the seminary at Aurora until 1862, wishing for a broader general knowledge to serve as the foundation for his professional advancement. In July of the latter year, however, he put aside all business and personal considerations and enlisted for service in the Union army. He organized a company but, as there was no need for it at that time, it was not mustered in and disbanded. With fifteen of his men, Mr. Little then went to Plano, where he enlisted as a member of Company K of the One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry. His first service was at Camp Douglas, where he was appointed orderly sergeant, and in November the regiment was ordered to Memphis, Tennessee, and assigned to General Sherman's division, with which Mr. Little was connected until the close of the war. From Memphis he went on the Chickasaw Bayou expedition and took part in the battle in December. He was afterward with his command at Arkansas Post, participating in the engagements at that place, where five



A. C. LITTLE

thousand Confederate troops were made prisoners. Later Mr. Little went to Vicksburg and was under command of General Grant at Young's Point, serving in that vicinity until the surrender of the city. While at Young's Point in March, 1863, he was appointed captain. After the fall of Vicksburg he was ordered to Chattanooga and served through that campaign. When relieved at that point he went with his company to Knoxville and relieved Burnside and afterward returned to Larkinsville, where General Sherman was organizing his Georgia campaign. At the battle of Kenesaw Mountain he was in command of the regiment, owing to the illness of the colonel and the withdrawal of the major, being appointed to the command by General Giles A. Smith. He was ever in the hottest of the fight and so marshaled his troops and planned their movements that he was complimented the next day by the General for his gallantry. He served through the Georgia campaign until the fall of Atlanta and in the engagement on August 3, 1864, he was wounded while commanding the left wing of the regiment. He then went to the north but later was sent to Chattanooga, where he was ordered to organize from the detachment of the Fifteenth Army Corps a command to go to the relief of General Ammen at Knoxville. His command consisted of six hundred men and after performing the duty designated he returned to Loudon, Tennessee, and took charge there, guarding the bridge. He was afterward at Cleveland, Tennessee, where he was assigned to duty on the staff of General Boughton, with whom he remained until ordered to rejoin his regiment. At Goldsboro, North Carolina, he was aide-de-camp on the staff of General Boughton and after arriving at Goldsboro the provisional division was discharged and Captain Little was assigned to the Second Missouri Engineer Corps of the Army of the Tennessee. He served in that position until his arrival in Washington, when he was mustered out on the 5th of June, 1865. The foregoing record will indicate the valuable character of his service and his unflinching loyalty to duty. He proved a gallant soldier and officer, inspiring his men by his own valor and loyalty and his record was altogether a most creditable one. When the country no longer needed his military aid Captain Little returned to Aurora and entered Antioch College to review his studies, becoming a member of the senior class. In Aurora he took up the study of law under the direction of the Hon. Charles Wheaton and was admitted to the bar in 1867, since which time he has engaged continuously in practice. While advancement in the law is proverbially slow, he yet, year after year, made steady progress toward that success which forms the goal of all the hopes of the ambitious lawyer. His first partner was the Hon. B. F. Parks, with whom he was connected in 1873-74. He was afterward associated with L. Isham White for a year and five years later took in as a partner, George W. Avery. He subsequently practiced in partnership with Ira Smith but for a number of years has been alone. He is watchful of all the details of his cases and yet never for a moment loses sight of the important point upon which the decision of a case always turns. He never neglects the work of the office which must always precede the forceful presentation of a cause in the courts and is regarded as a most faithful minister in the temple of justice.

Mr. Little is also well known in connection with political interests and public service in the city. He is a stalwart republican, recognized as one of the valuable members of the party and has filled many offices, in which his loyalty to the trust reposed in him has ever been above question. In 1869 he was alderman of the Eleventh ward and in 1874 he was elected mayor. During his term in that office he organized the public library, which is a most valuable institution of the city. He has served as city attorney both before and since his administration as mayor and in all his varied relations to the public, whether as an officer or as a private citizen, he has contributed to general progress and substantial upbuilding.

Mr. Little was married January 18, 1877, to Miss Bonnie B. Snow, a daughter of Professor Snow, a native of Massachusetts. She died November 30, 1903. Mr. Little is prominent socially and is a valued member of the Grand Army post. Throughout his entire life he has been as loyal in citizenship in days of peace as when he followed the old flag upon southern battlefields. His fidelity to duty is one of his strong characteristics whether manifest in the public service, in his social relations or in his professional connections.

ALFRED E. PLEAVIN, M.D.

Dr. Alfred E. Pleavin, engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in Elgin, was born in Birkenhead, England, in March, 1880. His father, Dr. Alfred Pleavin, was graduated from the Buffalo (N. Y.) University in that year and, returning to England, located at Birkenhead, where he has since remained as an active representative of his profession.

His son, Dr. Alfred E. Pleavin, was reared at Birkenhead and pursued his education in the schools of Liverpool and Edinburgh, Scotland. He is a graduate of Middleton College at New Brighton on the west coast of England and also holds a classical certificate from the Royal College of Preceptors of London. He made three flying visits to America before coming here to locate. Attracted by the opportunities of the new world, he crossed the Atlantic in 1901 to become a permanent resident of the United States and, having determined to make the practice of medicine and surgery his life work, he entered the Bennett Medical College of Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1905. He then returned to Europe and practiced in his home town for four months, after which he again came to the United States and located at No. 109 Walnut avenue in Elgin. He is the only physician on the west side of the river and has built up a very lucrative and extensive practice. He is now serving on the staff of the Sherman Hospital and is physician and surgeon for the Sons of St. George and for the Owls. He is likewise local medical examiner for the Yeomen of America.

In 1903 Dr. Pleavin was married to Miss Katharine James, a native of Manchester, England, who with her husband is also a practicing physician. She, too, is a graduate of the Bennett Medical College, completing the course in 1906. In early life she attended school in Manchester, England, and

engaged in teaching at Keighley, that country. Since 1899 she has been a resident of America, in which year she located in Chicago and since her graduation she has been in active practice. Both husband and wife are able physicians and the labors and successes of each are augmented by the fact that they have the benefit of the other's experience in consultation. They hold membership with the Episcopal church and are winning many friends in social as well as in professional circles.

R. W. THORNTON.

R. W. Thornton, the only broker of Elgin, is conducting a good business, and is thoroughly informed concerning the value of stocks, bonds and other investments. He was born in Carlinville, Illinois, May 5, 1868, and the public schools afforded him his early educational privileges, which were supplemented by study in Western Normal College at Bushnell, Illinois. For five years he engaged in teaching school, and in 1892 came to Elgin, where for twelve years he was connected with the Elgin National Watch Company, being the first automatic operator in the factory. In 1903, however, he embarked in business on his own account as a stock and investment broker and has since continued in this line, having offices in the Sherwin block. He enjoys the distinction of being the only broker in Elgin and he is a correspondent of operators in Chicago, New York and Boston, to which cities he has private telegraph wires. He conducts a general brokerage business and keeping thoroughly in touch with the market is enabled to make judicious investments for his patrons and win success for himself through the careful conduct of his interests.

In 1892 Mr. Thornton was married to Miss Ida F. Anderson, a native of Girard, Illinois, and they have one daughter, Doris, who was born in 1898. They are well known in social circles in the community and the hospitality of the best homes is extended them.

JACOB B. COVEY.

Jacob B. Covey, who was for many years prominently connected with the building interests of Elgin as senior member of the firm of Covey & Sons, was born in Cossackie, Greene county, New York, August 27, 1836. He accompanied his parents, Ebenezer W. and Mary (Bush) Covey, on their removal westward in 1848, the family home being established on a farm in Palatine township, Cook county, Illinois, where the father resided until his death, in 1861, when he had attained the age of fifty-two years. His wife, long surviving him, passed away in Elgin in 1905, being at that time ninety-one years of age.

Jacob B. Covey spent part of his young life on a farm in Barrington Center, Cook county, when he made his way to Elgin in 1882, here he became connected with the contracting and building business under the firm style of Covey & Sons. He was connected with this line of activity until his death, which occurred October 14, 1906, and many of the substantial structures of Elgin stand as monuments to his architectural skill and ability, the concern of which he was a member, being principally engaged in the building of residences.

On the 2d of May, 1860, Mr. Covey was united in marriage to Miss Caroline E. Sabin, a daughter of Sylvester R. and Phoebe (Clapp) Sabin, by whom he had three children. Herbert E. wedded Miss Emma Parks, of Pennsylvania, and has four children: Lucile, Roy James, Helen and Herbert Jacob. Merrills E. married Miss Jennie Townsend, by whom he has one child, Howard Townsend. Minnie E. is a widow and has two children, Ray Schoonhoven and Ethel Irene Parks. Mrs. Covey had three brothers who lost their lives in the Civil war while defending the interests of the Union. She passed away November 27, 1907, at Santa Ana, California, where she and her daughter, Mrs. Parks, were spending the winter.

In his political views Mr. Covey was a staunch republican, and served as school director for more than twenty years, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart champion. While residing in Barrington, Cook county, he also acted as constable. Both he and his wife were connected with the Methodist Episcopal church from early manhood and womanhood, and he served as one of its stewards. He was widely recognized as a prominent and successful business man of Elgin, and as a public-spirited citizen who gave liberally of his time and means to every movement or measure instituted for the general welfare of the city.

JOHN REED.

John Reed, who carries on general farming in Batavia township, where he is known and respected as one of the leading and enterprising agriculturists, is a native of the state of New York, his birth having occurred at Glens Falls, Warren county, March 26, 1840. His father, Patrick Reed, was a native of Ireland and when he had arrived at years of maturity he wedded Mary Kelley, who was also born on the Emerald Isle. They came to the United States at an early day, probably about 1835, and settled in New York, making their home at Glens Falls. The father followed the mason's trade.

Reared in his parents' home, John Reed acquired his education in the public schools and early became familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. On starting out in life on his own account he followed farming and was thus engaged until he came to the west in 1884. He believed that he would have better opportunities to secure land at a reasonable price in this section of the country and also justly regarded the land as a better value than that in the east because of its productive qualities. He

purchased a tract two and a half miles west of Batavia, securing thirty acres of fine land. In the intervening years he has since carried on general farming and his labors have been attended with a measure of success that is most gratifying.

About forty-five years ago Mr. Reed was united in marriage to Miss Mariette Williams, of Glens Falls, New York. Their children are three in number. Emma is the wife of Sidney Masters and has two children. May, who was born in April, 1873, and died in August, 1904, was the wife of John Macumber and left two children. Hattie Bell is the wife of William Wilson and has four children. In his political views Mr. Reed is a republican, having continuously supported the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He has now lived in this county for thirty-six years and is well known to many of its citizens, especially in Batavia township and this locality. His fellow townsmen have recognized that his rules of life are such as have their foundation in strict and unswerving integrity, indefatigable energy and laudable purpose. He has met with success in his farming operations and well deserves the prosperity that has come to him.

MILTON J. BEVERLY.

The fact that Geneva is the seat of justice for Kane county calls to this city many substantial and representative men, and Mr. Beverly belongs to that class who in the faithful discharge of official duties is making a creditable and commendable record. He resides at Maple Park, Illinois, where his birth occurred December 11, 1874. He is a son of Albert and Leannah (Bennett) Beverly. The father was born in Oneida county, New York, March 12, 1825, and his father, also a native of the Empire state, was a farmer by occupation and lived near Jamestown, Oneida county, where his death occurred at the venerable age of eighty-three years. His wife also survived to an old age, and they reared a large family, but only one is now living. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Jacob Bennett, a native of Ohio, who lived near Akron, Ohio, and whose wife bore the name of Sarah.

Albert Beverly followed farming during the greater part of his active life and following his removal from the east came to Illinois in 1843. Here he worked as a farm hand by the month for a short period, after which he returned to the Empire state. Subsequently he spent one winter in the pineries of Wisconsin, and in 1845 again came to Kane county, settling in Virgil township, where he purchased and improved a farm, there carrying on general agricultural pursuits for many years. He is now the owner of two hundred and ten acres of rich and productive land, but lives retired in Maple Park, now spending his days in well earned ease. He has always been generous with his children, yet has succeeded in accumulating a competency for old age. At the same time he is recognized as a public-spirited man, who has contributed freely to the support of many enterprises of benefit to his community. He is well known and highly respected, his record winning for him

the confidence and trust of those with whom he has come in contact. For sixteen years he served as township assessor, his long connection with the office indicating his capable discharge of duty. Albert Beverly has been married three times. He first wedded Mary Jenkins, who died a few months later. His second union was with Mary Smith and they had three children: John A., a resident of Chicago; Carrie, the wife of Frank B. Wilkinson, of Chemung, Illinois; and Walter, who died in 1902. His wife had passed away previously and they left one son, Arthur Lee. For his third wife Albert Beverly chose Leannah Bennett, a native of Ohio, and they became the parents of six children, three of whom survive: Hattie E., now the wife of Ernest L. Fowler, of West Chicago; Milton J., who is living at Maple Park; and Mercedes, the wife of Harry Kenyon, of Maple Park.

Milton J. Beverly was reared at Maple Park and attended the public schools there, completing his course by graduation from the high school with the class of 1891. He then pursued a course in the Metropolitan Business College of Chicago and entered upon his business career in the general store of L. C. Clyne, of Maple Park, remaining in his employ for about eight years. He was called to public office November 20, 1900, through his appointment as deputy county clerk, and on the 1st of December, 1902, he became deputy probate clerk under Peter Klein, of Aurora, there remaining for four years. In November, 1906, he was elected probate clerk, which office he now fills. He also served as tax collector for the township of Virgil from 1897 until 1900 inclusive. He is now serving for his fifth year on the village board of trustees of Maple Park, and is likewise a member of the school board. His various official duties have been faithfully performed, as is indicated by the fact that his fellow townsmen have called him to all these different offices. It was Lincoln who said, "You can fool all of the people some of the time, some of the people all of the time, but you can't fool all of the people all of the time," and in view of this fact, when a man has been again and again called to public office by the vote of his fellow townsmen it is proof that they have trust in his ability and know him to be faithful to this trust. Mr. Beverly votes with the republican party, and his official record is indeed commendable.

On the 13th of December, 1893, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Beverly and Miss Marcellia Kenyon, a daughter of Oliver and Sarah (Dutton) Kenyon. Her father was born in Illinois and her mother in Canada. Mr. Kenyon was a soldier of the Civil war and lived in Chicago until after the great fire of 1871, there following the trade of carpentering. He then removed to Blunt, North Dakota, and afterward to Billings, Missouri, whence he came to Maple Park, where his death occurred January 1, 1899. His widow still survives him. Their family numbered three children, who grew to years of maturity: Harry Kenyon, of Maple Park; Mrs. Beverly; and O. C. Kenyon, of Geneva. Mr. and Mrs. Beverly have one son, Francis Marsteller.

Mr. Beverly is a Methodist in religious faith, while his wife belongs to St. Mary's Catholic church. In Masonry he has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite and he belongs to the blue lodge of Aurora, to

Sycamore chapter, R. A. M., to Aurora commandery, K. T., West Chicago council, R. & S. M., and Medinah temple of the Mystic Shrine. He is likewise connected with the De Kalb lodge of Elks, Mystic Trial Lodge, No. 419, K. P., of Geneva, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Court of Honor, the Independent Order of Foresters and the Knights of the Globe. He is a welcome visitor in the meetings of these different organizations and is personally popular with his fellowmen.

HIRAM PERRY.

Hiram Perry, deceased, was born at Elbridge, Onondaga county, New York, June 10, 1832, his parents being George and Katherine (Schultz) Perry. The father, who was born near Syracuse, Schoharie county, New York, and a farmer by occupation, was descended from Commodore Perry. His wife's birth occurred on the Mohawk river, in Pennsylvania, and she passed away in 1864. In 1838 the family came westward, settling on a farm in Campton township, Kane county, which is now owned by John Perry, an adopted son of a brother of our subject. Mr. and Mrs. George Perry had a family of eleven children, ten sons and one daughter, all of whom were offered a college education, but only five took advantage of this offer. The father was widely recognized as a very successful agriculturist and substantial citizen, and both he and his wife passed away on the old home farm in Campton township.

Hiram Perry supplemented his preliminary education, acquired in the public schools of Campton and in Elgin Academy, by a three years' course in Charlotteville College at Walnut Hills, Ohio, of which institution several of his brothers are also graduates. He taught singing school when a young man, was very popular and made many friends. After following farming for some years he came to Elgin in 1868, and here became a pruner or tree trimmer, which line of activity he successfully followed until the time of his death, on the 30th of July, 1894. In 1861 he enlisted for service in the Civil war as a private of Company I, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Regiment, but while in the service was taken ill and remained in the hospital most of the time. He returned home with typhoid fever, and did not rejoin his company on account of his health. In fact, he never fully recovered from the effects of his military experience. Two of his brothers, however, served throughout the entire period of hostilities.

On the 31st of December, 1855, Mr. Perry was united in marriage to Miss Marcia Cole, a daughter of Osman and Betsy Maria (Bostwick) Cole, of St. Charles, Kane county. Her father, who was born September 16, 1810, followed farming in Plato township, but subsequently removed to Elgin, where his demise occurred February 24, 1891. His wife, who was born in Vermont, May 11, 1810, passed away in October, 1883. The Bostwicks were of Scotch descent, but the members of the family who settled in America

came from England. They trace their ancestry back for hundreds of years to Prince Bostwick and are a very prominent family in England.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Perry were born five children, the record of whom is as follows: Herbert F. married Emma Smales, and has seven children: Royal, who wedded Miranda Morell; Amy, who passed away at the age of two and a half years; Zetta; Mary Bertha, the wife of Eugene Rawn; Herbert; Myrtle, who died when two years of age; and Claud. Effie J. became the wife of Fred Gillett, by whom she has two children, Etoile and Charles. Bertha, whose demise occurred May 31, 1887, was the wife of George Adams, by whom she had one child, Clyde. Charles H. married Cora Alice, and has two children, Percy Ralph and Gladys Irene. Walter V. married Clara S. Schondlemeyer, who passed away February 14, 1898, leaving two children, Gail and Harold. He was afterward joined in wedlock to Miss Rose Mey Hungerford.

Mr. Perry gave his political allegiance to the republican party, and was a member of the Congregational church. He was connected with the Elgin volunteer fire department for a number of years, and was a very public-spirited citizen, giving his support to every movement or measure calculated to advance the material, political, intellectual and moral development of the community.

FRANK W. MERRILL.

The business affairs of Kaneville are well represented by Frank W. Merrill, who is prominently identified with a number of enterprises which have proven important factors in the upbuilding of his town and county. He is a very wide-awake, energetic business man and usually carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

Mr. Merrill was born on the 28th of February, 1853, in Grafton county, New Hampshire, and is a representative of an old and honored New England family. He has a fine collection of family photographs, dating back to remote ancestors. His father, Thomas W. Merrill, was born in Thornton, New Hampshire, February 19, 1824, and in that state was reared and educated. He was married in 1848 to Miss Harriet E. Thornton, of Thornton, which town was named in honor of her ancestors. She is a descendant of the celebrated Mathew Thornton, who was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and was also a colonel in the Revolutionary war. Our subject has a copy of the Plymouth Record, a paper published July 13, 1897, reproducing an oration on the War of 1812 delivered by Mathew Thornton, in which he predicts a number of things which have since come to pass, including the rural delivery of mail. Thomas W. Merrill continued a resident of his native state until 1854, when he came to Illinois and located near Kaneville in Kane county, where he continued to follow farming until his death in 1887. As a republican he took a very active part in local politics for many years and filled the offices of school director and township trustee in an able



F. W. MERRILL

and satisfactory manner. His children were Frank W., of this review; John A., deceased; Mary E., the wife of J. S. Dauberman, a farmer of Kaneville township; and Hattie T., deceased.

Frank W. Merrill pursued his studies in the district schools near his boyhood home and after completing his education at the age of eighteen years, he took charge of the farm, which he managed for his father. As an agriculturist he has met with good success and is now the owner of one of the best farms in Kane county, comprising two hundred and eighty acres of well improved land in Kaneville township. He has made a specialty of stock-raising, feeding over two hundred hogs and from one hundred and twenty-five to one hundred and seventy-five steers each year, but he has not confined his attention wholly to agricultural pursuits. He also owns and operates a creamery; is a member of a stock company engaged in the manufacture of cement blocks employing ten men; and is now erecting a pump manufactory, which is well underway. He is president of the Elburn Coal & Lumber Company, and in all of these enterprises has displayed marked business and executive ability.

On the 26th of March, 1882, at Kaneville, Mr. Merrill married Miss Ada G. Lovell, and to them have been born two children: Grace M., who is now acting as bookkeeper for her father; and Charles W., who is associated with his father in business. Mr. Merrill is an ardent republican in politics and he takes a deep and commendable interest in public affairs, serving at the present writing, in 1908, as school director. It was through his personal efforts that Kaneville now has a beautiful cemetery and a large and elegant public-school building. Public-spirited and progressive, he gives an earnest support to every enterprise which he believes will advance the welfare of the community along any line.

ALFRED BOSWORTH.

Alfred Bosworth is a capitalist of Elgin, whom the most envious cannot grudge his success, so honorably has it been won and so worthily used. Many of the business interests with which he has been connected have been of intense benefit to the city and county and aside from any commercial or financial interest which would result to his own benefit, he has been associated with many movements that have proven an aid in the substantial growth and upbuilding of this section of the state. His father was considered the greatest financier of Kane county for years, and Alfred Bosworth has been equally prominent in business circles, while in all his career he has displayed an aptitude for successful management and a most sound judgment in placing his investments.

His birth occurred in Dundee on the 1st of April, 1846. Extended mention is made on another page of this work of his father, Increase C. Bosworth, a pioneer merchant and banker, who did more than perhaps any other man to stimulate business conditions and lay the foundation for the present commercial and industrial development of the county. When the

first settlers came to Kane county they staked out the land which they wished to enter and pay for it a dollar and a quarter per acre as soon as the government survey was made, but this did not occur till several years later. When the government finally made the survey all of the settlers discovered that their landmarks did not coincide with the government surveys in many instances. Frequently the division lines would intersect their cabins, and as the price of land had increased from five to fifteen dollars per acre, great excitement prevailed. The difficulty was solved through a suggestion made at a public meeting, whereby the government was to deed all of the land to Increase C. Bosworth and he was to pay the original price of a dollar and a quarter per acre for it and then the residents of the district were to settle their own boundary lines. The records today show that Increase C. Bosworth entered a large part of the real estate in Dundee township, after which he deeded it to the original settlers. This fact, however, accounts for so many boundary lines around Dundee being different to the government lines. After conducting business at Dundee for some years Increase C. Bosworth sought a broader field of labor in the growing city of Elgin. Prospering in his undertakings, he provided his children with excellent educational privileges and Alfred Bosworth, after attending public and private schools, matriculated in the University of Chicago, from which he was graduated in the class of 1865.

In 1867 he engaged in the dry-goods business with I. C. Bosworth and George M. Peck, continuing actively in the enterprise until 1875, when he retired to become a partner in a private banking business conducted under the name of Bosworth, Carpenter & Company. The partners were I. C. and Alfred Bosworth and Julius A. Carpenter. Alfred Bosworth, however, assumed control of the new institution. In 1876 the company purchased the controlling interest in the First National Bank of Elgin and the Elgin City Banking Company, and Alfred Bosworth assumed the management of both, becoming general manager of the largest banking business in the county. The safe, conservative policy, which he inaugurated contributed in large measure to the success of the institution, and in fact made it one of the most reliable money concerns in northern Illinois. He withdrew from the active management of the Elgin City Banking Company, however, in 1890 and from the First National Bank in 1905, although he is still a director. From time to time he has made extensive investments in farm property, and has been connected with dairy farming. At the present time, however, he is practically living retired, enjoying the pleasures which life offers through travel and in other ways. He has been a close student of agriculture and its possibilities, taking a great interest in farming and is considered authority on many phases of farming and dairying.

On the 10th of September, 1872, Alfred Bosworth was married to Miss Eleanora M. B. Wheeler, and to them have been born six children: Edith E., who was born September 28, 1873, and is now Mrs. W. A. Levering, of Chicago; Neil, born May 25, 1878; Louise Marion, born July 11, 1881; Roland Increase, born December 25, 1883; Winifred Sarah, born August 18, 1885; and Dorothy Helen, who completes the family. With the exception of Mrs. Levering all live in Elgin.

Mr. Bosworth has a very extensive personal and business acquaintance in Kane county. He was trustee of the University of Chicago for many years and treasurer of the city of Elgin. Honored and respected by all, no man occupies a more enviable position in the public regard than he. Business men entertain for him the most thorough respect and trust, and his advice and counsel are sought by many, to whom it is freely and honestly given. He is recognized as a man of keen discernment in business affairs and one who will never advise a course which he would not himself follow under the same circumstances. His record reflects credit upon the family name, which has been a synonym for business activity and honesty in this county for more than seven decades. He never looks at life from any narrow or contracted standpoint, but judges his fellowmen by their real character, worth, and at all times has regarded his self-respect and the esteem of his fellow-citizens as infinitely more preferable than wealth, fame or position.

MICHAEL JAMES KELLEY.

Michael James Kelley, deceased, was born in Ireland on the 4th of August, 1832, his parents being James and Mary Kelley, the latter of Scotch descent. The father was a tailor by trade. When seven years of age Michael James Kelley accompanied his parents on their emigration to the United States, who after landing at New York city made their way to Boston, Massachusetts, where our subject was educated. He also learned the tailor's trade in that city, and when twenty-eight years of age came westward, settling at Freeport, Illinois, and subsequently at Huntley, McHenry county, following his trade at both places. In September, 1861, he enlisted for service in the Civil war as a member of Company I, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and participated in all the principal engagements in Virginia and Maryland and in the battles of the Wilderness, Malvern Hill and Gettysburg. He was promoted to sergeant, and his three years' term of service was characterized by unfaltering loyalty and the faithful performance of every task assigned him. After returning from the war Mr. Kelley again engaged in the merchant tailoring business in Huntley, and was thus successfully connected with the commercial interests of the city until his death, which occurred on the 28th of January, 1896.

On the 12th of September, 1859, Mr. Kelley was united in marriage to Miss Sarah A. White, a daughter of Isaac and Polly (Edmunds) White, who resided near Huntley, Illinois. Two children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Kelley. Ernest Edmunds, born in 1866, was married in 1890 to Miss Alberta Tobin, a daughter of William and Margaret (Egan) Tobin, of Elgin, by whom he has one child, Marian Fern. Earl Raymond Kelley, born November 15, 1871, wedded Alice Todd, a daughter of Thomas and Anna (McNeil) Todd.

In his political views Mr. Kelley was originally a republican, but when Grant vetoed the bill authorizing that soldiers be paid the difference between

script and money worth one hundred cents on the dollar, he became a democrat, and thereafter voted that ticket. Fraternally he was connected with the Masons, and throughout his life exemplified the teachings of the craft as regards mutual helpfulness and brotherly kindness.

DR. J. J. SCHAEFER.

Dr. J. J. Schaefer, an eye specialist of Elgin, whose capability is winning for him a large patronage in Elgin, is a native of Wisconsin, his birth having occurred in Jefferson, September 29, 1862. His parents were William and Helen Schaefer, natives of Germany, and the father was a merchant. The removal of the family from Wisconsin to Illinois enabled Dr. Schaefer to pursue his education as a public-school student in Johnsbury and he began traveling at an early age for the purpose of educating himself. Subsequently he entered the Northern Illinois College of Chicago and was graduated in 1896 with the degree of Doctor of Ophthalmology. He began the practice of his profession in Chicago and there continued until September, 1907, when he removed to Elgin, where he has since made his home. Although he is one of the more recent additions to professional circles here, he is already building up a nice practice, for he is giving demonstration of his ability to those who patronize him, his services being eminently satisfactory. He is a member of the Illinois Optical Society and in more specifically social lines is connected with the Royal League.

Dr. Schaefer was married in November, 1903, to Miss Adele Leone George, of Evanston, Illinois, and they are communicants of the Roman Catholic church.

THOMAS J. JUZEK.

The enterprising city of Elgin has many successful business men who are conducting establishments that would be a credit to a city of much larger size. This number includes Mr. Juzek, proprietor of a well appointed jewelry store. He was born in Fredericksburg, Virginia, August 2, 1857, and is a son of Thomas John and Mary (Morits) Juzek, both of whom were natives of Vienna, Austria. Coming to this country in 1850, they settled in Virginia and the father, who was a watchmaker and jeweler in that state, lost everything he had through the fortunes of war when hostilities were being carried on between the north and the south. He afterward removed to Baltimore, Maryland, obtaining a pass from General Lee that enabled him to cross the Potomac river. In Baltimore he secured work at the jeweler's trade, and there resided until his death, which occurred when he was seventy-four years of age.

Thomas J. Juzek was reared and educated in Baltimore, attending the Catholic schools of that city. He learned the jeweler's trade under the direc-

tion of his father there, and seeking the opportunities of the middle west he came to Elgin in 1880 and was employed by the Elgin National Watch Company for about eighteen months. He then went to Kansas, where he remained for three and a half years, after which he returned to this city in 1888, and worked again in watch factories for some time. Later he established the Elgin Horological School, in which he is still interested as its president. In 1893 he established a wholesale and retail jewelry store in this city at No. 23 Grove avenue, and has since built up an excellent business. He has a large and well appointed store, carries an attractive line of goods and the tasteful arrangement is noticed by all who enter the establishment. His prices, too, are reasonable, his methods strictly fair and honorable and thus he is winning a trade which is gratifying.

In 1891, in Ypsilanti, Michigan, Mr. Juzek was married to Miss Nettie M. Moore, and unto them have been born a son and daughter. Mr. Juzek is a member of the Masonic lodge and the Elks. He is a public-spirited man whose devotion to the welfare of the city is manifest in many tangible ways. Aside from his business interests as a jeweler, he was for a number of years on the board of directors of the Home and Loan Association. The safe, conservative policy which he inaugurated when he established his store commends itself to the judgment of all, and has made the volume of trade transacted over his counters of considerable importance and magnitude.

LEONARD LASHER.

Leonard Lasher, whose name is on the roll of Elgin's honored dead, was a widely known and popular citizen who bore the reputation of being one of the most genial and entertaining hotel men of the country. He was also a representative of that class of Americans who are never too busy to be cordial and never too cordial to be busy, and in the control of his commercial interests he met with merited success. He was born at Red Hook, New York, January 25, 1834, and in his native city acquired a liberal education. When a young man he removed to New York city, where for a number of years he was employed in the Leland Hotel. He was a son of the late Stephen Lasher, and they came west together, engaging in the hotel business for a short time at Galena, Illinois.

In 1861 they removed to Elgin and for a period resided on the farm that is now owned by Hammond brothers. Later they took up their abode in the city, purchasing a home on Douglas avenue and Kimball street and engaged in the hay-press business, filling large contracts in that line. Soon after the close of the Civil war they purchased the Waverly House, and under the management of Leonard Lasher it became one of the leading hostelries in this section of the country, being famous for its excellent meals and for the social events which took place there. After the erection of the Nolting House in this city, Mr. Lasher became the landlord and proved as popular a host as he had at the Waverly. Later he disposed of his hotel

interests here and became manager of the well known Race Brothers' restaurant in Chicago, while subsequently he occupied the position of clerk in the Sherman House of that city.

In the '80s he returned to Elgin and became landlord of the Kelley Hotel, which he managed up to the time of his death on the 9th of August, 1900. His demise was the occasion of deep regret and sorrow to many friends, both in Elgin and in Chicago, where he was widely known, being held in the highest esteem. He left a widow, who still resides in Elgin, and two sons, Walter and Frank M., the former a business man of Chicago, and the latter of Elgin. The memory of Leonard Lasher is yet cherished by many who knew him, for he belonged to that class of men who shed around them much of the sunshine of life.

ALBERT N. SOPER.

Evidences of the skill and ability of Albert N. Soper in landscape gardening are seen in the Elgin cemeteries. He occupies the position of superintendent of cemeteries here and in this connection has done much toward improvement in the silent cities of the dead. He was born in Laporte county, Indiana, December 7, 1857, his parents being Samuel H. and Sarah V. (Eaheart) Soper, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. The father is a painter by trade and for many years followed that pursuit, both he and his wife still surviving and now living with the subject of this review.

Albert N. Soper was educated in the high school of Michigan City, Indiana, and in 1871 became a resident of Elgin. For a short time he was employed on the Chicago & Pacific Railroad and subsequently learned the trade of marble and granite cutting, under the direction of A. E. Price, with whom he continued for six years. During that time he carefully saved his earnings and embarked in business on his own account at Woodstock, Illinois, where he remained for five years. On the expiration of that period he returned to Elgin and bought out his former employer, A. E. Price. He then continued in the marble and granite business until May, 1907, when he was appointed superintendent of cemeteries, having charge of the Bluff City, Elgin and Mount Hope cemeteries. His previous experience as a maker of monuments and grave stones had well qualified him for his present position, as it gave to him an understanding of what was needed in improving and beautifying the graveyards of the country.

On the 23d of December, 1880, Mr. Soper was married to Miss Althea J. McDowell, who died January 19, 1900. Unto them were born five sons: Charles A., who is proprietor of the Elgin Marble and Granite Works; Leon E.; Harold A., who died October 3, 1892; Arwin C.; and Donald, who died in infancy. Having lost his first wife, Mr. Soper was again married on the 28th of March, 1906, his second union being with Linnie May Martin, of Elgin. She is a member of Grace Methodist church and both Mr. and Mrs. Soper are highly esteemed socially. His membership relations are with the

Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen. By perseverance, determination and honorable effort he has overthrown the obstacles which barred his path to success, becoming recognized in business circles as a man of enterprise and commendable determination. In everything he has been eminently practical and this has been evidenced not only in his business undertakings but also in his social and private life.

ALLEN M. RETAN.

Strongly attached through the associations of boyhood, youth and manhood to his native city of Elgin, Mr. Retan is now numbered among its capitalists, with large investments here and elsewhere. He was born October 25, 1859, and was the only child of Ebenezer and Phoebe (Miller) Retan.

His father's birth occurred in Essex county, New Jersey, January 29, 1825, and as a public-school student of Steuben county, New York, he acquired his education. Later he found employment in the east and was meeting with fair success there, but when twenty-two years of age he determined to seek his fortune in the west with its limitless opportunities and excellent business advantages. He did not hesitate in carrying out his determination to come to this section of the country and arrived in Elgin in April, 1857. For forty-seven years thereafter he was closely associated with the city and here passed away November 5, 1904. At South Pulteney, New York, on the 28th of December, 1848, he wedded Miss Phoebe Miller, a daughter of the late Wesley Miller. She was born in Westchester county, New York, November 23, 1827, and died in Elgin, May 2, 1905. The years proved the wisdom of Mr. Retan's choice of a location, for in his business affairs here he year after year added to his possessions until he became one of the best known capitalists of Elgin and owned a beautiful home at No. 420 Douglas avenue. There he resided during the summer months, while the winter seasons were passed at Ozona, Florida, where he also owned a home.

Allen M. Retan was reared in his native city and was provided with good educational advantages, pursuing a course in the Elgin Academy and in the Chicago Metropolitan Business College. Although his father was prosperous, he believed that the best way to train a son for the responsibilities of life and to teach him the value of money was to insist upon him earning it and providing for his own support. He therefore had no better advantages in financial ways than other boys and secured a position in the office of the machine shop of the watch factory, where he remained for seven years. During that time he showed a strength of character most commendable. He not only provided for his own support but married and from his wages managed to save a sum sufficient to purchase a small home. When his father died he inherited a valuable property and now his time and energies are principally occupied with his real-estate business, mostly lying in Elgin. He is moreover a stockholder in the First National Bank and also in the Savings Bank. In the meantime he learned to correctly value life's contacts and experiences

and while he is now a wealthy man he is yet a busy man, keeping in close touch with his investments and business affairs.

On the 16th of February, 1882. Mr. Retan was married to Miss Amanda M. Seapy, a native of Plato Center, Kane county, and a daughter of John Kirk Seapy, who was born July 18, 1815, at Ringstead, Norfolk county, England. He came to America at the age of fifteen years and in 1845 settled in Kane county. In the east, on the 9th of December, 1842, he had married Miss Dorcas Sherwood and with his wife came to the middle west. Here he turned his attention to farming and was one of the intelligent and progressive agriculturists of the county. In his later years he erected a pleasant home in Elgin, where in well earned ease he enjoyed the fruits of his former toil. He passed away December 6, 1885, leaving five daughters and two sons, all of whom until recently were residents of Kane county.

Mr. Retan is a member of the Century Club and the Elks lodge and was one of the original members of the Elgin lodge of the Royal Arcanum. Like his father, he spends the winter months in Florida, while he still passes the summer months at the old home on Douglas avenue. The lessons of life which he early learned have proven of immense value to him in the control of his affairs in later years, showing that the course which was followed in his bringing up was a most wise one. He now ranks high as a financier, is unaffected and approachable and every comer has a claim upon his courteous attention. He is surrounded in his home city by those who are his warm personal friends and is favorably known by all with whom he has had business or social relations.

GEORGE J. RANG.

George J. Rang, now occupying the position of chief of the fire department of Aurora, has been connected with the service since 1879, at which time it was a volunteer service. He was born in this city July 20, 1858, and is well known to his fellow townsmen as one who in all of his public service has been most faithful and loyal to the general good and well deserved his promotion to the position which he now occupies. His father, J. F. Rang, was a native of Bavaria, and when eighteen years of age, crossed the Atlantic to the United States, attracted by the more liberal business opportunities afforded in the new world. He had an uncle, George Brummenmeyer, who was a pioneer of Aurora, and on leaving the fatherland Mr. Rang intended coming to this city to join his uncle here. When he arrived in New York, however, he found that his supply of money was exhausted and he remained there, working in a brickyard until he had earned enough to enable him to complete his journey to Illinois. In his native land he had learned the trade of shoe-making, and he followed the same line of business in Aurora, eventually becoming a prosperous man and one who enjoyed the unqualified respect of all with whom he came in contact. His unfaltering industry at length made him proprietor of one of the largest shoe shops of the city, and at an early day



GEORGE J. RANG

the extent of his business justified the employment of sixteen shoemakers. He was also elected collector of the city at an early day and in community affairs was active and helpful, doing all in his power to promote public progress. He died January 14, 1889, while his wife, Mrs. Margaret (Schoeamsgruber) Rang, a native of Bavaria, is still living in Aurora.

George J. Rang was educated in the public schools of this city and afterward worked in his father's shoe store for a time. Later he learned and followed the carpenter's trade, but in 1879, at the age of twenty-one years, he joined the volunteer fire department. When the paid department was organized he became a member and in 1881 was made a driver, acting in that capacity until 1905, when he took the civil service examination and was promoted to chief of the department, in which capacity he has since remained. He is capable and efficient in the office and has raised the department to a high standard. In 1881 it numbered but three paid men; today there are twenty-six paid men and four call men. There are headquarters and five engine houses equipped with all the most improved appliances for fighting fire, and they also own their own horses. Chief Rang is constantly striving to improve the service of the department and by his own bravery he has inspired his men to deeds of valor, never uselessly incurring a risk yet never faltering in the performance of duty even in the face of danger.

In 1884 occurred the marriage of Mr. Rang and Miss Tillie Clair. For his second wife he chose Theodate L. Verina, whom he wedded in 1901, and they have one son, Nowell.

Mr. Rang is fraternally connected with the Modern Woodmen and the Knights and Ladies of Honor, of which he is the treasurer. He is also treasurer of the Aurora City Firemen's Association, and is a man in whom his fellow-townsmen place implicit trust, knowing that he is faithful to every duty and to the high standards which he sets up.

HENRY KYRKENDALL WHITFORD, M. D.

Man's worth in the world is determined by his usefulness—by what he has accomplished for his fellowmen—and he is certainly deserving of the greatest honor and regard whose efforts have been of the greatest benefit to his fellow travelers on life's journey. Judged by this standard, Dr. Henry K. Whitford may well be accounted one of the most distinguished citizens of Elgin, for throughout his professional career, covering more than a half century, his labors have ever been of a most helpful nature. Not only as a practitioner of medicine and surgery has he become widely known but also as a teacher, disseminating knowledge concerning his profession that has had an immeasurable effect in the world. His deep research and investigation have rendered more effective the labors of the profession and his efforts have resulted in promoting the progress which has revolutionized the work of the medical and surgical practitioner until his accomplishments partake of the nature of the marvelous. Certainly the life work of Dr. Whitford has been

of the greatest practical benefit and the world is better for his having lived. He has been a representative of the profession at Elgin since the 14th of April, 1857, and for forty years has occupied the professor's chair of principles and practice of medicine, pathology and clinic medicine in the Bennett Medical College of Chicago.

Dr. Whitford entered upon the journey of life February 9, 1829, at Medina, Ohio, his parents being David M. and Elizabeth (Lease) Whitford. His father was a prominent member of the bar in that state and widely known for literary as well as legal ability. During the pioneer epoch in the history of Michigan he removed to that state and was residing there at the time of the memorable money panic, which began about 1838. Michigan "rag money" and "store tickets" were the common currency and, constantly depreciating in value because there was nothing substantial back of them, the country became involved in great financial distress. Like hundreds of others, Mr. Whitford suffered losses by reason of the conditions then existing and his health was so greatly impaired thereby that his children when young were largely thrown upon their own resources.

Henry K. Whitford was but nine years of age when he entered the employ of a neighboring farmer named Roode. He there not only found the means of obtaining a livelihood but was received as one of the family and throughout his entire life has cherished the fondest affection for Mr. Roode and his wife. During the busy season on the farm he worked for the sum of four dollars a month for the first year, five dollars the second year and six dollars for the third year. In the winter months he did the chores upon the place and thus earned his board and the privilege of attending school. From early childhood he cherished the desire of some day becoming a physician and though at that time there seemed no likelihood that he could ever carry out his determination, he never for a moment lost sight of his object and used every possible means toward its accomplishment. His ambition in this direction made him diligent at school and at home in his boyhood days and when not busy with the farm work he would devote every moment to reading and study, pursuing with the greatest eagerness everything that bore upon the subject of medicine. He constantly broadened his general knowledge so that he was yet but a boy when his intellectual acquirements enabled him to secure a teacher's certificate. For some time he engaged in teaching and the hours which are usually devoted by others to rest and recreation were given by him to the study of medicine, while the vacation periods were spent in the offices of various physicians.

He was soon prepared to practice but his youth and his slight stature worked against him and in the community he was called "the boy doctor." It would be impossible to enumerate the obstacles that he met in his early career, yet he made the most of his opportunities, teaching and lecturing, practicing and studying as best he could. He had not yet pursued a college course when he married. He found this step a help rather than a hindrance in his professional career, for his wife encouraged him in his ambition to become a regular member of the medical fraternity and it was largely through her courage, desire and assistance that he was at length enabled to pursue a

course of study in the Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati. They had two children at that time and the entire family went to Cincinnati, living in one room during his collegiate days. It was a time of strenuous effort, of close economy and severe privation, but with a courage that is seldom equaled they faced the situation and fought the fight to victory.

It was on a day in 1861 that Dr. Whitford was graduated and both he and his wife have always regarded it as one of the happiest days in their life because it was the consummation of what they had long hoped to accomplish and also marked their starting point into other fields.

As stated, Dr. Whitford has practiced continuously in Elgin since the 14th of April, 1857, or for a period of fifty-one years. From the beginning his patronage has steadily grown and since 1866 he has also maintained an office in Chicago, enjoying a good business in both cities. Unlike many physicians of his years, he has never allowed his activity in the pursuit of professional knowledge to lapse. On the contrary, he has kept abreast with the best thinking men of the age in the profession, reading, research and investigation constantly broadening his knowledge and promoting his efficiency. He was surgeon in chief of the old Chicago & Pacific Railroad and has been local surgeon for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad since it purchased the former system. For forty years he has been connected with the Bennett Medical College of Chicago, occupying the professor's chair of principles and practice of medicine, pathology and clinic medicine, and while proving himself an able educator, his labors constituting an element in the success of the college, he has never neglected his large and lucrative practice in Elgin and vicinity.

On the 26th of June, 1855, Dr. Whitford was united in marriage to Miss Susan K. Daggett and while for more than a half century she has traveled life's journey by his side as his faithful companion and helpmate, she has been even more than the ordinary wife and mother in that she has been his professional associate as well, being a graduate physician of marked ability. Further mention of Dr. Susan Whitford is given in the following sketch.

Dr. H. K. Whitford has never been a politician, although keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day. His greatest activity in this line has been in behalf of the temperance cause, in which he is a firm believer, advocating temperance principles both by precept and example. As the years have passed he has invested largely in Elgin city property and has erected some handsome buildings, which stand as monuments to his enterprise and well directed labor. Fraternaly he is connected with the Masons, having attained the Knight Templar degree in Bethel Commandery. He is also a charter member of the National and the Illinois Eclectic Medical Societies and is an honorary member of the State Eclectic Medical Societies of Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa.

While Dr. Whitford's professional career has long been crowned with financial success, this has not satisfied his higher ambition and since the 28th of November, 1866, when he became the occupant of the professor's chair in Bennett College, he has been making notes, formulating chapters and building toward completion his treatise, now nearly ready for publication,

entitled "Principles and Practice of Medicine." The work will be a volume of about six hundred pages and will be issued in 1908. It will be a fitting crown to a life of labor in the medical profession and will be gladly received by many followers of the calling. In 1907 the faculty and trustees of the Bennett Medical College of Chicago tendered a banquet to Dr. Whitford and Dr. A. L. Clark, of Elgin, and presented each of them with a handsome silver loving cup. These gentlemen are the only two original members of the faculty who are still living. It was a fitting recognition of forty years of faithful service in connection with that school.

Dr. Whitford has now passed the seventy-ninth milestone on life's journey. He is a remarkably well preserved man, his life proving that nature is kind to those who abuse not her laws. His record is an indication of the fact that it is only under the stimulus of adversity and the pressure of necessity that the best and strongest in men have been brought out and developed. His years have been fraught with good deeds and splendid results. His strong mentality and scholarly attainments have made his work of great benefit to the world; his interest and devotion to Elgin have accrued to the improvement of the city, and his kindly disposition has spread around him much of the sunshine of life. As he nears the end of his journey—but may he be spared for many years to come—he is surrounded by the veneration, respect and reverence of those among whom he has lived and labored to goodly ends through more than five decades.

SUSAN K. WHITFORD, M. D.

Dr. Susan K. Whitford stands among those who have been the pioneers in inaugurating a movement that has brought to womankind a recognition never before accorded her. It has been but a comparatively short time since woman had no place in the world save in the home and the schoolroom, but today she is found in every walk of life demanding intellectual strength and acquirement. Mrs. Whitford was among the first to demonstrate the ability of woman in the medical profession and she found that she could only gain recognition after a long period and in a contest where she displayed that her professional powers and capacities were equal to those of the members of the sterner sex. She has, however, long been honored as a successful practitioner and an able associate of her husband, Dr. Henry K. Whitford, who for more than a half century has been a representative of the medical fraternity of Elgin and a prominent representative of medical education in Chicago.

Dr. Susan K. Whitford was born in Colchester, Vermont, July 3, 1836, and was four years of age when brought to Kane county by her parents, Nathan and Eliza (Chamberlain) Daggett, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of New Hampshire. Her paternal grandparents were John and Mary (Dean) Daggett, while her maternal grandparents were William and Rosalinda (McIntyre) Chamberlain, natives of Connecticut and Vermont respectively. Nathan Daggett, whose birth occurred in New England

January 3, 1808, was attracted to Illinois by the opportunity of securing land at rates much lower than could be done in the older east. On coming to Kane county he bought from the government a tract of land in Elgin township and there while meeting the hardships and privations of pioneer life he at the same time carried forward his farming interests with the result that the years witnessed his advancement in financial lines. The value of property increased as the country became settled and he brought his fields under a high state of cultivation. He was long numbered among the respected and worthy pioneer farmers of the county, and was known as an upright man, his influence always being on the side of justice, truth and progress. At length putting aside the active duties of the fields he removed to Elgin, where he spent his remaining days in honorable retirement from labor, passing away in 1871. Mrs. Daggett, who was born October 24, 1810, long survived her husband and became the wife of Alvah Hall, of Udina, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Daggett were married in Burlington, Vermont, in 1831, and their family numbered a son and four daughters, but the eldest, Edgar, born January 27, 1833, was accidentally killed by lightning in Plato, Kane county, August 20, 1850. Mrs. Whitford was the second of the family. Emily, born in 1839, died at the age of three years. Angelina E., born May 24, 1842, became the wife of Daniel W. Coan of Elgin, now deceased. Emily, the second of the name, born May 27, 1845, died December 28, 1872.

Brought to Illinois during the pioneer epoch in its history, Susan K. Daggett was reared amid the wild scenes and environments of frontier life. When she began her education she walked two and a half miles to the primitive log schoolhouse, in which instruction was given in preliminary learning. Nearly all of the buildings of the farm through the county were made of logs, the fireplace was still a feature in many a home and candles were used in lighting. On one occasion in her early girlhood days she attended a Fourth of July celebration. Her family were above the average well-to-do farming people, yet they went to the meeting on this occasion in a sled drawn by a yoke of oxen. There were many such conveyances hitched about the place. As they reached their destination they noticed a rather well dressed lady coming from the direction of the woods near at hand. She approached and spoke to Mrs. Daggett and confidentially told her that she too had come to the celebration in her sled but had stopped and hid it in the brush, not being aware that every one traveled in the same style. Next time she said she would drive up to the front door and show her neighbors that she was as well off as anybody. It was amid such conditions that Dr. Whitford of this review spent her girlhood days, but she perhaps had opportunity to attend school more than most girls of the farmers. On one occasion when about fourteen years of age she met some older girl friends who were on their way to take an examination which would test their ability to teach school, and in playful mood she accompanied them, took her seat with the others and would answer questions, merely trying the experiment of how much she knew and not dreaming of obtaining a certificate. She was greatly surprised therefore when the superintendent presented her with a teacher's certificate. Having this in her possession she resolved to utilize it and obtain a school.

Thereafter for some years she continued to teach and to attend school, pursuing her studies for a time in Lockport and later in Elgin, following the removal of the family to the city.

It was in this city on the 26th of June, 1855, that she gave her hand in marriage to Dr. Henry K. Whitford, whose sketch is given above. Her husband at that time was not a graduate physician, although he had studied medicine as opportunity had offered and from early boyhood had cherished the ambition of one day becoming an active member of the medical fraternity. Depending upon his own resources for a living from an early age, he had not yet found it possible to pursue a college course but his private study had given him skill sufficient to enable him to practice to a limited extent. His young wife shared his ambition with him and it was through her influence that he at last decided to fit up a wagon, carrying in it a few household effects and start on a journey to Cincinnati for the purpose of entering the Eclectic Medical College there. They at that time had two children, whom they took with them to that city. For six months they traveled in this manner, all the time living in the wagon, and when they would stop so that Mrs. Whitford might do washing, ironing and baking, Dr. Whitford would utilize the time in adding to their limited financial capital by lecturing in the country schoolhouses and small hamlets on the way.

On reaching their destination they sold their team, riding the last few miles on the railroad. The first night in Cincinnati they rented the room which they then occupied until his graduation. There with their two children they lived until he had completed his course. Dr. Whitford attended college during the day and as his eyes were not strong, his wife would assist him by reading the text-books and lessons for the succeeding day aloud. She did this with no thought that in later years it would prove of benefit to her, but in this way she gained many valuable points concerning the science and practice of medicine which she has utilized in later years. She has often said that in all her life she felt no equal thrill of joy like that which came to her when she knew that the long imprisonment in a student room was over, that her husband was graduated and was now thoroughly equipped for the practice of medicine. When he had paid his bills in Cincinnati there was just seventy-five cents in money remaining, but they soon earned a sum sufficient to enable them to return to their Elgin home and Dr. H. K. Whitford in 1857 opened his office and has since remained one of the most successful and most valued practitioners of the city. In the meantime his wife's aid as a nurse was often called into requisition and in the absence of her husband she frequently administered remedies and carried on the work of the sickroom, giving her time freely to all sufferers. Such was the demand made upon her that she realized that of necessity she must prepare herself for her duties and eventually she entered Bennett Eclectic Medical College of Chicago, where she won her diploma as a physician and surgeon just ten years after her husband's graduation.

Dr. Susan K. Whitford then returned to her home in Elgin and soon confronted the situation that those who were willing to enjoy her services and ministrations as a nurse and medical attention gratuitously were not

willing to accede her right to a place in the medical fraternity as a physician or to employ her in that capacity. It was some time before she could overcome the general prejudice but in the course of years she proved herself qualified as well as any of her brethren of the medical fraternity and in fact showed qualities in practice which many a male member of the profession does not possess. She has the intuition which is one of woman's strongest points and added to this was a womanly tenderness and skill which, combined with her broad scientific and technical training, rendered her most ably qualified for practice. She has state certificates to practice in Iowa and Florida, having practiced in those states at different times.

As the years passed several children were added to the household of Henry K. and Susan K. Whitford, namely: Jessie E., who was born September 20, 1856, and in August, 1876, became the wife of Henry Lea, of Woodstock, by whom she has three children; Henry Edgar, who was born November 20, 1859, and following his graduation from the Chicago Eclectic Medical College has been two years a student in the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, while at present he is successfully practicing at Englewood, Illinois; Susie, born October 16, 1862; and Nell Newell, who was born October 16, 1872, and died when three years of age.

Dr. Susan K. Whitford has not only demonstrated her right to a place in professional ranks because of her skill and ability, but has also proven the fact that while a woman may be eminent in the line of professions she can at the same time be a model mother and home maker. Her home has long been one of the most attractive of Elgin in its cordial hospitality and good cheer as well as in its many evidences of refined and cultured taste as seen in its beautiful and artistic furnishings. Mrs. Whitford has, moreover, been very active in temperance work and in charity, giving freely to the poor and needy and working at all times for those interests which uplift and benefit humanity.

LYSANDER PERRY.

Lysander Perry, deceased, was born in New Hampshire July 9, 1819, his parents being Elijah and Diana Perry, the former also a native of the Granite state, where his birth occurred in 1791. He was a farmer by occupation, and passed away at Dundee, Kane county, Illinois, in 1869.

Lysander Perry acquired his education in the public schools of his native state and on starting out in life for himself he followed the occupation of farming in the summer months, while in the winter season he was engaged in teaching school in the east. In 1855 he removed westward, taking up his abode on a farm at Dundee, Kane county, but still continued the profession of teaching in the winter seasons. About 1863 he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres and was successfully engaged in its cultivation until 1871, when he removed to Elgin, here living a retired life until the time of his death, on the 5th of April, 1885.

Mr. Perry was twice married. He first wedded Miss Almira Sprague, who passed away in 1858. The record of their children is as follows: Parker, who married Miss Julia Perry, had one child, Arthur. Elliott D. makes his home in California. Almira became the wife of George Tuck, by whom she has two children: Bertha, and Myrtle, who married Frank Bauman, and has two children, Roy and Fred. Melvin Walker has one child, Helen. On the 14th of April, 1869, Mr. Perry was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Almira Jones, the widow of Elias S. Jones, and a daughter of Hiram and Olive (Brown) McAlister. By her first husband Mrs. Perry had one child, Elias H. Jones, who wedded Katherine Halpin, by whom he has five children, Roy, Maud, Harry, Olive and Elmer.

In his political views Mr. Perry was a staunch republican, while his religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Baptist church, in the work of which he took an active and helpful part. His death was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, for he was widely recognized as an upright and honorable citizen and had an extensive circle of friends in the community.

FRANK E. ANDERSON.

Frank E. Anderson, proprietor of a garage in Aurora, was born in Sweden, near Ljungby, November 25, 1874. His parents were Andrew and Christine (Trofast) Anderson, both of whom were natives of Sweden. They became parents of thirteen children, six sons and seven daughters, of whom nine are now living: Tillie, the wife of Nels Ekstrand, of Aurora; Gust, also of this city; Frank, who makes his home in Aurora; Hilma, a resident of Sweden; Carl and Fred, of Aurora; Emma, who makes her home in Sweden; Ida, also of that country; and Aaron, of Sweden. The father of this family has always been a carpenter and cabinet maker and now lives at Horda, Sweden. Both he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church. He was a son of Carl Anderson and his wife a daughter of Soloman Trofast, both natives of Sweden.

Frank E. Anderson was reared in the land of his nativity to the age of eighteen years, spending his boyhood days upon a farm, while the country schools afforded him his educational opportunities. In the school of experience, however, he has since learned many valuable lessons. In 1892, attracted by the opportunities of the new world, he came to America, settling first at Geneva, Illinois, where he worked for six months in a foundry. He also spent a similar period in a coopering establishment, and in 1893 came to Aurora, where for one year he was employed by the Aurora Cooperage Company. On the expiration of that period he began learning the machinist's trade, which he followed for about seven years. He then went into the bicycle business as a dealer and manufacturer and made wheels to order. In 1906 he opened a garage which he is still conducting and in this he has met with a liberal patronage as the years have passed. The automobile is continually



FRANK E. ANDERSON

increasing in number, becoming almost as frequent a sight on the street as the horse and carriage. He handles the Rambler and White Steamer, both new and second-hand.

Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Anna Nelson, a daughter of N. P. and Nellie Nelson. Their home, at No. 357 Palace street, has been blessed with three children, Arnold, Arthur and Agnes. Mr. Anderson belongs to the Swedish Methodist Episcopal church, and is chairman of the board of trustees. He also holds membership with the Elks lodge, No. 705, and the Sons of the North, a fraternal organization. He has never yet found occasion to regret his determination to come to the new world, for in this land of opportunity he has made steady advancement in the business world and is now in control of a good business.

AUGUST SCHEELE.

The people of Elgin are to be congratulated upon a character of such excellent development, such purity of purpose and such devotion to the highest ethics of commercial life as are exhibited in the history of August Scheele, who by his own unaided efforts has arisen to a position of distinction in connection with the commercial interests of the city. Denied many of the advantages which many men enjoy in boyhood and youth, he has nevertheless, by the inherent force of his character and his strong determination, gained prominence and prosperity that many might well envy.

He was born near Hanover, Germany, August 22, 1859, a son of Frederick and Charlotte (Eberhardt) Scheele, also natives of the same locality. The father was a laboring man, who died in Germany. In that country August Scheele pursued his education to the age of thirteen years, or early in 1873, when he came to America with a friend, August Abelmann, who at that time was visiting in the old country, whence he returned to America. They landed at New York city and Mr. Scheele made his way direct to Elgin, where he arrived on the 1st of March, 1873. His financial condition rendered it imperative that he gain immediate employment and he began working on a farm near the city, continuing his labors in the fields all through the summer months, while in the winter seasons he was afforded the opportunity of attending the district schools. He was thus laying the foundation in energy, industry and education for his future success.

In 1878 Mr. Scheele became a resident of Elgin and entered the employ of the firm of Grote & Ettner, general merchants, with whom he remained for about seven years. During this time he gained comprehensive familiarity with business methods, for he had gradually worked his way upward to positions involving greater and greater responsibility. He had become imbued, too, with the ambition to establish a business of his own, and in 1885 formed a partnership with Ed J. Kiest and purchased the grocery department of the firm of Grote & Ettner. They continued the business in the basement of the Fosgate Hotel block, where they remained until 1893, when they removed

to the quarters on the first floor of the same block. Three years later their trade had so increased that they secured enlarged space by taking in the adjoining store, which they occupied until October, 1903. In the previous year Mr. Scheele had purchased his present site, which was then a vacant lot and upon this he erected the fine business block which he now occupies.

In 1889 he had purchased Mr. Kiest's interest, and conducted the trade under his own name until he incorporated, forming a stock company known as the August Scheele Company. The present officers are August Scheele, president; Harold A. Scheele, secretary; and E. E. Redeker, treasurer; while D. W. Scheele and Albert Engdahl are also stockholders. On the 21st of October, 1902, the new store was opened and here they have since carried an extensive line of fancy and staple groceries and bakery goods. It is the largest concern of the kind in this section of the state outside of Chicago. The business is carried on in first-class style, and the trade has reached mammoth proportions, owing, not alone to the excellence of the goods handled, but also by reason of the straightforward, honorable business principles which have ever been followed in the conduct of the enterprise. Mr. Scheele started with very limited capital, but he was soon recognized as one thoroughly reliable in all his dealings, who gave to his customers the best goods for the money, and today his word among his many patrons is regarded as sufficient guarantee for any article.

On the 27th of September, 1881, occurred the marriage of Mr. Scheele and Miss Martha Krueger, a native of Niagara county, New York, born in 1863. They have four sons: Harold A., Arthur R., Donald C. and Leslie F. The family are members of the German Evangelical church. Mr. Scheele has never sought political honors, yet manifests a public-spirited interest in matters of citizenship and the consensus of public opinion regarding him in every relation of life is altogether favorable. Throughout Elgin and wherever he is known in business circles he is spoken of in terms of admiration and respect. His life has been one of unflinching activity and of honorable purpose, and his mercantile career has ever been such as would bear the closest investigation and scrutiny.

JANE C. TRULL, M.D.

Dr. Jane C. Trull, who has won for herself a place among the capable and successful physicians of Elgin, was born in Decatur, Illinois, in 1870. Her early education was pursued as a public-school student of Dupage county, Illinois, and also in Elgin Academy. Her father, Albert D. Trull, was station agent at Wayne, this state, and having a natural instinct for telegraphy, she took up the study at Elgin and continued for several years as an operator at different stations. Later she was also ticket seller for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad at Kinzie street in Chicago for a few years and in the meantime she devoted her evening hours to the study of law in the Chicago College of Law, from which she was graduated and in 1900 was admitted to

practice. She then entered the law office of Benjamin Staunton of Chicago, where she did clerical work and took such cases as she could secure. A year, however, convinced her that the profession was not to her liking and she took up the study of medicine, completing a course in the Bennett Medical College of Chicago by graduation in 1905. She was for one year interne at the Bennett Hospital and thus added to her theoretical training the broad practical experience of hospital work.

In September, 1906, Dr. Trull located for practice in Elgin, where she has since remained and has built up a very lucrative business in the two years which have since passed. In the handling of many difficult cases she has displayed her skill and ability and, added to her comprehensive knowledge of the science of medicine, she possesses the true womanly tenderness and sympathy which are so essential as factors in the care and treatment of the sick. In professional lines she is connected with the Elgin's Physicians' Club, the Fox River Valley Medical Association, the American Medical Association and the State Eclectic Society.

Dr. Trull deserves great credit for what she has accomplished in that she provided the funds necessary to pay her expenses both through the law college and the Bennett Medical College. She is a valued member of the Women's Club, of the Eastern Star, the Rebekah Lodge, the Woman's Relief Corps and the Royal Neighbors of America, and of the last named is one of the examining physicians.

DAVID H. BUTLER.

The greatness of a city does not depend upon its machinery of government or even upon the men who control its municipal affairs, but upon the character of its citizens as a whole, and the real upbuilders of a community are they who establish and control successful legitimate enterprises, in which connection David H. Butler is well known in Elgin, where he represents one of the important industrial interests as the president of the National Soap Company.

He was born in Cayuga, New York, January 18, 1832, a son of Liberty W. and Permelia (Polhamas) Butler, who were natives of Vermont and New Jersey respectively. The father was a blacksmith, as was also the grandfather. Realizing the benefit of education, the father offered to his children good opportunities in that direction and David H. Butler attended the Alfred and Rogersville Seminaries, New York. In 1855 he engaged in teaching in a rural school, but the following year sought a home in the west, believing that better opportunities were afforded in this new, but rapidly growing section of the country. He first made his way to Hastings, Minnesota, where he worked at the carpenter's trade, and in 1858 he removed to Dundee, Illinois, where he taught school for two and a half years. The succeeding two years were devoted to general agricultural pursuits, after which he purchased a store at Dundee, where he remained for some time. On

selling out he went to Huntley, where for ten years he engaged in merchandising, and in 1874 he located in Elgin, where he engaged in the flour and feed business for about sixteen years. In 1893 he established the Elgin National Soap Company, of which he has since been the president. He began operations on a small scale, but the business has constantly grown and developed until it has now assumed large and profitable proportions. In 1906 it was incorporated with David H. Butler as president; J. M. Manley, secretary; E. H. Butler, treasurer; and H. S. Butler, assistant. They manufacture common bar soap, including the Drummer brand, and toilet soaps, Klondike washing powder and National washing soda. Other brands include the Blue Jacket and Gilt Edge chip soaps, and their output is marketed all over the country, there being a large sale in Chicago. The manufactured product is of excellent grade for the price at which it is put upon the market, and this, combined with the reliability of the house, has secured an extensive trade.

In 1856 Mr. Butler was married to Miss Mary E. Sharp, of Hornellsville, New York, and they have six children: Charles H., of Frankfort, Kansas; Frank E., who resides in Chicago; Herbert S., of Elgin; Mrs. F. B. Cornell, Ernest J. and Bertha M., all living in Elgin.

Mr. Butler is numbered among the representative residents of Elgin. There is no rule for achieving success. The man who can rise from the ranks to a position of eminence is he who can see and utilize the opportunities that surround his path. This Mr. Butler has done, and as the years have gone by he has so ably utilized his advantages that he stands today among the successful and respected men of his adopted city.

E. A. BELL.

E. A. Bell occupies the responsible position of superintendent of the power house of the Aurora, Elgin & Chicago Railway. His technical training and practical knowledge well equip him for this position, and his ability is recognized by those whom he represents. Numbered among the native sons of New York, he was born at Sandy Creek in Oswego county, July 8, 1876, and was educated in the Sandy Creek Academy. After leaving school he took up the study of electrical engineering through the Scranton Correspondence School and later finished the course. In 1901 he came to the west and settled at St. Charles, Kane county, Illinois, where he was employed in the city electrical plant. There he remained for two years, and on the 5th of March, 1903, he came to Elgin as engineer at the plant of the Aurora, Elgin & Chicago Railway. In 1905 he was promoted to the superintendency of the plant, which position he has since filled, having charge of the power controlling all of the Elgin city street cars, the city lighting, the motor power, and, in fact, all of the electrical power for the city. In 1905 the company consolidated with what was known as the city lighting plant, and took over their system, which gave them control of all of the electric power in Elgin.

On the 10th of April, 1902, Mr. Bell was united in marriage to Miss Edna E. Pierce, of Elgin. He is well known socially as a member of the Masonic fraternity, the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Riverside Club. Pleasant and genial in manner, he has made many friends and is widely and favorably known in Elgin. When he left school and looked over the field of business he determined to devote his life to electrical work and to this end made thorough preparation. Gradually he has worked his way upward through his ability, and now fills one of the most important positions of the electric railway system. It is a well known fact that the essential conditions of life are ever the same; the surroundings of individuals differ but slightly, and when one man passes another on the highway of life it is because he has the power to use advantages which probably encompass the whole human race. Mr. Bell had no assistance, as he started out in life for himself, and yet he stands today as one of the prominent business men of Elgin.

O. B. RYSTROM.

O. B. Rystrom is manager and one of the stockholders in the Bauer Jewelry Company of Elgin. Throughout his business career he has been connected with this line of trade and his thorough familiarity therewith, combined with keen discernment in bringing to a successful issue whatever he undertakes, has made him most capable in his present position of administration and executive control.

Mr. Rystrom is a native of Geneva, this county, his birth having there occurred on the 26th of January, 1884. His parents are Andrew and Mary (Lundgren) Rystrom, both of whom are natives of Sweden but at an early day came to America and established their home in Geneva. They are now residents of Elgin.

O. B. Rystrom pursued his education in the public schools of this city and in his boyhood days entered the employ of L. H. Bauer, so that his first experience in the jewelry line was in connection with the house which he now manages. He remained there for three years, after which he engaged with Otto Young & Company, wholesale jewelers of Chicago, with whom he continued for two years. He then returned to Elgin and became manager of the Bauer Jewelry Company, of which he is also a stockholder. This business was established about 1888 by L. H. Bauer, who remained at its head until his death in 1904, when Mr. Rystrom assumed control. In this position he has shown great aptitude in conducting so extensive and profitable a business. The stock carried by the house consists of diamonds and other precious stones, both set and unset, watches, clocks, gold and silver jewelry of artistic designs and great value and in fact everything usually carried by such a house. They also do all manner of expert watch and jewelry repairing, employing most skilled workmen. The interests of the house are most ably conducted and the business has prospered under the management of Mr. Rystrom. They

occupy a fine store in the Sherwin block and Mr. Rystrom keeps thoroughly in touch with the trade, knowing of the latest designs that are placed upon the market in jewelry, precious stones, silverware and cut glass.

The religious faith of Mr. Rystrom is indicated by his membership in the English Lutheran church. He is a young man but has already attained a creditable place in the business world and, judging from the past, his friends readily prophesy a still more prosperous and progressive future.

GEORGE M. PECK.

To those familiar with the history of George M. Peck it will seem trite to say that he has worked his way upward from a humble position in the commercial world, yet it is only justice to say in a history that will descend to future generations that his has been a record which any man might be proud to possess. Throughout his entire career he has never incurred obligations that he has not met nor made engagements that he has not filled and he commands the respect of his colleagues and the admiration of his contemporaries. He stands today at the head of the leading department store of Elgin and he is not only known as a most successful and progressive merchant but also as a considerate employer and business man, many of his associates testifying in strong terms to his kindness of heart, finding in him not only a safe adviser but also one whose counsel is not that of words alone.

Mr. Peck was born in Dundee, Kane county, on the 14th of August, 1843, his parents being George J. and Marietta (Mansfield) Peck, of Schenectady, New York. Both were of English descent and represented old New York families. They became residents of Illinois in pioneer times, establishing their home at Dundee, where the father devoted his energies to general agricultural pursuits.

George M. Peck spent his early youth on his father's farm but when only twelve years of age came to Elgin, where he sought and found employment as a clerk in a dry-goods store. He attended the common schools and also pursued a course in a Chicago business college. He was but seventeen years of age when in the fall of 1861 he enlisted in the Union army for service in the Civil war, remaining at the front for three years. Such were the hardships and rigors of war, however, that when mustered out in 1864 he left the army with impaired health and two years passed ere he was able to again resume the active duties of life. When sufficiently recovered he completed his commercial education and again secured a clerkship in a store. He has been identified with business interests on his own account since 1867 and gradually has worked his way upward until he stands today as one of the most prominent and prosperous merchants of Elgin.

The establishment of George M. Peck is known to all who know aught of this city. It is the largest mercantile enterprise of the county and his stock is most extensive. He utilizes a four-story building known as the Peck block at Nos. 38 and 40 Grove avenue. The building is forty-four by

one hundred and eighty-three and a half feet and this gives him extensive floor space. The store is handsomely appointed and well arranged and every convenience and comfort for patrons is at hand. The stock embraces a comprehensive assortment of the most fashionable and seasonable goods of foreign and American looms, including dress goods, silks, ready made ladies' garments, cloaks, fancy goods, underwear and hosiery specially made to order. They also carry a fine line of millinery, furnishing goods, trunks, bags, carpets, rugs, curtains, table linens, notions and trimmings, and a fine shoe department, containing ladies' and children's shoes, is one of the attractive features of their establishment. The house has an extensive trade and the business is constantly growing. It has been located at the present site for the past thirteen years and the volume of trade is indicated somewhat by the fact that forty salesmen are employed. The goods are selected with great care, are attractively displayed and with the business Mr. Peck is familiar in every department, giving it his personal attention and management.

In 1877 Mr. Peck was united in marriage to Miss Julia C. Chapman, a daughter of the late Samuel Chapman, and they have one daughter, Margaret Edna, and a son, Richard Kenneth, the latter twelve years of age. The family attend the First Congregational church of Elgin, of which Mrs. Peck was treasurer for many years. They contribute generously to its support and take an active and helpful interest in its work. In his political views Mr. Peck is a republican but though the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him, he is interested in all that pertains to the welfare of his city and cooperates in many movements for its upbuilding. He has served as a trustee of the school board for the town of Elgin for a number of years, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart champion. He is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. His has been a long and active business career. He has been the architect of his own fortunes and has builded wisely and well. While a man of sound judgment, he has never arrived quickly or hastily at conclusions but when once his mind is made up as to what is the right course nothing can deter him from pursuing it. He possesses excellent executive and business ability, combined with a resistless energy and resolute purpose. His efforts toward advancing the material interests of Elgin are so widely recognized that they can be considered as being no secondary part of his career of signal usefulness, his devotion to the public good being implied in his progressiveness and liberality toward the city in many ways.

HIRAM McALISTER.

Hiram McAlister, deceased, was born in Rochester, Vermont, October 1, 1814, his parents being John and Levina (Bennett) McAlister. The father was also a native of Rochester, Vermont. His wife's birth occurred in 1802, and she was called to her final rest in 1873.

In 1856 Hiram McAlister came westward, settling on a rented farm east of Elgin in Kane county, and subsequently purchased a tract of land

between Elgin and Dundee, in the successful operation of which he was engaged until 1868. In that year he retired from active business pursuits and took up his abode in Elgin, where he made his home until the time of his demise on the 7th of July, 1871.

At Whiting, Vermont, on the 21st day of April, 1833, occurred the marriage of Mr. McAlister and Miss Olive Brown, a daughter of Esquire and Mary (Munger) Brown. Unto this union were born nine children, namely: Levina, who passed away in 1897; Mrs. Almira Perry; Henry, Charles, George, Lucy and Frances, all of whom are deceased; Aaron, who is married and has three children, Pearl, Laura and Myrtle, and resides at Herington, Kansas; and Ada, the wife of Foster Brown, who has three children, Albert, Leslie and Olive.

Mr. McAlister gave stalwart allegiance to the republican party, and in his religious faith was a Baptist, serving as deacon in the church. He was a model of truth and veracity, and a man of genial, social disposition, who made friends wherever he went, because of his unselfish and generous nature.

FREDERICK A. LEACH.

Professor Frederick A. Leach, who may truly be called a public benefactor owing to the many remarkable cures he has effected through his wonderful healing power, is now located at Elgin, where he established his office in 1906. He is a native of Connecticut, born in Norwich on the 14th of March, 1866, and is a son of Elijah and Elizabeth (Watson) Leach. His father, who was a contractor and builder, was born in Vermont in 1822 and died in 1907, having long survived the mother of our subject, who spent her entire life in Connecticut. She was born in 1829 and passed away in 1866. The family is of English origin and on the maternal side our subject's great-grandfather, Watson, was proprietor of the first wagon shop established in America, this being located at Norwich, Connecticut. On its site now stands a magnificent old elm tree—one of the largest in the country—which is fenced off and protected as a monument.

Professor Leach was only five months old when his mother died and he then made his home with an aunt. It was during this time that the discovery of his wonderful healing power was made by his aunt, who was subject to severe headaches. She noticed while holding the child in her lap if he, in baby fashion, would place his little hands on her aching head, the pain would invariably cease. One day, while suffering from a headache more severe than usual, she bade the child lay his hands on her head and in a few minutes the pain entirely disappeared. Neighbors and friends soon learned of the wonderful power of the child's hands and came to the house to be relieved of their suffering. The aunt, being of a very pious nature, began to look upon the child as uncanny and upon his gift of cure, simply laying on his hands, as a sin, and the more she pondered the more mystified she became, until she finally allowed the child to be adopted by people in a distant town.



PROF. F. A. LEACH

He received a good academic education, graduating from Bacon Academy at Colchester, Connecticut, and throughout life has always been a great reader, being thoroughly familiar with all topics of general interest and especially well posted on all lines pertaining to his profession.

In early life Professor Leach learned the trade of gold and silver plating and for a number of years was employed as foreman of a large plant of that character, continuing in that position until thirty years of age. On the 27th of April, 1897, he was married in Hartford, Connecticut, to Miss Edna Goddard, a daughter of William Goddard, of Boston. She was in ill health for several years and had doctored incessantly but could find no relief. About this time the secret of his strange power was revealed to him by a letter from his aunt and he at once determined to experiment upon his wife. After the first treatment she could see a decided improvement in her condition and in a few days she was entirely cured.

Friends and acquaintances were amazed when they heard of the success attending the treatments of his wife and it was not long before he was called upon to minister to many others and now patients come to him from all parts of the country, from New York to California. His method, known as psychic healing, is a gift given him either from a higher power or nature, and by the simple laying on of hands has produced remarkable cures. For nearly eight years he experimented during his leisure hours, charging nothing for his services, and during that time he cured nearly every known disease. Finding his cures permanent he took up healing as his life work and first located at Ottawa, Illinois, but in January, 1906, came to Elgin, where he has since made his home, having an office in the Spurling building. He has been very successful during his residence here and now has a large clientele. He has written several able articles on psychic subjects for publication in newspapers and other periodicals, which have called forth favorable criticism from the reading public. For eighteen years Professor Leach has been a member of the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks and he also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Court of Honor, while politically he is identified with the republican party.

FRED A. RISPIN.

Fred A. Rispin, electrical manufacturer of Elgin, has won that success which comes through skill in a chosen line of labor and intense energy directed by sound judgment, and has made for himself a creditable place in the business circles of his adopted city. He was born in Petrolia, Ontario, Canada, May 6, 1875, his parents being John and Emma (Barnes) Rispin, who were natives of England. The father was a railroad man and died in 1880, while the mother, still surviving, now makes her home in Elgin.

Fred A. Rispin was educated in the public schools of Canada and there learned the machinist's trade, serving a regular apprenticeship. In 1891 he came to Elgin, where he worked at his trade for a time and then learned

the electrical manufacturing business. From that beginning he has worked his way upward and is now the owner of a large plant and employs several men in electrical manufacture. He began on a small scale in 1897 at No. 69 North State street and in the intervening years the business has grown very rapidly. He now manufactures all kinds of electrical machinery, power plants, and so forth, and does all kinds of electrical repairing. He also manufactures special machinery and does repair work thereon. He started out with practically no capital but gradually he has worked his way upward and is now in control of a profitable business. He also conducts the lighting plant and pumping station at Marengo which lights the city and its stores and residences, this contract having been awarded him on the 1st of January, 1908.

In 1906 occurred the marriage of Mr. Rispin and Miss Mamie Higgins, of Elgin, and unto them have been born four children: Shirley, Gerald, Myrtle and Lucille. Politically Mr. Rispin is a democrat but has no desire for office. Fraternally he is connected with the Court of Honor, with the Maccabees and the Pacific Mutual Society. His father was a prominent Mason of the country, receiving the highest degree that could be conferred in America. Mr. Rispin is yet a young man but has made for himself a creditable name and place in business circles. He has been actuated in his career by a strong determination and his labor has been characterized by unfaltering perseverance.

EDWIN HALL.

The business interests of Elgin find a worthy representative in Edwin Hall, who in his mercantile career has displayed the spirit of enterprise and progressiveness which has been the dominant factor in the upbuilding of the middle west. He has always been a resident of this section of the country, his birth having occurred in St. Charles, Illinois, May 2, 1866. His parents were Gustavus and Mary J. (Alexander) Hall, both of whom were natives of Canada. The father came to the United States in 1839, settling in St. Charles, and the mother arrived in the year 1842. The paternal grandfather of our subject had first visited Illinois in 1838, after which he returned to Canada and then brought his family to Kane county the following year. He settled at St. Charles and was among the pioneer residents of the district, aided in reclaiming a wild region for the purposes of civilization. Gustavus Hall was reared to the occupation of farming amid the wild scenes and environments of pioneer life and for many years carried on general agricultural pursuits. His last days were passed in California, his death there occurring April 19, 1900, and his widow still resides in that state.

Edwin Hall acquired his education in the schools of St. Charles and Elgin and was graduated from the Chicago College of Pharmacy. Having thus equipped for the line of business in which he is now engaged, he first secured employment of that character as a clerk in a drug store in Elgin.

When his diligence and careful expenditure brought him sufficient capital, he embarked in business on his own account in Hampshire in 1887, successfully conducting the store until 1890, when, seeking a still broader field of labor, he came to Elgin and entered into partnership with Russell Weld under the firm name of Weld & Hall. This association was continued until 1901, when Mr. Hall purchased his partner's interest and has since continued the business alone. He carries a full line of drugs, druggist's sundries and toilet articles and has a well appointed establishment, neat and tasteful in its arrangement and equipped with all modern conveniences. He is a member of the Illinois Pharmaceutical Association and is serving on its executive committee. Through the interchange of thought and experience in its meetings he keeps in touch with the progressive spirit manifest by the drug trade and is conducting one of the best establishments in his line in Elgin. He is also a member and secretary of the Courier Publishing Company.

On the 26th of June, 1890, Mr. Hall was united in marriage to Miss Edith A. Reid, of Hampshire, and they have one daughter, Agnes Mary, now seventeen years of age. In his political views Mr. Hall has always been a stalwart republican, interested in the growth and success of the party, and is a member of the republican county central committee. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and to the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks and has taken the degrees of the blue lodge and chapter in Masonry. His time and attention, however, have necessarily been concentrated upon his business affairs and through methods which have neither sought nor required disguise he has worked his way upward to a prominent place in business circles in his adopted city.

FRANK TEFFT, D.V.S.

Dr. Frank Tefft, enjoying an extensive practice in veterinary surgery in Elgin and also identified as a stockholder with different business concerns, while at the same time extensive farming interests return to him a good income, is numbered among Elgin's native sons, his birth having occurred in this city April 7, 1862. His father, Jonathan Tefft, is mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

Dr. Tefft was educated in the public schools of the county and in Elgin Academy, while his professional training was received in the Chicago Veterinary College, from which he was graduated in 1892. He then began practice in Elgin, where he has been very successful in winning an extensive patronage. He manifests marked skill and ability in professional lines and thus his services are in constant demand.

He also buys and sells horses, controlling the Virginia stables, but this by no means represents the extent of his business interests, as he is a stockholder in the Elgin canning factory and the Chicago Gravel Company, while in connection with his sister Jennie he owns five hundred and eighty acres of land in Elgin township. They are engaged in the dairy business, having on

hand at all times about one hundred and seventy-five head of milch cows and young Holsteins. Dr. Tefft is a natural born stockman, having been connected with the business from early youth and there is no better judge of good stock in this section, his valuation of farm animals always being accurate and correct.

On the 3d of June, 1898, was celebrated the marriage of Dr. Tefft and Miss Mabel Hammond, a daughter of E. G. Hammond, of Elgin. He is a member of the lodge, the chapter and the commandery in Masonic circles and he also belongs to the Century Club.

G. S. DOBBINS, M.D.

The life record of Dr. G. S. Dobbins is a notable instance of the attainment of success under conditions which the majority of the world would feel as an insurmountable difficulty, for at the age of fifteen years Dr. Dobbins lost his eyesight. He has, however, managed to acquire a knowledge of medicine that makes him the peer of the able practitioners of Elgin and moreover he keeps abreast with the progress of the times as manifest in medical and surgical lines. He was born in Peoria, Illinois, August 21, 1854, his parents being Thomas S. and Mary C. (Spurck) Dobbins. The father was a native of Allentown, Pennsylvania, while the mother's birth occurred in Ohio. He was a banker and capitalist and established the First and Second National banks of Peoria and was president of the former for a number of years. In his business career he met with success such as is obtained only through the exercise of such superior qualifications as undaunted energy, keen perception and resolute purpose.

In 1868 he went to Europe with his family and remained upon the continent until 1870, when he returned to America and located in Chicago. There he became engaged in the real-estate business. In 1871 he was the principal promoter in the building of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad from Chicago to Byron, Illinois, but in that venture lost heavily. He afterward engaged in the manufacture of vehicle springs of all kinds and later was identified with the brick manufacturing business. Throughout that period he was a resident of Chicago and his mental qualities and activity in public affairs made him the associate and friend of such men as Stephen A. Douglas, Abraham Lincoln, Governor Yates, General Grant and others well known at that day.

Dr. Dobbins acquired his early education in Peoria and later pursued his studies in Worcester, England, remaining in that country from 1869 until 1871. For some time he was connected with the real-estate business in Chicago but in the meantime took up the study of medicine and in 1901 was graduated from the Chicago Homeopathic College. He then located for practice in Chicago, where he remained until 1904, when he came to Elgin. Here he has built up a very successful practice. As stated, Dr. Dobbins has been blind from the age of fifteen years but, like the majority who lose their

eyesight, other senses have been developed above the average and have therefore been of material assistance to him in his professional career. His sense of touch and hearing, being particularly keen, are of the utmost assistance to him in his professional labors.

Dr. Dobbins was married in 1883 to Miss Ruth Oldham, of Eureka Springs, Arkansas, and they now have six children. Inez; Madeline; Isabel; George and Robert, twins; and Thomas S. The Doctor owns a fine residence which he occupies at 364 Chicago street. He has spent considerable time in vacation periods in Paris and left that city only the second day before they closed the gates at the surrender of Napoleon at Sedan and just before the attack was made on the French capital. He also passed through the great Chicago fire. He is a representative of one of the prominent old families of the state and has made for himself an excellent professional record, his ability being manifest in the results which have attended his ministrations in many cases.

J. F. FIERKE.

In studying the life and character of prominent men we are naturally led to inquire into the secret of their success and the motives that prompted their action. Success is not a question of genius, as held by many, but is rather a matter of experience and sound judgment, for when we trace the career of those who stand highest in public esteem we find in nearly every case that they are those who have risen gradually, making their way in the face of all opposition. Self-reliance, conscientiousness, energy, honesty—these are the traits of character that insure the highest emoluments and greatest success. To these may be attributed the prosperity that has crowned the efforts of J. F. Fierke, now the president of the Illinois Iron & Bolt Company and a resident of Dundee. He was born in Oelsdorf, in the province of Pomerania, Germany, in 1860, his parents being Frederick and Sophia (Beth) Fierke, who came to America in 1861 and settled at Dundee, Illinois. There the father died in the year 1880, while the mother is still living, making her home in Dundee at the age of eighty-four years. He was associated with some of the early owners of the Dundee brickyards and was an active, enterprising business man.

J. F. Fierke was educated in the local schools of Dundee. He entered upon his business career in connection with the Illinois Iron & Bolt Company as assistant shipping clerk when eighteen years of age. Since that time he has gradually worked his way upward and through successive promotions he has won recognition of his ability and trustworthiness. Gradually he advanced until in July, 1907, he was elected president of the company, having previous to that time been business manager for several years. He thus passed on to positions of executive control and is now bending his energies largely to organization, to constructive efforts and administrative direction. Possessing broad, enlightened and liberal-minded views, 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 community and from which he also has derived substantial benefits. As president of the Illinois Iron & Bolt Company he is at the head of an extensive enterprise, employing about six hundred men, it being one of the largest manufacturing concerns in Kane county.

Mr. Fierke was married in 1883 to Miss Augusta Sternberg, of Dundee. They are well known in social circles and are members of the Lutheran church of Dundee.

PAUL KEMLER, SR.

Paul Kemler, Sr., is one of the most prominent and popular of the retired business men of Elgin. He came to this city forty-one years ago and for a long period was identified with its hotel interests, in which connection he gained a most wide and favorable acquaintance and reputation. He gained the kindly regard of all with whom he came in contact and from those whom he was privileged to meet frequently he won the most sincere and lasting friendship.

He was born in Germany, October 28, 1837, and after acquiring a public-school education was apprenticed to a tanner and mastered that trade in Germany. Attracted by the opportunities of the new world, he then came to America and in 1856 settled in Chicago, where he engaged in the tanning business. In June, 1861, when the country was confronted with the problems of the Civil war, the patriotism of this sturdy young man asserted itself and for the love of the land of his adoption he enlisted, together with three of his brothers in Chicago in response to President Lincoln's call. He joined the Twenty-fourth Volunteer Infantry and was corporal under General Grant, who was then colonel of an Illinois regiment. He served for two years on the field and was wounded at Perryville, Kentucky, October 8, 1862. On the 26th of March, 1864, he was honorably discharged at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, having for three years valiantly done his duty as a soldier in defense of his adopted land.

In 1869 he was appointed a patrolman on the Chicago police force and served for four years. During the Chicago fire the duty that devolved upon the police officers was most strenuous and Mr. Kemler did his part bravely and unflinchingly. The following year he removed to Elgin and rented the Washington House, which he managed successfully for seventeen years, enjoying a large patronage and accumulating a competency. He always had a cheery, pleasant greeting for his guests, which made him personally popular and he won an unassailable reputation for his honesty and integrity that made him widely known throughout the country and secured for him the respect of all. He subsequently disposed of his hotel to his son, Paul Kemler, Jr., who is proprietor of the new Washington House, which was erected in 1907 and is one of the attractive hostelrys of this section of the state.

In 1865 Mr. Kemler, Sr., was married to Miss Wilhelmine Damisch, of this city, who died in 1883. They were the parents of eleven children. Mr. Kemler is a veteran Odd Fellow, having joined the order in 1859. He takes deep interest in its principles, plans and work, and when the German lodge was organized in Elgin it was named Paul Lodge in his honor. Mr. Kemler is now living retired in comfort and ease and his rest is well merited, as it crowns a labor of intense and well directed activity, of honorable purpose and unflinching integrity.

IRA N. RUSSELL.

Ira N. Russell, who for many years was actively identified with agricultural pursuits in Kane county, is now enjoying well earned rest in Elgin, for his diligence and activity in former years have brought to him capital sufficient to enable him to spend his remaining days in ease. His success, too, has been gained so honorably that the most envious cannot grudge him his prosperity. He was born in Gainesville, Wyoming county, New York, February 4, 1833, his parents being Jonas and Hannah (Lincoln) Russell, who were natives of Vermont, in which state they were reared and married. On leaving New England they became residents of Wyoming county, New York, where they remained until 1843, when they settled in Kane county, Illinois. Here their remaining days were passed. They had six children: Sarah, Jane, Hulda, Jonas and William, all of whom are now deceased; and Ira N., who is the only surviving member of the family.

Ira N. Russell was a lad of ten years when in 1843 he accompanied his parents on their removal to Kane county. It was still largely a pioneer district and they settled upon a farm at Batavia, where they lived for about ten years. They then removed to a farm in Burlington, this county. To the age of nineteen years Mr. Russell assisted his father in carrying on the work of the home place and then went to Chicago, where he entered the employ of J. W. Duncan & Company, lumber merchants. After a year, however, he resumed farming and carried on general agricultural pursuits until about fourteen years ago, when he came to Elgin. He derives substantial income from two good farms in Plato township comprising four hundred acres of land. At one time he owned a farm at Burlington but later sold that property and removed to Plato township, where he continued until he left the farm and took up his abode in the city. For many years he conducted a dairy business, keeping Holstein stock, and purchased and shipped many cattle. In all of his business affairs he displayed an aptitude for successful management, carrying forward to successful completion whatever he undertook. Seven years ago he built his present home at No. 326 South street and here he is spending the evening of his life in the enjoyment of well earned ease.

Mr. Russell has been married twice. In 1852, in Burlington township, he wedded Miss Charlotte Sherburne, who was born in Jay, New York, in 1829, and came to Illinois with her parents about 1850. She was a daughter

of William and Abigail (Harrison) Sherburne, natives of New Hampshire. The death of Mrs. Russell occurred January 7, 1901. There were four children of that marriage: Emma, the wife of Ernest Eckerson, of Sturgis, Michigan; Ella, deceased; Freeman, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume; and Laura A. Egan, of Elgin. On the 19th of March, 1903, Mr. Russell was again married, his second union being with Amelia J. Herrick, a native of Crawford county, Missouri, and a daughter of John J. and Ann M. (Sharp) Herrick, the former a native of New York and the latter of Scotland. John J. Herrick came to Illinois with his father, Luther Herrick, who settled on what is now known as the old Herrick farm in Hanover township on the Chicago road, entering the land from the government. At that time only three houses, and they were built of logs, marked the site of the present city of Elgin. The family was prominent in pioneer times but Mrs. Russell is now the only representative of the Herrick family in Elgin.

In his political views Mr. Russell has been a stalwart republican since the organization of the party and for three terms he served as supervisor of Plato township. He is a member of the Congregational church and in his fraternal relations is a Mason—associations which indicate much of the character of his interests and the rules which govern his conduct. His life has been well spent and in all his career he has been sincere and upright in his purposes, honorable principles guiding him in all of his relations with his fellowmen.

FREDERICK B. STREETER.

Frederick B. Streeter, conducting business in Aurora as a coal merchant, was born in Ottawa, Illinois, on the 28th of November, 1871, and is the eldest of the four children of Byron L. and Hattie B. (Ford) Streeter. The paternal grandfather was Barzabeel Streeter, who was a native of New York and of English descent. He devoted most of his life to the conduct of a hotel and died in the Empire state at a very advanced age. Unto him and his wife were born a large family. The maternal grandfather of our subject was a native of the Emerald isle and on crossing the Atlantic to the new world settled at Ottawa, Illinois, where he carried on wagon making. There he died when well advanced in years. He married Miss Burke, who also lived to a good old age and they reared a number of children, including Hattie B. Ford, who was born in Ottawa, Illinois, and in early womanhood gave her hand in marriage to Byron L. Streeter, a native of New York.

Byron L. Streeter was reared in Berlin, New York, and when a young man began clerking and also followed bookkeeping for many years. He came west to Illinois before the war and settled in Morris, Grundy county, for a few years. In 1864 he responded to the country's call for military aid and enlisted as a member of Company G, Thirty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was captured at Kenesaw Mountain and was imprisoned at Andersonville and Florence. As the result of his exposure in the army he has suffered from total blindness for fifteen or twenty years, thus making



F. B. STREETER

a great sacrifice for his country. After the war he went to Chicago and was employed in a wholesale commission house for several years but about 1875 came to Aurora, where he engaged in clerking and bookkeeping. He was also foreman of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy oil house for a number of years, or until failing eyesight compelled him to retire. Both he and his wife are members of the Roman Catholic church. For one year Mr. Streeter served as tax collector of Aurora and is well known here as a reliable man and enterprising citizen. The members of the family are: Frederick B., Burton B., May, the wife of E. L. Perrigo, and Milford E.

Frederick B. Streeter has lived in Aurora from the age of four years and became a public-school student, passing through consecutive grades until he acquired a good knowledge of those branches of English learning which qualify one for the active duties of life. He made his initial step in the business world in the employ of C. W. Marshall & Company, whom he represented as a salesman for about eight years. Later he began work in railroad contracting for his cousin, D. D. Streeter, with whom he continued for eight years. He was next secretary of the Elks' Club for a year and a half, after which he purchased the Cyr Brothers' Coal Company in July, 1906, and has since carried on the business, securing an extensive patronage during the two years or more in which he has operated in this line. He is a member of the Holy Angels' Catholic church and belongs to the Knights of Columbus and to the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks. He is widely and favorably known in this city, where he has lived from early boyhood and where many who know him entertain for him the warmest friendship.

On the 17th of June, 1908, Mr. Streeter married Miss Teresa M. Swanson, a native of Aurora, and a daughter of Aaron Swanson.

JOHN McNEIL.

While John McNeil is widely known in business circles as a wholesale grocer of Chicago, he maintains his residence in Elgin and his position in public regard here is of the highest. He has by consecutive stages worked his way upward to a place of prominence in the business world and his name is honored by reason of the straightforward policy he has ever followed, as well as owing to the progressive spirit which he has manifested. He was born in Ardrrie, Scotland, near Glasgow, May 22, 1839, his parents being Daniel and Jane (Crichton) McNeil, both of whom were natives of the land of hills and heather. The father was in charge of coal mines in his native country, while the mother there conducted a store of which her husband was the owner. He died in the year 1845 and in 1848 the mother with her three children, Malcolm, John and Anna, now the wife of Thomas Todd, of Elgin, left Glasgow for America as passengers on a sailing vessel which was six weeks in making the voyage.

They landed at New York city and came direct to the west, settling on a farm at Dundee, Kane county, Illinois. This farm was then in a poor con-

dition, but they soon made such improvements as they could and John McNeil remained there until he had attained the age of twenty-two years. He attended the district schools and later pursued his studies in the Elgin Academy, while subsequently he took a commercial course in Sloan's Commercial Business College in Chicago. Ambitious to engage in business on his own account in the spring of 1862, John McNeil with his brother Malcolm opened a grocery store on the corner where Edwin Hall's drug store now stands. Subsequently he turned his attention to general merchandising in the Hubbard block and in 1866 the firm removed to the corner where the Elgin Bank now stands. There they opened a store on a still larger scale under the firm name of M. & J. McNeil, continuing at that point until 1872, when they sought a broader field of labor by a removal to Chicago. In October of that year they opened a wholesale grocery house in the western metropolis under the firm name of McNeil & Higgins and in 1887 they incorporated the business under the firm name of the McNeil & Higgins Company, which still continues.

Mr. Higgins withdrew in 1899 and the stock is now held by Malcolm and John McNeil, with their sons as stockholders. They are located at Nos. 3-15 State street and also have an extensive house on the north side, where they take care of their country business. The trade has developed to extensive proportions owing to careful management and correct business principles on the part of the owners. They have wrought along modern lines, finding scope for their energy and activity in the city with its pulsing industrial interests and as the years have passed they have extended their trade into various sections of the country. Their place of business in Chicago is one of the old houses of the city and they have an extensive trade, being represented on the road by ninety traveling salesmen and in the house they employ about three hundred and fifty. On the north side, at No. 462 Illinois street, they have a large factory, manufacturing an extensive line of goods under their own brands, while the sales amount to between five and six million dollars annually. Everywhere in our land are found men who have worked their own way from humble beginnings to leadership in commerce, the great productive industries, the management of financial affairs, and in controlling the veins and arteries of the traffic and exchanges of the country. To this class belongs John McNeil.

John McNeil has always made his home in Elgin and for many years has owned a beautiful residence at No. 162 South State street. He was married on the 1st of March, 1864, to Miss Janet Crichton, a daughter of Robert Crichton, a native of Scotland, who came to America at an early day. Mr. and Mrs. McNeil have three sons and a daughter: John L. and Walter W., who are associated in business with their father; Howard; and Maude, who is the wife of William A. Jones, now president of a large printing company at Buffalo, New York. Mr. and Mrs. McNeil are members of the First Baptist church, in which he has served as a deacon for thirty-eight years. Everything pertaining to the welfare of Elgin is of interest to him and his labors have been an important element in its growth and progress in many ways. He has been a director in the Home National Bank and the Home Savings Bank for a number of years. He also owns a fine farm in Dundee

township, comprising two hundred acres, from which he derives a most gratifying income. He is one of the syndicate owning the large tract of land known as Washington Heights, which has been subdivided for town lots. He possesses a stalwart determination and an unfaltering purpose that enabled him to carry forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. He is a man of broad capabilities, as his varied and extensive business interests indicate. At all times approachable, he patiently listens to whatever a caller may have to say, is always courteous and at all times a gentleman in the truest and best sense of the term. He cares not for notoriety, nor is there about him the least shadow of mock modesty, and he is a gentleman of fine address and thorough culture, occupying a first place in society as well as in the commercial circles of northern Illinois.

WILLIAM R. BURDICK.

Success is methodical and consecutive, and however much one may indulge in fantastic theorizing as to its elements and causation in any isolated instance, yet in the light of sober investigation we will find it to be but a result of the determined application of one's abilities and powers along the rigidly defined line of labor. This finds proof in the record of William R. Burdick, who was born in St. Charles, Illinois, July 10, 1848. His parents were Samuel and Orpha (Root) Burdick, the latter a daughter of Dr. Anson Root, one of the pioneers of Elgin. Both parents were natives of the Empire state and Samuel Burdick became a resident of Elgin in 1836. Much of the land was still in possession of the government and he took up a claim six miles west of Elgin comprising one hundred and sixty acres of raw and undeveloped land. The first winter he split rails with which to fence his property. There he lived for several years, converting his farm into productive fields, after which he removed to St. Charles, where he became interested in an oil mill.

In 1850 he became a resident of Elgin and there engaged in the lumber business on the site now occupied by August Schule, proprietor of a grocery store. He built a home on Grove avenue, on the site where Meehan's clothing store now stands, and later he traded his lumber business for a farm in Hanover township, where he resided for thirteen years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Chicago, making his home at No. 113 Michigan avenue, the site now occupied by the extensive establishment of Montgomery Ward & Company. Later, however, he took up his abode on the north side of the city and opened a lumberyard for Charles Mears. He then removed to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, but returned to Elgin in 1867. In that year he became interested in the flourmill which stood on the site of the Phillip Frieler place, Heideman & Burdick, and later became Burdick & Chapman, Mr. Burdick continuing actively in the management of the business until 1873, when he sold his interest to Mr. Chapman. He then lived retired until his death, which occurred in 1874. His widow still survives and is now living in

Elgin in her ninetieth year. Arriving in this city in 1837, the following year she joined the Baptist church and is now the oldest living member of the church, having become identified therewith under the preaching of the Rev. E. J. Ambrose, the first pastor. Notwithstanding her very advanced years, she is a remarkably bright and intelligent lady and a great reader. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Burdick were five children, all of whom are yet living: James A., now a resident of Colorado; Mrs. L. B. Graves; Mrs. H. Denison; Mrs. Nettie Clarke; and William R.

The last named was educated in the Elgin Academy under the principalship of Professor A. S. Barry. While living in Chicago with his parents, he attended the old Dearborn public school, which occupied the present site of the Boston Store, and also attended the Ogden school on the north side under Professor Hayward, who was at one time a resident of Elgin. During the summer vacations he worked in his father's lumberyard and also attended the high school at Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, while his father was in the mercantile business there. He made his initial step in the business world as a clerk in the book store of I. S. Bartlett, at the corner of River and Chicago streets. There he remained for two years, when, in connection with H. H. Denison, he bought out his employer, continuing the business under the firm style of Denison & Burdick for several years.

In April, 1877, Mr. Burdick formed a partnership with W. T. Waite and bought the E. K. W. Cornell furniture business, operating in the store now occupied by Potter Brothers. Subsequently they purchased the furniture stock of Fred Cornell and W. F. Hunter and, merging these interests, removed to Chicago street, where Killip's restaurant now stands. There they continued business for twenty-five years, purchasing the building now occupied by the firm of Waite & Ross. In 1902, however, Mr. Burdick sold his interests to Mr. Ross. The same year he bought out the business of the Radcliffe Regalia Company and has since conducted that enterprise. The business was formerly conducted in the second floor over the Elgin Decorating Company, but in 1904 the present business block was erected by the company. In this connection Mr. Burdick is manufacturing all kinds of special orders of secret societies, including banners, badges, robes, and in fact regalias of all kinds. The trade is now rapidly increasing and has long since assumed profitable proportions.

In 1877 Mr. Burdick was married to Miss Emily M. Joslyn, a daughter of Fred Joslyn, and their children are: Jay, Ella, Madge, Lora Belle, Ruby and Warren. Mr. Burdick is well known in social and fraternal as well as business circles. He was for twelve years the treasurer of the National Union. He belongs to Kane Lodge, No. 47, I. O. O. F., with which he has been connected since 1870. He is likewise treasurer and member of the board of trustees of the First Baptist church, being identified therewith for fifteen years. He is likewise connected with the Yeomen and in all these relations is found to be a faithful member, loyal to the interests with which he has become identified. His record is that of a man who has by his own unaided efforts worked his way upward to a position of affluence. His life has been one of industry and perseverance and the systematic and honorable

business methods he has followed have won him the support and confidence of many. Without the aid of influence or wealth he has risen to a position among the most prominent men of the city and his native genius and acquired ability are the stepping-stones on which he has mounted.

NEWTON C. OWEN.

Newton C. Owen, although yet a young man, has made a record in business circles which many a man of twice his years might well envy. He is today manager for the Kentucky Coal Company of Elgin. His birth occurred in McHenry county, Illinois, December 8, 1886, his parents being George W. and Margaret (Curtis) Owen, both of whom were natives of McHenry county, Illinois. The father is a manufacturer, now connected with the silver plate factory at Elgin.

The son passed through consecutive grades in the public schools of this city until as a high school student he was graduated with the class of 1905. Early in his business career he was connected with the John Newman Butter Company for a time and was afterward with the Illinois Watch Case Company for several months. In August, 1907, he entered the employ of the Kentucky Coal Company as bookkeeper and his ability won almost immediate recognition in promotion, for on the 1st of December, 1907, he was made manager of the concern. This company is affiliated with the New Kentucky Coal Company of Chicago and owns and operates its own mines, making a specialty of washed coals. For three years the business has been carried on at Elgin, during which time they have built up an extensive trade. Their yards are located at National street and Third Rail and in his present position Mr. Owen shows himself well qualified to manage the affairs of the company and develop an extensive trade.

Interested in community affairs, he is secretary of the civil service commission of Elgin and is also a member of the Elgin board of trade. With appreciation for the social amenities of life, he is connected with the Elks Lodge and the Century Club and also belongs to the Young Men's Christian Association—a connection which indicates that his influence can be counted on for moral progress and development and for the support of that which is just and right.

JOHN A. WRIGHT.

There has been nothing in the life record of John A. Wright to attract the reader in search of a sensational or thrilling chapter, but there are elements in his life history which are of interest to the thoughtful student who draws a correct conclusion from facts and pursues the lessons therein contained to his own benefit. Mr. Wright is a contractor and carpenter of Elgin, who

by determined and unfaltering energy has gained for himself a place of prominence among the builders of the city. His father was one of the pioneer settlers here. The son was born in Muskegon county, Michigan, in 1857, but when two years of age was brought to Elgin by his parents, who were returning to Elgin in 1860. Here he attended the public schools and also the Elgin Academy, acquiring a liberal education. He afterward learned the carpenter's trade with Smith Hoag and later was employed by Russell & Kirkpatrick. As the years passed his efficiency increased and in 1886 he engaged in the contracting business, continuing alone until 1903, when he admitted H. F. Foster as a partner. They now have quite an extensive plant and employ several men in the manufacture of sash, doors and blinds and also in repair work. In contract lines Mr. Wright has erected all of the fire stations in Elgin with one exception and has built many fine business blocks and residences, including the Peck block, the homes of Mrs. M. W. Hawes, I. C. Towner, Hiram Thomas, E. F. Gooding, and others. He also built the Masonic Temple. Thus in the city's substantial structures are many evidences of his skill and handiwork.

Mr. Wright was married in 1880 to Miss F. Ella Gardner, of Chicago, and they have one son and one daughter, namely: J. Harry and Berenice E. Mr. Wright belongs to the Masonic fraternity, the Modern Woodmen, the Archaean Union, the Eastern Star and the Royal Arcanum. In his community he is regarded as a well informed man possessed of broad general information, and in his nature there is nothing narrow or contracted. He has a spirit that while devoted to his resident community is liberal enough to recognize and appreciate advancement and progress in any other part of the world.

JOSEPH WRIGHT.

In the history of Kane county's early development it is imperative that mention should be made of Joseph Wright, who in 1837 took up his abode within its borders and was closely associated with its early developments and interests. He was born in Deruyter, New York, in 1809, remained a resident of the east during his boyhood and youth, and in early manhood wedded Eliza Ann McClure, who was born in Pompey, New York. They came by lake to Chicago and on to Kane county, Illinois, in 1837, settling in Elgin on what is now the corner of Douglas avenue and Division street. The house was built of cobblestones and was one of the early structures of the city. Later they removed to the corner of South State and Walnut streets and Mr. Wright remained owner of that property until his death.

By trade a woodturner, Mr. Wright established his first shop at the east end of the Chicago street bridge, where Meehan's hardware store now stands. Subsequently he removed from that location to the present site of the Elgin opera house. For many years he was the only woodturner in this section of the country and did this kind of work for a large territory, among his

patrons being the Elgin Academy. He was an expert workman in his line, displaying marked skill and ability, and his capable labors brought to him a goodly measure of success.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wright were born two children, but only John A. Wright, whose sketch is given above, now survives. In his religious faith the father was a Quaker, while the mother was a member of the Baptist church. Mr. Wright is remembered by all of the old settlers and by many of the more recent arrivals. He continued a resident of Kane county for almost six decades and lived to see it emerge from frontier conditions to take its place with the leading counties of this great commonwealth. The Indians were still in camp when he came to the county, Elgin contained only a few houses, Aurora was a little town of small importance, and others of the now thriving towns of the county had not yet sprung into existence. He lived to see the county take on all the appointments of a modern civilization and was justly proud of what was accomplished here. He died in 1896, and thus passed away an honored pioneer settler.

JACOB ROBBINS.

Jacob Robbins, deceased, was born in Herkimer county, New York, September 12, 1824, and learned the mason's trade in his native state. In 1849 he went to California but subsequently returned to the Empire state and at an early day made his way westward to Chicago, where he became prominently connected with contracting and building interests, erecting many large buildings. Going to Janesville, Wisconsin, he also erected a large number of structures there, as well as all over the state of Illinois, his contracts including courthouses, etc. From Janesville, Wisconsin, he went to Denver, Colorado, with an ox-team and erected the first brick building there. For a time he was also connected with the Chicago & North-Western Railroad Company as a building contractor. In 1877 he removed to Dakota, where he did a great deal of work in his line, also took up land and likewise a tree claim. After developing both these properties into fine farms he sold them and returned to Elgin, where he had assisted in erecting the first watch factory. He also built a number of other large structures here, but passed away in Elgin, September 15, 1902, shortly after his return from Dakota. He was very successful in his undertakings and gained a large measure of prosperity, being a man of excellent business ability and keen discrimination.

Mr. Robbins was twice married and by his first union had three children. In 1874 he wedded Miss Dora Foster, a daughter of Eleazer and May (Ireland) Foster, of Oregon, Illinois. By this marriage there were six children. Carrie is the wife of Jacob Snyder, by whom she has four children: John, Dora, Laura and Charles. Guy married Delia Allen and has nine children: Fern, Laurence, Murel, Olive, Edna, Howard, Wilda, Hazel and Walter. Frederick is the next member of the Robbins family. Arthur wedded Eliza-

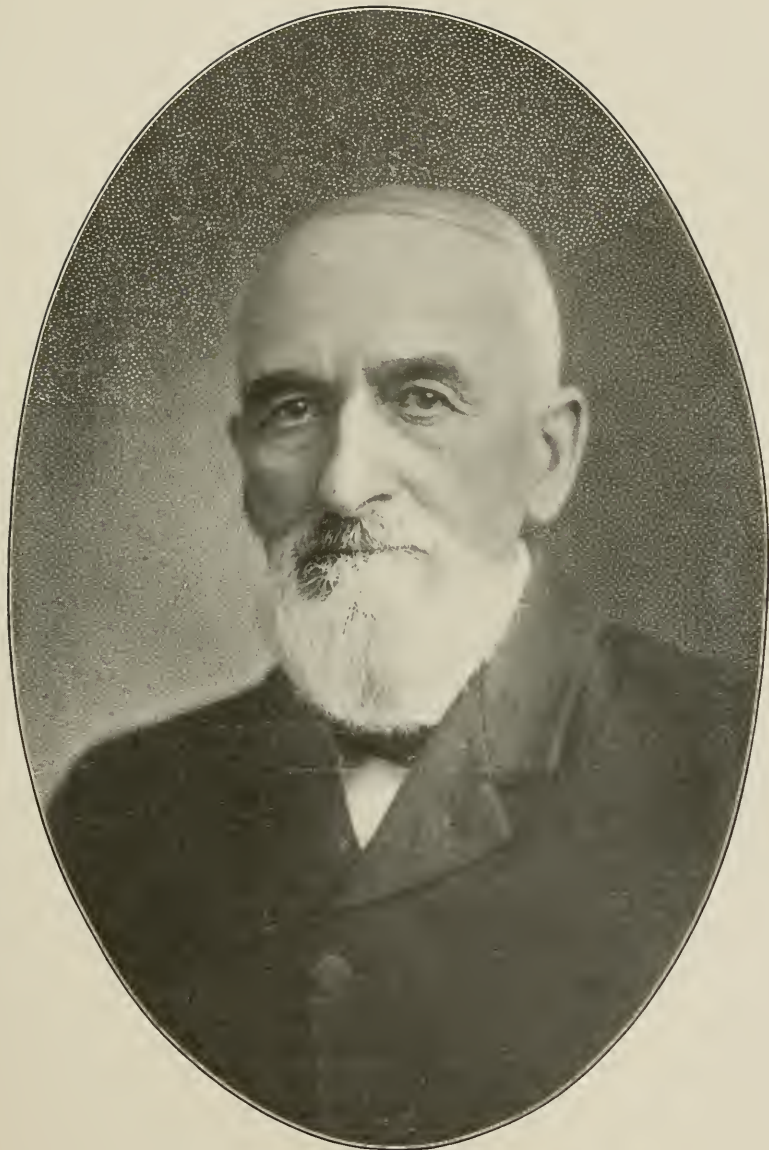
beth Johnson and has one child, Mildred. Beulah, who is the wife of a Mr. Watson, has one child, Lloyd. Hazel is the youngest member of the family.

Mr. Robbins supported the Congregational church and in the various relations of life was honorable and upright, his course winning him the regard and esteem of all with whom he was brought in contact.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER HOLLENBACK.

It would be superfluous in this connection to enter into any series of statements explanatory of who William A. Hollenback is or what position he occupies in the public regard. He is too well known in Kendall county to need introduction to the readers of this volume, for from an early epoch in the history of Illinois the Hollenback family has been active and prominent in the upbuilding and improvement of this part of the state. Mr. Hollenback of this review, for many years closely associated with agricultural interests, is now living retired in Aurora, his home being at No. 318 Spruce street. He was born in La Salle, now Kendall county, Illinois, November 9, 1834, his parents being George and Sophia (Sidle) Hollenback, the former born near Morgantown, West Virginia, in 1792, and the latter on the 18th of April, 1799, in New Jersey. Extended mention of the family is made in connection with the sketch of George M. Hollenback on another page of this volume.

William A. Hollenback was born in what is now known as Fox township, Kendall county, when that district constituted a part of La Salle county. His parents were pioneer settlers of the state and he was reared to manhood upon the home farm amid the scenes and environments of frontier life. His father was the owner of seven hundred and sixty-two acres of rich Illinois land and William Hollenback enjoyed little leisure in his youth, for his services were continuously needed upon the farm. He there continued until he had attained his majority and attended the old-time subscription schools at a period when the neighbors used to schedule for school purposes and the teacher boarded around. He also pursued his studies alone in the old log cabin, for he was athirst for knowledge and throughout his entire life has been interested in the acquirement of knowledge that broadens one's mental ken and brings to him a more thorough appreciation of life, its meaning and its purposes. On starting out in business on his own account he operated a part of his father's farm and then purchased one hundred and forty-six and eighty-eight one hundredths acres of land. With characteristic energy he began the development of the property and later at different times purchased seventy-seven and a half acres, five and ninety-six one hundredths acres, while one hundred and thirty and a half acres were allotted to him as his share of the home farm. He now owns three hundred and sixty and a third acres and from this valuable property derives a gratifying annual income. Year after year he carried on the work of the fields with excellent success, living in Kendall county until 1887, while in 1888 he removed to



W. A. HOLLENBACK

Chicago, where he resided until 1891. In May of that year he returned and settled at Millbrook Station, where he remained for nearly five years.

On the 11th of January, 1866, Mr. Hollenback was married to Miss Cornelia R. Pooler, a daughter of Otis Ensign and Amy (Miller) Pooler, of Lake county, Ohio. Mrs. Hollenback died in 1898 at the age of fifty-seven years, and on the 23d of October, 1901, at Battle Creek, Michigan. Mr. Hollenback was again married, his second union being with Miss Julia V. Pooler, a sister of his first wife, who had lived with them when a little girl. She has a twin brother, George E. Pooler, and they were born at Unionville, Lake county, Ohio, in 1854. Her father was a native of New York and her mother of Ohio. His death occurred in the Buckeye state and Mrs. Pooler afterward married again, becoming the wife of David Curtis, of Lagrange, Lorain county, Ohio. She died at that place at the age of seventy-nine years, while Mr. Curtis passed away at the age of eighty-four years. By his first marriage Mr. Pooler had five children, Cornelia; Melissa, the wife of John Boyd; Martha, the wife of Albert Wilsie, state senator in Nebraska; George Emery; and Julia V.

Mrs. Hollenback is a member of the Seventh Day Adventist church. Mr. Hollenback gives his political support to the republican party and was postmaster at Mansfield, Illinois, for three years. The postoffice was conducted in his father's home for ten years, his father having been postmaster for seven years. Few men have so intimate knowledge of the history of this part of the state as has William A. Hollenback, who has lived here continuously for almost seventy-four years. Remarkable changes have occurred during this time, for the Indian wigwam has been replaced by beautiful farm dwellings and the attractive and sometimes palatial homes of the city. The wild land has also been converted into rich farms, while at different places cities, towns and villages have sprung up and in their midst have been established industrial and commercial interests reaching out to all sections of the country. Mr. Hollenback relates many interesting incidents of the early days. His own life of activity and enterprise has been crowned with success and well merited rest and he is now living retired in Aurora, the fruits of his former labor being sufficient to enable him to enjoy all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

CHARLES A. SOPER.

Drawing his patronage from a large territory, Charles A. Soper is now conducting a profitable and growing business as proprietor of the Elgin Marble and Granite Works. He is a young man, possessing much of the spirit of enterprise which has been the dominant factor in the upbuilding of the middle west. Elgin numbers him among her native sons, his birth having here occurred on the 5th of October, 1881. His parents are Albert N. and Althea J. (McDowell) Soper, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume.

Coming to Elgin in the '70s, the father has since resided here and is now filling the position of superintendent of the Elgin cemeteries.

At the usual age Charles A. Soper was sent as a pupil to the public schools, wherein he passed through consecutive grades and after leaving school he entered the employ of the Elgin National Watch Company, with which he was connected for three years. He was next employed in the city light department and in 1903 he purchased from A. E. Price the Elgin Marble and Granite Works, which he has since conducted. He is now engaged in the manufacture of monuments and cemetery memorials exclusively and has a trade which covers several adjacent counties. His business is large and profitable and his location is a favorable one, being just opposite the Bluff City Cemetery.

Mr. Soper is a member of the Masonic lodge and in his life exemplifies the beneficent spirit of the craft. He was married September 14, 1905, to Miss Grace Townsend, of Elgin, a daughter of Milton S. Townsend, and they have one child, Dorothea Jane. The parents are members of the First Baptist church and they reside at No. 610 Wright avenue, their home being a most hospitable one, its doors being ever open for the reception of their many friends.

HOWARD C. McNEIL.

Howard C. McNeil is preeminently a man of action, which fact is manifest in the discharge of his duties as treasurer of the Illinois Iron & Bolt Company. One is apt to think of the graduates of Harvard and other noted universities as representatives of professional life and interests, but the time has passed when the college bred man feels that he must confine his attention to a professional career, for he realizes that the field of industrial and commercial activity is just as great and that its successes are just as honorable.

Mr. McNeil, a Harvard graduate, is now occupying a position of administrative direction in connection with one of the most important industrial concerns of Kane county, the plant being located at Carpenterville. He was born at Elgin, March 22, 1878, and is a son of John McNeil, one of the prominent wholesale grocers of Chicago. The public schools afforded him his preliminary educational opportunities and later he attended the Elgin Academy and the Phillips Academy at Andover, Massachusetts, from which he was graduated in 1897. He then entered Harvard and won the degree of S. B. upon his graduation in 1901. For five and a half years he was connected with the McNeil & Higgins Company, wholesale grocers of Chicago, and on the 1st of January, 1907, became the treasurer of the Illinois Iron & Bolt Company. This company has an extensive plant at Carpenterville and is one of the most important productive enterprises of the county. Mr. McNeil has shown himself well qualified for a position of administrative direction and executive control and has made a most creditable place in business circles.

On the 22d of September, 1903, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. McNeil and Miss Mary Elizabeth Cleveland, a daughter of Dr. E. F. Cleve-

land, of Dundee, and a niece of Mrs. G. P. Lord, a representative of one of the old families of Elgin. They now have one daughter, Elizabeth Crichton, who was born November 29, 1906. Mr. McNeil is a member of the First Baptist church of Elgin and his wife holds membership in St. James Episcopal church of Dundee. They are widely known and prominent socially and their circle of friends in the county is most extensive. Mr. McNeil is a young man of strong individuality and indubitable probity and is winning for himself a place among those who are prominent factors in the world of trade in Kane county.

WILLIAM MOFFETT MERCER.

William Moffett Mercer is a member of the bar of Aurora and is also a representative of agricultural interests in Kane county, owning and supervising valuable farming interests. He was born at Waterman, De Kalb county, Illinois, March 8, 1863. His paternal grandfather, Robert Mercer, was a native of the north of Ireland but of Scotch descent. He followed the occupation of farming and spent the greater part of his life in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, but while he passed away in middle age his wife lived to be about ninety years of age.

Their son, Smith Mercer, followed the occupation of farming and on removing from the east came to Illinois in 1854, settling on a tract of land near Waterman, De Kalb county, where seven of his children were born. After successfully carrying on general agricultural pursuits for a long period he retired from business life and lived in Sandwich for ten years in the enjoyment of well earned rest. He was then called to his final rest in 1904, passing away at the age of seventy-six years. In early manhood he wedded Margaret Thornburg, a daughter of David Thornburg, who was a native of Pennsylvania and of Scotch lineage. He married a Miss Veasey and removed westward to Leavenworth, Kansas, about 1875, his death there occurring when he had reached the age of eighty-nine years. His wife died in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, when more than sixty years of age. They had a large family, including Margaret Thornburg, who became the wife of Smith Mercer and passed away upon the home farm in De Kalb county, Illinois, in 1888, at the age of fifty-six years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Smith Mercer were faithful members of the United Presbyterian church and in community affairs he was active, holding various town offices.

Their family numbered nine children, seven sons and two daughters, as follows: Robert, who makes his home in Chicago; Joseph, a resident of Aurora; Thomas, who is living in Sandwich, Illinois; John, a resident of Waterman, this state; Alwin, of Aurora; William M., whose name introduces this review; Wallace, who died in 1886 at the age of twenty-two years; Ida, the wife of A. J. Tuttle, who resides in Los Angeles, California; and Jennie, the wife of James E. Landen, also of that city.

William Moffett Mercer was reared upon his father's farm in the county of his nativity and supplemented his district school education by study in East

Paw Paw Seminary, where he won the degree of Bachelor of Science. He manifested such aptitude in his studies that he was enabled to procure a teacher's certificate and for several years engaged in teaching in De Kalb county, beginning when seventeen years of age. He was graduated from the seminary at the age of twenty years and then went to Nebraska, where he secured a situation as bookkeeper and assistant cashier in a bank at Franklin. He filled that position for two years and subsequently was manager of a lumber yard there owned by the T. W. Harvey Lumber Company, which company had yards in a number of places in western states. Mr. Mercer managed their business at Ravenna and at Shickley, Nebraska, his time being thus occupied until 1892, when he embarked in the grain, lumber and coal business at Shabbona, Illinois, giving his time and attention to that enterprise until 1899. He then came to Aurora and made this his home, but entered the Northwestern University Law School at Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1901. The same year he was admitted to the bar and practiced in Chicago from May until December as assistant to A. C. Barnes, who was first assistant in the office of Governor Charles S. Deneen, then state's attorney. Mr. Barnes is now one of the judges of the circuit and superior courts of Cook county.

Returning to Aurora, Mr. Moffett opened an office and has practiced here continuously since. He has secured a good clientage and his patronage is thus plainly indicated. He was first in partnership with F. R. Reid and later the firm was Goodwin, Mercer & Reid. Subsequently it became Goodwin & Mercer, Judge Goodwin retiring in 1905 to become assistant United States attorney general of the postoffice department. Mr. Mercer is now alone in practice and is recognized as an able lawyer of keen discernment and of marked analytical power. He has made steady advancement in his business career, as his constantly expanded powers have enabled him to successfully cope with the intricate problems that are continually being presented in business life.

On the 4th day of December, 1884, Mr. Mercer was married to Miss Ella Lattin, who was born in Dutchess county, New York, a daughter of Edom and Ruth (Mosher) Lattin, who were also natives of the Empire state. Her father was of Holland Dutch lineage, while the mother came of Quaker stock. They were the parents of four children, two sons and two daughters, namely: Stephen A., who makes his home in Minnesota; George W., of De Smet, South Dakota; Alma, the wife of Samuel Criswell, who resides in Buffalo, Oklahoma; and Ella, now Mrs. Mercer. The father of these children was a miller in the east and died in Dutchess county, New York, in middle life, while his wife passed away at Franklin, Nebraska, in 1890, when about fifty-eight years of age.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Mercer have been born two sons and four daughters: Maude, the wife of Henry A. Brown, formerly of Poughkeepsie, New York, but now of Aurora, by whom she has a son, Horace A.; Ivan Harrison, who graduated from the East Aurora high school and is now operating a farm belonging to his father in Aurora township; Christel, who, like her brother, is a graduate of the East Aurora high school; William Mark, Monna and Leona, all still under the parental roof.

The parents are members of the Congregational church, in which Mr. Mercer is serving as a deacon. Politically he is a republican. He is a very strong Deneen man and one of the first Deneen supporters. In matters of public moment he has taken an active and helpful interest. He is now chairman of the agricultural committee of the Chamber of Commerce and is chairman of the building committee of the Young Men's Christian Association, which is now erecting a new building at a cost of one hundred thousand dollars. He is also a stockholder in the German-American National Bank of Aurora. He owns a fine farm of one hundred and forty acres two miles south of the city known as Maple Lawn Farm and there gives particular attention to the breeding of Chester White hogs and to dairying. His city residence is at No. 210 La Salle street. Mr. Mercer takes an active and helpful interest in all that pertains to the general welfare and his labors along many lines have been effective working forces in its behalf.

HENRY ALMOND BARTLETT.

Henry Almond Bartlett, who is successfully engaged in farming in Campton township, is one of Kane county's native sons, for he was born in Blackberry township, December 4, 1873. His father, John E. Bartlett, was born September 15, 1850, in Campton and died on the 15th of November, 1889. He is still survived by his wife, who bore the maiden name of Elsie M. Richmond and is yet a resident of Kane county. In politics John E. Bartlett was a staunch republican, inheriting those principles from his illustrious father, Joseph P. Bartlett, who was very actively associated with the operation of the famous underground railroad in antebellum days, whereby many a poor negro was assisted on his way to Canada and freedom. Our subject's father held the office of school director for many years. The other children of the family are George E., also a farmer of Campton township; Joseph A., a farmer of Blackberry township; William Lester, who is teaching in the mute school at Berkeley, California; and Walter E., a teacher at Big Rock, Kane county.

Henry A. Bartlett pursued his studies in the district schools of this county until he had attained the age of fifteen years, and then gave his mother the benefit of his labors in the operation of the home farm until he reached his majority, when he removed to Elburn and was engaged in the feed, coal and implement business for several years. He next took charge of his uncle's farm and is now operating one of the largest and best dairy farms in Kane county with excellent success, being a progressive agriculturist and a man of good business ability and sound judgment.

As a companion and helpmate on life's journey Mr. Bartlett chose Miss Thursa Aylward, who was born in Kaneville, and by their marriage they have become the parents of two children: Ralph A., born May 21, 1903; and Charles Maynard, born October 15, 1907. Mrs. Bartlett's father, Charles Aylward, now makes his home in Elburn, but her mother is deceased, dying in 1902. She has one sister, Emma, who is a resident of Chicago and is super-

intendent of the Presbyterian training school for nurses. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett are faithful members of the Congregational church and are most estimable people, who have many friends throughout the county. Being a strong temperance man, Mr. Bartlett is an active prohibitionist in politics.

THADDEUS J. MERRILL.

Thaddeus J. Merrill is one of the more recent additions to the Kane county bar, but has already gained a good clientage as a general law practitioner of Aurora. He was born at Hinckley, Illinois, December 18, 1877, and is a representative of one of the old families of this city, his paternal grandfather having located here when Aurora was little more than a village. He engaged in the lumber and coal business as one of the early merchants and died here in middle life. His wife, Mrs. Marian Merrill, has also long since passed away.

Frank E. Merrill, father of our subject, was born in Plessis, New York, and was reared to farm life, but in early manhood went to New York city, where he accepted a clerkship in a banking house. He had been thus engaged for several years, when he was offered a position in the government printing office under the administration of Abraham Lincoln and became head of the bank note printing department. He remained there during the succeeding administration of President Johnson and on his retirement from office came to the middle west and settled in Aurora, Illinois, where he engaged in the coal and lumber business under the firm name of Merrill & Dickinson. For several years he was thus associated with the trade, after which he removed to Hinckley, Illinois, where for twenty-three years he conducted a general mercantile and banking business. He was for twenty-three years a factor in the business life of that town and then disposing of his banking and mercantile interests to H. D. Wagner he returned to Aurora, where he lived retired. He married Miss Frances Elizabeth Costler, a native of Covington, Kentucky, and they reared a family of one son and two daughters: Thaddeus J.; Nellie E., the wife of William Henderson, of Aurora; and Marian A., who is living with her mother in this city. The death of Mr. Merrill occurred in 1893, when he was about fifty-six years of age. He was a Unitarian in religious faith and his wife is connected with the same church. At one time he was candidate for the state senate on the democratic ticket, but was defeated, and later a change in his political views led him to endorse the republican party. He filled a number of local offices in Hinckley, serving as postmaster, as justice of the peace and as town clerk, and for several terms he capably administered municipal affairs as mayor. He left the impress of his individuality for good upon the locality in which he resides and yet occupies a prominent place in the memory of those who knew him in life.

Thaddeus J. Merrill was reared in Hinckley, Illinois, and attended the grammar schools there. When fourteen years of age he came to Aurora and, continuing his education here, was graduated from the West Aurora high

school in 1897. He afterward engaged in teaching school for a year at Hinckley and subsequently entered Dartmouth College at Hanover, New Hampshire, where he pursued his studies until the fall of 1900, when he became a student in the University of Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1902. He afterward studied law in the University of Chicago, completing the course in 1904, and then put his theoretical knowledge to the test in the office of Scanlan & Fell, of Chicago. He next opened an office in Aurora, where he has remained in practice continuously since, having been admitted to the bar on the 13th of October, 1904. Although one of the younger representatives of the profession, he has already secured a good clientage here and is making substantial advancement in his chosen calling. He is a member of the Illinois State Bar Association.

On the 24th of October, 1905, Mr. Merrill was married to Miss Meribah T. Willis, a daughter of Judge Henry B. and Lucy (Wait) Willis, of Elgin. Mr. Merrill belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity, the Odd Fellows lodge and the Modern Woodmen camp, and politically has always been a republican. He lives at No. 89 Highland avenue, in the old homestead which was erected by his father.

O. A. HOLCOMB.

Among Aurora's native sons who have gained distinction in the lines of business to which they have given their energies is numbered O. A. Holcomb, now an able and representative lawyer, who was born in Aurora on the 8th of August, 1858. His father, Osborne Holcomb, was a native of Connecticut, born near Hartford. He came to Aurora in the early '50s and engaged in contracting, doing much toward the upbuilding of the city. He erected many houses and other structures here and thus contributed in substantial measure to the welfare and improvement of Aurora. His political allegiance was unflinchingly given to the republican party. He died in December, 1902, at the age of seventy-four years, and is still survived by his wife at the age of seventy-five years. She bore the maiden name of Mary Ann Higby and was born near Elmira, New York. She came to Illinois with her father, who on his removal westward gave his attention to farming in the early '50s.

O. A. Holcomb acquired his literary education through the medium of the public schools of Aurora and then, determining upon the practice of law as a life work, he began studying with the late A. E. Searls as his preceptor. After thorough preliminary reading he was admitted to the bar in 1889 and has since been engaged in practice. However, he has devoted much time to other interests, being the owner of valuable farming property and also making farm loans. He does an extensive land business in all the surrounding states, handling much valuable property and placing many investments. He also owns real estate in the city and has built several houses here, the rental thereof bringing him a gratifying annual income.

On the 15th of March, 1888, Mr. Holcomb was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Keck, daughter of Daniel and Mary E. (Ellis) Keck, and a native of Illinois. Unto them have been born a daughter and son: Ethel, who is now attending Wheaton College; and Glen, who is a student in the public schools of this city. Mr. Holcomb votes with the republican party, but has never been an office seeker, preferring to devote his time and attention to his professional and business duties, which leave him little leisure but which bring to him gratifying annual success.

H. W. DUERINGER, M. D.

Dr. H. W. Dueringer, engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in Elgin, was born in Gibson City, Ford county, Illinois, November 6, 1868. His father, the Rev. John H. Dueringer, was a native of the city of Hanau, Germany, and in early manhood was married to Miss Minnie Morsch, who was born in Karlsruhe, Germany. They came to America, however, when quite young and were married in the new world. The Rev. Dueringer served as a soldier in the Civil war, acting as bugler for a time. He was connected for a time with Company A, of the Sixty-fourth Illinois Regiment—the Sharpshooters—under command of General Rosecrans, and participated in all of the principal engagements with his regiment, making a most creditable military record in defense of the Union. He was a notary public and assessor and filled other offices in his county and was also prominent in the Grand Army of the Republic.

Dr. Dueringer's preparation for the profession was preceded by a course of study in Chicago public schools. His preliminary reading in medical lines was supplemented by study in Hahnemann Medical College of Chicago, from which he was graduated in April, 1896. Immediately afterward he began practice at Champaign, Illinois, where he remained for two years, when he came to Elgin and opened the office he now occupies. Here he has built up a very large and lucrative practice, being recognized as one of the strongest representatives of the school of homeopathy in this part of the state. He is a member of the Illinois Homeopathic Association and also of the American Institute of Homeopathy. He belongs to the Yeomen of America, of which for the past two years he has been their national medical director, also medical examiner of the Columbian Knights and medical examiner of the Swiss Society. His membership relations include the German Gilde the Krieger Verein and the Soldiers' Society, of which he is also medical examiner. He holds similar professional relations with the Union Life Insurance Company, the Daughters of Columbia and the German Life Insurance Association of Chicago.

On the 7th of September, 1893, Dr. Dueringer was married to Miss Elizabeth Sippel, of Chicago, and they have four children, Stella, Esther, Walter and Orylin. The parents are members of the German Methodist Episcopal church and Dr. Dueringer belongs to the Elks' lodge. He has



DR. H. W. DUERINGER

always held to high ideals in his profession, is neglectful of no duty that can possibly promote the interests of his patients and in his continued study and investigation has gained broad and comprehensive knowledge whereby his many patrons have profited. As a latter feature of his more active practice he is giving more and more time to the study of surgery.

JEREMIAH D. LUTZ.

Jeremiah D. Lutz, who is successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising in Kaneville township, was born in Center county, Pennsylvania, March 23, 1855, his parents being Jacob and Catherine (Zeigler) Lutz, the former also a native of Center county, Pennsylvania, where his birth occurred in 1819. Jacob Lutz, who was a blacksmith by trade, was drafted for service in the Civil war but sent a substitute. His marriage was celebrated in 1849, and he continued to reside in the Keystone state until the time of his demise in July, 1890. He was a devoted member of the German Reformed church. His wife, who survived him for only six weeks, passed away in Center county, Pennsylvania, in September, 1890. Unto this worthy couple were born seven children: Sarah, born in Center county, Pennsylvania, in 1850, became the wife of Stephen Transue, who served as a soldier in the Civil war throughout the period of hostilities. He is now engaged in farming in Pennsylvania. Chestie, whose birth occurred in Center county, Pennsylvania, in 1852, became the wife of Ira Segner, an undertaker and finisher. She made her home in Pennsylvania until the time of her demise in 1889. Maggie, born in Center county, Pennsylvania, in 1853, married Charles Beck, a farmer by occupation. She resided in the Keystone state until called to her final rest in 1894. Julia, who was born in Center county, Pennsylvania, in 1854, married Benjamin Vonada, a retired agriculturist, and resides in Pennsylvania. Jeremiah D., of this review, was the next in order of birth. Harvey Newton, born in Center county, Pennsylvania, married Miss Anna Fisher in 1880. He is a blacksmith by trade and makes his home in the state of his nativity. Clement C., born in Center county, Pennsylvania, January 14, 1861, married Miss Mary Clontz in 1882 and resides in the county of his nativity.

Jeremiah D. Lutz attended school in Pennsylvania until eighteen years of age, and in the year 1878 made his way westward to Illinois, securing employment as a farm hand. For ten years he farmed on shares land which belonged to his father-in-law, B. F. Gramley, and in 1893 purchased his present tract of one hundred and twenty acres situated three and a half miles west of Kaneville. It is all tillable land and he has tilled and otherwise greatly improved the property, equipping his place with all the conveniences and accessories which go to make up a model farming property of the twentieth century. His buildings are modern and substantial and he is an enterprising and up-to-date farmer, keeping abreast with the most progressive methods of agriculture. He raises shorthorn cattle, having some splendid specimens of that breed, and also feeds Duroc Jersey red hogs. He keeps ten cows, deliver-

ing milk to the County Line Creamery, and also has one hundred hens of the Plymouth Rock variety. His life has been one of continuous activity, in which has been accorded due recognition of labor, and today he is numbered among the prosperous citizens of his community.

In Kane county, Illinois, in 1883, occurred the marriage of Mr. Lutz and Miss Diana M. Gramley, of Pennsylvania. Mr. Lutz is independent in politics, supporting men and measures rather than party. He attends the Methodist Episcopal church and is an upright citizen, having won the warm regard and esteem of all with whom he has come in contact.

CHARLES L. SPRIET.

Charles L. Spriet, operating two hundred and twenty-three acres of valuable land in St. Charles township, was born in Eerneghem, Belgium, April 29, 1857, his parents being Eugene and Francisca (Biebuyck) Spriet, both natives of that country, the former born April 3, 1823, and the latter in 1825. They were married in 1852, and the father passed away in Belgium, February 27, 1908, but the mother still resides in her native land. The brothers and sisters of our subject are as follows: Camel Henry, born in Belgium in 1859, was married in that country to Marthilda Van De Capelle, and now carries on farming east of St. Charles in Kane county, Illinois. Leona has passed away. Sidonie, born in Belgium in 1864, became the wife of August Coryn, a farmer. They came to America in 1887 and now reside four and a half miles west of St. Charles. Celest, born in Belgium in 1867, is a farmer by occupation and lives with his wife in the land of his birth. Frank, whose birth occurred in Belgium in 1869, attended high school in that country and subsequently wedded Miss Farilda Gatse. He is a laborer, now residing in Moline, Illinois.

On the 29th of March, 1887, Charles L. Spriet emigrated to America and throughout the following summer was engaged in agricultural pursuits in Michigan. Subsequently he worked in the pineries of Kalkaska county, Michigan, for two years and on the expiration of that period removed to Moline in 1890, there continuing until 1893. During the succeeding two years he was employed in the malleable iron foundry at St. Charles and afterward returned to Moline, where he continued to reside until 1900, when he once more came to St. Charles. Here he went into partnership with his brother Henry in the conduct of a farm, but for the past seven years has carried on agricultural pursuits alone west of St. Charles, and in addition to the work of general farming he also conducts an extensive dairy, owning fifty-seven cows and averaging eighty gallons of milk daily. About one-third of the cows are of the Holstein breed, while the remainder are Durhams. He is also interested in the raising of poultry, having one hundred and fifty hens, and likewise owns seven horses. He uses the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work of the fields.

On the 24th of April, 1889, at Detroit, Michigan, occurred the marriage of Mr. Spriet and Miss Leonia Van De Capelle, a daughter of John and Barbara (Van Den Brande) Van De Capelle, both natives of Belgium. The father was a baker by trade, and both he and his wife passed away in the land of their birth. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Spriet have been born six children, all of whom are still under the parental roof. The record of the family is as follows: Manda, born in Moline, Illinois, January 5, 1890; Henry, whose birth occurred in Moline, Illinois, May 8, 1892; Frank, born in St. Charles, February 3, 1894; Charley, born in Moline, January 11, 1896; Edwin Albert, whose birth occurred in Moline, January 12, 1898; and Martha, who was born in Moline, May 27, 1900.

Mr. Spriet gives his political allegiance to the men and measures of the republican party, while in religious faith he is a Catholic, being a member of St. Patrick's church at St. Charles. 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.

BERT EUGENE SHERWIN.

Bert Eugene Sherwin, successfully engaged in farming in Aurora township, was born in Kaneville, Illinois, June 18, 1877, his parents being Daniel C. and Mary E. (Barnes) Sherwin, the former born in Massachusetts, April 8, 1842, and the latter in New York state, June 15, 1842. They removed to Sugar Grove township when our subject was quite young and there carried on agricultural pursuits for several years. In 1885 they took up their abode in Aurora, where the father passed away in 1891. Mrs. Sherwin survived her husband until January 12, 1900, when she, too, was called to her final rest. She was a sister of Crowell and Ethelbert Barnes, prominent farmers of Sugar Grove township, who are mentioned on another page of this volume. Our subject has but one sister, namely: Cora A., who was born June 24, 1867, and is the wife of Charles A. Hilderbrand, an agriculturist of Sugar Grove township.

Bert Eugene Sherwin attended school until fourteen years of age in the old brick schoolhouse on the Galena road, two miles west of Aurora. Subsequently he attended the Oak street school in Aurora for three years, and after putting aside his text-books was for a time employed as clerk in a grocery store. Various other occupations claimed his attention until 1900, when he rented the Hoyt farm, now owned by Mrs. Harbour, comprising eighty acres. For eight years he has now successfully managed the place, being a man of untiring perseverance and good business ability.

On the 4th of December, 1900, Mr. Sherwin was united in marriage to Miss Ruby Parker, who was born in Sugar Grove township, April 17, 1881, a daughter of Perry and Mary (Russell) Parker. They have become the parents of five children: Parker Russell, whose birth occurred August 31,

1902; Donald Sidney, born August 25, 1903; Norman B., whose natal day was August 8, 1905; Kenneth, born December 20, 1906; and Beatrice, May 27, 1908.

Politically a staunch republican, Mr. Sherwin gives stalwart allegiance to the men and measures of that party. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen and is also a member of the West Aurora Farmers' Club. He is of a very retiring nature, unassuming and modest, but is nevertheless highly respected throughout the community, being widely known as a man of excellent character and upright life.

FAYETTE D. WINSLOW.

Fayette D. Winslow is a representative of one of the old and prominent pioneer families of Kane county. He has always made his home here. He has won many friends through the possession of qualities which ever command respect and regard and is valued as a citizen as well as a member of the legal profession. He was born in Sugar Grove township, Kane county, Illinois, August 26, 1857.

During the period of early colonial history the Winslow family was established in America by Kenelm Winslow, who came to the new world on the second trip of the Mayflower, accompanied by his brother Josiah. They settled at Plymouth, Massachusetts, and Kenelm Winslow became one of the first settlers of Marshfield, Massachusetts, in 1641, he and his brother being granted a large tract of land there. He was one of the twenty-six original proprietors of Assonet (Freetown), Massachusetts, the site of which they purchased in 1651. Kenelm Winslow was a brother of Edward Winslow, governor of the Plymouth colony, and also of John Winslow, who came there in the Mayflower on its first voyage and wedded Mary Chilton, the first woman to set foot on Plymouth rock.

Dr. George Winslow, grandfather of Fayette D. Winslow, was a physician and surgeon who, born in Massachusetts, lived for many years at Colerain and Charlemont. He studied medicine with Dr. Long, of Shelburne, Massachusetts, and for many years was an able and well known representative of the profession in the old Bay state. His children all came to the west, however, and eventually he followed in 1846, settling at Big Rock, Illinois, where he died two years later when about sixty-six years of age. His son, Lawson A. Winslow, born at Colerain, Massachusetts, also qualified for the practice of medicine, turning his attention to that work when a young man. He attended the Medical School of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, and in 1846 came west with his father, settling at Big Rock, Kane county. He afterward pursued a post-graduate course in the Iowa Medical College at Keokuk, and for about six years practiced at Sugar Grove, Illinois. In 1857 he sought a broader field of labor by a removal to Aurora, where he continued in the practice of medicine for over thirty years, or within a few years of his death. Aside from his profession he was interested in various business enterprises, wherein the community was a large indirect beneficiary. For a number of years he served as a

director in the Second National Bank and was one of the founders of the Silver Plate Manufacturing Company. He served at one time as city physician. He was also secretary of the first republican meeting held in Kane county, of which his father-in-law, Jethro Hatch, was the president. Dr. Winslow was most public spirited, intensely, actively and helpfully interested in the welfare of Aurora, his labors in its behalf being exerted in many directions. As he prospered in his undertakings he made judicious investments in property, becoming the owner of several farms in Kane county.

On the 31st of July, 1851, Dr. Winslow was married to Miss Marcella Prudence Hatch, who was born in Otselic, Chenango county, New York, in 1830. Her father, Jethro Hatch, was a native of New York and followed Merchandising in Chenango county prior to his removal westward to Kane county at an early date, at which time he took up his abode in Sugar Grove township, where he engaged in farming. About 1872 he removed to Aurora, where he died at the age of eighty-two years. His wife was Minerva (Pierce) Hatch, who was born in Chelsea, Vermont, and died in 1882, at the age of seventy-nine years. The great-grandfather of Fayette D. Winslow in the maternal line was Timothy Hatch, who served as a soldier of the Revolutionary war, acting as drummer boy during that strife. He married Ruth Welles, a direct descendant of Governor Welles, the first colonial governor of Connecticut. He was a son of Thomas Hatch, who was a lieutenant of the American army in the Revolutionary war and was one of the early graduates of Yale College. The founder of the Hatch family in America came to the new world in 1630 and settled in Connecticut. The father of Mrs. Jethro Hatch was Gurdon Pierce, a soldier of the war of 1812, and his wife bore the maiden name of Thirza Smalley. They were married December 1, 1790, when he was twenty years of age, and he died at the very venerable age of ninety-one years.

For thirty-eight years Dr. Lawson A. Winslow and Marcella Hatch traveled life's journey together as man and wife, but in the later years of his life he went to Albuquerque, New Mexico, for the benefit of his health and there passed away in 1889, at the age of sixty-eight years, his birth having occurred December 23, 1831. Mrs. Winslow was a native of New York and by her marriage became the mother of seven children, of whom three reached adult age, namely: Dr. Charles E. Winslow, of Monrovia, California; Fayette D., of Aurora; and Martha M., who is a teacher in the high school at Pasadena, California. The elder son was born in Sugar Grove, Illinois, August 19, 1855, attended Oberlin College at Oberlin, Ohio, and was graduated from Rush Medical College of the class of 1881. He was afterward assistant physician and surgeon at the Marine Hospital in Chicago and subsequently practiced for several years in Aurora, Illinois, but is now located in California. In 1883 he married Miss Louise M. Tracy, of Mansfield, Ohio. The sister, Martha M. Winslow, a graduate of Oberlin College of the class of 1879, afterward pursued a special course in biology in Chicago University and also in Leland Stanford University at Palo Alto, California, which institution conferred upon her the degree of Master of Arts. She is now teaching biology in Pasadena.

Fayette D. Winslow was only six months old when his parents removed to Aurora and in this city he was reared, passing through consecutive grades in the public schools until his graduation from the West Aurora high school. Later he entered Beloit College, from which he was graduated in the class of 1879. He was graduated from the law department of Columbia University in New York city in 1883 and was admitted to the bar of Illinois in 1885. He then began practice in Aurora, where he has remained continuously since.

In 1891 Mr. Winslow was married to Miss Jennie Waldo Tracy, of Mansfield, Ohio, a daughter of Frederick and Anna L. (Lord) Tracy. Her father was born at Painesville, Ohio, May 6, 1831. The founder of the Tracy family in this country was Lieutenant Thomas Tracy, who settled at Salem, Massachusetts, in 1636. He was of Norman French stock, and his son, Captain Thomas Tracy, married Mary Winslow, the daughter of Josiah Winslow, who was a brother of Governor Edward and Kenelm Winslow of the Plymouth colony. The ancestors of Lieutenant Thomas Tracy in the paternal line were knights and sheriffs from the time of le sire Tracy, who crossed the channel with the conqueror in 1066. He was a Norman baron and an officer in the army with which William, duke of Normandy, invaded England, October 14, 1066. His name appears on the list of noblemen who took part in the battle of Hastings under William the Conqueror and won supremacy over England. Judge Josiah Tracy, grandfather of Mrs. Winslow, was born in Franklin, Connecticut, and wedded Mary Berchard, a daughter of Jesse and Lydia (Waterman) Berchard. Judge Tracy removed westward to Ohio and for many years was a resident of Painesville. Frederick E. Tracy, father of Mrs. Winslow, was married May 10, 1855, to Anna Tracy Lord, of Honesville, Pennsylvania. They had a family of five children.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Winslow four children were born, Lawson Tracy, Anna Lord, Martha Hatch and Kenelm Tracy. The parents are members of the Congregational church and occupy a pleasant home at No. 282 Downer place. Politically Mr. Winslow is a republican.

OSCAR GUSTASON.

Oscar Gustason, a well known citizen of Elgin, was born in this city on the 16th of August, 1857, his parents being Charles and Hannah Gustason. The father was of Swedish birth and was one of the first of that nationality to locate in Elgin, where he continued to make his home until called to his final rest in 1901, at the advanced age of ninety-three years. By trade he was a tailor.

Oscar Gustason is indebted to the public schools of Elgin for the educational advantages he enjoyed during his boyhood and youth, and he has always made his home in this city with the exception of five years spent in Aurora. He began his business career as an employe in the factory of the Elgin National Watch Company, and it was there he learned the art of making jewels for watches. In 1888 he commenced business for himself in that line under

the style of the Gustason Jewel Company, which was in existence until June, 1908, when he sold out. He is a wide-awake, energetic business man of known reliability and he met with well deserved success in his undertakings.

On the 5th of November, 1890, Mr. Gustason was united in marriage to Miss Nellie E. Wade, a daughter of Alfred F. and Elizabeth (Postle) Wade, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. Fraternaly Mr. Gustason is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

CHARLES P. DAHLSTROM.

For twenty-two years Charles P. Dahlstrom, one of the progressive farmers of Plato township, has been a resident of the United States, and during the greater part of the time has been actively engaged in farming and conducting a thriving dairy business. He was born May 22, 1862, in Sweden, where his parents also were born and reared, and where their ancestors lived for generations, industrious tillers of the soil.

Mr. Dahlstrom is the son of Daniel S. and Johanna (Peterson) Dahlstrom, who were the parents of eight children, Mr. Dahlstrom's brothers and sisters being: Amelia M., the wife of Carl Peterson, a farmer living in Sweden; Stephen Gustaff, also a farmer in Sweden; Clara A., the wife of J. E. Johnson, one of the leading farmers of Plato township; Frank Gustaf, who is employed in a glass factory in Chicago; Otto, who is foreman in a show case factory in Chicago; Tilda E., the wife of Frank Johnson, also a resident of Chicago, where Mr. Johnson is foreman in a sash and door factory; and Hilma C., the wife of Axtel Pearson, foreman of bricklayers in Chicago.

Mr. Dahlstrom attended the public schools in his native land until he reached the age of fourteen. He then went to work for his father on the farm and continued to be so occupied until he was twenty-one. During the next two years and a half he was employed by another man on a farm near his home and at the end of that period came to the United States. He passed a short time at Lockport, Illinois, then moved to Chicago. In that city he was first employed in a cracker house and later in cabinet shops, where he worked seven years. During this time he lived economically and saved his earnings, so that when he desired another change of occupation he was able to buy the farm of one hundred and seventy-five acres in Plato township on which he now lives. This farm is a good one in every way. It is well improved, well watered and well cultivated. It contains good orchards and is given up to a profitable variety and succession of crops. It is advantageously located, too, being on the St. Charles and Green stage road.

On January 11, 1890, Mr. Dahlstrom was married in Chicago to Miss Matilda C. Nelson, who is, like himself, a native of Sweden, where she was born July 21, 1862. She came to this country and took up her residence in Illinois in 1882. They have eight children: C. Emil, Florence T., Mabel C., Harry Walter, Myrtle A., John D., Esther Matilda and Clarence O., all of whom are still living with their parents.

In political alliance the father is a republican and in religious connection he is a member of the Swedish Mission church. He and his wife are faithful in the performance of their duties as neighbors, friends and progressive citizens. They stand well in the community and the whole family enjoy in a high degree the respect of the people around them.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN FRIDLEY.

Benjamin Franklin Fridley, one of the most kindly of men, possessing also business ability of a high order, combined with a conscientious sense of obligation in the performance of all public and private duties, was born on a farm near Elmira, New York, on the 10th of May, 1810. No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for him at that early period in the existence of the republic. He read law in New York city. When but seventeen years of age he walked from Corning, New York, to Philadelphia to purchase a copy of Chitty's Pleadings and carried the volume back with him in order to thus acquaint himself with the principles of law. In 1835 he came to the west, being then a young man of twenty-five years, and settled on the east bank of the river below Aurora, where he built a log cabin. He was a young man of much native sagacity and great force of character and these substantial qualities enabled him to forge to the front. In 1836, at the age of twenty-six years, he was elected sheriff of Kane county and removed his residence to Geneva, where he lived until the conclusion of his official term, when he removed to Aurora. He was the first sheriff of Kane county to serve a legal process. After his retirement from the office he filled the position of states attorney for the ninth judicial district for nine years and his official record was characterized by the utmost fidelity to duty as well as by comprehensive knowledge of the principles of law and correct application thereof to the points in issue.

In 1841 Mr. Fridley was married to Miss Eliza S. Kelley, of Geneva, who survives him. Her paternal grandfather, William Kelley, was a native of Pennsylvania and was usually known by the title of Major, by reason of his service in the state militia. With his wife, Mrs. Mary Kelley, he came west in an early day and both died in Chicago. Mrs. Fridley was born in Erie, Pennsylvania, December 6, 1828, and her parents were also natives of the Keystone state, her father having been born in Erie county and her mother in Mercer county. He was major of the regular army for many years and in 1831 removed westward to Chicago. It was not until a year later that the Black Hawk war occurred and six years passed before Chicago was incorporated as a city. Eventually Mr. Kelley removed to Missouri, where he owned a large tract of land, and at length was killed by being thrown over a horse's head when he was yet in middle life. His wife removed to Geneva, Illinois, at an early day when there were but a few houses in the town, and her death occurred there when she was fifty-eight years of age. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Kelley there were born five children, a son and four daughters:



B. F. FRIDLEY

Prudence, deceased, who was the wife of Christian Sackrider; Mrs. Fridley; John Robinson Kelley; and Adaline and Susan, both of whom have passed away.

Mr. and Mrs. Fridley became the parents of four daughters and one son. Eliza Catherine, the widow of Frederick Dunn, resides at Asheville, North Carolina. They had one daughter, Luella F., a graduate of Vanderbilt College. Mary Grace, now deceased, was the wife of a Mr. Patten, by whom she had two children: Benjamin Franklin Patten, now in the regular army; and Louisa, the wife of Mr. Holden. Benjamin Franklin Fridley, Jr., departed this life at the age of thirty years and his death was much regretted, for he was a young man of fine character and much promise. Ella Frances died in Florida when twenty-two years of age and her demise was also the occasion of deep sorrow on the part of many who had come to love her. May, also deceased, became the wife of Frederick Needham, by whom she had one son, Franklin Fridley.

During the last forty years of his life Mr. Fridley took but little part in the work of the courts or in political affairs. He was a man somewhat unique in character, particularly in his expressions, which were always notably to the point and which have been frequently quoted in the courts for long years. Many a jury has been influenced more than its members would care to admit by his well told and forcible stories. He possessed keen insight into situations and was enabled to make others see the question from the same position at which he looked at it. He was a believer in Christianity, although he was not biased by creed or man-made doctrine, but gave liberally to all the churches and exemplified in his life his belief in those principles of conduct and character which were enunciated in Palestine more than nineteen centuries ago. In disposition he was mild and genial, never scolded his children nor spoke a cross word to his wife. He was kind to the poor and always benevolent and public spirited. Having prospered in his undertakings, he built one of the most beautiful homes in Aurora at No. 65 View street and there he passed away May 29, 1898, at the age of eighty-eight years. He was one of the most venerable residents of the city, a man honored and respected by all and most of all where he was best known, so that his memory is still enshrined in the hearts of those with whom he was associated.

MICHAEL HUSS.

Michael Huss, a successful farmer and dairyman residing west of Virgil, where he has under lease a tract of seventy-seven acres of land, is a native of Luxemburg, Germany, born on November 19, 1866, and is the son of John and Barbara (Hersich) Huss, both now deceased. The father was a farmer by occupation.

Michael Huss is indebted to the district schools of Luxemburg for his education. On leaving school he aided his father in the work of the farm. Ambitious to better his condition in life, at the age of twenty-eight, he boldly

ventured forth to try his fortunes in the new world. He landed in New York, May 6, 1894, and came direct to Kane county. He knew more of farming than of any other industry and it was naturally to this work that he turned his attention. That he has been successful is evidenced by the fact that he now owns a valuable property of two acres of land in Virgil, on which is situated a nice residence, the estimated value of which is about four thousand dollars. In addition to his farming interests he conducts a dairy, having sixteen cows, whose average output of milk is about forty gallons daily. He has taken advantage of any opportunities that have presented themselves for his financial betterment and the progress he has already made bids fair to continue under the excellent judgment he displays in the management of his business.

On January 1, 1903, Mr. Huss was married to Miss Rosa Kunderd, who was born in Switzerland, June 27, 1875. They have become the parents of two children, namely: John J., born October 26, 1903; and Willie, born July 26, 1907. By his ballot Mr. Huss supports the republican party. Religiously he is a faithful member of the Catholic church.

PETER HANSON.

Peter Hanson, a successful farmer and dairyman of Campton township, was born near Motmo, Sweden, June 17, 1862, the son of Hans and Hannah (Pearson) Nelson. Both parents were natives of Sweden, where the father engaged in farming. He was a member of the Lutheran church. The family numbered five children: Nelse, a farmer residing near Elburn; Jonathan, who conducts farming operations in Sweden; Betsy, the wife of Jonathan Jalanders, a cement worker near Elburn; Peter; and Johannes, who left home sixteen years ago and has not been heard of since. He has an estate awaiting him now.

Peter Hanson attended the district schools of Sweden until he was fifteen years of age. He then secured employment as a farm hand, which occupation he followed for four years, when, in 1881, he determined to seek his fortune in America. He located first at Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he secured employment as a laborer on railroad work. This he followed for a few months until he secured a position in the gas works. Hearing of the success of so many of his countrymen on the fertile prairies of Illinois, he resolved to visit that portion of the state near Aurora. Here he secured work, first as a farm hand, while later he purchased the transfer line in Elburn, which he continued to operate for fifteen years, at the expiration of which time he sold it and engaged in farming.

Mr. Hanson married Miss Hannah Anderson, who is also a native of Sweden. They became the parents of two children, Hattie Charlotte, the wife of Clinton Phelps, a farmer residing near Sugar Grove; and Ford A., who resides at home.

Mr. Hanson gives his political allegiance to the republican party. Fraternally he is a member of the Masonic order and of the Modern Woodmen

of America. He is an active and valued worker in the Congregational church, in which he holds membership. The success he has achieved in life is entirely due to his own unaided efforts, for he started out to make his way in the world empty-handed and by industry, perseverance and good management has worked his way upward until he now owns over three thousand dollars' worth of personal property.

EDWIN WILFRED STUBBS, M.D.

Edwin Wilfred Stubbs, engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in Aurora, his native city, was born December 2, 1863, and has won a notable and creditable measure of success, his life record, therefore, being in contradistinction to the old adage that a prophet is not without honor save in his own country. The family is of English lineage, the grandfather of our subject having been a lacemaker of Nottingham. He died in England when about eighty-six years of age, while his wife reached the age of eighty years. They had a large family, mostly sons, two of whom, Joseph and Matthew, came to America. The former was the father of our subject. He first settled at Schenectady, New York, but Matthew Stubbs came directly to Aurora and afterward went to Minnesota, where his last days were passed. Joseph Stubbs was born at Nottingham, England, and was an engineer and machinist, following those pursuits throughout the greater part of his life. He was one of the first engineers on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad and ran a construction train at the time of the building of that line. He was afterward foreman of the locomotive machine shops for some years and remained in the company's employ until his demise, which was occasioned by pneumonia in 1891, when he was seventy-one years of age. In religious faith he was an Episcopalian, as was his wife, who died in 1900, at the age of seventy-nine years. She bore the maiden name of Sarah Smith, was a native of Yorkshire, England, and a daughter of John and Sarah (Clover) Smith, who came to America and settled in the state of New York, near Schenectady, there remaining during the remainder of their lives. The father was a cutlery manufacturer in Sheffield, England, and in this country lived retired. He died when about seventy-nine years of age and his wife when about eighty-three years of age. They had a large family, and their daughter, Mrs. Stubbs, preceded them to this country several years. By her marriage she became the mother of nine children, five sons and four daughters, of whom five are now living: Harriet, the wife of John Greenway, of Aurora; Mary, a graduate of the Aurora high school; Frank, living in Aurora; James J., also of this city; and Edwin W.

Dr. Stubbs was reared in Aurora, was a public and high school student, and thus completed his more specifically literary education, while he prepared for a professional career by study in the Marion Simms College of Medicine of St. Louis, from which he was graduated in 1897. He then began practice in this city, where he has remained continuously since, attaining a measure of success, which is the best evidence of his capability and the trust reposed in him by his fellow townsmen.

On the 6th of October, 1886, Dr. Stubbs was married to Miss Harriet Ann Chalfant, a daughter of Jackson and Anna (Norton) Chalfant. Her parents came from West Virginia to Illinois at an early day and settled at Beardstown, Cass county, where they spent their remaining days. The father died in 1897, at the age of seventy-four years, and the mother passed away in 1881, at the age of forty-eight. They were the parents of seven children, of whom five now survive: Helen, the wife of David Treadway, of David City, Nebraska; Matilda, the wife of William Dunn, of Kansas; Gertrude, the wife of Frank McClure, of Beardstown, Illinois; Walter Chalfant, also of Beardstown; and Mrs. Stubbs. Unto the doctor and his wife have been born five children: Edwin, Alice, Walter, Helen and Marion. The parents are members of the Claim Street Baptist church and reside at No. 172 North State street, where Dr. Stubbs erected a modern residence in 1905. Politically he is a republican and is now serving as county physician. He has never sought office outside of the strict path of his profession and is most loyal in his devotion to the interests of his patients and all who need his professional aid. He holds to high standards in his practice and continually promotes his efficiency by reading and investigation, so he is an able physician of liberal knowledge and broad experience.

WILLIAM J. KING.

William J. King is one of the representative business men of Elgin, being proprietor of the only exclusive plumbing, gasfitting and heating establishment in the city. He is a native of Kane county, born in Batavia on the 17th of January, 1874, his parents being Joseph and Mary (Egan) King. His father, who was born in Argyle, New York, January 14, 1843, is now a resident of Elgin and is foreman of the paint department of the Elgin National Watch Company. Our subject's mother has spent her entire life in Kane county, being born here in 1853.

About 1886 William J. King accompanied his parents on their removal to Elgin, where he attended the public schools for some years, and later was a student at Drew's Business College. When in his fifteenth year he went to Chicago and commenced learning the plumber's trade, remaining in that city until about 1895, when he returned to Elgin and worked at his trade in the employ of others until 1902. In that year he began business for himself along the same line at No. 119 West Chicago street, and remained at that location until his removal to his present place of business—No. 15 North State—in May, 1908. Success has attended his well directed efforts and he now carries a large stock and enjoys an excellent trade.

On the 28th of May, 1898, Mr. King married Miss Bertha Krause, a native of Berlin, Germany, who died May 27, 1905. Her father died in Germany, and her mother is now a resident of St. James, Minnesota.

By his ballot Mr. King supports the men and measures of the republican party, but takes no active part in politics aside from voting. Fraternally he is

connected with the Odd Fellows' society and is a prominent member of the Master Plumbers' Association, of which he was elected president in January, 1908, having previously served as secretary and treasurer for two terms. As a plumber he has no superior in this part of the state and as a business man he stands high in public esteem.

JOHN LARSON.

John Larson, successfully engaged in farming and dairying in Campton township, was born in Sweden, September 20, 1859, his parents being August and Hannah (Gustafson) Larson, also natives of that country. The father's birth occurred October 17, 1817, and he passed away in his native land in March, 1896. His wife, who was born in April, 1821, died in Sweden in April, 1893. The record of the brothers and sisters of our subject is as follows: Augusta, born in Sweden in January, 1853, became the wife of Lavin Swanson, an agriculturist, and still resides in that country. Hulda Mary, whose birth occurred in Sweden in September, 1855, also still remains in the land of her nativity and is a housekeeper. Olivia, born in Sweden, September 15, 1857, is also a housekeeper in that country. Ida Sophia, whose birth occurred in Sweden, April 16, 1861, is a housekeeper and resides in Chicago. Josephine, born in Sweden, July 4, 1863, came to America in 1883 and is the wife of Pete Johnson, who conducts the bottling works at Sycamore.

John Larson attended the schools of his native land until about fifteen years of age, mastering the branches of learning which equip one for the practical and responsible duties of life. For about twenty-five years he has resided in Kane county, Illinois, and ten years ago purchased the farm on which he has since continued to make his home. It comprises one hundred and eighty acres of highly improved and valuable land in Campton township, its worth being estimated at twenty thousand dollars. He owns forty cows and operates a large dairy, taking about eighty-five gallons of milk to the creamery daily. He likewise has about two hundred chickens, and raises corn, oats and hay principally for stock feeding purposes. The prosperity which has attended his efforts is entirely the result of his well directed energy and capable business management and he is now widely known as one of the prosperous and enterprising agriculturists of the county.

On the 22d of October, 1884, at St. Charles, Mr. Larson was united in marriage to Ida Larson, who was born in Sweden, March 6, 1857, and by whom he has the following children: Albert Victaulis, whose birth occurred August 5, 1885, in Campton township, near St. Charles, attended the common schools until sixteen years of age and subsequently entered the St. Charles high school. He remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority, and in August, 1906, wedded Miss Anna Johnson. He now resides near Wasco, following his trade of carpentering. George William, born January 15, 1887, attended the district schools until sixteen years of age and now assists his father in the work of the home farm. Arthur, whose birth

occurred at Wasco, June 15, 1890, was a pupil in the common schools until sixteen years of age and now resides at home. Amos was born in Wasco, June 10, 1893, attended common school until fifteen years of age and is now at home.

In his political views Mr. Larson is a stalwart republican, while fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. Coming to this country as a young man, he here found the business opportunities which he sought and through their wise utilization has gained a gratifying and enviable measure of success.

CHRISTIAN PETERSON.

Christian Peterson, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Virgil township, was born in Thisted, Denmark, August 9, 1881, his parents being Peter and Hedwid (Jensen) Peterson, also natives of that country, the former born in 1848 and the latter in 1854. Their marriage was celebrated in 1876, in Denmark, where they still reside. Peter Peterson, who is a farmer by occupation, has served in the Danish army. The record of his children is as follows: Anna Margaret, who was born in Denmark in 1878 and who became the wife of John Muller, of that country, a farmer by occupation, now residing at Kaneville, Illinois; Soren Peter, whose birth occurred in Denmark in 1879 and who is married and follows farming in South Dakota; Christian, of this review; John Brun, born in Denmark in 1883, who is a laborer residing at Virgil; John Chris, born in Denmark in 1885, who died in Elgin, Illinois, in 1906, being buried at Maple Park; Catharine, whose birth occurred in Denmark in 1886 and who is a housekeeper at Maple Park; Karen Marie, born in Denmark in 1889, who resides in that country with her parents and is a housekeeper; and Helen Patria, whose birth occurred in Denmark in 1891 and who also lives with her parents.

In 1900 Christian Peterson emigrated to America, settling near Hineckley, Illinois, where he remained for three years and subsequently spent a similar period at Maple Park. He afterward removed to his present location two miles southwest of Virgil, where he operates a rented tract of land of eighty acres known as the Jacob Steffes farm. He is largely interested in dairying, owning sixteen cows and delivering on an average of forty gallons of milk daily to Virgil for the Chicago market. He likewise has one hundred and fifty hens, twenty-four hogs and eight horses, including colts. The success which has crowned his efforts is entirely the result of his own well directed labor and indefatigable energy and he is now numbered among the enterprising and progressive agriculturists of the community.

On the 2d of February, 1907, at Kaneville, Illinois, occurred the marriage of Mr. Peterson and Miss Elsie Anderson, whose birth occurred in Plano, Illinois, December 2, 1887. This union has been blessed with one son, Edward, who was born in Virgil, November 15, 1907.

In his political views Mr. Peterson is a staunch republican, and both he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church. Coming to this country in order that he might take advantage of the broader business opportunities here offered, he has worked earnestly and persistently as the years have gone by and has already attained a creditable degree of prosperity for one of his age.

JOSEPH ALBERT BARTLETT.

Joseph Albert Bartlett, who successfully carries on agricultural pursuits in Kaneville township, was born in Campton township, Kane county, January 24, 1871, his parents being John E. and Elsie (Richmond) Bartlett, likewise natives of this county. The father, who is now deceased, was engaged in farming throughout his active business career, owning a farm of one hundred and twenty acres near Elburn. Unto him and his wife were born the following children: Henry A. and George E., both of whom are agriculturists of this county; Lester W., a school teacher of California; and Walter E., who is engaged in teaching at the Boys' Home in St. Charles, Illinois.

Joseph Albert Bartlett, the other member of the family, attended the district school until fourteen years of age and afterward became a student in the Elburn high school, which he left at the age of sixteen. At that time he entered Wheaton College and was graduated from the business department of that institution when eighteen years of age. On completing his education he returned to the home farm and assisted in its cultivation until the year 1903, when he was married and began farming on his own account. He first established his home in Campton township, subsequently resided in Blackberry township for two years and then took up his abode in Kaneville township, where he has since continued, being here successfully engaged in the operation of his mother-in-law's farm. He is widely known as an enterprising and progressive agriculturist and well deserves the esteem which is accorded him throughout the community.

Mr. Bartlett was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Bateman, a native of Pembroke, Wales, and a daughter of William and Mary Ann Bateman, who came to Illinois in an early day, settling on the farm on which our subject now resides. Mr. Bateman was killed by a mad bull on the 28th of March, 1902, his demise being the occasion of deep and widespread regret among his many friends. The record of his children, in addition to Mrs. Bartlett, is as follows: David, a retired farmer, who makes his home in Elburn, Illinois; Peter, who follows agricultural pursuits in Kaneville township; May J., the wife of Edward James, a farmer of Kaneville township; Annie R., the wife of Edmond James, of Big Rock; Augusta H., who became the wife of Will Heig, a farmer by occupation, and resides in Kaneville township; Hannah, the wife of E. McNair, who follows farming in Blackberry township; Rowland and Joel, who likewise follow farming in Kaneville township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett have been born three children, namely:

Bernice Althea, whose birth occurred May 13, 1904; Rowland A., born August 25, 1906; and Lowell E., whose natal day was September 18, 1907.

A native son of Kane county, Mr. Bartlett is well and favorably known here and has gained a most extensive circle of friends, having been actuated in all his dealings by high and honorable principles and worthy motives.

EDWARD B. QUACKENBUSH.

Edward B. Quackenbush is actively connected with a profession which has important bearing upon the progress and stable prosperity of any section or community and one which has long been considered as conserving the public welfare by furthering the ends of justice and maintaining individual rights. He has practiced at Aurora since the spring of 1906 and has been a member of the Kane county bar since October, 1900. His life record began in St. Charles, Illinois, November 27, 1872. His father, Marvin Quackenbush, was a noted educator of Kane county and is mentioned elsewhere in this volume. His mother, Eleanor (Boynton) Quackenbush, was born on a farm two miles east of Dundee, the property being now in possession of the Woman's Club of Elgin. She was a representative of one of the oldest families of this part of the state. Her grandfather, George B. McClure, who was a brigadier general in the war of 1812, came to Dundee in 1835 and was the first postmaster of the town. He was closely associated with the early development of the locality and contributed in substantial measure to its upbuilding.

Edward B. Quackenbush, pursuing a public-school education, passed through consecutive grades to the high school and was graduated with the class of 1889. In the fall of that year he became a student in the Elgin Academy and afterward attended Beloit (Wis.) College for a year. Later he spent two years in the Northwestern University at Evanston and then matriculated in Hobart College at Geneva, New York, from which he was graduated in 1897. He then turned his attention from the acquirement of a general education to the study of law, beginning his reading under the direction of the firm of Botsford, Wayne & Botsford, of Elgin. In October, 1900, he was admitted to the bar and began practice in Elgin and in Dundee, where he remained for six years. During that period he served for fifteen months as assistant state's attorney. In the spring of 1906, Mr. Quackenbush arrived in Aurora, where he has since resided and here he has demonstrated his power to successfully cope with intricate legal problems, to turn each point to the best advantage and to present his case in the strong, clear light of reasoning.

Mr. Quackenbush is a recognized leader in the local ranks of the republican party and is an effective, earnest worker in its behalf. He has been president of the Dundee Republican Club and also represented that town on the Republican County Committee. His labors are effective and far-reaching and his devotion to the welfare of the party unflinching.



E. B. QUACKENBUSH

Mr. Quackenbush was united in marriage to Miss Agnes Biggam, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, May 6, 1908, and socially is not unknown in fraternal circles but is a valued representative of several orders. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, serving as junior deacon of Aurora Lodge, No. 254, while he also belongs to Aurora Chapter, No. 22, R. A. M., the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks, the Sons of Veterans, Knights of Pythias and other organizations. He is a clever and able lawyer, and popular citizen with a circle of friends almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

BERGER ANSHELN PETERSON.

Berger Ansheln Peterson, following the occupation of farming in Blackberry township, rents and cultivates a good tract of land, which he has transformed into productive fields that annually yield him rich harvests. He possesses unfaltering diligence and thrift, characteristic of people of his nationality, for Mr. Peterson is a native of Sweden, his birth having occurred there April 22, 1860, his parents being Peter and Anne Peterson. The father is now deceased but the mother still resides in Sweden and has reached the age of eighty-seven years. She still enjoys remarkable health, retaining her physical and mental faculties to a notable degree. The father served in the regular army and was a member of the Lutheran church. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Peter Peterson were born six children: John, who is now living in Norway; Carl, who resides in Sweden; Enoch, who is living in Elburn, Illinois; Berger, whose name introduces this review; Lena, deceased; and Louisa, who resides in Sweden.

Berger A. Peterson spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the land of his nativity. As he looked abroad over the business field to find an opportunity that would lead him forward to success, he came to the conclusion that he stood the best chance of winning advancement in the new world. Accordingly when a young man of twenty-three years he came to the United States and, making his way into the interior of the country, settled at Geneva, Illinois. He had attended school in Sweden until sixteen years of age and had then entered upon his business career, securing a clerkship in a general store, where he remained until he crossed the Atlantic to America. In this country he turned his attention to farming. After spending some time in the vicinity of Geneva he went to Michigan, and later removed to Canton, Illinois, where he still continued to carry on general agricultural pursuits. His next place of residence was at St. Charles, Illinois, where he worked in a paper mill for a year and a half. On the expiration of that period he came to Elburn, where he now resides. He is here giving his attention to general farming and works diligently and persistently to keep his fields in good condition. Everything about the place indicates his careful supervision, his practical methods and his determined spirit.

In 1891 Mr. Peterson was married to Miss Anna Larson, a native of Sweden, and they now have one daughter, Jennie, who at the age of fourteen

years is attending school. Both Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are well known in the community and have many warm and sincere friends. They hold membership in the Lutheran church, in the work of which they are helpfully interested, and Mr. Peterson belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Masonic fraternity. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to seek a home in the new world, for here he has found the opportunities he sought, which, by the way, are always open to ambitious, energetic young men. Improving the advantages that have come to him, he has made steady progress in the business world and is now one of the substantial residents of Blackberry township.

EDWARD S. TODD.

Edward S. Todd has spent nearly his entire life in America and is a popular and successful business man, who has the confidence and respect of his neighbors and friends. He is now a member of the firm of Hanna & Todd, dealers in lumber, at the corner of River and Holbrook streets. His birth occurred in Sugar Grove township, Kane county, Illinois, September 13, 1864, his parents being Lucius M. and Mary B. (Bruce) Todd, the former a native of Vermont and the latter in Ithaca, New York. They were the parents of two children, but one of them died in infancy. The father followed farming until about thirty years of age. His early home was near Rutland, at East Wallingford, Vermont. In his boyhood days he came to the West with his parents, the family home being established upon a farm in Sugar Grove township, Kane county, Illinois. It was there that Lucius M. Todd grew to manhood, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors incident to the development and improvement of a farm. He afterward purchased land for himself and began farming on his own account. When about thirty years of age, however, he abandoned the plow and became interested in a lumber business in Aurora in partnership with F. O. White. They continued together until Mr. White's death, which occurred in 1899, when he was fifty-nine years of age; but the firm style of White & Todd was retained until the death of Mr. Todd. His wife passed away at the age of fifty-three years. She was a Methodist in religious faith.

The ancestry of the family can be traced back somewhat farther than the parents of our subjects. His paternal grandfather, Levi Todd, was a native of Vermont and, becoming a resident of Kane county, entered about two hundred acres of land and followed the occupation of farming. He died at an old age, but his wife passed away when little more than in middle life. She bore the maiden name of Rachel Gibson. The maternal grandparents of our subject were natives of New York, and lived at Ithaca or in that vicinity. They, too, reached advanced years.

Edward S. Todd was reared in Aurora from the age of six years, and attended the public schools, passing through consecutive grades until he was graduated from the West Aurora high school. He then did bookkeeping in the offices of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company for sev-

eral years, and afterward engaged in dealing in ice for several years. In 1899 he formed a partnership with Edwin S. Hanna in the lumber business, and they are still conducting this under the firm style of Hanna & Todd. Mr. Todd also has a lumberyard at Shabbonda in partnership with John Griffin, under the firm style of Griffin & Todd. He has thoroughly acquainted himself with the lumber business in all of its departments, is an excellent judge of the commodity which he handles, and his straightforward business methods and reliability has secured for him a liberal patronage, and he enjoys the unqualified confidence of his fellowmen. He is likewise a stockholder in the Aurora National Bank.

On the 1st of January, 1887, Mr. Todd was married to Miss Jennie Lallaway, a daughter of Patrick and Mary Lallaway. There are two children of this union, Ralph L. and Mary B. The mother is a communicant of the Catholic church. Mr. Todd belongs to Aurora Lodge, No. 705, B. P. O. E. Politically he is a stalwart republican, and for one term served as county supervisor, but his ambition has not been in the lines of office holding. Nearly his entire life has been passed in this city, so that he is well known to a large majority of its residents, and investigation into his career will show that his record has been at all times commendable, making him worthy the success which he has enjoyed in business circles. That his has been an honorable and upright life is indicated by the fact that many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time.

CHARLES I. McNETT.

Charles I. McNett, who for twenty-four years has engaged in the practice of law as a member of the Aurora bar, is numbered among Illinois' native sons, his birth having occurred in DeKalb county on the 10th of January, 1860. His father Charles L. McNett, was a native of New York and when a young man emigrated westward to Illinois, where he engaged extensively in the grain business. He lived in De Kalb county for a number of years, but in 1893 went to Chicago, where he has since made his home. In early manhood he wedded Miss Lydia Baker, a native of the Empire state.

Charles I. McNett was educated in the public schools of West Aurora and when he had mastered the branches of learning that usually constitute the public-school curriculum he took up the study of law with the intention of making its practice his life work. He pursued his reading in Ottawa and was admitted to the bar in 1883. The following year he began practice in Aurora, where he has since been located and in the intervening years he has built up a good clientage. In no profession is there a career more open to talent than in that of the law and in no field of endeavor is there demanded a more careful preparation, a more thorough appreciation of the absolute ethics of life or of the underlying principles which form the basis of all human rights and privileges. Unflinching application, intuitive wisdom and a determination to fully utilize the means at hand are some of the concomitants which insure personal

success and prestige in this great profession. Possessing all the requisite qualities of the able lawyer, Mr. McNett has made steady progress in his profession and is now recognized as one of the ablest members of the Aurora bar. He served as city attorney from 1889 until 1893 and was master in chancery from 1893 until 1905. His political allegiance is given to the republican party.

Mr. McNett was married in 1888 to Miss Clara Salom, a native of Boston, Massachusetts.

JOHN ALFRED JOHNSON.

John Alfred Johnson was born in Christianstad, Sweden, November 7, 1863, son of Johan and Elna (Johnson) Johnson, also natives of that country and lifelong residents of it. The father was born December 6, 1817. From his youth he followed the trade of a stonemason, working at it zealously until his death, which occurred on February 19, 1875. The mother survived him twenty-two years, dying October 2, 1897. They were the parents of two children, John Alfred, and Olaf, the latter still living on the old home farm in Sweden.

Following the custom of the Swedish people, among whom education is highly valued and well provided for by the kingdom, Mr. Johnson obtained a good, practical common-school education in his native land. At the age of eighteen, feeling an ardent desire for greater room and larger opportunities for the exercise of the faculties nature had given him, he looked to this country for his chance and came hither, locating first at Princeton, in this state. In the neighborhood of Providence, about ten miles from Princeton and in the same county, he soon found employment as a hired hand on a farm owned by Will Powers, for whom he worked steadily three years, devoting himself wholly to his duties and going nowhere during this period except twice to Princeton, where he had intimate friends. He sent a part of his wages regularly to his mother and saved the rest.

After five years of frugal living and diligent labor as a farm hand Mr. Johnson felt that he had accumulated a sufficient sum of money to warrant him in taking unto himself a wife, and founding a home of his own. Accordingly, on March 3, 1887, he was united in marriage with Miss Christine Anderson, who was, like himself, a native of Sweden. Her parents died when she was but two years old and she was thereupon adopted and reared by friends, with whom she remained until she reached the age of sixteen. At that age she came with an uncle to the United States and found a new home at Princeton, Illinois, where she lived until her marriage with Mr. Johnson. They have had four children: Oscar Ferdinand, who died at the age of thirteen months; Rosa, a very bright and intelligent young lady of seventeen, who is living with her parents and attending the Aurora Business College; and Verdun Alfred and John, who are also still living under the parental roof-tree.

Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Johnson took up their residence on a farm in Stark county owned by F. W. Horton, now a resident of

Chicago, for whom they worked for wages three years. At the end of that time Mr. Johnson rented a farm and during the next seven years worked it on his own account. Then Mr. Horton sold the farm and the Johnsons moved to Milo township in Bureau county, where, during the succeeding six years, they farmed land which they rented of John Fate. The genius for large undertakings and masterly management was stirring in this aspiring man by this time, and he went in search of opportunities for its employment. He entered into partnership with Keller Leet and for two years farmed land belonging to him in Bureau county. Mr. Leet sold this land, and he and Mr. Johnson at once entered upon farming operations on a large scale. In the spring of 1905 Mr. Johnson moved his family to Kane county, and since then he has been in full control of a farm of nearly one thousand acres owned by Mr. Leet in this county, located in Sugar Grove township. Together they own and feed large numbers of stock, having frequently as many as two hundred and forty head of cattle fattening for the market at one time.

In politics Mr. Johnson is an ardent and active republican, devoted to the interests of his party and doing his full share of the work required to promote its growth. He was one of the leaders in the organization of the Swedish Republican League of Illinois, and is still one of its most prominent, influential and energetic members. This league has a large membership and is proving a potential factor in state political affairs. It was also through his efforts, aided by those of other enthusiastic Swedish-Americans, that the recent state celebration of John Ericson day was held at Aurora. In fraternal life Mr. Johnson is a Master Mason, with membership in the lodge at Aurora, and this prevents him from being received into membership in any Swedish religious organization, although he is of a religious turn of mind and would like to belong to some Christian church of his own nationality. King Oscar and other royalties and high officials of Sweden are prominent in the Masonic order and also in the churches, but the common people of the country are not allowed to become communicants in the churches if they are Freemasons. Mr. Johnson is universally esteemed as an excellent citizen, an enterprising and successful business man, and a wise and resourceful leader of the Swedish people in Kane county. He is also a loyal and patriotic American and warmly attached to the land of his adoption, as he is still to that of his nativity.

EDWARD M. MANGAN.

Edward M. Mangan, who is now serving as judge of the city courts of Aurora and Elgin, was born in this city August 15, 1868, a son of Maurice and Ellen (McInerney) Mangan. The father, who was a native of Ireland, died at the age of sixty-eight years, while the mother still survives at the age of eighty-five years. He came to Aurora in 1855 and took up his abode in the house in which his widow still makes her home. He entered the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, and that he was

one of its most faithful and trustworthy representatives is indicated by the fact that he continued in that service until a short time prior to his demise.

Edward M. Mangan is the youngest of a family of ten children, and early started out in life to make his own way in the world. He has since been dependent entirely upon his own resources, and the success and prominence to which he has achieved is indicative of the force of his character, his laudable ambition and his fidelity to every duty that has been entrusted to him. At the age of fourteen years he began to learn the machinist's trade in the shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad and continued in that employ for fifteen years, but he felt that his efforts were hampered by the confines of that shop, which gave him little outlook, and beside he had always been ambitious to engage in the practice of law from his boyhood days. Circumstances, however, had interfered with him carrying out this idea, yet he never abandoned it, and as opportunity offered he studied at night with this end in view. He also attended Aurora College, and likewise read law in the office of the firm of Alschuler & Murphy. The year prior to his admission to the bar he was elected police magistrate, which gave him much practical experience in the work of the courts. In 1900 he was admitted to the bar and in 1901 he resigned the office of magistrate and was elected city attorney. He was twice reelected to that office, and continuously and acceptably filled the position until 1907, when he was elected city judge, which position he is now filling. On the bench his decisions are strictly fair and impartial, being based upon a comprehensive knowledge of the law and the equity in the case. He is recognized as a leader in democratic ranks and one whose efforts in behalf of the party have been effective and far reaching. Two years ago he was a candidate for the legislature on the democratic ticket, and is one of the strong and able workers in democratic ranks in Aurora.

Mr. Mangan was married July 30, 1902, to Miss Lilian Thorne, a native of New York and a daughter of Benjamin and Marguerite (Johnston) Thorne, old settlers of Aurora. They now have two interesting little daughters, Margaret and Eleanor. Mr. Mangan is a member of the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks, No. 705; the Knights of Columbus, No. 736; and the Ancient Order of Hibernians. He is a popular citizen and, endowed by nature with attractive social qualities, he is a popular member of many societies, while wherever he goes he wins friends and gains the high esteem of his fellowmen.

WILLIAM ADAM HARTSBURG.

There is no record which the American citizen holds in higher esteem than that of the man who wins success through honorable methods and as a result of his untiring diligence and energy. Mr. Hartsburg therefore receives the admiration and respect of his fellow townsmen, for such has been his life history. He started out practically empty-handed and has made his own way in the world from early boyhood. He is now senior partner of the firm of

the Hartsburg & Hawksley Company, engaged in general mill work at North Aurora. This enterprise is a prosperous one that has been built up from a small beginning through the well directed labor and diligence of the owners.

Mr. Hartsburg was born in Roxbury, Massachusetts, August 23, 1848. His parents were William and Christina (Wise) Hartsburg, both of whom were natives of Westphalia, Germany. The grandfather, William Hartsburg, Sr., who, however, spelled the name Herzberg, was a blacksmith, and his only son and namesake was a native of Westphalia, Germany, and followed in his father's footsteps in a business way. Determined to try his fortune in America he crossed the Atlantic about 1875 and settled in Massachusetts. He afterward removed to Philadelphia and later to New Jersey, while in 1856 he arrived in Aurora and worked for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad in the blacksmith shops. In the spring of 1859 he went overland to California and spent about eight months on the Pacific slope, his family, however, remaining in Aurora during that period. He then returned to this city, where he resumed blacksmithing, which he followed for a number of years. Later he went to Batavia, where for several years he was employed by the United States Wind Engine & Pump Company. He then again returned to Aurora, where he died in 1893, at the age of seventy-three years. His wife still survives him and is now, in 1908, in her eighty-fourth year. Her father was Christopher Wise, who died in Germany at the age of forty-five years. He married a Miss Meyer and they have a large family. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hartsburg are Lutherans in religious faith, and Mrs. Hartsburg is an estimable lady who has the warm regard of many friends. She, too, was born in Westphalia, Germany, and by her marriage has become the mother of two sons and five daughters: Sophia, who first married John Golding, by whom she had a son, John, and after her first husband's death became the wife of Elisha Lilly, who served in the Civil war, and following his demise became the wife of Carl Schutz but is now deceased; William A., of this review; Louisa, the wife of James Tehay, of Hampton, Iowa; Emma, the deceased wife of Rev. Ferdinand Ludeke; Ella, the wife of Henry Baseman, of Elgin, Illinois; Frank, of North Aurora; and Mary, the wife of William Coors and a resident of Denver, Colorado.

William A. Hartsburg was but eight years of age when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Aurora. Here he was reared to manhood and pursued his education in the old Oak Street school, but when only ten years of age he began earning his own livelihood, working in a sash factory for five dollars per month and boarding himself. He has continued in business to the present time, becoming expert in that line of work, and after being employed by others in Aurora for a number of years he went to North Aurora in 1869 and began working for the North Aurora Manufacturing Company. After ten years, ambitious to engage in business on his own account, he formed a partnership with William Hawksley and Julius G. Brown. He has since been associated with Mr. Hawksley but in 1901 they bought out Mr. Brown's interest. They started with a horse and a borrowed capital of three hundred dollars and they rented their building and water power from Alonzo George, of North Aurora. The business has since steadily grown along healthful

lines and they now employ about twenty-five people. They sell largely to the local trade but also ship to various parts of the United States. They manufacture doors, windows and furniture and do all kinds of mill work. The company was incorporated in 1893, with a capital of over forty-six thousand dollars, and the business, founded upon a substantial basis, has long since become a profitable investment. At different times Mr. Hartsburg has been connected with various institutions of Aurora, being at one time president of the North Aurora Creamery Company. He now owns a forty-acre farm in Texas and also a good home in North Aurora.

On the 16th of May, 1870, Mr. Hartsburg was married to Miss Helena Simons, a daughter of Charles and Helena (Weber) Simons. They have become the parents of a son and four daughters, namely: May Helena, the wife of James E. Lowell, by whom she has a son, Donald W., their home being near Seattle, Washington; Daisy A., who is a stenographer and bookkeeper in her father's office; Fred W., who wedded Grace Owens and is a lawyer, practicing in Aurora; and Maud F. and Frances, still under the parental roof. They have been liberally educated and Maud F. is now attending the State University of Boulder, Colorado. May, Maud, Frances and Fred are all graduates of the West Aurora high school and Daisy also attended Wheaton College. Mrs. Hartsburg is a member of the Congregational church and a most estimable lady. Mr. Hartsburg belongs to Aurora Lodge, No. 254, A. F. & A. M.; Aurora Chapter, No. 22, R. A. M.; and Aurora Commandery, No. 22, K. T. He was high priest of Aurora Chapter for two years and eminent commander for one year, while he and his wife and daughter Maud are all members of the Eastern Star, of which he has been worthy patron. Mr. Hartsburg likewise belongs to Aurora Council, R. & S. M. Politically he is a democrat and for eighteen years served as school director, the cause of education finding in him a warm friend. He gives his allegiance to every movement or measure which he deems of benefit in community affairs and in his life work he has ever shown consideration for the rights and privileges of others, never overstepping the bounds of what he believes to be his duty to his fellowmen. He has therefore made for himself an honored name in commercial circles and his success is the reward of merit, ability and unflinching fidelity.

REV. JOSEPH ROHDE.

Rev. Joseph Rohde, pastor of St. Joseph's German Catholic church at Elgin, was born March 19, 1843, in Reitberg, in the province of Westphalia, Germany, and from early life his studies were pursued with a view of eventually entering the priesthood. He commenced his mental training for holy orders when but a young lad, and took up the prescribed course of study when twelve years of age. His course was particularly thorough and comprehensive and he was thus well qualified by broad general as well as theological knowledge for the duties that devolved upon him in his church relationships. After devoting seventeen years to preparatory study and training he was



REV. JOSEPH ROHDE

ordained to the priesthood on the 12th of March, 1870, the ordination taking place at the bishop's seat at Paderborn by the Rt. Rev. Joseph Freusberg, coadjutor of the Rt. Rev. Bishop Conrad Martin, who was absent in Rome during the vatican counsel. For five years thereafter he labored for the upbuilding of Catholicism in his native country, but he had a great desire to enter the mission field and was therefore rejoiced when, in 1876, he was assigned to do mission work in America, arriving in Chicago in September of that year.

He has since been continuously connected with the archdiocese of Chicago, and under the direction of the archbishop has built up many congregations. In nearly every parish that has been under his charge he has erected handsome churches and school buildings. He came to Elgin on the 15th of August, 1901, and within two years he had been instrumental in erecting a handsome new house of worship. Under his direction and efforts the Sisters of St. Francis from Joliet came here and established St. Joseph's hospital on the 23d of February, 1902. Since that time he has cared for the spiritual affairs of the sisters as chaplain of the house. On the 15th of September, 1907, Father James Frederick came to Elgin to assist Father J. Rohde and was made chaplain. In connection with St. Joseph's church a school is carried on, which is under the charge of the school Sisters of St. Francis from Joliet. There are now four sisters here, with one hundred pupils in the school. The various departments of the church work are thus in good condition and Father Rohde is making substantial progress in his efforts to advance Catholicism in this city.

JOSHUA HENRY TETLOW.

For several years Joshua H. Tetlow was one of the leading business men of Belvidere, and when called to his final rest on the 19th of December, 1904, the city mourned the loss of an upright, honorable citizen. He was born in Taunton, Massachusetts, on the 4th of July, 1858, and was left fatherless at a tender age. He was only five years old when he came west and for many years was employed at the Northwestern depot in Rockford, Illinois. From that city he went to Belvidere, where he embarked in the clothing business in partnership with his father-in-law, L. H. Murch, this connection continuing for eleven years.

On the 19th of May, 1886, Mr. Tetlow was united in marriage to Miss Winifred E. Murch, a daughter of Levi H. and Tina (Cohon) Murch, of Belvidere, Illinois. Three children blessed this union: Edwin Levi, who has a position in the gilding room of the Elgin National Watch Company; Harrison Blaine, who is in the plating room of the same company; and Helen Mabel, who possesses exceptional ability as an elocutionist and has for the past two years given most delightful entertainments, her work being regarded as most remarkable for one of her years, for she is now only thirteen years of

age. The sons, too, are exceptionally fine young men and the family is truly one of which the mother can be justly proud.

In his social relations Mr. Tetlow was an Odd Fellow, and in politics was a republican. He was an earnest and consistent member of the Methodist church, his life being in perfect harmony with his professions. He was a man of exceptionally high principles and his upright, honorable life made him many friends, with whom he was very popular.

JOHN WHITNEY.

John Whitney, who resides on his valuable farm of one hundred and thirty-two acres in Campton township, where he is extensively engaged in stock dealing, was born in this township on the 23d of February, 1847, his parents being John and Mariah (Blood) Whitney, both natives of Massachusetts. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, came to Campton in 1836, and passed away in 1854, his remains being interred in the Whitney cemetery at Campton. The mother of our subject, whose birth occurred about 1813, removed to Cattaraugus county, New York, and gave her hand in marriage to John Whitney in 1838. In the early days they underwent many of the hardships and experiences incident to pioneer life and often received but a poor remuneration for the products of their farm. They sold butter at eleven and twelve cents per pound, oats at twenty cents per bushel, wheat at fifty or sixty cents per bushel and received twenty-five cents for seventy-two pounds of corn.

The members of their family, in addition to John Whitney of this review, are as follows: Daniel, who was born in Campton, January 3, 1840, and engaged in farming four miles west of St. Charles; Rachel, whose birth occurred in Campton in 1842 and who wedded Charles Probert, an agriculturist residing on a farm five miles west of St. Charles; Mary Ann, who was born in Campton and now resides at Tekonsha, Michigan, being the wife of George Downey, a soldier in the late Civil war; Mariah, whose birth occurred in Campton in 1850 and who became the wife of James Ellis, her demise occurring in 1868; Melvin, who was born in Campton, February 20, 1852, is a farmer and cattle dealer of St. Charles; and Lottie, whose birth occurred in Campton in 1854 and who passed away in 1871.

John Whitney attended the district school during the winter months until about twenty-one years of age, and during the summer seasons assisted in the work of the home farm, thus early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. His father had purchased land from the government at a dollar and a quarter per acre. John Whitney now resides on a productive and well improved farm of one hundred and thirty-two acres located four and a half miles west of St. Charles, and in addition to the work of general farming is extensively engaged in stock dealing, his stable accommodating forty-five head. He likewise keeps a hundred or more head of fine poultry, and in the various branches of his business is meeting with a

gratifying and well merited measure of prosperity. He has put five thousand dollars' worth of improvements on the farm, which is equipped with all the accessories and conveniences of a model property of the twentieth century. On the 31st of October, 1903, his home was almost totally destroyed by fire, and he subsequently erected a larger and finer residence at a cost of over four thousand dollars.

In his political views Mr. Whitney is a democrat, and is a public-spirited citizen whose cooperation can always be counted upon to further any movement or measure instituted for the general welfare and upbuilding. He has resided in this county throughout his entire life or for a period of sixty-one years, and has not only seen Kane county grow from a wild country, with only a few white inhabitants, to a rich agricultural country, containing thousands of good homes and acres of growing towns, inhabited by an industrious, prosperous, enlightened and progressive people, but he has also been an active participant in the slow, persistent work of development which was necessary to produce a change which is so complete that it has come to be popularly referred to as magical.

WILLIAM HARVEY REANEY.

William Harvey Reaney is filling the position of city clerk at Batavia, where he has made his home since 1899. He has been closely associated with its business interests as proprietor of a stationery and confectionery store and distributor of newspapers; he also represents the Aurora, Elgin & Chicago Railway at this point. He was born in Aurora, December 25, 1869.

William Harvey Reaney acquired his early education in the public schools of his native city and at Steward, Illinois, where he lived with an uncle, Wesley Steward, his parents having passed away within a short time of each other when he was eleven years of age. At the age of fifteen he began work in the Aurora watch factory, and followed that line of trade for fourteen years in different factories of the state until failing health compelled him to seek other employment. In July, 1899, he came to Batavia, and with small capital and plenty of ambition established the business of stationer and confectioner. He enjoys a liberal patronage, and is filling the position of city clerk, to which office he was elected in April, 1907.

On the 18th of March, 1896, Mr. Reaney was united in marriage to Miss Minnie May Gronberg, a daughter of Otto and Jeanette (Hovey) Gronberg, of Elgin. Mr. Reaney is a stalwart advocate of the democracy and is serving as a member of the Kane county democratic central committee. He is also chairman of the city committee, and is the candidate of the party for the office of clerk of the circuit court. He is well known in fraternal circles, being secretary of Batavia Lodge, No. 404, A. F. & A. M.; keeper of the record and seal of Rowena Lodge, K. P.; secretary and treasurer of the Rock City Pleasure Club of Batavia; a member of Rock City Lodge, No. 718, I. O. O. F.; Batavia Chapter, O. E. S.; Rowena Temple, Pythian Sisters; Batavia

Council, North American Union; and the Batavia Commercial Club. He has always lived in the county and has many warm friends who esteem him highly for his genuine worth and his many commendable traits of character.

LOUIS A. CONSTANTINE.

In the political history of Aurora and the state Louis A. Constantine deserves more than passing notice, for his labors have been discerningly directed in behalf of republican interests and in various offices his name has become a synonym for faithful and efficient discharge of duty. He is now serving for the third term as postmaster of Aurora. He was born March 13, 1853, in Buffalo, New York.

His father, Louis A. Constantine, Sr., was born in Berlin, Germany, in 1800, while his father was a member of the French legation. He came to the United States in the '30s, while his wife, who bore the maiden name of Fannie Case, and was born in Devonshire, England, accompanied her parents on their emigration to Canada when she was eleven years of age. Louis A. Constantine, Sr., died when his son and namesake was a lad of ten years.

The boy pursued his education in the public schools of Buffalo, and when twelve years of age began learning the printer's trade, familiarizing himself with every branch of the business in principal and detail. He then entered newspaper work, being employed in the office of the Republican at Dowagiac, Michigan. Later he was connected with the Grand Rapids Eagle, the Jackson (Mich.) Citizen, the Gazette of Davenport, Iowa, and the Chicago Daily News. In November, 1877, he came to Aurora and here purchased the Evening Post, which absorbed the Democrat, the Times and the Journal, all weekly newspapers of Aurora. He continued the publication of the Post for a quarter of a century with signal success, making it a daily paper of wide influence and a standard representative of modern progressive journalism. It became an excellent advertising medium and in the dissemination of general and local news was made such an attractive sheet that a most liberal patronage was secured.

All through the years Mr. Constantine has been active in politics, keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day and doing everything in his power to promote republican successes. In 1898 he received recognition of the capable aid which he has rendered his party in appointment to the position of postmaster in Aurora, entering upon the duties of the office on the 1st of February. That he has been unfaltering in his loyalty and most efficient in conducting the business of the office is indicated by the fact that through reappointment he is now serving for the third term. Moreover, the business of the office has trebled since he assumed charge. In other official positions he has been equally capable, holding various offices of trust. He was clerk of the senate for two terms, clerk of the railroad committee of the senate for one term, and also was private secretary to President Bogardus, presiding officer of the senate. He was appointed by Senator H. H. Evans clerk of the

insurance committee and so continued for one term. From 1891 until 1893 he was deputy collector of internal revenue in Chicago under Christian Mamer. He has frequently served as a delegate to the county, district and state conventions of his party and his opinions carry weight in the party councils. He has also been chairman of the city executive committee and chairman of the senatorial committee for some twenty years. He was likewise president of the Republican Press Association of the eighth congressional district, a state organizer of the Illinois Republican League. His efforts in behalf of his party have been far reaching and beneficial, and have been characterized by that thorough understanding and keen outlook which mark him in his business career. For a number of years he has been a member of the county committee. He has kept in close touch with the questions and issues of the day, and is always able to support his position by intelligent argument based upon a thorough understanding of those interests which affect state and national affairs. Religiously he is a member of the People's church and has served on its board.

On the 27th of March, 1882, Mr. Constantine was married to Miss Lilian Loomis, a native of Aurora and a daughter of William Loomis, one of the pioneer residents of this city.

GEORGE W. SHERWOOD.

There is no citizen of Kane county who is held in higher regard and esteem than George W. Sherwood, who owns and operates a valuable and well improved farm of one hundred and sixty-six acres, situated ten miles from St. Charles, in Plato township. He is a native son of the township, his birth having occurred January 27, 1853. He began his education in the district schools, which he attended to the age of seventeen years, this being supplemented by a four-years' course of study in Elgin Academy. After completing his education he engaged in farming, which has been his occupation to the present time.

At the age of twenty-three years Mr. Sherwood was united in marriage to Miss Lillian E. Warner, who is likewise a native of Plato township. The young couple then began their domestic life upon a farm, where they continued until 1902, in which year Mr. Sherwood removed with his family to Elgin, where he lived retired for three years. However, being of an ambitious and energetic nature he was not content to spend his time idly, and accordingly returned to farm life, being now the owner of one hundred and sixty-six acres situated in Plato township. The fields are well drained and there are various kinds of fruit trees, which bear in their respective seasons, and everything about the place is in a well-kept condition, so that it is a valuable property. He is here engaged in raising the various cereals best adapted to soil and climate, and he also gives much time and attention to stock-raising, shipping annually a carload of hogs and one of cattle. Mr. Sherwood

ever follows the most modern methods in his farm work, and his efforts are therefore attended with a high degree of prosperity.

Mr. Sherwood gives his political support to the republican party, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church. His success has been by no means the result of fortunate circumstances. It has come to him through energy, labor and perseverance, directed by an evenly balanced mind and by honorable business principles. In manner he is quiet and straightforward, saying exactly what he means, and his word has become a synonym for business integrity.

JACOB BINDER.

Jacob Binder has been continuously connected with the business interests of Aurora since 1871, or for a period of thirty-seven years, and throughout this entire time has maintained an unassailable reputation for the integrity as well as the enterprise of his commercial methods. He is now conducting a meat market and is also identified with industrial interests as a manufacturer of artificial stone. He was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, April 29, 1850, and his parents, Jacob and Mary (Blind) Binder, were also natives of the same country. The former was a son of Jacob Binder, who was a butcher and died in 1857. He married a Miss Hohnecker. Their son, Jacob, engaged in the butchering business in Wurtemberg, Germany, up to the time of his death, which occurred when he was about sixty-six years of age. His wife had attained about the same age at the time of her demise and both were members of the Lutheran church. In their family were five children, two sons and three daughters: Jacob, who is living in Aurora; Mary, the wife of Gottfried Gantner, of Wurtemberg, Germany; Rosa, the wife of Andrew Muehlhauser, of Stuttgart, Germany; Carl, who resides in Goepfingen, Germany; and Emily, the wife of Albert Ansel, of Elgin.

In taking up the personal history of Jacob Binder we present to our readers the record of one of the representative German-American citizens of Aurora. He remained in Germany until eighteen years of age, and acquired his education in the public schools there. When a youth of fourteen he began learning the butcher's business with his father, and afterward spent three years in Switzerland, while in 1868 he crossed the Atlantic to America. After a brief stay in New York city and several months in the Lehigh valley at Mauch Chunk, Pennsylvania, he came to Aurora in August, 1869, and here worked at his trade until February, 1870, when he began the butchering business on his own account at Sandwich, Illinois. In April, 1871, however, he returned to this city, where he has been in business continuously since, occupying his present location from 1881. Many of his patrons have given him their trade during almost this entire period, and he is known as a merchant whose business methods are reliable, while his earnest desire to please his patrons has won him many friends. In 1905, in partnership with several others, he established the Aurora Artificial Stone & Construction Company,

of which he is the president. This company is engaged in the manufacture of artificial stone and in building operations, and the business has already become a profitable concern.

On the 14th of May, 1872, Mr. Binder was married to Miss Barbara Schmidt, a daughter of George F. and Sibylla (Schoeberlein) Schmidt. Mr. and Mrs. Binder became the parents of ten children, seven sons and three daughters: Amelia, the wife of E. G. Beck, of Pforzheim, Baden, Germany, and the mother of three children—Ruth, Esther and Wesley; John, who married Loretta Thomas and is associated with his father in both departments of business, being secretary of the artificial stone company; Elmer, who wedded Elma Schoeberlein and is a traveling salesman living in New York city; Rosa, who is bookkeeper for her father; Carl, who is connected with the Jacob Binder Company; Lorenz, salesman in New York with E. G. Beck; Dorothy, Albert, George and Oswald, all yet at home.

The parents are members of the German Methodist church, and the family occupy a pleasant residence at No. 133 South Fourth street. Mr. Binder has been the architect of his own fortunes, and has builded wisely and well. He came to the new world with scarcely more capital than would pay his way, but as the years have passed he has, through his unfaltering diligence and well directed labor, gained a measure of prosperity that now classes him with the substantial residents of his adopted city. He is also enterprising and energetic and his labors have been of a character that has contributed to the general good as well as to individual success.

BENNE BENSON.

Among those of foreign birth who are now numbered among the leading farmers of Kane county is Benne Benson, who owns and operates a fine farm in Kaneville township. He was born in Warburg, Sweden, on the 31st of March, 1858, and is a son of Ben and Cherste (Hendrics) Benson. His father, who is a farmer by occupation, and a devoted member of the Lutheran church, is still living in Sweden at the age of seventy-two years. The other children of the family are Edith Benson, still a resident of Sweden, and Helmah, the wife of Charles Johnson.

Between the ages of six and fourteen years Benne Benson attended the public schools of his native land, and at the age of seventeen started out to make his own way in the world by working as a farm hand at twenty-five dollars per year. He was thus employed until he attained his majority and then shipped on board a French vessel as a sailor, visiting all of the principal ports of Europe from the North sea to Portugal during the year and a half he spent upon the water.

At the end of that time Mr. Benson emigrated to America, and on reaching the shores of this country was not only penniless, but was twenty dollars in debt, having borrowed that sum to help meet the expenses of his trip. Making his way to Kane county, Illinois, he secured work as a farm hand

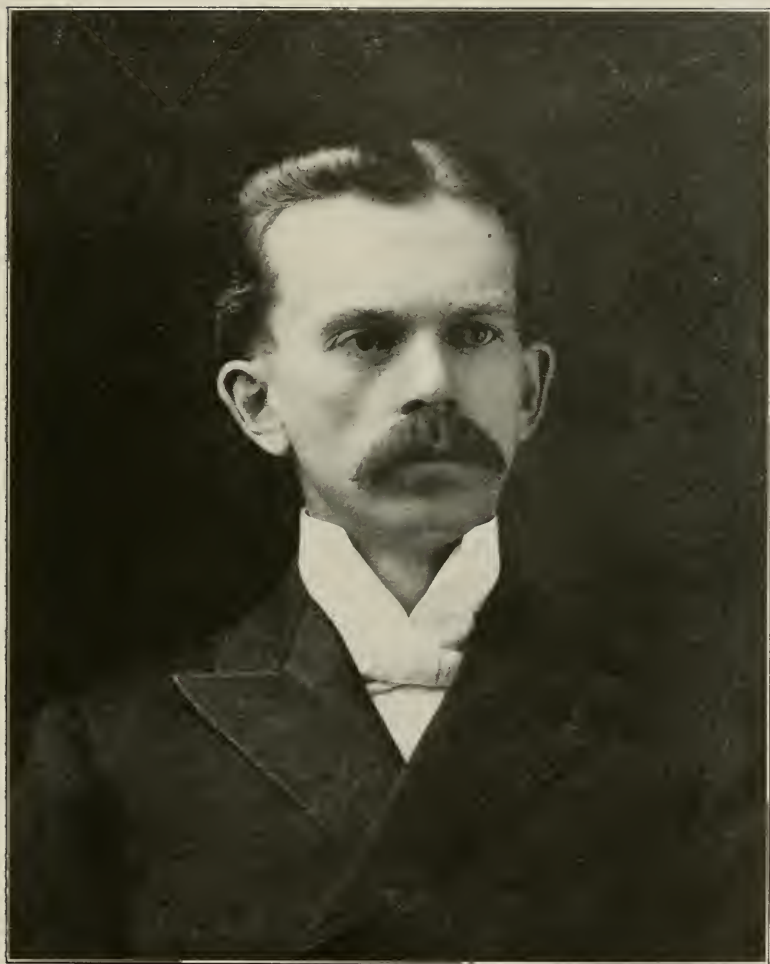
and remained in the service of others for three years, being employed on a farm adjoining his present place in Kaneville township. In the meantime he saved some capital, and then rented his present farm for ten years. By his industry, good management and close economy he was then able to purchase the place, which he has since converted into one of the best farms of the county. The fields are well fenced and highly cultivated, and the improvements which he has made aggregate twelve thousand dollars. The farm consists of two hundred and sixty acres of rich and arable land and is adorned with a nice residence and good outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock. He gives considerable attention to the breeding of Norman horses, and in all his undertakings has met with excellent success, being a man of exceptional business ability, industrious, energetic and thoroughly reliable.

After coming to this country Mr. Benson was united in marriage to Miss Mary Anderson, also a native of Sweden, and they have become the parents of two children: Alida and Emily, both at home. They also have an adopted daughter, Alma Benson, who has made her home with them since a year and a half old, and since three years of age Jalmor Anderson has also found a home with them. The parents are earnest members of the Lutheran church and are held in the highest esteem by all who know them. By his ballot Mr. Benson supports the men and measures of the republican party, and for fifteen years he has filled the office of school director. As a public spirited citizen he never withholds his support from any enterprise which he believes will advance the intellectual, moral or material welfare of his adopted county.

GEORGE H. BURNETT.

George H. Burnett, who is successfully engaged in business as an embalmer and funeral director at Batavia, his native city, was born March 7, 1870. He is a son of John Burnett, whose birth occurred in Devonshire, England, April 12, 1835, and who is now living retired in Batavia. On leaving his native country he came direct to Illinois, arriving in Batavia in 1857. For a half a century he was identified with its business, and for twenty-five years was well known as a flour and feed merchant here. In the fall of 1907, however, he retired from business life to enjoy a well earned rest. He married Frances Martha Ballard, who was born in Batavia, September 12, 1836, and who was a descendant of one of the old families of Massachusetts. They long traveled life's journey together, but were separated in the death of Mrs. Burnett, on the 2d of September, 1899.

George H. Burnett pursued his education in the public schools of Batavia, passing through the consecutive grades. He afterward attended the Champion College of Embalming in Cincinnati, also pursuing a course in Chicago under Dr. Eliab Meyers and Professor Charles A. Renaud. He was graduated in 1897, and after passing the required examination was one of the first to secure a state embalmer's license. He entered business in October, 1897, in Batavia as an embalmer and funeral director and has been very suc-



GEORGE H. BURNETT

cessful here, having now the largest patronage in this part of Kane county. He carries a full line of equipments and furnishings and his business has been built up through careful management and not through advertising.

On the 5th of February, 1896, Mr. Burnett was married to Miss Charlotte M. Spencer, a daughter of Charles J. and Mary E. (Miller) Spencer of Coloma, Michigan. Mrs. Burnett is also a graduate of the Champion College of Embalming, holds a state certificate and is an assistant to Mr. Burnett in his work.

Mr. Burnett belongs to several fraternal organizations that count him a valued member. He is a Mason, a Knight of Pythias, an Odd Fellow and a Modern Woodman. Well known throughout this part of the county, he has many friends who esteem him for his genuine personal worth.

WILLIAM S. BEAUPRÉ.

William S. Beaupré, president of the Aurora National Bank, was born in Ottawa, Illinois, October 2, 1844. His father, Mathias Beaupré, was of French descent and in 1838 came from Canada to the United States, settling first in Joliet, while afterward he resided in Kendall county, Illinois, where for two terms he served as county sheriff.

William S. Beaupré acquired his education in the public schools of La Salle and Kendall counties and, having mastered the branches of learning which constitute the public school curriculum, he entered upon his business career as a clerk in a dry goods store of this city. He left mercantile fields, however, to enter public office, having in 1869 been appointed deputy collector of internal revenue for the second district of Illinois. He continued in that position for fourteen years, or until 1883, when he resigned to enter banking circles as cashier of the Aurora National Bank, which was organized in that year. He has since been connected with the institution, and its success is attributable in no small degree to his earnest efforts, his indefatigable energy, his keen discernment and his thorough understanding of the banking business. He was elected to the vice presidency in 1895, and on the 1st of January, 1906, succeeded to the presidency, with M. O. Southworth as vice president. The safe, conservative policy which was inaugurated at the beginning has always been maintained, and over the record of the institution there falls not the least shadow of wrong. Its methods have always been such as would bear the closest investigation and scrutiny, and the men who stand at its head sustain an irreproachable reputation in business circles. Mr. Beaupré is a man of resourceful ability and marked energy and has extended his efforts into various other lines. He is now a director in the Aurora Gas Company, in the Illinois Surety Company and the Fox River Light, Heat & Power Company. He was president of the Kane County Title & Abstract Company, which was organized by him in 1902. He is furthermore a director and treasurer of the Home Building & Loan Association of Aurora, and all of

these concerns have profited by his able management, keen business discrimination and unfaltering enterprise.

While Mr. Beaupré has successfully conducted private business interests and thereby contributed to the commercial development, he has also aided in promoting the city's welfare along lines from which he has derived no substantial return. The cause of education finds in him a stalwart champion, and for over twenty years he has been an efficient member of the board of education, doing all in his power to raise the standard of the public schools and make their course of study a fit preparation for the practical and responsible duties that come when school days are over. He has also been a director of the public library since its organization. He belongs to various fraternal organizations, and in Masonry has attained the Knight Templar degree and is a member of Aurora Lodge, No. 294, A. F. & A. M. In politics he is a republican.

Pleasantly situated in his home life, Mr. Beaupré was married to Miss Julia Brady, a daughter of Lorenzo Brady, a pioneer merchant and banker of this city. They have two children: Marian, now the wife of Charles E. Powell, cashier of the Aurora National Bank; and Olive, now Mrs. H. E. Miller, of Aurora.

Endowed with admirable social qualities, Mr. Beaupré is popular in the different societies to which he belongs, and commands the unqualified respect and admiration of his business colleagues and contemporaries. His entire career has been characterized by that consecutive progress which results from well developed powers, from the utilization of opportunity, and from that initiative spirit which enables the individual to see a chance which is not apparent to others.

WILLARD R. AUSTIN.

Willard R. Austin, who is now living retired on his farm in Campton township, was born at Rochester, New York, August 25, 1836, his parents being Amassa C. and Rhobia W. (White) Austin, both natives of New York, the former born August 29, 1798, while the latter's birth occurred April 11, 1811. They came to Illinois about 1844, settling in DeKalb county, at which place their remains are now interred, the father having passed away in 1863, while his wife survived him until 1891.

Willard R. Austin served as a soldier in the Union army for two years and nine months and witnessed many bloody battles, being wounded in one engagement. He assisted in driving Price out of Missouri, and was a faithful and loyal defender of the cause which he espoused, never faltering in the performance of any military duty assigned him.

Mr. Austin was united in marriage to Miss Harriet L. Higgins, a native of DuPage county, Illinois, where her birth occurred April 2, 1848, of the marriage of Van Rensselaer and Lucy (Bingham) Higgins, both natives of New York. The parents were wedded in Ohio and thence removed to DuPage

county, Illinois, coming overland by ox-team and bringing a cow and a spinning wheel with them. They were early pioneers of this part of the country, but both are now deceased and lie buried in the Whitney cemetery at Campton. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Austin have been born four children. Flossie B., who was born January 13, 1879, attended school at Wasco and now resides at home. She displays considerable musical talent. Maude L., born April 15, 1881, became the wife of Edward Swanson, an agriculturist by occupation, and they reside near St. Charles. Pollie V., whose birth occurred in Wasco, January 16, 1884, married Miss Arvilla Johnson and still lives in the place of his nativity. Alva C., born in Wasco, August 28, 1888, is yet under the parental roof.

A republican in his political views, Mr. Austin gives stalwart allegiance to the men and measures of that party. He is affiliated with G. A. R. Post, No. 456, at St. Charles, thus maintaining pleasant relations with his old army comrades. Both he and his wife are highly esteemed throughout the community, the circle of their friends being almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintances.

FRANK MICHELS.

The welfare and progress of a city depends in large measure upon its police service, as the resident business man always considers the safety of his interests before he will make investments. The department therefore which conserves law and order is a most essential one in the city government and at the head of this department in Aurora stands Frank Michels, the efficient and capable chief of police. A native son of Aurora, he was born March 4, 1866.

His father, Frank Michels, was a native of Germany and in early manhood became a resident of this city, where he turned his attention to merchandising. He was for many years connected with the grocery trade here and was much respected for his honorable business methods and his upright life. He died in 1901 as a result of a railroad accident, while his wife, Mrs. Mary Michels, passed away in 1907. For a number of years prior to his death he was engaged in general farming, having retired from commercial interests.

Frank Michels was educated in the public schools and after putting aside his text-books assisted his father on the farm for eight years. In 1887 he came to Aurora and joined the police department, acting first as driver of the patrol wagon. He thus filled all the various positions of the department, acting at different times as patrolman, plain clothes man, captain, city detective, and in 1897 he was appointed chief of police, which position he has now filled for eleven years. No more capable or faithful custodian of public interests could be found. He has been connected with many important cases and has been a loyal officer, bringing the force up to a high standard of efficiency.

On the 17th of September, 1890, Mr. Michels was married to Miss Mary Wagner, a native of Aurora. He belongs to the Benevolent & Protective

Order of Elks and the Knights of Pythias Lodge and also to the Luxemburg Club. He is popular with his fellow townsmen, who have learned to know and to appreciate his worth from his boyhood days and who find in him an official whose record is above suspicion of evil.

CYRUS C. STOWE.

Cyrus C. Stowe, a public-spirited citizen who is serving as constable of Maple Park, has also been engaged in the livery business in this city since 1903. He was born near Sycamore, DeKalb county, September 28, 1852. His father, William Henry Stowe, was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, and at the age of twenty-two years came to Illinois, settling near Sycamore. There he was engaged in farming for a time, while later he removed to the city of Sycamore and opened a cooperage, at which he was engaged for five years. He then took up his abode in Minnesota, entering there one hundred and sixty acres of land from the government, which he continued to cultivate for a number of years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Electa Ward, was likewise born in Cattaraugus county, New York, and by her marriage became the mother of seven children, as follows: Cyrus C.; Harriett, the wife of O. F. Holcombe, a farmer residing in Sycamore; Charlotte, the wife of Gus Taylor, a retired farmer residing in Minnesota; Emory, deceased; Fred, who is a mail clerk employed by the government in Minnesota; Edward, who is clerking in a store in Spokane, Washington; and Herbert, who has departed this life.

Cyrus C. Stowe was reared on his father's farm and began his education in the district schools. He was a youth of sixteen years when his parents left the farm and took up their abode in Sycamore and the son then entered the high school of that city, being graduated therefrom at the age of nineteen years. He then returned to farm life and in 1872 established a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Catherine Collins, who was born in 1853.

Following that important event in his life Mr. Stowe engaged in farming near Sycamore and Maple Park until 1903, when he removed to the latter city and opened a livery barn, which he has conducted to the present time. He keeps a number of good horses, has on hand a nice line of buggies and carriages for rent and his business has now reached extensive proportions, owing to his reasonable prices and his fair treatment of those who give him their patronage. He was formerly proprietor of a hotel here for four years.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Stowe has been blessed with two daughters and a son: Nellie May, the wife of Herman Burkenhagen, who is engaged in merchandising in Maple Park; Mabel, the wife of Fred Snyder, who is clerking in a store in this city, and Floyd H., who is engaged in the transfer business here.

Mr. Stowe gives his political support to the men and measures of the republican party and has been called to fill a number of public offices. He served in 1895 and 1896 as town marshal, while in 1897 and 1898 he filled the office of deputy sheriff. For the past two years he has served as constable of Maple Park, filling the office to the satisfaction of the public and with credit to himself. His fraternal relations are with the Knights of the Globe, while his religious faith is that of the United Brethren church. He is justly accorded a place among the prominent and representative citizens of Maple Park, for he belongs to that class of men whose enterprising spirit is used not alone for their own benefit, but also advances the general good and promotes prosperity.

LEVI TODD.

Levi Todd, now deceased, became a resident of Kane county more than a half century ago, at which time he took up his abode in Sugar Grove township. For a considerable period thereafter, he was identified with agricultural pursuits and then began dealing in agricultural implements in Aurora, while his last years were spent in retirement from business. There were no questionable methods in his business career. On the contrary, he closely adhered to the rules which govern strict and unswerving integrity, unabating energy and unfaltering diligence and he thus left an example which is in many respects well worthy of emulation.

He was born in East Wallingford, Vermont, August 29, 1815, his parents being Ruel and Lucinda (Tuttle) Todd. In the paternal line the ancestry is traced back through Ruel, Job, William, Michael and Christopher Todd to William Todd, who was the ancestor of the family of this name founded in Connecticut. He lived at Pomfret, York county, England, and was the father of Mercy and Christopher Todd. The latter was born at Pontefract, England, and was baptized January 11, 1617. He became a resident of New Haven, Connecticut, in 1639, and died April 23, 1686. He was a miller, farmer and baker and acquired a considerable property. The ancestry can be traced back in the maternal line to William Tuttle, who came from London or St. Albans on the good ship Planter in 1635, with his wife, Elizabeth, and three children. He remained in Boston until 1639 and there two sons, Jonathan and David, were added to the family. Later he went with his wife and children to Connecticut and was one of the signers of the original compact in the formation of the Connecticut colony. As the years passed he became an extensive landowner. He was one of only fifteen whose names always appear on the records as Mr., the title being given only to persons of the highest social distinction. He possessed large wealth for that day and was a man of prominence in the community who was active in public affairs. The family had previously been a very distinguished one of Devonshire, England, representatives of the name during several generations having occupied the highest offices,

including that of lord mayor of Exeter, the second in importance to that of lord mayor of London. The office of high sheriff of Devon was also filled by members of the family. The name originally was Tothill or Tuthill, and one William Tothill entertained Queen Elizabeth at his fine estate of Shardedoes, which passed into the possession of the Drakes through the marriage of Joan Tothill to Sir Francis Drake. William Tuttle, who was the founder of the family in America, and his wife, Elizabeth, were parents of Jonathan Tuttle, then followed in successive generations two Williams and Joel Tuttle, the last named being the father of Mrs. Lucinda Todd. He was born May 1, 1746, and died in New Haven, Connecticut, October 9, 1826. He was married September 3, 1772, to Lydia Bradley, who died April 24, 1814. Lucinda Tuttle, daughter of Joel Tuttle, gave her hand in marriage to Ruel Todd. Both were natives of Vermont and Mr. Todd followed the occupation of farming. He was born in September, 1771, while his wife's birth occurred April 8, 1775, and they reared a family of eleven children.

Levi Todd, whose name introduces this review, was born August 29, 1815, and was reared at East Wallingford. He came west in 1854 and settled at Sugar Grove township, Kane county, Illinois, where he bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres. That summer he built a house upon his place and carried on general agricultural pursuits until 1869, in which year he removed to Aurora. Here he engaged in selling agricultural implements for a time but later lived a retired life, spending his remaining days in the enjoyment of well-earned rest. He was a man whose reliability in business affairs was never called into question. In all of his dealings he was straightforward and honorable and displayed an aptitude for successful management.

On the 24th of January, 1836, Levi Todd was married to Miss Rachel Walker Gibson, a daughter of Jonathan and Hannah Gibson. They became the parents of four sons and four daughters. Olivia Maria, the eldest, married Fred Otis White, who, for a number of years, was a lumber merchant of Aurora, and died in 1892. Lucius Merrill, who died in 1899, had wedded Mary Bruce, also now deceased, and they had two sons, Edward Sherman and Levi, but the latter died in infancy. Eleazer, whose death occurred in 1903, had married Emma Mayo and had three children, Idella May, Bert C. and Nellie Gertrude. Laura Rozilla died at the age of fourteen years. Emma Jane, who was a successful teacher for many years, now lives in Aurora. She is joint author of the "Normal Course in Reading" with W. B. Powell, which has been widely used in the schools. George Henry, who has been engaged in the lumber business for a number of years as a member of the firm of White & Todd, married Lucy Brown Prescott and they have three children: Bertha May, Fred Arthur and Ethel Marion. Mary Abigail, who is a teacher of drawing in the public schools of West Aurora and also assistant in the high school, is the next of the family. Elmer Ellsworth married Rhoda Bird and is engaged in business as a member of the firm of White & Todd, lumber dealers.

The death of the husband and father occurred April 10, 1891, when he was nearly seventy-six years of age. His wife died January 13, 1874,

at the age of fifty-five years. They were Universalists in religious faith and were people of the highest respectability. Mr. Todd always took an active and helpful interest in public affairs and was found as a cooperant factor in many measures for the public good. His word was considered as valuable as any bond solemnized by signature or seal. He trusted men and they learned to trust him, finding that he was always loyal to a promise, faithful to an obligation and trustworthy in every relation of life. He enjoyed to the fullest extent the confidence and good will of his fellowmen and is yet remembered by those among whom he moved as an active factor in the business life.

JOHN DEUTSCH.

John Deutsch, successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits in Virgil township, was born in this township on the 17th of November, 1887, his parents being George and Mary (Schilling) Deutsch, both natives of Luxemburg. The father, whose birth occurred in 1848, came to America in 1863 and now carries on farming in Virgil.

John Deutsch attended the common schools until thirteen years of age, and from that time forward has been continuously engaged in farming with the exception of four years spent in Aurora as an employe in the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy shops. On the 1st of March, 1908, he came to the Meyers farm and became connected with agricultural interests on his own account. He has a dairy of eight cows and delivers on an average of twenty-four gallons of milk to Virgil daily. He likewise owns ten hogs, forty chickens and two horses, and has one thousand dollars' worth of property in stock, tools, furniture, produce, etc. The farm is all tillable land and contains forty acres, while he has also rented ten acres in Virgil. Most of the acreage is devoted to corn, while the remainder is meadow and pasture land, the place being fertile and well improved. Although still a young man, Mr. Deutsch has already met with a creditable and well-merited measure of prosperity in his undertakings and the future holds forth much promise.

On the 14th of May, 1908, Mr. Deutsch was united in marriage with Miss Mary Barth, of Chicago, who was born September 28, 1882, her parents being George M. and Mary (Graef) Barth, both natives of Bavaria. The father came to America in 1873 and was married in Chicago. Unto him and his wife were born three children. Michael, whose birth occurred in Chicago, October 19, 1876, wedded Miss Kune Sieple, of that city, and is a cabinet-maker residing in the metropolis. Katie, born in Chicago, October 9, 1877, became the wife of Matt Breyer on the 7th of August, 1901. He is a groceryman residing in Chicago. Mrs. Deutsch is the youngest member of the family.

Mr. Deutsch is a stalwart democrat in his political views, while fraternally he is connected with the Foresters of Virgil. His religious faith

is indicated by his membership in St. Peter's Catholic church of Virgil. He has been a resident of his native county throughout his entire life and is widely recognized as one of its progressive and enterprising young agriculturists.

JAMES WALKER.

There is perhaps no biography in this volume which illustrates more clearly the value of determined and persistent effort than does the record of James Walker, who, starting out in life without any special advantages of wealth or influence to aid him, learned the blacksmiths' trade and has steadily worked his way upward until he now occupies the responsible position of foreman in the blacksmith shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad at Aurora. He was born in Wilmington, Delaware, November 20, 1834.

His father, William Walker, was a steel manufacturer in Pennsylvania in partnership with two of his brothers-in-law. Removing west to Michigan, he located at Royal Oak, twelve miles north of Detroit, in 1841. He had become ill at Harrisburg while on his way to the west and died soon after reaching his destination. His wife survived him until 1896 and was about seventy-eight years of age at the time of her demise. She bore the maiden name of Demaris Patchett, a daughter of William Patchett, a native of England, who on coming to America settled in Delaware. Mrs. Walker was a devoted member of the Baptist church and following her husband's death carefully reared her family. She was born in Delaware, while Mr. Walker was a native of England. Their family numbered seven children: James, of Aurora; Mary, the wife of a Mr. Andrews, of Birmingham, Michigan; Jane H., the widow of S. S. Thomas, of Detroit, Michigan; and Ann, the widow of J. Perkins, who also resides in Detroit, Michigan. The other members of the family have passed away.

James Walker spent his boyhood and youth in Detroit, Michigan, where he attended the public schools. When sixteen or seventeen years of age he began learning the blacksmiths' trade, which he has followed continuously since and his success is no doubt attributable in large measure to the fact that he has never dissipated his energies over many fields, but has concentrated them entirely upon this department of labor. In 1852 he went to Chicago, where he resided until 1857, since which time he has been a resident of Aurora, covering a period of more than a half century. He has been constantly employed as foreman of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy blacksmith shops for fifty-one years, and for four years prior to that time was with the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company. No higher testimonial of his efficient service nor of his unfaltering loyalty to the interests which he represents could be given than the fact that he has continued with this company for more than five decades.

On the 20th of November, 1856, Mr. Walker was married to Miss Jane A. Atkinson, a daughter of William and Anna (Prince) Atkinson. Mrs.



JAMES WALKER

Walker was born in New Haven, New York, January 13, 1838. Her grandfather, Thomas Atkinson, was born near Leeds, England, and there engaged in the shoe business. He and his wife both came to America, however, when young people and were married in Utica, New York. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Walker was also a native of Leeds, England, and a shoe dealer there. Coming to America, he settled in Utica, New York, whence he removed to Ypsilanti, Michigan, where he died when more than ninety-one years of age. He was a soldier of the Revolutionary war. Mrs. Atkinson was only five years of age when her parents removed from the Empire state to Toledo, Ohio, and afterward became residents of Cleveland, Ohio, where she lived until fifteen years of age. The family then went to Detroit, Michigan, and removed to Chicago in 1853. Her father was proprietor of a hotel in Cleveland and in Chicago, and in other places conducted a meat market and grocery. He died at the age of seventy-one years, his death resulting from an accident—a tree falling upon him. His wife survived him until 1900 and died in Chicago at the age of eighty-eight years, her mental faculties being unimpaired at the time of her demise. Their family numbered three sons and five daughters, but only three are now living. Mrs. Walker; George W., of Geneva, Illinois; and Annie, the wife of L. N. Young, of Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Walker had but one child, Alice, who was the wife of C. C. Nichols, of Aurora, a bookkeeper for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company. Mrs. Walker is a member of the People's church. Their home is a large and handsome residence at No. 146 Clark street and Mr. Walker also owns other city property. He is likewise the vice president of the Home Building & Loan Association and his business interests and real-estate holdings are proof of his life of enterprise and thrift resulting in success. Prominent in Masonry, he belongs to Jerusalem Temple, No. 90, A. F. & A. M., Aurora Chapter, No. 22, R. A. M., Aurora Council, No. 45, R. & S. M., Aurora Commandery, No. 22, K. T., Tabala Temple of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine and to the consistory, in which he has attained the thirty-second degree. He was made a Mason in 1859 and is a charter member of both the council and commandery. He also belongs to Waubaunsie Lodge, No. 45, I. O. O. F. Politically he is a republican and his prominence in the city is indicated by the fact that he was elected its mayor in 1870. In every relation of life he has commanded the trust and confidence of his fellowmen, possessing those sterling traits of character which in every land and clime win recognition and regard.

DE WITT SIMPSON.

De Witt Simpson, president of the Wilcox Manufacturing Company, is preeminently a man of affairs, capable of controlling important business interests, as he has passed through successive stages in a business career that has brought him broad experience, wide outlook and large opportuni-

ties. Numbered among the native sons of the Empire state, De Witt Simpson was born in Washington county, New York, January 8, 1845, and acquired his education through the medium of the public schools. He remained a resident of the east until twenty-four years of age, when, in 1869, he removed westward to Aurora, thinking to find better business opportunities and conditions in this section of the country.

For a number of years he was a salesman in the employ of Daniel Volentine, one of the pioneer merchants of this city, but ambitious to engage in business on his own account, he carefully saved his earnings and when opportunity offered became identified with commercial pursuits as a shoe merchant, forming a partnership under the firm style of Brown & Simpson. He afterward went upon the road, traveling for ten years as the western representative of eastern shoe manufacturers, and in 1882 he became connected with the Wilcox Manufacturing Company, of Aurora, rising from the position of salesman through the various steps of promotion until he became vice president, manager and president of the concern. He is today the chief executive officer in this enterprise, which is one of the pioneer business interests of Aurora. It has grown and expanded with the development of the city and now furnishes employment to several hundred men. Operations were begun with a force of five workmen and the increase in the number of operatives is indicative of the substantial development of the business.

Mr. Simpson is also interested in other enterprises. He has been for a number of years a director and is still one of the vice presidents of the old Second National Bank. He has ever been interested in the welfare of the city, is prominent in the work of the Baptist church and is not unknown in connection with charitable interests and yet his beneficence is always free from ostentation and display.

RALPH C. TAYLOR, M. D.

Ralph C. Taylor, a well-known physician and surgeon of Lilylake, where he has a well-established and constantly growing practice, was born at Millburn, Lake county, Illinois, November 12, 1869, the son of David B. and Josephine (Dodge) Taylor. His father, David B. Taylor, was born in Kingsville, Ohio, December 25, 1826, and was educated as a physician and surgeon, being graduated from the medical department of the University of Michigan, also from the Cincinnati College of Medicine. He began the practice of medicine at Hillsdale, Michigan, continuing in practice there until the outbreak of the Civil war, when he enlisted in the Eighteenth Michigan Volunteer Infantry in 1862, when he was appointed assistant surgeon, a position which he held throughout the war. He then located at Lake county, Illinois, where he continued in the practice of his profession until the time of his death, which occurred in 1904. Dr. Taylor was a staunch republican and fraternally was a member of the Masonic order,

while religiously he was a consistent and faithful member of the Congregational church. Unto Dr. and Mrs. Taylor were born three children, namely: Edith Ione, the wife of H. A. Janeson, residing in St. Louis, where he is a member of the F. G. Smith Piano Company; Edward T., an attorney and teacher in the public schools of Chicago, and Ralph C.

The last named received his early education in the district school of Millburn, which he attended until sixteen years of age. He then entered the Jennings Seminary, of Aurora, Illinois, which he attended for one year, going from there to the Hillsdale College, at Hillsdale, Michigan, where he remained for one year. At the age of nineteen he engaged in teaching and followed this profession for four years, at the expiration of which time he entered the Valparaiso School of Pharmacy, at Valparaiso, Indiana, from which he was graduated in 1894. In the fall of that year he entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons, graduating therefrom in April, 1897. It will be seen from this record that Dr. Taylor not only possesses an inherited and inherent adaptability and inclination for his chosen profession, but that he has thoroughly educated himself both in the principles of pharmacy and diagnosis, so that he is able to make ready and unerring application of the same. His education in the school of pharmacy enables him to compound his own remedies, which he does from his own private dispensary. In December following his graduation, he located in Lilylake, where he has since continued to reside and his high professional attainments and sterling characteristics have gained for him the respect and confidence of the local public.

In 1900 was celebrated the marriage of Ralph C. Taylor and Miss Irene Stewart, whose parents reside on a farm near Millburn, where Mrs. Taylor was born on April 2, 1880. They have become the parents of two children, Glen Stewart, born October 24, 1903, and Merrill Leon, born May 25, 1907.

Fraternally Dr. Taylor is a member of the Masonic order, also of the Modern Woodmen of America, for which he is the lodge physician. Religiously he is a member of the Christian church, while his estimable wife is a Congregationalist.

WILLIAM H. H. SHOOP.

William Henry Harrison Shoop, one of the representative farmers and prominent citizens of Kaneville township, was born on the 8th of July, 1842, in Crawford county, Ohio, and is the oldest son of Benjamin and Catherine (Miller) Shoop. The father's birth occurred in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, in 1815, but he was only eight years of age when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Crawford county, Ohio. There he grew to manhood amid pioneer surroundings and his school advantages were very limited as the county at that time was an almost unbroken forest with few clearings. The schools were far apart and very primitive and the

Shoop family endured all of the hardships and trials one usually encounters on the frontier. As a means of livelihood the father of our subject followed farming. He was a soldier of the Mexican war, serving under General Taylor, and was a democrat in politics, while his religious connection was with the Evangelical church. In early manhood he married Miss Catherine Miller, who was only two years old when taken to Ohio from her birthplace at Millersburg, Pennsylvania. Her father was a shoemaker by trade.

William H. H. Shoop is one of a large family of children, his brothers and sisters being as follows: Martin V., now deceased; James A., who resides in Chicago and is employed at Garfield Park; George W., who is superintendent of janitors in the State Normal School at De Kalb, Illinois; John W., formerly city marshal of De Kalb, where he makes his home; Isaac, who is engaged in the manufacture of tile at that place; Wesley, a retired farmer living in De Kalb; Angeline, the wife of G. Snyder, who is a merchant of Maple Park; Emeline, deceased; Caroline, the wife of John R. Taylor, a farmer of Griffith, Indiana; Sarah, the wife of Michael Dillon, a stone mason, of Sandwich, Illinois; Hattie, the wife of Melvin Beverly, of Maple Park; Adealie, the wife of Henry Hoyt, who is engaged in the bottling business in De Kalb, and Catherine, the wife of John Hoyt, a druggist of De Kalb.

Mr. Shoop of this review received his education in the district schools near his boyhood home, where he pursued his studies during the winter months, while throughout the summer season he assisted his father in the work of the farm. At the age of twenty years he laid aside his text-books and devoted his entire time to the cultivation of the fields and other farm labor upon the home place until his marriage. He then removed to Reno county, Kansas, where he lived for three years, but at the end of that time returned to Kane county, where he has since resided. He has made farming his life work and is now the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 14, Kaneville township. He has a beautiful home situated on a slight elevation overlooking the rest of the farm and the other improvements are of the best. Upon the place is a model dairy, where the milk from twenty-five cows is cared for and in all his work Mr. Shoop has been found to be very progressive and up to date.

On the 9th of October, 1869, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Shoop and Miss Emma J. Weston, who was born in Rutland, Vermont, January 24, 1851, a daughter of J. F. and Sarah (Wetkins) Weston. While residing in the east her father was employed as teacher in an academy for some years, but when she was only two years old he brought his family to Illinois and here he followed farming. Mrs. Shoop received a good education and prior to her marriage she also taught school in both Illinois and Iowa with good success. She has become the mother of four children, namely: Ethel M., now the wife of Charles H. Shoop, who is in the employ of J. R. Watkins & Co., at Elburn; Edna G., the wife of Frank E. Gusler, a farmer of Kaneville township; Viola, the wife of A. J. Bissell, a resident of Rutland, Vermont, where he is engaged in the lumber business, and Benjamin F., still at home with his parents.

Mr. Shoop is independent in politics, supporting the men whom he believes best qualified for office regardless of party ties. For many years he served as justice of the peace, his first commission being signed by Governor Oglesby, and he continued to serve in that capacity until 1907, when he resigned to accept the office of supervisor, to which he was elected. He has been a member of the school board continuously during his residence in Kaneville township, and his various official duties have been most promptly and faithfully discharged and have won the commendation of the entire public. In religious faith Mr. Shoop is a Methodist.

WILLIAM HENDERSON.

William Henderson is conducting an extensive and prosperous business as a dealer in horses and cattle and as an agriculturist. There is no better judge of stock in this part of the state and his ability in this direction has enabled him to make judicious investments and profitable sales. He resides in Aurora, where he is widely known. His birth occurred in Broughty Ferry, near Dundee, Scotland, January 1, 1863, and his parents, William and Margaret (Dick) Henderson, were also natives of the land of hills and heather. The former was a son of John Henderson, who died in Scotland when about fifty years of age. He was a miller and millwright and was long survived by his wife, who, in her maidenhood, was Miss Annie Linn, and who lived to be seventy-seven years of age. Their family numbered two sons and two daughters, including William Henderson, Sr., who, in his early manhood devoted his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits and later became a contractor and street builder and also a dealer in horses. About 1889 he removed to Canada, settling in Toronto, where he is now living retired. He holds membership in the Free Church of Scotland, to which his wife also belonged. The death of Mrs. Henderson occurred in 1900 when she was fifty-eight years of age. She was a daughter of William Dick, who was a large property owner and was connected with the salmon fisheries. He died in Scotland at the age of seventy-seven years and his wife, Mrs. Nannie (Hay) Dick, also reached the age of seventy-seven years. They were the parents of five children. Unto Mr. and Mrs. William Henderson, Sr., were born ten children, seven sons and three daughters, of whom seven are now living, namely: William, of Aurora; Annie, the wife of Alexander White, of Toronto, Canada; John, deceased; Jessie, the wife of John Polson, of Toronto; Robert, who resides in Toronto; David, who has also passed away; George, of Toronto; James, who died in infancy; Bella, the wife of Fletcher Omerod, living in Toronto, and Alexander, living in Aurora.

William Henderson, whose name introduces this review, was reared at Broughty Ferry, near Dundee, Scotland, and acquired a common-school education. He then studied law for a time and afterward began dealing in horses with his father. In 1886 he came to America and settled in Aurora,

working by the month on a farm. He then formed a partnership and engaged in the livery business for a short time. Aurora has been his home almost continuously since and he has become recognized as a successful and enterprising business man, who is now interested in agricultural pursuits and is also well known because of his extensive operations as a dealer in horses and cattle. He breeds and buys high grade coach horses, also handles speed horses and breeds Holstein cattle.

On the 31st of May, 1893, Mr. Henderson was united in marriage with Mrs. Fannie B. House, the widow of Christopher G. House and a daughter of William W. and Julia A. (Shepherd) Bishop. Her grandfather, William Bishop, was born in England and there spent his entire life, as did his wife, Anna (Smith) Bishop. They were parents of nine children. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Henderson was James Shepherd, who married Mary Milson. Both were natives of England, whence they crossed the Atlantic in a sailing vessel, settling at Leicester, Massachusetts, where they both died. Mr. Shepherd passed away at the age of eighty-two years, while his wife reached the very advanced age of ninety-eight years and seven months. They had a family of nine children. The father of Mrs. Henderson, William W. Bishop, was born on the Isle of Man and in his boyhood came to America with his parents, who settled in Canada. He afterward removed to Massachusetts, where he learned the trade of a carpenter and cabinet-maker, while subsequently he turned his attention to the foundry business in Worcester, Massachusetts. In 1852 he came to Aurora, Illinois, built a foundry and manufactured wheels for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, some of these being still in use on the railroad. Having prospered in his undertakings, he later turned his attention to the banking business and in partnership with John Coulter opened a private bank where the First National now stands. This was conducted under the name of Bishop & Coulter and after the death of Mr. Coulter it was reorganized under the name of the First National Bank and Mr. Bishop became its first president. He was also connected with many other important business enterprises and, in fact, was a promoter who readily recognized and utilized opportunities and in securing his individual success also advanced the public welfare. He was instrumental in securing the location of the cotton mills, the Acorn Stove Works and other manufacturing enterprises which have been factors in the business development of the city. He served as alderman for fourteen years and as mayor for one term and during that period cleared the city from a heavy debt. His administration was intensely businesslike, practical and progressive and was marked by excellent results. The death of Mr. Bishop occurred in October, 1892, at the age of seventy-one years, and the community lost one of its most representative and valued citizens. He left an indelible impress upon the public life and at all times his labors constituted an element in the general progress. His widow still survives him and has now passed the age of eighty-two years. Mr. Bishop had been reared in the faith of the Episcopal church, while his wife is a Congregationalist in religious belief. At the time of his death he owned a beautiful farm of two hundred and sixty-two acres in the northern limits of the city of Aurora,

together with other farm land and valuable city property. There were two children in the family, Frank W. and Mrs. Henderson. The former, who died in 1895, was a farmer and married Charity Van Duser, who is also deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Henderson are well known socially here and have a large circle of warm friends who esteem them for their many excellent traits of character as well as for their hospitality and kindly spirit.

ROBERT CHARLES HERR.

Robert Charles Herr, superintendent of streets in Aurora, was born in Earlville, La Salle county, Illinois, August 28, 1860. His parents were George Washington and Alvira (Ostrander) Herr, the former a native of New York and the latter of Pennsylvania. The Herr family is of English lineage and was founded in America by the grandfather of our subject, who, on coming from the Merrie Isle to the new world, established his home in the state of New York. He afterward became one of the early settlers of La Salle county, Illinois, where he passed away at an advanced age. His wife also attained an old age. The maternal grandfather was of Pennsylvania German descent and was a millwright. He lived with his family at Williamsport, Pennsylvania, and both he and his wife died in that state.

George Washington Herr followed mechanical pursuits throughout his entire life, working as a carpenter, joiner, wagon-maker and in other capacities. When a very small boy he was brought to Illinois, the family home being established in La Salle county, where he was reared to manhood. He came to Aurora in 1887 and was foreman in the building department of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad shops for a number of years, but eventually his health failed and he gave up work, spending his last days in honorable retirement. He was a soldier of the Civil war, valiantly defending the Union cause. He died in 1906 at the age of seventy-one years and is still survived by his wife, who is a graduate of the schools of La Salle county and a most estimable lady. They were the parents of four children: Robert C.; Mamie, the wife of C. D. Treman, of Aurora; Josephine, the wife of W. T. Saddler, of Aurora, and Carrie, who died in infancy.

Robert C. Herr, whose name introduces this record, was reared in La Salle county, pursuing his education in the public and high schools of Mendota, and when he had put aside his text-books he began learning the carpenter's and cabinet-maker's trades, which he has followed throughout the greater part of his life. Early in 1884 he arrived in Aurora, where he entered the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, being engaged in the shops until 1896. He then established a bicycle business, which he conducted for a time and later was offered a position as assistant city engineer, which he accepted. In 1905 he was appointed city superintendent of streets and is now acting in this capacity. He is proving capable, reliable and efficient and is doing much for the improvement of the streets in his present capacity.

Mr. Horr has been married twice. He first wedded Miss Mabel Foote, of La Salle county, and unto them was born a daughter, Mabel, who is now the wife of George Kesel, of Aurora, and the mother of one son, George. On the 14th of October, 1885, Mr. Horr was again married, his second union being with Miss Carrie Elizabeth Allen, a daughter of Robert Clark and Alvira (Weaver) Allen. One son was born to that union, Allen Horr.

Mrs. Horr is a Methodist in religious faith. Mr. Horr belongs to the Knights of Pythias, the Elks, the Owls, the Royal Arcanum and his political allegiance is given to the republican party. He is recognized as one of the efficient workers in its ranks and whether in office or out of it he is a progressive citizen who desires the best interests of the community and labors toward that end. He is interested in all things that are a matter of civic virtue and civic pride and his worth is widely acknowledged.

MORRIS P. BROWN.

It seems hard to realize that it is within the memory of living men when this section of Illinois was the home of Indians, when the lands were uncultivated, the forests uncut and the streams unbridged. Yet Mr. Brown can remember when such a condition existed in northern Illinois, for he has long been a resident of this part of the state and has witnessed many changes which have brought about its present development. He was born in Jefferson county, New York, his birth occurring in Watertown, July 25, 1827. His parents were James and Fannie (Scott) Brown and both were natives of New England. Their family numbered the following: Russell R., who died in 1864; Abi, the wife of Sardis Willey but now deceased; Emma, who has passed away; and Adelia, who became the wife of Moses Arnold, but both are now deceased.

Morris P. Brown is the only surviving member of his father's family. He was eight years of age when his parents removed to Theresa, a town twelve miles from his birthplace. He had meager opportunity for attending school as he was obliged to give most of his time to assisting his father on the farm until he reached the age of eighteen years. In September, 1845, attracted by the glowing accounts of favorable opportunities in the west, he boarded a steamboat at Alexandria Bay and arrived at Lewiston, New York, whence he went by horse cars to Niagara Falls and Buffalo. From the latter point he sailed around the lakes to Chicago, where he arrived after eight days. At that time the metropolis of the west had but three business streets—Lake, Randolph and Water—and there were no houses west of the Randolph street bridge for three miles. On the lake trip he became acquainted with a family who were taking their horses and much baggage with them. Mr. Brown wished to join his father who had preceded him to the west two years ago and was located near Aurora. The man who owned the horses promised Mr. Brown to haul him and his trunk to Aurora if in turn Mr. Brown would help unload the man's goods from the boat. He agreed to do so, but when



MR. AND MRS. MORRIS P. BROWN

the man had proceeded about ten miles from Chicago, having no further need of Mr. Brown's services, he changed his course and left Mr. Brown and his trunk by the roadside. However, others traveling along the highway assisted him to near Naperville. There he secured lodging for the night, and the following morning walked to Aurora. That city at the time contained but two or three stores, a gristmill and a sawmill. There was a foot bridge across the river from Main street to Galena street, but there were no bridges for teams, which forded the river at the south end of Stolp's island near the present site of the public library.

That fall Mr. Brown worked at threshing and corn husking, and the following December took a claim in what is now Clinton township, DeKalb county. The following spring his mother and the other children of the family came and joined the husband and father who had made his way to the west and prepared for his wife and children to come to the new home in DeKalb county. Thus the family were once more united.

For twenty years Morris P. Brown lived in DeKalb county, carrying on general farming and stock-raising, and on the 30th of March, 1865, he purchased a farm on section 14, Sugar Grove township, Kane county, where he now lives. He took up his abode on this farm on the day on which Lincoln was assassinated. The place comprises three hundred and thirty acres of very rich and productive land and in the care and cultivation of the property he has gained a good income. For some time he was also engaged in the breeding of thoroughbred hogs and this proved to him a gratifying source of revenue.

On the 22d of November, 1855, Mr. Brown was married to Miss Sarah E. Hyde at Coons Grove, DeKalb county. Her parents were natives of Vermont, where Mrs. Brown was also born, and were connected with the famous Corbin family. For a half century Mr. and Mrs. Brown traveled life's journey together and were then separated by the death of the wife, who passed away September 6, 1906. Their children were: Ella Quinn, who died January 8, 1887; May H., who died at the age of sixteen years; Grace S., now the wife of D. J. Gordon, of Sugar Grove township; and Fannie R., the wife of L. S. Hall, who is living at the home farm. At her death Mrs. Quinn left a daughter, May. The children of Mrs. Hall are: Floyd E., born July 23, 1896; and Elizabeth G., born April 15, 1900.

For several years Mr. and Mrs. Brown rented their farm and lived in Aurora, but since his wife's death Mr. Brown has made his home with the family of Mrs. L. S. Hall, his youngest daughter. His life has always been a useful one and in many respects an eventful one. When he left home at the age of eighteen years he had but twenty-one dollars in his pocket and when he reached Aurora possessed but eight dollars and thirty-seven cents. During the first years in which he lived in DeKalb county, he saw many of the Pottawattomie Indians and their chief, Shabbona, who proved himself a true friend of the white men. Mr. Brown can remember many of the stirring incidents of those early Indian days and relates many interesting reminiscences of pioneer times. On account of the friendly attitude which Shabbona always manifested toward the white settlers the United States government

gave him the use of a tract of land, comprising one thousand acres at Shabbona Grove and near the present village of Shabbona. There the great chief held many councils with his tribe and there he planned his campaigns against the Sac and Fox tribes. It was because of his fidelity to the whites that he was persecuted by the other tribes. On one occasion Mr. Brown, then a young man, and his father were talking with "Bogus" Gates, a roving white settler and a man of somewhat sullied reputation, when Shabbona appeared upon the scene. Gates had bargained with Shabbona for his reservation rights but after many promises and no pay Shabbona became provoked and when he recognized Gates, immediately became involved in an altercation over the settlement. He reached for his knife several times, which scared Gates, who pleaded for his life. At length Gates made a solemn promise to get some money and bring it to Shabbona, and while the old chief waited at an appointed place for his return, Gates was lengthening the distance between himself and the Indian as fast as he could and was never again seen in that locality. On one occasion Mr. Brown assisted other settlers in building a log cabin for Shabbona, who visited it before it was completed. The cracks had not yet been chinked up and Shabbona, in his gruff way, said, "Shanty no good. Shabbona can take papoose and throw him through cracks." Mr. Brown does not remember whether the old warrior ever went into the cabin again. He was a man of marked influence with his tribe and did many friendly and helpful acts for the white man. He died in July, 1859, on the bank of the Illinois river near Seneca, and was buried in Morris cemetery, although no monument marks his grave.

Mr. Brown has always been a very active man in the affairs of life and is widely known for his integrity and broad-minded views. His home was always noted for his hospitality and he has ever manifested a helpful spirit toward his fellowmen. He has lived to see many changes in this part of the county and state and has borne his full share in the work of development and improvement. He has now passed the eighty-first milestone on life's journey and is one of the honored and venerated citizens of Kane county.

HENRY MILLER.

To her thrifty sons and daughters of foreign birth or parentage America is indebted for much of her rapid growth and development and her great prosperity. To no class of them is she more indebted than those of the German race, who surmount all difficulties by their persistent industry and power of concentration, and who make the wilderness a garden wherever they locate in it. Henry Miller, of Plato township, one of the thrifty and substantial farmers and dairymen of that section, belongs to this hardy race and in his career well exemplifies its prominent and serviceable characteristics.

Mr. Miller was born in Germany, January 13, 1867, and is a son of Adam and Katy (Schwatz) Miller, also natives of Germany, in whose prolific soil, which they helped to till while living, their remains now rest.

They had four children: Henry, John, Anna and Catherine. John is still a resident of the fatherland. Anna is the wife of John Detman, and lives in Germany. Catherine is the wife of George Schuppner and a resident of Plato Center.

Henry Miller attended school in his native land until he was fourteen. He then went to Ireland and was there employed three years. In 1884, when he was seventeen years old, he came to this country, and locating in Kane county, went to work as a hired man on a farm in Plato township. He continued his service in this capacity until his marriage with Miss Anna Detman, which occurred on March 28, 1886. She was also born in Germany and came to this country when she was eighteen, finding a home in St. Louis, Missouri, whence she moved later to Kane county, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have five children, George, Harry, Minnie, Charley and Mary, all of whom are living with them, the older ones attending school and helping with the work on the farm. One child, Frank, died aged two years.

Mr. Miller is a democrat in his political faith and allegiance, and he and his wife are members of the Evangelical church. He is recognized as a man of intelligence and influence, wise to all the requirements of the people in the way of progress and improvement, and always ready and willing to do his part in promoting every worthy cause and undertaking. He is widely known and everywhere highly esteemed. He carries on a dairy business, keeping forty cows, and cultivates two hundred acres of rich and fertile soil, which yields abundant crops.

WALTER S. FRAZIER, JR.

The prosperity of any community, town or city depends upon its commercial activity, its industrial interests and its trade relations and, therefore, among the builders of a town are they who stand at the head of the business enterprises. In this connection Walter S. Frazier, Jr., is well known, being at the head of one of the important manufactories of Aurora, but while his business affairs have assumed extensive proportions, he has also gained place in the ranks of the representative citizens here by reason of the fact that he has been a cooperant factor in many concerns of public importance and is equally well known in military circles. Born in Chicago on the 5th of July, 1863, he is a son of Walter S. Frazier, Sr., who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

In the schools of Aurora the son pursued his education through successive grades until he was graduated from the high school with the class of 1881. He then became connected with his father's business. He did not use parental influence to assist him in his industrial career, however, but commenced in a humble capacity, fully determined to acquaint himself with the business in principle and detail. Gradually as his efficiency increased he was promoted and in 1885 was admitted to a partnership in connection with his brother, E. S. Frazier. His thorough knowledge of the business, his

aptitude for successful management and his excellent executive power well qualified him to assume control upon the death of his father and to extend his business connections. The brother, too, is equally efficient as a factor in the promotion of the interests of the house and the firm is a strong one, now owning and controlling one of the extensive productive industries of Aurora under the name of W. S. Frazier & Co. The subject of this review is the secretary and treasurer of the company, which is engaged in the manufacture of road wagons and all kinds of vehicles. The house has not only followed progressive methods but has instituted many. They placed upon the market the first road carts and, gradually extending the scope of their activities, they now produce all kinds of vehicles, the workmanship and the prices at once commending the company to the patronage of the general public.

Mr. Frazier has been very active in interests relating to Aurora and her development along many lines. The cause of education has found in him a stalwart champion who has done effective work in its behalf as an earnest and zealous member of the school board. He has also been a member of and president of the library board and a member of the fire and police commission. Equally well known in military circles, he became a member of Company D, of the Third Illinois Infantry and rose to the rank of captain in four years. He was then made assistant adjutant general with the rank of lieutenant colonel, but in 1898 retired from active connection with the National Guard in order to concentrate his energies more largely upon business affairs and community interests.

In 1893 Mr. Frazier was married to Miss Clara Pfrangle, a native of this city and a daughter of Charles Pfrangle, a pioneer resident of Aurora. They are well known socially and have the high regard of an extensive circle of friends. Mr. Frazier occupies an enviable position in public regard, not alone on account of the success he has achieved, but also by reason of the straightforward business methods he has ever followed.

ROBERT E. BEITH.

Robert E. Beith, who is successfully engaged in farming and dairying in Campton township, Kane county, Illinois, was born in that township on the 8th of July, 1872, and is descended from a good old Sctoch family. His paternal grandfather, William Beith, was born in the land of hills and heather and emigrated to the United States in the early '40s, becoming a resident of St. Charles, Illinois. Having previously learned the stone mason's trade, he turned his attention to that occupation in St. Charles and took many large contracts for stone work during the early years of his residence there. Later he secured a tract of government land and bought additional property until his estate comprised five hundred acres of the best land in Kane county, his remaining days being devoted to agricultural pursuits.

George A. Beith, the father of our subject, was born in St. Charles and possesses many of the sterling characteristics of the sturdy Scotch race from which he springs. He received his early training in the St. Charles schools and at the age of thirteen years began to aid his father in the operation of the home farm, whereon he has since resided. At the death of his father he purchased the interests of the other heirs in this property and has since made many useful and valuable improvements to the place, which make it one of the most attractive farms in this part of the state, in fact, the improvements alone cost forty thousand dollars. In 1871 George A. Beith was united in marriage with Miss Lucinda Richmond, who was born in Campton township, and they have become the parents of six children: Robert E., whose name heads this sketch; Elizabeth, the wife of John Muirhead, who is engaged in farming at Plato Center; Mary, the wife of Charley Muirhead, also a farmer of Plato Center; William A., a farmer living near Elburn, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume; Lucinda, deceased; and Rachel, at home.

Robert E. Beith obtained his primary education in the district schools and at the age of twenty took a commercial course at the Metropolitan Business College in Chicago, and on leaving that institution returned to his home near Elburn. He then aided his father in the operation of the farm and since 1898 they have carried on the business in partnership. In connection with general farming they do a large dairy business, keeping forty cows for that purpose, and they also raise stock for market, shipping two or three carloads annually.

Mr. Beith has been twice married, his first wife being Elsie Merrick, by whom he had one daughter, Eleanor, but both mother and child are now deceased. For his second wife he married Josephine Molenarr, who was born in Blue Island, Illinois. The family is one of prominence in the community where they reside. Mr. Beith is a supporter of the republican party and its principles and is a member of the Congregational church. Wherever known he is held in high regard and those who have known him from childhood are numbered among his warmest friends, which indicates an upright, honorable life.

COMFORD B. ATWOOD.

Among Aurora citizens who are prominent and well known is Comford B. Atwood, who is now living retired, although in former years his life was one of intense and well-directed activity. He has almost reached the seventy-third milestone on life's journey, for his birth occurred November 12, 1835. He is a native of Chemung county, New York, as was his father, Hector B. Atwood. The father was engaged in the lumber business in the East, and in 1855 removed westward to Kane county, Illinois. Here he engaged in farming for a time, but afterward took up his abode in La Salle county, where he died in 1897. His wife, Amelia Atwood, died in 1855. They were

parents of the following children: Charles, Comford, Sarah, Nelson, Leroy and Martha. Of this family three are yet living.

C. B. Atwood attended the district schools in his native state, and even before he had put aside his text books became associated with his father in the lumber business. With him he came to Kane county in 1855 and subsequently turned his attention to farming. In 1875 he settled near Montgomery, where he has lived continuously since. He has been quite successful in his business affairs, owns two good residences and has other investments. He is now living practically retired, but for a considerable period he figured as one of the representative business men in the county, carefully directing his labors so that he won gratifying prosperity as the reward of his undertakings. His business methods, too, were strictly honorable and straightforward, and gained for him the respect and confidence of those with whom he was associated.

In 1861 Mr. Atwood was married to Miss Cynthia Bennett, who was born in Schuyler county, New York. They traveled life's journey together for ten years and were then separated by the death of the wife in 1873. They had two children, the elder being Myron C., who lives in Aurora and is assistant superintendent of the Western Wheel Scraper Works; the daughter, Julia, is acting as housekeeper for her father.

In his political views Mr. Atwood has long been a democrat, and for eighteen years filled the position of alderman, while at the present writing he is commissioner of highways. He has always been deeply interested in whatever tends to promote the progress of the community along political and other lines, and his capability in public service has marked him as a favorable citizen. He belongs to Aurora Lodge, No. 254, A. F. & A. M., and to Argos Lodge, No. 514, I. O. O. F. A resident of the county for more than a half century, he is well known here, and has a circle of friends almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

E. S. HOBBS.

The truth of the statement that success depends upon tireless and well-directed energy finds verification in the life record of E. S. Hobbs. His business advancement has depended not upon qualities which are in themselves rare, but which are notable in their harmonious union. He early came to place a correct valuation upon opportunity, realizing that the present and not the future moment is the one that contains an advantage which, if utilized, brings a broader outlook and a wider scope for successful achievement. He is today treasurer of an important cotton manufacturing industry which Aurora claims as one of its chief productive concerns. He was born that year practically brought to a close, although the terms of peace were in Saco, Maine, October 1, 1850.

His father, R. M. Hobbs, was a native of Falmouth, Maine, and a representative of an old and respected family of New England. His great-