

These children have received every care and attention, been given good educations and each gives promise of bright and successful futures, exemplifying in their daily lives what a wholesome home environment and careful parental training can do in developing well rounded and highly cultivated minds and bodies.

Mr. Trenary moved his family to Salem in December, 1906. He has been honored by being chosen alderman for the city of Salem. Although a loyal Republican and well fortified in his political beliefs and anxious to see the triumph of his party's principles, Mr. Trenary has never aspired to positions of public trust at the hands of his fellow voters. However, his support can always be depended upon in the advancement of all movements looking to the public weal in his community whether educational, moral or civic.

In his fraternal relations, the subject is a member of the Masonic Order and the Modern Woodmen, and one would soon conclude by a knowledge of his consistent and gentlemanly daily life that he believed in carrying out the sublime precepts of these commendable organizations. Both Mr. and Mrs. Trenary are members of the Christian church. They are pleasant people to meet, and their cozy home is often the mecca for numerous admiring friends who seek the cheerfulness and hospitality so freely and unstintingly dispensed here. No better or more popular people are to be found in Marion county and they justly deserve the high esteem in which they are held.

JOHN A. BATEMAN.

There is much in the life record of the subject of this sketch worthy of commendation and admiration, and his public career is especially notable. Like many other brainy, energetic young men who have left their impress upon the magnificent development of this part of the great Prairie state, he did not wait for a specially brilliant opening. Indeed, he could not wait, for his natural industry would not have permitted him to do so. In his early youth he gave evidence of the possession of traits of character which have made his life exceptionally successful and he is today admittedly one of Clay county's foremost and best known citizens.

John A. Bateman was born in Richland county, Illinois, September 20, 1863, the son of Thomas Bateman, who was a native of Queenstown, Ireland, where a sister, aunt of our subject, still resides. He came to America when he was eighteen years old, first settling in Ohio, near Cincinnati, where he lived about three years, after which he came to Richland county, Illinois, locating on a farm, having lived in Richland county two years, when he moved near Sailor Springs, Clay county, where he lived until his death, June 24, 1879. He was a man of much sterling worth and many of his praiseworthy traits seem to have been inherited by our subject. Grandfather Michael Bateman was a native of Ireland, where he lived and died. Our subject's mother was Mary A. Mitchell, whose people

were natives of North Carolina. She was born near Bedford, Indiana, and is still living at Sailor Springs, Clay county, Illinois. She is a fine old lady of beautiful Christian character.

The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bateman: Lucinda Jane died in infancy; John A., the subject of this sketch; William, deceased; Charles, a well-to-do farmer at Sailor Springs, this county; Susanna, deceased; George P., living at Sailor Springs; Abraham, deceased; Robert, deceased.

Mr. Bateman spent his early life on the farm and received his primary education in the schools of Sailor Springs. He later attended Hayward College at Fairfield, Illinois, for two or three terms. He also attended the Teachers' Normal of Clay county, having made a splendid record for scholarship in all these institutions. Not being contented to leave school before he received a high education, he borrowed money of old Uncle Jim McKinney, and attended the Mitchell College, at Mitchell, Indiana, completing the course.

His father dying when he was fifteen years old, Mr. Bateman became the head and support of the family, and although the struggle was hard, it merely tended to develop the sterner side of his nature and spurred him to achievements that he otherwise would never have known. After leaving school he taught for five years in the country with great success, becoming known as one of the leading educators of the county and his services were in great

demand. After his experience in teaching he went into the real estate and insurance business at Sailor Springs, also buying and shipping wool and grain. He also opened the first furniture store in that town and while there he was elected the first Mayor of the town, having become one of the leading men of the community and who did a great deal for the town's development. This was in 1893. He remained there for ten years, making a success of whatever business he engaged in.

In 1898 Mr. Bateman was elected County Clerk on the Republican ticket, living at the time in Sailor Springs. On June 22, 1899, he moved to Louisville. He was elected to this office by twenty-four majority. He was counted out, but was finally seated by the Supreme Court. He was re-nominated in 1902, and re-elected by a majority of three hundred and fifteen. Having made such a splendid record he was re-nominated in 1906 and re-elected by a majority of four hundred and twenty-seven in the face of a strong fight. The Democratic party took their regular nominee off the ticket and placed the strongest man they could in the race against him. He is now (1908) serving his third term, and is regarded by everyone concerned as an exceptionally good officer, being careful and painstaking, courteous to all and giving his attention to the duties of the same with the same keen discernment that characterizes his own business affairs; in fact, he is said by his many friends to be the best County Clerk Clay ever had.

Mr. and Mrs. Bateman are the parents of four children, namely: Dolores, who at this writing is fifteen years old; Chloe Irene is twelve years old; Mark Hanna is deceased, having died October 6, 1908; the fourth child died in infancy.

Mr. Bateman was very much attached to his baby son, Mark Hanna, whose untimely death at the age of nearly eleven years greatly grieved him. The little boy was the pride of his father's heart and upon him he lavished his affection and care of an indulgent father.

Fraternally Mr. Bateman is a member of the Masonic Order, the Knights of Pythias, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; also the Modern Woodmen, Ben Hur, the American Home Circle and the Rebekahs. He is a member of the Christian church and a liberal supporter of the same.

Our subject is a purely self-made man, winning success by overcoming many obstacles, and he deserves the high esteem in which he is universally held, and is one of Clay county's most popular men, claiming a legion of friends in all parts of the county and throughout this district. He has a modern and elegantly furnished home, a good driving horse and many other conveniences. His home place consists of five acres. Mr. Bateman enjoys the fullest measure of public confidence, because of the honorable business methods he has ever followed, and he is one of the most successful, prominent and honored men in this portion of Illinois.

G. A. IDLEMAN.

The subject of this sketch is one of those men who have met with success along the line of his chosen calling and he is today one of the prosperous and respected merchants of Salem, Marion county, where he conducts a modern and attractive store, having built up an extensive and lucrative business by reason of his peculiar adaptability for this line of work, his honesty of business principles and his courteous and kind treatment of customers whom he numbers by the scores.

G. A. Idleman was born in Marion county, Ohio, in 1844, the son of Jacob J. Idleman, a native of Virginia, who moved with his parents to Ohio when he was a small boy. He devoted his life principally to agricultural pursuits, but he also devoted much time and labor along a higher plane of action, that of Methodist minister, becoming known as an able expounder of the Gospel and a man of good deeds wherever he went. He engaged in ministerial work for forty years, having worked hard on his farm during the week and preached on Sunday, and to show that he was an extraordinarily sincere man and desirous to do good for the sake of being true to the higher life as outlined by the lowly Nazarene, he never accepted a cent for his ministerial labors in all those forty years, merely preaching for the love of the work and the good he could do, which was an incalculable amount. He was called to his reward by the Good Shep-

herd whom he had so faithfully followed, in 1887, while living on his farm in Marion county, Illinois, where he moved in 1865, settling two miles south of Salem where he resided the remainder of his life.

The grandfather of the subject was Jacob Idleman, also a native of Virginia, and also a farmer who was known as a man of integrity and many sterling qualities. He reached the advanced age of eighty years, dying in Marion county, Ohio, where he had removed in an early day when the country was wild and unsettled. The subject's mother was Hannah Jones, whose people came from Pennsylvania. Her people lived to be very old, her mother having reached the remarkable age of ninety years. The subject's mother, a woman of gracious personal qualities, is still living in 1908, on the old farm homestead south of Salem at the still more remarkable age of ninety-four years.

Ten children constituted the family of the parents of our subject, four having died in infancy and two having passed away after reaching maturity. Those living are: G. A., our subject; Samantha, the widow of E. W. Thompson, of Columbus, Ohio; Mrs. Callie M. Kell, the widow of William Kell, living in Salem; Mrs. Belle Sipes, who lives on a farm near Omega, Illinois.

G. A. Idleman, our subject, spent his boyhood days in Marion county, Ohio, where he received a common school education and where he remained until he was twenty years old, having assisted with the farm work while going to school. He came to Salem,

Illinois, in 1865 with his parents, and has continued to make this his home. He farmed until he was thirty years old, thereby getting a good start in life. Since that time he has been engaged from time to time in various lines of business. He has been in the mercantile business here for a period of twenty-five years, most of the time in business for himself, but part of the time he was associated in business with others. He has been engaged in the grocery business for the past eight years, since 1900, and which he still conducts, having built up an excellent and lucrative trade as the result of courteous treatment to customers and his expert knowledge of the mercantile business, having always made this line of work pay, not only yielding him a comfortable living, but enabling him to gradually increase his business and at the same time lay up an ample competency for his old age. His customers are not confined to Salem and vicinity, but he is well known throughout Marion county, having always given his customers entire satisfaction as to the quality of goods he handles and to price, consequently he seldom loses a customer. Mr. Idleman built his present store building on First South street, which is one of the neatest and most substantial stores in Salem.

Mr. Idleman was united in marriage in 1870 to Mattie Clark, the representative of one of Salem's well known families. To this union one child has been born, Mrs. Lydia M. Hubbs, of Chicago. The subject was married again May 14, 1902, to Agnes Ray, the daughter of Riley Rose. She was

born and reared in Salem. They have no children. Their home is a commodious and nicely furnished one in the most desirable residence district of Salem, and is frequently the gathering place for numerous friends of the family.

Our subject has served his community in a most efficient and commendable manner as assessor of Salem township, having been the first Republican assessor ever elected in this township. In his fraternal relations he belongs to the Red Men, of Odin, Illinois. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Our subject has ever taken an active interest in the welfare of the community and gives an earnest support to every movement for the public welfare. A man of fine personal traits, he is highly regarded by all who know him, and he is counted one of Salem's most progressive and worthy business men.

REV. JOHN BUENGER.

The mission of a great soul in this world is one that is calculated to inspire a multitude of others to better and grander things, and its subsequent influence cannot be measured in meets and bounds, for it affects the lives of those with whom it comes in contact, broadening and enriching them for all time to come. He who spends his life interpreting the Divine Word has one of the greatest missions to perform vouchsafed to man. The subject of this sketch is one of

that number and worthily wears the honor in proper meekness and reserve.

Rev. John Buenger, minister of the German Lutheran church in Iuka township, Marion county, was born at Burg, near Magdeburg, Germany, April 17, 1869, the son of Otto and Antonie (Ruehlmaun) Buenger, both natives of Germany, having spent their lives in that country. The subject's father, who was a minister, is deceased. He did a great work in the Evangelical church in Germany. The mother of our subject is still living in the fatherland. They were the parents of eight children, namely: Max, Werner, Sophia, Emil; Adolph and John, our subject, are twins; Eliza and Erich, who is also a minister. He and the subject are the only ones who ever came to America. The above named children are all living.

The early education of Rev. John Buenger was obtained in Germany. He came to America in 1891 and attended Concordia College at St. Louis, Missouri, for two years. He then went to Madison county, Texas, in 1893, where he took charge of a church. He remained in Texas for ten years. He had very difficult charges in Madison, Fayette and Fannin counties, that state, but he did much good there in strengthening the congregations of his different charges. In 1903 he came to his present pastorate in Marion county, Illinois, the German Lutheran Trinity church. He has done a great work here, having completed in 1908 a beautiful and substantial church edifice, costing two thousand seven

hundred dollars. He also conducts the parochial school near the church, ably assisted by his wife, whom he married in 1894, her maiden name having been Louisa Franke, who was born in Barmen, Germany, the daughter of Henry and Jane Menkhoff, both of whom died in Germany. Henry Menkhoff was a teacher in the old country.

Six children have been born to the subject and wife as follows: Ruth, Gertrude, Hans, Antonett, Frieda and Paul. Our subject is well liked by his congregation and by everyone who has had the fortune to know him. He is an earnest and able expounder of the Gospel.

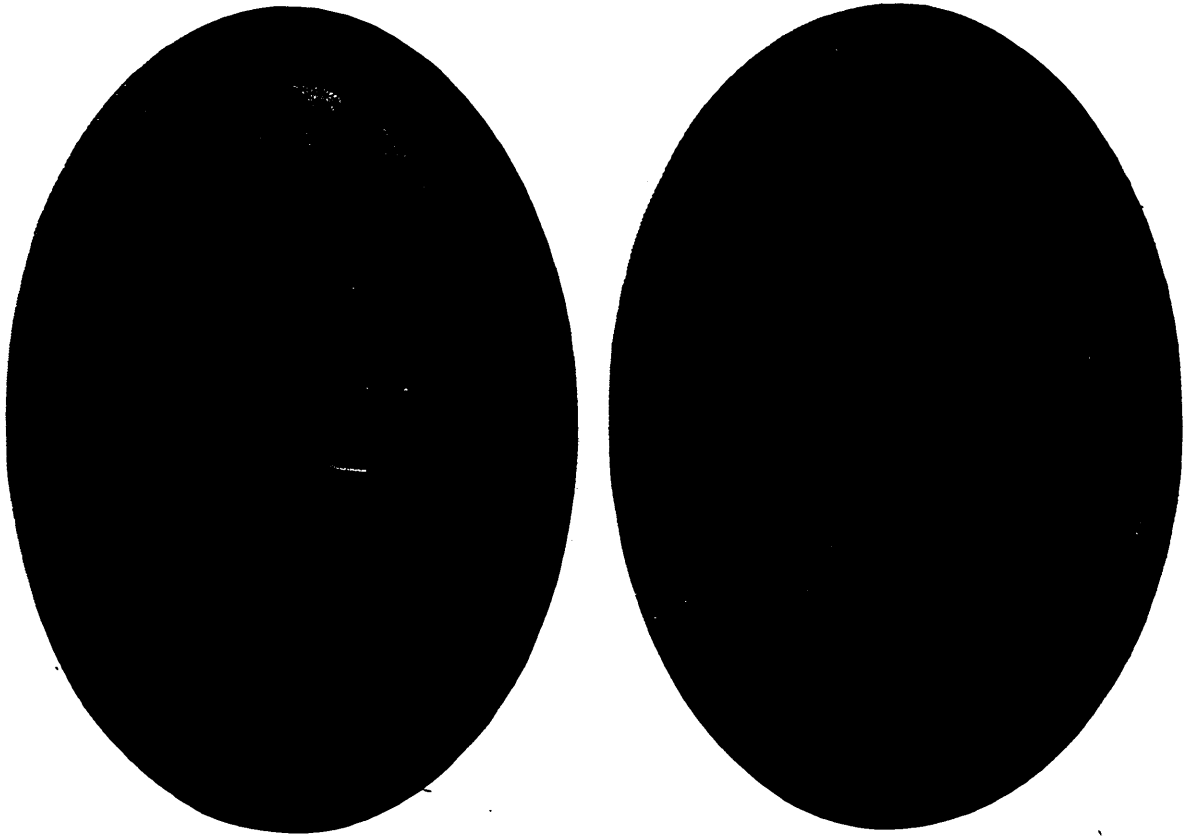
JOHN B. CONANT.

This venerable pioneer and representative agriculturist of Kinmundy township, Marion county, Illinois, has lived on the farm which is now his home practically all his life, and thus he has witnessed and taken part in the development of this section of the state from a sylvan wild to its present status as an opulent agricultural and industrial community. He early began to contribute to the work of clearing and improving the land of its primitive forests, later assisted in establishing schools and better public improvements and facilities, while his course has been so directed as to retain for him the unqualified approval and esteem of the community in which he has so long made his home, until today he is regarded as one of the most substantial and influential citizens

of the township, deserving of the greatest credit from the fact that he began life unaided and without the tender guidance of parents, being compelled to go it alone from early childhood, but such stern discipline, somewhat unpleasant and regrettable, was not without its value, for it fostered in the lad an independent spirit and gave him that fortitude and courage that has made for subsequent success.

John B. Conant is a native of this county, having been born here February 17, 1839, the son of Airs Conant, who came to Massachusetts from England, there being three brothers of the Conant family on the ship, one of whom settled in Baltimore, another in the North and one, Airs Conant, went to Georgia and joined the United States army for the purpose of taking part in the War of 1812, having fought faithfully throughout the struggle, being wounded in the hand. After the war he returned to Georgia, where he settled, and married Polly Pepper, to which union eleven children were born, John B. Conant being the youngest son. Airs Conant and wife moved to Marion county, Illinois in an early day while the country was still a wilderness. He partly improved seven different farms, selling each and moved to Missouri, pre-empting all the land he had from the government. All the members of this pioneer family have passed away with the exception of our subject.

The father of our subject also taught school in Marion county, having been hired to teach a subscription school four miles from home, the first term lasting three



MR. AND MRS. J. B. CONANT.

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months, the second term being of the same duration; however, he taught only one month on the second term, when he stopped to put out a crop of corn. He worked too hard and drank too much water while overheated, which caused his death in less than a week, leaving a large family to struggle with the wilderness and the clearing of a new country. The mother of our subject also passed away one week after her husband's death, leaving John B., then eight years old, to live with his older brother, William, with whom he remained until he was fourteen years old, at which time he chose his own guardian, Mark Cole, who cared for our subject in a manly and fatherly manner and procured a land warrant for him, but the land was afterward sold for the lack of payment of one hundred dollars.

Our subject's early education was limited to the district schools, his first school having been taught by his father, but he is well educated and he has always been a most successful farmer, beginning life with nothing, as before stated, he wisely applied his energy and managed his affairs with that foresight and discrimination that always brings success, and his farm properly consists of seven hundred acres of as fine land as is to be found in this locality. However, it has been divided up and apportioned among his children, there now being (1908) one hundred and ninety-three acres in the home place, which are kept in a high state of cultivation and well improved, showing that a man of thrift and excellent executive ability has had the management of it. He lives in a

modern, substantial and very comfortable dwelling, surrounded by convenient out-buildings, and everything denotes prosperity about the place.

Our subject was united in marriage to Mary Atkins on April 11, 1861, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Atkins, natives of Georgia and Tennessee, respectively, and to this union the following children have been born, named in order of birth: Fannie, who married Isem Lansford and had four children, one of whom is living; Ayers married Maggie Door and has four children, all living; Polly married Noble Neeper and is the mother of eight children, all living; Margarette married Guy Neeper and has one living child; Eli married Vinda Owens and has six living children; Ida married Mel Gray and has three living children, one having died; Martha married Francis Reese and has one child; May, Emmet, Hulda and Ruhe are all deceased; Ira is married to Hattie Hoovey and has one child.

Politically Mr. Conant is a Democrat and he has been School Director in his township, also Road Overseer. In religious matters he subscribes to the Cumberland Presbyterian faith, although he was reared a Methodist, to which creed his father adhered.

Our subject is at this writing sixty-nine years old and is well preserved, being in fairly good health. As the architect of his own fortunes he has builded wisely and well and the success that crowns his efforts is well merited. He is broad-minded, liberal, progressive, public spirited and is well known and highly respected in the commu-

nity which has been his home for so many years and where he has done so much faithful work, which has resulted in good not only to himself and family, but also to his neighbors and the community at large.

HENRY GASSMANN.

Among the progressive and enterprising business men of Olney, Illinois, who have achieved a definite measure of success in their line and have at the same time assisted materially in the upbuilding and development of their section of the county, is Henry Gassmann, who is deserving of mention in a work of the province assigned to the one at hand along with the other leading citizens of Richland county, because he has led a life that is highly commendable in every respect.

Henry Gassmann, the well known wholesale ice cream manufacturer and dealer in soda fountain supplies, was born in New Albany, Indiana, April 22, 1868, the son of Lewis and Caroline (Spangler) Gassmann, natives of Germany, who came to the United States when young and after their marriage in New York state they located at New Albany. During the Civil war they worked in a bakery and after its close began in a bakery business, which they continued successfully until 1878, when they came to Olney, where they established a similar enterprise, carrying on the same in a most gratifying manner until the death of the

subject's mother August 2, 1895, the father surviving until December 21, 1902, the former at the age of fifty-two and the latter when sixty-eight years old. They were the parents of five children, three boys and two girls, the subject being the third in order of birth. These children received every attention by their parents, who were regarded as people of the best grade in every respect.

Henry Gassmann was reared in Olney, after his tenth year, having received a fairly good education in the common schools. When twelve years old he went to work in a bakery conducted by his father and learned the trade. When nineteen years old he started out for himself and worked at his trade for three years at various places in Colorado and New Mexico. Returning to Olney he entered the employ of his father, continuing until the death of the latter, having in the meantime acquired an interest in the business and made himself very proficient in this profession. On October 31, 1902, their establishment was destroyed by fire and the loss was most severe since no insurance was carried. This misfortune was followed in December, of the same year, by the death of the subject's father. Mr. Gassmann then purchased such interests as remained from the other heirs and, nothing daunted, he started in a small way in the confectionery and ice cream business, which he built up by patient toil and careful management to large proportions and became prosperous. In the meantime he had built up an extensive wholesale trade in ice cream and in August, 1906, disposed of his retail inter-

ests. In the winter following Mr. Gassmann built his present handsome, modern and convenient brick structure, thirty-four by seventy-two feet and equipped the same with all the necessary appliances of latest design, purchasing all the up-to-date machinery necessary in the manufacture of ice cream on a large scale, having a capacity of one thousand gallons a day. He has long supplied a heavy trade within one hundred miles of Olney, and new territory is constantly being added, his ice cream being eagerly sought after, owing to its high grade.

Mr. Gassmann started a few years ago with nothing and he now is prosperous, being regarded by the people of Olney as a good, hustling, all-round business man. He also does an extensive wholesale business in soda water supplies in the way of syrups, crushed fruits, etc.

Mr. Gassmann was united in marriage on November 7, 1894, with Carrie B. Goudy, a native of Claremont township, Richland county, the daughter of John Goudy, of Olney, who for many years was a prosperous farmer in Claremont township. Two sons have been born to the subject and wife; Zean G., born in 1896, and Louis H., who is ten years old in 1908.

In politics our subject is a Republican, and in his fraternal relations is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Olney.

Mrs. Gassmann is a woman of refined tastes and a worthy representative of her noble parents, Mr. and Mrs. John S. and

Mary E. (Dayton) Goudy, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Pennsylvania. They were married in Ohio and came to Richland county, Illinois, in 1865.

The present solid prosperity of Mr. Gassmann is due entirely to his own efforts, directed along honorable channels, and today he enjoys an enviable standing among the leading men of his community and the fact that many of his warmest friends are those who have known him longest is proof that his life has been straightforward and honest.

JOHN F. DONOVAN.

The gentleman to a review of whose life and characteristics the reader's attention is herewith respectfully invited, is among the most progressive professional men of Marion county, Illinois, who by energy and correct methods has not only achieved success for himself, but has also contributed in a very material way to the commercial, industrial, civic and moral advancement of his place of residence. In the course of an honorable career he has established himself in a liberally remunerative enterprise and won the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens.

John F. Donovan was born in New York City November 1, 1847, the son of William and Mary Donovan. The lineage of this family, as the name implies, is traced to Ireland, the father of the subject having been born there. He was a longshoreman, and was called from his earthly labors when

our subject was young. The mother of the subject was also born in the Emerald Isle, and passed away comparatively young in life. They were Roman Catholics and people of sterling qualities and fine traits. They became the parents of two children.

John F. Donovan, our subject, was placed in the Juvenile Asylum in New York City, where he remained for about five years, or until he was twelve years old. He was then bound to a farmer in Randolph county, Illinois. After remaining in his new home for about eighteen months he took a leave of absence and never returned.

In 1862 our subject, feeling that he could not conscientiously stand idly by and see the nation in the throes of rebellion, enlisted in 1862 in Company I, One Hundred and Tenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in which he served for six months, when, greatly to his regret, it became necessary to drop his name from the company's roll on account of physical disability; but he later re-enlisted in Company C, Fifty-sixth Illinois Infantry, at Vicksburg, Mississippi, and served with distinction until the close of the war, taking part in many hot engagements and famous battles. He was honorably discharged. His regiment was sent to Little Rock, Arkansas, after the grand review at Washington, and was finally mustered out at Springfield, Illinois, in August, 1865.

After his career in the army Mr. Donovan came to Centralia, Marion county, Illinois, where he remained for about six years, then came to Kinmundy, where he has since resided. He was always a close observer and

a diligent student, and early in life decided that the law should be his profession, consequently he began the study of the same and was admitted to the bar in 1874, since which time he has devoted himself almost exclusively to the practice of law, winning a great reputation throughout this and adjoining counties as a learned, able and careful exponent of this profession, never erring in his cool calculating manner in drawing or presenting a case, whether criminal or civil, and he is also known as an orator of no mean ability. His success was instantaneous and his office has always been filled with clients.

Our subject was appointed postmaster of Kinmundy, first in 1877, having served in a most acceptable manner for eight years and was removed by President Cleveland. He was re-appointed in 1902 and is still ably serving in that capacity. He has been mayor of Kinmundy at different times for fifteen years. He was instrumental in organizing the Marion County Grand Army of the Republic, being at the head of the Reunion Association. He has served as inspector general of Illinois on the national staff, also on the department staff, also chief mustering officer for Illinois. Mr. Donovan was president of the Southern Illinois Emigration and Improvement Association, also officer of the day of the Southern Illinois Reunion Association. He has held various offices in the Grand Army of the Republic.

Mr. Donovan was united in marriage November 3, 1880, to Ellen King, a native of Marion county, the daughter of John B.

and Rebecca J. (Evans) King, a highly respected and influential family whose people were from Ohio. Her father was a soldier in the Civil war, from Illinois, having been a member of Company A, Eighty-eighth Chicago Board of Trade Regiment, in which he served throughout the war.

Mr. and Mrs. Donovan have no children.

In his fraternal relations our subject is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias, having filled all the chairs in the local lodges, and he has been representative of these lodges in the grand lodges.

Mrs. Donovan is a member of the Presbyterian church.

Mr. Donovan is a man of distinct and forceful individuality, of marked sagacity, of indomitable enterprise, and always upright in his dealings with his fellow men, loyal and faithful to every trust imposed in him, public-spirited, and in manners courteous and kindly, easily approachable. His career has ever been such as to warrant the trust and confidence of the business world, and his activity in industrial, professional and civic lines and financial circles forms no unimportant chapter in the history of Marion county.

SAMUEL A. STANFORD.

The subject of this biographical review is one of the eminent men of Clay county, both in business and civic affairs, whose indomitable courage, persistent and aggressive ef-

forts and his excellent management have brought to him the prosperity which is today his. He has ever stood ready to do what he could in pushing forward the wheels of progress and advancing commercial prosperity in this vicinity and his career, both public and private, has been one worthy of the high esteem and praise which those who know him so freely accord.

Samuel A. Stanford, the popular County Treasurer of Clay county, was born in Stanford township, this county, October 25, 1867, and, unlike many of his contemporaries who sought precarious fortune in other fields, he has been contented to remain at home. He is the son of Oren W. Stanford, who was also a native of Stanford township, having lived all his life on a farm there. He was a member of Company A, Ninety-eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served about two years in the Civil war. He died when our subject was twelve years old, in January, 1879. Samuel A. Stanford, the subject's grandfather, was of Scotch-Irish stock, having migrated from his homestead reservation in Pennsylvania to Illinois, when a young man, being one of the first settlers in Clay county, having located on a farm in Stanford township, which he purchased from the government on which he lived until his death in January 1879. The subject's mother was known in her maidenhood as Mary Michaels, whose people were natives of Indiana. She is at this writing living in Flora. The parents of the subject were always known to be people of much sterling worth. Their family consisted of the fol-

lowing children: Mrs. Emma Dunmoyer, of Flora, this county; Samuel A., our subject; John and James are twins, the former living in Piedmont, Missouri, and the latter in Flora, this state; Mrs. Bertha Thomas, of Flora; Mary died in infancy; Charley O. lives in Odin, Illinois, where he is in the mercantile business.

Mr. Stanford spent his boyhood days on a farm, where he attended the country schools, later attending the high school at Flora, but at the death of his father he gave up schooling and went to work on the farm. In 1892 he engaged in the mercantile business in Flora, which was a success from the first. His was a grocery business and the manufacture of cigars and tobacco, having been thus engaged for about thirteen years, his business having constantly grown until he had an extensive trade throughout this locality. Then he sold out for the purpose of making the race for County Treasurer in 1906, on the Republican ticket, to which office he was duly elected and is at this writing, 1908, very creditably serving, with entire satisfaction to everyone concerned, being regarded by members of both parties as one of the best county officials Clay county ever had. He has a thorough knowledge of the affairs of the office and is courteous and obliging to everyone with whom he deals, thereby rendering himself popular with all classes.

Mr. Stanford was united in marriage November 25, 1890, to Opha Detric, daughter of Perry Detric, of Loogootee, Indiana, and to this union have been born

eight children, namely: Eulalie, Hallie, Orren Perry; Samuel A., the fourth child is deceased; Robert Leland, Lester, William and Edwin. These children are receiving good educations and careful home training and they all give promise of successful careers.

In his fraternal relations Mr. Stanford is a member of the Masonic Order at Louisville; the Knights of Pythias at Flora, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Flora; also the Woodmen at Louisville, and the Eastern Star at Louisville. He is a member of the Christian church and Mrs. Stanford is also a faithful attendant of the same.

Mr. Stanford is a staunch Republican in politics, and since moving to Louisville, December 26, 1906, he has taken much interest in the development of the town and is regarded as one of the representative citizens of the place. He is unswerving in his allegiance to what he believes is right, and upholds his honest convictions at the sacrifice, if need be, of every other interest. Everything calculated to advance the interests of Clay county, whether materially or otherwise, receives his support and hearty co-operation.

EARL C. HUGGINS.

Coupled with Mr. Huggins' innate ability as an attorney, his unusual clearness of perception, analytical tact and soundness of theory is his courteous manners, persistency



E. C. HUGGINS.

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and unswerving integrity, rendering him one of the strong young attorneys of this locality and one of the successful practitioners of this county, and to him the future is particularly bright owing to his natural ability and past splendid record.

Earl C. Huggins, whose law and insurance office is located in Kinmundy, Illinois, was born in Marion county, this state, September 9, 1877, and, unlike many of his early companions and contemporaries, who sought precarious fortunes in other fields, most of them finding merely the will-o'-the-wisp of success, Mr. Huggins preferred to remain on his native heath, believing that greater things awaited him right here at home than could be found elsewhere, and, judging from the success which has attended his efforts, such a decision was a most fortunate one not only for himself, but also for the people of this vicinity. He is the son of Steven D. and Lena (Crundwell) Huggins, well known and influential family for many years in this county. Grandfather Huggins was a Kentuckian, having come to Illinois, settling in this county on a farm which he purchased, and on which he remained during the rest of his life, dying here at the age of seventy-five years. His widow, a grand old lady of beautiful Christian character, is still living in 1908, at the advanced age of ninety years. She is a faithful member of the Presbyterian church.

Stephen Huggins, father of the subject, was born in Marion county, this state, attending the public schools here, working on his father's farm until he became of age,

when he was married, after which he farmed for a time with much success, then moved to Kinmundy and followed teaming, later engaging in the coal mining business in this vicinity, being still interested in mining. His residence is in Kinmundy.

Mrs. Lena Huggins, mother of our subject, was brought to America from England when a child, and her people eventually settled at Salem, this county, where her parents died when she was young. She attended the public schools in Salem, where she remained until the age of sixteen. After the death of her parents she was taken into the family of Wily Cunningham, who was a soldier, having been killed in battle during the Civil war. After the death of Mr. Cunningham his widow married again, her second husband having been Mr. Samuel Jones. They moved to Stevenson township, Marion county, where our subject's mother remained until her marriage.

The following children have been born to the subject's parents: Roy, whose date of birth occurred March 21, 1876, is a painter by trade, living at Granite City, Madison county, Illinois; and Earl C., our subject.

Earl C. Huggins received his early education in Kinmundy, graduating from the high school here in 1897, after making a brilliant record for scholarship. Following this he clerked in the post-office for one year, then he acted as clerk in a grocery store for a period of one year, being an efficient clerk in both, but believing that his true calling lay along more worthy planes,

he began the study of law under Judge C. H. Holt, at that time a resident of Kinmundy, being County Judge at the time. He made rapid progress in his studies and entered the Illinois Wesleyan University, College of Law, from which he graduated high in his class in 1903, having won a record as one of the ablest pupils that ever passed through this well known institution. After leaving the law school, Mr. Huggins formed a partnership with his former instructor, Judge Holt, the partnership being a particularly strong one, and continuing in a most successful manner until August, 1904, when the judge moved to Salem, the county seat. Since that time our subject has continued the practice of law with his office in Kinmundy, but the volume of business has been very large for one man to handle. However, Mr. Huggins has ably dispensed with it all and is keeping his usual large number of clients, his business extending well over Marion county and invading surrounding counties, being general in its nature. He is known as a very careful and conscientious worker.

Although Mr. Huggins does not aspire to positions of official preferment, he is at present serving very efficiently as city attorney of Kinmundy, being in his second term. In politics he is a loyal Republican, and his influence can always be depended upon in placing the best men in the county offices and in support of all movements looking to the development of the community at large, whether political, educational or moral.

Fraternally our subject is affiliated with

the Masonic Order and the Knights of Pythias, having filled the chairs in the latter, and one would judge from a study of his daily life that he advocates the sublime principles of these praiseworthy orders.

BENNETT M. MAXEY.

The efforts of the subject of this sketch have proven of the greatest value to his fellow citizens as well as to himself. He has shaped his career along worthy lines, and they have been discerningly directed along well defined channels of endeavor. He is a man of distinct and forceful individuality, of marked sagacity, of undaunted enterprise, and in manner he is genial, courteous and easily approached. His career has ever been such as to warrant the trust and confidence of the business world and his activity in industrial, commercial and financial circles, forms no unimportant chapter in the history of Clay county.

Bennett M. Maxey, publisher of the Flora Journal, was born in Johnsonville, Wayne county, Illinois, November 25, 1856, the son of Joshua C. Maxey, a native of Jefferson county, this state, where he spent the greater part of his life on a farm. He was a sergeant in Company I, Forty-eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and took part in the battles of Pittsburg Landing, siege of Vicksburg and other noted battles. He was killed while in service at Louisville, Kentucky, near the close of the war. He was regarded by his comrades as a brave and gallant

soldier. Bennett Maxey, the subject's paternal grandfather, was one of the original settlers of Jefferson county, where he devoted his life to farming, and lived to an advanced age. Our subject is a descendant of a prominent pioneer family of Jefferson county. The subject's mother was Elvira A. Galbraith, whose people were early settlers of Wayne county. She passed to her rest in 1887. Mr. and Mrs. Joshua C. Maxey were the parents of five children, three of whom are living at this writing. They are Bennett M., Mrs. Belle Sanders, of Du Quoin, Illinois, and Mrs. Mattie Vickrey, of Missoula, Montana.

Mrs. Maxey was educated in the common schools of Johnsonville, Wayne county, and in Xenia, Clay county. He also attended school in Valparaiso, Indiana, having graduated from that institution in 1880, completing the teacher's course. After leaving the university he taught school for five years. In 1881 he engaged in the drug business at Xenia which he conducted until 1887, when he sold out and went to California, where he remained for four years, engaged in the real estate business and ranching. He returned to Clay county in 1889 and located in Flora, where he has since resided. He was associated with J. L. Black in the real estate and insurance business until 1898, in which year he launched in the mercantile business in which he engaged until 1904, when he bought The Southern Illinois Journal, the leading local paper of Flora, which he has continued to manage up to this writing with increasing success.

Mr. Maxey has other interests of various natures, being interested financially in several local enterprises. He has served as City Alderman, during which time he looked well to the city's development in every way possible.

Mr. Maxey was united in marriage in 1880, to Rosa Tully, of Xenia, a native of Clay county. No children have been born to this union.

In his fraternal relations, our subject is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Masonic Fraternity and the Order of Eastern Star. Both he and Mrs. Maxey are members of the Methodist church. In politics he is a Republican and always loyal to its policies. His paper is an important factor in local political affairs. It is on a good footing and the plant is well equipped and modern, having a cylinder press and gas power. Mr. Maxey owns the building in which the plant is located, and he also owns his residence property. He deserves a great deal of credit for what he has accomplished, for his success in the various lines of business he has followed has been won in the face of obstacles and by his unaided efforts.

A. W. SONGER.

Our subject possesses untiring energy, is quick of perception, forms his plans readily and is determined in their execution; his close application to business and his excellent management have brought to him the

high degree of prosperity which is today his. Mr. Songer was one of the brave sons of the North who offered his services and his life, if need be, in the suppression of the great rebellion during the dark days of the sixties, which render it fitting that he should be given conspicuous notice in the present historical work.

A. W. Songer, the well known and popular president of the First National Bank of Kinmundy, Illinois, was born in Clay county, this state, November 2, 1832, the son of Frederick and Jane (Helms) Songer, a sterling pioneer family of that locality. Grandfather Songer was a native of Virginia, a fine old southern gentleman. He devoted his life to agricultural pursuits, eventually moving to Indiana where he spent the balance of his days. His marriage occurred in Virginia and most of his family were born there. He was called from his earthly career when about sixty years old. He was a Lutheran in his religious affiliations. Eight children were born to this family, one of them having become a soldier in the Black Hawk war. Grandmother Songer, a woman of many strong attributes, survived her husband until she reached the advanced age of eighty years. Grandfather Helms was also a native of Virginia, who moved to Louisville, Kentucky, and from there to Tennessee, where he worked at his trade of blacksmith. Charles, one of his sons, moved to Indiana, where he spent the remainder of his life, having lived many years near Indianapolis. The balance of the family were early settlers in Illinois and

from here scattered to the western states, principally to Nebraska and Texas. One of them was a soldier in the Black Hawk war and another fought in the Mexican war. The Songer family, represented by the great-grandmother of our subject, was from Germany. The great-great-grandfather of the subject died in Germany, his widow coming to America shortly after his death, one of her children dying on the ocean on the way over. She settled in Virginia.

The father of the subject remained in Virginia until he was about twenty-two years old. He received only such education as the public schools afforded at that early day. However, he became a well informed man. He was a carpenter and builder of considerable note. He lived for some time in Indiana, where he was married, later moving to Illinois about 1821, settling in Clay county, where he remained until 1835, when he moved to Marion county, entering about two hundred acres of land from the government which he transformed into a fine farm through his habits of industry and skill as an agriculturist, living on this until 1872, in which year he moved to Kinmundy, where he died at the age of seventy-three years, owning an excellent farm which he left as an estate. He became a man of considerable influence in his community. He was an active and loyal member of the Methodist church as was also his wife. He was a Justice of the Peace for a number of years. For a time he owned and successfully operated a saw and grist mill.

There were ten children in this family, seven of whom lived to maturity. A brother of our subject, Samuel T., was a soldier in the Civil war, a member of Company G, Twenty-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, having served for three years, engaging in all the campaigns and battles of his regiment up to the date of his discharge which was at the termination of his enlistment. He is living in 1908 and is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, in which he takes a just pride. William F., brother of the subject, was also a soldier, having performed conspicuous service in the Mexican war. He was at one time State Representative in Oregon, in which state he still resides as also does Samuel T., another brother of the subject, living at Ashland.

A. W. Songer, our subject, received his early education in the common schools of Illinois. Being a diligent student and ambitious from the start he has become well educated. He remained on the home farm assisting his father with the work about the place during the months that he was not in school until he was twenty-one years old. Learning the carpenter's trade, he followed this for three years, then in 1861, when he felt his patriotic zeal inspired as the result of our national integrity being at stake when the fierce fires of rebellion were raging in the Southland, he enlisted in Company G, Twenty-first Illinois Volunteer Regiment, having been mustered in as second lieutenant and was soon promoted to first lieutenant and consequently served as an officer of that regiment for four years and

five days when he was honorably discharged at the close of the war in 1865, after having taken a conspicuous part in the following engagements: Perryville, Kentucky; Stone River, Tennessee; Chickamauga, having been captured at this battle and was taken to Libby prison, where he remained three months, when he was sent to prison at Macon, Georgia, later to Charleston, South Carolina, thence to Columbia, South Carolina, then to Wilmington, North Carolina, where he was exchanged, after having been a prisoner seventeen months and eight days, and thirty days thereafter he was mustered out of the service at St. Louis, Missouri.

After the war Mr. Songer returned to his home in Illinois and worked at his trade for a time. He then came to Kinmundy and entered into the milling business in which he continued with the most gratifying results until 1907, becoming known throughout the locality as one of the leading men in this line of business. He sold his mill and devoted his attention to the banking business in which he has been eminently successful. He had been connected with the State Bank of Kinmundy for some time, becoming president of the same. It was consolidated with the First National Bank, becoming the First National on August 26, 1906, the date of the consolidation, since which time Mr. Songer has been president. This is one of the solidest and most popular institutions of its kind in this part of the state and its prestige was greatly strengthened when Mr. Songer became its head for the public at

once realized that their funds would be entirely safe in his hands owing to his conservatism, coupled with his peculiar business sagacity, and since then the business of the First National has grown steadily.

The domestic life of our subject dates from 1868, when he was united in marriage with Margaret C. Nelm, of Cairo, Illinois, the daughter of Norflett and Lydia (Dickens) Nelm. Her paternal ancestor, Dickens, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, which rendered the wife of our subject eligible to the Order of Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution. The grandfather of the subject's wife was a Baptist minister. Her father was a soldier in the Black Hawk war. One of her brothers, N. B. Nelm, was a soldier in the Civil war, having served until the close of the war.

Three children have been born to the subject and wife as follows: Mary E., born December 25, 1871, is the wife of J. T. Brown, of Marion county; Frederick is married and living in Kinmundy. Neither of them have children of their own. The third child of the subject and wife died in infancy.

Mrs. Songer was called to her rest September 9, 1907, after a most happy and harmonious married life and one that was beautified by Christian character and many kind and charitable deeds which made her beloved by all who knew her. She was a loyal member of the Methodist church, and a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, of which order Mary E. (Songer) Brown was also a member.

Mr. Songer, as might be expected, is a consistent member of the Grand Army of the Republic, Post 255, known as the Hix Post. He is now commander of the same. In politics he is a Republican and is well grounded in his political beliefs, his influence always being felt for the good of his party and in support of the best men possible for local offices. He has never aspired to positions of trust and emolument at the hands of his fellow voters. However, he has been Alderman of the city of Kinmundy several times. His efforts have proven of the greatest benefit to his fellow men of Marion county as well as to himself.

CHRISTIAN HASLER.

It is a well authenticated fact that success comes not as the caprice of chance, but as the legitimate result of well applied energy, unflagging determination and perseverance in a course of action once decided upon by the individual. Only those who diligently seek the goddess Fortuna, find her—she never was known to smile upon the idler and the dreamer. The subject of this sketch clearly understood this fact early in life when he was casting about for a legitimate and promising line to follow, and in tracing his life history it is plainly seen that the prosperity he enjoys has been won by commendable qualities, and it is also his personal worth which has gained for him the good standing among his fellow citizens of Richland county.

Christian Hasler, the well known harness and saddle manufacturer, and dealer in hides, fertilizers, etc., of Olney, Illinois, is a citizen of the United States by adoption only, being one of that thrifty class from the little Republic of Switzerland, who has done so much toward promoting our institutions, for he was born in the Canton of Berne, September 20, 1845, the son of Peter and Margaret (Von Alman) Hasler, also natives of that place. The father was a small farmer and gardener and died when the subject was a child. The Von Almans were also farmers. The mother came to the United States and brought a family of five children with her, having come direct to Olney, Illinois, in 1857. She passed to her rest here in 1865. Our subject was twelve years old when he came to Olney. He worked on a farm in the summer and attended school in the winter. He had limited opportunities to attend school, but he gained a fairly good foundation for an education which he has since added to by home study and contact with the business world.

Mr. Hasler early decided to learn the harness business and in the fall of 1863 he was apprenticed to a harness maker at Claremont, where he worked faithfully until the spring of 1865, when he felt it his duty to no longer repress the feeling that he should stand by the Union in its hour of sore trial, consequently he enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Fifty-fifth Regiment Illinois Volunteers, and served until the close of the war in a most gallant manner, having been mustered out at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, in September, 1865. He did duty at Nash-

ville, Tullahoma, and Murfreesboro, having been on guard duty the major part of the time on the railroads.

After the war Mr. Hasler returned to Claremont township, and finished learning his trade, and in 1867, he opened a harness shop in Olney, which he has conducted continuously since that time. It is among the oldest established businesses in Olney, and the oldest in this line in the county. It has become generally known throughout the locality and his trade has been lively from the first, numbering his customers by the hundreds all over the county. He has not only made a comfortable living from his shop from year to year, but has been enabled to lay by a competency for his old age.

Mr. Hasler was united in marriage in 1869 to Susan Bohren, a native of Berne, Switzerland, who came to the United States with her father, Christian Bohren, when six years old, locating in Olney. Her father was a carpenter and died here. Her mother died in Switzerland and Mr. Bohren remarried in the United States. Nine children have been born to the subject and wife, three of whom died in infancy. Those living are: Sue; Robert, who is in the harness business in Vandalia; Laura, the wife of E. S. Hoog, who resides in Chicago; Rosilla; Ellen is the wife of J. W. Mayhood, of Chicago; Charles Edward.

Mr. Hasler always handles a good grade of material and the work he turns out is high-class. He has a carefully selected stock and never loses a customer as a result of handling inferior goods or unfair treatment.

In politics our subject is a Bryan Demo-

crat. He served as Supervisor on the County Board for two terms, from the third ward, which is strongly Republican; this fact shows that the subject is popular and well liked in his own neighborhood. He was the only Democrat ever elected from that ward to that position. In his fraternal relations he is a member of the Masonic Blue Lodge and Chapter, also the Modern Woodmen of America. He and his wife are members of the German Reformed church and no members of that congregation stand higher in general favor than they, for they are regarded as scrupulously honest, kind and worthy citizens in every respect, numbering their friends by the score.

JAMES HENRY KIMBERLIN.

Upon the roll of representative citizens and prominent and influential business men of Marion county consistently appears the name which initiates this paragraph. He has been a resident of Salem for many years, during which time he has gradually won his way into the affections of the people, for he possesses those sterling qualities of character which commend themselves to persons of intelligence and the highest morality, so it is no cause for wonder that he has achieved so high a position in the general estimation of all who have come in touch with him. For many years he was a professional man, gaining wide popularity in this manner, but he is now rendering efficient service at the Salem post-office.

James Henry Kimberlin was born in Richland county, Illinois, January 18, 1860, the son of W. O. Kimberlin, a native of Indiana, having been born February 2, 1826, near Scottsburg, Scott county. He left Indiana and came to Richland county, Illinois, in 1856, settling on a farm where he became known as one of the progressive agriculturists of that community and made a comfortable living until the year 1884, when he was called from his earthly labors by the "grim reaper". His widow, who was Hannah E. Reed, born near Salem, Washington county, Indiana, October 31, 1825, a woman of many praiseworthy traits, is living on the old homestead there at this writing (1908), being eighty-three years old, yet able to do her own house work. Her long life has been one of self-sacrifice for the good of her family and others so that now in her serene old age she can look back over the years without cause for regret. The father of our subject was a soldier in the Union ranks during the great Civil war, having been a member of Company F, Forty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was with Grant at Vicksburg and was in many other important battles. He was in the hospital service for some time, also did general duty at New Orleans, having remained in the service up to January 12, 1866, when he was discharged at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and arrived home February 2d, following which was his fortieth birthday. He had two brothers killed in battle during this war. Their names were Daniel and Jacob. Another brother, Isaac

M., went through the service in the Seventh and Eleventh Missouri Volunteer Infantry, having been a member of Company G. Dr. H. L. Kimberlin, another brother of the subject's father, who is now living at Mitchell, Indiana, was a Government Reporter on Governor Morton's staff.

The paternal grandfather of the subject was Jacob Kimberlin, a native of Pennsylvania, who came to Indiana when a young man. He devoted his life to farming and died about 1871. He was well known about Greenfield, where he operated a toll gate, subsequent to the war. The subject's maternal grandfather was Joseph Reed, of Scotch-English ancestry.

Eight children were born to the parents of the subject, only two of whom are now living. George W., the subject's only living brother, is living at Noble, Richland county, with his mother on the old farm. Among the papers held by the Kimberlins is the original land grant by the government for their old homestead made to Joseph Reed and signed by President Franklin Pierce.

James Henry Kimberlin, our subject, spent his boyhood on the parental farm in Richland county where he performed his part of the work about the place from year to year after he reached the age when he could be of valuable service to his father. He attended the neighboring schools in the meantime where he applied himself in a manner which insured a good education. After leaving school and working at various minor employments for several years he finally accepted a position as commercial

traveler which he followed with marked success for three and one-half years, giving entire satisfaction to his employers, when, much to their regret he was compelled to tender his resignation on account of temporary ill health. After this our subject took up the study of ophthalmology, which he decided should be his life work, consequently he made rapid progress in this work, having attended the Northern Illinois College of Ophthalmology at Chicago, from which institution he graduated with high honors with the degree of Fellow of Optics in 1892. He at once began practice and his success was instantaneous, having practiced at Olney, Shelbyville and Salem, having established his business in the last named city in 1900, since which time he has been a resident of this city. His work in this line was always considered first class and he achieved wide popularity in the same.

Mr. Kimberlin was, however, induced to give up his profession to become deputy post-master of this city, which position he is filling to the entire satisfaction of all concerned, showing that he has rare executive as well professional ability.

Mr. Kimberlin was united in marriage to Eva Myers, November 19, 1903, the daughter of the late Theodore Myers, of Iuka, Illinois, and the accomplished representative of a well known family. One child, a bright and interesting lad, bearing the name of James Henry Kimberlin, Jr., was born to the subject and wife May 4, 1905.

Mrs. Kimberlin is one of a family of five children. One child died after reaching ma-

turity. Theodore Myers was a farmer, and was a soldier in the Civil war.

In his political affiliations our subject is a strong Republican, and he is a well informed man on political and all current questions. He is a Protestant in his religious belief. He is recognized as a man of sterling integrity and of strong convictions as to all matters affecting the best interests of the community and is always found on the right side of every moral issue.

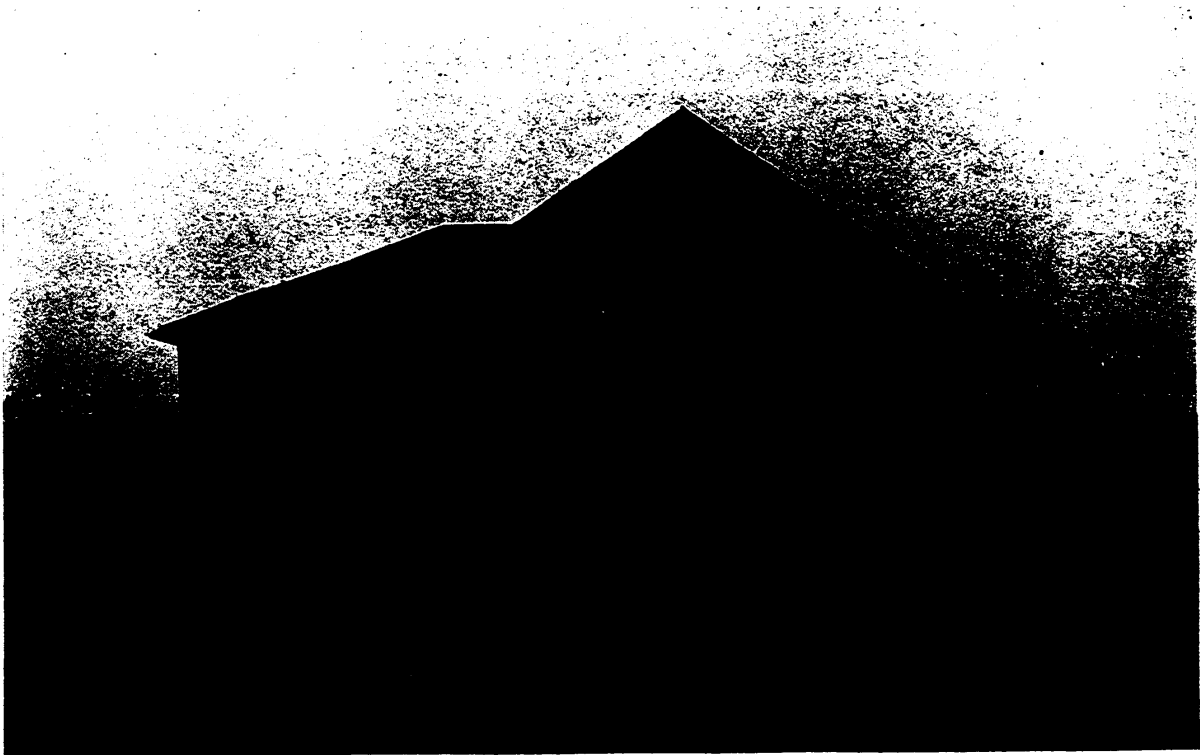
WILLIAM GILLHAM WILSON.

The subject of this sketch occupies today a prominent position in the professional world of Marion and adjoining counties and he deserves all the more credit for this from the fact that he started out in life practically empty handed, therefore has been the architect of his own fortunes, relying almost solely upon his own resources for the start which he had and for the success which he has achieved. In an analyzation of his character we find many elements worthy of commendation and emulation. He did not seek for fortune's favors, but set out to win them by honest work, and the success which ever crowns earnest, honest toil is today his, and he easily stands in the front rank of attorneys in this locality, which has long been noted for its high legal talent, and while yet a young man, vigorous and in the zenith of his mental and physical powers, he is rapidly winning his way to a position of much credit and significance in the great commonwealth which he can claim as his native land;

and while winning his way gradually up the steeps to individual success he has not neglected his duties to his fellow citizens, but has benefited very materially the community in which he lives in many ways, thereby winning and retaining the well merited esteem of all classes.

William G. Wilson was born in Madison county, Illinois, in 1872, the son of John C. and Elizabeth (Gillham) Wilson. The Wilson family has long been prominent and influential in that part of the state. Grandfather John Wilson was born in Pennsylvania, but came to Pike county, Ohio, settling on a farm, later coming to Marion county, Illinois, in 1846, taking up one thousand and eight hundred acres of land on the prairie, which he developed until it became very valuable, still holding it at the time of his death, which occurred when he had reached the advanced age of eighty-nine. Both Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. The latter is supposed to have come from Kentucky. They were the parents of a large family. Mr. Wilson was Justice of the Peace for some time.

John C. Wilson, father of the subject, was born in Pike county, Ohio, and there received his early education in a log school-house of pioneer days. Leaving the Buckeye state he came to Illinois, settling in Marion county in 1852, entering land from the government. He had about seven hundred acres of good prairie land, which he developed into a valuable farm and which is now known as the John C. Wilson farm. Here our subject's father lived until his death,



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which occurred at the age of seventy-seven years. He was a man of many sterling traits of character and bore an excellent reputation. Both he and his faithful life companion were members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Grandfather Gillham came from the Atlantic coast country and settled in Madison county, Illinois, during the earliest epoch of the pioneer days, before the state was admitted to the Union, and when wild beasts and red men roamed the hills and prairies. He remained there until his death. In that locality the subject's mother was reared and was married there in the early sixties. She came to Marion county. The father was twice married, the name of his first wife being Hults. Eight children were born to this union. She passed to her rest in the fifties. The subject's mother was John C. Wilson's second wife, who bore him seven children, four of whom lived to maturity. The mother is living in 1908, at the age of seventy-four years. She is a woman of many fine personal traits and beautiful Christian character.

William G. Wilson, our subject, first attended the district schools in Marion county, working on his father's farm in the meantime. Being ambitious and a diligent student, he received a good common school education. Leaving the public schools when nineteen years old he entered Austin College at Effingham, Illinois, where he made a brilliant record for scholarship, standing high in his class.

After leaving school he taught school for

five years, devoting five years also to teaching in Champaign county, this state, where he became widely known as an able instructor and where his services were in great demand. But, believing that his true life work lay along other channels, he began the study of law with Schaefer & Rhodes, of Champaign, under whose instruction he made rapid progress. He was then admitted to practice at Mt. Vernon, Illinois. Mr. Wilson then began practice at Kinmundy, being remarkably successful from the first, and it was plain to be seen that an attorney of unusual sagacity and innate ability had risen to command the attention of that part of the state. He has remained in practice at this place since that time with the most gratifying results, having frequently been called to other localities on important cases. He is cool and calculating, never erring in his legal proceedings, whether handling a civil or criminal suit, and he stands high in the estimation not only of the public but the legal profession throughout this part of Illinois.

Mr. Wilson was happily married April 7, 1896, to Mollie Poole, a native of this county and the representative of a prominent and influential family, being the daughter of Abraham and Martha (Malone) Poole. Mr. Poole was born and reared in Marion county. He was a soldier in the Civil war, being a member of the One Hundred and Eleventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, receiving an honorable discharge after serving for three years.

Four bright and interesting children have been born to our subject and wife as fol-

lows: Basil, born August 7, 1897, who is attending the public schools in 1908; Russell was born October 22, 1899; Ruth was born June 14, 1904; Byron first saw the light January 11, 1906.

The beautiful and nicely furnished home of the subject is presided over with rare grace and dignity by Mrs. Wilson, a woman of many commendable attributes, who delights in giving her children every care and attention.

Fraternally our subject is affiliated with the Masonic Order and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having passed through the chairs of the latter lodge. In politics he is a loyal Republican, and he at one time performed the duties of Police Magistrate, with much credit to himself and with much satisfaction to all concerned. He was also Tax Collector.

Mr. Wilson belongs to the class of citizens whose lives do not show any meteoric effects, but who by their support of the moral, political and social status for the general good, promote the real welfare of their respective communities and are therefore deserving of honorable mention on the pages of history.

CALEB F. WIELAND.

The prominence of the subject of this sketch in connection with the industrial and civic affairs of Richland county is such that he is recognized as one of the leading business men and influential citizens of this lo-

cality, being identified with enterprises of wide scope and importance, and being known as a progressive and public spirited citizen. The apparent ease with which he has mounted to his present commanding position in the commercial world, marks him as the possessor of talents beyond the majority of his brethren, and, being a close and critical student of men and affairs, he experiences no difficulty in sustaining the high reputation which his business talents and marked success have earned for him.

Caleb F. Wieland, a member of the hardware firm of Jolly, Wieland & Richardson, one of the best known and extensive firms of this nature in Southern Illinois, was born in Muscatine, Iowa, June 25, 1858, the son of Frederick and Mary (Eberhart) Wieland, natives of Canton Berne, Switzerland, where they were reared and married, soon afterward coming to the United States, locating in Muscatine. The subject's father worked there for many years, then moved to Jefferson City, Missouri. He enlisted in a Missouri regiment in the Union army, and served for more than three years until the close of the war. He saw much active service and was in numerous engagements, but was not wounded. After the war he returned to Jefferson City, Missouri, and in 1866, came to Olney, Illinois, where he lived until his death in 1873, at the age of fifty years. His wife survived him several years, dying in 1896, at the age of sixty-five. They were people of much sterling worth and highly honored wherever they lived. They were the parents of six children, four of

whom grew to maturity, the subject being the oldest in order of birth.

Caleb F. Wieland was a boy when he came to Olney, where he was reared and where he received a limited education, having been obliged to go to work when young and help support the family. He was ambitious and fought against every obstacle and early in life decided to take up the hardware business, consequently when seventeen years old he entered the hardware store of William Rhode as clerk in the same building where he is now interested, and he has continued in this line ever since at the same location, having been with different firms until the present firm was organized in 1904, when he became a partner. They carry a stock of about twenty thousand dollars, consisting of all kinds of hardware, carefully selected and they also do an extensive plumbing, heating, tinware and galvanized iron work, their trade extending to all parts of the county and is always on the increase, having been built up to its present large proportions very largely through the efforts of our subject. The firm occupies a substantial and convenient building twenty-two by one hundred and eighty-five feet, three stories in height. The entire building is occupied. It is one of the largest and most successful lines of business in the county.

Mr. Wieland was united in marriage in 1888 to Lulu St. John, a native of Olney, who was born, reared and married in the same house, the affable and genial daughter of M. M. and Mira Louise

(Cralle) St. John, who were among the pioneers of Richland county, and people of many praiseworthy traits.

Five children have been born to the subject and wife, namely: Esther Alean, Bernice May, Gerald Hazen, Mary Louise, Frank Clifford, all bright and interesting with promise of successful futures.

In politics Mr. Wieland is a loyal Republican. He very ably and creditably served as Alderman for one term of two years, from the second ward.

Mr. and Mrs. Wieland have earned and occupy a position of high regard in their community, being numbered among the most prominent citizens of Olney and whose efforts are always directed toward the moral, social and material uplifting of society

GEORGE COX.

In the field of political life, teaching and the railroad business in Marion county, Illinois, the subject of this sketch has won distinction, and today is numbered among the leading, influential and honored citizens of Salem. He has figured prominently in public affairs, ever lending his influence in the development of all worthy causes looking to the development of the locality at large, being an advocate of progressive measures. He is now filling the position of Deputy County Clerk and the promptness and fidelity with which he discharges his duties have won for him the favorable criticism of

leading representatives of both political parties.

George Cox was born in Parke county, Indiana, July 11, 1848, and came to Iuka, Illinois, September 4, 1868. His father was Alfred Cox, a native of Ohio, who migrated to Indiana when a very small boy. Joshua Cox, grandfather of George Cox, was a native of Hamilton county, Ohio, who migrated to Indiana at a very early date and entered land when the United States land office was at Vincennes, he being compelled to go to Vincennes to make his payments, making the trip on horseback, and it was his custom to camp and hunt on the way. Grandfather Cox was a farmer of great ability for those early times. His widow survived him several years. George W. Overpeck, grandfather of the subject on his mother's side, was born in Pennsylvania. His father and mother having died in early life he drifted to Hamilton county, Ohio, and died in the spring of 1867, having been survived several years by his widow. They spent their lives on a farm.

The father of the subject is now a resident of Illinois and makes his home among his children here and at Shattuc, this state. The mother of the subject was known in her maidenhood as Mary Overpeck, a native of Ohio. She passed to her rest in April, 1902, at Shattuc, Illinois, at the home of her daughter. Both the father and the mother of our subject were the oldest representatives of their respective families. Following children were born to them, seven of whom are living at this writing, 1908, named in

order of birth as follows: George, our subject; Mary Jane, wife of P. B. Anderson, of Shattuc, Illinois; Sally Ann, wife of H. C. Brown, of Vandalia, Illinois; John, of Clinton county, near Huey, Illinois; Amanda, deceased; Perry, of Iuka township, this county; Warner, of Decatur, Illinois; Eva, deceased; Julia is the wife of Milton Andrews, of Ouray, Colorado; Libby is deceased as are also the last two children born to this couple.

George Cox was reared on the parental farm in Parke county, Indiana, and attended the commonschools there, also the graded schools by working mornings and evenings to pay his tuition, as his parents were poor and could not defray the expenses of an education for our subject, but he was possessed of an indomitable will and forged ahead despite obstacles winning definite success in after life as a result of his energy and persistency. After completing the course of study laid down in the graded schools he attended school at Rockville for a time, after which he taught school with great success for several years, becoming known as one of the able educators of the county and his services were in great demand. He continued teaching until his health failed. He then went to railroading, locating in Iuka September 4, 1868, as indicated before. He attended school that winter at Xenia, Illinois, passing the examination for teacher's license. He then took a course in the Wabash Commercial College at Vincennes, Indiana, after which he returned to railroading first as brakeman, then a freight conductor,

later as passenger conductor on the old Ohio & Mississippi Railroad, now the Baltimore & Ohio, Southwestern Railroad. During all these years of railroad service he would at times return to teaching school in both Indiana and Illinois. In 1880 our subject moved on a farm in Iuka township and for twenty-one consecutive years taught school during the winter months, farming the remainder of the year. He made a success of whatever he undertook whether it was farming, teaching or railroading. In the latter he won the confidence of his employers who regarded him as one of their most valuable employes.

In April, 1908, Mr. Cox became Deputy County Clerk, which position he is holding with much credit to his innate ability and to the entire satisfaction of all concerned.

When teaching school our subject was principal of the Iuka schools. He was offered many important positions as a teacher but declined as he desired to teach near home and live at home.

Mr. Cox was united in marriage in 1879 to Mary E. Young, the talented and accomplished daughter of W. J. Young, of Iuka township, one of the pioneers of Marion county. Mr. Young was an influential citizen and served as a lieutenant during the Civil war.

One child was born to the subject and wife who died in infancy.

Mr. Cox still owns a valuable farm of eighty acres in which he takes a great interest, having improved it up to a high standard of Marion county's valuable farms, it

ranking with the best of them. It is located four and one-half miles southeast of Iuka. An excellent residence and several substantial out buildings stand on the place.

Mr. Cox has been a candidate for County Superintendent of Schools at different times but was defeated by a few votes. In politics he is a Democrat. In his fraternal relations he is affiliated with the Masons at Iuka and is an honorary member of the Modern Woodmen. Both Mr. and Mrs. Cox are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and both belong to the Eastern Star.

THOMAS J. CLARK.

The subject of this biographical review is eminently deserving of mention in a compilation as is the nature of this one, owing to the fact that his has been an active life, fruitful of good results and among his friends and acquaintances he has ever held an honorable position.

Thomas J. Clark, publisher of The Clay County Democrat and one of the men of influence in this part of the great Prairie state, was born in Hancock county, Indiana, August 4, 1853, the son of Aruna Clark, who was a native of Sevier county, Tennessee, and who came to Indiana when twenty years old, settling in Rush county. He was a carpenter and a minister, thus emulating the life of the lowly Nazarene. He removed to Shelby county, Illinois, in 1860, and in 1865 moved to Effingham county, this state,

where he resided until his death in March, 1884. The Clark family originated in Tennessee. The subject's mother, who died in 1882, was Charlotte Furman. Her mother was a native of Scotland and her father of Pennsylvania, of German descent. Mr. and Mrs. Aruna Clark were the parents of six children, two of whom died in infancy. They are, Jonathan E., of Chattanooga, Tennessee; Sarah Arnold, of Tucumcari, New Mexico; Mrs. Jennie Wood, of Beecher City, Illinois; Thomas J., the subject.

Thomas J. Clark spent his early life in Effingham county, this state, receiving a limited education in the country schools there, and later attended the city schools of Effingham. After his school days he learned the blacksmith trade at which he worked for eight years. He then clerked in a general store for two or three years, after which he went to railroading, which he followed up to February, 1908, having given his employers entire satisfaction in that line of work. In July, 1908, Mr. Clark bought the Clay County Democrat, which he now conducts in a manner that shows him to be a moulder of public opinion, his paper being a power for good in Clay county. He has a good plant, well equipped and his paper is well edited and the mechanical appearance of each issue shows that this part of the work is well looked after. Since assuming charge of the plant the circulation of The Democrat has increased as well as has the advertising.

Mr. Clark was united in marriage to Mary Lilley, December 20, 1876. She was born

and reared in Fayette county, Illinois, and to this union four children have been born; William Edwin, who is married and is living at Clarkson, Washington; Mrs. Gertrude Roseberry, of Pana, Illinois; Mrs. Caroline Myers, of East St. Louis; Don, a linotype operator, living in East St. Louis.

Our subject served one term as school director at Beecher City, Illinois, and was City Clerk of Flora, for a part of one term, having been appointed to fill a vacancy.

In his fraternal relations Mr. Clark belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen. In politics he is a loyal Democrat. He is thoroughly interested in the affairs of his party and does what he can in furthering the policies of the same.

CHARLES H. WEST.

The early pioneers of Marion county, Illinois, have about all "crossed the great divide." Year by year their numbers have continued to diminish, until of the hundreds who settled here in the twenties and thirties only a few of them remain. There are, however, many men and women now living in the county, who, though coming here in what might be properly termed the second period after the pioneers, have borne well their part in making this a prosperous region. They are no less worthy of praise in the part they bore in the labors and privations of this early period than are their par-

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ents. Among these is the subject of this sketch, who has spent the major part of his mature years in the county where he has become widely known and where his labors have benefited alike himself and the community at large.

Charles H. West was born in Delaware county, Indiana, October 27, 1845, the son of George and Elizabeth (Brammer) West.

The father of the subject left Pennsylvania when a young man, and settled in Delaware county, Indiana, and came to Illinois in 1865, in Jo Daviess county and in 1869 came to Marion county where he remained the balance of his life, having reached the advanced age of eighty-three years, after a life of hard work in agricultural pursuits. The subject's mother, a woman of many fine qualities and a worthy companion of her noble husband, lived to be seventy-three years old, and was in her religious belief a member of the old school Baptists. There were seven children in this family, six living to maturity. Samuel, the oldest brother of the subject, was a soldier from Indiana in the Union lines and was killed at Marietta, Georgia, where he was buried. A brother of the father of our subject had a son, John T. West, who was also a soldier in the Civil war, having been in a Pennsylvania regiment.

Charles H. West, our subject, came with his father to Marion county in 1869. He attended the public schools in Delaware county, Indiana, where he worked on his father's farm during the summer season,

having remained a member of the family circle until he was thirty-one years of age. He then leased his father's farm in this county for a number of years, and after his father returned to Illinois he purchased the same which he has managed with the greatest success for a period of twenty-five years, developing it into one of the leading farms of the community and gathering from its fertile fields from year to year bounteous harvests.

Mr. West owns at this writing, 1908, twelve and one-half acres in Kinmundy in one section of the city and also a ten-acre orchard in another section of the city, also forty acres one-half mile east of the town, containing a fine orchard, all well located and good land. He also has excellent property in the central part of the town, and fifty acres of horticultural land, which is very valuable owing to the large and choice varieties of trees on it. This property claims much of his attention since Mr. West delights in horticultural work, being well versed in its various phases. He owns a modern, large, nicely furnished and altogether one of the most desirable residences in Kinmundy or vicinity. All this he has made himself practically unaided as a result of his genuine business sagacity, persistency and honesty.

Mr. West was united in marriage in 1877 to Rose N. Dillon, a native of Marion county, whose father was from Kentucky; her mother's people being from Ohio. Three children have been born to this union,

named in order of birth as follows: Harry T., who was born in 1878, is married and has two children; Maud L. is the wife of A. G. Porter and the mother of one child; the third child died in infancy.

Mr. West is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and their auxiliaries. In politics he is a Republican and is an Alderman in the City Council of Kinmundy, which position he fills with great credit.

In township and county affairs Mr. West takes an active interest and when his judgment approves of any measure that is advanced he is not hesitant in giving his approval and active aid. In many ways he has given his time and service for the general good. He has a wide acquaintance and the favorable judgment the public passed upon him in the early days of his residence here has been in no degree set aside or modified as the years have gone by.

WILBUR ADINO GOODENOUGH.

In the history of Clay county, as applying to the milling industry, the name of Wilbur A. Goodenough occupies a conspicuous place, for through a number of years he has been one of the representative lumber dealers in this locality, progressive, enterprising and persevering. Such qualities always win success, sooner or later, and to the subject they have brought a satisfactory reward for his well directed efforts, and while he has

benefited himself and community in a material way, he has also been an influential factor in the educational, political and moral uplift of the community favored by his residence.

Wilbur Adino Goodenough was born in Jefferson county, New York, May 26, 1857, the son of Morris M. Goodenough, who was a native of Northern New York. Adino Goodenough, the great-grandfather of the subject, was a native of Scotland, who came to America with Lord Howe. He passed the winter with Washington at Valley Forge as one of his captains, having enlisted three times in the Revolutionary war. The third time he walked from Vermont to Boston to enlist. He spent his last days at Watertown, Jefferson county, New York, dying there in his eighty-seventh year. Most of his life while in America, was spent in Vermont. The subject's grandfather, John Banister Goodenough, a native of New York, died in 1864, at the age of eighty-two years. He devoted his life to farming. The subject's father was also a farmer, and, like his ancestors, was a man of influence in his community. He died at the age of seventy-two years in Jefferson county, New York, in 1899.

The mother of the subject was Caroline Griswold, also a native of northern New York, where she lived all her life and where she ended her earthly labors in 1895, at the age of sixty-two years. Twelve children were born to the subject's parents, eight of whom are living, in 1908, namely: Charles, Estella, Wilbur, Albert, Caroline, Ward,